

MCC Hosts Annual Fireworks

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Guests watch the fireworks at Langley High School Thursday, July 4.

A Very Good Year In McLean, Great Falls

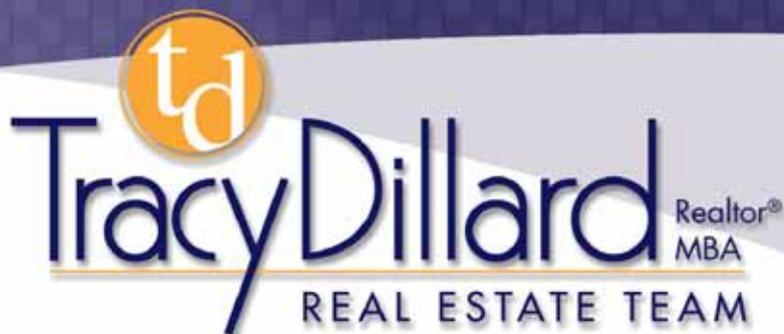
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Petersen to Governor: Explain, Deny, Return or Resign

Petersen first Virginia legislator to suggest McDonnell resign over alleged wrongdoing in accepting gifts from prominent donor.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

The tipping point for state Sen. J. Chap Petersen (D-34) was the \$6,500 Rolex watch.

Reports about the Rolex, one in a series of lavish gifts reportedly given to Gov. Robert F. McDonnell (R) and members of his family by a major campaign donor, told Petersen it was time to send a stern letter to the governor asking him to “come clean on this matter” by explaining the gifts, denying the reports, or resigning from office.

On Tuesday, July 2, Petersen sent his letter, becoming the first Virginia lawmaker to suggest McDonnell’s resignation in the wake of the deepening controversy.

“When I heard about the Rolex watch and the circumstances of that gift, that was when I knew I had to speak out,” Petersen said on Friday. “I actually drafted my letter a couple days before, but did not send it right away. I was waiting to see if somebody else would step up, but nobody did. So we mailed it out on the morning of July 2. I also called the governor’s staff and emailed them a copy.”

LATER THAT NIGHT, Petersen appeared on MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow show, featuring Maddow’s liberal and animated take on the political news of the day.

Maddow asked him if it was the “overall weight of the allegation, the long list of things he has ... allegedly received in his capacity as governor” or one item in particular that prompted the letter.

“I have three daughters, so when I heard about the \$15,000 spent on the wedding reception, that kind of took me aback,” Petersen told Maddow. “There was a lot of joking about it, and I guess people thought maybe this was a one-time thing, maybe there’s an explanation.” But Petersen said as the weeks went by with revelations of “one item after another,” he was dismayed by the deafening silence.

“There’s been no explanation from the governor ... and hiding behind ‘no comment,’ that’s not working. The people of Virginia deserve better,” Petersen said.

In an interview Friday, Petersen said he didn’t know why other members of his party had remained silent about the gifts McDonnell reportedly received from Jonnie R. Williams Sr., CEO of Star Scientific, which manufactures dietary supplements.

“Because of that continuing silence, I felt compelled to step forward. I didn’t understand why everyone was afraid to speak out, when this was so obviously wrong,” Petersen said.

For the past several months, reports have



State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) in his Fairfax office.



Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) at a 2012 legislative conference.

PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Petersen’s Letter

Dear Governor McDonnell:

In recent weeks, I have read numerous reports regarding gifts your family reportedly received from Mr. Jonnie Williams and his company Star Scientific, Inc. The substance of these reports gives the strong impression that your family was materially and systematically benefited by this person and his company, at least over the past two years. Few, if any, of these gifts were reported in the public disclosures that you (like all of us) must file with the Secretary of the Commonwealth. In return, it appears that you allowed this person to use the Governor’s Mansion and the Governor’s Office for the purpose of giving unique credibility to his company. That is unacceptable.

I am writing you directly to ask that you come clean on this matter. If you or your family has received gifts of the type alleged, then you should disclose that fully and immediately.

If those gifts are consumer items which you have retained for personal use, then you should return them immediately to the donor — or sell them and donate the money to the Literary Fund. That is the only method by which the public can regain trust in your Office. Without that trust, there is no purpose in continuing to serve.

If you are unable to explain (or deny) these reports or return the items, then I humbly suggest that you should step down as Governor and permit the Lieutenant Governor to serve out the balance of your term, pursuant to Article V, Section 16 of the Virginia Constitution.

Chapman Petersen
Member, Senate of Virginia

surfaced about the lavish gifts Williams gave to McDonnell and first lady Maureen McDonnell, including clothing, money and trips. The gifts included \$15,000 in catering for the 2011 wedding of McDonnell’s daughter at Virginia’s historic Executive Mansion.

McDonnell has said he did not disclose the catering because it was a wedding present to his daughter, and he has been thorough in his annual financial disclosures regarding gifts. In January, he told The Richmond-Times Dispatch that the Rolex was a gift from his wife.

The ongoing revelations about the gifts, and the lack of disclosure from the governor, are at the crux of ongoing state and federal investigations.

On April 29, it was first reported that federal authorities were interviewing

McDonnell and the first lady about their relationship to Williams, as well as actions the McDonnells may have taken that benefited Williams and his company.

In May, it was reported that Richmond Commonwealth’s Attorney Michael Herring is investigating whether McDonnell violated state gift and disclosure laws.

According to The Virginia Public Access Project, Star Scientific and Williams gave \$130,000 to Virginia officials and a PAC that supports McDonnell from 2009 to 2012.

“It is not illegal to accept gifts,” said Del. Dave Albo (R-42), the most senior delegate from Northern Virginia. “They are just supposed to be reported.”

According to Virginia state law, McDonnell must disclose all gifts to him worth more than \$50. But he does not have to disclose gifts to immediate family mem-

bers or gifts received from family or “personal friends.”

“I’m not saying it’s illegal,” Petersen said. “I’m saying it’s unacceptable.”

Petersen said he was also bothered by the quid pro quo nature of the gifts. In August 2011, the first couple hosted a launch party for one of Star Scientific’s products at the governor’s mansion.

“The reports give the strong impression that your family was materially and systematically benefited by this person and his company. ... In return, it appears that you allowed this person to use the Governor’s Mansion and the Governor’s Office for the purpose of giving unique credibility to his company,” Petersen wrote in the letter.

Petersen said the only response he’s had to his letter from the governor’s office was a call from McDonnell’s lawyer. “His lawyer called me and basically told me that his client could not talk because of the investigation. My response was ‘this is not just a legal issue. Your client needs to tell the people of this state what’s going on.’”

“As an attorney, certainly Senator Petersen understands this office’s not discussing the details of matters pending in the legal process,” said Tucker Martin, a spokesman for the governor, in a statement released last week. “And, as a legislator, certainly Senator Petersen is aware that Virginia’s disclosure requirements do not pertain to the families of elected officials.”

Martin also called the letter “blatantly political.”

SOME LOCAL OFFICIALS agree.

“Chap’s letter was political grandstanding,” said Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock). “I am disappointed to see this issue out there. It is absolutely important to maintain integrity in government. But right now no one has proved any wrongdoing, so we just need to let the process [investigation] play out.”

“Honestly, I would prefer that someone else be doing this,” Petersen said. “I take zero joy in staking out this position.”

Petersen added that he has known McDonnell for 12 years and considers him sincere, forthright and unfailingly courteous.

“I still can’t believe that he would permit this type of dealings in his household. That’s why the Star Scientific reports are such a shock,” Petersen said.

During a gathering at Reston’s Lake Thoreau pool during the 4th of July holiday, several people were discussing the issue.

While some residents were highly critical, Peggy Hancuff said the issue of the governor’s alleged gifts was relatively unimportant. “There are politics that are important, such as voter ID and the governor’s election coming up, and then there are politics that are a distraction. This is a distraction. There are bigger issues out there,” Hancuff said.



Everybody's having fun: Sydnee Stein, Mafalda Marrocco, Pamela Bogdonoff and Linda Sharp.



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Lillian Li with the Limatt Group, which provides consulting on US-China business opportunities, and McLean Orchestra Board President Aileen Pisciotta at the event.

McLean Orchestra Proves 'Instrumental to Business'

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

When your audience expresses their wild enthusiasm, what else can you do but give them an encore? The McLean Orchestra's January "Instrumental to Business" (I2B) mixer was such a hit, that a follow up seemed essential.

Chima Brazilian Steakhouse in Tysons Corner was the stage for the June 25 I2B event, and it played to a packed house. A brass quintet provided a lively background, while orchestra officers, trustees and staff mingled with a crowd of loyal patrons, local business elite and some first-timers, all interested in both the music and the networking opportunities. Of course, the glasses of wine and the hors d'oeuvres inspired by Chima's menu only added to the evening's enjoyment, as did the raffle for prizes including a personal ensemble performance, tickets for the upcoming concert season, and



Shawn Howard with Thompson Greenspon and Anthony C. Chang, orchestra trustee.

dinners at Chima.

"Community in Concert" is Board President Aileen Pisciotta's tag line for the year, and the I2B mixer is one way that the organization brings life to their desire to prove their value to the community. The success of their efforts are highlighted by the support of the sponsors for the event—Regus,

Wiley Rein LLP, Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, Capitol Wealth Management, Broadband Technology Corporation and LT Business Dynamics.

Act III of the orchestra's I2B offering is already in the works. Jeff Brouse, membership director of The Tower Club, has announced that his facility would host the



This was Paula Manczuk's first time to an I2B event, but not her first encounter with the McLean Orchestra. Manczuk is the development director for the Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation, the non-profit that supports the Vinson Hall Retirement Community in McLean: She said she attended the I2B to get to know and thank some of the people who perform concerts for the residents at Vinson Hall.

next event scheduled in September. At the rate attendance keeps growing for these social/musical/business mixers, the McLean Orchestra may just have to turn I2B into quite the opus. Visit

www.mclean-orchestra.org for more information about the Instrumental to Business gatherings, the orchestra's upcoming concert season, the Soiree dinner series, and more.

WEEK IN MCLEAN

Smash and Grab in Tysons Corner Area

Police responded to a robbery in the 7900 block of Tysons Corner Center that occurred Tuesday, July 2. Around 4:11 p.m. five men entered a local jewelry store, smashed several display cases and took an undisclosed amount of jewelry. The suspects then fled on foot. There were no injuries.

Responding officers located one of the suspects and took him into immediate custody. Brandon Bowditch, 22, of Hamtramck, Mich., was charged with robbery.

The other suspects were described as black males, one wearing a bright red hoodie, another wearing a black and white striped hoodie and the others were observed wearing black hoodies.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message

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WEEK IN MCLEAN

FROM PAGE 4

to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Family Service Offers Foster Care Training

Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) is recruiting adults from every community in Northern Virginia to participate in its next foster parent training, July 13, 20 and 27, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the NVFS office in Oakton. Coffee and a light lunch will be provided. The training is the first step into becoming a certified foster parent, and is also required for families interested in providing short-term weekend foster care. Trainees will learn about the foster care system; how NVFS supports foster parents, including round-the-clock access to case managers; and best practices in foster care. Families must complete a home study, and foster parents must be at least 21 years old. For more info, please visit www.nvfs.org/fostercare, or contact Ginny Snaider at 571-748-2557 or gснаider@nvfs.org.

Book Collections Support Scholarships for Women

The McLean Area American Association of University Women's (AAUW) Annual Used Book Collections are Saturday, July 20 and Aug. 10 at the Sun Trust Bank, 515 Maple Ave., Vienna, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All kinds of books in good condition, especially children's books and DVDs, are needed for the 44th annual Book Sale.

The Used Book Sale will be Sept. 20, 21, 22 at the McLean Community Center on Ingleside Avenue in McLean. Proceeds go toward scholarships and professional development for women and girls. In addition to the well-sorted hardbacks and paperbacks in the main sales rooms, there will be special children's and "treasures" rooms at the sale for the most valuable items collected.

At last year's September Sale there were an estimated 46,000 books on display sorted into 32 categories and AAUW members gave more than 1700 volunteer hours to generate over \$36,000 in revenue. Questions: 703-527-4206.



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REAL ESTATE

A Very Good Year in McLean, Great Falls Area

In the first half of 2013 all price points experienced a gain in number of sales.

By Karen Briscoe

The numbers have been tallied for real estate sales in the first half of 2013 and total sales are up over the same time period in 2012 in McLean and Great Falls by 7.6 percent. That is very good news indeed.

Delving deeper into the data, it reveals that all price points experienced a gain in number of sales in this market segment. The largest gain was in the up market segment of properties sold for greater than \$1.25 million. I believe that the lower price ranges would have seen a larger gain had there been the inventory available.

In terms of my predictions for the rest of 2013, the biggest issues continue to be related to supply versus demand in the various market segments.

In the under \$1.25 million mar-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

ket, there is a shortage of supply in both McLean and Great Falls. As was the case at the end of the first quarter 2013, presently in McLean and Great Falls there is a two- to three-month supply of properties available to purchase in the under \$1.25 million category. Most real estate market experts consider a balanced market to be a six-month supply. With supply running at generally one-half of

the current demand some homes receive multiple offers, escalation clauses and contingency-free contracts. This is a great time to be a seller in the under \$1.25 million price range in McLean and Great Falls. Homes priced correctly and in top condition for the current market are selling rapidly and in some cases with multiple offers.

The up market is considered to be that for properties over \$1.25 million market. The good news is that in McLean we are in a much closer to a balanced market with a nine-month supply. The up market segment in Great Falls experienced great progress this quarter, with currently only a two- to three-month supply in some price points.

The Northern Virginia area saw real estate values peak in 2005-2006. The typical interim between market cycles is seven years from peak to peak. Therefore, my prediction for this area that values

McLean & Great Falls Market Analysis of Homes Sales

1ST HALF 2012 COMPARED TO 1ST HALF 2013

(Based on Final Closed Price)

	>\$3 Mil.	\$2-3 Mil.	\$1.25-2 Mil.	\$750k~ \$1.25 Mil.	<\$750k
1ST HALF 2012					
22101	3	12	53	75	87
22102	4	8	18	37	82
22066	3	4	24	43	31
Total	10	24	95	155	200
Combined Total	129		355		
ALL SALES 1ST HALF 2012: 484					
1ST HALF 2013					
22101	4	18	51	93	52
22102	4	9	29	31	92
22066	7	8	34	66	23
Total	15	35	114	59	167
Combined Total	164		357		
ALL SALES 1ST HALF 2013: 521					

would return to market peak in some segments beginning in 2012 was right on track. The first half of 2013 show similar market conditions, thus 2013 should be a very good year for the McLean and Great Falls real estate market.

Karen Briscoe is principal of the HBC Realty Group-Keller Williams. Contact: www.HBCRealtyGroup.com, 703-734-0192, Homes@HBCRealtyGroup.com.

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The Great Falls Blue Knights, a rising U13 Boys Travel Soccer team, are looking to strengthen their squad for their Fall 2013 ODSL Season.

The Knights are focused on maximizing player development with an emphasis on building core technical skills. Our licensed coaches and trainers will work tirelessly to constantly improve and build players technical, tactical, physical and decision making skills while ensuring great 11v11 fun is had by all.

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Margery Leveen Sher speaks to business leaders at the Hispanic Business Summit.

Partnering to Provide Children Medical, Dental Care

Margery Leveen Sher described the Medical Care for Children Partnership (MCCP) Foundation's work at the May 30 Hispanic Business Summit hosted by the Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Virginia Latino Advisory Board.

Sher exhorted the Hispanic business leaders to become involved in this special public/private partnership which provides medical and dental care to children in low-income families without access to physicians and dentists. MCCP Foundation is the last safety net program for children who do not qualify for other private or public health care. She told the story of MCCP "gradu-

ate" Jorge Ramallo, who was so taken with the kindness and skill of the physicians who cared for him and his siblings that he decided to become a doctor himself. He is now at Yale University and when he finishes school, he plans to give back to the community as others have given back to him.

The MCCP Foundation funds health care for the children of uninsured working families in Fairfax County. Despite being one of the wealthiest counties in the nation, there are many thousands of children in the community who don't have access to doctors and dentists when they need them. The foundation is a proven model of a public/private partnership that works. Learn more at www.mccpfoundation.org.

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OPINION

More Than Disclosure Needed

Time for limits on campaign contributions as well.

At least until after November's election, most candidates in Virginia seem to think that there should be some reform to Virginia's campaign finance and disclosure rules. At least it seems likely that most will support expanding disclosure rules to require disclosure of gifts to immediate family members as well as candidates/officials.

Up until recent news reports about gifts to family members of Gov. Bob McDonnell, almost all elected officials would defend Virginia's notoriously unregulated system of allowing candidates and elected officials to take unlimited amounts of money and unlimited gifts from anyone or any company at all. Because Virginia has such strict disclosure requirements, elected officials seem to think that it's OK to be awash in all that money. Voters can

look up who is giving money and draw their own conclusions. How could it hurt if the details are all out in the open?

EDITORIALS

Discovering that the system is entirely self-regulated with no independent auditor, no ethics commission and no penalties for failing to report gifts or contributions should give voters some pause.

Consider that only four states, including Virginia, have no limits on contributions. Most states have limits; for example, in Maryland, individuals can give \$4,000 to any one candidate and \$10,000 total in a four-year election cycle.

Pet Connection

The Pet Connection will publish July 24.

Send us your photos by July 18.

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Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures. Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Tell us about your experience. You can also take this opportunity to memorialize a pet you have lost.

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COMMENTARY

Voting Rights Need Protection

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

The Supreme Court had an historic week recently with major decisions on gay marriage, immigration and voting. I am particularly concerned about the decision that I believe does major damage to the Voting Rights Act.

I grew up in a segregated Virginia. Not only were there laws requiring that black and white children go to separate schools, that black and white customers be served at separate lunch counters, and that blacks always sit in the back of the bus, but there were laws designed to keep African Americans from voting. My earliest political involvement was in efforts to break down these barriers. I have always been disappointed that it took federal court decisions and federal laws to over-

come these discriminatory practices, rather than the state legislature acknowledging that they were wrong and repealing them. Instead of desegregating the schools as the Supreme Court directed, Virginia political leaders undertook a decade-long campaign of massive resistance that ultimately was unsuccessful.

A key part of extending civil rights to all citizens was the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It required states with a history of voting discrimination to have their laws reviewed and approved by the U.S. Justice Department. Virginia was one of those states because voter discrimination was rampant. Under laws passed beginning early in the 20th century by the dominant Democratic Party machine, voters had to complete a voter registration form that was so complex that few

blacks were successful but whites—no doubt with some help—were able to complete. The \$1.50 poll tax as a requirement to vote kept some people from the polls as did the requirement that the tax be paid three years in a row at least six months before the election. The result of these and other laws led to Virginia having one of the lowest voter participation rates in the country. And Virginia's legislative district lines were drawn to exclude the possibility of a minority getting elected to office and to keep power in the rural areas of the state. Under a Supreme Court decision and the Voting Rights Act, Virginia had to hold elections three years in a row—in 1981, 1982 and 1983—until district lines were drawn to satisfy the federal review of fairness.

The Voting Rights Act and other court actions and laws ended

much of the discrimination in voting and redistricting. The current Supreme Court seems to think that certain provisions of the Voting Rights Act are no longer needed. I do not agree. Justice Ginsburg said it best in her dissent to the court's decision, "Throwing out pre-clearance when it has worked and is continuing to work to stop discriminatory changes is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet."

Each year I see efforts by the now Republican majority to restrict or discourage minorities from voting under the guise of preventing unidentified voter fraud. I hope you will join me in encouraging the U.S. Congress to pass new provisions to the Voting Rights Act right away to ensure that minority-voting rights are protected.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Legislation to Harass Impoverished Virginians

To the Editor:

Does the "Every Child Matters" mantra by Virginia legislators apply to all Virginia children except for those receiving benefits via TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)?

TANF benefits average \$267 per month for a family of three, an amount incapable of providing the bare essentials needed for the survival of a family. What legislator's

family could be living on \$267 a month? However, legislators in Virginia, instead of being concerned about the adequacy of the paltry sum received by the most impoverished in our state, have turned their attention to possible abuse, alleged abuse that has not been established by any evidence presented to support the legislation.

In legislation introduced by Virginia Delegate Riley Ingram, concern is expressed that this paltry sum will be misspent by recipients, so legislation has been introduced to prevent possible abuse by prohibiting the use of the assistance amount "for the purchase of alcoholic beverages, to-

bacco products, or lottery tickets ... or (at an) adult entertainment establishment in which performers appear nude or partially nude" (HB 1307 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); restrictions on use of cash assistance).

Where is the evidence that TANF recipients are purchasing alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or lottery tickets ... or frequenting adult entertainment establishments in which performers appear nude or partially nude? Is this a legislative effort analogous to the voter fraud concerns, concerns for which Virginia legislators enacted legislation to address a non-problem and

at a cost of millions for Virginia taxpayers? How much will this new legislation to harass impoverished Virginians cost Virginia taxpayers?

We already know of one abusive practice that does unnecessarily cost Virginia taxpayers: the trips Virginia legislators take at the expense of taxpayers. That information is readily available. Why have we not heard of a call to end this offensive practice, a practice that is a real misuse of taxpayer money?

John Horejsi, coordinator
Social Action Linking Together
(SALT)
Vienna

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Revisiting Year 1771

Seen here is J.D. Engle, one of several “costumed interpreters,” at Claude Moore Colonial Farm in McLean. These interpreters all recreate a fictional American family from the year 1771. As you can see, Engle is using a hoe to break ground in order to plant a tree.



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Sea-themed accessories can add a beach-like tone to a backyard party, says Ann O'Shields of The Nest Egg in Fairfax.



PHOTOS COURTESY ANN O'SHIELDS OF THE NEST EGG



Ann O'Shields of The Nest Egg suggests serve wear made of melamine for outdoor entertaining. "Bright colors help set the tone for a festive gathering," she said.

Safeguarding Jewelry During Summer Vacations

Experts offer simple safety suggestions for protecting valuables.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Kenzie Campbell left her home recently for a week-long trip to care for her ailing father. While she was away, her Northern Virginia home was burglarized, and in addition to a flat-screen television and an iMac computer, the thieves got away with all of her jewelry.

"I could care less about the television and the computer," she said. "But they took a Cartier ring that I bought during a family trip to Paris, my grandmother's wedding ring and almost all of the gemstone jewelry that my mother had given me, like a pair of denim sapphire earrings, which were my birthstone," she said. "It is heartbreaking, not because of the monetary value, but because of the sentimental value."

Summer is a time when many go on vacation and leave their homes unattended. In fact, according to the FBI, more burglaries occur during summer months than any other time of the year. The U.S. Department of Justice further reports that an American home is broken into about every 15 seconds. However, experts say there are simple precautions the average person can implement to safeguard valuable



A jewelry box that is kept in a bedroom is one of the least safe places for storing valuable jewelry.

MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION

jewelry from potential burglaries.

"A jewelry box is the worst place to store valuable jewelry," said jeweler and goldsmith George Kaufmann of Robert Bernard Jewelers in Potomac, Md. "A jewelry box is an invitation for a crook. Essentially, you're packaging all your valuables in one obvious place and making it easy for a crook to take."

In fact, the Jewelers' Security Alliance, a nonprofit trade association that provides crime prevention information, advises homeowners not to store their most precious jewelry in a bedroom or jewelry box. Statistically, it's the first place a burglar will look.

Campbell says that was her experience. "The burglars never went

into my bathroom," she said. "They took all of the jewelry from drawers in my bedroom."

Diversion safes are clever options for hiding valuables. "There are a lot of items out there like books that are not really books but spaces for valuables or picture frames that are really security for jewelry," said Robin Wagner, an associate professor of interior design at Marymount University in Arlington. There are even safes disguised as household food containers complete with barcoded wrappers, as well as decorative, wax candles that are made with interior metal storage compartments.

Kaufmann says certain pieces of furniture also work well for hiding jewelry. "I had a client who has a piece of furniture that was an antique and it had a secret drawer that rotated," he explained. "It was something that nobody would ever find."

It's also a good idea to consider adding covert jewelry storage spaces, such as those suggested by Kauffman, during a home remodeling project. Unfortunately, Bob Gallagher of Sun Design Remodeling in Burke said, "It is not something that people are thinking of when they go into a remodeling project. Clients don't bring it up

often. People want to remain hopeful that they aren't going to be a victim."

However, says Gallagher, jewelry storage is not a complicated process during a construction project. "You build a safe into the actual construction project, inside the framing of the house. Sometimes people ask for safes to be recessed into a closet so people can't walk away with it, and you could hang a picture over the safe to cover it."

Fairfax resident Susan Hergenrather, an assistant professor of interior design at Marymount University agrees, offering a caveat about traditional safes. "You can buy a safe, but if it is one that can be picked up and taken out, it is not much good."

Knowing the value of your jewelry is another component of safeguarding it. "You have to have it tested to determine whether the stones are real and [to] determine their quality," said Kauffman. "Sometimes a ring might be stamped 14k gold, but that doesn't guarantee that it is real. Have jewelry appraised and that will tell exactly what you have."

Valuable pieces of jewelry should be insured through one's homeowner's insurance policy, say experts.

Ideas For Summer Outdoor Entertaining

Local tastemakers offer design and decorating ideas for alfresco soirees.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Summer is a time when many enjoy outdoor gatherings with friends and family. From soirees in small courtyard spaces to poolside barbecues for a crowd, warm weather is often synonymous with alfresco entertaining.

From shatterproof platters and plates to furniture that can withstand the elements, outdoor accessories are plentiful. Local décor and design experts offer ideas for chic summer entertaining.

Robin Wagner, an associate professor of interior design at Marymount University in Arlington, says function and safety are top priorities when designing an outdoor space. "In talking about outdoor spaces, people view it as an extension of their home," said Wagner. "There are ways of making it feel like your home, but you have factors like weather impacting it, for example, the sun fading the fabrics or rain making things problematic. Companies now make furniture specifically for outdoor spaces."

Ann O'Shields, of The Nest Egg in Fairfax, says options for outdoor furniture are abundant. "The past few years have brought a huge introduction of outdoor materials that allow you to create an outdoor living space that is as beautifully decorated as your interior space. Indoor-outdoor rugs, seating, entertaining pieces and even artwork allow you to introduce wonderful

color and texture to your deck, patio and garden spaces. Comfortable seating invites guests to linger long after the barbecue is over to enjoy cocktails and the evening air."

Wagner offers a caveat when purchasing furniture for outdoor use, however. "You don't want to end up with something that might look fine on the outside but that is holding in mold or mildew on the inside," she said. "Make sure it has the correct inside component of foam or fill that is impervious to mold or mildew."

When choosing colors for outdoor furniture, experts say to consider your surroundings. "If your garden is vibrant in color, you want neutral fabric to let the flowers stand out," said Wagner. "If it is an open space, say a pool or grassy area, then you want the furniture to be the focus and you use vibrant colors and patterns."

When it comes to lighting, designer Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Interior Design in Bethesda, Md., suggests LED lights. "They come in the form of pillar candles and small votives and you don't have to worry about them catching fire or the wind blowing them out."

Wagner said, "Solar lighting has come a long from what it was years ago. There are some great solar components out there. Don't think of lighting in the way you would inside your house. Use ambient lighting to set the mood for sitting outside and talking with your friends."

Susan Hergenrather, an assistant professor of interior design at

Marymount University suggests stringing LED lights. "[They] can add sparkle. [They're] not just for winter holidays."

Candles are another lighting option, but they can serve multiple purposes. "Using candles not only helps keep the bugs at bay, but adds to the ambiance," said O'Shields.

While Hergenrather says homeowners should be mindful of candles that are unattended or if children are present, she also offers a decorative idea: "If you do use candles, vintage wooden spools make cool candle holders for tapers."

When it comes to casual serve ware, varieties are vast. "Melamine is a wonderful choice for outdoor serving while entertaining," said O'Shields. "Bright colors help set the tone for a festive gathering."

Proxmire adds that melamine can almost replicate indoor place settings. "There are melamine cups and plates that are patterned like Portuguese ceramic pieces," she said. "I had a client who went on [the website] Etsy.com and found navy blue and hot pink whale plates, monogrammed cozies and monogrammed disposable plates."

Unorthodox vessels can be used to hold accessories ranging from plants to utensils as well, allowing homeowners to expand their creativity. "Unexpected containers like a planter lined with plastic can be filled with ice to hold cold beverages," Proxmire said. "Mason jars are casual and [can be] used for flowers."

Chic and aesthetically appealing containers don't have to come with a high price tag, however. "The local flea market, yard sales [or] thrift shops ... have very cool 'found objects' you can use as con-

tainers," said Hergenrather. "I found a great old metal pail that is perfect. [I] love anything metal like old wash basins for ice and beverage."

In fact, when it comes to accessories, Hergenrather says inspiration and materials can often be found in one's own backyard. "Use greenery, flowers, sticks [and] rocks [that] you have readily available in your yard to create interesting decorations," she said. "Use sea shells in glass containers to add interest to flower arrangements."

Evelyn Kinville of The Behnke Florist Shop in Potomac, Md., suggests using zinnias, dahlias and delphiniums in warm weather floral arrangements. "Usually in summer there are things like mountain mint which has a minty aroma to the leaf and a small puffy looking flower," she added. "Many people have daisies and hydrangeas in their yard and, of course, the real classic is sunflowers."

Kinville adds that summer arrangements are often casual and colorful. "But they are also geared to the general décor that the person doing the entertaining might be using in the linens," she said. "Generally, though, bright colors are more popular in summer than paler flowers."

Hergenrather says that even though outdoor furniture, flowers and accessories help create an aesthetically appealing design, they are not the most important element for a successful outdoor event, however.

"Remember it is the people that make the party special, not the décor," she said. "Make your space comfy and welcoming, keep the mood happy and festive ... enjoy your family and friends."

Building a Classic Jewelry Wardrobe

Local style experts suggest investing in classic pieces.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

From monogrammed pendants to leather wrap bracelets, a dizzying array of jewelry is on the market. Determining how to spend money wisely and still look stylish can be tricky, but fortunately local experts are here to help.

Local jewelers and style experts say one way to get the most for your money when buying jewelry is investing in classic pieces that stand the test of time.

"A classic is a piece that you can wear every day of your life and still look fashionable," said Janice G. Ellinwood, department chair of fashion design and merchandising at Marymount University in Arlington.

At the top of this list of must-have jewelry are a strand of pearls and a pair of pearl stud earrings. "Audrey Hepburn and the movie Breakfast at Tiffany's come to mind

when I think of pearls," said Ellinwood.

"A strand of pearls is the type of piece that you can build on," said Lindy Kavanaugh, a graduate of the Gemological Institute of America and a former jewelry appraiser for Tiffany & Co. in New York. "You can add a triple strand of pearls, for example."

Diamond stud earrings are another adornment that tops the list of classics. "A pair of diamond studs is a staple because it is something that can go from generation to generation," said jeweler and goldsmith George Kaufmann, who, along with business partner Robert Rosin, owns Robert Bernard Jewelers in Potomac, Md.

In addition, Kathryn Martin, an Alexandria-based stylist and personal shopper, believes that no jewelry wardrobe is complete without a pair of diamond hoop earrings. She also adds a medium-weight, gold-link bracelet to her list of jew-



Strands of pearls, pearl stud earrings, diamond stud earrings, signet rings and gold chains top the list of classic jewelry pieces.

MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION

elry must-haves. "Certain types of bracelets like cuffs go in and out of style, but medium weight is most

timeless."

Kavanaugh agrees that uncomplicated gold bracelets like bangles are jewelry classics. "They are simple and something you can add to later," she said.

A simple gold chain, say stylists, can be added to other necklaces to allow for a variety of looks. "One longer gold necklace, especially one that can be layered, is a classic piece to own," said Martin. "You don't have to worry about where it is hitting on your chest. It is an easier piece to work with."

One functional classic, say experts, is a well-made watch. "If you're going to buy a watch, I think that you're going to want to invest in a piece that will hold its value," said Martin. "Hermes is totally sophisticated, casual elegance. It can be edgy, sleek or whatever you need it to be. They are interesting in that way."

Signet rings are another classic. "This often depends on a person's stage in life and their willingness to reveal their identity due to safety," Ellinwood said.



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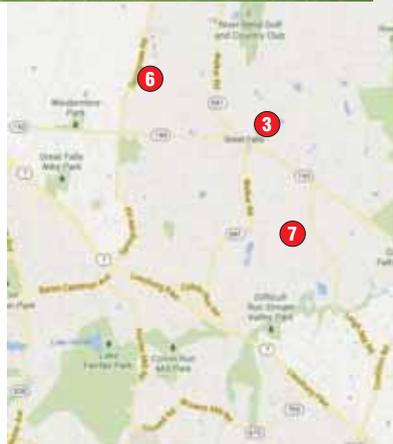
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Retiring head Doris Cottam (right) with the new head Dr. Elinor Scully.

Head of The Langley School Retires After 13 Years

On June 28, Doris Cottam retired from her position as head of school at The Langley School, an independent school in McLean serving nearly 500 students in preschool to eighth grade. During her 13 years as head of school, Cottam transformed The Langley School financially, strategically, programmatically and culturally into a professional, sustainable model for the 21st century—all while embracing and maintaining the school's community-based roots.

Among her most significant accomplishments, Cottam guided the school through two strategic plans that served as long-range change agents and positioned Langley for the future. Under her leadership, Langley developed a new mission statement, philosophy of teaching and "Community Contract"; created its first-ever comprehensive, published curriculum with scope and sequence; developed a model assistant teacher training program; expanded the junior kindergarten program; added new offerings to the curriculum such as Chinese and strings; and enhanced the school's global outreach to include an international eighth grade trip to Costa Rica.

Cottam was also instrumental in growing the school's parent association, reaching a current enrollment of 500 students, the largest in school history, and securing solid financial footing. Under her fiscal leadership, Langley improved campus facilities with the opening of the Solomon Athletic Center and the construction of the Jeffrey J. Sherman Arts Center, the Gleason Turf Athletic Field, and the Security & Facilities

Gatehouse, as well as Langley's new middle school building, which is currently under construction and will be named in Cottam's honor when it opens in 2014.

DURING HER TENURE, Cottam promoted and supported community, respect and diversity in all its forms and encouraged the development of service learning opportunities for Langley students both locally and globally. She fostered a community of lifelong learners and fully supported professional development opportunities for faculty and staff.

An educator and administrator at schools around the country for more than 30 years, Cottam is a well-respected leader who has impacted education at both regional and national levels. For the Association of Independent Schools of Greater Washington (now named Independent Education), she served as president of the Board of Trustees and treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee. She also served as chair of the Accreditation Committee and as secretary of the Board for the Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS), and as treasurer of the Elementary School Heads Association's (ESHA) Executive Committee.

DR. ELINOR SCULLY assumed the role of Langley's next head of school beginning July 1. An experienced educator with a national reputation in the field of childhood and adolescent development, Dr. Scully most recently served as associate head of National Cathedral School in Washington.

Ryan Cheng Receives Award, Langley Rowers Honored

Ryan Cheng, Langley rower and graduating senior, received the Hillary J. Fein Spirit Award for the "athlete who best embodies the true spirit and passion for crew."

This honor is awarded every year by Langley crew to honor the memory of Hillary Fein, Langley Class of 1999. Fein was a dedicated member of the Langley crew team who died in 2000.

Words engraved on the plaque from a diary entry made by Hillary in 1996 after the Statesbury Regatta in Philadelphia read in part, "Today ... we realized what 'team' means ... honor, heart and honesty about pulling your best and never giving up. I am dedicated to this sport forever. You don't win a race on the water, you win a race in your heart."

In addition to the Fein Spirit Award, Cheng earned several other awards and honors. Among his academic accomplishments, he is a National Merit Scholarship finalist and also received a Scholar Athlete award. He was a finalist in numerous science competitions, including the Science Olympiad (state champions 2012, national qualifier 2012, second in state 2013) and the Science Bowl (second in state 2013).

Ryan was part of the Langley Men's Varsity four-seat that finished second in the VA state championships and went on to place ninth at nationals.

He will attend UVA in the fall and plans to row at the school.

In addition to achieving a very successful season on the water (six state championships), other Langley crew athletes also received top honors. Thirty-six students received Scholar Athlete awards, which represents a 3.5 GPA or better. Twelve crewmembers received top honors in different academic categories at the Langley Academic Awards ceremony on June 3.

Nirosha Beekhuysen, Outstanding Musicianship—Symphonic Orchestra

Ryan Cheng, National Merit Scholarship Finalist
Samuel Child, Outstanding Achievement—Drama III

Stephanie Dubois, AP language and composition, and French 4

Collin Hanley, Excellence in Music
Adam Imran, Excellence in World History II

Alexander Kiess, Excellence in English 10

Lauren Kim, Outstanding Leadership in Orchestra Freshman

Minh Pham, Outstanding Student in Honors Biology

Jennifer Rossberg, AP English Lit, AP French, the Brigitte Lavey Award (History)

Sierra Webb, accepted into the Coast Guard Academy

Adele Wheeler, Excellence in AP English Literature

And junior Stephanie Dubois received an honorable mention for the Washington Post "All-Met" team for rowing.



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PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

The McLean Community Center hosts the annual Fourth of July fireworks show at Langley High School.

MCC Hosts Annual Fireworks

Thousands watch fireworks at Langley High.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The McLean Community Center hosted their annual Fourth of July fireworks show for the 29th year at Langley High School. "This event is to ensure a sense of community, to ensure people can be a part of something that is uniquely McLean, and that cultivates that sense of community," said Chad Quinn, chair of the MCC's governing board. "When you think about the families that come here every year and get to watch their children grow and make it a part of their family tradition, it's a wonderful thing. We're grateful for everyone that comes out to celebrate with us."

The gates at Langley opened at 8 p.m., while the sun was still up. Before it went down, guests could pick their spots around the school, or on the bleachers of the football field.

"The best part is being so close to the fireworks, you pretty much just look straight up, there's no such thing as an obstructed view," said Kerry Williams of McLean. "I like sitting in the bleachers next to the football field, and seeing the fireworks get launched a couple hundred feet away."

Visitors couldn't sit on the football field itself due to construction,



Visitors sit on the Langley High School bleachers to watch the annual Fourth of July fireworks.

but the grass surrounding the track and field hockey field were filled with people on blankets and camp chairs.

"I was sort of hoping to be able to sit on the artificial turf, because I figured there wouldn't be as many bugs or grass stains," said Rebecca Smith of McLean. "But maybe it's for the best, I don't think the turf would have been as soft

as the grass."

The show lasted about 25 minutes, with the loudest and brightest coming in the finale.

"It's all about the finale, when the booms come one after the other," said Victor Bayless, 10, of McLean. "The best part of the show is when the explosions are so bright that it lights up the whole field like it was daytime."



The Traveling Players teen ensemble performs three classical plays on Friday, July 19 at 4:30 p.m. in The Madeira School's outdoor amphitheater. Bring picnic items, lawn chairs, bug spray and flashlights and enjoy "The Bougeois Gentleman" and "The Doctor in Spite of Himself" before a 6:30 p.m. dinner break, followed by "The Merry Wives of Windsor" from 7:30-9 p.m.

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

THURSDAY/JULY 11

Instant Opera! 10:30 a.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Singers from Wolf Trap Opera Studio create a story on the spot using character and setting suggestions from the audience. \$8. http://www.wolftrap.org/Filene_Center.aspx.

Encaustic Painting Demonstration. 7:30 p.m., Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society invites the public to watch artist Dick Neff show his unique method of working in this unusual medium. 703-319-3917 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

David Cole and Main Street Jazz. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. A favorite of the D.C. Blues Society, David Cole brings the full range of his experience as one of the area's most versatile musicians to his expression of the blues. www.davidbcolemusic.com/biography.html.

She & Him with Special Guest: Camera Obscura. 8 p.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. She & Him is comprised of the TV and film star Zoey Deschanel and indie-rocker M. Ward. Camera Obscura, an indie-rock band, opens the evening. \$30-\$40. 1-877-965-3872 or <http://www.wolftrap.org>.

FRIDAY/JULY 12

Instant Opera! 10:30 a.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Singers from Wolf Trap Opera Studio create a story on the spot using character and setting suggestions from the audience. \$8. http://www.wolftrap.org/Filene_Center.aspx.

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department's Auction. 6 p.m., at VVFD Station, 400 Center

Street, Vienna. Volunteer Firefighters and EMTs will be auctioned off for a date, dinner, private tour of the VVFD and attending the Fire Ball. RSVP at <http://firefighterauction.eventbrite.com>.

Difficult Run Jazz Band. 6:30 p.m., at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. The Difficult Run Jazz Band plays jazz music on the Vienna town green. <http://www.viennava.gov>.

"Damn Yankees." 8 p.m., at The McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The Alden Theatre presents the classic musical-comedy. \$20. 866-811-4111 or www.McLeanPlayers.org.

Carmina Burana and More. 8:15 p.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The NSO, Choral Arts Society of Washington and soloists from Wolf Trap Opera Company present Carl Orff's Barmina Burana and Mussorgsky's pictures at an exhibition. \$22-\$55. http://www.wolftrap.org/Filene_Center.aspx.

SATURDAY/JULY 13

Surf's Up Water Fun Day. 8 a.m.-noon at the Vienna Farmers Market, 301 Center St. S., Vienna. Free water fun children's activities are the highlight. viennafarmersmarket.com.

The Deedle Deedle Dees. 10:30 a.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. America's Ultimate Teaching Band combines guitar, bass, mandolin, drums, and bouzouki into a depiction of famous people, places, and events in U.S. history and folklore. \$10. http://www.wolftrap.org/Filene_Center.aspx.

Oakton Church of the Brethren Community Concert Series. 7 p.m., Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road., Vienna. Violinist Dr. Rami Kanaan and pianist Bettye Cooley return to the Oakton Church of the Brethren in a lecture-recital. www.oaktonbrethren.org or 703-281-4411.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 15

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 14

SATURDAY/JULY 13

NSO Video Games Live: Bonus Round.

8:30 p.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The National Symphony Orchestra presents an all-new show featuring music from video games such as Halo, Zelda, Tron, Sonic, Super Mario Bros., Final Fantasy and many more. \$22-\$55. 1-877-965-3872 or <http://www.wolftrap.org>.

Joanie Leeds & The Nightlights. 10 p.m., at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. Parents' Choice Gold and NAPPA Gold award-winning Joanie Leeds celebrates the release of her new CD, featuring her songs for children. \$10. <https://jamminjava.com> or 703-225-1566.

SUNDAY/JULY 14

The Potomac Fiber Arts Guild Reception. 1-3 p.m., Craft Gallery of Artisans United, Annandale Community Park, 4022-C Hummer Road. Artists from the guild will be on hand to talk about their craft and discuss their fiber creations; refreshments included. 703-941-0202.

Red, Hot & Blue Reception. 2-4 p.m., at Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. N.W., in Vienna. See art at an artists reception with refreshments and music from The Higher Ground String Band Sunday. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Aria Jukebox. 3 p.m., The Barns, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Artists perform selections from Puccini, Rossini, Verdi, Wagner, Gerswhin and Mozart. \$32-\$48. <http://www.wolftrap.org/Barns.aspx>.

Annandale Saxophone Ensemble. 6:30 p.m., at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. The Annandale Saxophone Ensemble performs traditional hits for all ages. <http://www.viennava.gov>.

Boz Scaggs and Michael McDonald. 8 p.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Boz Scaggs & Michael McDonald play popular Motown covers like "I Heard it Through the Grapevine" and hits like "Lido Shuffle." \$25-\$42. 1-877-965-3872 or <http://www.wolftrap.org>.

The Potomac Fiber Arts Guild Reception. 1-3 p.m., Craft Gallery of Artisans United, Annandale Community Park, 4022-C Hummer Road. Artists from Guild will be on hand to talk about their craft and discuss their fiber creations; refreshments included. 703-941-0202.

MONDAY/JULY 15

Jill Scott and Raheem DeVaughn and Fiveology. 8 p.m., Filene Center at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. R&B soulstress Jill Scott is set to bring her provocative, passionate and intelligent brand of music to her Filene Center debut. \$40-\$95. www.wolftrap.org.

TUESDAY/JULY 16

Farafina Kan: The Sound of Africa. 10:30 a.m. at 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. This multi-generational dance company combines the excitement and energy of drumming with elaborate choreography and audience participation. \$8. www.wolftrap.org.

Jethro Tull's Ian Anderson. 8 p.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The front man of the British



"Ballerinas I," oil, by Jill Banks, 16" h x 12" w is among the paintings in Banks' "Serendipity" exhibit. The pieces are up at Great Falls Library with a reception Saturday, July 20, 1-4 p.m.

rock group Jethro Tull, Ian Anderson, revisits his 1972 album, Thick as a Brick. \$30-\$40. 1-877-965-3872 or <http://www.wolftrap.org>.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 17

Recess Monkey. 10:30 a.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. A trio of elementary school teachers sing about the fun of being a kid as they rock to fan-favorites from their newest albums Deep Sea Diver and Desert Island Disc. \$10. <http://www.wolftrap.org>.

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Dedicating the trail were Bharat Khanal, site inspector, Fairfax County Capital Facilities; Dennis Marsh, project engineer, Fairfax County Department of Transportation; Dranesville Supervisor John Foust; and Wade Smith, Dranesville representative on the Fairfax County Trails and Sidewalks Committee.



Longtime neighborhood residents Roy and Linda O'Brien enjoying the new trail. Mr. and Ms. O'Brien own a home backing up to the trail and provided the county with a required easement.

Lewinsville Road Trail Completed

Connector between Scotts Run Road and Windy Hill Road.

Residents of McLean are now enjoying a new asphalt trail, along Lewinsville Road between Scotts Run and Windy Hill Roads in McLean. Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), community leaders and Fairfax County Departments of Transportation and Capital Facilities staff dedicated the new trail at an event held on June 24 at the corner of Scotts Run and Lewinsville Roads.

This segment is one of the final missing links needed for continuous trail along Lewinsville Road between Spring Hill Road and Dolley Madison Blvd. The last missing segment, between Elsinore Avenue and Snow Meadow Lane, is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Trail connectivity on Lewinsville Road is especially important with the pending completion of the Phase I Silver Line Metro stations, expected to open at the end of December. The new walkway connects Scotts Run Road to the recently completed walkway along the new Lewinsville Road beltway bridge, installed as part of the I-495 Express Lanes project.



Intersection of Scotts Run Road and Lewinsville Road before trail project.

Project design engineers overcame the challenge of a deep ditch near the Scotts Run Road terminus. Fill dirt and a new guardrail now provide a seamless connection between the trail and Scotts Run Road.

"I am very pleased to see this project completed. Piece by piece we are putting together safe routes for pedestrians to reach both the McLean and the Spring Hill metro stations," said Supervisor Foust.

For more information, please contact Julie Ide in the office of Supervisor Foust at 703-356-0551 or email Julie.Ide@FairfaxCounty.gov.

Having Fun and Helping a Cause

The Vorndran and Loving families enjoying Italian food in support of their favorite Little League teams. Clockwise, starting with baby in front: Audrey, Leslie and Frank Vorndran, Adelaide Loving, Meredith Vorndran, and Jamie and Charlotte Loving at a charity fundraiser at Pulcinella Italian Host, which allowed Community Charity Champions to raise \$1,452.50.



Gay Rogers Named 'Friend in Deed'

The Friends of the McLean Community Center honor Rogers for her contributions to the center.

The Friends of the McLean Community Center organization has named McLean resident Gay Rogers the recipient of its 2013 "Friend in Deed" award. Rogers is the 20th person to receive this recognition "with gratitude for outstanding leadership and support of the McLean Community Center." She received a plaque at the Friends' June meeting, which was held on Monday, June 10, at the center. The center is located at 1234 Ingleside Ave.

Rogers, who has lived in the Langley Forest area of McLean for 33 years, has volunteered as a member of the board of the Friends organization for more than four years. "The Community Center is an important resource in our community," said Rogers, "And I appreciate having had the opportunity to serve on the board of the Friends of the McLean Community Center." In addition to receiving the award, a plaque with her name will be added to the "Friend in Deed" wall in the center's main lobby.

Rogers' involvement in the development of the McLean community has been well demonstrated. She and her husband Woody reared their two daughters in the community and are now the proud grandparents of three grandchildren. Rogers is



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Gay Rogers is the recipient of The Friends of the McLean Community Center's 2013 "Friend in Deed" award.

retired from her job at the Langley High School library where for many years she tutored high school math. As a longtime member of the Langley Swim Club, she now holds the position of club administrator. Also an avid cyclist, Rogers has traveled by bike in the United States, Europe and Asia.

The Friends of the McLean Community Center are always seeking new members. For more information, call the center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit: www.mcleancenter.org.

Sanat Shankardass Wins McLean Day Drawing

McLean Community Center tax district resident Sanat Shankardass is the winner of the Center's McLean Day 2013 survey drawing. MCC Special Events Division Director Sam Roberts presented Shankardass with a \$50 Giant gift card on June 20, at the center. His name was drawn from the more than 75 responses the division received.

"We want to know what our residents think about the programs we produce," said Special Events Director Sam Roberts. "These surveys help us improve on what we do and when our patrons take the time to help us in this way, their actions should be rewarded. We received some good feedback."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Sanat Shankardass, left, won a \$50 Giant gift card for filling out a McLean Day 2013 survey. Special Events Division Director Sam Roberts presented the card to Shankardass on June 20.

For more information on MCC programs and services, visit www.mcleancenter.org.

SPORTS

Brooks Wins Mid-Atlantic PGA Junior Championship

Shannon Brooks of Vienna was the overall girls' winner of the 2013 Middle Atlantic PGA Junior Championship at Evergreen Country Club in Haymarket.

Brooks earned a spot to play in the Junior PGA Championship presented by Under Armour and Hotel Fitness, which will be held at Trump National Golf Club in Washington D.C. on July 30-Aug. 2.

With a four-hour rain delay in the second round, all 25 female competitors finally completed their rounds. Brooks had a two-round total of 140. Brooks shot a course record of 68 on day one and finished day two with a 72, beating the next competitor by two strokes. She also took the title in the girls' 16-18 age division. In the girls' 13-15 age division, Victoria Tip-Aucha of Manassas shot a score of 154 and won over Sienna Ferrick (156) of Vienna.

Vienna's Amber Liu finished eighth in the overall competition with a score of 159.

Langley Wildthings Experience First Loss

After an undefeated 2012 season and a win and a tie in 2013, the Division 4 Langley Wildthings lost their third season meet to the Hunter Mill Sharks, 251-169, on July 6.

Coach Mason Walsh reminded the team, "It's not about winning, it's about how hard you swim."

The team swam hard. Double-race winners were: Maggie Bellaschi in girls' 11-12 backstroke and butterfly; Jinwon Bailar in boys' 13-14 backstroke and swimming up in boys' 15-18 freestyle, and Schuyler Bailar in girls' 15-18 breaststroke and butterfly.

Single-ribbon winners were: Luke Watson in boys' 8U freestyle; Maria Grazia Favro in girls' 8U breaststroke; Izzy Schone in girls' 9-10 backstroke; Audrey Wallach in girls' 9-10 breaststroke; Ellie Ryan in girls' 11-12 breaststroke; Emily Wallach in girls' 13-14 freestyle; Katie Bellaschi in girls' 13-14 backstroke; Nate Johnson in boys' 15-18 backstroke; Alexandra Cramer in girls' 15-18 freestyle, and Katie Robinson in girls' 15-18 backstroke.

The Wildthings were relay winners in the girls' 11-12 100-meter medley (Adair Sand, Ellie Ryan, Maggie Bellaschi, Izzy Schone); girls' 13-14 100-meter medley (Katie Bellaschi, Emily Wallach, Ally Bulford, Claire Mullery); girls' 15-18 200-meter medley (Katie Robinson, Schuyler Bailar, Kat Owczarski, Alexandra Cramer), and girls' 18U 200-meter freestyle mixed age (Maggie Bellaschi, Audrey Wallach, Emily Wallach, Schuyler Bailar).

Two Wildthings set club records: Maggie Bellaschi took the girls' 11-12 butterfly record with a time of 34.34 seconds; the time to beat was 34.94, set in 2011. Jinwon Bailar bested his own boys' 13-14 freestyle time from last summer, down .10, to 25.79.



COURTESY PHOTO

Vienna's Shannon Brooks won the girls' overall championship at the 2013 Middle Atlantic PGA Junior Championship.

Soccer Registration

McLean Youth Soccer fall 2013 registration has begun on MYS' Web site — www.mcleansoccer.org — for returning and new families. MYS offers programs for children ages 4 thru 18, including recreation, travel, U5 for pre-K players, and TOP soccer for children with special needs. The season will begin the week of Sept. 9 and run thru mid-November. Please contact the MYS club administrator at admin@mcleansoccer.org with any questions, or call the MYS Office (703) 506-8068.

Soccer Camp

McLean Youth Soccer's 6th Annual Summer Camp is offered weekly through Aug. 30 at Spring Hill Recreation Center. Half- and full-day sessions are available for players age 5 to 16. Players from any community are welcome to attend the sessions, directed by MYS professional staff. Registration is on the website: www.mcleansoccer.org. For questions, please email the MYS club administrator at admin@mcleansoccer.org or call the MYS Office at 703-506-8068.

Cycling Events Enter 3rd Year in NVSO

The 2013 NVSO 10K and 20K cycling events will take place Sept. 8 at the Northern Fauquier Community Park, located at 4155 Monroe Parkway, Marshall, Va.

The competition is open to men and women in five-year age groups and is governed by the rules of the U.S. Cycling Federation (USCF). Medals will be awarded according to the best times in each age group.

The 2013 NVSO will take place Sept. 7-19 with more than 50 events being held in 17 venues throughout Northern Virginia. In addition to cycling, other events include: badminton; volleyball; racquetball; pickleball; tennis; table tennis; swimming; diving; bowling; Wii bowling; card games; board games; track and field and more. Registration is available online at www.nvso.us.



Winners stand at the Youth Intermediate Competition, a 7-mile race for ages 10-14 at the Tour de Tysons Sunday, June 30.

Tour de Tysons

Grand prix bicycle races held with a French twist.

The first annual Tour de Tysons Bicycle Races was a fun-filled day of French cuisine, balloon twisting and intense cycling. Hundreds of neighbors cheered 300-plus cyclists who competed in nine different races

around the 1-mile course—including a grueling 30-lap Elite challenge. National Capital Velo Club, PS Business Parks and Kaiser Permanente were among sponsors who helped contribute to the event's success.



More than 300 cyclists participated in nine different races Sunday, June 30 at the Tour de Tysons.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



The elite cyclists raced 30 miles, reaching speeds over 40 mph at the Tour de Tysons Sunday, June 30.

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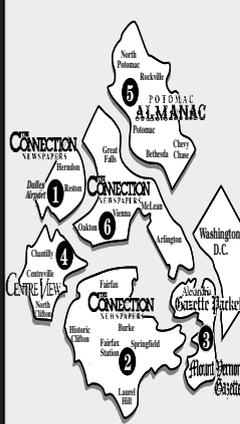
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PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) public participation requirements of 9 VAC 20-160-120, the general public is hereby notified that the property identified as Monument View, located at 929 Long Bridge Drive, in Arlington, Virginia is working towards obtaining a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Remediation from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) through VRP. This property is referenced by the Arlington County Real Property Code (RCS) number 34025007. The VRP participant is the property owner, MR Monument View, LLC., who performed remediation in 2012-2013 as a result of historical petroleum, arsenic and lead contamination resulting from the properties previous uses including an auto repair body shop, auto repair facilities and junk yard. The property has been successfully remediated through the removal of petroleum-impacted, arsenic-impacted and lead-impacted soils from the site for proper off-site disposal. An institutional land use control established by the property owner has been selected as an additional remedial action to satisfactorily protect human health based on the future use of the site. The institutional land use control specifies that "groundwater beneath the property shall not be used for any purpose other than environmental monitoring or testing." Anyone with an interest in this voluntary remediation who has comments or questions may call or write MR Monument View, LLC through their representative, Mr. David Book-binder of ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC, 14026 Thunderbolt PI, Suite 100, Chantilly, Virginia 20151 (703)471-8400. Comments will be accepted for 30 days following the publication of this notice.

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Infused But Confused



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I titled and wrote about in last week's column, I have indeed been there (infused) and have done that, so why am I feeling as if I haven't? Sure, I have some things to do in advance and some considerations to be aware of infusing forward; so what? I need weekly lab work; that's nothing new. I may experience certain side effects: flu-like symptoms or a rash. OK. If I do, Call. I'm likely to feel "crappy," according to my longtime oncology nurse, Ron. Really? (If I didn't know any better, I suppose that would be a surprise. But I do know better. Hardly could I consider that news. I've probably written a half-dozen columns on that exact subject during my previous multiple lines of I.V. chemotherapy over these past four-plus years.) Life is going on, just differently than before. That's as good as it gets for a terminal cancer patient, reasonably thinking. Only 16 percent of stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) patients survive beyond five years and I'm almost there (four years, five months). To say I'm lucky to be alive - and grateful for being so, is almost disrespectful the vast majority of previously diagnosed patients who've predeceased me.

Nevertheless, I feel a certain anxiety about this particular I.V. chemotherapy restart, a restart that I guess I didn't anticipate. It's as if I'm taking it personally, if that makes any sense. Previously, I think I took it more in stride, like I was one of many (which no doubt I was) and together we were all going off on this big life-saving adventure. Now, it feels - in my head, anyway (and probably more so in my head than anybody else's), that the adventure part is over and what's left is more a battle royal than a series of skirmishes.

Not that I feel weakened or fatigued by the previous four-plus years of the medical combat I've endured; rather, I feel humbled by the experience, sort of. So far, I've taken cancer's best shot (at least I hope it was) and survived way beyond any statistical expectation. I can't help wondering though, if my above-average life expectancy makes me somehow immune to cancer's reach or more susceptible to its grasp. Am I closer to the end or just further from the beginning? Moreover, does how long I've survived have an impact on how much longer I can continue to beat the terrible odds which us stage IV lung cancer patients face? I realize that past is often prologue, but at this juncture, I'm having a little difficulty not seeing the epilogue. I don't want to finish this book quite yet. But I fear cancer may have the last word, literally.

Perhaps returning to the original scene of the crime (so to speak), the Infusion Center, where my treatment began, is what's behind my stress. Weekly chemotherapy, as familiar as the process may be - to me, may simply be too much cause not to be concerned.

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

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