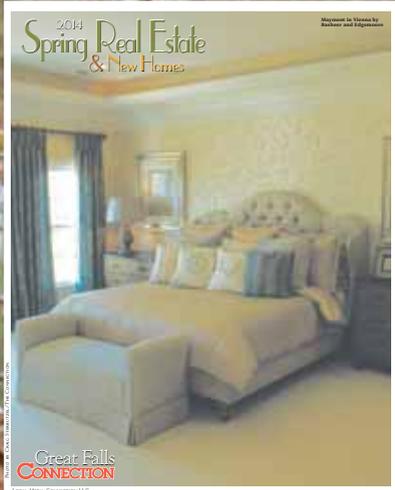


Great Falls CONNECTION

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Spring Real Estate
& New Homes
Great Falls
CONNECTION
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PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

APRIL 23-29, 2014

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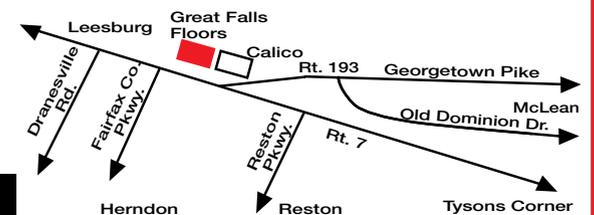
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Voters Wanted: Party Canvas on Saturday

Republican candidates for Congressional 10th District seat offer a mix of experience.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

After weeks of debates and campaigning, the Republican party will choose a candidate on Saturday to oppose John Foust (D) to succeed U.S Rep. Frank Wolf in the Va. 10th District Congressional race.

The party canvass will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Two of the candidates, Barbara Comstock and Bob Marshall have held office previously as delegates.

According to VPAP.org, Comstock raised \$761,354, Stephen Hollingshead raised \$122,178, Howard Lind raised 140, 838, Marshall raised \$55,240, Marc Savitt raised \$13,764 and Rob Wasinger raised \$82,742.

Although Marshall raised significantly less than Comstock, he felt confident he is the right candidate for the 10th district race.

"I have won 13 consecutive elections in Northern Virginia. Barbara Comstock won three. Obama won the state delegate district I represent by 11 percent. Barbara Comstock's district split evenly between Obama and Romney. Groups from the left and the right have joined me to pass laws to protect our constitutional rights," said Marshall in an email.

Comstock, who felt she had the upper hand because of her work with Congressman Wolf, said she is concerned about several national security issues.

"I'm very concerned about our current national defense policy which was weakened by President Obama," she said.

Lind is the only candidate who has served in the military. He previously ran for U.S. Senate.

"The whole thing with my campaign is taking a stand, which is



Barbara Comstock

Age: 54
Current position: Delegate
Education: Middlebury College, Political Science; Georgetown University Law Center
Town of Residence: McLean
Family: Married to Chip Comstock. Three children.
Key Affiliations: Board for Friends of Clemjontri, Board for McLean Orchestra, Board for Childhelp, founded Arts House Caucus



Bob Marshall

Age: 69
Current position: Delegate
Education: Belmont Abbey College, History and Philosophy; California State University- Dominguez Hills, Humanities
Town of Residence: Manassas
Family: Married to Cathy Marshall, five children
Key Affiliations: All Saints Catholic Church, Prince William Republican Committee, Knights of Columbus

not just taking a stand against the Democratic party, but also taking a stand within our own party."

Savitt said his candidacy provides innovative ideas and a fresh face.

"I am the only candidate in this race, who has never worked for the government or held elective



Stephen Hollingshead

Age: 44
Current position: Board of financial services firm Candor, LLC
Education: University of Houston, Political Science; Marquette University, politics masters and doctorate
Town of Residence: Leesburg
Family: Married to Jan Hollingshead. Six daughters and seven sons.



Marc Savitt

Age: 59
Current position: President, National Association of Independent Housing Professionals; President, The Mortgage Center
Education: Keane University, Political Science
Town of Residence: Clear Brook
Family: Married to Cheryl Savitt; Five children.
Key Affiliations: U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, Clear Brook Fire Department

office," said Savitt in an email. "I consider this an advantage, as those with such prior employment, are the very same individuals who are directly responsible for the government's loss of credibility with the American people."

However, Hollingshead finds that his work with the government



Howard Lind

Age: 56
Current position: Business Consultant at Howard R. Lind, LLC
Education: Virginia Tech, Statistics; Naval Postgraduate School, Information Systems
Town of Residence: McLean
Family: Four daughters
Key Affiliations: American Legion, Navy League, Association of the U.S. Army



Rob Wasinger

Age: 42
Current position: Former Chief of Staff to Senator Sam Brownback and Congressman Kerry Bentivolio
Education: Harvard University, Economics
Town of Residence: Fairfax Station

gave him strong ideas of what to change in the political sphere.

"I am uniquely qualified to change what is happening in Washington because I am a businessman who has created jobs and met payrolls; because I have actually reformed government as a member of the Bush Administra-

tion where I helped save \$2 billion a year in welfare fraud; and because I am the only candidate who has actually taught the constitution," said Stephen Hollingshead in an email.

Wasinger said he represents the future of conservatism, something he does not think the other candidates do.

"There's an old saying that old generals are always fighting the last war," said Wasinger in an email. "The pundits have anointed two frontrunners: an 11-term state representative intent on continuing the battles from 25 years ago and a career lobbyist coronated by the Washington elite because of her willingness to follow their lead. Neither will unite our party because they don't represent the future of conservatism."

Registered voters in the following precincts vote at Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.:

❖ Hunter Mill Magisterial District: 240-Colvin

❖ Dranesville Magisterial District: 301-Chain Bridge, 303-Churchill, 304-Cooper, 306-Great Falls, 309-Kenmore, 311-Langley, 314-Mclean, 321-Clearview, 322-Forestville, 323-Shouse, 327-Sugarland, 328-Hickory, 329-Seneca, and 331-Spring Hill

Registered voters in the following precincts vote at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton, VA 20124 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

❖ Hunter Mill Magisterial District: 229-Fox Mill

❖ Springfield Magisterial District: 803-Clifton, 804-Colchester, 805-Fairfax Station, 815-Woodyard, 838-Sangster, 839-Silverbrook, 841-Popes Head, 845-Fountainhead, 847-Greenbriar West, 849-Newgate North, 850-South Run, and 854-Newgate South

❖ Sully Magisterial District: 902-Brookfield, 903-Cub Run, 904-Stonecroft, 905-Franklin, 908-Kinross East, 909-Kinross West, 911-Navy, 913-Rocky Run, 914-Vale, 915-Virginia Run, 916-Waples Mill, 917-Stone North, 920-Chantilly, 921-Deer Park, 923-Bull Run, 925-Old Mill, 927-Lees Corner #1, 928-Poplar Tree, 929-Difficult Run, 930-Lees Corner #2, 931-Carson, and 932-Stone South

BULLETIN BOARD

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WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23

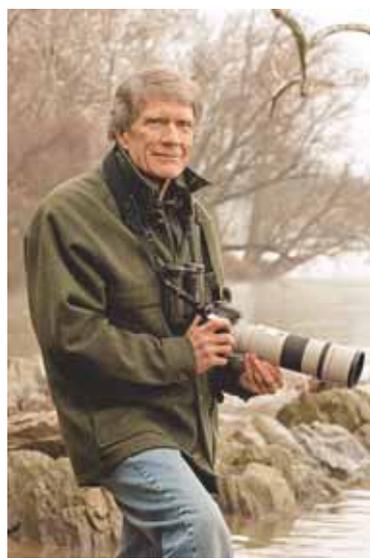
Out of the Darkness, Into the Light: Surviving the Holocaust, 7:30 p.m. Holocaust survivor Henry Greenbaum will talk about his

dramatic experience as a Polish Jew who was liberated from Auschwitz concentration camp and eventually made his way to the United States. He now serves as a volunteer at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Seating is limited. Please register for this event at <http://bit.ly/1pIEtWL> or phone the Library at 703-757-8560, Great Falls Library 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25

Registration Open House. 9:30-11:30 a.m. McLean Children's Academy, 6900 Elem Street, McLean.



A male Baltimore Oriole, the state bird of Maryland.

Donald Sweig

Spring Songbirds Arriving Now

Local bird groups and bird walks help beginning birders see colorful birds.

BY DONALD SWEIG

The birds are coming. The annual migration of often brightly colored songbirds from their winter homes in Central and South America, Mexico, the Caribbean Islands, and the southern United States is underway now. Millions and millions of avian migrants fly northward every night and the come down to rest or nest every morning. Some of the birds are enroute to nesting areas far to the north; some nest right here or nearby. Avian enthusiasts (birders/bird watchers) and general nature buffs have eagerly awaited the birds' arrival and are now out in force hoping to see some of their feathered friends.

The spring breeding birds (50 or more species) are often boldly pat-



Male Rose-breasted Grosbeak is among the most colorful of the migrant birds in the Washington area. They breed just to the west of our area.

terned and brightly colored. They exhibit in various patterns of black, white, yellow, red, blue, orange and myriad shades of brown and grey.

And they sing. Each species has a distinct song and call. Spring songbirds can be seen in many places in the area, from a tree in any yard, to "migrant traps," natural areas that attract migrating birds and regular nesting sites.

The Baltimore Oriole, the state bird of Maryland, was named by

the original settlers of Maryland in the 17th century, when they saw the orange and black bird, the same colors as the coat-of-arms of Cecil Calvert, 2nd Lord Baltimore, the founder of Maryland. They declared that the oriole was "Lord Baltimore's bird." Baltimore Orioles are easily found in late April and early May as they breed in Maryland and Virginia. Look for them along the C&O Canal, in the Great Falls Parks on both sides of the Potomac.

It's a great opportunity to see the Spring wildflowers as well.

Any morning, especially with south or southwest winds, from mid-April until late May is likely to bring a new wave of birds.

The local nesters are especially vocal when the first arrive and are setting up breeding territories. Look for them on the top of trees, often singing loudly.

Go at sunrise, or shortly thereafter when the new migrants have just arrived; late afternoon (4 to 6 p.m.) is also often productive, though not as good as early morning. If you have binoculars, take them. Listen carefully and look toward any bird sound you hear.

Local bird clubs have lots of bird walks in the Spring and are usually delighted to have new folks



Indigo buntings are common breeders in both Maryland and Virginia. Look for the bright-blue males on tree tops, like cedars or snags, and utility wires throughout the area.

Local Birding Groups

As a novice or beginning birder, your chances of seeing and identifying birds are greatly increased if you go out with more experienced birders. Local organizations have regularly scheduled bird walks, and welcome newcomers, beginners and returning birders on most outings.

Montgomery Bird Club, <http://www.montgomerybirdclub.org/>
Northern Virginia <http://www.nvabc.org/> Northern Virginia
Audubon of Virginia <http://www.audubonva.org/> Northern Virginia
Audubon Naturalis Society <http://www.audubonnaturalist.org/>
Also look at: <http://birding.aba.org/> (American Birding Association), Click on Maryland or Virginia to see what is being seen and where.

ORGANIZED BIRD WALKS

Here are some planned bird walks in the area, beginners and novices welcomed.

- 8 a.m. Sundays, Bird Walk at Great Falls National Park, meet at the visitor center, 9200 Old Dominion Dr, McLean.
8 a.m. Sundays, Friends of Dyke Marsh lead a walk into Dyke Marsh all year long. www.fodm.org
Wednesday, Apr 30, 2014, 8:30am Daniels Run, 3721 Tedrich Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22031. www.nvabc.org
Saturday, May 3, 2014, 7:30am Huntley Meadows Hike/Bike Trail, From I-495, take Rt 1 south 3 mi. to Lockheed Blvd. Turn right on Lockheed Blvd. and go 0.5 mi. to Harrison Lane to park entrance on left. www.nvabc.org
Sunday, May 4, 2014, and every Sunday 8am Dyke Marsh with Friends of Dyke Marsh www.fodm.org
Wednesday, May 7, 2014 8:30am Long Branch, Arlington, Take Rt. 50 east from Fairfax or west from Rosslyn to Carlin Springs exit. South on Carlin Spgs. 0.5 mi. to Nature Center on left, just south of N. Va. Community Hospital on left. Meet at Nature Ctr. parking lot. www.nvabc.org
Saturday, May 10, 7:30-10:30 a.m. Wolf Trap Park, Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with a walk through the wetland and ridges of Wolf Trap. 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Meet in the north end of the park, in the parking lot on the east side of Trap Road <http://www.audubonva.org/>
Wednesday May 14, 2014, 8:30am Fort C.F. Smith, 2411 N. 24th St, Arlington, www.nvabc.org
Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 7:30pm Friends of Dyke Marsh Quarterly Meeting. Norma Hoffman Visitor Center, Huntley Meadows Park, www.fodm.org
Wednesday, May 21, 2014 8:30am Eakin Park 8515 Tobin Rd, Annandale, www.nvabc.org
Wednesday, May 28, 2014 8:30am Huntley Meadows, www.nvabc.org

Birding Hotspots in Virginia:

Fairfax County:
Great Falls Park, <http://www.nps.gov/grfa/index.htm>
Riverbend Park along the Potomac. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/>
Huntley Meadows Park, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/>
Arlington:
Long Branch and Carlin Springs parks: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/parksrecreation/scripts/parks/LongBranch.aspx>
Alexandria:
A well known and popular "migrant trap" in Alexandria is Monticello Park, 320 Beverly Drive.
Look in any local parks and in any wooded area, preferably at sunrise or soon after. Spring Birds are where you find them, and you'll find them many places you look.



Male Prairie Warbler. Prairie Warblers are a common breeding bird in this area, usually arriving in late April. Look for the males singing on the top of small trees, especially cedars, on sunny mornings in field and along roads. They are easy to find in the trees along River Road out past Seneca and at the Occoquan Refuge in Virginia.

PHOTOS BY
DONALD SWEIG

come along, and you will see more birds if you go with an experienced group.

It's a priceless opportunity to see a Baltimore or Orchard Oriole; a Scarlet or Summer Tanager; a Yellow-billed Cuckoo; a Rose-breasted or Blue Grosbeak; a bright-blue Indigo Bunting; a Prothonotary, Prairie, Hooded, or oth-

ers of the more than 30 species of Warbler. Go look at the birds and celebrate Spring.

DONALD SWEIG, PH.D. RETIRED AFTER NEARLY 30 YEARS AS THE COUNTY HISTORIAN FOR FAIRFAX COUNTY, IS AN AVID BIRDER, NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER AND NATURALIST.

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NEWS



From left, 8-year-old Jack Halligan and 6-year-old brother Ryan play on the rocks at an outlook at Great Falls Park.

'Go Wild' at the Parks National Park Week ends Sunday.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

The National Park Service wants everyone to "go wild" for nature this week. National Park Week will be celebrated with treks and children's events at all 401 parks - including Great Falls Park - every day through Sunday.

Several thousand people headed out to Great Falls Park over the weekend, but many did not know the reason they got in free was because of the event, which is themed "go wild!"

The parks only had free admission on the 19th and 20th.

Faye Halligan came all the way from Edgewater, N. J., to visit friends in the greater D.C. metropolitan region. She visited Great Falls Park on Saturday, spending much of her time chasing after her sons.

"We're here with family to get exercise and see the wonders of the park," she said.

Jack Halligan, 8, said he enjoyed being at the park. "The favorite part, so far, is that I learned the river is 383 miles," he said.

Falls Walks and Ranger Rendezvous will take place this upcoming weekend just like the past weekend, according to National Capital Region NPS spokesperson Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles in an email.

The park is open every day except federal holidays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For the exact times for the events, call the park visitor center at 703-285-2965.

Children can also take part in Junior Ranger Day

on Saturday. Program booklets are located in the visitor center. The rangers at the visitor center declined to comment about the week's programs.

Belle Haven Park's Junior Ranger Day on Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday will give children the opportunity to meet live hawks and owls.

"Rangers will also host wetland wildlife games and provide explorer packs with binoculars, field guides, and magnifying glasses for anyone who wants to take a hike in Dyke Marsh," said Anzelmo-Sarles in an email.

Theodore Roosevelt Island will hold their Junior Ranger Day from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Like Halligan, Jennifer Rengacharya a Great Falls Park out-of-state visitor. The St. Louis, Mo., resident was following her 4-year-old son, Jay, as he scrambled up and down the rocks by an outlook.

"We're visiting friends in D.C. and wanted to get out and see some nature," she said. "We saw the museums yesterday and wanted to see the natural side of D.C. as well."

Although the cars in the parking lot bore license plates from states as far away as New York and Texas, some visitors traveled a much shorter distance to take advantage of the radiant sunshine and balmy temperatures at the falls over the weekend.

Jason and Kelly Clark, from Burke, were visiting the park for the first time. They were surprised to hear that it was National Park Week.

"What a great time to do it," said Jason Clark. "We love the parks all over. It's great seeing spring and the river so high."



Several thousand people came to Great Falls park over the weekend.

PHOTOS BY
REENA SINGH/
THE CONNECTION

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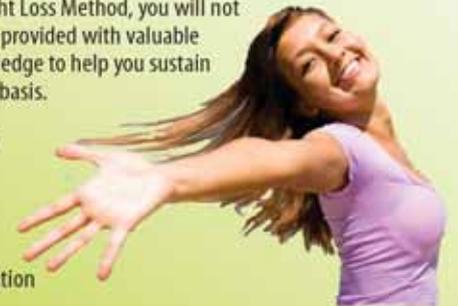


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President of the National Grange To Speak at the Great Falls Day

Ed Luttrell, President of the National Grange, will speak at the Great Falls Day Opening Ceremony, May 4 at 1 p.m.

Luttrell, a native of Sandy, Ore., was elected the 22nd President of the National Grange in November of 2007. A second generation Granger, he is the immediate past Leadership/Membership Development Director for the National Grange.

Luttrell is a 4th generation Oregonian.

He grew up on a small farm outside of Portland in Shoals, Ore. He is a graduate of Hillsboro High in Hillsboro, Ore. and spent time studying livestock management at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany, Ore. He has worked in agriculture, automotive services and publishing.

He and Celia, his wife of 34 years, have three grown children: Ben, Jacob and Charlotte, as well as two grandchildren. They are members of the Boring-Damascus



Ed Luttrell

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Grange No. 260 and Clackamas Pomona Grange.

Luttrell has extensive Grange experience including Oregon State Master from 1996 to 2000.

Luttrell's vision for the Grange is to strengthen the partnership between the State

and National levels of the organization, in order to aid the Community Granges in achieving their goals. Promoting growth through new Granges, reorganizing inactive Granges and revitalizing existing Granges is a primary focus of his team building efforts.

When time allows, Luttrell enjoys restoring old cars and trucks, hunting and camping. More than anything, he loves genealogy and finding connections from his family tree across the country.

Luttrell will trace the history of agriculture over the last 150 years and describe the role of the National Grange, and state and local Granges in protecting the agricultural industry over its lifetime.

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OBITUARY



Kenny Donaldson

Elton Kenneth Donaldson, 80, of Great Falls, Dies

Kenny Donaldson, age 80 and Great Falls resident for 52 years, lost his battle with lung cancer on Sunday, April 6. He was born and grew up in Falls Church, where he attended Falls Church High School. He excelled in many roles throughout his life. Following high school he joined the Navy and served three years aboard the USS Worcester during the Korean War. After serving his country he married Madolin, to whom he was a devoted husband for 58 years.

Kenny began his career working for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and later progressed to the Coastal Engineering and Research Center at Ft. Belvoir. For several years after retiring from the U.S. Government, he enjoyed driving a school bus for Fairfax County Public Schools. Kenny and Madolin moved to Great Falls in 1962 where he was an active member of the Freemasons, Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department, Great Falls United Methodist Church, coached several youth baseball teams, and was always available to help a neighbor or participate in community projects. In his final years he took great pleasure in being the number one fan at his grandchildren's sporting events, working in his yard, and visiting with neighbors and friends.

Kenny was intensely dedicated to his family, and leaves behind loving members which include his wife Madolin, four children — Sandra Weller, James, Thomas and Frederick Donaldson — one son-in-law, Gary Weller, three daughter-in-laws, Gail, Linda, and Lee Ann Donaldson, seven grandchildren and spouses, three great grandchildren, and his sister Margaret Schrouder, as well as a number of loyal friends. A celebration of Kenny's life took place on April 16 at the Great Falls United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

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SATURDAY/APRIL 26

Bike Collection. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Bikes for the World makes quality used bikes available to lower income people and select institutions in developing countries. All bikes are welcome, except trikes. A \$10 tax deductible donation is requested with each bike (but not required) to help with shipping, reconditioning and distribution costs. Please contact

alex.jacquay@gmail.com for more information.
www.bikesfortheworld.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 27

10th Annual Vienna Elementary School PTA 5K Race And 1 Mile "Run for Fun," 8 a.m. The run funds many activities and improvements for the school. Last year over 700 people participated.

Event Fee:
* Adults - \$25 (\$30 after 4/20 and on race day)
* Children 14 and under - \$15 per child for first 1 or 2 in family (\$5 per child after 2nd child is registered)

Register online via www.vienna5krun.org
Online registration ends Tuesday, April 20, at midnight. T-Shirts are only guaranteed to those who pre-register.

MONDAY/APRIL 28

McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia will meet Monday, April 28, at 5:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean.

The group will be discussing plans for their Aug. 24, 2014 event commemorating the bicentennial of the burning of the nation's Capitol during the War of 1812.

If interested in taking part in the organization and its upcoming event please contact Carole Herrick at 703-356-8223.

ONGOING

Run With the Doctor. Every other Saturday at 7 a.m. 8230 Boone Blvd, Tysons Corner. The Center for Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine

offers its services in a convenient format to runners at this running event. Free. facebook.com/runwiththedoctor.

Coffee/Tea Poetry Group. Poets and poetry lovers seek to form a group to meet once a month at a local coffee/tea shop to enjoy each other's creations. 703-819-1690.

Virginia Sheriff's Institute Scholarship Program. Those enrolled in a Virginia college or university who are pursuing a degree in the field of criminal justice are eligible for the Virginia Sheriff's Institute Scholarship Program; recommendation letter needed. 703-246-3251, shf-pio@fairfaxcounty.gov or <http://vasheriffsinstitute.org/scholarship/>.

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Ask the Board of Supervisors to support the Green Energy Park

FAIRFAX
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TRIANGLE

Past Time for Later Start Times

Teenagers are sleep deprived, and sleep deprivation takes a significant toll on safety, health and learning. We've known this for decades.

But for decades, literally, Fairfax County Public Schools (and Montgomery County, Md.) have let a combination of reactionary blabber ("buck up and get moving;" "just tell them to go to bed earlier") and organizational resistance prevent implementing a solution to this very real problem.

Getting up at 5:30 or 6 a.m. to hop on a school bus at 5:45 a.m. or even as late at 6:30 a.m. to get to school by 7:20 a.m. is not healthy for teenagers. It is nearly impossible for teenagers to go to sleep before 11 p.m. or midnight.

Fairfax County high school students average six hours of sleep a night on weeknights. Research shows they need nine hours of sleep. Research has also quantified the costs of sleep deprivation.

That level of sleep deprivation contributes to depression and suicidal thoughts.

Driving-while-teen is challenging by itself; driving with sleep deprivation is like driving under the influence, and contributes to car

accidents both minor and major.

Sleep deprivation is also associated with lack of impulse control, another aspect of teenage life that needs no augmentation.

It's hard to learn when sleep deprived, and harder still to get excited about what one is learning.

Children's National Medical Center was contracted more than a year ago by Fairfax County Public Schools to develop proposals for starting high schools after 8 a.m. Specific proposals will be presented shortly, and those specific proposals are sure to bring out specific objections.

Yes, changing start times will cost money. Yes, changing start times will require changing a lot of other things that many will find inconvenient. It's going to require significant will on the part of supporters of teen health, supporters of later high school start times to push this proposal across the finish line. Kudos to SLEEP in Fairfax advocates who have been pushing for so long.

How much would you spend, how much would you be willing to be inconvenienced, to prevent a single suicide? To prevent a single serious car crash? These are genuinely the

Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 11 and every year at this time, we call for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery. Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children. Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. (We will not print your full address or contact information.) You can upload photos and information directly to our website at www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/ or email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, May 2.

things that are at stake.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

The Richmond Hostage Crisis

BY PAT HERRITY
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR



The ongoing Medicaid expansion political chokehold that has seized control of Richmond is both frustrating and frightening. As the birthplace of

our nation, we Virginians hold our elected officials to a higher standard. We expect our leaders to guide the Commonwealth forward on a path of common sense governance and prudent fiscal responsibility. We expect our leaders to be able to hold a conversation on the pressing matters of the day without it devolving into name-calling and Washington-style politics. And we expect our leaders to know the difference between a principled fight and politics as usual. Unfortunately, the very real issue of whether or not to commit the

Commonwealth to significant future financial constraints has shown that many of our leaders are unable to live up to our expectations. As a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I was the lone vote against our board's endorsement of Medicaid expansion in Virginia. I made that vote after I attempted to amend our endorsement to call for the passage of a clean budget bill; that failed 2-7 with one abstention. In my comments, I pointed out that this Medicaid fight could directly jeopardize \$500 million in state aid to Fairfax County and our public schools; a fact affirmed by our staff. I cannot begin to imagine the disastrous impacts to our Commonwealth's smaller jurisdic-

tions should aid from Richmond be delayed. Everything would be affected from public safety to schools to the human services safety net provided by the Commonwealth and its localities.

Every spring, local governments around the Commonwealth advertise, debate, and adopt a budget. However, not a single local government in Virginia would be as reckless as Richmond and set out on a course of government shutdown because of an ideological difference of opinion. As elected officials we know how to move from the rough and tumble of political campaigning to leading and engaging in solutions for our constituent's best interests. Contrary to Governor McAuliffe's recent campaign promise to not play politics with the budget, he and his fellow Senate Democrats have repeatedly threatened that they will shut down the not only the state government, but also many local

governments who rely on significant funding from Richmond, if not given their way on Medicaid expansion. This is the sad state in which we find ourselves when just a few short months ago Governor McAuliffe used his inaugural address to call for Virginians to find "common ground" to solve our most pressing problem.

The Medicaid expansion issue has been thrust upon Virginians in an effort to sharply divide our leaders in Richmond. Clearly there are opinions on both sides but the sad reality is that the people of Virginia are pawns in this political game of brinkmanship. Governor McAuliffe should use his position as Virginia's chief executive officer to walk us back from this disaster, to settle the future for the coming year in our counties, cities and towns and take the Washington-style politics out of Virginia. Then we can find common ground.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Nothing Humane In Bow Hunting

To the Editor:
The typo in 'Deer Management' Options Explored (Great Falls Connection, April 16-22, 2014) was quite telling.

It states that bow hunting is the "more human" deer management option. It certainly is— but bow

hunting is the furthest thing from humane.

The HSUS advised Fairfax County in 2009 that "bow hunting is undeniably one of the cruelest forms of hunting due to the exceeding high wound rates associated with this activity... For every animal retrieved by a bow hunter, at least one animal is left to die a slow and excruciating death."

Regardless of how one may feel about the impact on the deer (and the deer management debate has many voices), what about bow hunting's complete misses?

The suggestion was made to allow bow hunting on private property.

It is disconcerting enough to hike in our Great Falls parks past the signs warning us of hunting in progress and to stay on the paths,

without imagining arrows flying in my neighborhood as well.

My summer vegetable garden stands in the open, is lush and productive every growing season, and is untouched by the deer.

Ivory soap—an old Maine farmer's method— does the job. It's very human, and humane.

Nancy Luehman
Great Falls



NEWS

Summer 2014 Farmers Market Session Opens This Saturday

By KATHLEEN MURPHY
MARKET MANAGER

The Great Falls Farmers Market summer season begins this Saturday as the summer vendors join those who have served our community all winter. Penn Farm and Diaz Berries & Veggies will be joining Tuscarora Organic Growers Coop and Tyson Farms to bring a wide array of vegetables and fruits. Tyson Farm is a good addition to our mix, as they have abundant fruit orchards, which will broaden our selection of fruit all summer.

Over the winter, Postmodern Foods brought gorgeous raw recipes to our community in the form of juices, smoothies, savory entrees and sweet deserts, and enjoys a solid following. Last week, we welcomed Wild Flour Underground, a gluten-free, sometimes vegan, baker, to resounding applause. Joining the line up is Plain & Simple, who has been hibernating all winter. Jo's dedicated following will be glad to see her savory and sweet muffins once again. Maxilicious Baking, who joined a



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Kandis Smith, Owner, Wild Flour Underground, enjoys her first day in business at the Great Falls Farmers Market last Saturday, April 19. Market visitors loved her blueberry lavender maccaroons, and her red velvet beet mini-cupcakes and black bean banana brownies.

few weeks ago, offers a biscotti that is packed with nuts and chocolate, lemon or mocha. Little Corners and Baguette Republic have been with us all winter and can't wait to provide delicious treats for all the summer gatherings and festivities.

High View Farm, another year round vendor delights with amazing eggs, sausage, pork, bacon and the occasional lamb and beef. Lynnhaven River Brand tried to make it all winter, but the climate has been prohibitive. They plan to come all spring and into the summer with oysters, clams and possibly other fish.

Tasteful Landscapes can assist you with herb gardening, and State Gardens is selling the herb plants to fill up the garden structure.

Come see vendors you have missed all winter, and welcome some new ones. New vendors will

be introduced over the coming weeks. The Great Falls Farmers Market welcomes small local businesses that grow, cultivate, make or produce what they plan to sell. Offerings include food and artisan crafts.

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Club activities include: adult and junior tennis year-round private and group lessons, camps and tournaments with two of Northern Virginia's top tennis professionals, adult and junior NVTL tennis teams, junior NVSL swim and dive teams, tennis, swim & dive group and/or private lessons and lots of fun, family social activities.

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Agricultural Economy

National Grange Movement

Great Falls Grange No. 738

Agricultural Demonstrations

- Barn Building
- Wood Carving
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- Animals, Livestock & Milk a Cow
- Historic Farm Artifacts & Local History



After the Civil War, most families depended on agriculture as the economic foundation of their family and local community. The many challenges faced motivated local farmers to join together...

History Displays

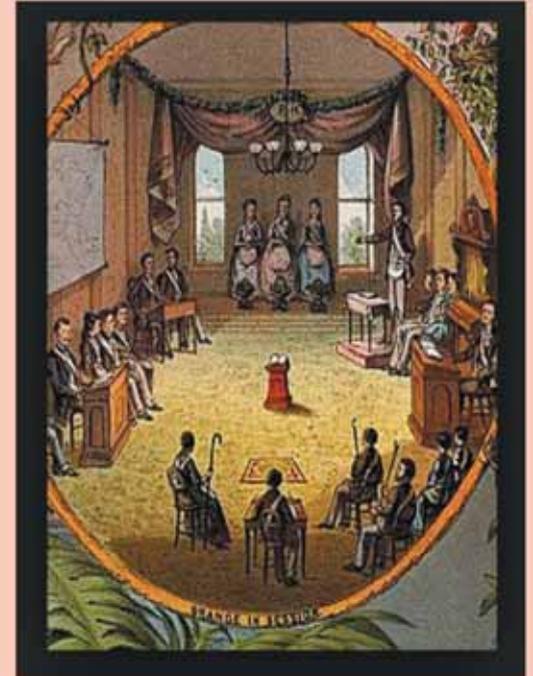
- The National Grange Formation in 1867
- The Panic of 1873
- The Great Depression of 1929
- The Industrialization of U.S. Agriculture
- Current Farmers' Issues & Challenges



The National Grange was the first organization to respond to the needs of farmers who were plagued by low prices, indebtedness and difficulty transporting goods.

History Displays

- The Great Falls Grange, Established in 1920
- Grange Formation, 1920-1929
- Center of Community Life, 1929-1979
- Home of the Library, 1939-1961
- Fairfax County Park Authority, since 1981



The Great Falls Grange Hall provided a structured framework for community cooperation and mutual support. Established for economic advantages, the Grange soon became a center of community.

A fun, free-admission, family history day at the Great Falls Grange, Sunday May 4th from 1-5 PM



Ed Luttrell, President, National Grange, a native of Sandy, Oregon, is the 22nd President of the National Grange. Ed is a second-generation Granger and a 4th generation Oregonian, having grown up on a small farm outside of Portland. He was State Grange Master in Oregon. Ed will discuss the long historical view of farming and the role of the Grange in supporting the farm community over the last 150 years.



Pat Brodowski, Chief Gardener, Monticello, will share with visitors historic agricultural techniques she uses at Thomas Jefferson's beloved estate and how they can be utilized in today's gardens. Among her topics will be heirloom seeds, seed saving – she will have heirloom seeds available for sale, as well as invaluable, but relatively unknown, small garden tools, and various plant covers. She is an authority on historical agricultural practices over the last 200 years.



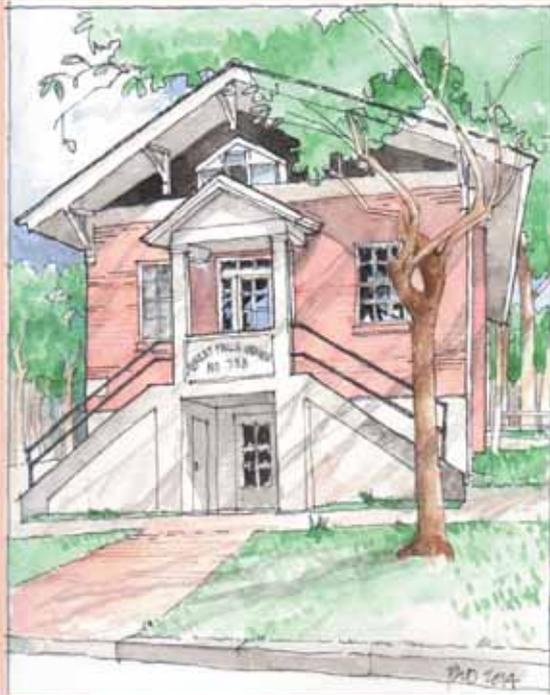
Great Falls Historical Society

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Milburn P. Sanders, Local Historian Emeritus

Join this delightful local history day – **free admission and kid-friendly** – to celebrate the **85th anniversary** of the dedication and opening of the Great Falls Grange Number 738, founded by a people of high ideals who committed to supporting each other cooperatively. On Great Falls Day, we will interpret our roots in an **agricultural economy**, the **National Grange movement**, and the value of our local **Great Falls Grange Hall Number 738** for our local community.

Ed Luttrell, National Grange President, tells the last 150 years of farming & the Grange

Pat Brodowski, Chief Gardener of Monticello shows heirloom seeds, seed-saving & more

The Grange Hall History Exhibits cover the entire history of our local Grange

Enjoy music	Milk a cow	Watch wood carvers	Enjoy a clown	Write an essay
Raise a barn	Greet farm animals	Play games	See a trolley	Organ Grinder
Tree Walk	Feast on rotisserie chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream & cookies.			

Bid at our **HUGE Silent Auction** featuring local Great Falls businesses & artists.

Sunday MAY 4 1-5 PM

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Grange Artwork by Bud Little

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Glamour Color	School of Theatrical Dance
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Great Falls Historical Society	Tasteful Landscapes
Great Falls Nail Salon	The Old Brogue
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CALENDAR

Send announcements to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

Abagnale, Jr., a teenager who runs away from home in search of the glamorous life. Tickets are available at www.mcleandrama.com. Adults \$15; Students/Seniors \$10.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23

All Star Beer Dinner. 6:30 p.m. Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, McLean. A four-course menu of baseball-inspired food and beer pairings. Each "inning" will feature a craft brew from a different baseball-loving city. Nick Hardt, On Tap On Line "bierdo," will be the guest speaker for the evening. \$50 per person. To make a reservation, call 703-442-9110.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25-MONDAY/MAY 5

Six Artists Return. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The Frame Factory, 212 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. An exhibition and sale of paintings, drawings, sculpture and jewelry by local artists Jackie Elwell, Elaine Florimonte, Debbie Glakas, Lisa Neher, Sarah Swart and Barbara Wagner. www.theframefactory1.com

THURSDAY/APRIL 24

Annual Arbor Day Celebration. 4 p.m. The tree planting ceremony will be held next to the Parks and Recreation Department's community learning garden, located behind Vienna Elementary School, 128 Center Street S.

6th Annual Green Expo. 6:30 - 9 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street SE, Vienna. Presentations and discussions for children and adults from more than 35 juried organizations and businesses will include information on energy efficiency, purchasing local organic products, creating green gardens, recycling options and more practical ideas to save money and help the environment. www.viennava.gov.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25-SUNDAY/MAY 4

"Willy Wonka, The Musical." Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. through May 3, with Sunday matinee performances at 2 p.m. on April 27, and May 4. Vienna Theatre Company, Vienna Community Center 120 Cherry St., SE Vienna. This multi-generational, family friendly musical is Roald Dahl's timeless story of the world-famous candy man and his quest to find an heir in this stage adaptation of Dahl's book, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, which features the songs from the classic family film *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. General admission \$14. To reserve tickets, email vtshows@yahoo.com. For more information, call 703-255-6360 or visit www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 24-SATURDAY/APRIL 26

"Catch Me if You Can." 7 p.m. McLean High School Burks Theater, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. A musical that tells the story of Frank

FRIDAY/APRIL 25-SATURDAY/MAY 10

"Perfect Wedding." Friday-Saturday at 8 p.m. Sundays at 2 p.m. The Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center. SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13



Doreen Montis, *Bubble Vision*.

Doreen Montis Exhibits at Great Falls Library

Doreen Montis presents a collection of abstract and contemporary photography at the Great Falls Library. The photographs in the exhibit are images that were captured as seen thru the camera. They were not digitally manipulated or created in Photoshop. It is interesting to see how ordinary images, such as oil and water, lights, and glass can become works of art by changing the focus point or lighting conditions. Stop by and test your skills at identifying the ob-

jects in the photographs.

The Great Falls Library is located at 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The collection will be on display from April-June, 10 percent of all sales will go to the Friends of the Library.

Montis' images have received top honors at several exhibitions and contests. They have appeared in magazines and are in personal collections nationwide. To see more of Montis' images, visit her website at www.dmontisphotoart.com.

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Through a partnership with the Metropolitan Washington Ear, audio description services for individuals with vision challenges will be offered at the May 10 performance. *Perfect Wedding* is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Join the McLean Players' Facebook Group • Suitable for ages 14 and older



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Connection will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:

The Great Falls Connection,
"Me and My Mom Photo Gallery,"
1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. An awkward morning-of-the-wedding situation and then spins out of control in the McLean Community Players production of this farce/romantic comedy. 703-790-9223. www.McLeanPlayers.org. \$16-\$14.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26-SUNDAY/APRIL 27

> **“Catch Me if You Can.”** 2 p.m. McLean High School Burks Theater, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. A musical that tells the story of Frank Abagnale, Jr., a teenager who runs away from home in search of the glamorous life. Tickets are available at www.mcleandrama.com. Adults \$15; Students/Seniors \$10.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

“The Lion’s Whiskers” Puppet Show. 2 p.m. The Alden, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. A musical adaptation of a traditional Ethiopian folktale, “The Lion’s Whiskers” features a charming cast of human characters as well as African animals. www.aldentheatre.org

Taste of Vienna Food Festival. 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department 400 Center Street, South, in Vienna (rain or shine). Admission is free and guests will be able to purchase food and beverages. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Vienna.

SUNDAY/APRIL 27

Flower Show. 2-5 p.m. 307 Windover Avenue, NW, during the annual Walk on the Hill through Vienna’s historic Windover Heights District. The show will feature floral designs as well as members’ cuttings of local horticulture to be evaluated by National Garden Club Judges. There



PHOTO BY LAURA FARGOTSTEIN

Be sure to check out this year’s Taste of Vienna, taking place on Saturday, April 26 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Guests will be able to try food from many local Vienna area restaurants, cafes and bakeries.

will also be educational exhibits. **40th Annual Walk On the Hill.** 2-5 p.m. Windover Heights Historic District. A self-guided walking tour through specially marked lawns and gardens in the Windover Heights Historic District. www.historicviennainc.org.

Y!Art Sale! 12 – 5 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Discover items that artists have decided to part with during the Vienna Arts Society’s sale to raise funds for the arts. Art supplies, art books, frames, hand-crafted items as well as original art will be sold for bargain. www.ViennaArtsSociety.org

THURSDAY/MAY 1

Lili the First Boutique Opening

and Ribbon Cutting. 6-8 p.m. 101 Pleasant Street NW, Vienna. The boutique introduces international and American emerging designers.

NVBS Annual Bead and Jewelry Auction for Charity. 7:30-9 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, SE, Vienna. This is a combination live and silent auction to benefit the many community outreach activities of the Northern Virginia Bead Society.

Items to be auctioned will include supplies for beaders, as well as finished jewelry.

Also included will be several themed baskets for many different interests, including gardening, pets, personal care, etc. www.NVBS.org



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



Catskill Puppets
“The Lion’s Whisker”
Saturday, April 26, 2 p.m.
\$15/\$10 MCC district residents

The Crabgrass Puppet Theatre
“The Pirate, the Princess and the Pea”
Saturday, May 3, 2 p.m.
\$15/\$10 MCC district residents

Take a Day Away!
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia
Tuesday, May 6
\$134/\$129 MCC district residents

Jammin’ Juniors
Roger Day
Wednesday, May 7, 12:30 p.m.
McLean Central Park Gazebo
Free admission

Studio Rep
“Code 20: Proceed to Improv”
Thursday, May 8, 7-9 p.m.
Old Firehouse Teen Center
Free admission

Old Firehouse Teen Center
Open House for Rising 7th Graders
Thursday, May 8, 6-7:30 p.m.

5th-6th Grader Party
Cinco de Mayo
Friday, May 9, 7-9 p.m.
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The McLean Community Center
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www.aldentheatre.org



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Catch Me if You Can is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019. Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

CAPPIES REVIEW

An Emotionally Gripping Production

'The Children's Hour' at Langley High School.

BY YVONNE NGUYEN
HAYFIELD SECONDARY SCHOOL

Amongst all the pandemonium of the Wright-Dobie school, one little girl stands out. With fire-red hair, a sickly sweet smile, and a sadistic gleam in her eyes, it is immediately clear that one of these things is not like the others. Langley High School's production of "The Children's Hour" by Lillian Hellman comments on the way gossip and lies can destroy lives.

The Children's Hour by Lillian Hellman, written in 1934 depicts the story of Mary Tilford, a wicked little girl whose lies about a homosexual relationship between two teachers at the Wright- Dobie School spiral out of control. The Children's Hour was first premiered on Broadway at Maxine Elliott's Theatre, where it ran for more than two years.

The moment Lily Brock (Mary Tilford) stepped onto the stage, the mood of the scene immediately shifted. Lily Brock had almost portrayed two characters— the two sides to Mary Tilford. One a malicious bully, and the other a phony sweetheart. Brock's facial expressions and vocal characterization filled the room with fear. Brock had a clear, deep understanding of her character. Tilford's complex, psychopathic characterization was not an easy role to portray, yet Brock pulled it off seamlessly.

Madeleine Chalk (Karen Wright) and Kathleen Welch (Martha Dobie) although both high school students, portrayed adults very believably. Chalk's de-meanor and elegant voice took a more subtle approach to her character, which was refreshing amongst all the other powerful characters on stage. Welch delivered a powerful monologue, which was the highlight of the show. Her dynamic body language showed her development as a character throughout the show.

The elaborate set was dressed impeccably well, and the actors made great use of their space. What was even more impressive were the quick and seamless scene changes. Completely flipping the set and all furniture in a matter of minutes, while in complete darkness. The accuracy and neatness of the scene change resembled magic when the lights came back up to reveal a completely different set.

While no one in the show was wearing a microphone, the projection and diction by the actors was amazing, and almost no lines were lost. Because The Children's Hour features characters of all different ages, and all the actors were in high school, it was expected that age differences would be hard to differentiate. However, this was the opposite, as all actors did a fantastic job of portraying their ages, and the old age makeup allowed the audience to make distinctions between age groups.

The Children's Hour comments on many controversial topics, and the characters in it are complex, and difficult to understand. Yet, Langley High School seemed to understand it perfectly, and put on an emotionally gripping production of The Children's Hour.



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

From left, Madeleine Chalk playing Karen Wright and Lily Brock as Mary Tilford on set.



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Alone on the Road

Study raises concerns about amount of time Northern Virginia drivers spend in single-occupancy vehicles.

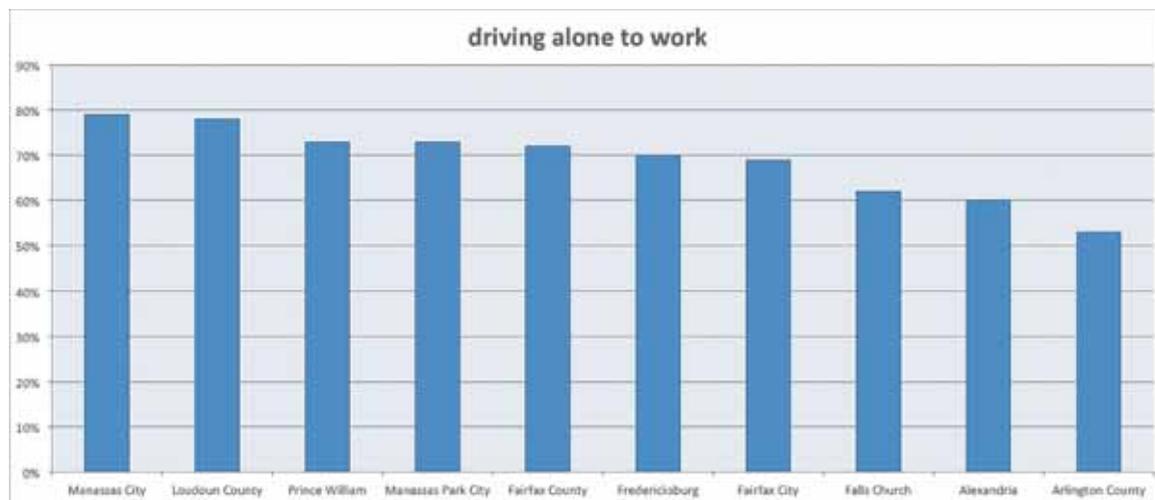
BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Despite the decades-long war against the single-occupancy vehicle, seven out of 10 workers in Northern Virginia drive to work alone every workday. And half of those drivers are alone in their cars for more than 30 minutes each day. These are some of the conclusions of the County Health Rankings, a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

"It should be unacceptable to everybody," said Kitty Jerome, action center director at County Health Rankings. "This should be seen as too high a figure when we look at the rate of obesity in America, when we look at the air pollution in America, when we look at the lack of physical activity and we look at the outcome of social isolation and stress."

The good news for Northern Virginia is that most jurisdictions are below the state and national average for the use of single-occupancy vehicles, which is 76 percent nationwide and 77 percent in Virginia. The average in Northern Virginia is 69 percent. The bad news is that the drivers who are alone in their cars are in for a long commute. Of those who commute alone to work, 33 percent of Americans spend more than 30 minutes alone in their car, and 38 percent of Virginia single-occupancy vehicle operators have a commute that's longer than a half hour. The average for Northern Virginia is 47 percent.

"I've seen this phenomenon in some of my nationwide research on private-vehicle commuting



SOURCE: COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS

Percent of the workforce that drives alone to work.

where commuter rail absorbs some commuters and those who live beyond the reach of the Metro, in the case of D.C., have no other choice than to drive to work," said Ed Zolnik, assistant professor in the School of Public Policy at George Mason University. "This makes driving commutes longer on average the further away you get from the reach of the Metro."

BECAUSE NORTHERN VIRGINIA has access to the Metro, rates of drivers who are alone in their cars during the daily commute are lower than other parts of Virginia or the country. Arlington County leads the region, with 53 percent of workers using a single-occupancy vehicle each day. Only Lexington County has a lower rate, which is 51 percent. Arlington's relative success in reducing single-occupancy vehicles is a function of decades of land-use decisions, although the county still has one out of every two workers driving alone to work each day.

"Alexandria and Fairfax County are struggling to catch up from the far-sighted efforts undertaken by

Arlington," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Leadership at George Mason University. "These efforts will matter more as the federal commitment to transportation infrastructure continues to remain bankrupt." Perhaps more vexing to people who live in the region is the length of the daily commute for people who are alone in their cars, which is far greater in Northern Virginia than the rest of the commonwealth or nation. According to the Bureau of the Census, the longest average commute times are all in Northern Virginia: Stafford County, Fauquier County and Prince William County all have average commutes near 40 minutes.

"We know that if you're driving alone for very long periods of time, that's costing you in the opportunity to be with other people," said Julie Willems Van Dijk, deputy director of the County Health Roadmaps program at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. "And we know that having good social support and good interaction with other

folks is also very helpful to supporting good health."

THE DEBATE about single-occupancy vehicle use is slowly moving from a conversation about social behavior to a discussion about economic incentives. When the 95 Express Lanes open in Northern Virginia in early 2015, every vehicle using the HOV lanes will need an E-ZPass or E-Z pass Flex to use them lawfully. Drivers riding alone won't always be able to use Interstate 95's High Occupancy Vehicle lanes during off-peak hours the way they can now, a significant shift from the way the system works now.

"In Northern Virginia and in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, we suffer from the worst congestion in the area," said John Townsend, manager of public and government affairs at AAA Mid-Atlantic's Washington office. "People are so exasperated and so fed up with congestion that they are willing to pay their way out of it."

The 95 Express Lanes begin in Stafford County and include a por-

"In Northern Virginia and in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, we suffer from the worst congestion in the area."

— John Townsend, manager of public and government affairs at AAA Mid-Atlantic's Washington office

tion of I-395 between the Capital Beltway and Edsall Road in Fairfax County. Drives who choose to use the HOV lanes between Edsall Road and D.C. will be subject to current HOV rules for peak hours. Experts say the shift is not only about using transportation policy to influence social behavior. It's also about raising money to build infrastructure, a trend that has grown in recent years as drivers are asking to pay for a premium services, sometimes known as "Lexus lanes" because of the cost associated with using them.

"There's a lot of capital expenditure that's going on that's being paid for by private investors, either lenders or equity investors," said Jonathan Gifford, director of the Center for Transportation Public-Private Partnership Policy at George Mason University. "These folks are interested in having their loans paid back or generating earnings on their investment, so why would you operate a road for free and say, 'Yeah, come and use our facility for free?' If you have the right to charge for it, you're going to charge for it."

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SPORTS

Herndon Softball Edges Marshall in Eight Innings

Marshall sophomore pitcher Larsen strikes out 12 in defeat.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Herndon softball team showed rust from not practicing during spring break, striking out a dozen times in an extra-inning contest against Marshall on April 21.

While the Hornets found hits hard to come by during their return to the diamond, Herndon made the most of the four they produced.

Catcher Melanie Martire drove in two runs with a double in the third inning and center fielder Mary Dugan plated the game-winner with a single in the eighth as the Hornets beat Marshall 4-3 at Herndon High School. The Hornets won their third straight game after starting the season 0-4.

"It's just what we needed to keep us going," Martire said. "After spring break, [we're] feeling good."

Martire, Herndon's cleanup hitter, had two of the team's four hits. Her two-out double to deep center field in the third inning drove in a pair of runs and gave the Hornets a 2-0 lead. She led off the bottom of the eighth inning with a double that glanced off the shortstop's glove. Two batters later, Dugan's single up the middle gave Herndon a walk-off win.

"[Martire is] everything a coach could hope for in a player," Herndon head coach Amber Kirk said. "... She's very passionate about the game and just a passionate person in general, so that rubs off on the other girls. ... She is a player that wants it and she makes the other girls know that she wants the game, she wants to win."

HERNDON SOPHOMORE PITCHER

Chase Cooksey delivered a two-out double in the fourth inning, stole third base and scored on a throwing error, giving the Hornets a 3-0 lead.

While Herndon made the most of its opportunities, Marshall managed 11 hits but left seven runners stranded in scoring position. The Statesmen left the bases loaded in the fifth and seventh innings.

Trailing 3-0, Marshall cut the lead to one with a pair of runs in the fifth inning, including an RBI single by junior Ashley Stern. Center fielder Marieka Pierce tied the score with an RBI single in the sixth, but the Statesmen failed to capitalize on multiple opportunities.

Marshall sophomore Madison Larsen struck out 12 batters during a 4-3, eight-inning loss to Herndon on April 21.

"We're going to be in the state championship on June 14. That's my goal and it's just one ... game at a time."

— Marshall softball coach Missy Whittington



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Marshall leadoff hitter Kat Uher slaps at the ball during a game against Herndon on April 21.

"I thought that they were coming together, they were jelling," Marshall head coach Missy Whittington said. "I just felt like we couldn't get our hits in a timely fashion. I felt like [Herndon's] hits kind of came in a timely fashion."

Herndon senior Katherine Milazzo earned the victory in the pitcher's circle, allowing one earned run in three innings of relief. She gave up six hits and walked three.

Cooksey made her first start of the year

in the circle, lasting five-plus innings. She allowed two runs — one earned — and five hits, while striking out one.

"I'm really impressed with how she did," Kirk said about the sophomore pitcher. "Her personality, she's kind of more timid, a quieter person on the field, but her performance ... just proved she can hold her own out there."

Senior Sarah Kurtz also pitches for Herndon.

"They're all hitting their spots," Martire said, "and that's all a catcher could ask for."

Kirk said junior shortstop Ashley Schnarrs has also played well for Herndon this season.

Last season, Kirk's first with the Hornets, Herndon went 15-5 in the regular season and entered the Concorde District tournament as a top seed, but the Hornets lost to Chantilly in the semifinals. Kirk said the team has its sights set on winning the Conference 5 tournament this year.

While Herndon returned from spring break on a positive note, Marshall had its seven-game winning streak snapped and its record dropped to 8-4. The Statesmen are in the midst of the program's best season since 2010, when Marshall finished 17-8 and reached the region semifinals.

"We're trying to set the bar really high for the girls," said Whittington, who is in her second season as Marshall head coach. "We expect a lot out of them. Our Marshall girls, we're here to play. We've got some really talented players on the team; we've got talented players coming to Marshall. It's not a slam dunk to be on this team as [it might have been] with a smaller school from past years. The population is growing and the competition is getting super."

SOPHOMORE PITCHER MADISON

LARSEN is a primary reason for the Statesmen's success. After being named team MVP as a freshman, the right-handed hurler has put together another strong season. Against Herndon, Larsen allowed four runs — one earned — and four hits in 7 1/3 innings. She walked four and struck out 12.

While dominant at times, she also appeared frustrated with the home-plate umpire's strike zone.

"She has a lot of different pitches and she's just a workhorse," Whittington said. "She's got a really great mindset. You can tell: when she's smiling, she's in the zone. I think tonight a few things took some twists and turns, maybe she just got off kilter. She's one of those you want in there in the eighth, ninth inning."

Sophomore left fielder Celestina Dunavant finished 2-for-3 for Marshall. Larsen, junior shortstop Kat Uher, freshman second baseman Amelia Ely and junior catcher Shelby Thomas each entered Monday's game hitting better than .300.

Marshall entered the Conference 13 portion of its schedule on Tuesday, when the Statesmen traveled to face Wakefield, after The Connection's deadline. Marshall will travel to face McLean at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23, and will host Falls Church on Friday, April 25.

Whittington has lofty expectations for the Statesmen.

"We're going to be in the state championship on June 14," she said. "That's my goal and it's just one ... game at a time."

Herndon traveled to face Westfield on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Hornets will host Centreville at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 25.



Supporting the Artemis House

Great Falls Friends and Neighbors (GFFN) presented a check for \$4,451 to the Artemis House. The money was raised from the sale of White House Christmas ornaments. From left, standing - Pat Kuehnel, Danielle Colon, (Artemis House), Maria Volpe, Ranjana Chawla, MaryAnn Nocerino; Seated - Jolie Smith (Artemis House) and Roz Drayer.

Troop 673 Promotes Two New Eagle Scouts

Ian Toloczko and Owen Dankworth, of Eagle Scouts from Troop 673 in Great Falls -- sponsored by the Great Falls United Methodist Men -- are the most recent among more than one hundred Eagle Scouts developed by the Troop for over 50 years of activity.

Owen Williams Dankworth, son of David Dankworth and Pamela Williams of Great Falls, joined Troop 673 in 2009, after achieving the award of Arrow of Light as a Cub Scout. Since joining the troop, Owen has served as Chaplain's Aid, Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader twice, and Den Chief. An enthusiastic participant in scouting, Owen attended nearly every troop outing while in elementary and middle school, multiple boy scout camps each summer, and participated in the Triple Crown of High Adventure trips: Sea Base in 2012, Northern Tier in 2012 and Philmont in 2013. He advanced to the level of Order of the Arrow (Scouting's National Honor Society) in 2010 and achieved the rank of brotherhood in 2011. Owen's various distinctions include 50 miler awards in bicycling, canoeing, and hiking; National Junior Shooting Award; National Youth Leadership training; National Outdoor Achievement Awards in Camping and Adventure; and an Eagle Gold Palm.

Owen's Eagle Project was the construction of an outdoor fire pit at the Great Falls Methodist Church, providing a place of fellowship for the numerous groups who meet at the church. Under his supervi-



Ian Toloczko and Owen Dankworth

sion, scouts, youth, and adults excavated and leveled a site and constructed a three-foot diameter fire pit.

Owen is a sophomore at Woodberry Forest School in Madison County, Va. Active in the Great Falls United Methodist Church Youth Group, he has participated in domestic and international mission trips. This summer, Owen will be travelling to China to continue his study of Mandarin.

Ian Carlyle Toloczko, son of Matthew and Lynn Toloczko of Great Falls, transferred to Troop 673 in 2012. He has served as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Chaplain Aide, Quartermaster, and Assistant

Patrol Leader for the troop. Ian has attended summer camp every year since joining scouts in 2007, and participated in the Florida Sea Base High Adventure trip in 2013.

For his Eagle project, Ian cleared the upper meadow of Riverbend Park and constructed brush pile habitats for small animals. Working with park staff, Ian developed a plan to return the meadow to its pre-wooded state. Working over two weekends, he supervised scouts to complete the project, benefiting the park and its ecosystem.

Ian is a senior at Langley High School where he is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, and DECA, the association of marketing students. After high school, Ian plans to pursue a degree in Risk Management and Insurance with a minor in International Business at the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business.

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Where Am I?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"I'm sitting in the rocking chair, good buddy," (a "Smokey and The Bandit" reference, if you're not of a certain vintage), between two 18-wheelers where the police radar can't find me - further referencing the C.B. radio days. Updating to the "Kenny-with-cancer" days, I'm a month or so past my last very encouraging CT Scan, the one I wrote about when my oncologist offered me a congratulatory handshake, a gesture he had not made in the five-plus years since we've been tangling with this damn disease; and I'm approximately seven weeks away from my next CT scan, "intervals" every three months at present. Seven weeks is far enough away where I'm not even thinking about it, or the possibility of its discouraging results that I'll know about on or about June 9th. I am cruising, emotionally, and savoring the excellent results from the last scan and not yet worrying, wondering, hoping, praying (too much) about my next scan. This means, at the moment - or moments, I should say, I am enjoying a relatively stress-free and blissful ignorance to what may - or hopefully may not, be happening in my lungs. I am, to quote a Three Stooges line: "as safe as in my mother's arms."

Let me admit for the record, when you're originally scheduled as terminal by your oncologist ("13 months to two years"), grasping at straws, rationalizing, wishful thinking and denial (which as you regular readers know is more than just a river in Egypt...an "NYPD" reference), become de rigueur, a sort of standard operating procedure - whether you intend it to be or not. And whether these days - or should I further admit and characterize them as daze - are simply a grand illusion, or a type of non-arrogant delusion, is another distinction I'm not the least bit worried about. The reality, for me, is that I can breathe easily - figuratively and literally, thank God? (And to be fair, thanks also go to my oncologist and to myself as well; for we've both played a part in this cancer battle.)

And why shouldn't I be exceedingly - and perhaps naively - grateful, for my still being alive and reasonably well. Only 16 percent of lung cancer patients survive beyond five years; I'm at five years and two months now. Whatever good news I receive, whatever positive spin I can give my results, whatever smiles and handshakes I elicit are crucial to this pursuit of life that I live every day. The only recurring and disturbing thought I have, now that I'm past this statistically relevant five-year survivability measure (and this is not about being in remission, which I'm not; I'm still undergoing chemotherapy) is: I can't help juggling in my mind whether being five years post-diagnosis makes me closer to the end of my life or further away from it. As such, when I experience a kind of break in my action, when I'm between halves, so to speak, when the past and future of my cancer life is not front and center but instead more off to the side, these are days to relish and I don't even like condiments. But that's what a cancer diagnosis, particularly a terminal one, will do: change everything. Rolling with the punches is how one has to learn to live: good with the bad, bad with the good, the last scan, the next scan, comparing the results from your ongoing lab work and your occasional face-to-face appointments/exams with the oncologist are what drive this cancer bus that you'd rather never have been on. But you're on it, all the time. This experience is a never-ending (hopefully never ending, let's be honest) roller coaster-type ride of emotions, treatment options, preoccupations and mental gymnastics. Anything and everything I can do to find some peace in the life-expectancy challenged and very unexpected medical circumstances in which I find myself so immersed, is what I do. I'm in a good place right now. It won't last given the timing of what my life's cycle is at present (scans and all), but no matter. I'm not stressing backwards or worrying forwards. This is as good as it gets, realistically speaking.

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

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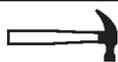
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Anti-Alcohol Awards

A Vienna-based, alcohol-education group wants to honor local, high school groups for their efforts in fighting underage drinking. To recognize high-school students for "doing the right thing," the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) will present its 2014 GEICO Student Awards at a May 16 ceremony in Washington, D.C., and is accepting applications for the honors through Monday, April 28, at <http://www.wrap.org/files/youthOutreach.htm>. Entry is free.

The GEICO Student Awards, now in their 22nd year, are presented each year to high-school student groups promoting alcohol and drug-free lifestyles to their peers. The awards, including cash prizes up to \$ 1,000, are judged by a panel of area substance-abuse prevention professionals including representatives from local traffic safety organizations and prevention coalitions.

Student groups are judged on their leadership, effectiveness, innovation and involvement of both the student body and community in their efforts to prevent underage drinking. The winners will receive plaques and monetary awards.

Founded in 1982, WRAP is an award-winning, public private partnership working to prevent drunk driving and underage drinking in the Washington Metropolitan area. For more information, go to www.wrap.org.

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A fundraiser for SHARE, Inc. has been announced by HBC Realty Group's (Keller Williams Realty) Community Charity Champions. Come to dinner on Tuesday, May 13, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Pulcinella Italian Host in McLean to support SHARE, Inc. Enjoy dinner and know that approximately 70 percent of the proceeds from food and drink will go to the charity, as long as the diner brings the flyer for the event. Contact HBC Realty Group at 703-734-0192 or visit www.HBCRealtyGroup.com to receive a flyer. SHARE, Inc. is a non-profit, nonsectarian, all-volunteer community relief organization helping people in need in McLean, Great Falls and Pimmit Hills area for over 45 years. They provide essential assistance through their food pantry, where people and families in need throughout the community can go for assistance with groceries. SHARE also provides emergency financial assistance, used furniture pick-up and delivery, distributes grocery gift cards at Thanksgiving and the holidays, holiday gifts, school supplies and rides to medical appointments. Sponsors of the event are: Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy with the HBC Realty Group of Keller Williams Realty, The Simmons Team of George Mason Mortgage LLC, Betty Sparkman and Chris Lara of Reveal Remodel, Kevin Dougherty of Pillar to Post Home Inspections, Marcus Simon with EKKO Title, Moe Jebali of Pulcinella Italian Host, and One to One Fitness Centers.

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William Licamele MD will be retiring and closing his practice of Child Adolescent and Adult Psychiatry on June 26th, 2014. Until that date he can be reached at his office at 6760 Old McLean Village Drive, Mclean Va. 22101--- phone 703-734-6927 for any questions, referrals, or follow-up. After June 26th, he can be reached at PO Box 338, Mclean, Va. 22101 for any requests for information, records, referrals. Etc.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
John P Steg MD will be retiring and closing his practice of Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychiatry on June 26, 2014. Until that date he can be reached at his office at 6760 Old McLean Village Drive, McLean VA 22101 -- Phone 703-442-8116. After that date he can be contacted at his billing address: 1837 Baldwin Dr, Mclean VA 22101 -- Phone 703-893-4836.

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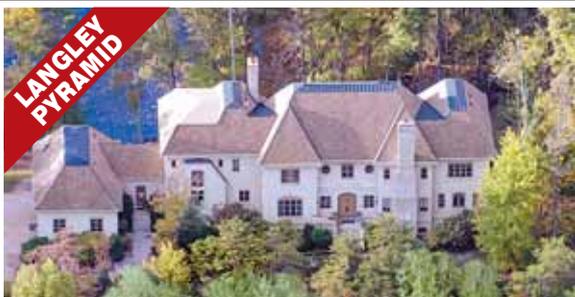
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What to Expect Buying or Selling

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Real estate agent Joan Caton Cromwell says she lost a home bidding war last week in Falls Church even though her client was a strong contestant.

"We were one of five contracts and we even waived the appraisal," said Cromwell of McEneaney Associates. "Any house that is close-in [to Washington, D.C.] and that is in nice condition, is going to attract a lot of attention."

Real estate agents say spring is one of the busiest times of the year for home sales and there is dearth of available homes in popular neighborhoods. "The lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties," said John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby's International Realty in Arlington. "I expect all sectors of the market to see price gains and demand to remain high."

HOME PRICES are on the rise. "If you put a home on the market and it gets multiple offers, the eight other people who didn't get the house will bid on another house," said Cromwell. "In a market where there are multiple offers it definitely drives the prices up and it drives them up quickly."

"We see a new trend in all price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located."

— Marsha Schuman,
Washington Fine Properties

Anthony B. Sanders, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Real Estate Finance at George Mason University said, "Very simply, this is still an area that is growing, so housing home sales will continue to rise, but more slowly than during the real estate bubble."

Still, agents are optimistic as they enter the spring buying season. "The state of the real estate market is great," said Marsha Schuman of the Washington Fine Properties' Schuman Team. "The weather is behind us and there is a momentum going into the spring market that feels very positive."

The spring market in the Washington, D.C. area is aligned with academic calendars. "It starts in April and May in the suburbs," says Cromwell. "Those in the military or who work for the World Bank for example, put their homes on the market in spring to prepare to relocate during the summer."

Proximity to public transportation increases desirability. "For example, Reston

Fairfax County Real Estate Overview

- ❖ In February, 789 homes were sold in Fairfax County, an increase of 2.1 percent from the 773 homes sold in February 2013.
- ❖ On average, homes that sold in Fairfax County in February were on the market for 60 days, 8 days longer than the 52-day average in February 2013.
- ❖ The average home sales price of all homes that sold in February 2014 in Fairfax County was \$499,765, an increase of 4.8 percent over the February 2013 average sales price of \$476,735. Compared to the annual 2013 average home sales price of \$531,136, the February price decreased 5.9 percent.
- ❖ The average sales price for detached homes that sold in February 2014 was \$677,199, an increase of 7.4 percent over the February 2013 average of \$630,557.
- ❖ The average sales price of attached homes increased 6.9 percent in the same time period, to \$352,384 from \$329,534 the year before.
- ❖ In February, the number of active listings in the County was 1,814, an increase of 26.3 percent over the 1,436 listed in February 2013. Based on the February 2014 listings and the current sales rate, there is a 2.3 month supply of homes for sale in the County, up from the 1.9 month supply a year ago.

SOURCE: Fairfax County Office of Management and Budget

SEE WHAT TO EXPECT. PAGE 7

A Picture Perfect Home

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Realtors Marsha Schuman and Betsy Schuman Dodek drive up to a home to show it to a prospective buyer, they know that they have only one chance to make a good first impression. Potomac-based Dodek and Schuman of the Schuman Team of Washington Fine Properties say a home's curb appeal matters.

"When we think of curb appeal we think of the lawn and landscaping, front door, windows, roof and how it all looks," said Dodek. "Buyers want to buy from someone who has taken really good care of their home and that translates in to curb appeal."



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRUPLACE

Realtors say this Oakton home exemplifies ideal curb appeal, a critical factor when selling a home.

Schuman added, "If things are not nice on the outside, then [potential buyers] wonder what the house will be like on the inside."

REAL ESTATE AGENTS SAY buyers want to purchase a well-cared for home, and the exterior aesthetic of a home creates that impression. Whether you're planning to put your house on the market or would just like a clean and fresh exterior to welcome you home each day, local real estate experts offer advice on enhancing a home's exterior.

McLean-based realtor Chris Pritchard of McEneaney Associates suggests starting by

"The sense of arrival is very important — you never get a second chance to make a first impression."

— Chris Pritchard

critiquing your own home. "Stand in front of your house and take a look," she said. "Walk up the driveway, ask yourself what

Tips from the pros on boosting a home's curb appeal.

you would want to see if you were shopping for a house."

The yard should be pristine and vibrant. "Trimming, mulching and planting some colorful plants are key," said Pritchard.

"Add color with flowers, pots with plants, choosing things like geraniums and pansies," said Dodek. "Adding color just makes such a difference. It makes the yard pop."

Consider safety. "Is the yard hazard-free?" asks Dodek. "It needs to be freshly mowed and mulched with dark mulch because that makes the greenery pop. Make sure your bushes are trimmed and proportionate. Look at trees to make sure they aren't blocking the size of the house."

"One of the next areas we look at are patios, walkways and fences," continued Dodek. "Do they need repairs? Is there loose mortar?"

McLean Realtor Ann McClure of McEneaney Associates says that a home's exterior should be well-lit. "You need good looking and functional lighting which should be on in the evening."

Examine the entrance. "Take a look at the front door," said Dodek. "Does it need painting? We had a recent listing and we painted the door red and added new hardware and a kick plate and that made it stand out. That is something that is very cost effective to do."

A clean appearance is critical. "There should be no algae stains on the roof," said McClure. "The homeowner should make sure that if they have siding that it doesn't

SEE PICTURE PERFECT. PAGE 7

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Local Designers Help Unveil DC Design House

Area tastemakers dream home, currently on the market for \$3.85 million.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Local designers showed off their master work when the 2014 DC Design House was unveiled recently. From Arlington to Burke, and Alexandria to Potomac, Md., the area's top designers competed for an opportunity to donate their talent to transform a local, grand home into a showcase home.

The home, which is on the market for \$3.85 million, is now open to the public for tours. It features six-bedrooms, five full and two half-baths. Built in 1929, the home features a three-car garage and a pool. The stone house offers three levels and nearly 8,000 square feet of living space, which local designers transformed.

THE HOME'S FRONT FAÇADE was designed by David Benton and Jim Rill of Potomac's Rill Architects. Inspired by the stately stone home, the duo decided to add a bit of detail and interest in the form of "style appropriate light fixtures, shutters, furniture and accent colors." When choosing a paint color for the front door, they wanted a hue that was traditional, but unexpected. Their choice: a "high-gloss verdigris green-blue [that] immediately catches your eye from the street. They replaced the existing solid wood single door with a glass-paned French door that "pulls outside views and daylight into the entry hall."

Victoria Sanchez of Victoria At Home in Old Town, Alexandria, designed the family breakfast room. "I wanted to create a room with a casual and cozy feel," she said. The room, which has large picture windows that offer uninterrupted views of nature, connects the kitchen with butler's pantry/wine tasting room. Sanchez chose woven rattan furniture to fill the space.

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria designed the family room, which overlooks the pool and patio. The design duo created a room with French doors that open to the pool area when the weather is mild, but added a linear, modern fireplace to create a warm and cozy space during cooler months. The room is filled with organic textures, tone-on-tone colors and "nods to both a mid-century flair and modernism."

One of the home's guest bathrooms was created by Arlington-based Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling Inc. Mann describes the small space as "chic, classic and timeless ... a jewel box bath." The room features Calcutta marble flooring in a herringbone pattern and the acoustic "Moxie" showering system that allows one to listen to music while bathing. Mann includes the home's original iron bathtub.

Susan Donelson and Sharon Bubenhofer, of Cleveland Hall Design in Burke, created a guest bedroom in the home. In an effort to create a light and airy space, the duo selected wall paper in a pink floral pattern.



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

One of the home's guest bathrooms was created by Arlington-based Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling.

"We choose streamlined furniture and fabrics to accent the Asian feeling of the wallpaper." The room, designed whimsically in pink and green, features twin beds. The art in the room was painted by Donelson's mother, Janice Donelson, a classically trained artist.

The master bedroom was designed by Nancy Colbert of Design Partners in McLean. The space was repurposed to allow for a larger master bathroom and a walk-in closet with built-in shelving. Colbert discovered a painting that she thought would be perfect



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The master bedroom was designed by Nancy Colbert, of Design Partners in McLean. The space was repurposed to allow for a larger master bathroom and a walk-in closet with built-in shelving.



"I wanted to create a room with a casual and cozy feel."
— Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria At Home in Old Town Alexandria

PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria At Home in Old Town, Alexandria, designed the family breakfast room. The room, which has picture windows that offer views of nature.

for a master bedroom, and designed the room around it. She chose an ivory turned-post king bed that she furnished with silk bedding in parchment and seafoam green. Colbert added crown molding for additional detail. "One of the room's multi-purpose features is a silver toned gilded butterfly side

table that was created by a newly discovered artist. It is a work of art and a table."

Beth Boggs, Teri Lohmann and Lynne Parmele of C2 Paint, Potomac Paint & Design with locations in Alexandria, Arlington and Chantilly, added color to the back

staircase. The team chose paintable wallpaper in shades of plum, lilac, and spring green. Paintable wall paper "conveniently camouflages old plaster wall cracks, provides durability for high-traffic use and creates a striking textured design." Now in its seventh year, the an-

nual event is a fundraiser for Children's National Health System, formerly Children's National Medical Center. The D.C. Design House has raised more than \$1 million and attracted more than 55,000 visitors over the past six years.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown, of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria, designed the family room of the DC Design House. The duo created a room with French doors that open to the pool area when the weather is mild, but added a linear, modern fireplace to create a warm and cozy space during cooler months.



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

The home's front façade was designed by Rill Architects' David Benton and Jim Rill of Potomac.

Go: D.C Design House

Location: 4600 Linnear Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008

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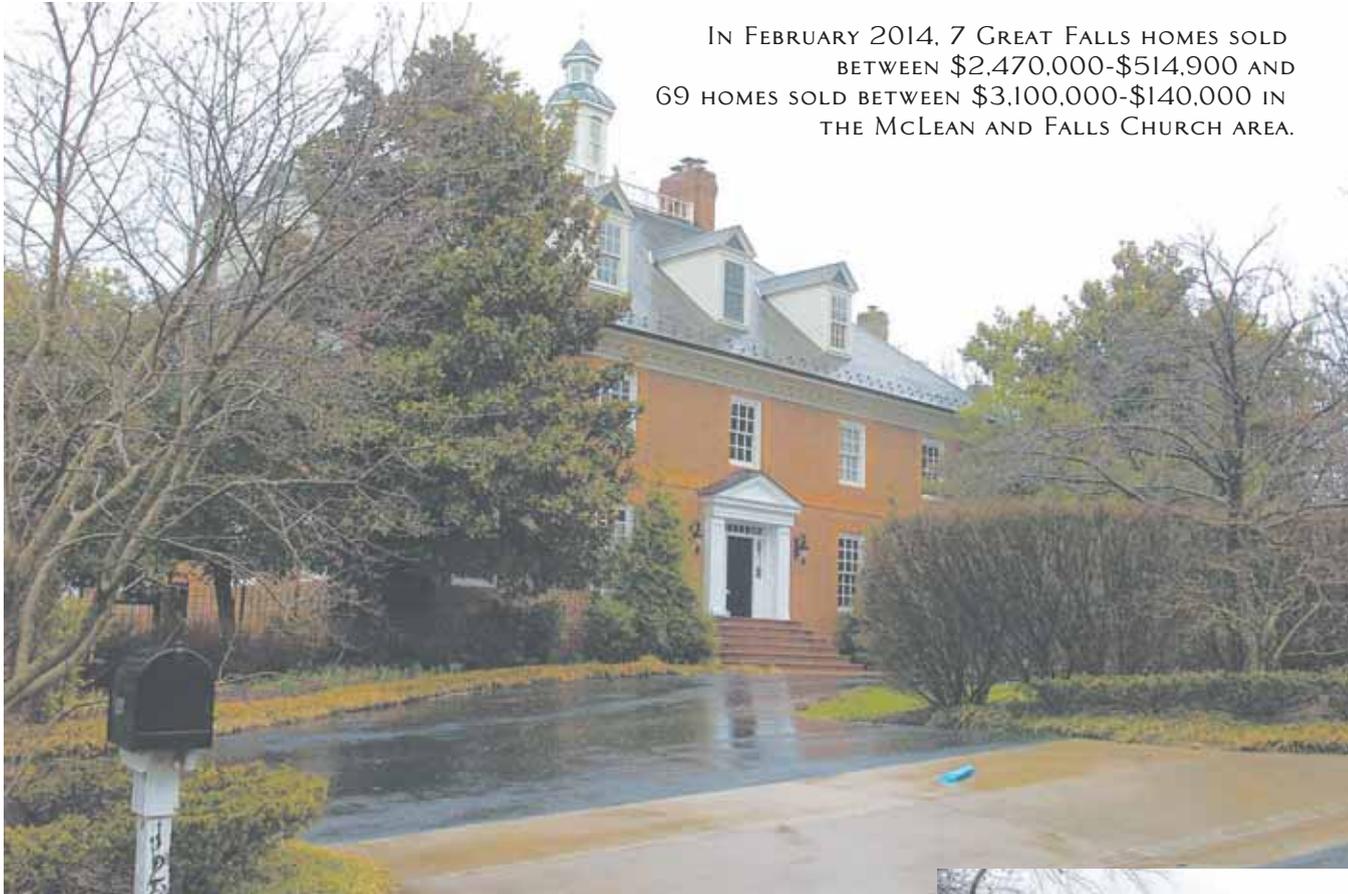
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Local REAL ESTATE

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February, 2014 Top Sales in Great Falls and McLean

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2 1903 MACARTHUR DR	7	6	2	MCLEAN	\$2,510,000	Detached	0.56	22101	FRANKLIN PARK	02/27/14
3 100 INTERPROMONTORY RD	6	4	2	GREAT FALLS	\$2,470,000	Detached	5.00	22066	FALCONRIDGE	02/28/14
4 1224 INGLESIDE AVE	6	5	1	MCLEAN	\$2,275,000	Detached	0.40	22101	INGLESIDE	02/19/14
5 7570 POTOMAC FALL RD	7	7	1	MCLEAN	\$2,112,500	Detached	0.93	22102	POTOMAC OVERLOOK	02/25/14
6 7023 CHURCHILL RD	7	7	2	MCLEAN	\$1,895,500	Detached	0.42	22101	HANSBOROUGH	02/28/14
7 6541 DIVINE ST	5	5	1	MCLEAN	\$1,785,000	Detached	0.38	22101	CHESTERBROOK MANOR	02/28/14
8 60 WINDY HOLLOW CT	5	4	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,680,000	Detached	3.64	22066	FALCON RIDGE	02/03/14

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PHOTO COURTESY OF TTR SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby's International Realty says lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties like this Arlington home.

What to Expect

FROM PAGE 3

is popular because of the Silver Line," said Cromwell. "North Arlington and Falls Church are popular. Anything that offers a decent commuting experience for someone who can't afford what they want in the city will be sought after."

Schuman said, "We see a new trend in all price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located. They want an easier life. Convenience is the new real estate buzzword. Property becomes compelling when buyers see value."

Sanders said some communities are especially competitive. "Virginia has two of the wealthiest counties in the country, Loudoun and Fairfax counties, so those communities should see a fairly short turn over."

NOT EVERYONE IS KEEPING with the trend. "We're not seeing middle class families buying homes through the mortgage market," said Sanders, the GMU professor. "Their income was devastated during the housing bubble burst due to foreclosures. Real household income has fallen since 2007. So the American middle class is worse off than it was in 2007. It's more high-income families with cash or investors who are buying homes."

Schuman says that homes priced below \$1.3 million "are being snapped off the market if they are well conditioned and fairly priced. The ultra-luxury market, homes over \$2 million, is a little bit slower paced at present, but there are signs that these buyers are out there and wanting to buy."

Cromwell agrees, "The 600-900K price point is very busy for a house in good condition."

A Picture Perfect Home

FROM PAGE 3

need power washing."

"Power wash driveways, walkways and even the house sometimes," said Pritchard. "The house should be washed before it is painted. Do any kind of painting or touch up painting of siding trim and doors that needs to be done. Sometimes you don't have to paint at all if you do power washing. All homes get dusty. Sometimes paint fades and needs repainting."

"Another easy thing is the windows," said Dodek. "Remove screens and wash the windows. You want your house to sparkle inside and out."

Pritchard said, "Curb appeal also goes to having a fence in good shape: washed and painted or washed and sealed. The home's deck should be in good shape. More often than not a deck should be power washed and painted or stained or sealed or whatever the appropriate finish is."

Minor touches can make a major impact. "Take a look at your mailbox," said Dodek. "Is it upright? Is it tilted? Does it need to be painted?"

Don't hide your amenities. "If you have a swimming pool, we get them to remove the cover," said Dodek. "There's nothing more beautiful than a beautiful blue swimming pool."



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