Sophia Manicone Named Vienna Idol

Week in Vienna

Men’s Breakfast at Antioch Christian Church
The Antioch Christian Church, 1865 Beulah Road in Vienna is hosting a Men’s Breakfast on Saturday June 21st beginning at 9 a.m. There is no charge. The morning will include a breakfast and the guest speaker Matt Fretwell, founder of Job 31 Ministries. The event is open to all men of any age. For more information go to www.antiochdoc.org or call 703-938-6753. To register, email antiochchristianchurchviennava@gmail.com or call the office.

Volunteers Needed at Shepherd’s Center
The Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area seniors to medical appointments and other activities. Opportunities to volunteer for other services are also available. Hours are flexible to fit your schedule. Visit www.scov.org or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email volunteer@scov.org.

Want to Join Vienna Police?
The Town of Vienna Police Department is looking for people interested in becoming police officers here. The salary and benefits are competitive with other areas. For application information, call 703-255-6350 or visit: http://agency.gov/jobs.com/Vienna/default.cfm.

Do More 24 Set for June 19
Through Do More 24 – a region-wide, 24-hour online marathon of giving on Thurs, June 19 – United Way NCA is, on one single day, calling the entire DC metro region together to help keep hundreds of local nonprofits vital throughout the year. So far 400 nonprofits – including many serving Fairfax/Falls Church – are participating. Last year, $1.3 million was raised through the first Do More 24 day.
On June 19, there will be live updates at domore.org throughout the day and night.
THE PARK AUTHORITY has said it could build 16 more spaces on the east side of the train-station lot and make that entire lot available for public parking, as well as for trail users. In return, the Town would grant it a conservation easement on Town-owned property near Ninovan Road, adjacent to the W&OD Trail.

By Bonnie Hobbs
The Connection

Differing Views on Parking, Land Use

Town of Vienna says easements would benefit businesses, trail users.

The Town of Vienna hopes to grant conservation and parking easements to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to expand the Vienna Train Station parking lot. And while most Church Street business owners think it’s a swell idea, several nearby homeowners do not.

They made their feelings known at the Vienna Town Council’s public hearing on this matter, last Monday, June 2. First, though, town attorney Steve Briglia explained the proposal.

Near the intersection of Dominion Road N.E. and Ayr Hill Avenue N.E., the train-station lot contains 23 parking spaces. But its use is currently restricted to trail users and visitors to the train station.

“Especially on weekends, when there’s a lot of park use, the business parking spaces are taken up by recreational users,” said Briglia. “So the town has had a long-term goal to increase parking for the businesses.”

THE PARK AUTHORITY has said it could build 16 more spaces on the east side of the train-station lot and make that entire lot available for public parking, as well as for trail users. In return, the Town would grant it a conservation easement on Town-owned property near Ninovan Road, adjacent to the W&OD Trail.

Town of Vienna says easements would benefit businesses, trail users.

“Right now, it’s unimproved wooded land,” said Briglia. “So we want to dedicate that to the Park Authority [via an easement] as conservation land. And hopefully, this’ll help take some [trail] users off of Church Street.”

But homeowner John DeLong, who lives on a cul-de-sac off the W&OD Trail, near Ninovan, said, “This seems to have been done without consulting any of the neighbors – and I’m concerned about the precedent it may set. I’m impacted by anything happening to the Ninovan easement; is this 16-space swap for the conservation easement supported by the data?”

“It’s not a land swap,” replied Briglia. “That land can’t be developed and used for active recreation, and we haven’t received any offers to buy [it]. This is just about protecting the status quo.”

Jeff Norton said his home backs onto the trail. “A couple years ago, my neighbors and I came here and wanted to buy that property, and we were told, ‘We’ll let you know when the next development is.’ But we just received letters [from the Town about this public hearing] Friday evening [May 30]. So give us a chance to look into what’s going on and investigate alternatives for this property behind our homes.”

Briglia said the town never received a formal request to purchase that land.

Not too long ago, said homeowner Catherine McNeese, some people wanted to build a road and a cell tower there. So she and her neighbors wanted to buy all or part of that site to prevent that from happening so close to their homes.

“If I owned the property, it would stay as it is and as a natural barrier between our houses,” she said. “We’re shocked by this [proposal].” But Vice-Mayor Carey Sienicki said a new cell-phone tower was never a consideration.

“The outpouring of love takes my breath away,” said Bill Seeman. Grace Rooney of the Vienna Arts Society presented a print of the well-known mural painted on the train station by Vienna artist Harris Miller. Miller, VAS president Lu Cousins and VAS artist Mary Ellen Larkins accompanied Rooney as she donated the framed print to the Town in memory of Seeman.

The framed artwork presented is one of a limited number of prints made from Harris’s painting.

The Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary prepared and donated petite sandwiches and a selection of desserts for guests.

— Donna Manz
Eat. Drink. Pay?

By Victoria Ross
The Connection

I

t has been 22 years since Fairfax County asked voters to approve a tax on restaurant meals, an issue that ignited protests, caused deep divisions among community leaders and threatened to melt down several political careers. The reverberations of that epic failure — what many consider the third rail of county politics — continue to echo in the ears of county politicians.

But after another punishing year of budget battles, and continuing shortfalls in revenue resulting from the recession, county leaders are once again eyeing the meals tax as a way to raise revenue for schools and other county services.

On April 22, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-at-large) convened a task force to consider the pros and cons of putting another meals tax referendum on the ballot — possibly as early as this November.

Bulova said a four-percent tax on meals and beverages at the county’s nearly 3,000 restaurants would generate approximately $90 million in new revenue for schools, public safety, parks, libraries and human services.

She cited the fact that all of the cities and towns “around and within Fairfax County” have adopted a meals tax, and that there has been “a growing sentiment during recent years for our board to once again allow the voters to decide whether or not they wish to avail themselves of this additional source of revenue.”

In Northern Virginia, similar meals taxes have been implemented in Alexandria, Arlington County, the City of Fairfax and other smaller municipalities.

However, Loudoun and Prince William county officials recently rejected the idea of a meals tax after restaurant groups successfully argued the tax would unfairly target an industry that is facing pressure to increase the minimum wage while still struggling to recover from the 2008 recession.

While much has changed in Fairfax County since 1992, the mere mention of a meals tax still stirs up vehement reactions.

“This is a charged issue,” said Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) “The task force was set up deliberately to have a third-party group come to us with recommendations. We will have the benefit of public input from a fairly politically-balanced group. I think it’s brilliant that Sharon got both sides that would not necessarily talk to each other in the same room ... That’s the Fairfax County way.”

“Keep an open mind. And, listen to each other,” Bulova urged the 40 members of the super committee during the first meeting on May 15.

Chaired by Kate Hanley, a former Democratic chairman of the board and Tom Davis, a former Republican congressman who chaired the Board of Supervisors during the 1992 meals tax battle, the task force was charged with answering three questions before delivering its final recommendation to the board on June 17:

❖ Whether or not to recommend the board put a meals tax referendum on the ballot
❖ If recommending going to referendum, when should that referendum take place; and
❖ If recommending going to referendum, should any revenues from a meals tax be dedicated to specific issues?

But the first meeting had barely begun before members began taking swipes at each other, arguing over marginal details and data, and delivering doomsday proclama-

Fairfax County task force debates voters’ appetite for another meals tax referendum.

Task Force Members

Kate Hanley, former Democratic chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors co-chairs the Meals Tax Referendum Task Force with Tom Davis, a former Republican congressman who also chaired the Fairfax County Board during the 1992 meals tax battle.

Marcia Twomey, of the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, expresses frustration during the sometimes tense meetings of the meals task referendum task force.

David Broder, (right) president of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU S12) makes a point during the May 29 meeting of the Meals Tax Referendum Task Force.

Fairfax County task force debates voters’ appetite for another meals tax referendum.

“Fairfax County Federation of Teachers launched a series of newspaper ads asking readers to ‘Save Our Starving Schools,’” by supporting the meals tax. Steven Greenburg, president of the teachers union and a member of the task force, argued that the county’s school system — which recently approved a $2.5 billion budget for FY 2015 — will be forced to lay off workers if the county does not transfer more money to the schools.

After the second meeting, Jim Corcoran, president of The Fairfax Chamber, issued a statement declaring the chamber’s opposition to the tax.

“The war has been won this round before in Fairfax, and in almost every case, voters continue to oppose such measures,” Corcoran said. “This is not a time for re-hashing failed policies of the past. County leaders, the business community, and citizens all need to work together to grow and diversify the economy in Fairfax County, not tax our way to a solution.”

See Meals Tax, Page 15
planned, just co-locating a cell-phone site on an existing electrical tower.

Homeowner Eric White noted a written petition to the mayor, asking that nothing be done on that land. And, he said, “We’d like assurance that this property won’t be developed.”

Briglia said the uses are restricted according to the conservation easement “which comes from a state agency to protect land.” He also apologized that the town didn’t notify the homeowners about the public hearing sooner.

But he said this proposal “doesn’t trigger the normal postings because it’s not a zoning. So that’s the reason for the late notice – there’s nothing nefarious. The purpose of the easement is to preserve the land in its natural state with only low-impact or educational activities on it.”

Billy Emerson, whose home also backs up to the trail, asked if it’s still possible for affected residents to purchase the property. But Briglia said, “The land is a buffer for the trail [and the homeowners] and is not for sale.”

Councilwoman Laurie Cole said the current proposal keeps that buffer and the conservation easement restricts utilities’ usage. “I understand the residents’ concerns,” she said. “But even if you bought it, you may not own that property in perpetuity.”

Emerson asked the Council to take more time before approving the easements, and the members agreed to accept written comments until June 9 and defer action on the easements until June 16.

Also speaking was Anna Marie Mulvihill of the Ayer Hill Garden Club, because expanding the train-station parking lot would cause the children’s Discovery Garden there to be moved. “We have plantings that have been there for 10 years,” she said. “It’s a perfect spot, not near cars, and is a successful, popular garden.”

She said it’s a memorial garden for former state delegate Dorothy McDiarmid, who represented this area many years. “The garden just celebrated its 85th anniversary and we’d love to keep the garden exactly as it is,” said Mulvihill. “But we’re flexible and have already spoken to [Vienna Parks and Recreation Director] Cathy Salgado about moving it near the caboose.”

Salgado told the Council the garden can be shifted to the caboose site in the Centennial Park area. “It would be a raised bed, but the Town would have to partner with [the club] to do this and put a walkway around the perimeter,” she said.
Clearing the Air on New Carbon Standards

BY CONGRESSMEN GERRY CONNOLLY (VA-II) AND PAUL TONKO (NY-20)

Co-chairs, Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition

The EPA’s new proposal to safeguard the air we breathe and contain a primary driver of climate change by reducing carbon emissions from existing power plants is the lynchpin to reducing our carbon footprint. As co-chairs of the House Sustainable Energy and Environmental Coalition, we welcome action on carbon pollution and look forward to working with all stakeholders in a responsible manner to advance a 21st century energy economy for America.

Power plants are responsible for 40 percent of U.S. carbon pollution. Without addressing this source of pollution our efforts fade in significance. Similar safeguards already exist for other hazardous pollutants such as lead, arsenic, and mercury. And they have worked. Why shouldn’t the same apply for carbon? By targeting this source of pollution, we protect public health, the economy, and national security.

Unfortunately, there are those who would have us believe that these and other EPA safeguards threaten our shared national priorities. Just as they did when Congress, in a bipartisan fashion, adopted the Clean Air and Clean Water acts a generation ago, these critics offer the same hackneyed arguments they always make: they contend the public does not want these protections, they will kill jobs, bankrupt utilities, and cause electricity rates to double. This is the same crowd that waged deceitful campaigns warning of death panels, a government-run takeover of healthcare, and socialized medicine in the hopes of distracting us from the urgent need for the Affordable Care Act.

Such false and misleading claims were shameful then, and if repeated, will jeopardize the tre mendous strides we’ve made in protecting public health. Unfortunately, some took to attacking the EPAs latest proposal even before it was released. Last week, Speaker Boehner said the EPA is “hurting our economy” with such proposals, though he did note he was no expert on climate change and had not yet seen the proposed regulation. Let’s move beyond such rhetoric and look at the facts.

Take the first claim that carbon pollution restrictions will kill jobs and devastate the economy. Evidence tells us that we can have both a clean environment and a strong economy. In a recent op-ed, Christine Todd Whitman, a Republican, who is the former Governor of New Jersey and was EPA Administrator under President George W. Bush, highlighted that “...between 1970 and 2006, U.S. GDP grew by 195 percent, yet thanks to regulatory changes annual emissions of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, and lead all decreased significantly.” In other words, economic growth and regulation can and do intertwine successfully.

Investing in new energy standards actually has helped fuel that economic growth. For example, since the Clean Air Act was passed in 1970, every dollar spent on compliance standards has yielded $4-38 in economic return on that investment.

The fact is that these standards have been a catalyst for a new generation of clean energy, new investment in plants and equipment, and the creation of thousands of domestic jobs. Employment in the American solar industry, for example, grew 17 times faster than the national employment average rate last year.

Another tired but predictable claim opponents will make is that electricity rates will increase. The Washington Post’s fact checker, who does not take a position on EPA rules, debunked this allegation noting that “this [claim] does not pass the laugh test.” The Clean Air Act amendments of 1990 also were assailed by similar attacks. So what happened to electricity rates? They decreased. Between 1990 and 2006, electricity rates fell by 47 percent in Arkansas, 332 percent in Georgia, 64 percent in Illinois, 28 percent in Indiana, 35 percent in Michigan, 30 percent in North Carolina, 18 percent in Ohio, 36 percent in Pennsylvania, 40 percent in Utah, and 36 percent in Virginia. Even the power companies agree. The CEO of American Electric Power, one of our nation’s largest utilities, said with enough time to prepare, the transition to a cleaner energy future can occur “without a major impact to customers or the economy.”

Finally, these perennial alarmists will argue that the American public does not want the “boot of government regulation on their neck.” To the contrary, when it comes to basic health protections, the American public overwhelmingly has said it doesn’t want the threat of pollution on their neck. A 2012 American Lung Association report found that Americans support the Clean Air Act by a 2-to-1 margin. The same report found nearly 3 out of 4 respondents believe we shouldn’t have to choose between health and economic standards and promoting the economy. They understand that the opponents are presenting them with a false choice and that we can and must do both. When it comes to setting limits on carbon pollution from power plants, a February 2014 poll found 7 out of 10 Americans support these safeguards. Seventy percent!

But you won’t hear the House Majority reminding the public of these incontrovertible truths. They prefer reckless rhetorical arguments and irresponsible inaction. Reducing carbon emissions poses a significant challenge, and we look forward to working with industry, the environmental community, and stakeholders at the local, state, and federal levels to address this challenge. But first we must be willing to move beyond these campaigns of fear and deception.

Thankfully, there are indications that industry and the public understand this. For example, use of solar power by American companies increased by 40 percent last year.

Those businesses, and their customers, understand the value of investing in American ingenuity and innovation—a healthier environment, a sustainable source of domestic energy, creating new high-skilled jobs.

The Obama Administration has taken a bold step in proposing a 30 percent reduction from 2005 levels in carbon emissions from power plants. We support that effort and know that America’s health and economic wellbeing will benefit immeasurably.

McLean friendly, connected, and supportive community for all, while recognizing the special needs of older adults and adults living with disabilities.

To register, please email McLeanSeniorSource@gmail.com with the subject line “MSS Training.”

Practice Spanish as a foreign language in this casual conversation group.

Preschool Storytime: 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Join us for stories, songs and activities. Ages 3-5 with a grown-up.

Improve your English Skills. 11 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave, McLean. Get focused help with reading, writing, speaking and listening. Adults.

English Conversation Group. 1 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave, McLean. Practice your English in a conversational setting. Adults.

The Virginia Press Association Guard Warning Newspaper
Vienna/Oakton Connection ❖ June 11-17, 2014 ❖ 7

Vienna teenager Cassie Picard spends a lot of time horsing around – but that’s because she rides ponies in competition. She rides at Hunters Valley Riding Club in Oakton and competes with Old Dominion Hounds Pony Club.

‘Dream Come True’ for Vienna Teen

New horse, high scores and ribbons for Cassie Picard.

Vienna teenager Cassie Picard spends a lot of time horsing around – but that’s because she rides ponies in competition. She rides at Hunters Valley Riding Club in Oakton and competes with Old Dominion Hounds Pony Club.

In a regional dressage event, May 24-25, her team came in second overall. During dressage, horses perform complex maneuvers in response to subtle body signals from their riders. And Cassie – a 14-year-old eighth-grader at Thoreau Middle School – had the highest personal riding score of more than 40 riders. But she was even more excited about her team’s finish. “I was very proud of our placement,” she said. “Our team had the highest ride score all of the teams, and I was really happy with my score.”

Photo Contributed
**Faith Notes**

Faith notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. For submission information, call 703-903-6848 or email connectionnewspapers@b邮箱.com.

- The Antioch Christian Church, 10600 Bandgrove Rd, Fairfax, will host Senior Sunday on June 15. Each senior will receive a gift. For more info, call 703-356-3600.

- The Calliope Church of Christ, 5101 George Mason Dr, Vienna, will host a Mother’s Day lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on June 14. $15 per person. For more info, call 703-208-7500.

- Holy Name Catholic Church, 4715 Ox Road, Vienna, will host a Mother’s Day Brunch on May 15. $39 per person. For more info, call 703-938-3600.

- Runnymede Christian Church, 3130 Runnymede Rd, Vienna, will host a Mother’s Day Brunch on May 15. $39 per person. For more info, call 703-393-1470.

- Second Presbyterian Church of Reston, 22130 Market St, Reston, will host a Mother’s Day Brunch on May 15. $39 per person. For more info, call 703-393-1470.

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For information, call Mary: 703-406-7701 or Rich: 804-347-2665

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## Local REAL ESTATE

### April, 2014 Top Sales in Vienna, Oakton, Reston, Oak Hill and Herndon

### Top Sales 2014:

1. **2538 Donns Way**, Vienna — $1,730,000
2. **1682 Drewlaine Drive #2**, Vienna — $1,515,715
3. **2538 Donns Way**, Vienna — $1,730,000
4. **1682 Drewlaine Drive #2**, Vienna — $1,515,715
5. **11728 Shaker Knolls Court**, Herndon — $1,445,339
6. **1296 Gatesmeadow Way**, Reston — $1,010,000
7. **11256 Center Harbor Road**, Reston — $1,080,000
8. **11197 Longwood Grove Drive**, Reston — $1,057,500
9. **11197 Longwood Grove Drive**, Reston — $1,057,500

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*Copyright 2014 RealEstate Business Intelligence. Source: MMLS as of May 15, 2014.*
When a Great Falls homeowner decided she wanted to breathe new life into her large covered porch after a long, cold winter, she called on Anna Kucera, owner and principal designer of Gracious Living by Design in Alexandria, Va., to give the space a fresh look in time for warm-weather gatherings. “The client has an expansive porch with incredible views of Great Falls,” said Kucera. “She [wanted] to refresh and update the outdoor living space while still allowing the vista to remain the focal point.” Kucera’s goal was to create a space that was at once tranquil and invigorating, but also respected the home’s architectural features, including stonework and wood siding. Kucera was careful to upholster the casual, but elegant seating with fabrics that were durable, heavily textured and able to withstand the elements. “Although the porch is covered, we needed to select materials that could withstand moisture and sun exposure,” said Kucera. “And considering the large quantity of cushions on the porch, it was prudent to select upholstery fabrics that would not become tiresome after a season or two.” The upholstered cushions were crafted from outdoor fabrics made of 100 percent solution-dyed acrylic. The main seating area is accessorized with custom-sized, flat-woven, polypropylene area rugs by Couristan. “Both solution-dyed acrylic and polypropylene are inherently mildew and fade resistant,” said Kucera. “We selected an off-white solid woven from Stroheim to cover the back and arm cushions. For the seats and contrast welt on the back cushions, we chose a neutral tone fabric with a subtle dot pattern designed by Wendy Tsuji and Linda Ueda for Perennials.” The rugs are perfect for al fresco gatherings: “Clients who enjoy entertaining outdoors and love natural sisal rugs are impressed with the way polypropylene rugs offer the same look with the added benefits of easy clean-up ... along with durability,” said Nancy Hardy, a design associate at Gracious Living by Design. Kucera used a neutral and timeless palette as a backdrop for vibrant pops of color in accessories such as toss pillows. “We created emphasis by combining succulent citrus shades of green, orange and yellow,” she said. “The mood could easily be changed with pillows by combining soothing tones of sea glass, green and aqua, or by boldly contrasting black and off-white.” To complete the space, Kucera picked up a few accent pieces at The Virginia Florist of Alexandria. “I found accessories and finishing touches such as orchids in cachepots, a sweet bird votive holder and greenery-filled urns.” These carefully chosen details gave the porch a polished aesthetic. “The objects and works of art that we look for and carry are as important as the floral arrangements that we create because we think they should always work together,” said Kevin Green, owner of The Virginia Florist. “Our clients are interested not just in flowers, but in decorating their environments, and we share that kind of holistic approach.”
Madison Baseball Ends Season with Semifinal Loss

Warhawks fall to McLean, finish with 21-3 record.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

members of the McLean baseball team waited patiently in the first-base dugout at Madison High School as a steady rain drenched the field. The Highlanders had put themselves in a position to win. Now, it was a matter of determining whether they would return to action to finish the job, or if Mother Nature would take care of business.

After a half-hour had passed, umpires determined there would be no more baseball played on this Wednesday evening. The McLean dugout erupted. Players leaped over the railing and sprinted into right field for a celebratory dog pile.

McLean defeated Madison 5-1 in a rain-shortened 6A North region semifinal contest on June 4 in Vienna. With the victory, the Highlanders secured what is believed to be first region-final berth in program history.

THE HIGHLANDERS led 5-1 after six complete innings. After McLean failed to score in the top of the seventh, Madison came to bat in the bottom half during a steady rainfall. The Warhawks had runners on first and second with one out and Michael Nielsen facing a 1-2 count when umpires stopped the game. The rain continued to fall during a nearly 30-minute delay. At 9:30 p.m., umpires called the game and the Highlanders were heading to the region final.

“To be honest, it felt like a million years,” McLean sophomore shortstop Conor Grammes said about the half-hour rain delay. “I kept waiting for those umpires to come out and call the game or say we had to go back out there. Even if we did have to go back out there, we all had the mindset. We didn’t let each other stop thinking about the game. We kept our heads right. It all played out the right way.”

McLean head coach John Dowling said it was “unfortunate” the game ended the way it did, adding the Highlanders were ready to get back on the field.

“It was an odd situation,” he said. “Looking at the field, we could sort of anticipate what was happening, but it’s a crappy way to end a pretty well-played game by both sides.”

While the game wasn’t finished on the field, McLean put itself in position to win during the first six innings thanks in large part to the performance of pitcher Joey Sullivan.

The Virginia Tech signee was roughed up in his previous start at Madison High School on May 9, allowing seven runs — four earned — and five hits in 1 1/3 innings.

Wednesday night was a different story, as the senior right-hander tossed a complete game, allowing one earned run and three hits in six innings. He walked one, hit one batter and struck out four.

“I thought about it, but today I was loose,” Sullivan said about his previous start at Madison. “We had nothing to lose and I had nothing to lose. … Tonight was probably the toughest environment I’ve ever thrown in because it was so humid. Early in the [game], I really couldn’t get a grip on the ball, I was so sweaty.”

With McLean leading by four runs, Sullivan walked the Madison leadoff batter in the bottom of the sixth inning, but responded by striking out the next three Warhawk batters.

“Joey did a great job,” Dowling said. “It’s been the same story all year long — when he commands his fastball, he’s extremely difficult. When he keeps his fastball down, he gets a ton of groundballs and he was able to locate three pitches today, pretty effectively until the storms came. When he does that, he’s tough because he’s got the velocity. He always throws strikes, but it’s those quality strikes that make the difference for him.”

The Madison baseball team ended the 2014 season with a 21-3 record. McLean jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning against Madison starting pitcher John DeFazio. The first five Highlander batters reached base, starting with Sullivan reaching on an error and ending with third baseman Jesse Jones drawing a run-scoring base on balls. Left fielder Grady Paine also got credit for an RBI in the inning, when he was hit by an 0-2 pitch with the bases loaded.

McLean added three runs in the fifth inning, Grammes and catcher Caleb Beatty led off the frame with back-to-back singles, and Jones, first baseman Jonathan Clines, and right fielder Evan Blake each delivered an RBI single.

Grammar, a 5-foot-10, 155-pound sophomore, went 4-for-4 at the plate, including a pair of doubles, and played solid defense at shortstop.

“Conor had a fantastic game and he’s been, of late, making some very big adjustments that are now paying dividends now on the diamond,” Dowling said. “Again, he kind of gets overlooked because he’s not physically imposing. He’s not the quickest guy, he’s not the biggest guy, but nobody squares the baseball up better than Conor Grammes.

“We said at the start of the season that we felt like we had two of the best shortstops in the conference on our team. When Joey pitches, we don’t lose a single bit of defense with Conor out there. He did a terrific job.”

Beatty went 2-for-3 at the plate. Blake finished 2-for-2.

DeFazio suffered the loss for Madison. The junior right-hander, who is committed to Virginia Tech, allowed five runs — four earned — and eight hits in 4 2/3 innings. He walked three, hit two batters and struck out five.

Madison’s Nielsen led off the bottom of the third with a double, and Trey Ramsey followed with an RBI single for the Warhawks’ only run.

THE LOSS dropped Madison’s record to 21-3 and ended its season. The Warhawks entered Wednesday’s contest having won 21 of their last 22 games. They won both regular-season meetings with the Highlanders, beating McLean 8-1 on April 8 and 11-3 on May 9.

The Highlanders, however, were much improved Wednesday. McLean, the No. 4 seed from Conference 6, has won six of its last seven games after struggling during the second half of the regular season.

“We started to play loose, because we knew we were the underdog,” Sullivan said. “Especially for me. It was my final couple weeks of my senior year and I’m enjoying them in school. We started playing loose, we started playing together. We got hot at the right time. It’s been a fantastic ride.”

The Highlanders started the season 8-2, but dropped seven of their next eight, evening their record at 9-9.

“For a while now, we’ve grown into a pretty confident group,” Dowling said. “There was a time there in the middle of the season when we were pretty confident and we didn’t have cause to be. The [coaching] staff, we knew the whole time — and it’s tough to convince 16-, 18-year-old kids — we knew the whole time we still had the talent, it was just a matter of executing.”
Father’s Day Photo Gallery

“My husband Bill Picard, after he just surprised our daughter Cassie with her first horse, named Celtic Charm. Cassie is an avid equestrian but never had a horse of her own.”
— Lisa Picard, Vienna

Carly Straker, age 5, playing in the pool with her dad, Steve Straker, of Vienna.

Sydney (8) and Hunter (6) of Vienna loved camping with their dad, Kevin, and Sydney’s Brownie troop on June 7.
Something New – or Old, to Consider

By KENNETH H. LOURIE

And therein lies the anxiety. Although, all things considered – and as you regular readers know, I like, maybe even need, to consider all things – the medical assessment of the most recent CT scan of my upper torso and thorax/lungs showed a new object in my left lung, comparable in size to the size of a silver dollar,” according to my oncologist. What this object is, exactly, cannot be determined at this juncture; technology prevents such clarity, unfortunately. Nevertheless, its appearance and location are possibly cause for concern, possibly not.

The context for this conclusion is that the chemotherapy drug, Alimta, with which I’ve been infused every three weeks since last September, seems to be working. The main tumor we’ve been tracking has shrunk, as has the fluid level (which as you may recall is what landed me in the hospital for a week last August); both of which are positive and encouraging developments, and news, as I’m fond of saying, with which I can live. And live I shall, unencumbered emotionally by this as-yet-to-be-determined growth for the next two months until my next CT scan, when the tomography will provide another assessment – and comparison to the scan just completed.

The considerations, according to my oncologist, are as follows: the chemotherapy drug I’m taking is having the desired effect – shrinkage of both tumor and fluid. Moreover, my recurring, every-three-week lab work is good, indicating my body continues to tolerate the drug; ergo, treatment can continue. Secondly, because the largest tumor in my lung is smaller and the fluid build-up has reduced, more of the lung is visible, for lack of a better description. Combined with the not-perfect technology, there may be more to see now than ever before, and/or more to see from a different angle. Sort of like the warning printed on side view mirrors, except in this case, objects are not closer than they appear, rather they’re seen where they were never seen before. And since the object has never been seen before, my oncologist doesn’t know if the growth is new – and possibly malignant, or old, and smaller even than it was because the Alimta is shrinking it, too. In summary, it’s a definite maybe. Cause for concern? Sure. Cause for alarm? Not by me. And since my attitude is “it’s nothing until it’s something,” for the moment, for the next two months, I intend to live my life as per normal – and circumstances for which I am relatively pain-free; yet another good sign, unfortunately. Nevertheless, its appearance and location are possibly cause for concern, possibly not.

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Un fooled by our county residents.”

wrong time to add another tax on our already taxed community. I believe this is the wrong time. I have and will continue to be adamantly opposed to a meals tax and any other revenue option we have which is not here to write a polemic for the restaurant industry…."

"How about we try it this way," Hanley said, offering to rewrite a statement in the draft report: “Resistance to a referendum may create a false assumption that food services don’t support government services.”

What do you think?

After the group signaled approval, Hanley encouraged them to “hang on.”

“We’re doing well folks, only three more pages to go …”

For more information on the meals tax referendum task force, go to http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mealstax/


can’t go to a school fair, a 5K race, or any other school event where local restaurants don’t contribute in some way …”

“Can we say ‘restaurants are good corporate citizens’?” Tate asked, requesting a change in the task force document.

Greenburg and others who support the meals tax quickly took issue with Tate’s statement.

“Don’t feel like restaurants have supported us …,” Greenburg said. “And we’re not here to write a polemic for the restaurant industry…”

From Page 4

Hanley and Davis moderated the next meeting on May 29 with humor, easing some of the tension in the room.

“Kate and I come at this issue from different angles,” Davis joked during the meeting.

"Is that why I voted for it the first time," Hanley said, pausing. “And you did too?”

"Hey, it passed in my precinct," Davis shot back.

Rex Simmons, who represents the Fairfax County Democratic Committee, drew applause when he thanked Hanley and Davis for “doing an excellent job summarizing the views of the task force —” in the draft report.

But the warm feelings dissipated when a heated discussion began over the image of the restaurant industry, and the perception that restaurants don’t support schools because the industry does not support a meals tax.

“It’s an overall fairness issue,” said Jim Wosnow, owner of one of the county’s first steakhouses — JR Stockyards Inn steakhouse in Tyson Corner. He argued that meals tax would drive customers away and could keep large restaurants from relocating to Tysons.

“When you have a meals tax, you know what else happens? New restaurants are less likely to come to Fairfax County,” said Mark Tate, public affairs director for Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington.

“I don’t want to present the image that only restaurants are opposing this tax. In 1992, there was a lot of animosity among teachers and PTO organizations to restaurants over this issue,” Tate continued. “But if you look beyond this framework, local restaurants are incredibly generous to PTO groups and other county non-profits; they sponsor non-profit events and benefits; they care deeply about the community they live and work in.”

Davis agreed that the restaurant industry is not the “bad guy” for opposing the meals tax. “I can’t go to a school fair, a 5K race, or any other school event where local restaurants don’t contribute in some way …”

Supervisors’ Comments on Meals Tax Referendum

There are many contradictions with the meals tax. We all complain about the county’s over reliance on the property tax and talk about the need to diversify revenue sources, but don’t do a meals tax? It’s also a contradiction for Republicans to adopt party platforms, as we have at all levels, that call for greater use of revenue sources, but don’t do a meals tax and talk about the need to diversify revenue sources.

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“Now about we try it this way,” Hanley said, offering to rewrite a statement in the draft report: “ Resistance to a referendum may create a false assumption that food services don’t support government services.”

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News

Sophia Manicone Named Vienna Idol

By Donna Manz
The Connection

Vienna Idol raised over $13,000 for the Khrystin Kyllo Memorial Fund.

The Vienna Idol finals drew a crowd of 500 to 700 people on the Town Green Friday night, June 6. The six finalists combined to raise more than $5,000 from the finals’ lawn “votes.” More than $13,000 was raised from Vienna Idol in 2014, from sponsor contributions to “jug” donations and individual donations.

“I always imagine a time, some 20 years in the future, when a family, perhaps living on Beulah, is gathering for dinner and the mom or dad says ‘You know, we have all this because of a young lady we never met — Khrystin Kyllo,’” said Amouri. “I went to college because of her, something I might not have been able to do. We owe her a debt of gratitude.’”

Vienna Idol, created by Amouri three years ago, raises money for the Khrystin Kyllo Memorial Fund.

Amouri reported Seeman as saying.

“The challenge is to make it look easy. There’s a lot of communication and trust required between rider and horse.”

Cassie Meets Celtic Charm

From Page 2

which is excellent.”

A FEW WEEKS EARLIER, Cassie and her team placed third out of 25 teams at the Virginia Regional Pony Club Rally, May 10-11, at the Deep Run Hunt Club in Manakin-Sabot, outside Richmond. She’s been riding since age 7, but didn’t join Pony Club until last fall, so this was her first rally (tournament).

Rallies are different than horse shows in that the riders compete together in teams of five and the combined scores determine the winning team. “I was very nervous,” said Cassie. But she didn’t let it affect her performance. Personal scores are also given and, in the Richmond rally – which was a jumping event – Cassie received the highest score for equitation (riding technique) for her team.

Then came the dressage event, May 24-25, at Morven Park in Leesburg, and another outstanding day for Cassie and her teammates. She rode a horse named Mocha in both rallies, but he belongs to someone else. But on May 31, she became a horse-owner, too, when her parents surprised her with a 10-year-old thoroughbred named Celtic Charm, purchased from a friend of a friend.

“It was awesome,” said her mom, Lisa Picard. “Her barn friends were all in on the surprise, and they kept her busy by having her judge at a show for some younger kids. We walked (the horse) up to her in front of everyone, and she was stunned. And it turns out, you can gift-wrap a horse. Celtic Charm is 16.2 hands tall, 1,300 pounds and is a retired racehorse.

“I still can’t believe it’s real,” said a thrilled Cassie. “I’ve been waiting and hoping all my life for this day! It’s a dream come true.”

So why does she enjoy horseback riding so much? “I love riding horses because it feels like flying,” she explained. “And I get to spend time with friends who feel the same way about horses as I do. Competing in the summer events, especially cross-country jumping, is my favorite part.” Toughest, said Cassie, is “having the proper balance. Everyone thinks you just sit there while the horse does everything, but that’s not true.

“Next on Cassie’s Agenda is reaching the next level certification in Pony Club, which will require “a lot of work and study,” she said.

“Amouri hopes Vienna Idol will become a Vienna tradition. He says that one of the “cool things” about Idol is that it pulls together the community, from the judges who juggle multiple professional tasks to make it there to judge auditions to the people who cheer on the finalists on the Town Green.

‘Vienna Idol is the quintessential community event,’ said Amouri. ‘It’s right out of Mayberry.’

THE VIENNA IDOL finals drew a crowd of 500 to 700 people on the Town Green Friday night, June 6. The six finalists combined to raise more than $5,000 from the finals’ lawn “votes.” More than $13,000 was raised from Vienna Idol in 2014, from sponsor contributions to “jug” donations and individual donations.

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Vienna Idol, created by Amouri three years ago, raises money for the Khrystin Kyllo Memorial Fund.

Amouri died of complications from epilepsy at the end of her first semester at Princeton University in 2010. She was a James Madison High School graduate and a softball stand-out. Amouri coached Khrystin at Madison in basketball.

Khrystin’s parents, Tom and Julie Kyllo, founded the memorial fund not long after their daughter’s unexpected death. The Khrystin Kyllo “Dream Big” scholarship, awards scholarships to local high school students who epitomize Khrystin’s outlook, character and dreams. What remains after scholarships are awarded goes to S.U.D.E.P (Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy) research.

Vienna’s late mayor M. Jane Seeman was passionate about the construction of the Town Green.

From the stage, Amouri recalled Seeman’s remark:

“Whole Foods is a national business who puts their communication and trust required between rider and horse.”

Best of all, said Cassie, is “being able to connect with an animal that’s 10 times your size, but is still your best friend.”

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