

Teens Take Over Town Green

NEWS, PAGE 13



Vienna's own School of Rock rocked the Town Green with a mix of band instruments and songs, paying tribute to Clearwater Revival and contemporary icons of rock music.

Meals Tax? Ballot Possibility

NEWS, PAGE 3

Vienna Church Celebrates 50th Anniversary

FAITH, PAGE 16

Save Our Starving Schools, Support the Meal Tax



Feed Our Communities

Let's face it, Fairfax County is struggling.

Roads are in disrepair, our public safety programs are at risk and our schools haven't received the funding they need.

A Meal Tax would mean more money for Fairfax County services and Fairfax County schools. And 27% of this new revenue would come from tourists and commuters into the county, **not Fairfax County residents.**

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Meals Tax? Ballot Possibility

Board of Supervisors potentially set to approve meals tax ballot question on June 7.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

A majority of The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voiced support last week for including a Meals Tax Referendum as part of the 2016 General Election. They hope that a meals tax could provide additional revenue to support schools, without putting additional burden on homeowners with the property tax.

The debate and final vote is scheduled for the Board's June 7 session. Then it could be up to voters.

"If this is approved, it will be new revenue. It's diversified revenue," said Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay. "I want to put it on the ballot. Ask the voters."

"We have an opportunity here," said Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan Storck.

"This is a tool used by cities and towns within and adjacent to Fairfax County," said Hunter Mill Supervisor Catherine Hudgins. "It is time for Fairfax County to join these counties and begin diversifying our revenue sources."

"We have a coalition of groups to advocate for the meals tax," said Chairman Sharon Bulova. Bulova and Dranesville Supervisor John W. Foust advocated designating 80 percent of the money collected in a meals tax to Fairfax County Public Schools, and 20 percent to capital improvement projects.

In fact, the Board's budget committee approved by majority vote a ballot question based on a 70-30 split.

"I think this is likely to be the ballot question," said Budget Committee chairman Jeff McKay.

School advocates are front and center in supporting a meals tax, believing it will help bridge funding shortfalls.

"The community is ready to support this," said Pat Hynes, chairman of the Fairfax County school board, and the representative from Hunter Mill.

"Referendums focused on schools and capital improvements prove the ones most likely to pass," Hynes said, citing recent referenda on meals tax elsewhere in Virginia.

NOT SO FAST. Springfield Supervisor Pat Herryty ensured another point of view.

"There is an advocacy group forming on the other side, chambers and restaurants," said Herryty, pointing out that it is actually

\$96 Million Revenue

A one percent meals tax in Fairfax County would generate an estimated \$24 million in new revenue in Fairfax County; at the maximum 4 percent rate, a county meals tax would generate approximately \$96 million annually.

The following jurisdictions imposed a four percent meals tax on top of the 6 percent sales tax. Note: Montgomery County, Md. does not impose a meals tax but imposes a sales tax of 6 percent.

Locality	Sales Tax	Meals Tax Rate	Estimated Meals Tax Revenue
Alexandria	6%	4%	\$17.8 million
Arlington	6%	4%	\$37.1 million
Falls Church	6%	4%	\$2.9 million
Fairfax City	6%	4%	\$6 million
Herndon	6%	4%	\$2.1 million
Vienna	6%	4%	\$2.5 million
D.C.	0%	10%	\$378.9 million

"Other [possible] opportunities for revenue improvement: higher hotel occupancy taxes paid by hotel patrons, a higher cigarette tax consistent with the practice of surrounding localities, an admissions tax to places of amusement or entertainment, the possibility of a meals tax, and a re-evaluation of permit and user fees, set consistently to fully recover costs."

— McLean Citizens Association Resolution

in addition to a six percent sales tax already collected on meals.

"Certainly from the chamber's point of view, we don't want to see any tax that singles out any industry," said Jim Corcoran, president of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

A potential four percent meals tax could create \$96 million annually in additional revenue for the county, more than \$20 million from non-county residents.

"Let's look at the equation on both sides," said Corcoran.

"It does not send the right message to businesses," many who make Fairfax County their headquarters, he said. "We have developed a business-friendly environment, internationally."

A "domino effect" could quickly erase revenue generated by the meals in loss of business and tourism, said Corcoran.

"The average taxpayer is not going to get tax relief. We're hearing our real estate taxes are getting higher and higher. This isn't going to alleviate that," said Providence District Supervisor Linda Smyth.

"If people think the meals tax is coming on top of an increasing property tax, it will fail. Maybe it should fail," said Braddock Supervisor John Cook.

The Greater Reston Chamber, according to its CEO and President Mark S. Ingrao, "has a long held position by our members of opposing single-industry taxes particularly if they do not benefit the industry being taxed."

Ingrao said the Reston Chamber advo-

cated for additional funding for education at this year's General Assembly by supporting the restoration of Cost-of-Compete-Adjustment (COCA). "COCA recognizes that the costs of hiring and retaining teachers in northern Virginia is more expensive than in other parts of the state and the Chamber was part of a partnership that secured \$34.4 million this year," he said.

MCLEAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION supports looking at alternative revenue sources including a possible meals tax. MCA passed a resolution in March urging the Board of Supervisors to look at "other opportunities for revenue improvement."

"So we get to share the fun with others," said Dale Stein, MCA's chairman of the budget committee. "Why does everything need to be on the back of the real estate tax," he said.

David Edelman, of the The Fairfax County Council of PTA's, said, "Our main concern is getting sustainable funding for schools and unfortunately there aren't many options available to us."

"We'll definitely get the message out there if the Board of Supervisors puts it on the ballot," he said.

THE BOARD of Supervisors would adopt a Resolution directing the County Attorney to file a petition with the Circuit Court by July 26.

The Board of Supervisors will meet on June 7 and instruct County staff to prepare documentation on the impact of the meals

Meals Tax

A possible meals tax could go to voters via referendum in the Nov. 8, 2016 general election. Under state law, the county would keep 100 percent of revenue generated by a meals tax. Counties can impose a meals tax if voters approve via referendum. If voters approve a meals tax, implementation could occur by July 1, 2017.

Meals Tax History By the Numbers

1992

A county meals tax was defeated by referendum in April 1992.

102,000

Voters cast votes in the 1992 referendum, which was approximately 25 percent of registered voters.

58

Percent of the voters voted against the potential meals tax in 1992.

2004

Legislation to exempt Fairfax County from the voter referendum requirement on a meals tax passed the Virginia Senate but failed to pass the house.

2008

Loudoun County held a referendum for a meals tax in November 2008 to fund new school construction, but it failed by a 70-30 percent vote.

2013

Henrico and Middlesex counties approved meals tax referendums. A similar effort in Chesterfield failed to pass.

tax on the county; the Board could vote officially to prove or not approve the ballot question.

In 2008, Loudoun County held a referendum for a meals tax in November 2008 to fund new school construction, but it failed by a 70-30 percent vote.

In 2013, Henrico and Middlesex counties approved meals tax referendums. A similar effort in Chesterfield failed to pass.

"The meals tax ballot questions that have been approved are the ones that tell you where the money is going, and where it will go to schools and capital improvements," said McKay.

The Town of Herndon passed its meals tax in 2003.

"We estimated \$900,000, and it generated \$900,279. Not bad for estimating something right out of the chute," said Mary Tuohy, the Town's director of finance.

Herndon Town Council increased the rate from 1.5 to 2.5 percent in 2011, and directed funding to major Herndon downtown infrastructure projects. Herndon also uses the meals tax to promote its restaurants and dineONHerndon campaign, according to Town's spokesman Anne Curtis.

The Town's tax preempts a county tax, said Curtis and Tuohy, "and in fact was one of the reasons it was enacted in Herndon in the first place," said Curtis.

If county voters approve a meals tax, implementation could occur by July 1, 2017.

In Search of Diversified Revenue

Fairfax County residents can expect to see meals tax question on November ballots.

Local governments pay for almost all of local services, including schools, by taxing a single industry, property owners.

In Fairfax County, property taxes pay for 65 percent of the budget. In Arlington, which has more revenue options as an urban county, property taxes pay for 57 percent of everything. In the City of Alexandria, property taxes pay for 58 percent.

It costs more every year to provide a consistent level of services, and the sources of revenue available to local governments in Virginia are very limited, forcing an outsized reliance on property taxes. The reason is that localities in Virginia have only the power explicitly given to them by the General Assembly, and the General Assembly allows very few options for localities to collect revenue.

Alexandria and Arlington already have a 4 percent meals tax on top of the 6 percent sales tax, and it's evident that the robust restaurant scene in both areas has not suffered as a result. Would-be diners do not drive to Fairfax County to avoid the tax. But whether Fairfax County can collect a meals tax will be up to voters in November, pending the Board of Supervisors putting the question on the ballot.

A meals tax is not a silver bullet, but it does add one more source of revenue. A 4-cent meals tax is roughly equivalent to the 4-cent increase in property taxes that Fairfax County residents will face this year. But the property tax is levied on people with no relationship to their ability to pay. The meals tax is related to spending, a more progressive approach, and will also collect taxes from non-residents.

This is one of the wealthiest regions in the country, and the highly educated population has high expectations. Schools, public safety,

EDITORIAL

recreational facilities, transportation, human services and other services and facilities cannot be allowed to atrophy because real estate values are flat. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors was correct to provide what Chairman Sharon Bulova called a "booster shot," mostly to schools but also to other needs in the county.

What is needed for the future is access to other, more diversified forms of taxes. While it is a pipe dream given the disposition of the General Assembly, what is really needed is to give localities a portion of the income tax. In the meantime, locals will have to press the state to pay for its fair share locally, and to allow increases in cigarette taxes and other possible sources of revenue.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

For the Benefit of All, Fairfax County Needs a Meals Tax

To the Editor:

For the strongest education for our children and for economic prosperity, Fairfax Co. must pass a Meals Tax. We all know the critical nature of the best education for all children but we need reminding that the highest quality schools also yield the highest housing prices.

Currently, Fairfax County is losing too many top teachers to neighboring school districts, especially Arlington County, who pay significantly higher salaries. I cite the following report to the FC School Board last December: A

study conducted by Segal Waters Consulting has revealed that Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) teacher salaries fall well behind those of other local jurisdictions, particularly in years 5-20 of a teacher's career. Over a 30-year career, an FCPS teacher earns \$142,000 less than our survey average and \$293,000 less than a teacher at Arlington Public Schools. When considering total compensation over a 30-year period, the gap narrows to \$52,000. The study was presented to the Fairfax County School Board at its Dec. 7, 2015 work session.

Tax Relief for Some

Fairfax County provides real estate tax relief and car tax relief to citizens who are either 65 or older, or permanently and totally disabled, and meet the income and asset eligibility requirements. For an application, call 703-222-8234, or visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/taxrelief_home.htm.

An exemption and/or deferral of real estate taxes is available for qualified Arlington homeowners age 65 and older and certain totally and permanently disabled homeowners, call 703-228-3920 or visit <https://topics.arlingtonva.us/realestate/taxes-payments/real-estate-tax-relief/>

Residents of the City of Alexandria who are either 65 years of age or older or permanently and totally disabled by Nov. 15, 2016, may be eligible for the City's Real Estate Tax Relief Program for Elderly and Disabled Persons, call 703-746-3901, Option 6, or visit <https://www.alexandriava.gov/finance/info/default.aspx?id=2886>.

A Meals Tax will raise crucial revenues for schools, infrastructure and social services. Few, if any people do not eat out in D.C., Arlington or Alexandria because they have a revenue-producing meals tax. Few, if any will decline to eat out in Fairfax either.

Let's all get behind the Meals Tax for the benefit of our children and to maintain quality schools that raise the value of our homes.

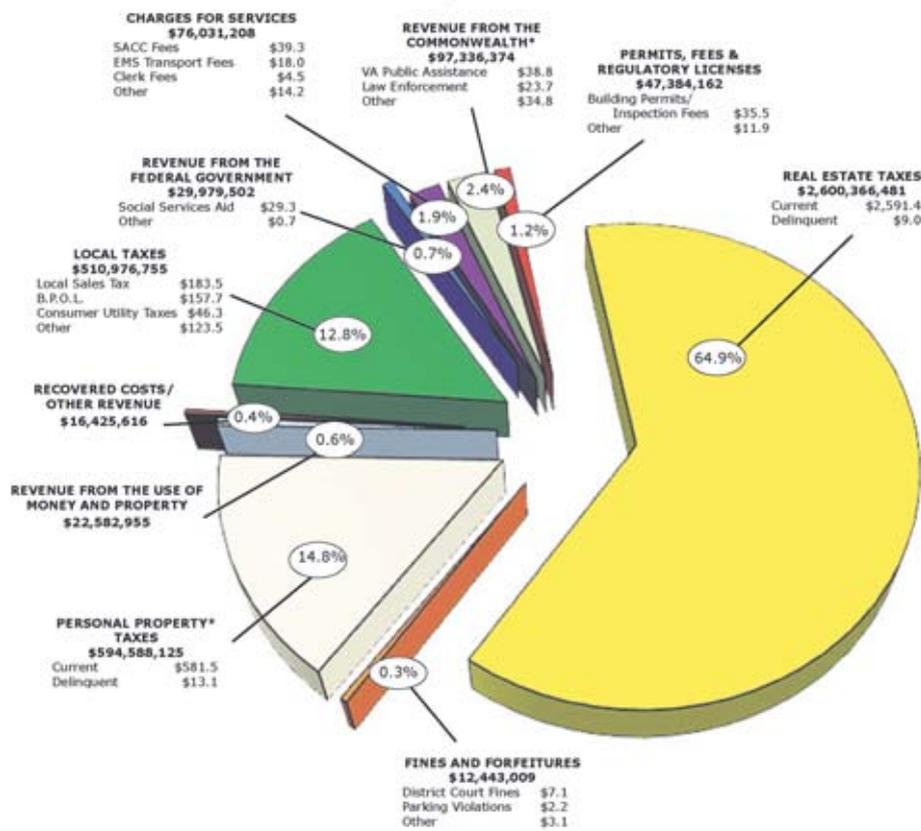
Dennis and Shirley Bloomquist
Great Falls

FY 2017 ADVERTISED BUDGET PLAN

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS

("WHERE IT COMES FROM")

(Subcategories in millions)



FY 2017 GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS** = \$4,008,114,187 **

* For presentation purposes, Personal Property Taxes of \$211,313,944 that are reimbursed by the Commonwealth as a result of the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998 are included in the Personal Property Taxes category.

** Total County resources used to support the budget include the revenues shown here, as well as a beginning balance and transfers in from other funds.

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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VIENNA CRIME REPORTS

Notable incidents from the Vienna Police Reports from May 6-12.

INCIDENTS

Burglary - 300 Block Sherwood Drive, NE. Between Oct. 1, 2015 at 8 a.m. and May 7, 2016 at 4:20 p.m. A resident reported someone forced entry into his vacant property and stole a bicycle and a heating and cooling unit.

Missing Person - 300 Block East Street, NE. Between May 4 at noon and May 5 at 4:22 p.m. A resident advised he was concerned for the welfare of his adult daughter. He reported that she was supposed to have returned home from vacationing in Alabama on May 4 however he had not heard from her. A short time after this report was filed the daughter made contact with the resident advising that she had extended her trip and would be home the following day.

Shoplifting - CVS, 337 Maple Ave., East. May 4, 7:10 p.m. An employee reported three black females entered the store and stole a large quantity of baby formula.

Missing Person - 300 Block Old Courthouse Road, NE. May 5 between 5 a.m. and noon. A resident reported her elderly husband had wandered away from home and she was concerned for his safety. The man was located later in the day by Arlington County Police.

Juvenile Case - Cedar Lane School, 101 Cedar Lane, SW. May 5, 8:30 a.m. A member of the school staff advised that a student was in possession of a prescription medication. The student advised that he had inadvertently placed his medication in his coat pocket and brought it to school. The school staff will follow up on this matter.

Suspicious Event - 600 Block Manor Drive, NE. May 5, 2:01 p.m. A resident received a suspicious telephone call from a person claiming to be her grandson. The person stated he needed money because he had been injured in an accident and arrested in North Carolina. The resident did not go along with the attempted scam. She did not send any money or suffer any financial loss.

Welfare Check - 400 Block Courthouse Road, SW. May 6, 10 a.m. Officers conducted a welfare check on a resident after he made a post on social media that concerned his friend. Officers spoke to the resident and his relatives and determined he was not in need of any immediate assistance.

Arrest - Drunk in Public - Aldeerah Restaurant, 262 Cedar Lane, SE. May 6, 11:36 p.m. Officers responded to the report of several men outside of the restaurant, one of them armed with a knife. An employee of the restaurant advised MPO Lyons that the man was highly intoxicated and was harassing females at the restaurant. He asked the man several times to leave the area. The man walked away, but came back holding a knife. An officer located the man the 38-year-old man, who had no fixed address, and arrested him for Drunk In Public. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was to be held until he was sober. The employee did not wish to pursue assault charges.

Found Property - 100 Block Mendon Lane, SW. May 7, 8:10 a.m. A resident turned in a wallet he found in his yard. The wallet will be held at the Vienna Police Station until the owner can retrieve it.

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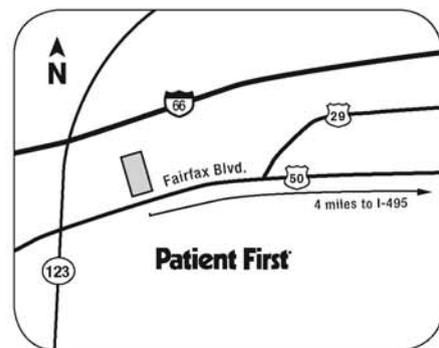
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From left: McLean residents and freshmen at McLean High School Austin Jensen and Bryce Liquerman, McLean resident and sophomore at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Kai Amelung, School Board Member At Large Ryan McElveen, Dranesville District School Board Representative Janie Strauss, and School Board Member At Large Ilryong Moon showed their support by attending the Relay For Life.



PHOTOS BY DANIELLE GRAE/THE CONNECTION
After the survivor lap, the caretakers walked a lap around the track. Hundreds of students from schools such as McLean and Langley high schools walked the track.



McLean High School Executive Director senior Emma Chamberlayne, Langley High School Executive Director senior Will Pfenhauer, and Relay For Life Community Manager Katie Sue Van Valkenburg of Oak Hill pumped up the crowd while reviewing the night's itinerary.



During the relay, Langley High School junior Andrew Shapiro broke the 6, 12 and 24 hour world records for pull ups. Shapiro decided to seek the records in honor of his father, Allen Shapiro, who is fighting cancer.

McLean, Langley High Students Unite to Fight Cancer

By DANIELLE GRAE
THE CONNECTION

Hundreds of students from rivals Langley and McLean high schools walked through the night of May 14 at Cooper Middle School during the Relay for Life to raise money for the American Cancer Society (ACS).

"We love our rivalry, but I love how you can see people from Langley and McLean meeting each other, becoming friends and working together for something that's bigger than all of us," senior and executive director from McLean High School Emma Chamberlayne said.

Chamberlayne worked for 12 months with her Langley High School counterpart, senior Will Pfenhauer, and Relay For Life Community Manager Katie Sue Van Valkenburg of Oak Hill to oversee a committee of about 40 students from both schools to organize the event. The students recruited local cancer survivors to attend the event.

The night kicked off with the over 800 participants surrounding the track to cheer on cancer survivors doing a lap around the track. Smiles beamed on survivors' faces as they ran under bridges of raised arms, holding hands across the track. But one lap doesn't adequately symbolize the long-term journey of cancer survivors. A whole night of having

at least one person from a team at all times on the track represents the ongoing battle.

"This is a never ending thing," cancer survivor, Woodbridge resident, and Lorton Senior Center Assistant Director Kimberly Frenkel said, comparing cancer to the relay. "People need to keep fighting cancer and funding more research so it can get to a point that cancer can be cured."

During the relay, Langley High School junior Andrew Shapiro broke the 6, 12 and 24 hour world records for pull ups. Shapiro decided to seek the records in honor of his father, Allen Shapiro, who is fighting cancer.

Although the relay has a goal of over \$150,000, even a small do-

nation can help local cancer patients.

"If you donate to ACS, you might think you're donating to a weird abyss of cancer research. You're not," Van Valkenburg said. "\$10 can provide a ride for a patient to get to and from lifesaving treatment. Many people think they could just call an Uber. Some people can't afford that and skip chemo rather than pay for the ride, so it's important that someone donates that \$10."

The relay will continue to accept donations until Aug. 31. You can donate online at the Relay For Life of Langley McLean's webpage: http://main.acevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY16SA?pg=entry&fr_id=71191.



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father'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 photos, send to:

editors@connectionnewspapers.com

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Madison girls' lacrosse team won the Conference 6 championship with an 11-9 victory over Langley on May 13.



Sophomore goalie Ellie Socher and the Madison girls' lacrosse team held Langley scoreless for the first 21-plus minutes of the second half of the Conference 6 championship game.

Madison Girls' Lax Wins Sixth Straight Conference/ District Championship

Warhawks knock off previously undefeated Langley in tournament final.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Madison girls' lacrosse team entered Friday's Conference 6 tournament final as the five-time defending champion.

The Warhawks, however, felt their opponent was the one carrying the target on its back.

Langley, the tournament's No. 1 seed, was undefeated and had already beaten Madison, 14-10, during the regular season. But while the No. 2 seed Warhawks were an underdog on paper, they played like a team unwilling to relinquish its place atop the conference.

The Warhawks built a six-goal second-half advantage and held on for an 11-9 victory over the Saxons on May 13 at Langley High School. Madison captured its sixth consecutive Conference 6/Liberty District championship and defeated Langley in the conference/district final for the fifth time in six seasons.

"Awesome," is how midfielder Andie Battin, one of four seniors on the Madison roster, described the feeling of victory. "I'm a senior, so 4-for-4 (in conference/district championship games). It's pretty exciting."

Battin said not being the top seed resulted in less stress for the Warhawks.

"Definitely thought we had something to prove, especially since, normally, we're the ones that everyone wants to beat," Battin said. "It's definitely different [being] on the other side of that."

MADISON fell behind early during its regular-season loss to Langley. On Friday, the Warhawks never trailed and entered half-time with a 7-5 lead.

"I think we used their win as motivation to work harder at practices," Madison sophomore goalkeeper Ellie Socher said,



Madison sophomore Ashley Go, left, scored a goal during the Conference 6 championship game.

"and really show up today [and] come together as one."

Madison scored three times in the first 10 minutes of the second half and extended its lead to 11-5 when junior attacker Annabel Bentley found the back of the net with 4:47 remaining.

Langley made a late push, scoring four goals in a 1-minute, 35-second span, but the Saxons couldn't avoid their first loss of the season.

"The four-goal surge displayed what our team can do when we play as one team together on the field," Langley senior attacker and Conference 6 Offensive Player of the Year Halle Duenkel wrote in an email.

First-year Madison head coach Adam Norton said the Warhawks focused on limiting Langley's opportunities in transition.

"Their transition is lethal," Norton said. "Our main goal was to, basically, try and kill that and force them into [a] settled [offense], where we could control the situation better."

Madison held Langley scoreless for the

first 21-plus minutes of the second half.

"It was stellar," Norton said about Madison's defensive performance. "We have had issues with being a little leaky — letting people get unabated to cage and that didn't happen today. Our motto was 'one more pass' — force one more pass out of the offense so that there's a chance for the slide, there's a chance for a bad throw, a bad catch, an interception. It buys us a chance."

Madison featured a balanced scoring attack, with seven different players netting at least one goal. Olivia Choutka, Carly Rogers, Zoe Dyer and Bentley each had two goals, and Anya Saponja, Diana Lowther and Ashley Go each scored one.

Junior midfielder Emma Crooks, a first-team all-conference selection, led Langley with four goals. Anna Hofgard finished with three goals for the Saxons, and junior attacker Rebecca Bair and Duenkel each had one.

What went wrong for Langley?

"We lacked a sense of urgency during the

game," Duenkel wrote.

LANGLEY entered the 6A North region tournament as the No. 2 seed from Conference 6 and faced Osbourn Park on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

"The feeling after (the loss to Madison) was painful and gut-wrenching," Duenkel wrote. "To regroup, we are focusing on our team and what to improve upon before the regional tournament."

Madison entered the region tournament as the No. 1 seed from Conference 6 and faced Osbourn on Tuesday.

"[T]his is the first game I've seen them come together like that," Madison assistant and former head coach Amanda Counts said about the Warhawks' performance against Langley. "That was an end-to-end performance and we hardly had to give any feedback from the sidelines. They know what it's about and finally they put it all together. Those girls who had been here three times before, I guess, spread the message to their teammates."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Margery Sher, left, received the Dr. Jorge Arnoldson award from the Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation at its annual Jeans and Jewels Gala held on April 29. Sher is the outgoing executive director of M CCP. The award recognizes her 40-year career helping children and families. M CCP Foundation provides healthcare to uninsured children in Fairfax County. Also at the podium are Penny Bladich, center, chairman of the M CCP Board of Directors and vice-president, Cardinal Bank, and Rosa Arnoldson, right, widow of the local pediatrician and child welfare advocate for whom the award is named. Looking on is Emcee David Culver, weekend anchor at NBC 4.

'Jeans and Jewels' Gala in Support of Dental, Medical Programs for Children

While millions of Americans have received coverage under the Affordable Healthcare Act, there are still many children in Fairfax County who do not have access to doctors and dentists. These children miss school, their parents miss work, and everyone pays the cost. One "safety net" program, which provides children of the working poor in our area with their own pediatricians and dentists, is the Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation. An innovative public-private partnership, M CCP Foundation honored its retiring executive director Margery Leveen Sher, for her 40-year career working on behalf of children and families with the Dr. Jorge Arnoldson Memorial Award at its "Jeans and Jewels Gala" at the Tysons Marriott on April 29.

Since it began in 2007, M CCP Foundation has spent nearly \$2 million on healthcare for children in Fairfax County. Despite parents who work 2-3 jobs, these children are still without basic medical care. Families often have to choose between

putting food on the table or paying doctor bills, with the result being that children are often seen in emergency rooms, sicker and often in crisis. At the Gala, an original short film by local producer Diane Naughton impressed upon the audience the impact of access to dental care for a family of three boys who are enrolled in M CCP.

Over 300 private physicians, dentists and Kaiser Permanente provide care at free or reduced rates to M CCP children. Fairfax County government also supports the program, as do corporations, foundations and individuals. The largest fundraiser of the year, the "Jeans and Jewels Gala" raises funds and awareness of the "Hidden Fairfax" that exists alongside the affluent; the working poor who live and work in this wealthy community. Elected officials attending the gala included Del. Ken Plum (D-36), who also served as auctioneer, and State Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31). Type A, a local southern rock band, was also a big hit with the guests.

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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

"So Many Parks - So Little Time." Through May 31. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Dee Leggetts photographs of national parks. 703-861-3335.

Meadowlark Magic at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens. May 2- Through June 20. 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Vienna Arts Society members exhibit their work. 703-255-3631.

Lashley Artist Showcase. May 2-28. Broadway Gallery and Fine Art and Framing, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. The paintings of award-winning "plein air" artist Christine Lashley. broadwaygallery.net. 703-450-8005.

"Slice of Life" and The National Gallery of Art Copyists Exhibits. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 3-28. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Two exhibits by the Vienna Arts Society. Free. viennaartsociety.org.

Time Traveler Tuesdays. 4:30 p.m. March 29-June 7. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. This weekly series will take participants on an interactive journey through time, focusing on a different period in Virginia history each week. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvinrunmill/events.htm>.

Weekly Storytime. Wednesday and Saturday. 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.

Gentle Yoga. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Emmaus United Church of Christ, 900 E Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Gentle Kundalini Yoga, one free introductory session, senior discounts. Increase your flexibility, improve your breathing and health, reduce your stress. Ravi Kaur has 15 years experience teaching yoga. \$15 per session. www.edimprovement.org. 571-213-3192.

Tai Chi Beginners' Practice. Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weekly Tai Chi practice. Group has met for over 20 years. Free. FreeTaiChi.org. 703-759-9141.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 18

Woman's Club Meeting. 7-9 p.m. Marshall Road Elementary Cafeteria, 730 Marshall Road, SW, Vienna. Director of Partners of Estate Sales Helen Long will be the speaker and will talk about organizing homes. Free. viennawomansclub.org. 703-281-3932.

THURSDAY/MAY 19

Window Shop Treatment Workshop. 6-8 p.m. Ethan Allen Tysons, 8520 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Bring window ideas and challenges and we will help find solutions that work. 703-356-6405.

FRIDAY/MAY 20

Radney Foster. 6-7:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Considered an elder statesman of Texas singer-songwriters, Foster has been a friend and mentor to many younger artists on the Texas scene. \$20-\$22. jamminjava.com.

Penny University Event. 7 p.m. Caffe Amouri, 107 Church St. NE, Vienna. "Blooming into Mindfulness" book discussion with author Martha Brettschneider. Free. Nicki@caffeamouri.com.

101st McLean Day, May 21

Food, fun, rides at McLean Day in Lewinsville Park.

Rides and More Amusements - In addition to popular large amusement and children's rides, there will also be balloon artists, costumed characters and free laser tag.

Festival Foods and More - Lobsters, crepes, barbecue. But leave room for dessert, as there will also be lots of sweet treats.

Stage Entertainment - Local bands and other notable performers fill the air with music. This year there is a children's stage with engaging performers sure to hold young McLean Day goers' attentions.

For festival updates, driving



Equestrian Kingsley Muller, 6, enjoys a trip on the carousel at the McLean Day festival 2015.

directions, shuttle bus stop locations and a festival area map, visit www.mcleancenter.org/special-events.

Public Works Day. 2-6 p.m. Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill St., NE. Vienna residents, school and scout groups, and others are invited to tour the property yard; get an up-close look at the heavy machinery, vehicles, and equipment used by public works; and meet the employees who provide these essential services. Police and fire equipment also will be on site. 703-255-6380.

FRIDAY/MAY 20

Preschool Nature Nuts. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Learn about spring flowers. \$5. Register at NOVAparks.com.

McLean Art Society Meeting. 10 a.m.-noon. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Nancy Still, an artist specializing and teaching the painting of miniatures will be the featured presenter. Guests welcome. 703-790-0123.

Art + Crafts Event. 6:30 p.m. McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. George Mason University Printmaking professor Helen Frederick, will describe her trip to San Pablo, Mexico to learn about the traditional Papel Amate papermaking technique practiced by the Otomi community. \$8. mpaart.org. 703-790-1953.

SATURDAY/MAY 21

BioBlitz2016. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Wolf Trap National Park, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Inventory as many species as possible. <http://friendsofwolftrap.org>.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 20-21

Enlightened Living - The Path of Inner Yoga. 6-8 p.m. Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Led by Swami Nirivisheshananda Tirtha, the focus of the talk and Q&A will be how to walk the path of Inner Yoga (samatva) and transform lives spiritually. Program followed by dinner. Free. <http://cirdna.org/EL2016>. 703-861-4230.

SATURDAY/MAY 21

Beneficial Insects. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Find out how to keep pest from eating your plants, while still caring for the environment. Preregistration required. \$5. NOVAparks.com.

Used Book Collection. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave., East, Vienna. Sponsored by the AAUW McLean Branch. Also, bring your CDs, DVDs, software, children's book, records, and recent textbooks, all in good condition. Proceeds benefit scholarships for women. aauwbookfair@gmail.com. (703) 527-4206.

SUNDAY/MAY 22

Specimen Plant Walk. 4-5:15 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. One-mile walk through Meadowlark introducing participants to plants that can add interest to home gardens. \$2.50-\$5. Register at NOVAparks.com.

Trio Cleonice. 3 p.m. The Alden, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. This dynamic young Boston-based piano trio has established itself as one of the most creative, communicative and exhilarating ensembles in the U.S. today. Free. mcleancenter.org.

Chess 4 Charity. 12:30 p.m. OLG School, 8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. Proceeds go to Children's Miracle Network. <http://www.chess4charity.org/>.

Country Music Fest. Noon-8 p.m. McLean VFW, 1051 Spring Hill Road, McLean. Bands, and barbecue and beans. Fundraiser for Bill Flammer, Sr. \$15. 703-883-9250.

Amadeus Orchestra with Thomas Pandolfi. 4 p.m. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001, Georgetown Pike, McLean. Pianist Thomas Pandolfi. \$30. amadeusconcerts.com.

MONDAY/MAY 23

Stroller Strong Moms. 10-11:30 a.m. Nottoway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Opening event, meet and greet, playtime. First class is free. kelli@strollerstrongmoms.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 28-29

Model Trains at Open House. 1-5 p.m. Historic Vienna Train Station, 231 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna. Part of ViVa Vienna Days. Thomas and his friends will be there. 703-938-5157. nvmmr.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 29

National Men's Chorus. 5 p.m. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Memorial day concert. \$20. Students and children free. nationalmenschorus.org. 202-244-

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ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY BRANDY WYATT/VIENNA PARKS AND RECREATION

The sky was darkening and wind blowing up when the James Madison High School Jazz Band took to the stage, playing with smooth finesse.

Teens Take Over Town Green with Song and Dance

A town of Vienna sponsored event, executed by teens for teens.



The Adrenaline Dance Team pumped up the adrenaline of everyone passing time on the Town Green when they performed.

Before the rain clouds opened up and strong winds agitated leafy trees in Vienna, there was music and dance on the Town Green, performed by teens for teens. From rock bands to dance, the Parks and Recreation department of the Town of Vienna orchestrated a variety of musical entertainment. At the program, Vienna Parks and Recreation promoted Club Phoenix, an afterschool program for 12- to 14 year-olds.

Acts on the program included Bach to Rock, School of Rock, Adrenaline Dance, Madison Band, and Pat Sommers Rock. Yes, "rock" was dominant.

A bounce house kept the younger kids entertained throughout the afternoon.

—DONNA MANZ

Vote on McLean Day

**McLean Community Center
Governing Board Election**
Saturday, May 21, from 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road

Your Vote is Your Voice!

All qualified residents of Small District 1A Dranesville are encouraged to vote for members of the 2016-2017 MCC Governing Board.

- You need not be registered to vote in the general election
- Proof of residence, such as a driver's license, is required

Absentee Ballot

Vote now by absentee ballot and avoid the crowds! View the candidate statements on the Center's Website. Call the Center or send an E-mail message to "elections@mcleancenter.org" to request a ballot package be sent to your home. Or, stop by MCC at 1234 Ingleside Avenue or the Old Firehouse Teen Center at 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., and pick one up. Completed ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18 to be counted.

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Send Photos for Father's Day Galleries

Father's Day is Sunday, June 19, and as in years past, this newspaper will publish a gallery of photos of fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and sons and daughters. Send your photos, including names of everyone in the photo, ages of children, town of residence and a brief description of what is happening to north@connectionnewspapers.com or upload directly to connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday/ Please include the words "Father's Day" and your town of residence in the subject line.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ The deadline for submissions is at noon on Friday.

SATURDAY/MAY 21

Used Book Collection. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave., East, Vienna. Sponsored by the AAUW McLean Branch. Also, bring your CDs, DVDs, software, children's book, records, and recent textbooks, all in good condition. Proceeds benefit scholarships for women. aauwbookfair@gmail.com. (703) 527-4206.

THURSDAY/MAY 26

Home/Investment/Discussion. 8-9 a.m. The Old Brogue Back Porch, 760 Walker Road, Suite C., Great Falls. Informal conversation with experts offers homeowners a fresh perspective on investment and alternative ways to save through property development. 703-865-5065. AVArchitectsbuid.com.

SUNDAY/JUNE 11

Disability Resource Fair. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. ServiceSource Disability Resource Center, 10467 White Grante Drive, Oakton. The fair will provide personal access to experts in the disability field. We will have resources, nonprofit partners, and vendors covering a range of disability topics including children, autism, aging, and veterans. communications@servicesource.org. 703-461-6000.

ONGOING

The **Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/. Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs.** For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions. **Respite Care** volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov. Fairfax County needs a volunteer **Senior Center Marketing Coordinator** to assist the Friends of Fairfax County Senior Centers with marketing. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions. The **Lewinsville Senior Center** in McLean needs instructors for the following classes: Line Dance, Zumba Gold, Certified Arthritis Exercise, Square Dance, Basic Guitar, Art and Basic Spanish. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

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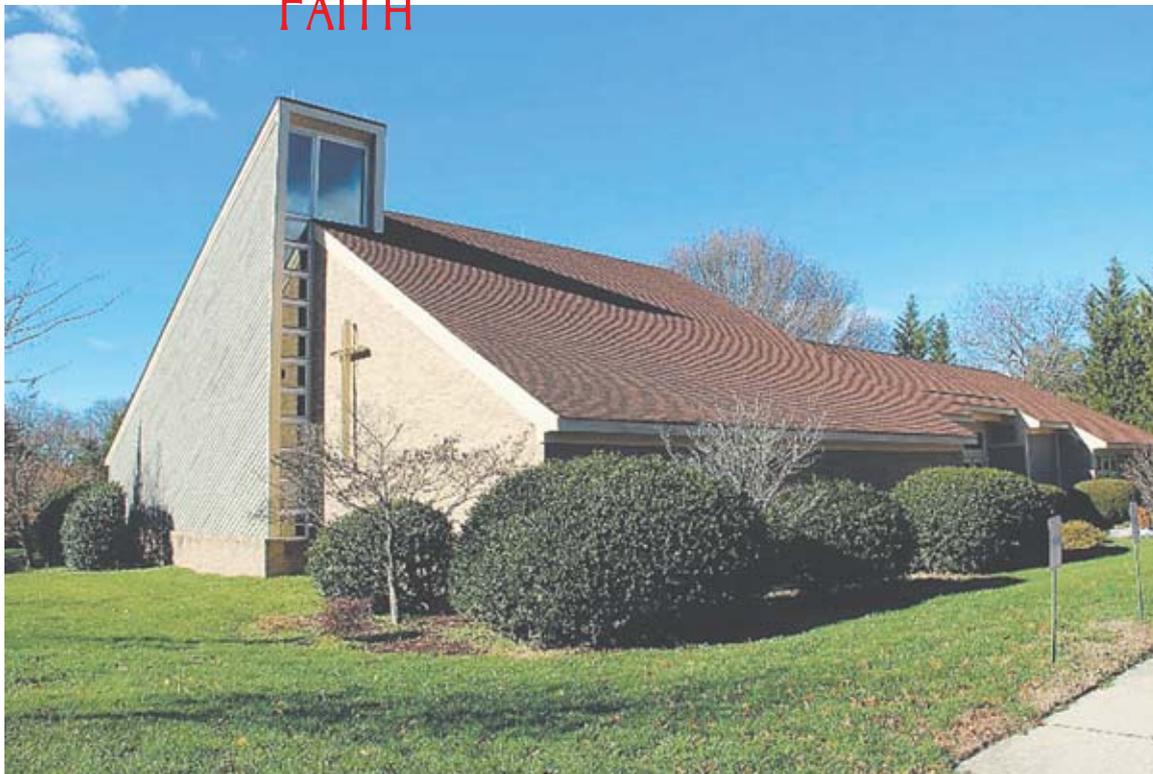
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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS



The Emmaus UCC Sanctuary.

Vienna Church Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Emmanuel United Church of Christ (UCC) celebrated its 50th anniversary Sunday, May 15. Local officials and former members who had moved out of the area joined the festivities, which began with a Remembrance service, followed by worship and a luncheon for all present. The church meets at 900 Maple Ave., East in Vienna, Virginia. Emmaus was recognized and called into covenant on May 15, 1966, by the Potomac Association of the UCC. The Reverend Thomas Cox, its founding pastor, and 66 charter members originally met for worship at St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Lewinsville Road in McLean until the Fellowship Hall (serving as worship space for six years) and the Education Building were completed and dedicated in 1970. Emmaus' present sanctuary was built and dedicated in 1990.

The congregation's name, Emmaus, was chosen from Luke 24:13, a story in which Jesus appears to two disciples as they walked to the village Emmaus with heavy hearts after his crucifixion. The original members chose the name as symbolic of "the journey ahead, the sharing of the Word through scripture, and the fellowship with the spirit of Christ in communion."

Worship starts at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday for children and adults and is open to all. Adult faith exploration classes begin at 9:15 a.m. Emmaus UCC affirms the dignity and worth of every person as a child of God, celebrating diversity in race, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, gender expression and identity. For more information, visit emmausucc.org.

The United Church of Christ, the Protestant denomination to which Emmaus belongs, is a community of Christians with over 5,000 churches and nearly one million members. It carries a rich history of "firsts." The UCC's predecessor, the Congregational Church, supported the first integrated anti-slavery society in the U.S. with multiracial leadership, organized by Lewis Tappan of the Amistad revolt (1846); the first woman to be ordained and to serve a Christian congregation, Rev. Antoinette Brown (1853); the first



The "Walk to Emmaus" stained glass window in the Emmaus Sanctuary, designed by artist Brenda Belfield, was a gift in 1992 from the Jack Dreyfus family in memory of Jack's mother Bernice.

openly gay person ordained as a minister, Rev. William R. Johnson (1972); first African American leader of a racially integrated mainline church in the U.S., Rev. Joseph H. Evans (1976); the first and only hymn book that honors in equal measure both male and female images of God, *The New Century Hymnal* (1995); and the first religious organization (UCC's General Synod) to pass a resolution supporting same-gender marriage equality (2005). Central to the UCC's tenets of faith is a belief that "God is still speaking."

PHOTOS BY RON RISING.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11)

Raising the Stakes, For a Cause

To mark Mental Health Month, McLean-based nonprofit PRS held its annual Raising the Stakes Kentucky Derby Event at the Tower Club to support its mental illness recovery, suicide prevention, and crisis intervention efforts.



Former PRS Board member Eric Goplerud, PRS' Wendy Gradison, Terry Goplerud, Jon Goplerud, Jan Goplerud

WEEK IN VIENNA

Used Book Collection to Benefit Scholarships for Women

American Association of University Women (AAUW) McLean Branch will host a Used Book Collection. Also, bring your CDs, DVDs, software, children's book, records, and recent textbooks, all in good condition. Proceeds benefit scholarships for women. Saturday, May 21, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. aauwbookfair@gmail.com. Tel: 703-527-4206.

Drug Take Back Initiative Nets 409.9 Pounds of Medications

On April 30, 2016, the Town of Vienna Police Department, in conjunction with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, participated in the 11th National Drug Take Back Initiative. As a result of that initiative the Town of Vienna Police Department collected and safely disposed of 409.9 pounds of expired or no longer needed medications from area citizens. The April initiative collected approximately 893,000 pounds of medications nationwide. The Vienna Police Department plans to continue its participation in future DEA initiatives.