

# McLean CONNECTION

From left, Julie Lansaw Warrin and Bari Livingston of the McLean Project for the Arts at the group's "pop-up" party in downtown McLean Friday, Feb. 24. The event was the first in a series celebrating the MPA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

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PHOTOS BY LORI BAKER/THE CONNECTION



Third-grade Cub Scouts, Andrew Ruggeri, Will Denton, Grant Baker, and Logan Hanson, from Langley School after the race. Will Denton won first place for his den.

Ryan Wilson and Joshua Guinn, fourth-graders from Spring Hill Elementary School, took first and second place in their den's competition.

# Race Fans Gather in McLean

## McLean Cub Scouts participate in annual Pinewood Derby.

BY LORI BAKER  
THE CONNECTION

There were only a few tears among the cheers and smiles at the recent Cub Scout Pinewood Derby in McLean. The boys of McLean's Cub Scout Pack 1144 are familiar with the possibilities for victory or disappointment. But mostly, the 169 Cub Scouts that make up the Pack are full of smiles as they gather each year for a day of friendly competition and racing.

This year's Pinewood Derby was held Saturday, Feb. 11, at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, which sponsors the Pack. The large ground-floor meeting room was transformed into a racing arena, with a long four-lane track nearly spanning the length of the room.

**THE BOYS**, representing 16 Cub Scout dens drawn from Colvin Run Elementary School, Spring Hill Elementary School, and the Langley School, watched with concentration as their homemade cars, weighing no more than five grams, raced each other in an elimination tournament. Hours later, a final champion was finally named. The top three placers in the grand final race were Tyler Donohue of Spring Hill Elementary (first place), Jack Bush of Colvin Run Elementary (second place), and Joseph Smith of Colvin Run Elementary (third place).

"It's a great community event," said Kelly Wilson, mother of a fourth-grade Cub Scout from Spring

Hill Elementary. "We've done it the last three years. It's something that my husband and son work on every year. Something they get to create on their own. Boys and cars are always a big event. They love to race against their own teammates and Cub Scouts."

Each year in late December, the Cub Scouts of Pack 1144, made up of first through fifth graders, are given a small box containing the long-awaited Pinewood Derby kit. In the kit are a small wooden block, not quite the size of a brick, along with plastic wheels and metal axels. The boys, typically with help from a parent, turn the contents of the kit into a racing vehicle in the period of about six weeks. There is plenty of room for creativity as the boys design, shape and decorate a vehicle they hope will not only reflect their intended design, but will be built for speed.

**THE PINEWOOD DERBY** is a nationwide Cub Scout tradition dating back to 1953. It was then that Cub master, Don Murphy, from Manhattan Beach, Calif., came up with the idea. Murphy's son was too young to participate in the Soap Box Derby, which was a race for the older Boy Scouts. So Murphy designed the Pinewood Derby to give the younger boys their own race. The idea caught on immediately, and has been one of the most beloved events on the Cub Scout calendar ever since.

Third-grader Chris Stewart from the Langley School looks forward to the race every year.



The Cub Scouts of Pack 1144 watched each race closely to scout the competition.



Fourth-grader Bobby Svirskas of Colvin Run Elementary School and his brother Drew: Bobby's "angry birds" vehicle took first place in his den.

"For me it's special when you're making it because it's good family time. It's fun getting to carve out and sand and do all that fun

stuff. And after that it's fun to race. And once you're done you can always play with it," he said. "It always makes a good toy."

## Oakcrest School Presents Seussical

Oakcrest School, an independent school for girls grades 6-12 in McLean, is showcasing its Upper School Show, *Seussical, the Musical*, in the G. Lloyd Bunting, Sr. Theatre at Oakcrest on

Friday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 3, at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Celebrating its 35th Anniversary this year, Oakcrest continues its tradition of promoting fine arts and creativity among its students and performing shows for the entire community, year after year. Oakcrest students are involved in the show as actresses, singers, dancers, set designers, lighting and sound crew, stage crew, and student mentors assisting with character development, dance captaining, and musical direction.

This show captures the spirit of imagination, while teaching lessons about the powers of friendship, loyalty, family, and community. *Seussical, the Musical*, is directed by Oakcrest theatre arts director, Jessica Erin Carey, and Oakcrest musical director, Anne Miller, with choreography by Kendra Slatt.

*Seussical* brings to life all of favorite Dr. Seuss characters, including Horton the Elephant, The Cat in the Hat, Gertrude McFuzz, Lazy Mayzie, and Jojo, a little boy with a big imagination.

The story centers around Horton the Elephant, who finds himself faced with a double-challenge: how can he protect his new friend, Jojo, and all the citizens of the tiny planet Who, while caring

for the egg of his irresponsible friend, Mayzie? Through changing seasons, being captured by the circus, and great danger, Horton must protect his friends and his egg because, after all: "A

Person's a Person, No Matter How Small," Dr. Seuss said.

Tickets for Friday and Saturday night are \$10 adult, \$5 student. For the Saturday matinee only, there will be a Family Special Rate of \$30 per family. Join the cast and crew for a talk-back after the Saturday matinee. Box office opens an hour before performances begin.

## Langley Leads Recycling Efforts

School will serve as pilot program for athletic field recycling.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

Langley High School will serve as a pilot program for Fairfax County when it comes to recycling on the athletic fields during sporting events. The Langley Eco School club is spearheading the initiative, collecting grant money to purchase the recycling cans to be placed next to the regular trash cans.

Elaine Tholen, environmental education manager for Fairfax County Public Schools, said the initiative is part of the county's effort to demonstrate environmental stewardship on all levels.

"We want to make sure students have accurate information about being green, but we also want to make sure there's an action component to that," she said. "If our goal is to graduate environmental stewards, we need to make sure we back that up with knowledge. I feel like the Langley Eco School club is able to look at that area of being green beyond the classroom."

**LANGLEY SCIENCE TEACHER** Deanna Den Hartog said the school is also aiming to continue environmental education across all age groups.

"I think we do a good job of providing environmental education in elementary schools, but once students get to middle and high schools, sometimes there's just not an opportunity," she said. "That's not the message we'd like to send, that it's good when you're younger, but not when you're older."

Using the county's Get2Green module located on the Blackboard site, students and administrators can connect to both internal and external resources. Jill Baker, who founded the Eco School club with her daughter, a Langley student, says Get2Green has helped the club track down grant funding for the recycling cans.

"The fields are so extensive we needed three different sources of funding to get all the cans," said Jill Baker. "Fairfax County recycles a lot of materials, but we're focusing on cans, bottles and paper. We'll be putting a recycling can next to each trash can, because we think the only way this will work is if every time someone goes to throw something out, the option to recycle is right there."

The club sent out questionnaires to all of the Fairfax County high schools to get an impression of what recycling was going on, but many schools weren't even able to respond.

While several schools have programs in place, Tholen says it's her hope that Langley can provide a reproducible model that any school that desires can pick up.

"We don't want to re-invent the wheel, but if Langley can find out where to get the cans, what cans



PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

**Members of Langley High School's Eco School club will be putting out cans for recycling at the school's athletic fields. The Langley program will serve as the pilot program for the county recycling at all their athletic fields.**

### Showing Off Green Efforts

The Langley High School Eco School club will participate in the Nova Outside Green Schools Expo Saturday, March 3 at George Mason University. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the George Mason Student Union II Ballroom (The Hub), 4400 University Drive, Fairfax.

Langley will be among several county schools showcasing their green efforts and investigating what other schools can do to go green.

More information is available at [www.novaoutside.org](http://www.novaoutside.org).

work, what placements work, then they can put all that out to other schools who will have all the information in front of them should they want to start a program," she said. "With all of our sporting events, the amount of recyclables that end up in the trash is incredible, and we're hoping by testing this program out in the Spring, that by Fall, when the busy football season starts, we'll have the program in place."

**THE CLUB** will be using metal cans with a mesh-like design, so wind can pass through them while on the field instead of knocking them over. The Spring sports season officially starts March 3 at Langley, and the blue recycling cans will be found next to each green trash can.

Students are currently involved in spreading the word on the program, writing a script for the theater department to film a spot showing what can and can't be recycled as well as creating flyers to place around the school.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**"The Phantom Tollbooth" show includes 73 cast, crew, and pit orchestra members in grades 6-8, making it the biggest Langley production ever.**

### The Langley School Presents 'The Phantom Tollbooth'

This spring, students at The Langley School will bring a new genre of theatre to the Langley stage – the first-ever Middle School musical. "The Phantom Tollbooth" will run Thursday, March 8 through Saturday, March 10.

The show includes 73 cast, crew, and pit orchestra members in grades 6-8, making it the biggest Langley production ever. Students are involved in all aspects of the show, serving as actors on stage or musicians in the pit orchestra and assisting with sound, lighting, set design, props, costumes, hair and makeup, ushering, and choreography.

Based on Norton Juster's classic children's book written in 1961, this new musical is the modern tale of a boy, Milo, who must save the princesses Rhyme and Reason and reunite the brother kings who rule over the cities of Dictionopolis and Digitopolis. Aided by a trusty time-keeping dog, Tock, Milo successfully brings harmony to the Land of Wisdom and learns many things about words and numbers along his journey. Perhaps the most important lesson he takes with him, however, is that everything we learn has a purpose and whatever we do

### When & Where

"The Phantom Tollbooth" will run Thursday, March 8 through Saturday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m., with a matinee performance at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 10, in the school's Jeffrey J. Sherman Arts Center at 1411 Balls Hill Road in McLean. Tickets are on sale now for \$8 each at [www.langleyschool.org](http://www.langleyschool.org).

affects everything and everyone.

The family-friendly show includes 15 musical numbers, the majority of which are solo, duet, or small group selections. Five of the numbers are performed by the entire ensemble, complete with choreographed dances designed by student and faculty choreographers. A live student pit orchestra will accompany each musical selection. To prepare students for the experience of singing on stage, Musical Director Dana Litke held a series of audition workshops.

The show takes place in modern times, and the cast and crew have added clever nods to pop culture throughout such as a character inspired by Lady Gaga, for example. And the set, which was created by Langley's scenery crew elective class, suggests a variety of different art movements.

### 'Ireland and Incamminati' at Katie's Coffee

At Katie's Coffee, next to the Old Brogue Irish Pub, March 5-31, artist Judith St. Ledger-Roty will hold her show "Ireland and Incamminati" featuring paintings of Ireland she began or conceived of when she was there a few years ago, and drawings and paintings she has done since, while studying art in the tradition of the Old Master's, starting with drawing and progressing from there. Every one is invited to a reception to meet the artist on March 10, from 1 to 3 p.m. The address is 730C Walker Road in the Great Falls Center of Great Falls, Virginia.



# THE COUNTY LINE

**Former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine, who is campaigning for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Democrat Jim Webb, visited Multivision in Fairfax on Thursday, Feb. 23. He spoke with students and staff, and said he was motivated to visit the workforce development company after meeting founder and president Srikanth Ramachandran (right) last fall.**



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/ THE CONNECTION

## Kaine Touts 'Talent Economy'

**In bid for U.S. Senate seat, Kaine holds economic roundtables.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

**D**uring a campaign stop at a Fairfax workforce development company on Thursday, former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine (D) emphasized the need to foster a "talent economy" that will reboot America's drive to the top of the economic ladder.

Kaine spoke to about 50 staff and students at Multivision, Inc., an information technology (IT) consulting company, about giving American workers opportunities to acquire 21st century technical skills to keep pace with the evolving demands of global employers.

"I really believe - big-picture, national-policy now - that America will be stronger if we win the talent war, and we will have problems if we lose the talent war, to put it bluntly," Kaine said.

**THE VISIT** was one of several economic roundtables Kaine has been holding across the state in his bid to fill the seat vacated by Democratic U.S. Sen. Jim Webb. Kaine is being challenged by former Republican Governor George Allen.

Kaine said his focus on "talent issues," means three things: ensuring that education systems are world class from pre-K to higher-education; providing opportunities for retraining and workforce development; and an immigration system that allows the best and brightest to come to America to create jobs and contribute to the economy.

"For many years our country was number one in the world in percentage of our adult population getting some kind of degree after high school, but today we're 16th and we're slipping," he said.

Kaine told the group that Multivision caught his attention last fall when he met founder and president Srikanth Ramachandran, who came to America 14 years ago from India to pursue the "American Dream." Kaine said he was impressed that, since 2009, Multivision has provided training and job coaching that resulted in jobs for more than 45 unemployed Americans.

"What you're doing here at Multivision is a wonderful bridge for people who have the talent and desire, but not always the sufficient skills to be successful," Kaine said, adding that bridging the gap requires a scaled-up partnership between business, government and educational institutions.



**Former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine, who is campaigning for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Democrat Jim Webb, visited Multivision, Inc. in Fairfax on Thursday, Feb. 23. He spoke with student Charles Snow about the need to build a "talent economy."**

Now a U.S. citizen, Ramachandran said he started the Fairfax-based Multivision in 2002; by 2007, the company employed 200 people and netted \$32 million a year. But when the economy started to sputter in late 2008, Multivision struggled to find veteran talent in the rapidly evolving IT industry.

"We were astounded to find out how many unemployed did not have skills in the latest technologies. There was a huge gap between their skills and the required skills," Ramachandran said. "There was clearly a need to retrain workers in the latest technologies."

The company tackles unemployment by providing free, full-time IT programming to unemployed and underemployed during an intense 8-week, 40-hour program that Ramachandran described as "much like a boot camp."

"We provide training across different age-groups and ethnicity. About 40 percent of our students are above 50...The success of our training model depends on constant retraining," he said.

Ramachandran said it was "a pleasant surprise to talk to politician who is totally in touch with reality. I was impressed by his humility, intellect and clear understanding of the unemployed."

Kaine said one of the most common stories he hears in his travels across the Commonwealth is from unemployed workers who have a degree but not the advanced technology skills to find a job.

**KAINE DESCRIBED** a recent visit to a Kraft Foods plant in Winchester, where he talked to a manager who said he had five jobs available but could not find someone with the right skills to hire.

SEE KAINE, PAGE 7



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Michael Artson, chief planner with the County's Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) Department, shows his appreciation for the record amount of donations when the bus was parked at the McLean Giant.**

## The Bus Was Stuffed

**Local food pantries receive record donations from 2nd annual Stuff the Bus campaign.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

**F**airfax County's second annual Stuff the Bus campaign roared to the finish line last week, collecting more than 25,604 pounds of food and \$3,483 - a 26 percent increase in food, and a 236 percent increase in cash over 2011 totals.

All donations went directly to local nonprofit organizations that help feed needy families and individuals in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community.

"The residents of Fairfax and our partners, like MV Transportation and Frank & Co., have really come out in support of the food pantries this year," said Michael Artson, chief planner

SEE DONATIONS, PAGE 7

### FOOD TOTALS FOR STUFF THE BUS CAMPAIGN

#### JANUARY 16

Mount Vernon Plaza Shoppers Food Warehouse  
7660 Richmond Highway, Alexandria  
1,320 pounds of food was collected and donated to United Community Ministries.

#### JANUARY 21

Vienna Giant  
359 Maple Avenue East, Vienna  
1,198 pounds of food was collected and donated to Committee for Helping Others.  
Village Center at Dulles Shoppers Food Warehouse  
2425 Centreville Road, Herndon  
1,907 pounds of food was collected and donated to Reston Interfaith.

#### JANUARY 28

Fox Mill Giant  
2551 John Milton Drive, Herndon  
1,746 pounds of food was collected and donated to Helping Hungry Kids.  
Lorton Giant  
8941 Ox Road, Lorton  
2,158 pounds of food was collected and donated to Lorton Community Action Center.

#### FEBRUARY 4

McLean Giant  
1454 Chain Bridge Road, McLean  
6,221 pounds of food was collected and donated to Share, Inc.  
Clifton Giant  
5740 Union Mill Road, Clifton  
3,487 pounds of food was collected and donated to Western Fairfax Christian Ministries.

#### FEBRUARY 11

Fair City Mall Shoppers Food Warehouse  
9622 Main Street, Fairfax  
2,708 pounds of food was collected and donated to Food for Others.  
Kingstowne Giant  
5870 Kingstowne Blvd., Alexandria  
1,574 pounds of food was collected and donated to Koinonia Foundation.

#### FEBRUARY 18

Fair City Mall Shoppers Food Warehouse  
9622 Main Street, Fairfax  
2,009 pounds of food was collected and donated to Our Daily Bread.  
Seven Corners Center Shoppers Food Warehouse  
6360 Seven Corners Center, Falls Church  
1,274 pounds of food was collected and donated to Falls Church Community Service Council.

# BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 29

**Public Meeting on Proposed Redevelopment of Lewinsville Senior Center.** 7:30 p.m. Lewinsville Senior Center, Room 103, 1609 Great Falls St., McLean. With Supervisor John Foust. 703-356-0551 or [Jane.Edmondson@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:Jane.Edmondson@FairfaxCounty.gov).

## FRIDAY/MARCH 2

**Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce Winter Gala & Board of Directors Installation.** 6:30 p.m. Gannett Worldwide Headquarters, 7950 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Music during dinner by the McLean Orchestra, open bar, sit-down dinner, silent auction and after-dinner dancing. \$75 Chamber members, \$95 non-members. [www.mcleanchamber.org](http://www.mcleanchamber.org) or 703-356-5424.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 3

**Recycling at Northside Property Yard.** 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill St. N.E., Vienna. Vienna residents may recycle used automotive items, motor oil, antifreeze, and car batteries. Sponsored by the Department of Public Works. 703-255-6380 or [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

**Healthy Responses to Anger.** 9:30 a.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Recognize anger triggers and identify coping skills. \$35-\$45. Register at [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org) or 703-281-4928.

## SUNDAY/MARCH 4

**Wealthism.** 12:45 p.m. Fairfax Unitarian Church, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. The term "wealthism" describes the inadvertent or purposeful influence toward consolidation of wealth and power in a smaller and smaller minority of people.

## MONDAY/MARCH 5

**Haven of Northern Virginia New Volunteers Training.** 9:30 a.m. Haven of Northern Virginia, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays through March 16. Volunteers need to commit to one year of service answering Haven's phones 2.5 hours weekly. Registration required at 703-941-7000 or [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org).

**Great Falls Historical Society.** 1-5 p.m. Great Falls Library Meeting Room, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Meeting Mondays through April. [www.gfhs.org](http://www.gfhs.org).

## TUESDAY/MARCH 6

**Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce TIPS Luncheon.** 12:15 p.m. Shula's Steakhouse, 8028 Leesburg Pike, in the Tysons Corner Marriott. Every Tuesday. 703-862-4895.

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 7

**Chronic Disease Self-Management Workshop.** 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Weekly meetings for older adults with chronic health problems such as arthritis, diabetes, lupus, thyroid disease, osteoporosis and heart disease. Sponsored by The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. 703-281-0538.

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# SCHOOLS

## Churchill Road Students Make Wind Gauges

Churchill Road students incorporated environmental studies with their science unit on weather when they learned about the power of wind as an alternative energy source. Debra Maes, Churchill's environmental studies coordinator, introduced the concept using some hands-on activities. During their weather unit, students in Jan Clark's kindergarten class made wind gauges with assistance from Mr. Jinhai's 6th grade class. Second graders in Jacqueline Laurenzi's

class tested the viability of wind turbines as an energy source. They discovered that the effectiveness of wind is dependent on weather patterns, and that an area such as Northern Virginia is not an ideal location. They also learned that such factors as wind speed and the size and shape of blades are important variables. Students had the opportunity to test firsthand a handheld wind turbine to see if it could generate enough power to illuminate an LED light.



Churchill Road 2nd graders Nolan Harrison, Oliver Tu, Katherine Senich, Neil Bajaj, Aidan Nguyen and Salma Saout look on with interest as Debra Maes demonstrates how a wind turbine can be used to power an LED light.

PHOTO BY KIM MORAN

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# NEWS

**Former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine, who is campaigning for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Democrat Jim Webb, visited Multivision in Fairfax on Thursday, Feb. 23. Kaine addressed students and staff at the IT workforce development company.**



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/MULTIVISION THE CONNECTION

## Kaine Comes to Area

FROM PAGE 4

"There are a lot of companies that have manufacturing jobs and want to hire. I hear from people who say they know how to work the machines, but companies want to hire people to program the machines, so the old skills are not sufficient. This is what made me want to come to MultiVision," Kaine told the group.

Kaine said he was particularly moved by the story of a 55-year-old man he met that afternoon who is completing Multivision's training program.

"That was a poignant story. This man is unemployed and his son is going to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. That is the kind of talent story we should be telling," Kaine said.

Instead, he said the Virginia talent story is getting obscured by the GOP's focus on social issues.

"I am worried...Are we really talking about the legality of birth control," Kaine said after his visit to Multivision.

"This is no time to be complacent about the economy. When I said to the group that Virginia went from 38th in the nation (in per capita income) to being 7th, it's clear we didn't excel by getting bogged down in divisive social issues."

Kaine noted that when he was governor from 2006 to 2010, companies such as Northrop Grumman and Volkswagen of North America, decided to headquarter in Virginia, mainly because of people and talent.

"What I hear from our business leaders and owners is that they are tired of partisan games and distractions causing uncertainty and making it hard to be successful," Kaine said in a recent conference call with reporters.

## Record Donations

FROM PAGE 4

with the County's Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) Department, one of the food drive's organizers.

The annual campaign is a partnership between NCS, Fairfax County's Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3) and MV Transportation Inc., which operates the FASTRAN buses and provides volunteers, as well as local grocery store chains Giant and Shoppers Food Warehouse.

"In our first year, 2011, we collected more than 20,000 pounds of food valued at more than \$34,000; the total value of the food, goods and services donated by all the public and private partners was valued at more than \$56,000," said Patricia Stevens, executive director of OP3.

She said the "Stuff the Bus" campaign is intentionally scheduled between Martin Luther King Day

in January and Presidents Day in February, because donations typically decrease during the first few months of the new year, after the seasonal dose of good will.

Many Fairfax County pantries, including Our Daily Bread, FACETS, the Lorton Action Community Center and Food for Others, report that during the fall and holiday season, food pantries are stocked and brimming with donations from the community.

"But by February, our supplies are often running low even though the need for food is greater than ever," said Lisa Whetzel, executive director of Our Daily Bread in Fairfax.

She said ODB collected 2,000 pounds of food and more than \$500 in cash and grocery cards when Stuff the Bus was parked at Shoppers Food Warehouse at Fair City Mall on Feb. 18, and much of the food went directly to clients the next day.

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# OPINION

## State Shirks Transportation Responsibility

BY SHARON BULOVA  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
AND JEFF MCKAY

LEE DISTRICT SUPERVISOR AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

### COMMENTARY

Maybe we should rename our County The Bank of Last Resort. At our Board of Supervisors retreat in early February, board members and staff discussed the tools available to local government to narrow the chasm between growing needs and shrinking resources. As the state and federal governments continue to slash programs and funds to localities, the needs in areas like human services, education, public safety, and transportation continue to grow.

Fairfax County is at ground zero in all these areas. We're home to a growing population of seniors in need of basic services; our top notch schools are growing fast; and our first responders keep our community safe despite being asked to do more with less.

The current debate over transportation responsibilities is instructive. The Commonwealth of Virginia has primary transportation responsibilities that go back to the years of the Great Depression when the state took on all public road maintenance and construction for all counties except for Arlington and Henrico. In recent years, we've seen the fraying of this traditional responsibility and core function of state government as the state's failure to act has left many of our most well-traveled roads in deplorable condition. Saying, "Can't afford it anymore, it's your problem" seems to be the General Assembly's solution. That's not reasonable and it's certainly not responsible governance.

The current proposals in the General Assembly are either devolution-lite or the camel's nose under the tent. Either way, they amount to an abdication of the state's moral and legal responsibility to maintain our roads. Any effort by the state that does not result in a long-term dedicated revenue stream is a decision

to sidestep our transportation challenges. Fairfax County should not be forced to choose between its citizens' important needs simply because the state government is looking to take the easy way out. And keep in mind — as Fairfax County's fortunes go, so goes the Commonwealth. Our economic vitality supports and funds the rest of the state. A crumbling transportation infrastructure here will ultimately show up on the wrong side of the ledger downstate.

As elected leaders, we have the responsibility to listen and respond to the needs of our constituents. Time after time we hear that transportation is one of our residents' top concerns and key to our economic fortunes. Fairfax County has a creative and solutions-oriented local government. We believe that our transportation problems can be solved. Identifying a dedicated transportation revenue stream is the first and most important step in finding that solution and we ask that the Governor and the General Assembly meet their responsibility and identify that stream.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Wolf's Crusade Article

To the Editor:

Alex McVeigh's article on Rep. Wolf's book "Prisoner of Conscience" ["Wolf's Crusade," Connection, February 15-21, 2012] is very much worth acknowledging as his constituents and other constituents of neighboring districts are not well informed about Rep. Wolf's commitment to this issue of global human rights. I have lived here in Northern Virginia for 30 years and that is how long Rep. Wolf has been in Congress representing the 10th district. It is also parallel to my 30 years of citizen activism and being a responsible citizen. Through the years I have lived in Arlington, Oakton and Reston. Rep. Wolf has been my congressman for many of those years. Due to boundary changes etc, I am not in the 10th District now. Our citizen advocacy organization has worked closely with Rep. Wolf over these 30 years. We recall his life changing visit to Ethiopia and how we were very proud of him. He has supported programs of UNICEF and Child Survival funding that really make a difference.

In 1984, in the "State of the World's Children Report" published annually by UNICEF, the number of child deaths (preventable) was 40,000 daily. In these past 30 years the number currently according to UNICEF is down to 24,000 daily. That is still a scandalous number but also shows progress in fighting human rights violations of hunger and disease

that is preventable. Rep. Wolf says in your article that back in the '80s there was more bipartisan support for human rights in Congress than he sees now. Isn't that shameful that "partisan politics" negates the commitment we all have to such fundamental rights. I really don't believe that Republican or Democrat really sees this as a political issue but a "human rights issue." Rep. Wolf shows an ongoing commitment and feels frustrated that change is possible but he says it will take a "shift in attitude" and that speaking out and advocating programs that make a difference is a responsibility for us as well as Congress.

**Len Chorazy**

RESULTS Coordinator, Virginia  
Reston

## Equal Human Rights for All

To the Editor:

The most recent edition of The Connection [Feb 15-21, 2012], included an article about Rep. Frank Wolf's humanitarian crusade, and highlighted a book he has written about his experiences. Rep. Wolf's work is exemplary, and worthy of our praise. However, it behooves me to point out a glaring void in Mr. Wolf's work: as strong an advocate for human rights as Mr. Wolf has been, he has been an equally staunch opponent of equal human rights for gays and lesbians here in this country.

The Connection article ends with a quote from Rep. Wolf:

"The Declaration of Independence says all men are created equal, and have a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," he said. "I think when we advocate and speak out, it really can make a tremendous difference to people all over the world, as we would want someone to do if we were in the same situation."

I would say to Rep. Wolf, we ARE in the same situation. A large group of Americans, who are expected to pay taxes and adhere to the laws of this land, are consistently being denied the most basic privileges and protections of those laws. The Declaration of Independence says "all" men, not just those that you prefer. I urge Rep. Wolf to consider his own words, and follow the course that he himself advocates for other countries. Be a true humanitarian, Rep. Wolf, not a selective one.

**Sarah O'Neil**  
Great Falls

## Not the Virginia We Voted For

To the Editor:

Barbara Comstock, our 34th District Delegate, has just sent out her "Crossover" newsletter with the status of bills she has sponsored. What she isn't telling us in her newsletter is her voting record on bills that are so harmful to women's rights and health that Virginia is making national headlines. These bills include:

HB1 - the so called "personhood bill." If this bill becomes law, your right to have access to in-vitro fer-

tilization, most forms of contraception, and abortion regardless of whether the woman's life is in danger, could be severely restricted in Virginia.

HB 462 – before a woman can have an abortion she must submit to an invasive and medically unnecessary transvaginal ultrasound and be required to see the image and that image kept on file for seven years. I wonder if Del. Comstock or anyone she knows has had this procedure or would want this process for any other medical procedure. This is unfair to any woman who has to make the already very personal and stressful decision to terminate an unwanted pregnancy - a right guaranteed by the Supreme Court. HB 1112 – eliminates Medicaid funding for the HPV inoculation program that protects young women against a virus that is a known agent for cervical cancer. This discriminates against young women who do not have access to health care plans and may not be able to afford to pay for this protection.

If this legislation, sponsored by men who will never bear children, passes, it gives the government more power than ever over women's bodies and pushes women's rights back into the Dark Ages. Perhaps Del. Comstock will reconsider her position following the demonstrations at the state capital and the delayed vote on HB 462.

This is not the Virginia we voted for.

**Barbara Baron**  
McLean

McLean  
**CONNECTION**

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# FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

**Great Falls United Methodist Church**, 10100 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, has announced their sermon series for the Feb. 26-April 8 10 a.m. services will be "Journey to Hope." 703-759-3705 or [office@greatfallsumc.org](mailto:office@greatfallsumc.org).

❖ Sunday, March 4. Identity and self-esteem can make or break the journey.

❖ Sunday, March 11. How work itself can be realized as a joyful destination.

❖ Sunday, March 18. When we get tired along the way, it is tempting to stop or turn around.

❖ Sunday, March 25. Do you have a healthy relationship with money?

❖ Sunday, April 1. Would we have started this journey, if we had realized the pain along the way?

❖ Thursday, April 5. Maundy Thursday. As we remember this important gathering, we too share the cup and break bread in an experiential Lord's Supper.

❖ Friday, April 6. Good Friday services. Recognize our shortcomings and the message that in the darkest of times, God's light still beckons us to Hope.

❖ Sunday, April 8. Easter services. When all hope feels lost, it has truly just begun.

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers three Sunday services and a host of musical, educational, outreach, and fellowship ministries to enrich spiritual growth. 7:45 a.m. Worship Service without music; 9 a.m. Worship Service, Children's Chapel and Children's Choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum; and 11 a.m. Worship Service with

Adult Choir. 703-759-2082.

**Trinity United Methodist Church**, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean, Sunday worship services are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for adults is at 9:30 a.m. and for children during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Youth Group for grades 7-12 meets Sundays at 6 p.m. A 20-minute service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at 12 p.m. 703-356-3312 or [umtrinity.org](mailto:umtrinity.org).

**The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA)** offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. [www.jssa.org/growth-learning](http://www.jssa.org/growth-learning).

**HAVEN of Northern Virginia** offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) for schedules and registration information.

**McLean Bible Church Fitness Class** at Body & Soul Fitness. Balance is key, energy is renewed and strength is gained. 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. [bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org](mailto:bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org).

**Vajrayogini Buddhist Center** offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or [www.meditation-dc.org](http://www.meditation-dc.org).

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

### Calendar Listings

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

**Name of Event:**

**Day of the Week, Date and Time:**

**Name of the Place Event will Be Held:**

**Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:**

**Name and Phone Number for More Information:**

**Three Sentences Describing the Event:**

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome. All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. E-mail listings to:

[mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Guests at the McLean Project for the Arts' "pop-up" party enjoy a decorated space that was previously empty in the Langley Shopping Center Friday, Feb. 24.



Pete DiCenso of the Dead Cat Bounce Band presents Julie Lansaw Warrin with a hat commemorating the McLean Project for the Arts 50th anniversary Friday, Feb. 24. DiCenso and his band performed the music for the evening.



From left, Julie Lansaw Warrin and Bari Livingston of the McLean Project for the Arts and Dan Smoot, owner of the Langley Shopping Center. The MPA hosted a "pop-up" party at an empty space in the shopping center to kick off their 50th anniversary celebrations Friday, Feb. 24.

## MPA Begins 50th Anniversary Celebration

### Organization hosts "pop-up" party in downtown McLean.

By ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

Fifty years ago, the McLean Project for the Arts began as a way for local artists to get together, meet the local community and sell a few paintings while they are at it. The organization has undergone many changes since then, establishing a gallery at the McLean Community Center and putting on several signature events per year, but it remains the same at its core.

To kick off the celebration of their 50th year, the MPA hosted a "pop-up" party, turning an empty spot in the Langley Shopping Center into downtown McLean's hottest night spot.

"For our 50th anniversary, we wanted to do something fun, because that was the spirit that started everything," said Bari Livingston, one of the event's chairs. "This is more of a friend-raiser than a fundraiser, we just want everyone to have a good time."

What had been a bare storefront in the shopping center was transformed with decorations, local art, lighting and more to create a club-like atmosphere.

Local businesses contributed a variety of food, drinks and dessert to the event. Smooth Ambler spirits provided a cocktail for the event, the vodka abstract, made up of vodka, lemon and rosemary. Nour-



The Dead Cat Bounce Band performs at the McLean Project for the Arts "pop-up" party Friday, Feb. 24.

ish Market, J. Gilbert's, McLean 1910 and 2941 also provided food and drinks for the party.

"Part of our challenge was to create something out of nothing," Livingston said. "Everybody involved really rolled up their sleeves to put this on, and we couldn't have done it without so much help from local merchants. Even Lamps Unlimited next door helped, they ordered the lights that are all around."

The art was provided by MPA artists, who performed "Flash Art," creating their pieces in a short amount of time. The pieces were bid on by the more than 150 attendees.

"This goes back to the MPA's roots, where it was just a handful of women hosting informal events, bringing art to the people of McLean whenever they could," said Julie Lansaw Warrin, the event's other co-chair. "We even did some dumpster diving, that's

where we got a lot of the wood we used to decorate."

Dan Smoot, owner of the Langley Shopping Center was the one who allowed the MPA to take over the vacant space.

"I'm always happy to participate in anything that brings the community together like this," he said. "And I'm very pleased with how the place looks, it turned out really well."

More information on the McLean Project for the Arts, including future 50th anniversary activities, can be found at [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org).

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Saturday, March 3, 8 p.m.  
\$25/\$18 MCC district residents

### Take a Day Away! 2012 Philly Flower Show

Monday, March 5  
\$132/\$127 MCC district residents

### Sunday Soiree Dance

"Wear Your Green"  
Sunday, March 11, 3 p.m.  
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### Concerts @ the Alden Pro Musica Washington

Sunday, March 11, 3 p.m.  
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## OBITUARY

### Joanne Virginia Donohue Watson, 85, Dies

Joanne Virginia Donohue Watson, age 85, passed away peacefully on Friday Feb. 17, 2012 at Stonehenge Assisted Living in Blairsville, Ga. Joanne resided in Blairsville for the past five years. Born in Petaluma, Calif., on Nov. 26, 1926 the daughter of the late Emmett Ignatius Donohue and Doris Rockwell, she was preceded in death by her husband John Rollin Watson, Jr. (1995) and her son John Rollin Watson III (1999) and her brother James Lockwood Donohue. She was a recent member of the First Baptist Church of Blairsville, Ga. While in Georgia she was active in Faith Sunday School Class, and the Beacon Mission Team. Joanne had a heart for missions.

Before coming to Blairsville, Joanne lived 47 years in Northern Virginia. While living in Great Falls she was an active member of the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church in McLean, where she served as an elder; a deacon; chair of the mission committee, where she oversaw the relocation and settlement of a refugee family with five children from Laos; worked in the Clothing

Closet; active in Christmas in April (was one of the best painters on the team); made communion bread; a storyteller; and acted in many church and local plays.

While in Herndon, she was a member of the Herndon United Methodist Church.

Before coming to Northern Virginia Joanne traveled the four corners of the world with her husband living in Alaska (before it was a state), Cambodia (before the wars), and Costa Rica. She was raised in California living in many cities (sixteen- but who's counting) up and down the west coast, some including San Francisco, Carmel, San Diego, Monterey and Pasadena. Her love for the ocean and beach were known by all, she was an avid traveler, and "never met a stranger."

Survivors include: daughter and son-in-law Janice and Charles Coon of Bluemont, Va.; daughter and son-in-law Patricia and Mike Baldwin of Blairsville, Ga.; and son and daughter-in-law William and Virginia Watson of Little Washington, Va.; grandchildren Jason Watson and wife Jessica (New

York, NY); Captain Christopher Baldwin (US Army) and wife Erika; Sarah Steel (Herndon, Va.); Timothy Baldwin and Jennifer Peterson (Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.); Kelly Steel and fiancé Henry Brooks (Sterling, Va.); and two great grandsons Marcello and Javier Watson. Survived also by her brothers Emmett Donohue (Dolores, Colo.) and, F. Martin Donohue (Melbourne, Fla.) and by numerous much-loved nieces and nephews around the world.

Services in Northern Virginia will be on Saturday March 3, at 3 p.m. at the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chainbridge Road, McLean, VA 22101 led Rev. Justin White and Rev. Deborah McKinley. Interment and reception to follow the service.

In her memory if you wish to donate funds or time at your local shelter or food bank or a mission project donations may be made to Lewinsville Foundation 1724 Chainbridge Road, McLean, VA 22101 or Herndon United Methodist Church, VIM (Volunteer in Mission) scholarship, 701 Bennett Street, Herndon, VA 20170.

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**THE CONNECTION**  
NEWSPAPERS

# An Eminent Choice

Now that House and Senate have approved eminent domain amendment, voters to have final say.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

RICHMOND  
REPORT

This fall, voters across Virginia will be confronted with a hotly debated amendment to the Virginia Constitution that seeks to limit the ability of local governments to use the power of eminent domain. According to various sides of the debate, the measure would either be a disastrous move that would drastically increase the price of transportation projects, an empty measure that's intended to appeal to voters or a bold way to prevent local governments from abusing the power of eminent domain.

"Voters tend to view eminent domain negatively," said Jeff Skelley, political analyst with the Virginia Center for Politics. "So delegates and senators who voted for it probably just gave themselves a little more cover."

The lopsided nature of support for the effort in the General Assembly certainly speaks to the political popularity of being seen as tough on eminent domain. The state Senate approved the amendment 23 to 17, and the House of Delegates passed the measure with an 80 to 18 vote. Essentially, the amendment would allow business owners to seek damages from local governments if they could prove that property taken under eminent domain resulted in a loss of profits or loss of access, the definitions of which are laid out in a separate bill now working its way through the General Assembly. Although many feared that the implementation could allow lawsuits for something as simple as removing a left turn lane, the legislation outlining how it would work is crafted very narrowly to focus on actual land being taken. Nevertheless, some say the final version would create a hardship for the Virginia Department of Transportation.

"It's not as bad as it was, but it is still a very troublesome piece of legislation and should not have passed," said state Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31), who voted against the amendment and the implementing legislation. "I think it's going to be very challenging for VDOT to be able to acquire private right-of-way to put into public use without paying an incredibly inordinate amount of money."

**THE DEBATE ABOUT** eminent domain snapped into the public conscious back in 2005 when the U.S. Supreme Court issued a 5-4 decision in *Kelo versus City of New London*. The majority in that case ruled that the government taking of property from one private owner to give to another for economic development constitutes a permissible public use under the Fifth Amendment. That ruling created a massive backlash, including 2007 legislation in the Virginia General Assembly that defined "public use" in a way that narrowed how eminent domain could be used in the commonwealth.

"This is legislation that closed the Kelo loophole, but every year people come to Richmond and try to weaken it," said John Taylor, president of the Vir-

ginia Institute for Public Policy. "That's why a constitutional amendment is necessary."

Taylor and other supporters began working years ago to set the pieces in place for a constitutional amendment to Virginia's Constitution. Last year, the effort was given preliminary approval by the House and Senate. But because the way the amendment process works in Virginia, the text of the amendment had to be approved again the next year with an intervening election. Now that identical text of the amendment has been approved for a second time, the amendment is on the way to Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell.

"The right to own property was codified by our founding fathers and is a part of what makes up the fabric of our nation," said Jeff Caldwell, press secretary to the governor in an email response to questions. "Ensuring that individual property rights are protected, maintained and not threatened by government use for non-core services was part of the governor's agenda this year, along with Republicans from the General Assembly."

Supporters say the effort is aimed at ensuring that property owners are compensated if they are subjected to eminent domain. Opponents say the amendment could cost the state an extra \$100 million each year by making transportation projects more expensive. It's a debate that has created difficulty by some lawmakers. Sen. George Barker (D-39), for example, voted for the amendment last year in an effort to strip out language adding the ability of property owners to seek interest on top of the loss of profits and loss of access. This year, he voted against the bill, which he says he opposed all

**"The right to own property was codified by our founding fathers and is a part of what makes up the fabric of our nation."**

— Jeff Caldwell, press secretary to Gov. Bob McDonnell

along.

"It's nowhere near as bad as the proposal that came out of committee last year," said Barker. "But it still has very significant negative consequences in terms of cost, and it's also something that would be very difficult to change."

**THE IMPLEMENTING** legislation may have undercut at least some of the opposition. Now that the ability of businesses to collect for an action not involving land acquisition, the thrust of the amendment is now aimed squarely at cases that involve actual condemnation. Because existing law is already clear on how that works, some have interpreted the implementing legislation unveiling the effort as a naked attempt to capitalize on a politically popular issue.

"If this determination is being made, it seems to me that it somewhat negates the need for a constitutional amendment," said Alexandria Vice Mayor Kerry Donley. "Is the constitutional amendment intended to be a politician's brochure?"

"I'm shocked that anyone would even raise the fact that we might pass a political measure," responded state Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34), who voted in favor of the amendment. "Frankly, I think the impact will be minimal."

From left, Marshall High Sophomores Shalini Rana and Joshna Seelam performed a variety of Bollywood dances for the school's International Night.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## World Cultures Meet at Marshall High

Twenty countries represented at International Night.

BY MONIKA BAPNA  
THE CONNECTION

The dimming lights and the consequent hush that fell over the auditorium at sharply 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday Feb. 15 signaled the start of Marshall's annual International Night.

International Night is an event that celebrates the cultural diversity at Marshall High. With over 20 countries and their cultures showcased, the night offered food, information boards and a variety of cultural performances.

Parent volunteer Cherisse Mungal created tri-fold boards for all of the Caribbean countries represented for the night. In her 4th year as a volunteer, Mungal described the night as a "chance to showcase cultures that won't normally be recognized."

The size and scope of the event, therefore, mandated the collaboration of teachers, students, clubs and parent volunteers to achieve its large-scale goals.

Teacher participants included a new face of history teacher Sean Rolon who succeeded Matthew Axelrod as in charge of the entertainment for the event.

The logistics of the event were primarily handled by parent volunteers. Sharyn Quirk, Cecilia Watson and Barbara Leiber-Klotz managed various aspects of the night.

Quirk, who was the chair for the event, credited the success of the evening to her fellow volunteers.

"In order for International Night to occur I needed people to take on various roles," she said. "This amazing team and many parent

volunteers have prepared a very special evening for the Marshall community."

The performances, which were largely self choreographed and rehearsed, proved to be very diverse, according to Rolon. They included dances like Kathak, a traditional Indian dance done by sophomore Supraja Chattari and a rendition of *I Still Call Australia My Home* from the musical "The Boy from Oz," by junior Joshua Jones.

The Can Can dance that concluded the event with ear splitting applause was prepared by the members of French Club with the help of French teacher Sylvie Rosenbaum.

"I was very impressed by the Can Can dance," Sophomore Joshna Seelam, who performed many Bollywood numbers at the event, said. "It was apparent that they put a lot of effort in."

Additionally, the International club members who have mainly been in charge of assisting the teachers and parents, volunteered to take on the extra responsibility of advertising the event, club president junior Alisa Chirachaturaphak said.

Parent Susan Pierce, who attended the event with her daughter sophomore Marieka Pierce, called the night a "great success."

According to Pierce, the success stemmed from uniting these diverse cultures through the food, performance and an overall ambiance of fun and learning. "I really hope they continue this next year," she said. "Maybe they can have a professional videographer, and sell come CD's because these performances were totally worth it."

# ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com)

## THURSDAY/MARCH 1

**Company of Thieves.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**"Three Bears."** 12 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A brand-new play with a comedic twist on the classic fairy tale sends the Three Bears and a golden-haired friend on an a cappella musical adventure. Fast-paced fun for age 5 and up. Tickets \$15 at [www.1ststageTysons.org](http://www.1ststageTysons.org) or 703-854-1856.  
**Making, Marketing, and Collecting Art in the 21st Century.** 7 p.m. McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. With Jay Barrows, curator for the Sydney and Frances Lewis Private Art Collection in Richmond. Free. Reserve at [info@mpaart.org](mailto:info@mpaart.org) or 703-790-1953.  
**Peter Yarrow with Mustard's Retreat.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk music. \$25. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

## FRIDAY/MARCH 2

**Family Skate Night.** 6:30-8 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Admission \$1. Bring your own roller skates or inline skates (no scooters) and safety equipment. Parents required to stay with their children. 703-255-6360 or [www.viennava.com](http://www.viennava.com).  
**Anais Mitchell CD Release and Rachel Ries.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**"Seussical, the Musical."** 7:30 p.m. Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. With all your favorite Dr. Seuss characters. \$10 adult, \$5 student. 703-790-5450.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 3

**Ballet Folklorico De Antioquia, Colombia.** 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Sharing the richness and diversity of Colombian culture through authentic music, ritualistic dance, and physical theater accentuated with brilliantly-colored costumes. \$23-\$46. [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu).  
**Fairfax Chocolate Lovers Festival.** Various locations in Old Town Fairfax. The Taste of Chocolate, featuring chocolate vendors selling their wares; the Chocolate Challenge, an arts extravaganza where the medium is chocolate; the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast featuring chocolate chip pancakes, historic reenactments, children's activities, open houses at historic buildings and more. [www.chocolatefestival.net](http://www.chocolatefestival.net).  
**"Seussical, the Musical."** 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. With all your favorite Dr. Seuss characters. \$10 adult, \$5 student. \$30 per family. Cast and crew talk-back after the matinee. 703-790-5450.  
**"Three Bears."** 12 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A brand-new play with a comedic twist on the classic fairy tale sends the Three Bears and a golden-haired friend on an a cappella musical adventure. Fast-paced fun for age 5 and up. Tickets \$15 at [www.1ststageTysons.org](http://www.1ststageTysons.org) or 703-854-1856.  
**Buskin & Batteau.** 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk duo. \$22. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).  
**Celtic Woman.** 8 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500



**The Vienna Boys Choir will perform on Sunday, March 11 at 4 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive in Fairfax. The program will include "O Fortuna" from Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana"; Brahms' 13th Psalm; Strauss' "Tausend und eine Nacht" (Arabian Nights); Ennio Morricone's "Nella Fantasia" (In My Fantasy); and a medley of songs from the 1992 film "Sister Act." Italian conductor Manolo Cagnin will serve as choirmaster for this performance. Tickets \$23-\$46, youth through grade 12 half price, available at 888-945-2468 or [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).**

Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Celtic music. Tickets \$43-\$73, available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating available for patrons with disabilities at 703-993-3035.  
**VTRCC 19th Annual Casino Night and Taste of the Town.** 7:30 p.m. Westwood Country Club, 800 Maple Ave., East, Vienna. A Monte Carlo-themed event with a cash bar, silent auction and casino games. \$85-\$95. 703-281-1333 or [www.vtrcc.org](http://www.vtrcc.org).  
**Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association.** Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Rd., Falls Church. Line dance lesson 7:30 p.m., couples dance lesson 8 p.m., open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. Admission \$5-\$12. Refreshments available. [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org) or 703-860-4941.  
**26th Annual Fairfax Jazz & Tap Dance Festival.** 8 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus Theatre, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. With performances by the Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Company, Encore Performers, Center Stage Dance, Capitol Movement, Impulse and MYTE. Supported and funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County. \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door. [www.dujdc.org](http://www.dujdc.org).  
**SUNDAY/MARCH 4**  
**Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Adoption Event.** 1-4 p.m. PetSmart, 8204 Leesburg Pike, Tysons Corner. Adoption events every Sunday. <http://lostdogrescue.org/> and click on Adoptions.  
**Fairfax Chocolate Lovers Festival.** Various locations in Old Town Fairfax. The Taste of Chocolate,

featuring chocolate vendors selling their wares; the Chocolate Challenge, an arts extravaganza where the medium is chocolate; the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast featuring chocolate chip pancakes, historic reenactments, children's activities, open houses at historic buildings and more. [www.chocolatefestival.net](http://www.chocolatefestival.net).  
**"Three Bears."** 12 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A brand-new play with a comedic twist on the classic fairy tale sends the Three Bears and a golden-haired friend on an a cappella musical adventure. Fast-paced fun for age 5 and up. Tickets \$15 at [www.1ststageTysons.org](http://www.1ststageTysons.org) or 703-854-1856.  
**Glen Phillips.** 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Formerly of Toad the Wet Sprocket. \$20. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).  
**Vienna Community Band Spring Concert.** 7 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE. Selections include "The Magic of Andrew Lloyd Webber", "Lerner and Loewe in Concert" and "L'Arlesienne/Farandole". Free. [www.viennacommunityband.org](http://www.viennacommunityband.org).  
**Maple Syrup Boil-Down.** 12-2 p.m. Colvin Run Mill Historic Site, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Watch and learn as sap from maple trees is boiled down into sweet syrup over an open fire. Sample maple syrup and cornbread. \$3. 703-631-0013.  
**26th Annual Fairfax Jazz & Tap Dance Festival.** 4 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus Theatre, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. With performances by the Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Company, Encore Performers, Center Stage Dance, Capitol Movement, Impulse

and MYTE. Supported and funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County. \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door. [www.dujdc.org](http://www.dujdc.org).  
**McLean Symphony Spotlight on Youth.** 3 p.m. Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. With Brendan Conway playing the Violin Concerto No. 5 in A Minor Op. 37 "Le Gretry" by Henri Francois Vieuxtemp, student compositions by area youth, Michael Ream's Fanfare for Forty No. 3, Leonard Bernstein's Overture to "Candide", Duke Ellington's Harlem and Howard Hanson's Symphony No 2 (Romantic). [joandonmorton@verizon.net](mailto:joandonmorton@verizon.net).

## MONDAY/MARCH 5

**The Milk Carton Kids.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**Introduction to Modern Dance Workshop.** 8 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. For age 14 and up. Conducted by Christopher K. Morgan. \$10-\$15. [sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov).  
**Ocean Acidification.** 7 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Join the Great Falls Group of the Sierra Club for the movie "Acid Test," narrated by Sigourney Weaver. Discussion lead by Dr. Schopf, Professor of Oceanography at George Mason University. Free. 703-506-4310 or [linda@lburchfiel.com](mailto:linda@lburchfiel.com).

## TUESDAY/MARCH 6

**Dance Every Tuesday.** 7:15 p.m. Colvin Run Dance Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Introductory dance lesson 7:15 p.m., dancing 8-10:30 p.m. Swing, Latin, waltz, country and more. \$10 per person, includes lesson and snacks. No partner necessary. [colvinrun.org](http://colvinrun.org) or [Ed.Cottrell@macp.org](mailto:Ed.Cottrell@macp.org).  
**A Great Big Pile of Leaves, Young Statues and The Baby Grand.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**Irish band Altan.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).  
**Woman's Club of McLean Monthly Meeting.** 1 p.m. Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Lecture by Paul Polski, engineer and retired executive of the U.S. Transportation Security Administration's Office of Security Technology, which has deployed \$1 billion worth of technology each year since the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Free and open to the public. 703-556-0197.

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 7

**2012 Run The Show Tour: Tribal Seeds, Fortunate Youth and Bimini Rd.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**Vienna Photographic Society Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Thoreau Middle School, 2505 Cedar Lane, Vienna. Chuck Veatch, nature photographer and Chairman of Nature's Best Publishing, will show and discuss winning images from this year's Windland Smith Rice International Photography Contest. 703-451-7298.  
**Great Falls Trailblazers.** 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. How your neighborhood can be connected to the community via trails. Learn about trail easements, understand why some trails don't go anywhere and how trails can benefit a neighborhood. 703-757-8560.  
**Bat White-nose Syndrome: There is a New Fungus Among Us.** 7 p.m. USGS Headquarters, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Dr. David Blehert will discuss the profound impacts white-nose

syndrome may have in the 21st century. Since first discovered in 2007 in New York, white-nose syndrome has spread to 16 states and four Canadian provinces. The disease is estimated to have killed over five million hibernating bats. Federal facility, photo Id required. Free and open to the public. Follow this event live @USGSLive. 703-648-7770.  
**Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter Fundraiser.** 6-8:30 p.m. Whole Foods Market, 143 Maple Ave., Vienna. 5% of all sales from the Café Bar will be donated to FFCAS. [www.facebook.com/events/27398201933851/?context=create](http://www.facebook.com/events/27398201933851/?context=create)

## THURSDAY/MARCH 8

**"The Phantom Tollbooth."** 7:30 p.m. The Langley School, 1411 Balls Hill Road McLean. Based on Norton Juster's classic children's book. \$8. [www.langleyschool.org](http://www.langleyschool.org).  
**Guest Bartender Night.** 6-11 p.m. Brix American Bistro, 1025-I Seneca Road, Great Falls. With live music by DC Traffic starting at 8:30 p.m. Ten percent of all proceeds donated to Childhelp DC. Sponsored by Childhelp DC and Brix American Bistro. [info@childhelpdc.org](mailto:info@childhelpdc.org).  
**Dangermuffin and Cris Jacobs Band.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**Karl Scully.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Classical and Irish music. \$25. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).  
**McLean Historical Society.** 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A lecture on Civil War medicine by Patrick O'Neill. All welcome, refreshments provided. 703-980-0885 or [PaulKohl@msn.com](mailto:PaulKohl@msn.com).

## FRIDAY/MARCH 9

**Family Skate Night.** 6:30-8 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Admission \$1. Bring your own roller skates or inline skates (no scooters) and safety equipment. Parents required to stay with their children. 703-255-6360 or [www.viennava.com](http://www.viennava.com).  
**Sing Me Insomnia and Foreverisforever** (acoustic) at 7 p.m.; **SNRG** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**The Amazing Kreskin.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Illusions and comedy with audience participation. \$25. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).  
**"The Phantom Tollbooth."** 7:30 p.m. The Langley School, 1411 Balls Hill Road McLean. Based on Norton Juster's classic children's book. \$8. [www.langleyschool.org](http://www.langleyschool.org).

## SATURDAY/MARCH 10

**Titanic Tea and Fashion Show.** 2 p.m. Falls Church Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 225 E. Broad St., Falls Church. Join the Victorian Society at Falls Church in a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the sailing of the RMS Titanic. Full sit-down tea, entertainment and fashion show. \$35. Reservations required. [www.victoriansocietyatfallschurch.com](http://www.victoriansocietyatfallschurch.com) or 703-534-8394.  
**School Boy Humor, Rookie of the Year and Fourth Quarter Comeback** at 6 p.m.; **Unity - a 311 Day Tribute** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**Kids' Clothing, Toy, and Equipment Sale.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Sponsored by Northern Virginia Parents of Multiples. [www.nvpom.org](http://www.nvpom.org) or [sale@nvpom.com](mailto:sale@nvpom.com).



# Fairfax County Public Schools: Food and Nutrition News

Coming in March: Go Inside the Classroom with Teachers

## Recognized for Food Safety

Food safety and sanitation are critical processes that require strict procedures and training. All FCPS food service managers have successfully completed the Fairfax County Sanitation Certification requirements and a manager training course. As a second safety measure, all FCPS schools have implemented a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) program, which requires managers to follow a purchased food product from the moment the food is received to the time it is served to ensure proper handling and temperature control. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recognized the Office of Food and Nutrition Services for maintaining the highest levels of food safety and cleanliness in its food preparation areas.

## Healthy School Environment Starts with Nutritious Meals and Exercise

What are your memories of school lunches? Today's students look forward to lunch not just because they're hungry, but because of the variety of foods offered: baked chicken, fish tacos, pork egg rolls, spaghetti, hummus, whole wheat pretzels and yogurt, chef's salad with tuna, assorted fruits and vegetables, and much more.

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is recognized as a leader in creating a healthy school environment by teaching children about the importance of eating a variety of healthy foods and getting regular exercise.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture established the HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) award to recognize schools that have created healthier school environments through promotion of nutrition and physical activity. This year 160, or more than 80 percent, of FCPS schools will receive the HUSSC award for enhancing the quality of school meals, increasing physical activity, and providing nutrition education to students.

said Penny McConnell, RD, Director of Food and Nutrition Services.

"We value the important role we play in our students' nutritional well-being and contribution to the reduction of childhood obesity," she said.

FCPS' Food and Nutrition Services program also places special emphasis on purchasing locally grown seasonal produce and supporting school learning gardens.

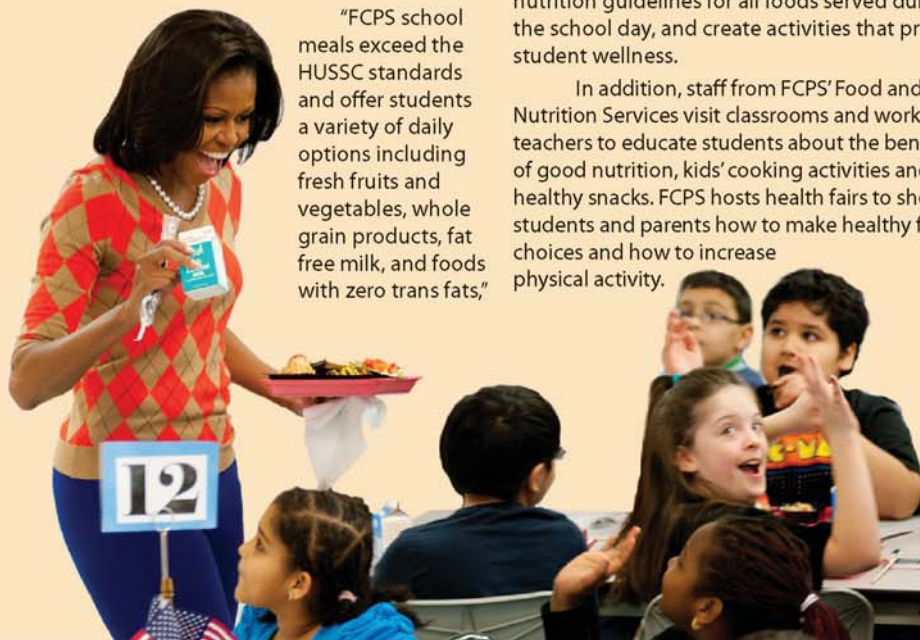
"We've talked to different groups within our community and share their desire to offer a wide variety of locally grown foods on our menu," said McConnell.

More than 30 FCPS schools have planted learning gardens that provide spring and fall produce for school lunches as well as a great learning experience for students.

A wellness policy guides FCPS Food and Nutrition staff as they develop programs in nutrition education and physical education, determine nutrition guidelines for all foods served during the school day, and create activities that promote student wellness.

In addition, staff from FCPS' Food and Nutrition Services visit classrooms and work with teachers to educate students about the benefits of good nutrition, kids' cooking activities and healthy snacks. FCPS hosts health fairs to show students and parents how to make healthy food choices and how to increase physical activity.

"FCPS school meals exceed the HUSSC standards and offer students a variety of daily options including fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grain products, fat free milk, and foods with zero trans fats,"



## Learn the 9-5-2-1-0 Zip Code for Your Health

- 9 Get 9 hours of sleep each night
- 5 Eat 5 servings of fruits and vegetables each day
- 2 Limit screen time to no more than 2 hours each day
- 1 Get at least 1 hour of exercise each day
- 0 No sugary drinks

**Right:** First Lady Michelle Obama visited Parklawn Elementary School in Alexandria recently to unveil new federal standards for school meals which will require reducing sodium and fat levels, and increasing fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and legumes in school lunches and breakfasts.



## Getting To Know Us

*FCPS Operations Coordinator, Food and Nutrition Services*  
**Amy Hubal**

Seeing the smiling faces of students as they go through the lunch line is one of the perks of the job for Amy Hubal, Operations Coordinator in Food and Nutrition Services.

Hubal supervises the eight central distribution centers, or central kitchens, for the school district. The distribution centers prepare and deliver food to more than 200 schools and community organizations on a daily basis.

Her passion for food began at an early age, working in the restaurant business when she was 16.

"I enjoy feeding my family and friends and I am fortunate to be able to work with food for my job as well," she said. "Everyone loves to eat and preparing healthy food is so rewarding."

Hubal is interested in the process of garden-to-table and educating others about how to have a healthy relationship with food.

"Learning to grow and prepare food is a life-long skill that promotes health and wellness," she said.

Hubal serves on the district's menu committee helping to develop new recipes for Food and Nutrition Services.

The one aspect of Hubal's job she enjoys most? Her team of 180 staff, 24 managers, and 32 van drivers.

"I work with a dedicated, hard-working team of nutritional professionals that really care about what they do and the impact they make on a student's school day."

Want to learn more about FCPS school nutrition? Visit [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu) and click on the A-Z index for Food at School.

### Did You Know?

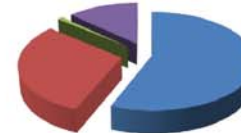
**FCPS Office of Food and Nutrition Services is a nonprofit business. The program is self-supporting and receives no local real estate tax dollars.**

## Providing Nutritious Meals to Students, Community

Food and Nutrition Services employees take pride in preparing and serving more than 140,000 meals each day. Eight distribution centers (central kitchens), two secondary school production kitchens, a vending center, a central warehouse, and elementary, middle, and high school finishing kitchens, under the direction of highly trained managers, provide nutritious meals in all public schools and centers. Free and reduced-price meals are provided to needy students. In addition, food is catered to day care locations, senior citizen programs, Alzheimer centers and Meals on Wheels.

"Meals are planned by registered dietitians to reflect the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans," said McConnell. "But we also make sure that the menus reflect student cultural and personal preferences by conducting monthly student taste parties. Our goal is to plan menus that are affordable and provide students with several nutritious choices that they will select and eat."

### Food and Nutrition Services Revenue Sources



- Student Payments 56%
- Federal Funds 30%
- State Funds 1%
- Other Services 13% (day care centers, senior nutrition programs, catering and vending)



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This year's State of Schools Report courtesy of Apple Federal Credit Union



**2011 BUSINESS PARTNER OF THE YEAR**

# End of a Remarkable Basketball Season for McLean Boys

## Highlanders go 24-4, capture Liberty crown, and reach region Final Four.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he McLean High boys' basketball squad, under head coach Kevin Roller, had one of the best teams in school history this season, enjoying an outstanding regular season followed by a postseason in which the Highlanders captured the Liberty District tournament title and ultimately went all the way to the Northern Region tournament semifinals.

McLean's season ended last Saturday night, Feb. 25 when it lost a region tournament final four game to Westfield High, 55-41, at Robinson Secondary School. The game was close through three quarters with the Highlanders, who trailed just 24-22 at halftime, behind by just a 42-39 deficit. But Westfield, which features the region's top big man player in 6-foot-11 inch senior center Zach Elcano, outscored the Highlanders by a 13-2 margin in the final quarter to go on to the playoff victory.

McLean, which reached the 16-team regional semifinals with home victories earlier last week over both Lake Braddock, 54-45, and Centreville, 62-47, finished the season with a pulsating 24-4 overall record.

**UP UNTIL THE LAST** several years, McLean basketball had, for the most part, been a struggling program in the region back to its days in the old Great Falls District in the 1970s and 80s and on into its time as part of the Liberty. But under coach Roller the Highlanders, in the past couple of seasons in particular, have emerged into one of the better teams across the region.

Last year, McLean finished a solid 13-9 but lost its first round region playoff game to Yorktown, 74-42. A year before that, the team went 10-11 with a first round region playoff setback to Oakton in February of 2010. In the 2009 region playoffs, the Highlanders lost to T.C. Williams in the first round to conclude an 8-16 season. And in the 2008 postseason, McLean, under Roller, got all the way to the district tournament finals before losing to Langley in the championship game. In the following week's regionals, the Highlanders lost a first round heart-breaker at Mount Vernon High, 54-52, to finish that season 14-12.

So this winter's playoff success, including a district title and a couple of region playoff wins, was an accomplishment which had been elusive for the program.

This year's McLean team, like others un-

der Roller, played together as a unit. But along with that team attribute, the Highlanders were able to become a region force because they were made up of seasoned, determined players on their roster and a handful of stars. Players knew and accepted their roles and played hard from start to finish in games. The result was a season in which wins became the normal outcome and losses were quite few.

An early season 10-game win streak, which began with a 50-48 win at eventual region finalist Westfield on Dec. 9 and also included victories over perennial region force Chantilly (the 2010 region champions) and talented cross-town private school opponent Potomac School (this year's Mid Atlantic Conference champions), got McLean off to a 12-1 start.

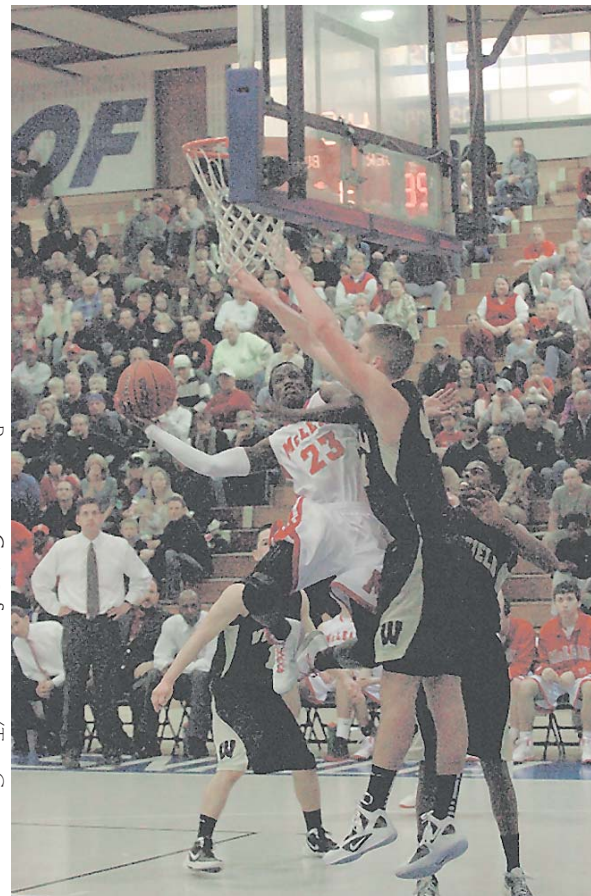
The long win streak was snapped by a district home loss to Fairfax, 59-53, on Jan. 13. The Rebels, like McLean, would ultimately go as far as the region semifinals. Following the loss to Fairfax, McLean also fell at local and district rival Langley, the three-time defending district champions who defeated the visiting Highlanders, 55-52, in an overtime affair on Jan. 17.

But McLean did not lose another regular season game thereafter, winning its next seven games and entering the district tournament with a 19-2 record and the No. 2-seed at the district tournament.

In McLean's final two regular season



**McLean High frontcourt player John Pascoe (12) made his presence known defensively in the Highlanders' region semifinals game against Westfield on Saturday night.**



**Gordon Rogo puts up an acrobatic shot over Westfield center Zach Elcano during the boys' basketball Final Four game played at Robinson Secondary.**



**McLean High head coach Kevin Roller, talking strategy with his team on Saturday, saw his Highlanders reach great heights this season.**

games, it defeated Fairfax and Langley to avenge the earlier losses to both.

**AT DISTRICTS**, McLean continued its red hot play with decisive victories over No. 7-seed Madison, 60-39, and No. 6 Jefferson, 52-38. The Colonials, in their first round game, had upset No. 3 South Lakes.

In the district finals, McLean faced an upstart Fairfax team under first year coach Mike Barbee which had upset top seed Langley, 56-49, in a district semifinals game.

The Rebels and Highlanders, in one of the most exciting games in the Northern Region this winter, played a thrilling double overtime affair won by McLean, 60-57. McLean senior point guard Gordon Rogo earned tournament MVP honors and teammate Thomas Van Wazer, a senior forward, also made the six-member All-Tourney squad.

With the three district tournament wins, McLean was riding another 10-game win streak going into last week's region tournament. The Highlanders, who for so long had been looking to finally attain a breakthrough first round region playoff win, got it when they defeated an always tough Lake Braddock squad, 54-45, at home last Monday, Feb. 20.

In front of its vocal, fired-up student body, McLean overcame a slow start in which it fell behind 8-2 after one quarter and trailed 25-20 at halftime to the underdog Bruins (14-10), the Patriot District team under highly regarded head coach Brian Mettress. But the Highlanders were dominant in the second half, outscoring their guests 34-20, on way to the comeback win.

Van Wazer (22 points) and senior guard Sango Amolo (16) led the Highlanders, while Rogo was also in double figures with 10 points.

McLean, two days later, won a quarterfinals round contest over guest Centreville High (Concorde District), 62-47. In that game, it was the Highlanders who took early control, grabbing a 19-7 lead after one quarter and holding a 28-18 advantage at the half. The Highlanders effectively put the game away in the third quarter when they outscored the Wildcats (11-14), 20-9. Van Wazer and Rogo, both First Team All-Liberty District selections this season, scored 19 and 17 points, respectively, and John Pascoe, a junior center, contributed 12 points.

The win advanced McLean into the Region Final Four where it faced Westfield last Saturday. McLean's leading scorers in the season-ending loss were Rogo (16 points), Amolo (10), and senior forward Kevin Lastova (9). Westfield (23-4), the Concorde District champions who advanced to a region title game meeting with Edison, had big games from point guard Julius Rosa (14 points), big man Elcano (13), and Chauncey Beckett (11).

The loss prevented McLean from reaching the finals and qualifying for the upcoming eight-team state AAA playoffs. Nevertheless, it was a remarkable breakout season for the Highlanders who will always be looked upon as one of the best McLean High teams ever.

# SCHOOLS

Send School Notes to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

**John Sexton Jr.** of McLean has been admitted to the professional program at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine as a member of the class of 2015. Sexton earned an animal science degree in 2011 from Auburn University and is a 2007 graduate of Langley High School.



The Johns Hopkins University. The daughter of Michael and Ivonne May is majoring in political science.

**Eli Raneses** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean's list at The Johns Hopkins University. The son of Tom and Mary Raneses is majoring in public health studies.

**Olindi Wijesekera** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean's list at The Johns Hopkins University. The daughter of Duminda and Devika Wijesekera is majoring in neuroscience.

**Juliet Abtahi** of McLean has been

named to the summer 2011 dean's list at Berklee College of Music of Boston, Mass.

**Lola E. Keyes** of McLean has received a master of science in public relations from Boston University of Boston, Mass.

**Gurden Batra** of Mclean has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at the Georgia Institute of Technology of Atlanta, Ga.

**Flannery Hourican** of McLean has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Gettysburg College of Gettysburg, Pa.

Ten Langley High School students have been named as 2011 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists: **Allison S. Brady, Saba Eskandarian, Jimmy J. Fang, Jamison G. Fox-Canning, Nathaniel C. Howe, Dylan J. Kriz, Debbie R. Pan, Spencer C. Shabshab, Holliday L. Shuler and Andrew J. Stewart.**

Six McLean High School students have been named as 2011 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists: **Nana-Kwabena A. Abrefah, Daniel J. Lee, Eric R. Leimkuhler, Elizabeth McGrady, Justin Nam and Brian Tong.**

**Michael P. DeSantis** of the Potomac School has been named as a 2011 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist.

**Michelle May** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean's list at

**Karen Martins**

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—Chief Seattle (1788-1866) Suquamish/Duwamish chief

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The Renegades can be contacted through... GM Pat Gaffney at (703) 599-2181 or [pgaffney@virginiarenegades.org](mailto:pgaffney@virginiarenegades.org) For more team information, you can find us at <http://www.virginiarenegades.org>

Renegades Scholarships subsidize all expenses except uniform and travel.

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20470 Fordham Terr.....\$369,900.....Sun 1-4.....Diana Miller.....Century 21.....571-218-9095

### Burke

10041 Marshall Pond Rd...\$524,900.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermandorfer.....Long & Foster.....703-503-1812

### Fairfax

8610 Chandler St.....\$799,900.....Sun 1-4.....Dane Work.....RE/MAX.....703-869-4567

### Herndon

11668 Gilman Ln.....\$749,900.....Sun 1-4.....Jacqueline McMahon.....Long & Foster.....571-722-2601  
12124 Eddyspark Dr.....\$485,000.....Sun 1-4.....Mike Pearson.....RE/MAX.....703-677-6900

### Kingstowne/Alexandria

6904 Ellingham Cir. #E.....\$320,000.....Sun 1-4.....Brian Murphy.....Coldwell Banker.....703-731-5799

### Oak Hill

13302 Glen Taylor Ln.....\$599,900.....Sun 1-3.....Bernie Kagan.....Samson Props.....703-216-0985

### Oakton

11111 Deville Estates Dr...\$899,000.....Sun 2-4.....Scott Koval.....Samson Props.....703-625-3446  
11441 Norwegian Mill Ct...\$984,500.....Sun 1-4.....Tonya Nelson.....Weichert.....703-975-1570  
3473 Loyd Hill Ct.....\$1,300,000.....Sun 1-4.....Surrie Armstrong.....TTR Sothebys.....703-930-0318

### Potomac Falls

20420 Tappahannock Pl...\$685,000.....Sun 1-4.....Glynis Canto.....Keller Williams.....703-395-2355

### Reston

2431 Albot Rd.....\$719,900.....Sun. 1-4.....Eileen Summers.....Long & Foster.....703-759-9190  
1279 Lamplighter Way.....\$695,000.....Sun 1-4.....Lou Casciano.....Long & Foster.....703-669-9812

### Springfield

8614 Victoria Rd.....\$459,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermandorfer.....Long & Foster.....703-503-1812

### Vienna

408 Park St., SE.....\$1,199,000.....Sun 1-3.....Gary Alcorn.....Long & Foster.....703-556-8600  
10110 Mill Wheel Ln.....\$849,000.....Sun 1-4.....Jennifer Justice.....Weichert.....703-623-8373

To add your FREE Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact Trisha at 703-778-9419, or [trisha@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:trisha@connectionnewspapers.com)

All listings are due by Monday at 3 P.M.



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5. Pay excellent attention to detail
6. Have excellent written and verbal communication  
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7. Be able to maintain confidential information
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The McLean Connection  
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Connection

### 21 Announcements

#### Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on two draft  
permits from the Department of Environmental Quality to limit  
air pollution emitted by two facilities in Arlington, Virginia.

Public comment period: March 1, 2012 to March 30, 2012

Permit name: Two State Operating Permits issued by DEQ,  
under the authority of the Air Pollution Control Board

APPLICANT Name, address and registration number: Vornado  
Charles E. Smith- 1901 South Bell Street and 1750 Crystal  
Drive in Arlington, Virginia 22202 Reg #'s 73979 and 71707.

Project description: Vornado Charles E. Smith has applied for  
two new permits for two emergency generators one at 1801  
South Bell Street, and one at 251 18th Street South in Arling-  
ton, Virginia 22202.

The permit would allow the source to operate two engine gener-  
ator sets.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEAR-  
ING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing  
by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must  
be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment peri-  
od. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and  
telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all per-  
sons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for  
public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public  
hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding  
the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of  
those represented by the requester, including how and to what  
extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by  
the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms  
and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public  
hearing may be held, including another comment period, if  
public response is significant, based on individual requests for  
public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues rele-  
vant to the permit.

Contact for public comments, document requests and addition-  
al information: Mr. Thomas Valentour; Northern Regional Of-  
fice, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193; Phone:  
(703) 583-3931; E-mail: [thomas.valentour@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:thomas.valentour@deq.virginia.gov);  
Fax: (703) 583-3821. The public may review the draft permit  
and application at the DEQ office named above by appoint-  
ment, or may request copies of the documents from the con-  
tact person listed above.

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### 21 Announcements

### 28 Yard Sales

### 28 Yard Sales

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### 21 Announcements

### 21 Announcements

### OBITUARY MORAN, C.M.F., REV. THOMAS

Rev. Thomas D. Moran, died on Thursday, February 23,  
2012 at Resurrection Medical Center in Chicago, IL, after  
complications from pneumonia. Father Moran was born on  
January 27, 1928, in Chicago, Illinois. The son of Thomas  
and Mary (nee Roach) Moran, he grew up in a family of four  
children on the south side of Chicago. Fr. Moran is survived  
by his two remaining living sisters, Joan McGoldrick and Mar-  
ie Tarpey; beloved uncle of many. The fourth sibling, his  
brother Roger is also deceased. Father made his first profes-  
sion as a Caretian Missionary in 1947, perpetual profession  
in 1950 and was ordained a priest on June 9, 1955.

After his ordination, Fr. Moran served as a teacher and Prin-  
cipal at the Saint Jude High School Seminary in Mokenca, Il-  
linois from 1955-1967. At the suggestion of his then Superi-  
or, Fr. Moran was assigned to mission in Guatemala, where  
he spent approximately 25 years of his religious life as a mis-  
sionary. During his time in Central America, he constantly  
championed for the rights of the indigenous and working peo-  
ple of the towns of El Estor and Livingston. Fr. Moran says  
his ministry on behalf of the impoverished Indian families en-  
compassed "the happiest and some of the saddest years of  
my life as a priest." He was instrumental in helping to estab-  
lish and promote an elementary school for children who  
could not write or speak in Spanish, the country's native lan-  
guage. His work in advancing the cause of education result-  
ed in a new Indian school being named in his honor in Living-  
ston.

After returning from Guatemala in 1982, and taking a 2 year  
sabbatical, Fr. Moran was then assigned to St. Mary of Sor-  
rows Church in Fairfax, Virginia as parish priest from 1984-  
1990. In 1990, he returned to Guatemala for a second tour  
of duty for nine years. In 1999 when he returned to the Uni-  
ted States, he was assigned as an associate pastor at Our  
Lady of Guadalupe Church on the south side of Chicago,  
where he served until December of 2011. Visitation on  
Tuesday, February 27 from 2-9pm at Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Church 3200 E. 91st Street, Chicago, IL 60617 with a prayer  
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## "Battling Cancer"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I suppose, as a cancer patient, there's a presumption/understanding that not giving into cancer and its potential ravages is an ongoing battle – to the death, if you will. And I imagine, on many levels, some truer than others, it is. War is indeed waged – so to speak, in hopes of defeating this horrible disease (enemy).

Personally, I don't view what I do – surviving as a cancer patient: following doctor's orders, filling prescriptions, ingesting medications, enduring chemotherapy, scheduling and then being diagnostically scanned, making food and lifestyle changes, adding miscellaneous supplements to my diet; in general, trying to live healthier and be a "compliant" patient, as anything more than common sense. It's not a battle – to me, it's simply what you do. As the South Korean widow said to Hawkeye Pierce on a M\*A\*S\*H episode way back when, responding to his question about how she could walk so far to get water: "Because that's where the water is," she answered.

And so a while back, it struck me as odd that a woman to whom I was introduced – and who knew of my less-than-ideal health circumstances, straight-forwardly and most sincerely (having recently been widowed herself when her husband succumbed to a cancer diagnosis) asked: "I understand you're battling cancer." It was in fact the first time in my nearly three years of being a cancer patient/survivor that I had ever been asked that exact question.

It was not her directness that was off-putting. Nor was it her presuming a familiarity – between us, that did not exist, that such a potentially intrusive, certainly private/personal subject could be so casually raised – by a relative stranger, in the middle of a 27-person Christmas dinner. No. It simply caught me by surprise, and I believe my answer/reaction likewise caught her by surprise and may have even made her a bit uncomfortable and apologetic for having inquired (although it was certainly not my intention). I laughed at her question and said: "I suppose so." To which she replied: "I didn't mean to ..." "No problem," I said, as the commotion of the occasion sort of ended our conversation.

One other time I was present when this "battling cancer" phrase was invoked. Although this time, it was a former female co-worker greeted by another former co-worker at our company Christmas party who asked, innocently enough of her, how she was doing: "I'm battling cancer" came her reply. I snickered then when I heard it, and even commented to our Publisher, Mary Kimm, also a cancer survivor, who was standing alongside me at the time and witnessed the entire exchange: "You know Mary, I've never said that – or felt that." A year later this "battling cancer" answer was questioned to me.

I don't really have any objections to either of these exchanges. I guess if had to summarize my feelings, however, about what I heard answered and what I was asked, I would say it's probably me trying to make light of a very heavy set of circumstances, and on some occasions, the less said about it, the better. It's awkward, sort of. Although, I don't really mind. Still; sometimes, I just don't feel the need.

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

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