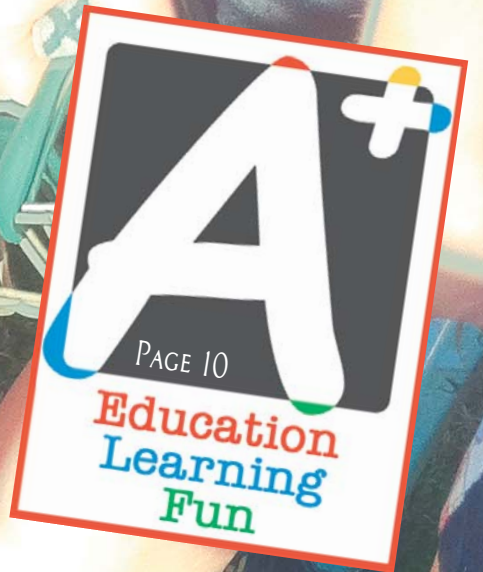


Langley Girls
Varsity lacrosse
team joins the
campaign in
support of
basketball coach
Travis Hess.



Lacing Up For Gianna

COMMUNITY, PAGE 12

Restoring
Funding for
Human Services

THE COUNTY LINE, PAGE 4

Great Falls
Rotary Reaches
100 Members

NEWS, PAGE 3

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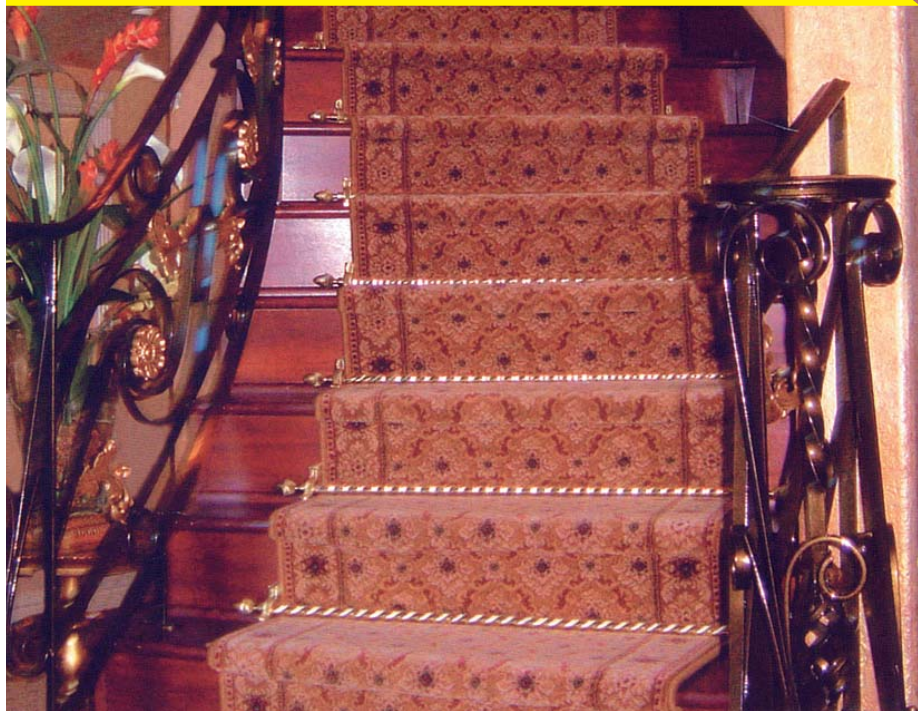
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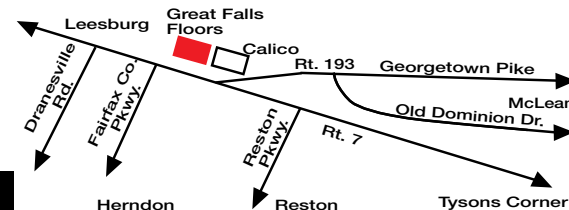
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Artist's sketch of the interior view of one of the stations along the Silver Line.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VDOT

Board Opt's In for Dulles Rail

Obstacles still ahead for \$2.7 billion project.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Tuesday, April 10, to approve the county's participation in Phase 2 of the \$2.7 billion Dulles Metrorail Project.

Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) said she hopes Phase 2 will move forward as planned, and the county "will all be able to take advantage of the enormous economic development opportunities the Silver Line extension will present."

Board members said completion of the project will bolster the economy, relieve traffic congestion and ensure the viability of Tysons Corner redevelopment.

"This is our biggest transportation improvement for decades to come. Tysons will not work without the rail line going all the way to Loudoun," said Linda Smyth (D-Providence). "This needs to get finished."

"Dulles Rail will be a great economic development tool for the county," said John Cook (R-Braddock). "It will generate millions in tax revenue for schools, public safety, parks and libraries and reduce pressure on homeowners' property taxes."

THE PROJECT was faltering last summer when U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood stepped in and brokered a funding deal between stakeholders - Metro, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA), Virginia, and Fairfax and Loudoun counties - that cut costs from \$3.8 billion to \$2.7 billion.

According to county officials, significant savings were achieved by eliminating the underground station at Dulles Airport as well as project scope changes agreed to by all the funding partners.

The county's cost of Phase 2 is expected to be about \$330 million to build the extension past Wiehle Avenue in Reston to Washington Dulles International Airport. When complete, the Silver Line will provide a one-seat, no-transfer ride from the airport to downtown Washington.

The county's share for the entire Dulles Rail project is estimated to be \$900 to \$965 million. Of this amount, \$730 million—or approximately 80 percent—will be paid for by voluntary, special tax districts. In the Phase 1 Tax District, landowners agreed to pay up to 29 cents per \$100 of the assessed value

of commercial and industrial properties, up to a total of \$400 million. In Phase 2, landowners agreed to pay up to 25 cents per \$100, up to a total of \$330 million.

As part of the financial deal, Fairfax County agreed to make its "best efforts" to pay for building the Route 28 Station, along with the parking garage at this station and at Herndon Monroe, outside of the project.

County officials said they are looking at several options that include using a public-private partnership, developer contributions, parking revenue, and/or federal or state grants. If the county is not successful in funding the two garages and station outside of the project, Fairfax will only pay for 16.1 percent of the cost for these facilities.

"We need to continue to be vigilant in overseeing management of the project by the Airport Authority to continue to drive down costs," Cook said.

The rail project's second phase includes six stations along its 11.4 mile run, stretching from Wiehle Avenue in Fairfax County to Route 772 in Loudoun County. Construction is expected to begin in early 2013, and the project is estimated to be completed in 2017. The first phase of the project is currently under construction, and is expected to be completed in late 2013.

ALL EYES are now on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, who are currently debating pulling out of their share - \$260 million of the second phase of the project. They have until July to decide whether to commit to the project.

Prior to Tuesday's board action, the county sought public input on the cost and financing for the project's second phase. County officials conducted four public meetings and an online chat, and the board held a public hearing on March 20.

During a March 19 online public hearing on the project, one resident asked if Fairfax County could reconsider its vote if Loudoun opted out.

"It would require everyone to restart and renegotiate. The project may still go forward but we would have some challenges. For example, how do we reconfigure Wiehle Avenue to be the end of the line? The tax districts, contributions, etc. would change. You can't just cut off the Loudoun stations. You have to redo the PE, environmental documents. It would be a dramatic shift," county officials responded during the chat.

For more information on the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, go to www.dullesmetro.com or call 703-572-0506.



PHOTOS BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls Rotary Club inducts new members Thursday, April 12, putting them at more than 100 members in 10 months of existence.

Rotary Reaches 100 Members

Great Falls Rotary Club welcomes 100th member, 10 months after founding.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls Rotary Club celebrated reaching its 100th member Thursday, April 12, achieving the milestone in record time. They reached 100 members in 10 months, growth that has attracted the attention of Rotary International.

"They've done a great job of getting the word out," said Karey Starnes, assistant governor for District 7610. "They're the second largest in our district, and they're one of the fastest growing clubs in Rotary International."

They hit the century mark at their weekly meeting at Riverbend Country Club. The Great Falls Rotary Club recently wrote a grant that provided reading materials to local kindergarten classes.

President Jeff Thinnies said he has been pleased with the diverse group of talents who have

come together to uphold the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self."

"This is a result of a lot of forces coming together, including the McLean Rotary Club and tremendous support from the district," said Great Falls Rotary President Jeff Thinnies. "Having this success makes us all the more determined to get involved and stay involved."

Thinnies pointed out that since the 2010 Census showed approximately 15,000 residents in Great Falls, that means one in every 144 residents are members.

Glenn Yarborough, president of the McLean Rotary Club, sponsor organization called the club's success an "example of the growth Rotary International is attempting." Thinnies said that one of the future goals of the group is to start an Interact Club, Rotary's youth club, at Langley High School.

More information can be found at www.rotarygreatfalls.com.



Members of the Great Falls Rotary Club toast getting more than 100 members at their Thursday, April 12 meeting.

THE COUNTY LINE

Restoring Funding for Human Services

Residents, agencies testify to need for community services.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

After three years of deep budget cuts and declining revenue, Fairfax County is showing signs of fiscal equilibrium as property values and revenues begin a slow uphill climb.

But human service agencies in the county are still feeling pinched by three years of cumulative cuts to their budgets, shrinking state and federal dollars, and increased demand on services.

More than 30 agencies and individuals showed up to testify during last week's public hearings on the proposed \$6.7 billion fiscal year 2013 budget to deliver a unified message to the Board of Supervisors.

"The proposed cuts in human services funding are relatively small dollar amounts," said Frank Blechman, vice chair of the Fairfax County Alliance for Human Services (AHS), who testified before the board on Wednesday, April 11, "but the impact these cuts will have on programs and the vulnerable families and individuals who need them will be severe."

County Executive Anthony Griffin's proposed budget assumes no increase in current real property tax rates; however, the AHS - a non-partisan partnership that advocates for dozens of local public and private human service providers - urged board members to adopt the county's advertised tax rate 1-cent tax increase to \$1.08 per \$100 of assessed value, which would add nearly \$20 million to the budget coffers.

To avoid raising tax rates, Griffin has proposed a 2013 budget with approximately \$3 million in various human services cuts, including:

*Eliminating the Adult Dental Program (Savings: \$50,000) - This program provides discounted basic dental care to low income adults. According to AHS, eliminating the program will result in 500 adults not receiving services. Instead, says AHS, they will have to seek care at the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, which has a waiting list of six months to 4 years.

*Reduce home-based care funding (Savings: \$300,000) - These services are provided to low-income adults to help them continue independent living in their own homes. In fiscal years 2010 and 2011, funding for this program was cut by a total of \$1.7 million. To deal with that reduced funding, the County's Department of Family Services has tightened screening and services. According to AHS, the proposed fiscal year 2013 cut would lead to a waiting list for services.

*Decreased funding for Student Assistance Programs (Savings: \$99,500) - These services, offered through the Community Services Board (CSB), provide year-round



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Human Service Advocates testified before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors during a public hearing on Wednesday, April 11, urging the board to increase funding for community programs that serve the homeless population and other vulnerable residents. From left, Kerri Wilson of Reston Interfaith; Gerald Poje of Reston Interfaith; Kathy Albarado, Governing Board of Office to Prevent and End Homelessness; Cheryl Simpkins of United Christian Ministries; Conrad Egan, Governing Board of Office to Prevent and End Homelessness; Michael O'Reilly, Governing Board Chair of Office to Prevent and End Homelessness; Amanda Andere of FACETS; Meredith Magwire of Habitat for Humanity and Judith Dittman of Alternative House.

Recommended Funding Increases

Fairfax County Alliance for Human Services recommended funding increases in FY 2013 Budget include:

- ❖ Partners in Prevention Fund, which funds various organizations, including Safe Dates programs run by FACETS, The Lorton Community Action Center, United Community Ministries and Reston Interfaith - **\$400,000**
- ❖ Additional funding for the Consolidated Community Funding Pool. During 2011, more than 119,000 people in 61,300 households was served - **\$448,534**
- ❖ Restoring funding for Access Fairfax - \$75,000
- ❖ Restoring funding for two Computer Learning Centers - **\$90,000**
- ❖ Restoring funding for the Department of Family Services Rent Relief Program - \$275,000
- ❖ Restoring funding for seven School Health Aide Substitutes - **\$110,997**
- ❖ Restoring funding for one contracted Nurse Practitioner with the Community Health Care Network - **\$130,000**
- ❖ Restoring funding and providing additional funding for the Adult Dental Program - **\$100,000**
- ❖ Restoring funding for the Home Based Care program - **\$300,000**
- ❖ Restoring funding for Student Assistance Services - **\$100,000**
- ❖ Providing funding for residential services for young adults with autism and mental illness - **\$663,721**
- ❖ Therapeutic Recreation Summer Program and Adult Social Club Program - **\$35,000**
- ❖ **TOTAL - \$2,828,252**

school-based alcohol and drug screening, assessment and early intervention. This reduction eliminates one position and, says

AHS, will cause 81 youths to be shut out of the program.

"Funding human services is never easy,"

Blechman said, joking with supervisors that they could afford to demonstrate their "profiles in courage" during a non-election year by approving the county executive's advertised tax rate to fund "unmet human service needs."

"This is the year to turn the corner from survival mode to growth," Blechman said.

Several supervisors indicated their support of restoring funding to human service programs.

"These programs serve the homeless, the elderly, people suffering with drug and alcohol addictions, young and old residents with serious physical and mental disabilities, victims of domestic violence, and many other county residents who need help from their community," said supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

"Because of their circumstances, many of these people live in poverty," Foust said, adding that Fairfax County has a number of active non-profits and faith-based groups providing services.

"But the sheer numbers of residents needing help means the county must play a large role in ensuring that needed services are provided," Foust said.

While Fairfax County's poverty rate is better than most — 5.08 percent in 2011^o — it still translates to nearly 63,000 people living below the poverty level, according to county officials.

The Alliance for Human Services provided board members with a list of budget recommendations regarding the proposed cuts as well as restoring certain other programs cut in prior years.

AHS acknowledged that Griffin's proposed budget does include some increases in several human services programs.

"We can't stress enough how important it is to approve the county executive's recommendations for increased human services funding. Anything less will further weaken the human services net that is already frayed," Blechman said.

*CSB's Infant and Toddler Connection:

One of Griffin's recommended increases that generated emotional testimony was the \$823,456 for the CSB Infant and Toddler Connection, which provides families screening and programs for children with possible developmental delays.

Lisa Arlt Escoto of Vienna brought her daughter Elena, 5, who has a neuro-genetic syndrome that causes severe global delays, seizures and drastically limits speech.

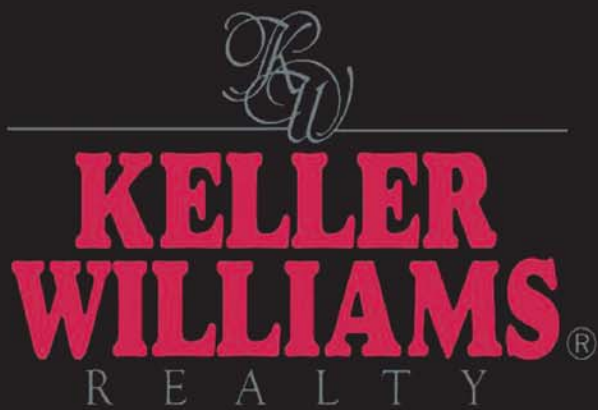
"I was shocked to learn that the (proposed budget) does not include increased funding for the Infant and Toddler Connection," Arlt Escoto said.

She said she and her husband were working in China for the U.S. Consulate when they discovered Elena was severely developmentally delayed and required immediate intervention therapy. So the couple returned to Fairfax County to get Elena the help she needed.

"I was already feeling overwhelmed and terrified by the discovery of Elena's disabil

SEE SUPERVISORS, PAGE 7

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NEWS

Supervisors Urged to Restore Funding

FROM PAGE 4

ity, and being unable to find private therapists who didn't have a one or two-year wait list nearly drove me over the edge," she said.

When one of Elena's doctors referred her to the ITC, Arlt Escoto said it was a lifeline for her and her daughter. "They provided several therapy programs as well as a mom support group ... I am convinced that without ITC, Elena would not be nearly as functional as she is today."

"I support a big chunk of those cuts being restored. Some are totally unacceptable, like ITC," said Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee).

McKay said that the county's Infant and Toddler Connection touched his family in a profound and personal way. When his daughter Leann was 2 1/2, she stopped talking. At the time, she was attending the Bryant Early Learning (BEL) Center day care program in Alexandria, which referred her to the ITC. Through ITC, McKay's daughter received intense speech therapy for six months, and she completely regained her ability to speak. McKay said she is as chatty now as any four-year-old.

"It was one of those eye-opening moments when you appreciate that much more where you live. It's such a small budgetary item, and I'm glad most people never need these services," McKay said. "But

"The sheer numbers of residents needing help means the county must play a large role in ensuring that needed services are provided."

—Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville)

it was a lifeline for us."

McKay said alarm bells went off when he learned that the ITC was going to stop admitting early intervention clients because of budget cuts, especially when referrals to the agency are up 38 percent in the past two years.

"When I saw it on the cut list, my jaw dropped ... I am more than appalled; I am outraged," McKay said. "Not only are these budget cuts abdication of our moral responsibility to our children but they are a poor financial decision."

Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) said individual testimony that demonstrates the value of the county's human services programs is always compelling.

"It absolutely matters when people are courageous enough to come before us to share their personal stories and experiences," Bulova said.

"It is also important for us to identify efficiencies and delivery methods that best leverage our county investments in human services programs and services," Bulova said.

"Ultimately, our job is to listen, care and weigh all of the options," said Supervisor Linda Smyth, (D-Providence). "We always end up with more requests than money. We're in a much better place than most of the country, but that doesn't mean people are not still hurting."

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OPINION

Every Day Is Earth Day

By DANIEL WHITE
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22, I asked fellow Nature Conservancy staff from Maryland, D.C. and Virginia to offer their favorite ways of going green. Here are some responses that can help you save money, energy and maybe even the planet. To share your tips for living green every day, join us at facebook.com/dc.md.va.nature.conservancy.

THE RUN DIARY

Arlington's Kate Hougen, our marketing director, invites anyone who cares about the environment and healthy living to join her on Team Nature: "the team shares tips like how to recycle your running shoes, and raises money for environmental causes, join us and run for a healthier you, and a healthier planet." For more info, visit us online at nature.org/rundc.

HANG 'EM DRY

New mother Kristin Bramell, a fundraiser in Bethesda, prefers to air-dry her laundry: "Why not save energy by using a clothesline at least for your large items? I put up a clothesline in my backyard and love to hang my towels, sheets and t-shirts outside. It takes just five minutes, and there's nothing better than that fresh, natural smell. Now that the weather's nice, I'll probably start hanging up my cloth diapers too!"

THE THRIFTERS

Philanthropy Coordinator Karen Schuyler, who lived in Alexandria prior to settling in Barbourville, shops for clothes at thrift stores: "It's very green since the clothing is being used again, thus saving the energy costs in growing and harvesting plant-based fibers, as well as saving energy in the production and transport of new factory-made garments. Most exciting

of all, it's like a treasure hunt and you never know what you'll find."

INSPECT YOUR GADGETS

Lyle Solla-Yates of Charlottesville manages our technology systems and suggests responsible recycling and purchasing of electronics: "Goodwill has partnered with Dell to recycle computer equipment, making them a good place to bring old equipment and to pick up used equipment that still works for a great price. When you do buy, choose greener electronics or consider a smaller device. You can do a lot more now with less machine, which can save money, hassle and the environment."

SOIL, IT'S GREEN

Brian van Eerden directs our Southern Rivers Program in Richmond and is an avid composter: "Composting helps the environment by reducing solid waste and the greenhouse gas emissions such as methane it produces in landfills. Compost is also a great low-cost source of organic fertilizer for your garden."

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHARES

Jennifer Donovan, donor relations manager in Charlottesville, grows her own vegetables and buys from local farmers: "My family pays a fixed price per month to obtain a CSA share of organic vegetables, beef, chicken and fish. By purchasing food directly from local farmers, you are putting all the proceeds from the sale directly in their pockets. The food I buy locally also tastes much better. We really are what we eat, so eat healthy, local and fresh!"

MR. BEAN

Allegheny Highlands director Marek Smith of Lexington chooses coffee from shade-grown beans: "Growing coffee under the shade of trees in the Central and South American rainforests not only produces a richer flavor, but also helps protect critical wintering habitat for neotropical migratory songbirds such

as scarlet tanagers and cerulean warblers. These same bird species nest here in the broadleaf forests of our Central Appalachians, including Warm Springs Mountain Preserve in western Virginia.

ENERGY AT THE GATES

By following recommendations from a comprehensive home energy audit, Charlottesville preserve steward Tim Sanjule reduced his energy use. "Energy usage of any kind has an impact on our environment. Heating and cooling a house that is not well-insulated or well-sealed will waste your money and precious resources."

MAN ON A HEDGE

Clinch Valley ecologist Braven Beaty of Abingdon says, "If you have a creek on your property, don't mow right up to the bank. Leaving a strip of taller plants and shrubs can help stabilize the bank and provide wildlife habitat. The root systems help keep banks from eroding during high water, and the shade and structure provide shelter and food for fish, birds, salamanders, and other wildlife that need cool, moist areas to live. Try it and see if you don't notice more critters."

LAWN & ORDER

For a lawn that's green in more than color, use less water and fertilizer, says Richmond's Michael Lipford, our Virginia executive director: "A significant amount of nitrogen is put back in the soil if you leave your clippings on the grass. Don't water every day, and don't fret if the grass goes dormant when the heat of summer comes. Using less fertilizer is good for the Chesapeake Bay. Nutrients are the main problem in the bay, and a significant portion comes from residential fertilizers. Use low-nitrogen and low-phosphate fertilizers, fertilize less, and wisely — not before a heavy rain. Many stores now supply low-nitrogen organic fertilizers that can also reduce your carbon footprint."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Facts vs. Opinions

To the Editor:

Robert Cox's letter to the editor [Laws That Violate Woman's Right, April 11, 2012] states that Delegate Comstock voted for a law that would "take away a woman's right to choose her own health care and instead force the Government to make health decisions for that woman." I am not sure to what legislation he was referring, but if it was the Senate Amendment that updated Virginia's 2001 Informed Consent Law, the facts would not appear to support his opinions.

The Senate amendment updating this existing law simply referred to a sonogram consistent with the "standard of care." Some

tried to equate this to state-mandated rape. To research this I communicated directly with a Planned Parenthood representative who informed me that a pre-abortion sonogram is the standard of care. A sonogram is necessary to determine the fetal age in order to know which abortion procedure can be used safely (pill or surgery) and whether it can be done in a clinic vs. a hospital. Because a woman does not always know the date of her pregnancy, legal liability dictates this requirement. Lawsuits have ensued when mistakes were made regarding the fetal age. The amendment therefore did not require anything that was not already the standard of care for an abortion other than to require that a doctor ask the woman if she

would like to see the sonogram or hear the baby's heartbeat. The woman is free to decline the offer.

Mr. Cox criticized my previous letter for being more of a news report than an "opinion." While I respectfully disagree, I admit that I try to inform my opinions with facts. I also agree that the media should report Comstock's work as news. It was my opinion expressed in my previous letter that the media reporting on the work of the General Assembly has been unbalanced and overly focused on this one law to the exclusion of the other 1600 bills that were passed, including Comstock's. That remains my opinion.

Anne Gruner
McLean

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
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Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.
By e-mail:
greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

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OBITUARY

Janet O'Dell, of Great Falls, Dies

Janet Rae O'Dell, of Great Falls, passed away on March 13, 2012 from acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Born and raised in St. Louis, Mo., she moved to the Washington area in 1972. A long-time business entrepreneur in Northern Virginia, from 1976 to 1987 she was the owner of Jan's Potpourri Flowers in Vienna. She subsequently became a licensed real estate broker and owned her own real estate and mortgage banking businesses until 2010. At the time of her death, she was a mortgage banker for Capital One Bank, serving their Great Falls and McLean offices.

Known for being great fun, big hearted and forthright, O'Dell was an active and doting grandmother to her four grandchildren, Harry and Harper Malesardi of Great Falls and Collin and Sean O'Dell of Telluride, Colo., to whom she

taught many important life skills such as whistling, tree climbing and five-card stud poker. In her spare time, she loved to travel and enjoyed socializing with a close circle of dear friends who played tournament poker.

In addition to her grandchildren, she is survived by three children: Mark B. O'Dell (daughter-in-law Allison) of Telluride, Colo.; Kelly O'Dell Malesardi (son-in-law Michael) of Great Falls; and Kimberly O'Dell Flanders, also of Great Falls.

O'Dell wanted no funeral service and instead requested an old-fashioned Irish party in her honor. On March 15, over 150 friends and family gathered together to raise a glass to honor and celebrate O'Dell's grand life.

Expressions of sympathy can be made to Capital Caring Hospice (www.capitalcaring.org) or Autism Speaks (www.autismspeaks.org).



Janet Rae O'Dell

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Culinary Classes for Children

Little gourmands cook up fun in the kitchen.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

If you lick your hands you have to wash them,” said instructor Beth Bigler as she teaches a class of kindergarten students how to make vegetable pizzas.

“Are these pickles?” asks a 6-year-old student as she clutches a dark-green, cylindrical vegetable in her tiny fingers.

“No, these are baby cucumbers,” said Bigler. “We need to cut the ends off and then chop them up very, very finely. Always put it on a cutting board so you don’t cut your hands. We’re going to do the same thing with the celery and carrots. We have lots of vegetables to cut.”

Soon the click-clop of plastic knives hitting cutting boards fills the air,

along with the giggles and squeals of curious young foodies.

This is a typical session for Tiny Chefs, one of a handful of local culinary schools that cater to children. In these classes, pint-sized gourmands are introduced to all things epicurean. They also learn about kitchen safety and the importance of eating healthy food. Instructors say the lessons extend beyond the edible.

“Cooking classes for kids build and instill confidence,” said Anna Reeves, founder of Tiny Chefs. “Children get to do things that they didn’t think they were able to do. A 4 or 5-year-old may not be used to someone handing them a bowl or spoon and saying ‘Stir this all by yourself.’”

In addition to after school classes like the one at Norwood, local culinary schools offer parent-child classes, seasonal classes, holiday classes, cooking birthday parties and cooking summer camps. The level of complexity depends on the age and interest of the children.

“We teach simple techniques like sautéing and braising,” said Stephen Sands CEO of Culinaria Cooking

School in Vienna. “Students make full meals in our summer camps. We have other classes during the year. We do a pasta class where kids make fresh pasta. They learn what goes into it instead of just seeing it come out of a box. They learn how to make sauce instead of just opening a jar.”

DURING A TYPICAL CLASS, pint-sized culinary enthusiasts come in, wash their hands and don aprons. Then begin the prep work for the dish they are preparing.

Classes are often divided by theme and culinary discussions are intermixed with food preparation. “The theme this session is ‘On the Farm,’” said Bigler, an instructor with Tiny Chefs. “Students learn about fresh vegetables and where they come from.”

Students are introduced to new ingredients or get hands-on experience with familiar food items. “Maybe they’ve heard of cinnamon, but have never smelled or touched a cinnamon stick,” said Reeves. “They’ve probably heard of eggs, but they’ve never actually cracked one.”

Instructors say the lessons can also be academics disguised as recreation. “They have so much fun that they don’t even realize that they are working on math and reading skills,” said Arlington resident Whitney Gray, director of auxiliary programs at The Langley School.

“Students learn how to use cooking tools and they get to add and subtract fractions by using measuring cups,” said Jennifer McInroy, a Tiny Chefs instructor who teaches classes and summer camps at The Langley School in McLean.

Social skills are also enhanced. “With five or seven kids in a group they learn to wait their turn and cooperate work together and have patience,” said Reeves.

An increasing number of local schools are offering cooking classes as an afterschool activity for students.

“Cooking is an important life skill,” Liz Holland, Afterschool Activities Coordinator at Alexandria Country Day School. “Children definitely need to be making healthy choices for themselves and having those skills is definitely enriching.”



Students at Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna learn to grate a lemon. Experts say cooking classes can help children develop healthy eating habits.



Young food enthusiasts get a lesson from Chef Brian Batsel of Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna. Some local culinary schools now offer cooking birthday parties and summer camps for children.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CULINARIA COOKING SCHOOL

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Presented by:
Andrew McGahan, LCSW,
NoVA JSSA Clinical Director

All schools, faith organizations or other civic groups in the Safe Community Coalition service area with at least three participants at this meeting will be eligible for a \$250 grant to provide follow-on bullying awareness activities with their school or organization.

Funds for the Community Meeting and Follow-on Bullying Awareness Activities are provided by a Gannett Foundation grant to the SCC.

COMMUNITY

Great Falls Girls U13 Lacrosse team lace-up for pediatric cancer.



PHOTOS BY
DEBBIE VOLPICELLI

Lacing Up for Gianna

Langley basketball team comes together in support of their coach's daughter.

BY COLLEEN SHEEHY ORME

Throughout our high school years we have our takeaways. The people and the moments that when we are young guide us, and when we are older follow us.

In 1981, at Langley High School there were two teachers who believed in an overly chatty girl with a bigger interest in her social life than studying for her next exam. Their gaze was far greater than the four walls of the classroom and the four years of high school. Their words, guidance and teaching crawled beyond the pages of the book and into the pages of my life.

It is my children who now attend Langley High School. It is over dinner or a car ride home that they share a story or two. Their own people and moments who will guide them and follow them. My son, Billy, speaking of a Varsity Basketball Coach who inspired him with a comment. My son, Tommy, excitedly explaining an interesting debate over a life subject as his math class was nearing a close.

This is Coach Travis Hess. A seven-year Langley veteran who teaches Math and who leads and coaches the boys Varsity Basketball team. A man who has so greatly touched the McLean and Great Falls communities that our shoes are now tightly tied with the love and solidarity of neon yellow in order to rally support for his 1-

year-old daughter, Gianna, and her fight against Hepatoblastoma - a rare form of pediatric cancer that starts in the liver.

It was just a few months ago, on a February day, that Coach Hess, his wife Suzanne, their infant son, Jackson, and sweet Gianna would learn of the fist sized tumor on her liver.

It is hard not to tear up seeing photos of this bright eyed, dark haired beauty. Her gorgeous, saucer-eyed, sweetness smiling through much of the pain. The moments of relief as she sleeps

“He does a really good job of transitioning from your coach and being serious to being your friend and hanging out with the team and just being one of the guys.”

— Langley Varsity Basketball player Brad Dotson

nestled in the arms of her mother in her hospital crib seem so precious.

GIANNA'S JOURNEY physically takes the Hess family to hospitals in Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. and Northern Virginia. Emotionally it takes them much further.

From watching their baby connected to tubes, crying out in pain and losing her hair to being subjected to more than her little body should have to endure. It takes them to witnessing the extraordinary strength their baby girl pos-

sesses.

A few months ago, Langley played Stone Bridge High School. At the end of the game, senior Joey Robinson drives back down the court with eight seconds remaining and junior Justin Galiani reaches up for Robinson's rebound. With only seconds left, Galiani scores the game winning basket. The student section storms the court. I gazed down from the stands smiling at the sea of joyful, jumping Saxons. That is when I spotted him. Coach Hess was right there in the middle of the court jumping and chanting along side all of them.

This is what makes good coaches great. He is simply one of them and they know this. His passion is not only for the game but for all of them.

“Coach Hess is such a major asset to the school not only for being arguably the best basketball coach we've ever had, but also for taking a very talented group of kids and making them reach their potential within and beyond the classroom,” Chris Bass, a former graduate of Langley High School and now a teacher at Langley for the past thirteen years says,

“His players not only play for themselves, but for him,” Bass continues, “He is very passionate about what he does and he cares for his kids.”



Langley Boys Varsity Basketball Team take it off the court for their coach.

And they care for him. The Langley Boys Varsity Basketball team has taken their game off the court.

Now taking the lead for their coach, they are asking and inspiring all of us to emerge from the bench and to show that when given the opportunity in the game of life, like any great player, we will rise to the occasion for the team.

The team along with several of their parents reached out to Go4theGoal's Lace-Up 4 Pediatric Cancer movement.

Great Falls resident, Debbie Volpicelli, inspired the effort by reaching out to the team and informing them about the New Jersey based Foundation (Go4theGoal.org), which was founded in 2006 by Dr. Richard and Beth Stefanacci after their oldest child was diagnosed with cancer. The foundation began their “Lace-Up 4 Pediatric Cancer” in September 2011.

What many don't know is that Coach Hess has always inspired his players each year to participate in community involvement. He has had them support breast cancer and other important causes and gotten them out and involved in the community.

What people also do not know is that this year he had planned to have his team support lace-up for pediatric cancer. The laces were in and waiting for the team. Then came the news on Gianna. The team is now laced-up for a much more personal dedication to pediatric cancer.

The Langley players ordered 5,000 pairs of laces and their goal is to sell even more than that. They are well on their way and the dedicated Varsity boys team has devoted many hours to doing just that. They are eager to support their Coach.

“He's just a great guy. He connects well with the players. He's funny and he's goofy and he makes you want to work hard,” says Langley Varsity Basketball player and junior, Brad Dotson. “He does a really good job of transitioning from your coach and being serious to being your friend and hanging out with the team and just being one of the guys. When this happened to Coach, it hit us all really hard so we wanted to do whatever we could to step up and help him out. He's done so much for us that we were happy to do it

SEE TEAM, PAGE 15

"Meagulpa"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As a veteran of the chemo wars, I should have been better prepared mentally for the food/taste challenges often caused by the infusion of such cancer-fighting chemicals, but I wasn't. Oh, I was ready for the hair loss, the fatigue, the diabetic-type neuropathy, the overall aches and pains (general feeling of discomfort/feeling out of sorts), but for some inexplicable reason, I wasn't ready for the food issue. Specifically, I refer to its lack of taste, and a directly-related effect: minimal interest in eating. Whether the effect/cause was in my head or in my taste buds, it was most definitely an effect from a cause.

Not that I appear, at present, to be the least bit undernourished (disheveled, maybe), or not in need of a modest reduction in weight; nevertheless, not being able to enjoy my daily bread, as but one example, was/is disappointing. Moreover, being one of the many individuals who uses food as a stress-reducer and oral-fixator, not being satisfied by any of my staples has made for a very dull boy. Not cranky. Not irritable. More like miserable. And this misery doesn't like company, and has made this four-time infusion much less palatable than I had anticipated. I had anticipated: been there done that; no problem. However, as experienced as I thought I was; having survived/endured six infusions (round one) three years ago, my overconfidence for this second round seems to have led me to a bit of an emotional thud. I thought I was going to slide through this treatment unscathed. Unfortunately, I have been scathed.

What upsets me most about my circumstances is that I think I should have known better, especially since I take such pride in trying to know better/be prepared (I'm not exactly a Boy Scout, but I am usually more on the ball). Yet I wasn't. And when the food began to taste bad a week or two after my second infusion (as if it were a surprise), emotionally I went south. Not only was I "disappointed" in the taste of food, I was more disappointed in my lack of awareness of a fairly likely/predictable occurrence when chemotherapy is infused. If Hostess Brands, the makers of Twinkies, Ding Dongs, Ho Hos, Cupcakes, etc., had not already filed for bankruptcy protection back in January, 2012; given my modest – and uncharacteristic – first quarter consumption of such delicacies, they likely would have been forced to file for bankruptcy in April of 2012. I wouldn't say however, that as an adult I've maintained the pace of my indulgent adolescence (almost a box a day); who could? But I have eaten my share (and a few others' shares, no doubt) and am proud of the hours I've spent satiated and of the product knowledge I've gained as a direct result. This second round of chemotherapy ended all of that. No taste, no pleasure. No pleasure, no patience. No patience, no happiness. And it's all my fault. I have been down this road before, bumpy as it was, and I should have been better prepared, mentally.

If there's one thing I believe I've learned during this whole cancer trip, and some wisdom I feel I can impart, it would be: managing expectations, both good and bad. Control what you can, don't worry about what you can't. Remember what you know and be mindful of what you don't. Expect the unexpected and don't take anything for granted. And though this food/lack of taste thing will pass soon enough, my arrogance in not preparing for/anticipating it will linger. I'll get over it, I suppose, but not before I've told you readers about it first.

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

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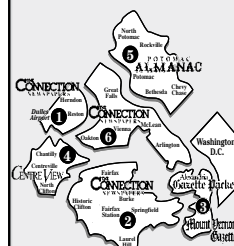
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HOME SALES

In March 2012, 16 Great Falls homes sold between \$3,900,000-\$426,500.

Address	BRFBHB ..	Postal City	Sold Price ...	Type ...	Lot AC .	PostalCode	Subdivision
814 LEIGH MILL RD	9	10 . 4	GREAT FALLS	\$3,900,000	Detached ..	3.50 .. 22066	FORESTVILLE
9123 MARIA AVE	6	. 5 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,370,000	Detached ..	1.00 .. 22066	GREAT FALLS ESTATES
753 KENTLAND DR	4	. 4 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,275,000	Detached ..	3.18 .. 22066	SENECA RIDGE
9109 MARIA AVE	4	. 4 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,160,000	Detached ..	2.26 .. 22066	MARIA AVENUE
9030 JEFFERY RD	4	. 4 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,070,000	Detached ..	2.02 .. 22066 ..	STANLEY & RUTH GROSS
620 NALLS FARM WAY	5	. 4 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$980,000	Detached ..	1.72 .. 22066	GREAT FALLS WEST
806 HICKORY VALE LN	4	. 2 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$940,000	Detached ..	0.95 .. 22066	HICKORY CREEK
9213 MARIA AVE	4	. 4 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$862,500	Detached ..	1.08 .. 22066	GREAT FALLS ESTATES
9616 GEORGETOWN PIKE	4	. 3 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$760,000	Detached ..	2.10 .. 22066	FORESTVILLE
11108 LORAN RD	4	. 3 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$657,000	Detached ..	0.81 .. 22066	TIMBERLAKE ESTATES
1084 UTTERBACK STORE RD ..	6	. 4 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$565,000	Detached ..	0.56 .. 22066	TIMBER LAKE ESTATES
10901 CROSSVIEW DR	3	. 2 .. 0	GREAT FALLS	\$540,000	Detached ..	2.01 .. 22066	ROLLING MEADOWS
11203 BIRMINGHAM CT	4	. 4 .. 0	GREAT FALLS	\$515,000	Detached ..	0.24 .. 22066	GREAT FALLS FOREST
1044 SPRINGVALE RD	4	. 3 .. 0	GREAT FALLS	\$487,500	Detached ..	0.58 .. 22066	SPRINGWOOD
900 WALKER RD	2	. 2 .. 0	GREAT FALLS	\$450,000	Detached ..	0.64 .. 22066	OLIVER ESTATES
9109 WEANT DR	3	. 2 .. 1	GREAT FALLS	\$426,500	Detached ..	0.50 .. 22066	WEANT

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Team Rallies for Coach

FROM PAGE 12

and we wanted to.”

“Plenty of times over the course of the season it didn’t look like we were going to win the game, but we would come back,” says Langley Varsity Basketball player and also junior, Justin Galiani. “We knew never to give up until the end and very often it led to us making large comeback wins. Coach Hess taught us the belief to never give up. We wanted to help because he’s affected all of us in a positive way.”

AN ENTRY BY COACH HESS in Gianna’s CaringBridge Journal shows that the love and respect are mutual. The following excerpt in his own words:

“Today several of our players gave up their Saturday afternoons to sell bracelets and shoe laces to raise awareness about pediatric cancer and help raise money for Gianna. The bracelets bear the saying ‘I Believe That She Will Win,’ a play on one of our crowds chants before and during games. In addition, I am hoping that many of you will be seeing kids and adults alike sporting the neon shoe laces in their sneakers this spring.

If you think I am bragging about our team and program, you are correct. I cry over every text I receive from a former player and today’s events are a testament to the caliber of young men I am privileged to teach and coach. I just want to say to all of my players, past and present, I love you. Thank you

for all you have done for Gianna and my family. It means more to me than you will ever know. God bless you.”

I am brought back to that moment at the Langley/Stone Bridge game. I am brought back to the moment where Coach Hess reminded me what the game is really all about.

It’s about believing that with every opportunity, every game, we put our best foot forward, work together, strive to beat the odds and never give up. It’s about rising from the bench to catch a dropped ball, substitute for an injured player or take a shot.

This is what makes fighting for a win worth it. It’s not about a score on the board, not a singular experience, not a second in time. It’s the even bigger picture - this thing called “our team” is really the lesson sports and some really great coaches teach us about life.

You can help the Hess Family by lacing up either as an individual or as a team. Individual laces are \$5 per pair and to organize and out fit your local or school team, become a “Laces Leader,” and coordinate all the members of your team or organization towards 100 percent participation to “LaceUp4PediatricCancer.” For information on laces or wristbands which are also \$5 e-mail HessHelpers@gmail.com

You can also make a donation directly to Travis and Suzanne at https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_xclick&hosted_button_id=W3WYLB42UKNBL



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9514 Southern Cross Ln.....\$459,950....Sun 1-4..Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

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7245 Archlaw Dr.....\$674,900....Sun 1-4..Carol Hermandorfer..Long & Foster..703-503-1812

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8100 Bright Meadows Ln.....529,000....Sun 1-3.....Taylor McNeal.....Prudential..703-836-1464

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12560 Royal Wolf Pl.....\$529,700....Sun 1-4..Carol Hermandorfer..Long & Foster..703-503-1812
5430 Ashleigh Rd.....\$899,000....Sun 1-4.....Kinder Saund..Long & Foster..202-369-5597
3130 Babashaw Ct.....\$389,900....Sun 1-4.....Jim Souvagas..Long & Foster..703-919-9191

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11808 Winterway Ln.....\$824,900....Sun 1-4.....Cristina Dougherty..Long & Foster..703-969-0471

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6048 Masondale Rd.....\$729,900....Sun 1-4....Barb White Adkins.....RE/MAX..703-609-8950

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1501 Twisting Tree Ln.....\$929,500....Sun 1-4.....Mitchell Schneider.....McEneaney..702-851-4416
1023 Shipman Ln.....\$1,995,000....Sat/Sun 1-4.....Ali Khazai..Fairfax Realty..703-785-4600

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2721 Calkins Rd.....\$600,000....Sun 2-4.....James Nellis.....RE/MAX..703-930-0655

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11638 Newbridge Ct.....\$399,900....Sun 1-4.....Meredith Coughlin.....RE/MAX..703-722-5043
2412 Rosedown Dr.....\$475,000....Sun 1-4.....Debban Dodrill..Long & Foster..703-628-1802

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47351 Westwood Pl.....649,000....Sun 1-4.....Marie Alloca.....Weichert..703-759-6300

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202 Pleasant St, SW.....\$899,999....Sun 1-4.....Tammie Shedd..Long & Foster..571-331-6532
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All listings are due by Monday at 3 P.M.**

Spring Art Festival Returns

Festival to be held at the Village Green Day School Saturday and Sunday.

The Sixth Annual Great Falls Spring Art Festival and Sale, a showcase for art created locally, will be held next weekend, April 21 and 22, at the Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

The festival features pottery, paintings in oil and watercolor, jewelry, photography, woven handbags, digital art, woodcarving and other work created by over 20 artist members of Great Falls Studios, a network of artists based in Great Falls. Many of the participants are either new to the event or returning after a hiatus, bringing additional creativity to the festival.

"This looks like a great show with an interesting lineup of artists," said Linda Jones, a watercolor painter who has organized the event on behalf of Great Falls Studios. "Even if you've been to one of the other Spring Festivals, you'll find new and different art and gifts each year, and this year is no exception."

Great Falls boasts over 95 working artists, most of whom work out of studios in their homes. The Spring Festival, plus the Holi-



"Betty's Daffodils," an oil painting by Great Falls artist Karen Bateman, is typical of the art available at the Great Falls Studios Spring Art Festival being held April 21-22 at the Village Green Day School.

PHOTO
CONTRIBUTED

day Show in December and the annual Studio Tour held each October, give the community an opportunity to see high quality art made locally and to speak with the artists, many of whom are friends and neighbors, about their creations. Admission is free.

Visitors who come on Saturday are eligible to win drawings for two \$50 "Art Bucks" prizes, which can be used on Sunday toward purchase of any work on sale.

A portion of proceeds from the sale of art will be given to the host venue, the Village

Green Day School. The funds will be used to support the development of art education at the school, which serves pre-school-age children. Village Green Day School is just south of the Village Centre on Walker Road.

Great Falls Studios serves the interest of local artists, but it has also become an important community-service organization to help make Great Falls a more artful place. You can get a preliminary look at some of the artists taking part by going to the group's website: www.GreatFallsStudios.com.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

THURSDAY/APRIL 19

4th Annual Green Expo. 6:30-9 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna.

Presentations and discussions for children and adults from 35 organizations and businesses will include information on energy efficiency, purchasing local organic products, creating green gardens, recycling options and more ideas to save money and help the environment. Free admission. 703-255-6356 or csalgado@viennava.gov.

Green River Ordinance and Graham Colton. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. 7:30 p.m. Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna. Edward J. LaClare, Vietnam War veteran, will share his father's, Col. Edward F. LaClare, WWII experiences as an Army Air Force combat fighter pilot. Free admission. 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.

Book Discussion Group. 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call for title. Adults. 703-757-8560.

Jim Brickman. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Pop pianist. \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

"The Crucible" by Arthur Miller. 7:30 p.m. Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Limited

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 17

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

seating. 703-287-2821 or
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FRIDAY/APRIL 20

“Side Man.” 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson’s Corner. Turmoil in a jazz musician’s family as his career crumbles at the dawn of rock-and-roll. \$25. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststage Tyson’s.org.

Kindlewood and Duke Walker at 7 p.m.; **Dub City Renegades, Feed God Cabbage and Nappy Riddem** at 10 p.m. Jammin’ Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Friday Afternoon Chess Group. 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. All ages and skill levels welcome. 703-757-8560.

Jim Brickman. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Pop pianist. \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

Oakton Vocalist Sarah Jebian. 7:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. CD release concert of Jebian’s debut album, “Love Songs & Lullabies.” With Dashboard Divas. 703-725-0651.

“The Fantasticks.” 8 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Musical comedy. \$14, \$12 students and seniors. 703-255-6360 or www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

“Deathtrap.” 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Comedy-thriller about a play within a play. \$14-\$16, group rates available. 866-811-4111 or www.mcleanplayers.org.

“The Crucible” by Arthur Miller. 7:30 p.m. Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Limited seating. 703-287-2821 or www.saxonstage.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 21

MCCP Foundation Dress Up with Grown-Ups Gala. 6-10 p.m. McLean Hilton, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Sit-down dinner, dancing and a DJ. Proceeds benefit the Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation, providing health care for the children of uninsured working families in Fairfax County. Family Ticket \$375 (2 adults and 2 children). \$150 per extra adult, \$75 per extra child. Black Tie Optional.

“Side Man.” 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson’s Corner. Turmoil in a jazz musician’s family as his career crumbles at the dawn of rock-and-roll. \$25. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststage Tyson’s.org.

Children’s Show: The Diggity Dudes. 10:30 a.m. Jammin’ Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

The Deanna Bogart Band. 7 p.m. Jammin’ Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Mother’s Day Craft Show. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Providence RECenter, 7525 Marc Drive, Falls Church. Free admission. 703-698-1351.

Cody and BJ. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Songs about animals and our planet. Meet the Macaw parrot, Cheyenne. 703-757-8560.

Magic Show. 2 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Enjoy a performance by magician Mike Rose. All Ages. 703-790-8088.

Jeri Sager. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Broadway performer and Northern Virginia native \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

Sixth Annual Spring Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great

Historic Tour Through Photos

The Great Falls Historical Society will present “A Photographic Tour of Old Great Falls” as narrated by Kathleen Murphy, GFHS President, on Wednesday, April 25, at 7 p.m. at the Great Falls Library Meeting Room, 9830 Georgetown Pike.

This “Photographic Tour” of Great Falls will be a display of the Naomi Whetzel Collection, recently digitized through the efforts of Doris Carpenter and Suzie Traut, who labored more than one year to complete the task. The digitization project was funded through donations and the annual members’ dues.

Whetzel has been the Society’s Photography Archivist since first joining GFHS in 1972. She once spent four months photographing “every old place and thing” which she could find throughout the Great

Falls community with the assistance of Milburn Sanders, noted local historian.

Whetzel expanded this documentary project into a life long pursuit of early photographs of our region. She actively contacted the descendants of our area’s earlier families. Since some people were unwilling to part with their family photos, even on a short term basis, Whetzel took her equipment to their homes. There she re-photographed each picture, and then interviewed the family in order to accurately identify subjects in their photographs.

It is photographs from this collection that will be shown.

Great Falls residents are invited to consider becoming a member of the Great Falls Historical Society in support of their continuing history gathering efforts.

Falls. Paintings, photography, pottery, jewelry, weaving, woodcarving and more. Free admission. 703-442-9251.

“The Fantasticks.” 8 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Musical comedy. \$14, \$12 students and seniors. 703-255-6360 or www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

“Deathtrap.” 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Comedy-thriller about a play within a play. \$14-\$16, group rates available. 866-811-4111 or www.mcleanplayers.org.

Concert in the Park: “Under the Big Top”. Clemjontri Park, 6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Black-tie concert and dinner featuring a performance by the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 703-506-8980 or www.friendsofclemjontri.com.

Rummage Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Church of the Good Shepherd (United Methodist), 2351 Hunter Mill Rd, Vienna. All proceeds support local and national charities, including Facets Hot Meals and Stop Hunger Now. 703-281-3987 or www.GoodShepherdVA.org.

Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association. Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Proceeds benefit Fisher House Foundation. Line dance lesson at 7:30 p.m., beginning West Coast Swing at 8 p.m. Open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. \$20. Potluck and silent auction. www.nvcwda.org or 703-860-4941.

Meet the Authors. 1-3 p.m. Barnes & Noble, 1851 Fountain Drive, Reston. Great Falls author Sophie Perinot (The Sister Queens) with Kate Quinn (Empress of the Seven Hills) and Stephanie Dray (Song of the Nile). Free and open to the public. www.thesisterqueens.com.

“The Crucible” by Arthur Miller. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Limited seating. 703-287-2821 or www.saxonstage.com.

Clemjontri Park Cleanup. 9 a.m. Clemjontri Park, 6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Kiwanis Club of Tysons Corner/McLean is celebrating Kiwanis One Day, dedicated to

community service.
www.tysonscornerkiwanis.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 22

Cars For A Cause. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. George Mason University Parking Lot K, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Car show, horsepower challenge, children’s activities, trophies, raffles and prizes. Proceeds benefit the Isabel Warrior Princess Foundation (raising funds for a child diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma) and the Children’s National Medical Center. \$15. www.teamunclassified.com.

Wolftrap 5K & Fun Run and Bike Rodeo. Wolftrap Elementary School, 1903 Beulah Road, Vienna. Chip timing. Music, a cake walk, face and arm painting, giveaways and prizes. Following the run will be a Bike Rodeo: bring a bike and helmet, get tips on riding safety and more. funrun@wolftrappta.org.

“Side Man.” 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson’s Corner. Turmoil in a jazz musician’s family as his career crumbles at the dawn of rock-and-roll. \$25. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststage Tyson’s.org.

Crash Concept, Metacomet’s Vision and Meganova at 1 p.m.; **The Lumineers and Kopecky Family Band** at 7:30 p.m. Jammin’ Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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Sixth Annual Spring Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. Paintings, photography, pottery, jewelry, weaving, woodcarving and more. Free admission. 703-442-9251.

Flute Recital. 7 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church 124 Park St, NE Vienna. Reston resident Pamela Daniels performing pieces by Debussy, Brahms, Sencan, and Francaix, with pianist Anna Ouspenskaya and guitarist Robert Hanson. Free, donations accepted. 703-435-8588.

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The Langley High Saxons have struggled to hit consistently over stretches of the season. But solid pitching and defense have helped the Saxons build up an impressive 4-2 Liberty District record.

PHOTO BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION



Langley Baseball Garnerers Two Huge District Wins

Following tough spring break trip, Saxons come back strong with victories over Madison, Jefferson.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

In its first two games following a spring break trip to Wilmington, N.C., the Langley High baseball team was victorious in Liberty District games over Madison High and Jefferson.

The victories, which improved the Saxons' overall season record to 6-6, took place last week. The low-scoring affair with Madison, considered one of the top teams in the Northern Region, was a 2-1 decision which went 11 innings. That contest took place on Tuesday, April 10. The win over Jefferson, a 12-4 road triumph, was played last Friday, April 13.

The wins over both the Warhawks and Colonials improved Langley's district record to 4-2.

Overall, Langley head coach Kevin Healy likes the way his team has played this spring. The main improvement he would like to see over the remainder of the season is the team's prowess at the plate.

"Pitching and defense have been strong all season, so if we can hit a little more, and especially with runners on base, we could really get rolling," said Healy. "It's just a matter of making those adjustments."

OVER SPRING BREAK the first week in April, Langley competed at the Ashley High Spring Break Tournament in Wilmington. There, the Saxons struggled to generate runs and lost all three of their games - 3-2 to the host Ashley High team on April 2; 5-1 to West Forsyth High on April 3; and 8-1 to Hoggard High on April 3.

Going back to a pre-spring break 2-0 loss at Liberty District opponent Stone Bridge High in Ashburn on March 29, Langley, following the three setbacks over the break, returned home with a discouraging four-game losing streak.

"We've been struggling at the plate," said Healy, in the aftermath of his team's three games in Wilmington.

But the Saxons certainly came back to life over their next two games last week, defeating the Madi-

son team, ranked No. 2 in the recent Top 10 Northern Region Coaches Poll, and then breaking through with 12 runs in the Friday night win over the Colonials of Jefferson.

LANGLEY OPENED the season by winning four of its first six games. Following a 3-1 road loss at private school opponent Bishop O'Connell in Arlington on March 13, Langley won both games at its own Saxon Invitational, defeating Edison High (National District), 5-0, in a first round (semifinals) contest on March 15, and then defeating the Washington-Lee Generals, also a member of the National District, in the championship game the following day, 10-0.

Four days later, Langley opened up its Liberty District schedule, losing a close 3-2 game at Marshall High on March 20. But the Saxons, in their district home opener on March 23, edged Fairfax High, 7-6, then followed that up with a 6-5 district road win at South Lakes in Reston on March 27.

So in Langley's first three district games of the season, the Saxons had gone 2-1 with all three outings being decided by one run.

The 2-0 loss to Stone Bridge, in Langley's final game before spring break, put the Saxons at 2-2 in district play.

With the momentum of last week's post spring break wins over Madison and Jefferson, Langley was set to continue play in the Liberty this week with home games over McLean (Tuesday, April 17) and Marshall (Friday, April 20). The latter game with the Statesmen is scheduled to begin at 6:30.

Members of this year's Langley High team are: senior middle infielder Anthony Baskin, senior pitcher/second baseman Andrew Balog, senior outfielder Daniel Richardson, senior middle infielder Jack Frix, senior shortstop/pitcher Matt Moser, senior pitcher/first baseman Jonathan O'Connor, senior middle infielder Brandon Blast, senior outfielder David Paul, senior outfielder/catcher AJ Holtberg, senior pitcher/first baseman Michael Byrne, senior pitcher Andrew Pechstein, junior third baseman Cal Jadacki, senior third baseman Gray Decker, sophomore middle infielder Nick Serger, junior pitcher/first baseman John DeFriest, junior catcher/outfielder Thomas Dungan, junior catcher Nick Hallmark, junior outfielder Phil Loria, junior pitcher/outfielder Joseph Aulisi, junior pitcher/first baseman Bryan Even, junior outfielder Tommy Cole, senior pitcher/outfielder Colin Cantwell, sophomore pitcher/outfielder Jake McSteen, and senior pitcher Bobby Klein.



PHOTO/MARIANNE PENDERCAST

In a recent girls' lacrosse game between the Saxons and Highlanders, Langley goalie Erin Long (40) saves the ball in heavy traffic. This past Friday night, Long had a terrific outing for the Saxons in their victory at Madison.

Langley Lacrosse Wins at Madison

Saxons win riveting Liberty District contest, 13-11.

BY PETER MAHONEY
SPECIAL TO THE CONNECTION

The Langley High varsity lacrosse team defeated the reigning Virginia State champion Madison Warhawks on their home turf in Vienna, 13-11, in a Liberty District showdown last Friday night between two of the state's top-ranked girls programs.

Propelled by a five-goal outing by junior Grace Goettman, who took and won the majority of the game's draws, and a stellar performance by the Lady Saxon defense, led by junior goalie Erin Long's 13 saves, Langley built a 13-6 lead with five minutes left and then withstood a furious comeback attempt by the powerful Warhawks.

Langley snapped the Warhawks' string of unbeaten games at 26 and emerged tied with Stone Bridge atop the Liberty District standings. Senior Nicky Pritchett contributed three second half goals for the Saxons.

Madison surged on Katie Kerrigan's goal at 4:04. Following a yellow card call against the Saxons, Kerrigan again tallied at 3:10 and a minute later

Kehoe scored, sending the home crowd into a frenzy and leaving the Saxon's lead at a sudden and perilous two goals at 13-11 with less than two minutes remaining.

But as they have all year, the Lady Saxons gathered themselves and refused to bend. Goettman skied for the draw, the Saxons snagged the ball, and the sure-handed Soutter, Glasgow and Martins were instrumental in outrunning the desperately chasing Warhawk defenders as time finally ran out.

"This was a terrific win over a championship-caliber Madison team," said Langley coach Richard DeSomma. "We had some calls go against us in the second half and Madison was able to pull off a run near the end, but we kept our poise and closed them out. The defensive unit played an outstanding game and I can't say enough about Erin Long's performance, which was the difference-maker tonight. We will see Madison again in the postseason, and I hope we will perform as well."

Earlier this week Saxons continued Liberty District play with a home game against Fairfax High on Monday night.

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