

Great Falls CONNECTION

Having Fun Along the Potomac

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SUMMER FUN 2012

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Bill Canis as Uncle Sam at the annual Hometown Celebration in Great Falls. This year on July 4, Celebrate Great Falls will host a parade, activities games and fireworks.

Exploring Local Day Trips

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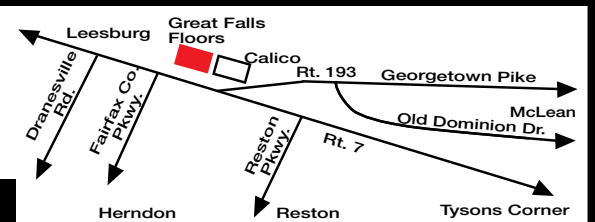
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Crews continue to use a huge bright yellow horizontal crane to build the bridges for rail from Route 7 to the median of the Dulles International Airport Access Highway/Dulles Toll Road. This work is expected to be completed in July.



PHOTOS BY
CHUCK SAMUELSON/
DULLES CORRIDOR
METRO RAIL PROJECT

A Decision Time for Silver Line

Deadline approaches for Loudoun County Board vote on extending the rail into county.

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK
THE CONNECTION

Whoever coined the quip “like herding cats,” must have had in mind the financing of the Dulles Rail Project. It requires getting consensus from two county boards of supervisors, Fairfax and Loudoun, the Federal government, the Virginia government and therefore the governor and state legislature and the Washington Metropolitan Airport Authority.

The project’s course, so far, brings to mind another quip; “the perils of Pauline.” From an argument over a tunnel under Tysons Corner to disputes about underground facilities at Dulles Airport, the project has slipped from one crisis to another. Even if the rail project’s second phase were to go smoothly from here on out, it will take as long to build the 23 mile metro line as it took to build the Transcontinental Railroad.

However, the word “smoothly” does not seem applicable since the most recent “peril” is the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors.

In the 2011 elections, Republican candidates won every seat on the board in a voter rejection of the spend-thrift actions of their predecessors.

THE NEW BOARD has approached the funding question with suspicion, but must make a decision to opt in or out of the project by July 4. If the board supports the project, the county will have to pay some \$270 million in construction costs and \$11 million a year to help finance Metro’s operating costs.

The members have met several times over the past few months trying, without success, to find methods to fund the county’s share.

The board has set one more meeting before the fourth.

Vice Chairman Janet Clark (R-Blue Ridge) wrote a letter to her constitu-

ents on June 7 setting out her concerns. She said although the line’s extension was considered for years, the “prior boards merely endorsed the concept of rail to Loudoun, they did nothing to establish a means for paying for it.”

She said the original concept was that the rail line would be paid for by federal dollars and state funds, but now there are no federal dollars and Virginia’s one time contribution of \$150 million will only be enough to “buy down the Dulles Toll Road/267 tolls for two years,” she said. Some 54 percent of the funding must now come from Dulles Toll Road revenue, she said. The tolls, which will grow astronomically as the costs of the rail grow, are considered a tax on the people of Loudoun. There is a lawsuit in federal court that may threaten the tolls as a funding source for the metro. The class action suit challenged MWAA’s authority to level taxes under Virginia law and may be decided later this year.

Clark writes the Silver Line Metro won’t be running until 2017 so the county will have to build the stations before the revenue from station parking begins.

Clark warned her constituents that there could be tax districts formed in the rail areas and “possibly a county-wide tax on commercial and industrial properties.” In some incorporated towns, she said, there could be three levels of tax, a development “that could put some of our small businesses out of busi-

SEE LOUDOUN BOARD, PAGE 7



Tysons Corner Station.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Virginia Bobby Mathieson, Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force Ray Colgan, Congressman Frank Wolf, Falls Church City Police Chief Harry Reitze, Leesburg Police Chief Joseph Price, FBI Special Agent in Charge Ronald Hosko, and U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia Neil MacBride attended the ceremony June 22, in which a check for \$850,000 was presented to the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force from the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund.

Gang Task Force Receives \$850,000

The fight against gang activity in Northern Virginia received a financial boost last week in the form of an \$850,000 check from the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund. U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Virginia Bobby Mathieson presented the check to Ray Colgan, executive director of the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force. The raid of an illegal gambling operation in Falls Church in August 2011 led to criminal asset forfeiture of more than \$1 million.

The Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional partnership of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies that address gang activity in Northern Virginia through dedicated officers and resources, thereby making the region inhospitable to gang activity.

The funds received last week will be used for expenses such as a tattoo removal program, car leases, police overtime, equipment and training.

U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) attended the presentation and spoke about his appreciation for the hard work of law

enforcement officers on the task force and how their efforts have made the community a much safer place.

The Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture Program encompasses the seizure and forfeiture of assets that represent the proceeds of, or were used to facilitate, federal crimes. The primary mission of the program is to employ asset forfeiture powers in a manner that enhances public safety and security. This is accomplished by removing the proceeds of crime and other assets relied upon by criminals and their associates to perpetuate their criminal activity against society. Asset forfeiture has the power to disrupt or dismantle criminal organizations that would continue to function if we only convicted and incarcerated specific individuals.

Law enforcement equitable sharing payments, such as the one made to the task force last week, are paid to state and local law enforcement agencies for assistance in forfeiture cases. Equitable sharing payments are calculated using the degree of direct participation in law enforcement efforts resulting in forfeiture.

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Beth and David Sansbury of Great Falls, authors of the book "52 Perfect Day Trips."

PHOTO
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Exploring Local Day Trips

Beth and David Sansbury chronicle '52 Perfect Day Trips.'

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Great Falls residents Beth and David Sansbury are no strangers to travel. The two of them count 67 countries they've visited. But after long careers in the CIA, they had enough of being cooped up in an office. So after retirement, they began spending their days outdoors pursuing their true passions: hiking, biking, kayaking and touring local attractions.

"Soon we made it into a pretty serious thing, we'd set aside a day whenever we could and make a trip," Beth Sansbury said. "We started writing down the trips we would take, then we began telling our friends about it and soon it became a much more formal thing."

For the Sansburys, making a formal thing resulted in their book "52 Perfect Day Trips for Fit Adults in the Greater Washington Area." In the book, the two outline 52 separate full day trips that consist of a hike, bike or kayak trip for half a day, then a half day at a local attraction.

"We're high energy people, so that's what we wrote about in the book and why we say 'for fit adults,'" she said.

The book is three years in the making, as the Sansburys began documenting their day trips, not sure where it might lead.

"Once we got about 30 trips in we got a lot more structured about where we would visit and took a more systematic approach to make sure we were covering all the areas north, south east and west," David Sansbury said.

THE BOOK covers an area no longer than a one-and-a-half hour drive from the D.C. area, and goes as far north as Frederick, Md., south to Orange County, Va., east to Chestertown, Md. And west to the Shenandoah.

"Having lived here since college, I was amazed when we started seeing how many great places were so close," Beth Sansbury said. "One of the most interesting places we saw was only about five miles

from where we live along the George Washington Parkway. There's a path with all these waterfalls, all between the Chain Bridge down to Georgetown, and they were beautiful. I drove along that road every day for years and never knew they were there."

Each trip is meant to be a full day's journey there and back, and includes a lunch recommendation for a local eatery. David said he is still amazed at the range of experiences.

"There's geographic diversity, places of incredible historical significance, homes that presidents have lived in," he said. "We discovered places filled with history, beautiful architecture, stunning gardens and secret trails."

Some trips can be made year-round, others are meant to be taken advantage of in certain weather. All the trips include directions, why the destination is worthwhile and details of what visitors can expect to see.

"Hopefully the book can act as a timesaver," David Sansbury said. "We spent a lot of time working out the places to visit, the places to eat and writing down directions, so it's all there."

One trip advises travelers to take a section of the Billy Goat Trail (located on the Maryland side of Great Falls) to the Glen Echo house of Clara Barton (who brought the International Red Cross to America). Another advises a trip to Fountainhead Regional Park's Occoquan Reservoir for a boating trip, lunch at the Haveabite Eatery in Fairfax and finishing at the Fairfax Museum.

THE COUPLE make a good pair, with David tending more toward the research side of things and Beth more of a natural writer when it came to organizing their thoughts and findings.

"To be honest, we did the research beforehand, so we didn't make too many trips that were left on the cutting room floor," Beth Sansbury said. "But through David's research, we have huge packets of information about locations, probably enough for a second book."

Their book, "52 Perfect Day Trips," is available as a hard copy at Amazon, and as a color e-book at www.lulu.com. The book includes pictures of most trips.

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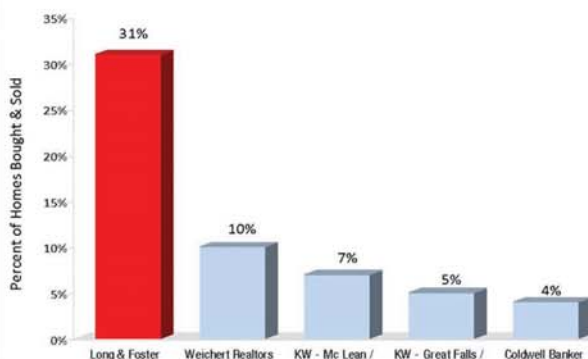
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THURSDAY/JUNE 28

Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce LeadShare Meeting.

7:30 a.m. Chesterbrook Residences, 2030 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. LeadShare events will be held the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month. Register at 267-346-1885.

Sierra Club/Great Falls Group

Activist Night. 7-9 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. If you are concerned about

the environment, consider committing two hours a month to working with staff and volunteers on current Sierra Club campaigns at Activist Nights. Free. 703-352-2410.

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Federal Job Application

Workshop. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St., NE, Vienna. In this workshop a federal expert with over 25 years of experience in the federal sector will guide you. Registration Fee \$35, Members \$25.

SUNDAY/JULY 1

Dog and Cat Adoptions. 1-4 p.m. PetSmart, 8204 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Every Sunday. Sponsored by Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation. www.lostdogrescue.org.

MONDAY/JULY 2

Week-long Chess Camp. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Learn from Silver Knights chess coaches: basic rules to advanced tournament strategies. All chess supplies provided. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

Week-long Fishing with Friends Camp. 8:30 a.m.-4:40 p.m. Vienna

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 9

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Loudoun Board to Vote on Silver Line

FROM PAGE 3

ness.”

On Tuesday Clarke and two other board members said they wanted an extension of the deadline until December, but BOS chairman Scott York (R-At large) said there would be no extension and the decision must be made on July 4.

At this juncture, people who followed the debate believe that there are four members of the nine member board in favor of the Silver Line and four members against. Board member Suzanne Volpe of the Algonkian District, a Republican, is reportedly uncommitted. Volpe is a resident of Sterling, Va. The vote is so unclear, however, that nobody wanted to be quoted guessing the outcome.

AS THE DEADLINE NEARS, there is growing ire on either side of the debate. Right wing groups have attacked the Silver Line project as a tax. According to the Washington Post, a group funded by the Koch brothers, a pair of conservative Kansas billionaires, have conducted robo calls in the county saying that funding the Silver Line will mean a “bailout for developers.”

Clark and other opponents claim they have faced “strong-arming and veiled threats by some developers and elected officials.”

Stephen S. Fuller, the director of the George Mason University’s Center for Regional Analysis, prepared a report in March which warned, if Loudoun does not go along with the Silver Line, “the county’s economy will grow more slowly, driven by gains in

lower value added employment and imported income earned by residents commuting to jobs located outside the county.” He saw a loss of \$11.2 billion in foregone economic activity in 2030 and \$25.6 billion lower gross county product in 2040 “than had Metrorail been extended to the county as planned.”

Throughout there has been major criticism by Republicans of the MWAA’s unwillingness answer to any level of government. MWAA was forced to abandon an extensive underground welcoming facility at Dulles and late last week agreed to cancel a labor rule that favored organized labor under pressure from the governor and Rep. Frank Wolf, (R-10). Wolf has urged a federal inspector general be appointed to oversee MWAA’s finances.

But Wolf said earlier this month that he firmly supports the Silver Line serving Loudoun County. He called it the most important project since the original Metro system.

Fairfax BOS chairman Sharon Bulova has called upon Fairfax’s federal representatives to work harder to reopen the question of federal funds for Phase 2. Some \$900 million in federal money contributed to Phase 1 of Dulles Rail which runs through Wiehle Avenue in Reston and will be completed in 2013.

She quoted Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood saying that Metro is “America’s system providing millions of riders to the nation’s Capital” and the federal government needs to find money in its 2013 and 2014 budgets to complete the project.

Jack Potter, president and the chief executive officer of MWAA, has said that even if Loudoun opts out of the project the Silver Line will be built.

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OPINION

Case Closed. Why the Secrecy?

No reason for police to exercise “blanket” approach, shielding every document in every case.

Connection readers know that we respect and appreciate our public safety professionals. Members of local police and fire and rescue departments are motivated by their deep commitment to serve and protect our local communities. We honor those with our coverage of valor awards, features on police efforts to curb drunk driving and distracted driving, and tragically sometimes a death in the line of duty.

While police earn and deserve a special consideration, police departments in Northern Virginia should let go of their relentless pursuit of secrecy. Police departments all over the country routinely allow access to police reports, incident reports and many other documents without harm, documents that police here refuse to allow the public to see.

The first paragraph of Virginia Freedom of Information Act, passed by the General Assembly in 1968, states that all public records “shall be presumed open.” But the legislation includes an exception that allows police to withhold “complaints, memoranda, correspondence,

case files or reports, witness statements and evidence.”

Police officials in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria have adopted what they call a “blanket” approach to using their exemption. That means they have decided to withhold any docu-

EDITORIAL

ment they can without any analysis of whether they should. Police chiefs and prosecutors from across the commonwealth have spoken out against any effort to undermine their broad power of exemption.

Senate Bill 711, originally introduced in 2010 by state Sen. John Edwards (D-21) and up for discussion again this week, would limit the blanket withholding of information to ongoing investigations. This could allow for the public release of documents in closed cases such as the one conducted by the Arlington Police Department about the death of Hailu Brook. In December, 2008, Fairfax County police officers chased 19-year-old Hailu Brook across the county line into Arlington and shot him

dead. Brook, a senior at Yorktown High School, had reportedly robbed a BB&T in McLean.

The autopsy report, one of the few documents his parents were able to obtain, shows that the teen was shot 20-25 times by three officers with large caliber handguns. Baffled by what happened to their son, the parents sought access to police reports and documents, but even now that the case is closed, their requests have been denied.

Police wield power unlike any other entity — the power to detain and question, the power to arrest, the power to respond with force when necessary, sometimes deadly force.

With that power, comes responsibility — the responsibility to operate openly and with transparency, the responsibility to make available the greatest possible amount of information, especially the responsibility to provide the public with a full picture of what happened when something goes wrong.

Somewhere along the way, police leaders in Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax have gone astray in their control of information.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Getting the Full Picture

To the Editor:

This week's mail delivered the most recent Comstock Connection, the newsletter our Delegate, Barbara Comstock, uses to keep her constituents informed of her activities down in Richmond.

In her opening statement, Ms. Comstock wisely notes, “Many bills we pass never make the headlines, but they do impact our everyday lives.” I agree completely. We are aware of the bills

that made news during the last legislative session, however, it is just as enlightening to find out about the bills that didn't receive

as much publicity, and I just wish that the newsletter had gone further to give a true picture of her positions on issues important to the voters in her district.

For example: The newsletter highlights Ms. Comstock's support of legislation that would ensure that our tax dollars are being spent on transportation solutions for our local traffic woes. But the fact is, Ms. Comstock also supported several bills that take away local control of comprehensive transportation planning. If there is no local control, the state can continue to use Northern Virginia's economic success as a cash cow for the rest of the state. This seems at odds with the successes Ms. Comstock touts in her newsletter.

Ms. Comstock claims that she supports legislation that cracks down on crime. In fact, bills supported by Ms. Comstock may make Virginia a much more dangerous state. Legislation she supported would now allow concealed firearms to be carried in cars, and into bars and restaurants serving liquor. In addition, she supported a bill that lifted the limit on the number of firearms that can be purchased in a 30-day period. Does this make you feel safer?

Finally, another area Ms. Comstock highlights as an achievement is in the area of women's health. While it is true that she co-sponsored a bill mandating disclosure of the health risks posed

by dense breast tissue, it is a stretch for Ms. Comstock to say she “supports” women's health. She has consistently voted to defund organizations devoted to providing health services to poor

and at risk women. During this last session, she supported a bill prohibiting the use of Medicaid benefits to pay for abortions even in the cases of fetuses that a physician certifies would be born with a “totally incapacitating” physical deformity or mental deficiency.

Ms. Comstock is our Delegate, and she is supposed to be representing our values. Even though she is not up for re-election this November, it is important to know where she stands, and how she votes, on all of the issues, and to make our opinions of her actions known.

As Ms. Comstock urges, look beyond the headlines, but get the full picture. You may be surprised at what you see.

Jeff Cosby
McLean

Siding with Polluters

To the Editor:

On June 20, Senators Warner and Webb sided with polluters instead of standing up for Virginians' health when they voted for a bill to block much-needed mercury pollution standards for power

plants.

Mercury exposure can lead to learning disabilities and developmental disorders in children, and already one in ten American women of childbearing age has mercury levels in her blood high enough to put her baby at risk. Knowing that I fall into the category of childbearing age, it frightens me to know Senators Warner and Webb were willing to risk a child's health by voting “yes” for the bill.

Thankfully the Obama administration recently finalized a standard to clean up mercury pollution from power plants. The new standard will cut mercury pollution from power plants by 90 percent.

But on June 20, the U.S. Senate voted on a bill to block the new standard. Thankfully, despite Senators Warner and Webb's votes, the Senate rejected this bill, which would have put up to 11,000 American lives at risk every year—and potentially caused health defects in children who have yet to experience life.

Environment Virginia urges Senators Warner and Webb to stand up for Virginians' health and our environment in the future by supporting these commonsense measures to protect our kids' health.

Morgan O'Neil
Environment Virginia

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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:

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BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. For ages 9-14. Learn beginner and intermediate tricks and tactics for freshwater fishing in nearby ponds and rivers. Virginia Fishing Adventures provides all food, drinks, bait, tackle, rods, reels and lifejackets. \$440-\$490. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

TUESDAY/JULY 10

Tyson's Corner Kiwanis Club Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at George C. Marshall High School, Room 124, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Meeting is public and individuals looking to volunteer in their community welcome. Meetings the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. www.tysonscornerkiwanis.org.

OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS

Will Return after the Holiday



To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call 703-778-9410

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Public Meeting Set to Present 2012 Park Bond

The Fairfax County Park Authority and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority will hold a joint public comment meeting on Monday, July 9, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in Rooms 106/107 of the Herrity Building located at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA. This meeting will provide an opportunity for residents to learn about plans for a bond referendum this fall and to comment on the bond program highlights.

In May, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors authorized a \$75 million Park Bond referendum as part of the Fiscal Year 2013 through 2017 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This referendum, if approved by voters this fall, would provide \$12 million for the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and \$63 million for the Fairfax County Park Authority.

The Fairfax County Park Authority has worked hard to create a balanced approach to capital improvements. Using the Needs Assessment 10-year capital plan, facility condition assessments, park master plans and stakeholder input as tools for project selection, the allocation of park bonds would fall into three categories: stewardship and land acquisition, facility renovations, and park development. The project list balances priority needs, reinvestment in aging facilities, advancement of phased projects and improving the park experience.

The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority utilizes a similar approach to allocating park bond funds, taking into account user needs, the capital improvement program, the strategic plan and existing facility conditions.

At the July meeting, staff will present the categorical highlights of the bond and will take public comment. Individuals and groups are welcome to speak. Individuals may speak for three minutes and representatives from groups may testify for five minutes. To sign up to speak in advance or for more information, contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662. You may also sign up to speak at the meeting. The public may also submit written comments to the Park Authority at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927 Fairfax, VA 22035-1118 or at parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

To submit comments to the Regional Park Authority write to 5400 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039 or pladev@nvrpa.org. All comments will be taken until August 10, 2012.



Northern Virginia
Regional Park Authority



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least ten working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354 703-324-8700 • ONLINE : www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov



4th of July Hometown Celebration & Parade

Wednesday, July 4th



Schedule of Events

8am-9am	5K Walk/Run <i>Great Falls Freedom Memorial</i>
9am-9:45am	Little Patriot Parade <i>Great Falls Village Centre Green</i>
10am-10:45am	Main Parade <i>Starts on Columbine and proceeds around Great Falls Village Centre</i>
10:30am-12:30pm	Festivities, Food, Games & Fun <i>Great Falls Village Centre Green</i>
6pm to Dusk	Evening Fun & Fireworks <i>Turner Farm</i>



Little Patriot Parade

Great Falls Village Centre Green

Babies and children up to age 5 are welcome to parade around the Green. Awards for "Young George Washington," "Little Miss Betsy Ross," and "The Star Spangled Family."

9am Registration at the Gazebo ~ 9:15am Start

Questions? Contact Laura DiCarlo
lauradicarlo@verizon.net

Main Parade Information

Registration

To be in the parade, all floats, cars, entertainers & others need to register online at www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org
Parade staging will take place at 9:30am on Lunenburg Rd. between Minburn and Columbine Streets.

Make a Float !

We encourage neighborhoods, local businesses, or any group to make a float for the parade!

PRIZES!!

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BEST ORGANIZATION

Bring your Pet

Bring your friendly dog on a leash to walk in the parade!

Dress your dog up and meet at the corner of Lunenburg and Columbine Street at 9:40am.

Treats provided by
Great Dogs of Great Falls

Young Bike Riders Welcome!

Young bike riders will join the parade once it reaches the Village Centre. A space for riders and their parents to gather and view the parade before joining it will be reserved in the large Wachovia Bank parking lot.

No need to register



For more information or to register for the Parade, go to www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org

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4th of July T-Shirts & Hats Now Available

Look for them at Katie's Coffee (mornings), Safeway (Sat & Sun), selected evenings at The Old Brogue and The Tavern. Or email your order to GF4thParade@gmail.com for pick up at the above locations. All proceeds are used for the Parade & Festivities.

Adult T-Shirts-\$20, Children T-Shirts-\$15, Hats-\$15

NEW THIS YEAR! ~ 5K Walk/Run with Great Falls Trail Blazers

New this year, the Great Falls Trail Blazers are bringing The Annual 5K Walk/Run to our local trails. Join us for an 8am start at the Freedom Memorial on the Library grounds. From there, go off-road on the Lucy Hanes Trail, along Arnon Chapel and past Great Falls Elementary before heading back to the Freedom Memorial. Any questions, contact Mary Anger at

GreatFallsTrailBlazers@yahoo.com



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See you at the Fireworks!

Turner Farm Park

Monday, July 4th, 2012

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE:

6 pm

Evening Games & Activities

6 - 7:30 pm

Bennie Potter & Western Electric plays

7:30 - 9 pm

Megawatt plays

Dusk

Fireworks Begin

USE THE ATTACHED FORM TO SEND YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO NEIGHBORS FOUNDATION.
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- 4 x 8 Individual or Business banner displayed July 4th at Turner Farm Park

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- 3 x 6 Individual or Business banner displayed July 4th at Turner Farm Park

SILVER SPONSOR (Business or Individual membership)

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- Enjoy Premium VIP viewing area and parking at Turner Farm Park for you and your guests
- Includes 4 VIP July 4th Fireworks "Tailgate" Vehicle Parking Passes & 15 VIP Guest Passes
- 2 x 4 Individual or Business banner displayed July 4th at Turner Farm Park

BRONZE SPONSOR (Business or Individual membership)

\$600 (\$550 Tax Deductible)

- Enjoy Premium VIP viewing area and parking at Turner Farm Park for you and your guests
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Fairfax County Public Schools FY 2013 Budget and New Schools Opening

New School Buildings Opening in September

Students in three Fairfax County communities are eagerly anticipating the first day of school on September 4. Two new schools, Mason Crest Elementary School in Annandale and South County Middle School in Lorton, will open their doors for the first time. Graham Road Elementary School will move students from the old school location to a redesigned building previously used as an administrative building. All three projects were funded by bonds approved by Fairfax County voters.

Mason Crest Elementary School

Mason Crest Elementary is located at the site of the old Lacey Instructional Center at 3705 Crest Drive in Annandale. Members of the community participated in naming the school which combines the name of the old Masonville school and the Broyhill Crest neighborhood.

"We are excited to already be working with our parents and our community," said Brian Butler, principal at Mason Crest. "Our mission is to ensure high levels of learning for all our students and it will take all of us, parents, teachers, and the community, working together to honor every student."

More than 470 students in grades K-5 are expected to attend Mason Crest. The school will

host programs and services including a Family and Early Childhood Education Program (FECEP/Headstart), advanced academic local level IV services, special education preschool and School-Aged Child Care (SACC).

The two-story building was designed with sustainable and environmentally friendly features including a ground source heat pump, the first one installed in a Fairfax County Public School. The heat pump uses 96 geothermal wells buried 400 feet under the ground to exchange heat to or from water in pipes as it travels to and from the building. Electricity helps move the heat back and forth, but the pump does not burn fossil fuel. This process helps reduce the school's carbon footprint because there are no harmful emissions to the environment.

South County Middle School

South County Middle School was built in one of the fastest growing areas of Fairfax County. It sits on 40 acres of land located at 8700 Laurel Crest Drive in Lorton and was constructed on property obtained from Fairfax County Park Authority.

Many of the students attending the new middle school previously attended South County Secondary School (SCSS), which is adjacent to

the new school property.

"We look forward to keeping many of our SCSS traditions as we create a new identity as a separate middle school," said Marsha Manning, principal of South County Middle School.

The middle school is a two-story building with more than 176,000 square feet. It will have 40 general education classrooms and additional elective rooms for students in grades 7 and 8. By obtaining land from the park authority and using the same design as was used for Glasgow Middle School, FCPS was able to achieve cost savings for the development and design of the project.

The new middle school will be home to state-of-the-art technology and facilities and host an Advanced Academic Level IV Center Program and a program for intellectually disabled students.

"We're thrilled to move into a new building that we will make into our home," said Manning. "We will strive to make every student feel capable, connected, and a contributor at South County Middle School."

Graham Road Elementary School

Graham Road Elementary is moving to a new location that will increase the school's capacity for more students and provide improved athletic fields and playground facilities. The new location will be at 2831 Graham Road in Falls Church.

In 2008, the Fairfax County School Board decided it would be less disruptive to renovate the administrative center than to renovate the elementary school since students would not be on the campus during the renovation. The new site also offered less traffic congestion, better traffic flow, and an opportunity to keep the Head Start-Family and Early Childhood Education Program (FECEP) together with the K-6 students in one building.

"The opening of our new school building is very exciting for our students, parents, and staff," said Terry Dade, principal at Graham Road. "We are eagerly anticipating the day when the doors officially open and the students' faces light up as they enter a building that is bright and inviting and provides the latest technology and resources to enhance their learning. We sincerely appreciate the community support during this process and we're really looking forward to the first day of school in September."

The renovated building has been transformed with all new interior and exterior finishes, energy efficient windows, and a new roof. In addition, a new HVAC system has been installed along with a new fire alarm and other life safety systems.



Getting To Know Us

IT Operations Cathy Sells

As you watch a building being constructed over time, you notice the concrete being poured, the roof being built, and the windows installed. Each person working on the school building plays a significant role in the process and is relied upon by the whole team.

Opening a new school building requires coordination by a team of skilled professionals, from the areas of design and construction, transportation, food service, human resources, information technology, safety and security, instructional services, special services and many others.

Behind the scenes there is much going on that may not be visible or noticeable. Cathy Sells, director of operations for information technology (IT) at FCPS, works with the entire IT department to ensure that the technology required for a school building is available when and where it is needed.

"Technologies such as network connectivity, voice services, wireless access, data storage, computer equipment, printers, and copiers ensure a contemporary learning environment for 21st century instruction," said Sells.

"Our IT team works very closely with the school principal on the technology plan for the school. Our mission is to provide technology leadership and services to ensure a safe and secure environment for 24/7 learning.

"It is really fascinating to see the coordination of the people involved when we build a new school," she said. "Everyone works together to ensure that the new site will be the best possible place for the students and staff in that community. We all rely on each other and it's one of the best things we do as an organization."



Fairfax County School Board Adopts FY 2013 Approved Budget

The Fairfax County School Board has adopted the Fairfax County Public Schools 2012-13 school year (FY 2013) Approved Budget of \$2.4 billion that includes:

- compensation increases for employees.
- the elimination of student athletic fees.
- more than 700 new positions to address enrollment growth.
- extended learning time for at-risk students.
- the expansion of the World Languages program in elementary schools.
- a phase in of mandated employee contributions to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS).

The FY 2013 Approved Budget is an 8.2 percent increase over the FY 2012 Approved Budget. For more information visit www.fcps.edu and click on FY 2013 Budget.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 28

Daylily Exhibit, Sale and Tour. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. The Northern Virginia Daylily Society will exhibit a variety of daylily blooms. Bare-root plants offered for sale. Daylily walking tour at 10 a.m. Free. 703-255-3631.

The Skatalites and Murphy's Kids. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Wolf Trap Opera Company: Vocal Colors. 6:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Filene Young Artists perform. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

Ted Garber. 7:30 p.m. Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Blues, Americana and rock. Free. 703-324-7469.

Reptiles Alive. 2:30 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. See a giant python, an alligator and other reptiles from around the world. Age 6-12. 703-356-0770.

Sierra Club/Great Falls Group Activist Night. 7-9 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. If you are concerned about the environment, consider committing two hours a month to working with staff and volunteers on current Sierra Club campaigns at Activist Nights. Free. 703-352-2410.

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

Marah. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Eric Brace and Peter Cooper. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Country melodies and lyrics. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Wolf Trap Opera Company: Don Giovanni. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

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

"The Prince and the Troubadour." 8 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email boxoffice@1ststagetysons.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Children's Shows: The Smithsonian and Jammin Java present Billy Jonas. 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

John Wesley Harding. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Eric Brace and Peter Cooper. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Country melodies and lyrics. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Author Martha D. Peterson. 2 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. "The Widow Spy: My CIA Journey From the Jungles of Laos to Prison in Moscow". Book signing to follow. Adults. 703-356-0770.

"The Prince and the Troubadour." 2 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating.

\$10. 703-854-1856 or email boxoffice@1ststagetysons.org.

SUNDAY/JULY 1

Wolf Trap Opera Company: Don Giovanni. 3 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

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.

25th Annual International Holy Convocation of the New Born Lighthouse Church of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. Services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Sheraton Premiere at Tyson's Corner, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. www.nblchurch.org or 301-499-2105.

Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park. 5 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean. Take a trip around the world with Summer 2012's multicultural music concerts. www.mcleancenter.org.

"The Prince and the Troubadour." 2 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email boxoffice@1ststagetysons.org.

TUESDAY/JULY 3

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. or Ed.Cottrell@macp.org.

DinoRock. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Giant colorful puppets created by the Emmy Award-winning puppet designer Ingrid Crepeau offer songs, skits and dances. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

25th Annual International Holy Convocation of the New Born Lighthouse Church of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. Services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Sheraton Premiere at Tyson's Corner, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. www.nblchurch.org or 301-499-2105.

Crosby, Stills & Nash. 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$30-\$45. www.wolftrap.org

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

4th of July Fireworks Celebration. 8 p.m. Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. See Northern Virginia's best fireworks display to honor our nation's 236th birthday. Receive an American flag from McLean American Legion Post 270. Shuttle buses available from St. John's Lutheran Church on Douglass St. and Georgetown Pike and the McLean Community Center. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

25th Annual International Holy Convocation of the New Born Lighthouse Church of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. Services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Sheraton Premiere at Tyson's Corner, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. www.nblchurch.org or 301-499-2105.

Town of Vienna Celebrates July 4th. 5 p.m. Southside Park, 1315 Ross Drive SW, Vienna. Activities from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. will include food and drink for sale, games and rides, arts and crafts vendors, community organization booths, antique cars, a chili cook-off and music. Fireworks show will begin at 9:15 p.m. Spectator seating areas open at 5 p.m. www.viennava.gov.



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SUMMER FUN 2012

Riverbend Park, with extensive plant and wildlife resources, will host many activities for all ages and interests this summer.



PHOTO BY
ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

“We’ve also been blessed with the opportunity to get new canoes, the Friends of Riverbend Park secured us a grant for 10 or 12 new canoes, so we’ll be running a lot of new canoeing programs.”

— Ethan Kuhnhehn, recreation programs manager at Riverbend



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

McLean Symphony Festival Singers Director Felicia Kessel Crawley and baritone William Powers at The McLean Symphony’s Season Finale Concert, June 2.

‘Ode to Joy’ in McLean

In its 2011–2012 Season Finale concert on Saturday, June 2, The McLean Symphony (TMS) premiered a new composition, presented a suite of much-loved arias, and performed Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9, 4th movement known as the “Choral,” recognized for its powerful “Ode to Joy” theme. This concert marked completion of a year-long celebration of 40 consecutive years of making music in the greater DC area under the baton of music director Dingwall Fleary. Already looking toward another decade, Maestro Fleary and the Symphony have performed throughout the greater DC area in addition to the regular concert series in McLean.

In a program recognizing the human voice as “The First Instrument,” the concert included more than fifty voices with the McLean Symphony Festival Singers, prepared by Felicia Kessel Crawley. In addition to the Festival Singers, The McLean Symphony was joined by four professional soloists, each of whom has previously performed with the orchestra and Maestro Fleary. Soprano Joyce Lundy, mezzo soprano Valerie Kehembe Eichelberger, tenor Antonio Giuliano and baritone William Powers sang the key soloist roles of the “Ode to Joy,” in addition to each being featured in a much-loved operatic aria by Puccini, Mozart or Bizet. The concert was introduced by television journalist Roger Mudd, a long-time friend of The McLean Symphony.

For the season’s crowning work, The McLean Symphony members swelled to more than 70 instrumentalists. Together with the McLean Symphony Festival Singers and the four featured solo artists, they brought Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 “Choral” (“Ode to Joy”) to the McLean area. This is only the second time in 40 years that Maestro Fleary has presented the “Ode to Joy” in this area; the first time was the celebration of 20 years of conducting classical music in McLean.

More information about The McLean Symphony is at the website, www.mclean-symphony.org, and at the Symphony’s blogsite, <http://mclean-symphony.blogspot.com>. For additional information, write to mail@mclean-symphony.org.

Having Fun Along the Potomac

Riverbend, Great Falls Parks offer summer activities.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Potomac River makes up the eastern border of Great Falls, and this summer the two parks located alongside it will be brimming with summer activities over the next few months, as Riverbend Park and Great Falls Park will host a variety of classes, trips and educational sessions.

The Fairfax County Park Authority will be hosting a variety of new camps and programs at Riverbend Park, as well as their historic properties the Grange, Dranesville Tavern and the Forestville Schoolhouse.

“This summer is kind of an all-time high for us, there’s a lot going on and I think the public will really like what we have to offer,” said Ethan Kuhnhehn, recreation programs manager at Riverbend. “We’re offering over 30 camps for kids ages 3 to 15. This gives us a chance to do some really cool programs, because we don’t have that much indoor space at Riverbend.”

The park authority will offer programs in new astronomy, geology, digital art, photography, basket weaving and more, for children and adults.

“We’ll also have the usual boating, fishing and fitness programs we’ve been running for the past few years,” Kuhnhehn said. “We’ve also been blessed with the opportunity to get new canoes, the Friends of Riverbend Park secured us a grant for 10 or 12 new canoes, so we’ll be running a lot of new canoeing programs.”



Guests at Langley High School watch the annual fireworks show, hosted by the McLean Community Center.

Riverbend also offers kayak and Jon boat activities and most boating activities will take place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Kayaking and hiking fitness classes are also offered.

Great Falls Park is 800 acres along the Potomac River, which

A Festive Fourth of July

Celebrate Great Falls will host its annual Fourth of July Hometown Celebration, starting at 8 a.m. Wednesday, July 4. The Great Falls Freedom Memorial will be the site of the annual 5K Walk/Run, and the annual Little Patriot Parade at 9 a.m. at the Village Centre. Babies and toddlers up to age 5 are invited to don patriotic attire and walk around the Village Green.

The main parade, which will make a loop around the village, will start at 10 a.m. and feature a variety of classic cars, community floats and other organizations.

The village green will host games and other activities until 12:30, and then the annual fireworks and other activities will begin at Turner Farm at 6 p.m.

More information can be found at www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

welcomes almost 500,000 people per year. The plants and animals that reside in the park represent interests for almost every kind of outdoor enthusiast.

“The rocky outcroppings see some really unique formations of rock and vegetation that exist just downstream of the falls,” said Brent O’Neill of Great Falls Park. “Down through the Potomac Gorge we have all these unique environments that are considered globally rare.”

Popular activities at Great Falls Park include wildflower, bird watching and hiking. Interns and volunteers will be helping with several new programs, including geology and photography programs.

“We have a junior ranger program for anyone with young kids in the family, ages 5 to 10... kids can come out and work on a booklet and earn a Junior Ranger badge,” O’Neill said.

SUMMER FUN 2012

The Schmid family, mom Abbie, kids Addison, Caden and Caleigh splash around in the Atlantis Waterpark, located at Bull Run Regional Park on June 20. In addition to the spacious wading area and a sand pit, the park has a large pool with an island of slides in the middle, a splash pad with water cannons, showers, sprinklers and a 500 gallon dumping bucket, and two large water slides.



Cooling Off at Waterpark



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/
THE CONNECTION

Trying to beat the heat, Austin Pacheco of Culpepper takes a ride down a slide in the center of the pool on June 20 at Atlantis Waterpark, located at Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville. The waterpark boasts a 500 gallon dumping bucket, many slides and a sand pit.



Elias Gilman of Centreville is a busy builder on June 20 at the Atlantis Waterpark in Centreville. The park boasts a large pool with an island of slides in the middle, a splash pad with water cannons, showers, sprinklers and a 500 dumping bucket, a spacious wading pool and two large water slides.



The crowd at Atlantis Waterpark, located at Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville, hearing the dinging bell race to stand underneath the 500 gallon dumping bucket on June 20, one of the many exciting features of the waterpark. The splash pad offers water cannons, showers, sprinklers, buckets and more. In addition the pool has a 230-foot open slide and a 170 ride in an enclosed slide as well as a large wading pool and sand pit. More information at www.atlantisbullrun.com



Bryce Gilman of Centreville digs away in the sand pit at the Atlantis Waterpark located at Bull Run Regional Park on June 20. The park boasts a large pool with an island of slides in the middle, a splash pad with water cannons, showers, sprinklers and a 500 gallon dumping bucket, a spacious wading pool and two large water slides.

A GAP In My Thinking

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Recently, due to circumstances beyond my control, I was forced to buy a new car (in this instance, "new" means different, not a current model year). Estimated repairs at 137,000 miles that could have escalated into the unknown – and unaffordable – thousands compelled me to fish so I wouldn't have my bait cut (and I don't even like to fish). As a result of this unexpected commitment, the light at the end of the financing tunnel has all but disappeared (I had one year left on our previous car). Where once I was nearly right-side up, I am now upside down, inside out and no longer counting the months until my final payment. Now, I am counting the days until my second month's payment (there's too many months remaining to count months). All that I had anticipated as being old is once again new: the bank/lien holder, the payment amount/terms and the inch-thick payment booklet. Seventy-two months can really stack up.

But I really didn't have a choice, unfortunately. In fact, I was dealing from a position of weakness (my car was undriveable). The dealership, after examining the car's engine, sort of knew that fixing my car, given its age and mileage, was probably unlikely, so they made me an offer – as a trade toward the purchase of one of their vehicles. It wasn't ideal by any means, but given the mechanical troubles, I didn't feel as if I had any practical options (I wasn't going to tow my car to various dealerships for offers, was I?) so I swallowed hard and tried not to bite the hand of the seller as the deal (and I use that term loosely) was presented to me. I accepted. And so the damage/mean deal was done. I wasn't happy about it, although I did receive fancy, and expensive, floor mats for free. However, I wasn't quite finished.

As any car-purchaser knows, the deal isn't really done until, as they say, the paperwork is finished. And "paperwork" means sitting down with the finance manager to sign and seal that "deal." Only after doing so will you know what your "new" car is actually going to cost (with miscellaneous "add-ons" like undercoating). For me, my monthly payment increased by nearly \$100: extended warranties, prepaid service contract and tire replacement insurance, all of which sounded like a good idea – and prudent, at the time. Now I'm not so sure, but what's done is done and the less said about it the better. I really do have other things to worry about, as you regular readers know.

One of the offers the finance manger made to me, which I had no regrets refusing, was GAP insurance. My understanding now is that GAP Insurance pays off the balance of the outstanding loan in the event an accident "totals" the car, far exceeding the settlement offered by standard coverage, often suggested/encouraged/required when a low down payment is made and the borrower is approved for a significant percentage of the cost of the vehicle. Given the other add-on commitments I had already made and my impatience at considering additional dollars, I passed and so we finalized the paperwork.

Maybe I was too hasty. Incorrectly, I thought GAP Insurance had more to do with the balance of the loan being paid off in the event of death and/or disability. Since I'm already disabled and have sufficient life insurance – and don't want to think about death, if possible, I declined. I never even gave the finance manager an opportunity to explain or to give me a quote. For all I know, the price might have been right. I should have at least listened since, as an a cancer patient, still undergoing treatment, I'll never be able to buy insurance any other way. Had I listened, I would have learned of my misunderstanding, and considering what I now know to be the meaning/purpose of GAP Insurance, I might have considered it.

But it's too late; I called, and now I'll never know if the benefit was worth the cost. But that's what happens when you're terminal; there's only so much you can worry about. It's somewhere between picking your spots, being mentally overwhelmed and self-preservation. It's a regular three-ring circus – without the clowns. I hope I live to regret my decision – and never need to fill the gap caused by my "hasty" decision.

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

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PHOTO/COURTESY OF WILDTHINGS

The Langley Wildthings are under the direction this summer of head coach Mason Walsh (right) and assistants Sam Speers and Will Brumas.

Langley Wildthings Victorious In Season-Opener Swim Meet

Locals are under new coaching staff; StingRays also open summer with a win.

The Langley Wildthings (1-0) won the opening meet of the 2012 season against Mansion House, 223-196, in an NVSL Div. 5 meet held last Saturday, June 23.

The Wildthings swept three races: boys 9-10, 50-meters breaststroke (Jack Hoeymans, Benjamin Scott, and Sean Mullery finishing first through third, respectively); girls 8-and-under 25 breaststroke (Liliana Schone, Helena Swaak, Natalie Schmanske); and boys 8-under, 25-butterfly (Luke Watson, Danny Quinn, Gardiner Tyler).

Two Langley individual records were broken: 13-year-old Jinwon Bailer in the boys 13-14, 50-butterfly (29.16); and Liliana Schone in the girls 8-and-under 25-butterfly (20.26). As a point of interest, the former 25 butterfly record of 20.32 was held by Liliana's older sister, Izzy!

One Langley Relay team record was broken - by the girls' 8-and-under 100-free team of Natalie Schmanske, Kate Walter, Helena Swaak and Liliana Schone. The foursome timed at 1:18:97, bettering the old record of 1:22:53.

Double winners for Langley were: Luke Watson, Vincent Watson, Jinwon Bailer, Emily Wallach, Jack Hoeymans, Elena Shklyar and Liliana Schone.

Single winners for Langley were: Maggie Bellaschi, Kate Walter, Zach Thompson, Nathan Johnson, Kelly Crittenberger, Audrey Wallach, Jack Reilly and Schuyler Bailer.

THIS SUMMER'S Langley Wildthings enter the swim season under the training of a new team of coaches, all local and former NVSL swimmers themselves.

Head coach Mason Walsh is assisted by Sam Speers and Will Brumas in working with the nearly 190-member Div. 5 team at The Langley Club in McLean.

All three coaches began swimming within the NVSL in early childhood. Walsh swam for the Herndon Hammerheads, starting at age five, while Brumas and Speers swam together for Hamlet Swim Club (McLean) for more than a decade.

Coach Walsh also swam collegiately for Virginia

Tech where she was an NCAA All-American. She placed 12th at the U.S. Olympic Time Trials in the 50-meters freestyle event.

While the Wildthings look forward to these credentials helping them to put marks in the win column this season, Coach Mason says her "biggest priority is having fun. That's what summer swimming is all about."

"Aside from being technically sound, team spirit is the second priority," added Mason. "That's what we all loved about NVSL swimming growing up."

Coaches Speers and Brumas concur. "The age range of summer swimmers, five to 18, gives you a unique set of relationships. Year-round swimmers can come back to summer swim and get that same excitement that you had when you were little. You get to grow into the team you started with. That makes swimming, which really is an individual sport, into a team sport."

The Langley Wildthings is an NVSL summer swim team offering a fun, team-oriented experience for youngsters ages five to 18. The goal of the team is to provide every member an opportunity to improve swimming skills and achieve success at his or her level of ability.

The RiverBend StingRays (Great Falls), in Dominion Country Club Swim League action this past Saturday, June 23, defeated Country Club of Fairfax, 402.5 to 113.5. RiverBend improved to 2-0 on the young season.

The 200-meters, 13-14 girls relay team of Maya Valcourt, Lauren Bell, Kate Hall and Micaela Grassi broke a team record with a time of 2:27.85. Micaela Grassi, meanwhile, broke two team records - in 50-fly (31.47) and 50-backstroke (33.76).

StingRay swimmers Will Koeppen, Carter Bennett, Ryan Windus, Katherine Allen, and Micaela Grassi each won four events in the meet. Also, Anna Takis, Pearce Bloom and Sarah Allen won three blue ribbons each, and Sara-Bailey Zeiller won two events.

Other first place winners included: Connor Smith, Taylor Maguire, Olivia Franke, Tommy Rogers, Colin O'Connor, Charlotte Bell, Matthew Dungan and Christopher Blankingship.

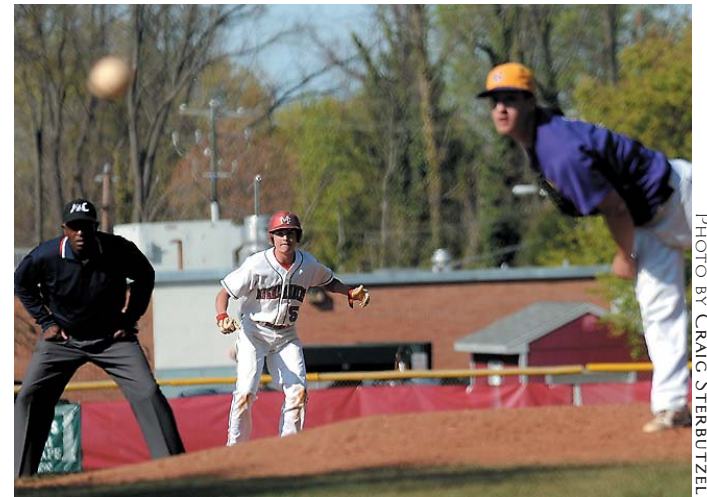


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL

McLean High's Joey Sullivan, shown here as a base runner on third base, was named Second Team All-Liberty District this past baseball season.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

All-District Baseball: The following Langley High and McLean High baseball players earned All-District accolades this past 2012 spring season. From Langley (Liberty District), First Team All-District selections were Collin Cantwell (Outfield) and Matt Moser (Utility). Second Team Saxons were Brandon Bast (Shortstop); Cal Jadacki (Third Base); and Michael Byrne (Pitcher). From McLean High (Liberty District), First Team honors went to Josh Sborz (Pitcher); Brock Hunter (Pitcher); and Hardy Cox (DH). Sborz was named the District Player of the Year. The lone Highlander earning Second Team All-District accolades was Joey Sullivan (DH).

McLean Youth Soccer (MYS) Premier Soccer Academy Camp

began its weekly sessions this past Monday, June 25, for youngsters ages under-16 through under-17. The weekly camp sessions will run all summer through Aug. 31. Half day, full day and elite evening sessions are available. Players from all clubs are welcome. Sessions are directed by MYS' professional staff. Registration is online on the club's home page: www.mcleansoccer.org. For more information, please email admin@mcleansoccer.org.

Eric Reed of McLean was honored as the 2011 US Youth Soccer Administrator of the Year award recipient earlier this year on Feb. 17 at the US Youth Soccer Awards Gala, held in Boston. More than 1,000 individuals were in attendance.

As treasurer of McLean Youth Soccer, Reed has played a piv-

otal role in bringing the club to a healthy financial position, enabling strategic investments in field improvements. Reed brought modern business and financial practice expertise to a club with more than 3,500 players from nearly 2,500 families and a budget of nearly \$2.5 million. Reed has also served on the McLean Youth Soccer Board of Directors for almost five years.

The recipient of the Administrator of the Year award is selected by the US Youth Soccer Board of Directors. The Administrator of the Year Award honors the extraordinary accomplishments in administration over a career.

Stuart High School in Falls Church will host its annual sports camps this summer.

The girls' combination Volleyball-Basketball camp will be held July 16-19 for grades kindergarten through fifth. Also, a girls' Volleyball-Basketball camp for youngsters sixth through 10th grades will take place July 23-26. The boys' basketball Camp will be held June 25 through June 29. For more information and to get registration forms, go to raidersports.org.

Potomac Inline Hockey

in Chantilly is offering free, year-round 'Learn to Skate, Learn to Play' lessons for youngsters interested in playing inline hockey. Lessons are held on Saturday mornings from 8-9 at The Box in Chantilly. Registration can be done online at www.potomachockey.com. Contact youth@potomachockey.com or call 703-961-8280 for full details.

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The School of Theatrical Dance

32 Years...serving Great Falls...
and the home of Great Falls Dance Theatre



Director, Theresa D'Alessandro

For Tots: TWINKLETOES and PRE-BALLET...
For Children: BALLET...JAZZ...TAP...
For Youth-Teens: BALLET...POINTE...JAZZ...TAP...MODERN...

Congratulations to All Our Dancers on a Beautiful Performance!
Scenes from recital 2012, "Road Trip USA"



Sunset on the Grand Canyon: Taryn Dunlavey, Alex Grieco, Mary Hagen Grow, Jil Lawler, Adrianna Lundgren, Meghan Maloney, Sarina Prasad, Sonia Prasad, Katie Satterfield, Jenna Walter



Buffalo Gals:
Syndey Pham,
Erica Steffy

Photography:
Tuan Pham



Shenandoah: Rebecca Anger, Lauren Megrue



I Love Lucy: Lisa Medici



Rte 66 Diner Waitresses: Taryn Dunlavey, Joanna Lundquist, Meghan Maloney, Sophia Nickles, Sarina Prasad, Sonia Prasad, Katie Satterfield, Taylor Smith, Ruth Wright



Broadway: Jessie Dennis, Alex Grieco, Mary Hagen Grow, Jil Lawler, Holly Lundeen, Adrianna Lundgren, Sydney Parks, Emma Volanth, Jenna Walter, Sara Warrington



Amber Waves of Grain: Jesse Dennis, Joanna Lundquist, Sophia Nickles, Sydney Parks, Taylor Smith, Emma Volanth

Jump for the Joy of Poetry in Motion

Find yours at The School of Theatrical Dance this Summer!

Summer Company I (Ballet and Contemporary) - July 9-13, 5-8pm

Summer Co VII Modern Intro July 16-20, 4-7pm

Summer Co.II (Ballet and Contemporary) July 23- 27, 5-8pm

Summer Co. III (Ballet and Contemporary) July 30-Aug 3, 5-8pm

Summer Company IV (Broadway) Aug. 6-10, 5-8pm

Summer Company V (Pointe and Variations) Aug. 13-17, 5-8 pm

Summer Co. VI (Hip Hop and Jazz) Aug. 20-25, 5-8pm

Ballerina Backstage Bootcamp! TBA

With faculty members Florian Rouiller, Theresa D'Alessandro,
Kris Beery, Ashley O'Banion and Voltaire Green

Daytime Classes Ongoing

M) Aerobics 9-10, Pilates 11-12

T) Int. Ballet/ Jazz 10: 30-12 (Begins July 3)

W) Aerobics 9-10, Pointe and Variations 10:30-12 (Begins July 4)

Th) Pilates 9:15-10:15, 10:30-11:30 Zumba

F) Aerobics 9-10, Int. Ballet /Jazz 10:30-12 (Begins July 5)

Fitness Membership (Aerobics, Zumba) only \$120 for 10 classes!

For Pilates information, contact Leslie Anthony at (leslie@traditionalpilates.com or 703.476.5930)

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For more information, please contact us at 703-759-5652 or e-mail: tdance.inc@verizon.net

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