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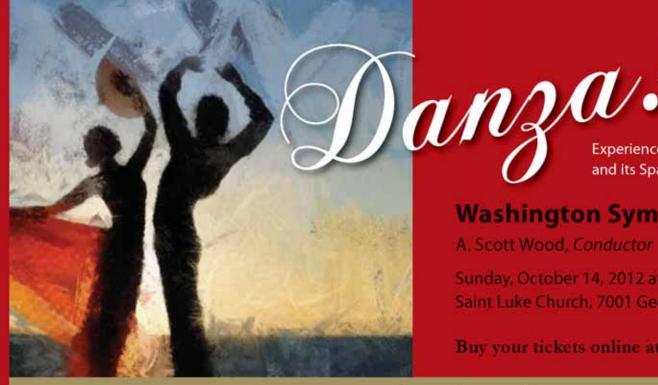
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From left, Kavye Vij, Maren Kranking and Sherwin Momenian, participants in the second annual Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial essay contest at the Great Falls Library, Saturday, Oct. 6.

Colvin Run Students Honored

Students take first, second place in annual Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial essay contest.

> By Alex McVeigh The Connection

he Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial named the winners of their second annual essay contest Saturday, Oct. 6, hosting several

participants at the Great Falls Library. Two Colvin Run Elementary School students, Maren Kranking and Sherwin Momenian were named first and second place winners, respectively.

Students who participated spent their summer writing about a Virginia hero, using three of the words that are in the stones that surround the memorial.

Kranking wrote her winning essay on Maggie Walker, the first female bank president and first female to charter a bank in the United States. Kranking cited Walker's care, service and perseverance throughout her life in working for the equality of women and African-Americans.

"Because Maggie was such a caring person, she dedicated her life to service to-

ward others," she said.

department store, started a newspaper and continued her work even as her health declined and she became paralyzed late in life.

"Maggie accomplished these things with perseverance. During her life, she had to face many hardships...ten years before her death, her health started to decline. Maggie suffered from paralysis www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

and spent the rest of her life in a wheelchair. Even though she had to face all this, she stayed involved in her services to her community until she died."

Momenian chose Arthur Ashe as his subject, calling him "caring, perseverant and courageous" due to his abilities to use his tennis success to fight against racism.

"This famous hero didn't just want to be an athlete who just hit the ball. He wanted blacks to be a part of sports as much as whites," Momenian said. "He wanted to put an end to the myth that blacks were inferior and passive."

Momenian said he especially admired how Ashe never gave up, despite numerous obstacles. He cited

Ashe's march in Washington, D.C. in support of Haitian refugees, even while he was dealing with HIV.

"Arthur Ashe wasn't just a tennis player or a great athlete. He was a hero to people all around the world," he said. "He cared for blacks, he never gave up and his courage changed a lot of people's lives. He always thought globally and nothing could stop him from pursuing his goals."

The Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial was founded in 2002, and the essay contest is part of the group's three-pronged mission, which also includes maintenance of the memorial and coordination of the annual Memorial Day, 9/11 and Veterans Day ceremonies.

"This contest is part of our edu-

cational mission, where we promote the study of history and patriotism in the Great Falls area through In addition to founding a bank, Walker opened a the students that live here," said Ed Heberg of the Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial. "The library has given us great support, and is practically a co-sponsor of the event, since this is where students can do their research."

The next event hosted by the friends will be their Veterans Day ceremony, which will be Monday, Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial.



Volunteer Christina Wenks shows water distribution.

Promoting Clean Water at **Forestville Elementary**

• orestville Elementary School and the Forestville PTA hosted the Wyland Foundation's Clean Water Learning Center last week in Great Falls. The 1,000foot mobile classroom featured science exhibits, computer models and running rivers.

"This was a rare opportunity for students to have the handson learning experience offered by the center," said Forestville Principal Matt Harris.

The center has not visited the Washington, D.C. area in at least four years.

This is the second event that fifth-grade Forestville student Taylor Betts has brought to the school. Last year, Betts hosted Brandon Paquin, who was a first responder in the real life

rescue of the Dolphin "Winter." Winter is featured in the film "A Dolphin's Tale." Betts is a Wyland Foundation Youth Ambassador.

Taylor's mother, Ruth Attebury, said, "We are hoping to further the Wyland Foundation's mission of inspiring and educating the public on the importance of healthy oceans and waterways."

"We are fortunate to have Taylor and her parents at our school," said Harris. "They have helped enhance the learning experience of students at Forestville and generate interest in oceanic preservation."

The Wyland Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, protecting, and preserving the world's oceans, waterways and marine life.



Fifth-grade student Taylor Betts discusses water pollution.



Forestville fourth-grade class outside Clean Water **Mobile Learning Center.**



Sherwin Momenian reads his essay for the Friends of the **Great Falls Freedom Memo**rial. Momenian wrote about Arthur Ashe for his essay.



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Village Green Hosts Fall Festival

By Alex McVeigh The Connection

he Village Green Day School in Great Falls hosted their annual Fall Festival Wednesday, Oct. 3. For student Grady Robbins, this meant a special surprise when he got to school.

News

"Two moon bounces in our parking lot makes for a fun school day," said Robbins, a member of the Bumblebees class.

Throughout the morning, students could wander to several different stations set up in the school's parking lot, including an obstacle course, the two moon bounces and other stations.

The festival concluded with a show by local magician Mike Perrello, who performed tricks featuring his bird Houdini, and a few that involved members of the audience.

"What a perfect way to have fun outdoors and keep the students busy and entertained," said Tina Nuovo, who came with her nephew. "The only downside is be him coming to school tomorrow and not having a magic show."



Cleo Dinitropoulos, 5, gets her face painted at the Village Green Day School Fall Festival Wednesday, Oct. 3.







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Trent Sarin, a student at the Village Green Day School, plays in one of the moon bounces at the school's Fall Festival.

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Bigger, Better MPAartfest

cLean Project for the Arts is in the midst of their 50th anniversary year, celebrating with special exhibitions and programs and activities, the biggest of which will be the MPAartfest. With 50 selected artists and events including returning favorites like the Children's Art Walk and Innovation Station among new additions like MPAartfest Idol and the community art project Leaf Your Mark, the 50th anniversary will live up to the mark of gold that 50 years deserves.

MPAartfest co-chair Margi Vanderhye said that the quality of the art sale will still be the thing that really makes the artfest stand out. They were able to expand the number of artists to 50 expressly because they received so many high quality entries this year.

Capital One Executive George Swygerts is the other co-chair; he said the event serves as a wonderful showcase for the community's local artists and contributes to community vitality.

There are not only additions to the color palate of this year's event, but also to the taste palate: on tap will be the MPA Wine Cafe



MPAartfest will be hold at **McLean Central Park this** Sunday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

with wines from Chain Bridge Cellars accompanying hors d'oeuvres and tastings from Lebanese Taverna, Nourish Market and J. Gilbert's, Lost Dog Cafe and Mama's Donut Bites.

Live performances on the Gazebo Stage from 2012 MPAartfest Idol winner The Exceptions fea-

turing Jason Saitta (15, from Chantilly) and Max Snyder (16, from Clifton) serve to amp up the atmosphere. Noelle Topetzes, a volunteer heading up the music project with Jeff Levin of Big V Productions, expressed their mutual desire to reach into the local art scene; MPAartfest Idol has helped them seek out local talent and bring it to the community.

The Children's ArtWalk, the Senior Art Spotlight, Open Studio and Innovation Station art tent will all return, with some new features.

The event is on Sunday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in McLean Central Park.; parking is available for free with shuttle buses courtesy of Montessori School of McLean. The event is free, however a \$5 donation is suggested; funds raised from the fest go to MPA's exhibition and art education program, in addition to funding the educational festival itself. For more information, including a schedule of performing artists, visit www.mpaart.org.

—Chelsea H. Bryan



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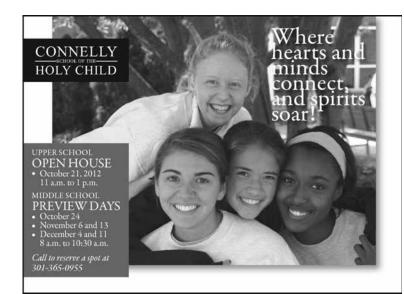
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News

Photo by Andrea Worker/The Connection



(From left) **Supervisor** Catherine **Hudgins (D-**Hunter Mill), Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-Large) and Fairfax **County Dept.** of Transportation Director **Tom Biesiadny** prepare to address the audience at their Countywide **Dialogue on** Transportation

Citizens Urged to Speak Up **On Transportation Funding**

County looks for public's opinions and suggestions on funding options.

hat issue could be so important that the mayors and chairs of 38 jurisdictions within Virginia's "Urban Crescent," the area stretching from Northern Virginia to Richmond and Hampton Roads, could set aside political affiliations and sometimes conflicting agendas to sign off on a letter sent collectively to the governor, lieutenant governor and the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia? Long question, short answer: transportation.

"You know the issues are urgent when you can get that many leaders in this partisan atmosphere to all agree and to take action quickly," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-Large). Bulova was speaking at a public meeting held at the North Government Center in Reston on Oct. 3, the fifth in a series called "Countywide Dialogues on Transportation."

Supervisor Catherine Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) opened the session. "There is a negative change in how we are being funded by the state," she said. "The County doesn't have a dedicated revenue source to fund transportation. Leg islatively, it is the state's responsibility, but we need to address those changes. We are here to talk about what our challenges are and how do we meet them. '

Chairman Bulova was next up.

"The well of state funds for secondary and primary road construction will be dry by 2017," she warned. "Even the funds meant to match federal dollars. The money you pay in gasoline taxes that go to the federal government to be a match for states won't be eligible, and there are no refunds. That's a real problem."

THIS LOOMING FUNDING **CRISIS** and the fact that Virginia has slipped from number 10 to 33 in the CNBC study "Top States for Business" rankings released in July

"The well of state funds for secondary and primary road construction will be dry by 2017." — Fairfax County Board of

Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-Large)

was the reason for the Sept. 4 letter sent by the Urban Crescent officials to the Commonwealth. That letter is a show of solidarity. It's important," Bulova added. "But we can't wait for the answers. Fairfax County has to act now."

Part of the County's action plan was to task their Department of Transportation (DOT) with a study

of needs and funding shortfalls over the next 10 years, to develop a benefit cost analysis tool to utilize when considering transportation projects, and to identify potential revenue sources to address the funding gaps. Another key component of the County DOT's assignment was to disseminate their findings in public meetings and solicit public feedback before any action is taken. The "Countywide Dialogues" are the DOT's method to fulfill that aspect of their mission.

Director of the DOT Tom Biesiadny led the presentation: "Our study identified \$8.1 billion in transportation related needs, but we only have \$5.1 billion in anticipated revenues from existing sources. Either we find new and sustainable revenue sources, or we must prioritize our needs and decide which ones we cannot go forward with.'

Maintenance of our roads-the responsibility of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)-is a major concern. According to VDOT, 26 percent of all of the state's roadways are in poor condition. In Northern Virginia, 39 percent of the roads under VDOT's domain are so classified. New road construction funding by the state has decreased from \$29 million in FY2004 to \$0 in FY2010 and is projected to stay at nil for at least the next six years. The federal government has increased funding loans available for transportation, but those dollars can only be accessed if a funding source for loan

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Photo by Andrea Worker/The Connection

Director Tom Biesiadny addresses the attendees, surrounded by boards depicting the Fairfax County Dept. of Transportation's report on the state of transportation in the County and possible revenue options to meet transportation needs.

Citizens' Input Sought

From Page 6

repayment is identified. Some of the unfunded projects that need attention according to the DOT include the Tysons Corner Redevelopment, Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) improvements, transit service expansions and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

After enumerating the issues and reviewing some of the projects identified in the study, Director Biesiadny moved into part two of the discussion: potential revenue sources.

"I want to emphasize that this is the beginning of a discussion," said Biesiadny. Responding to concerns raised by a Reston couple in attendance, he stressed, "We are not here to advocate for any particular revenue source, or package of sources." The Reston duo declined to be identified in the paper, but stated they came to the meeting after having read online that the County was proposing to implement a toll on the Fairfax County Parkway. "We have lived here since before that road was built," said the female resident. "I am a dog walker in this area. If I had to pay a toll every time I drove on the Parkway, I would have to give up my job."

Biesiadny admitted that a Fairfax County Parkway toll had been used in the study as an example. Tolls were only one of 13 categories for revenue sourcing examined. Other categories included increased Income, Sales, Meals, Real Estate, Gas and Sales

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on Services Taxes. Currently there is no Sales on Service Tax in Fairfax County. Haircuts, repairs, and dry cleaning services were noted as examples of such services. "Again," assured Biesiadny, "this toll is not a proposal, or even a recommendation. We just used this as an example to show how our model works. Our model identifies a particular revenue source, then calculates the potential revenue to be gained. For each source we determine whether it is eligible for bonding, what legislative body must approve the source, and what would be the estimated household impact."

THE ENTIRE DIALOGUE PRE-SENTATION, as well as a brief survey asking the public to provide opinions and suggestions on pos-

opinions and suggestions on possible funding options is available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ fcdot/cdot. The letter from the Urban Crescent officials can be found on Chairman Bulova's website www.Fairfaxcounty.gov/ Chairman/. The chairman, Supervisor Hudgins and Director Biesiadny urged attendees to review the materials and complete the survey, which is also available in hardcopy from the DOT. To encourage greater response, Bulova gathered staff before departing, getting agreement to extend the survey deadline to take into consideration the Connection Newspapers publication dates. Survey responses will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 15.

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Opinion Cancer Awareness

Success with breast cancer awareness should help other cancers.

ctober is breast cancer awareness month. Anyone connected to media of any variety already knows this. A massive marketing success, we all know that pink shows support for breast cancer prevention, especially in October.

For me, last month marked three years since I completed chemotherapy and radiation for breast cancer. Because of early detection, advances in treatment (surgery, radiation, chemotherapy and ongoing hormonal treatment in my case), and ongoing monitoring, my prognosis, and the prognosis for most of the 2.5 million breast cancer survivors in the United States, is excellent.

Still in 2008, the last year reported by the CDC, 40,589 women died from breast cancer. The same year, 210,203 U.S. women were diagnosed with breast cancer. It is the most common cancer for U.S. women other than skin cancers.

Breast cancer awareness month is the perfect time to be sure that you and/or the women in your life are following best practices for breast cancer screening. While in recent years, there has been some confusion about breast cancer screening, if you have a family history of breast cancer, it is never too early to talk to your doctor about how to approach your preventative care. All women age 40 or over should talk with a doctor experienced in breast health about when to begin screening mammograms and how often to have them. When it comes to what is best for your breasts, self exam, knowing your own breasts and what feels normal, is a low-tech, low-cost measure.

In January 2009, I found a lump in my breast that I knew immediately was not normal. A coworker's diagnosis of breast cancer had prompted me to have an overdue mammogram seven months before I found the lump, and that mammogram was perfectly normal. The mammogram after I found the lump showed the difference, a glowing spot that led the radiologist to say he would be "very concerned." The biopsy of the lump confirmed the concern.

Now three years later and cancer free, I can tell you that if I did not find that lump, if I waited two years for my next mammogram, my outcome would very likely have been different.

I share my experience in breast cancer awareness month, not because the experience defines me, but because I know how easy it is to put off a mammogram, how easy it is to miss months of self-checks, and because I know, early detection in breast cancer really can save lives.

THE SUCCESS of the breast cancer awareness movement has resulted in more than \$630 million annually in spending on research. It is not too much.

But at Connection Newspapers, we have two other employees who are in ongoing treatment for cancer. Kenny Lourie, who has stage 4 lung cancer, writes a weekly column that appears in most of our papers that discusses his more than three-year journey with candor and humor. Jean Card was diagnosed with Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia in early 2011 and has also written about her experience as she raises money for leukemia research and outreach. Visit www.LighttheNight.org and search APL Dumpling Gang.

Lung cancer kills more people in the United States every year than any other kind of cancer, in fact more than the other top cancers combined. In 2008, more than 208,000 people were diagnosed with lung cancer and more than 158,500 died of lung cancer. This is more than the deaths from breast, prostate and colon cancer combined. Spending on lung cancer research? Less than half spent on breast cancer, about \$280 million annually. As Lourie wryly points out, part of the problem may be that you can't turn out tens of thousands of lung cancer survivors for a march because, well, there are very few survivors over time.

Prostate cancer has more new cases per year and about the same death rate as breast cancer, but half the funding.

In 2012, there were an estimated 47,150 new cases of leukemia with 23,540 deaths, more than half the number of annual breast cancer deaths. But funding for leukemia research lags behind.

Nothing should be taken away from the efforts of breast health advocates. But clearly more effort is needed in other areas.

SPEAKING OF HEALTH RISKS, on average more than 20,000 people a year in the United States die from the flu. The numbers vary from year to year, with as many as 50,000 deaths in some years, and some studies showing the average number of deaths to be more than 35,000. The influenza vaccine is a cheap and effective method of preventing or reducing the impact of the flu.

Remember that no matter what health plan you have, there is just one person in charge of your health care: you.

> — Mary Kimm, mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

> > -Andrea Worker

Candy

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great shape,

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broker,

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How would you describe the current housing market Viewpoints situation in your area and prospects going forward?

Sharat Ahuja, realtor, Long & Foster, Fairfax, and Terra Firma **Realty Group**

"I work mostly in the Fair Oaks

area, the 22030, 31 and 33 zip codes. What I see are prices going up overall, slowly. Not as fast as areas closer in, but still improving. Inventory is very low. Some people are waiting to see prices getting back more to 2005-2006. But if a house is priced right, it can sell quite fast."

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Richardson, realtor, Weichert **Realtors**, Chris **Great Falls** Pezzana, "My primary associate market is the broker, Route 7 corridor. Weichert **Realtors**.

Reston

McLean, Great Falls, Reston, Herndon, Sterling. What I am seeing is this year has been much stronger for sellers. More buyers, fewer sellers, which I think is a good thing. It doesn't necessarily translate into much higher prices. For sellers who are realistic about pricing and stage the house properly, we're finding that they are getting very good, quick sales. The benefit so far is in the quick sale. Priced right, staged right, offered in the right market and we have gotten sales within 10 days."



"Overall, I think the economy in our area is doing well. I think the prospects for the future are excellent. I think we should be optimistic. Nationally, it's getting better, in areas that were the hardest hit we see improvements."



builder who sells in the million plus range. I have sold seven over-a-million homes in the last four months. And my re-sales are also doing well. I listed a home in Burke three weeks ago on a Friday, and had three offers by Monday. If it's priced right and shows well, it's selling. When the market slowed, I took on rentals."

News



Benny Potter and Western Electric playing classic rock and rockabilly music.

Great Falls Optimist Club to Hold Annual Barn Dance

The Great Falls Optimist Club is holding its seventh annual Barn Dance, complete with a live band—"Benny Potter and Western Electric"—and barbecued ribs, chicken and bar-b-que from Famous Dave's on Saturday, Oct. 13, from 7 to 11 p.m. Proceeds from this year's event will go to the Great Falls Children's Fund and Childhood Cancer Charity.

Club member Linda Thompson has again donated the use of her refurbished bank barn in Great Falls for the upcoming event. Famous Dave's dinner, water and soft drinks will be provided by the Great Falls Optimist Club and beer and wine will be available for donations. The cost is \$60 per person. There will be donations from local businesses for raffles and an auction.

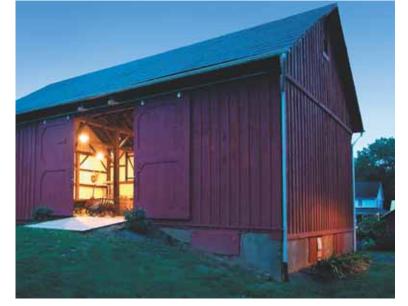
This year's party and dance will be held in a changed setting: Linda Thompson has fixed up the barn

with lights, a stage and countrystyle decorations that create the perfect ambiance.

The Great Falls Optimist Club is a child-centered (501-c3) nonprofit organization that focuses on supporting, encouraging and challenging children to reach greater heights. A voluntary organization, the club is always interested in welcoming new members and volunteers. Among the many annual family-oriented events sponsored or assisted by the club are the Great Falls Children's Spring Festival and Egg Hunt, the Fall Spooktacular at Halloween and the Fourth of July celebration in Great Falls.

If you are interested in joining the Great Falls Optimist Club or volunteering at specific events, contact Membership Co-chair Angela Bongiorno at 703-759-2925 (vze3cxh6@verizon.net). Contributions can be mailed to PO. Box 233, Great Falls, Virginia 22066.

Photos courtesy of T R Cook/The Great Falls Optimist Club



Linda Thompson has fixed up the barn with lights, a stage and country-style decorations that create the perfect ambiance.

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OCTOBER

arastan Month **All Carpets** on SALE

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Home LifeStyle

one's home ready for Fright Night and beyond.

> By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

hether one's preference is witches and ghosts or candles and pumpkins, there is no reason why fall décor should be limited to one month, say area tastemakers. A few local designers offer autumn embellishment ideas that span the spectrum from spooky to all-natural

"Decorating for fall is one of the most enjoyable times of the year for many people. We particularly like it because nature provides so many wonderful options to use for decorating," said Ann O'Shields, owner of The Nest Egg in Fairfax. "If you are purchasing seasonal decorations for fall, we suggest choosing items that can go past Halloween and into Thanksgiving."

Add spine-chilling accents to traditional fall accessories. "One thing that you can do is hang faux cobwebs between orange pillar candles," said Angela Phelps, owner of Le Village Marché in Arlington. "Remove the webs after Halloween.

Use black and orange strategically. "We like putting white and orange pumpkins inside the fireplace," said O'Shields. "They are striking against a black in- them on a mantel or centerpiece," said O'Shields.



Pumpkins draped with cobwebs and spiders offer traditional Halloween décor that can be adjusted to last from October through Thanksgiving.

terior fireplace to fill the space until cooler fireplace weather arrives.

Be inspired by seasonal bounty. "The varieties of pumpkins and gourds available at local farmer's markets, nurseries and even grocery stores are the perfect start for seasonal décor," said O'Shields. "White pumpkins in particular are gorgeous and can make such a statement lined on a long table as a centerpiece. Mixed in with gourds of different colors and shapes, you have a simple, natural arrangement that is also eye catching. Wreaths with white pumpkins, branches, sunflowers and leaves welcome the season and extend into winter."

Make use of transparent containers like cylinder vases. "Fill glass containers with the miniature white and orange pumpkins or green or red apples and use

Marymount's Interior Design Department **Receives 2012 Potomac Award**

Program recognized for creative and intellectual contributions to the local community.

> By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

arymount University's Interior Design faculty and stu-L V L dents have been recognized for their creative and intellectual contributions to the local community. The Arlington school was recently awarded the 2012 Potomac Award from the Washington Metropolitan Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), making it the first university to receive the honor. Interior design classes are offered on the main campus or at the Reston Center.

"We have been blessed with intelligent, ambitious, dedicated students who have been willing to work hard and develop their understanding of the interior design field," said McLean resident Jean Freeman, an interior design **credits talented stu**professor at Marymount. "The awards **dents and faculty with** Washington Metro Chapter adthat individual faculty have received **the program's success.** ministrator. "If you look at the and some of the articles and books they

have published are...an indication of their efforts to with which the [Interior Design] department at extend the body of knowledge for the field and our Marymount is keeping, you'll appreciate the students.'



McLean resident Jean **Freeman of Marymount** University's interior design department

Bridget May of Herndon, another professor of interior design at Marymount, believes that evidence-based design will become standard practice for future students. "A lot of research goes into optimal use of space for function," she said.

The award recognizes the university's interior design department for its contributions to the design industry, including its efforts in sustainable design, historic preservation and the lighting and design of commercial spaces. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and The National Portrait Gallery and the Smithsonian American Art Museum are among the past recipients of the award.

"It is a prestigious award," said Leslie Ehrmann, ASID company [of past awardees]

Emergency Preparedness Tips

needed.

hazard

sion or fire.

vour pool.

rainwater.

by strong winds.

pool

and family ready generator by turning it on to be sure that it is working properly. for a hurricane?

By Josh Baker

ith this summer's severe weather, and the hurricane season upon us, a few simple preventative steps, outlined below, may help you to avoid costly repairs once the storms have passed.

Avoid wind damage: Clear away yard debris and dead/dying branches

Large branches or fallen trees can easily be tossed about by high winds during a storm. If you have trees near your home. be sure to trim any dead or dying branches, or ask your landscaper to do so at your next service visit.

The easiest way to avoid leaks: Make sure gutters are kept clean and in good shape

Before the storms arrive, remove any leaves, pine needles, branches or other debris from the gutter system. Also, perform a visual check to be sure there are no damaged areas. Clogged, leaky, or broken gutters can fail to properly drain water from your house, which may cause flooding and property damage.

The second easiest way to by excessive ground water duravoid leaks: Make sure areaway and storm drains are clear

If your basement has an areaway staircase, be sure to clear the drain at the bottom of leaves, dirt and other debris. Do the same for other storm drains located on or near your property. Failure to do so could lead to excess water backing up onto your property or into your home if the drains are clogged.

Save your electronics: Plug expensive household items into surge protectors, or unplug them entirely

Stereos, televisions, fitness equipment and computers and storm water that enters the should be either unplugged before the storm begins, or plugged into surge protectors. This may help to prevent damage to these items if lightning strikes.

Be the envy of your neighbors: Learn how to safely operate your a pool is not recommended – the portable generator

All generators are not the stain or rust expensive items. same, so be sure to read the and this may also damage the manufacturer's instruction bottom of the pool. manual that came with your generator to ensure proper operation.

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prestige of the award."



Also, make sure that you have a sufficient fuel supply to keep the generator running once it is

* Use the generator in a wellventilated, outside area. Generators emit carbon monoxide, which can build up in an unventilated area and be hazardous to your family.

✤ Plug appliances into the generator using heavy-duty extension cords that are well-maintained and not frayed or worn. Using incorrect or damaged extension cords could pose a fire

✤ Turn the portable generator off and allow it to cool before refueling. Pouring fuel into a hot generator may cause an explo-

If you have a whole house generator make sure that it is well maintained with a service contract from a qualified vendor.

PREPARE YOUR POOL

A few simple steps will help prevent significant damage to

* Do not drain all of the water from the pool. An empty pool is subject to "floating" or "popping" out of the ground due to "lift pressure," which is caused ing heavy rains. Also, the water in your pool will act as a shield to protect the finish from damage. Instead, only drain your pool water by one to two feet to allow for the accumulation of

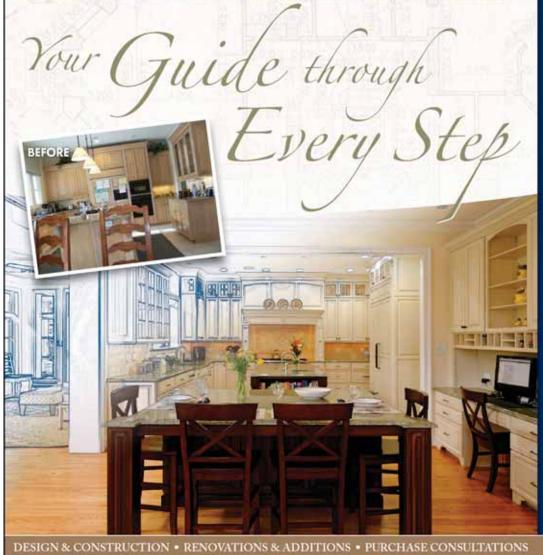
✤ Turn off the power to any pool equipment (pump, motor, lights) that may be on. Remove any loose pool items (filter housing tops, etc.).

These can easily be taken away * Add extra chlorine to the pool. This will help to prevent contamination from any debris

Move any unsecured items, such as patio furniture or potted plants, inside to keep them safe from driving rains or severe winds. Sinking furniture inside chlorine in the pool water may

> Josh Baker is founder of BOWA, www.bowa.com.





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Fairfax County REAL ESTATE

Top Sales in August, 2012

Photos by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection



1 6827 Sorrel Street, McLean — \$6,700,000



11776 Stratford House Place #1409, Reston — \$1,200,000



1028 Timbercreek Trail, Great Falls — \$2,110,000



7 3001 Westhurst Court, Oakton — \$1,750,000

Ac	ldress	. BR FB HB 1	Postal City Sold	Price Type	Lot AC PostalC	ode Subdivisio	n Date Sold
1	6827 SORREL ST	8.11.2	MCLEAN \$6,70	0,000 Detached	3.50 2210	LANGLEY FOR	REST 08/31/12
2	6705 SORREL ST	67.2	MCLEAN \$3,70	0,000 Detached	1.15 2210	LANGLEY FOR	REST 08/30/12
3	1319 CALDER RD	5 5 1	MCLEAN \$2,35	0,000 Detached	0.58 2210	SALONA VILL	AGE 08/27/12
4	1028 TIMBERCREEK TRL	4 6 . 2 G	REAT FALLS \$2,11	0,000 Detached	1.80 22066	3 ESTATES AT LONG	GWOOD 08/06/12
5	13120 LOTH LORIAN DR	6 7 . 1	CLIFTON \$2,05	0,000 Detached	5.02 20124	I LOTH LORL	AN 08/24/12
6	4503 CARLBY LN #6	44.0N	IT VERNON \$2,00	0,000 Detached	1.72 22309	RIVERBEND AT MT	VERNON 08/16/12
7	3001 WESTHURST CT	5	OAKTON \$1,75	0,000 Detached	0.85 22124	4 WINDSON	G 08/15/12
8	412 GLYNDON ST NE	5 5 . 1	VIENNA \$1,71	4,300 Detached	1.50 22180) ARY HILL CHAN	JCERY 08/30/12
9	8724 PLYMOUTH RD	43.1N	IT VERNON \$1,65	0,000 Detached	0.52 22308	B PLYMOUTH H	AVEN 08/03/12
1	5599 SMOKE RISE LN	5 4 . 2 FAIF	RFAX STATION \$1,35	0,000 Detached	8.86 22039) BEAUMON	T 08/01/12
đ	6417 UNION MILL RD	5 5 1	CLIFTON \$1,24	0,000 Detached	5.05 20124	I UNION MILL EST	ATES II 08/02/12
Œ	11776 STRATFORD HOSE PL#140	0923.0	RESTON \$1,20	0,000 Hi-Rise 9-	+ Floors 20190) STRATFOR	D 08/20/12
ſ	9404 OLD RESERVE WAY	5 4 . 2	FAIRFAX \$1,12	5,000 Detached	0.20 2203	PICKETT'S RES	ERVE 08/22/12
ľ	5132 PLEASANT FOREST DR	54.2CI	ENTREVILLE . \$1,07	0,000 Detached	1.00 20120) PLEASANT VA	LLEY 08/31/12
1	9328 OCCOQUAN OVERLOOK DF	8.6.6.2	LORTON \$1,03	0,000 Detached	0.84 22079) OCCOQUAN OVE	RLOOK 08/20/12
С	opyright 2012 Real	Estate Busin	ess Intellige	nce. Source:	MRIS as of S	eptember 14, 2	012.





HOV Ramp From I-66 East to I-495 North Closing

After morning rush hour on or about Friday, Oct. 12, the left-lane HOV (high occupancy vehicle) ramp from eastbound I-66 to northbound I-495 will close to traffic until the 495 Express Lanes open to traffic later this year and the ramp reopens as a new, dedicated 495 Express Lanes ramp. During the closure, carpools will use the ramp from the right lane of I-66 East to I-495 North (Capital Beltway's Inner Loop).

HOV-drivers affected by this new traffic pattern are urged to follow highway message signs that will be in place along I-66, approaching I-495. Drivers should expect additional delays in this area for several weeks, and should allow extra time in their commutes.

When the 495 Express Lanes open later this year, the new I-66 East Express Lanes Ramp taking drivers to I-495 North on the left will be available for free to HOVs with three or more people, or to drivers with fewer than three occupants who choose to pay a toll. All drivers choosing to use the new 495 Express Lanes must have an E-ZPass, and HOV vehicles must have an E-ZPass Flex in order to travel the Express Lanes for free. All other vehicles traveling in this direction must exit from the right lane of I-66 East to access I-495 North.

For updated project information, please visit www.VAmegaprojects.com.

Week in Great Falls

Great Falls Studios to Award \$2000 in **Prizes Online**

Great Falls Studios, organizer of the Ninth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour, has announced that its member artists are giving away 40 gift certificates, each worth \$50, to be used toward purchase of art on the tour. The certificates are called Art Bucks.

The giveaway takes place via a drawing now being held through Oct. 18, at the Great Falls Studios website: www.GreatFallsStudios.com. To win, simply register online. Forty winners will be picked randomly and will be informed by phone prior to the Studio Tour. Winners can pick up their Art Bucks at the Great Falls Library on tour days. The library is one of the venues on the free, self-guided tour, which takes place Oct. 20-21 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. both days.

While you're on the website, browse member artist pages and take a look at the Virtual Gallery, an online exhibit that changes monthly. In October, artists participating in the Studio Tour will be featured in the Virtual Gallery.

Coupons are valid on the dates of the tour and for five days afterward (Oct. 20-26, 2012). One winner per person (multiple registrations are not accepted). Members of Great Falls Studio and their families are not eligible to win.

Each participating artist will be demonstrating their work and selling original art "Made in Great Falls." The work includes some of the finest art produced in the Metro area. The Great Falls artists have been juried into major national shows, exhibited at leading art centers, and won grants and awards. And much of the art is offered at reasonable prices-lower than you might pay in leading galleries

Great Falls Resident Up for Merit Award

Great Falls resident Timothy Higgins of Paul VI High School in Fairfax has been chosen as a National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalist.

He is one of roughly 16,000 students announced as semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. He made the cut out of about 1.5 million current high school seniors from more than 22,000 high schools who entered the competition by taking the 2011 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test last school year

The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants from each state. Those selected as semifinalists have a chance to continue competing for about 8,300 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million that will be offered next spring. Roughly 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and more than half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship and earn the title of Merit Scholar.

Tim is on the Paul VI math team, and plays eleven musical instruments. He is also a member of the Paul VI nationally ranked boys basketball team. He became the earliest and voungest basketball commit in the history of The Ivy League when he committed to play for Cornell on Aug. 28, 2011.



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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

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 10

- Preview of the 9th Annual Great Falls Studios Art Tour. 6-8 p.m., Gulick Group Winthrop Model Home, 1051 Autumn Mist Lane, Great Falls. An "Evening of Artistry" with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the exclusive preview. 571-393-1683.
- Oktoberfest Potluck. 6:30 p.m., at The Great Falls Grange Hall, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Folklore and ghost stories, oom-pah German dance music and gemutlichkeit (friendship and congeniality). \$15, adults; children 12 and under free. Reservations by Oct. 4. 703-759-2378.
- Ben Taylor w/ Grace Weber. 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, the Barns, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Son of James Taylor and Carly Simon is an artist in his own right with mellow, bittersweet melodies sung in a smooth voice. \$20, 703-255-1900 or www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 12

- Interior Design Workshop. 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Learn how to read and draw a floor plan, arrange furniture, analyze interior paint colors, select textiles and coordinate furnishings and accessories. \$65-75. www.mpaart.org.
- Arts Awards Luncheon. Noon-2 p.m., at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, Tysons Corner. An annual program to



recognize outstanding arts organizations, artists and arts philanthropists in the County. 703-642-0862 ext. 4 or http:// artsfairfax.org/arts-award-luncheon. **Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.** 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, the

- Barns, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The distinguished group plays an evening in celebration of Wolf Trap founder Catherine Filene Shouse; chamber works from the Romantic era. \$40. 703-255-1900 or www.wolftrap.org. LMFAO Comedy Night: Vijai
- Nathan. 8 p.m., at Diya Restaurant Tysons, 2070 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Manan Singh Katohora, PepperTree Productions and Shalabh Entertainment present a night to cure the most belligerent boredom. \$27. 202-656-3630 or www.desiclub.com/ Imfao.

SATURDAY/OCT. 13

Great Falls Optimist Club Barn Dance. 7-11 p.m., at the barn at 964 Walker Road, Great Falls. Ribs and bar-b-que, dancing, beer/wine cash bar, a raffle/auction and classic rock and rockabilly from Benny Potter and Western Electric to benefit the Great Falls Children's Fund and Childhood Cancer Charity. S60. 703-759-2959, Linda.Thompson@LongandFoster.com or www.greatfallsoptimist.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 14

MPAartfest. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at McLean Central Park, intersection of Old Dominion Drive and Dolley Madison Boulevard, McLean. The park transforms into a a landscape of mini art galleries showcasing the work of Ann Barbieri and 49 other artists; live

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Fine Art Photographs at the Old Brogue

Oct. 1-31, Richard Suib's dramatic water, mountain landscapes and wildlife photographs of Great Falls National Park and the Blue Ridge mountains are on display at the Old Brogue in Great Falls, 760 Walker Road, 703-759-0067 or www.richardsuibimages.com.

Westerly View From Skyline Drive, Pigment Print, framed under glass (24" x 32")

entertainment, children's ArtWalk and Innovation Station, a Senior Art Space, Open Studio and live entertainment are activities at the fest. www.mpaart.org. **Washington Symphonic Brass: Danza.** 4 p.m., at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown

Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Experience South American music and its Spanish roots; post-concert reception. \$30; students 17 and under, free. www.amadeusconcerts.com.

MONDAY/OCT. 15

Knife Skills Workshop. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 7-10 p.m., at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A popular, informative class on techniques to take the choreaspect out of cooking; bone a chicken, dice, paste garlic and the like. S60-81. www.mpaart.org.

HBC Community Charity Champions Fundraising Dinner. 5-8 p.m., at Pulcinella Italian Host, 6852 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Enjoy dinner or takeout and present a flyer to donate 60 percent of proceeds to support the Children's Science Center. Find flyer at 703-734-0192 or www.HBCRealtyGroup.com.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 17

- John Jorgenson. 7:30 p.m., at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. "The U.S. Ambassador of Gypsy Jazz" and his quintet bring world class music to town. \$20. www.jamminjava.com.
- Vienna Photographic Society's Photo Competition. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Thoreau Middle School, 2505 Cedar Lane, Vienna. Northern VPS Photographer of the Year Sandi Croan will judge the competition's three categories: digital, print and "Cemeteries" photos. 703-451-7298 or www.vps-va.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 19

Battlefield Band. 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, the Barns, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. See the Scottish Folk Band of the Year in concert. \$24. 703-255-1900 or www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 20

Oktoberfest Bazaar and Craft Fair. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Charles Wesley United Methodist Church, 6817 Dean Drive, McLean. Handcrafted jewelry, silk floral arrangements, hand-carved birds, baked goods, crafts and German lunch items between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. www.charleswesleyumc.org.



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Sports



McLean senior Sofia Andreoli controls the ball against Oakton on Oct. 8. Senior defender Sade Bowers is a captain for the McLean field hockey team.

Oakton Field Hockey Shuts Out McLean

Miller, Prosser score for Cougars.

By Jon Roetman The Connection

he Oakton field hockey team ran a play called "Carpe Diem" during a penalty corner in the closing seconds of Monday's contest against McLean. While the play did not produce a goal, two first-half scores were enough for the Cougars

"I'm excited for the postseason and I think that we're ready to go." - McLean coach Summer Vanni

to seize the victory. Oakton's Catherine Miller scored less than five minutes into the game and Jennifer Prosser added a goal as the Cougars defeated the Highlanders, 2-0, on Oct. 8 at Oakton High School. The Cougars extended their win streak to four and improved their record to 8-7

with one regular season game remain-

"We've really been improving every game," first-year head coach Kaitlin Fleischmann said. "We have a philosophy of playing 'Oakton's game' and I just want us to keep doing that through the [postseason] and I feel like we'll be really successful."



Oakton junior Jennifer Prosser scored a goal against McLean during a 2-0 Cougar victory on Oct. 8 at Oakton High School.

What does playing "Oakton's game" involve?

"One of the big parts of it is — we've had a lot of physical games - maintaining composure and keeping it clean," Fleischmann said, "and keeping focused on our goal."

MONDAY'S GAME had some physical play, with multiple cards issued. Oakton senior captain Maggie Toye, who played with a broken right thumb, said the Cougars did a good job of keeping their composure.

"It was kind of physical and I think that was because [the Highlanders] started getting a little frustrated with us," Toye said. "But I'm really proud. Our girls really held

it together and they stayed very classy. They didn't throw any cheap shots or anything like that and they stayed very classy and kept their calm and played our game."

McLean head coach Summer Vanni, whose Highlanders play their home games on turf, said playing on Oakton's grass field affected her team's quick-pass attack.

"We definitely had some opportunities, but I think the way that the game was played tonight was not conducive to our kind of play," she said. "We're a finesse team, we're a turf team and I think the grass definitely threw us for a loop a little bit. ... Oakton is a strong team. I welcome a rematch. I welcome a turf rematch with this team."

After a 4-2 start to the season, Oakton dropped five straight games, during which the Cougars were outscored 13-2. But Oakton responded with four consecutive wins, outscoring Herndon, Robinson, Centreville and McLean by a total of 9-1. After losing to Westfield, 5-0, on Sept. 14, Oakton won its next three Concorde District games and will host Chantilly at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 10 with a chance to secure the No. 2 seed in the district tournament.

Fleischmann said Toye, Prosser and Annalise Capalbo have been standouts for the Cougars

"We've really progressed throughout the year and I think we're coming into district play very strong," Toye said. "I think we have a good shot at placing high in the district, seeding-wise, and I think we might surprise some people. We usually do and I'd like to keep that up. I think we're peaking at just the right time for tournament play."

THE LOSS dropped McLean's record to 6-7-1. The Highlanders had won five of six heading into Monday's contest after starting the season 1-5-1. McLean was 3-1 in the Liberty District heading into its Oct. 9 contest against Marshall, which was played after The Connection's deadline.

Vanni said Kathleen Mulligan, Erika Eckrod and Christian Geisler have been standouts for the Highlanders.

"I'm excited for the postseason and I think that we're ready to go," Vanni said. "I don't think this night illustrated that but I welcome the rematch."

McLean will travel to face Thomas Jefferson at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 11.

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"Subjectively Speaking"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

In my opinion. It's what I think. It's what I feel. It's what I think I feel. It may not be something I know, but it's certainly something that I hope I know. And if it's not exactly something that I know, then I hope it's something I believe. Because, if I don't believe it, hoping might not be enough. And if hoping is not enough, and I don't believe, then what I think I feel is simply mind over matter. Yet for all I know (not much really), my mind might matter more than any other weapon I have – real or imagined, in this battle, hopefully not 'til the death, against the stage IV NSCLC that has taken up residence in my body.

However, It's not as if I don't listen to what my oncologist says/has said. In fact, I take pride in my listening and observational skills. so I think I have paid particular attention throughout this entire process. (After all, my life was/is semi-at-stake here.) Now whether I actually heard/assimilated everything that was said to me by my oncologist is likely another issue/column entirely. Moreover, as much as I know how to focus on what the doctor is saying and to listen carefully in order to ask intelligent and potentially life-saving (at least lifesustaining) questions, later, when my wife and I are home reviewing what the doctor had said only a few hours before, invariably we have different impressions, different interpretations and overall different recollections. Unfortunately, there's no one really for us to call (who's available) to review and clarify questions and/or answers that a few hours later are amazingly less clear than they were when we initially heard them. The reality is, there are no do-overs.

As a result, it becomes impossible (nearly impossible) for the patient (this patient, anyway) to be objective about these kinds of lifeand-death meetings/discussions, so what words come out, after internalizing everything you've seen and heard is, "subjectively speaking." Somewhere between your best "recollection," your best guess and your likely most positive spin on a set of facts and/or circumstances which might take a bit of getting used to, or at least, making sense of. And that's how life goes on: from one unforgettable (you know what I mean; not literally, but you sort of forget some of what you hear), potentially life-ending set of doctor-speak to the next round of scans, always to be coordinated with your oncologist-ordered lab work, followed up by yet another appointment/exam with the oncologist, the combination and interpretation of each will ultimately tell the tale: good, bad or indifferent.

"Good" and "bad" speak for themselves. 'Indifferent" however, is another discussion altogether. Looking for the positive, minimizing the negative; this conversation turns grasping at straws into a literal event. You believe what you want and discount what you must, anything to induce yourself into believing that tomorrow is, as Scarlett O'Hara made famous at the end of "Gone With The Wind," "another day." One filled with hope and optimism, and one worth living, preferably without cancer. But being realistic - and occasionally honest - with yourself, the cancer is likely not disappearing anytime soon. Shrinkage (of the tumors) would be ideal, of course. But you can live with no growth, too. And as I have come to understand – and appreciate: "stable" is a pretty spectacular word, (my new favorite word, actually). In fact, I can live with "stable." But that's just my opinion, unrealistic though it may be.

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

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• Great Papers Great Connections

Great Readers!

McLean, Great Falls Market is Up in 2012

By Karen Briscoe

he residential real estate market is up 26.8 percent in McLean and Great Falls in terms of total number of sales. This repre-

sents a significant increase for the first three quarters of 2012 over the same time period for 2011.

Delving deeper into the data reveals that the lower bracket market segment, which is considered to be those homes below \$1.25 million in this market area, has had very little change year over year in terms of number of sales. What is significant about this market segment in McLean and Great Falls is that there is very little available to buy. With the current absorption of homes, there is about a two to three month supply of inventory. A balanced market is considered a six month supply of inventory, so this clearly indicates that in McLean and Great Falls for the under-\$1.25 million price range it is a great time to be a seller. Good homes priced correctly for the current market Contributed

are selling quickly and in some cases with multiple offers. The upper bracket market seg-

ment considered to be \$1.25 million in the McLean and Great Falls area also saw improvement in terms of number of transactions.

To date in 2012, there were 345 total upper bracket sales and in 2011 in the same time period there were only 162. That rep-

McLean and Great Falls Market Analysis of Homes Sales

FIRST THREE QTRS., 2012 COMPARED TO 2011

······································						
	(Based on Final Closed Price)					
			•	\$750k~		
	>\$3 Mil.	\$2-3 Mil.	\$1.25-2 Mil.	\$1.25 Mil.	< \$750k	
FIRST THREE QTRS. 2012						
22101	8	16	80	113	117	
22102	6	12	28	68	120	
22066	3	8	38	79	44	
Total	17	36	146	260	281	
Combined T	'otal	345		5	41	
ALL SA	LES FIRS	Г THREE	QTRS. 201	2: 886		
FIRST THR	EE QTRS	. 2011				
22101	3	12	52	135	108	
22102	6	7	33 (57	131	
22066	3	3	43	69	37	
Total	12	22	162	261	276	
Combined T	otal	162		5	37	

ALL SALES FIRST THREE QTRS. 2011: 699

More Information

Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy are active and experienced Realtors® in the Northern Virginia, Washington, D.C. marketplace. The Huckaby Briscoe Group was recognized in September 2011 as one of the Wall Street Journal Top Real Estate Teams in the United States. Contact: www.HBCRealtyGroup.com, 703-734-0192, Homes@HBCRealtyGroup.com

resents an over 100 percent increase in number of sales, which is very good news

indeed! The distinction with the upper bracket market is there is still substantial inventory available for purchase, currently equating to an over two year total supply. Even though this segment is still not at a balanced market, it is most definitely moving in the right direction.

The typical interim is seven years between market cycles from peak to peak. The Northern Virginia area saw real estate values peak in 2005-2006. Therefore, my prediction for this area is that values will return to market peak in some segments beginning in 2012. To date the numbers for 2012, should they sustain through the last quarter, indicate that we are on the road to that occurring.

Photo Contributed

Briscoe, Conroy Receive Chamber Recognition

Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy with the HBC Realty Group of Keller Williams Realty received the award for Corporate Social Responsibility from the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, Oct. 2. The award was presented at the Third annual Suits & Sneakers event at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm by Chairman of the Board Merritt J. Green and President Marcia Twomey. The award recognized HBC Realty Group's local fundraising endeavors via the company's charity arm-Community Charity Champions.

The Huckaby Briscoe Conroy Realty Group launched Community Charity Champions in 2012 as a venue to fundraise for local nonprofits. Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy were searching for a means to support charities in the community. The event is held at Pulcinella Italian Host in McLean. A portion of monies spent on food and drink by the diners is contributed to the charity of the month by the sponsors of Community Charity Champions.

'We are honored that the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce recognized us with the 2012 Corporate Social Responsibility award due to our efforts to support local charities through the Community Charity Champions arm of HBC Realty Group," said Briscoe.

Sponsors of Community Charity Champions include: Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy of HBC Realty Group, Moe Jebali with Pulcinella Italian Host, Marcus Simon with EKKO Title, Frank Vorndran with MorganStanley SmithBarney and Richard



Lizzy Conroy, Marcia S. Twomey (Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce president) and Karen Briscoe at the award ceremony.

Moroscak with EagleBank.

The inaugural event was in April of 2012 and the money raised benefited Lift Me Up! in Great Falls, a therapeutic horseback riding program dedicated to children and adults with a variety of disabilities. The following events raised funds for SHARE, Inc.; McLean Little League, Inc.; McLean Project for the Arts; and McLean

Youth Football.

Total funds raised to date by HBC Community Charity Champions is over \$6,500. Future events are scheduled for Oct. 15, 2012 to raise funds for Children's Science Museum and Nov. 5, 2012 for Clemyjontri Park. Other charities are currently being considered, call 703-734-0192 for more information.

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20 Great Falls Connection October 10-16, 2012



9th ANNUAL GREAT FALLS STUDIOS

OCTOBER 20 & 21, 2012 · 10:00 - 5:00

Join us on a driving adventure to art studios hidden on the back roads of Great Falls, Virginia. Meet 49 artists. Rain or shine. IT'S FREE.

Presented by Great Falls Studios • Sponsored by Sun Design Remodeling Specialists, Inc.

www.GreatFallsStudios.com



Sun's sparkling reutation has been built on reinventing homes through the creative use of light and space, creating spaces that are not only award winning in their beauty, but that dramatically enhance quality of life today and in the years to come.



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Ninth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour 2012

CELEBRATE CREATIVITY ON THE BACK ROAds of GREAT FAlls

BE OUR GUEST AT NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S MOST UNIQUE ART TOUR



To My Friends and Neighbors

hat gives people the energy to do what they do? Some are motivated by the promise of financial reward, some crave social position, some are motivated by curiosity and some by something else. I invite you to ask any of the 49 artists on this, the Ninth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour, what drives them to give the time, resources, thought and hope to their art. Ask them also how they work, where they get their materials, where they look for inspiration, what they do when they draw a blank. Ask them— they may tell you something really surprising! Please join us!

Laura Nichols

President, Great Falls Studios

Your Art Tour Hosts: Great Falls Studios

n 2003, a handful of local artists sitting around a kitchen table launched a movement to help promote creativity in Great Falls. They started a group called Great Falls Studios. Today, this organization has more than 100 artist members. We serve our community while helping kindred spirits advance professionally in the arts. The Studios Tour is our signature event. In its first eight years, it has generated more than 21,500 visits to home-based art studios and other art venues in Great Falls and has become a "go to" arts event in the DC area.

To learn more about us and our artists, please visit our website: www.GreatFallsStudios.com. While there, you can see the artwork of our members, along with an online gallery of local art that changes monthly. Then enjoy our tour. Meet you in Great Falls.



2012 Studios Tour at a Glance

Everything you need to know about the Ninth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour

What it is: A self-guided driving tour to meet 49 artists in their home studios or in group venues. Where: Great Falls, Virginia.

When: Saturday and Sunday, October 20 and 21, 2012. Hours: 10:00 to 5:00. Rain or shine.

Cost: Free. What you'll see: Home-based art studios and other

venues scattered on scenic back roads. Meet artists in their creative "habitats," including barns, historic buildings, rustic homes, contemporary houses. Enjoy fall colors. **How to navigate:** Drive from venue to venue. Free maps

and roadside directional signs will help you find your way. Pick up a brochure at any venue on tour days.

About the artists: Our artists include many leading talents in the DC area. You'll find a dozen different art mediums represented.

Buying local art: All artists will be selling their work. If buying art is on your agenda, bring a checkbook since many studios do not have credit-card capability.

card capability. **"Art Buck" prizes:** Win one of forty \$50 certificates good toward art purchases. Register for a drawing through October 18 at www.GreatFallsStudios.com. Winners will be notified by telephone before the tour.

Bonus home opening: Our tour is sponsored by Sun Design Remodeling Specialists, Inc., which will hold a concurrent tour featuring an open house at a Great Falls home it has renovated.

Discover elegant design solutions to remodeling challenges.

Meals: Four participating local restaurants will be open for lunch and/or dinner: BRX American Bistro, L'Auberge Chez François, The Old Brogue Irish Pub, and Mediterranee Restaurant (Saturday only).

Friends of the Arts: We Tip Our Hats

Our tour would be impossible without the help of those who support our vision. To them we offer a heartfelt thank you:

Tour sponsor: Sun Design, a home remodeling company, is our primary financial benefactor. Please visit Sun's home tour, concurrent with our own. www.SunDesignInc.com.

Restaurants: Stop for lunch or dinner at one of four official tour eateries: BRX American Bistro, L'Auberge Chez François, The Old Brogue Irish Pub, and Mediterranee Restaurant.

Advertisers: Please see ads in this newspaper insert for companies and non-profits that support the tour, and consider supporting them with your business.

Year-round partners: Special kudos to those that hang local art or otherwise support the arts: Great Falls Citizens Association, Great Falls Community Library, Great Falls Foundation for the Arts, The Old Brogue Irish Pub, Seneca Hill Animal Hospital Resort & Spa, Turner Framing, Inc., and Village Green Day School.



2012 \blacksquare Ninth Annual Greal Falls Studios Tour \blacksquare 3



Ninth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour 2012

Photo Guide To What You'll See On the Tour

he Ninth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour will transport you to creative outposts throughout our village. You can visit home studios, group studios and other venues to meet artists and chat about the creative process. Many studios are located in extraordinary contemporary or historic houses, or in old barns, converted garages or sheds. In all, 49 artists will take part. All live or work in Great Falls. The art you'll see varies dramatically in style, cost and subject matter.

The tour is free. You can go in any order. Use the map on page 8 of this newspaper insert as your guide. Brochures with artist information and sample art can be picked up at any venue on tour days.

Houses and Spaces



Vad Moskowitz, fiber artist/weaver (Studio #3)



GuruSangat Khalsa, painter (Studio #26)

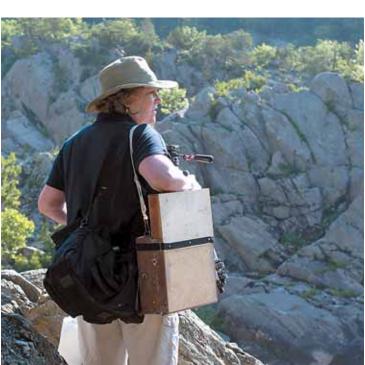


Michael McDermott, digital artist/photographer (Studio #14)

Artists Creating



Barbara Gatterdam, potter (Studio #21)



Karen Bateman, painter (on location, Venue #14)



Dean Souleles, photographer (Studio #27)



Studios and Workplaces



Jo Fleming, painter (Studio #5)



Artists' Atelier, multiple artists (Venue #24)



Will Tuthill, printmaker (Studio #8)

Art of All Kinds



Robin Kent, photographer (Studio #28)



Jinny Beyer, fiber artist/quilter (Studio #20)



 Kathleen O'Bryan Hedges, sculptor (Studio #25)

 2012 ■ NINTH ANNUAL GREAL FALLS STUDIOS TOUR ■ 5



Chris Fraley

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GREAT FALLS, VA Offered at \$2,699,000

Coming this Fall...

Another exquisite home built by Versailles Builders. Almost 12,000 square feet of the finest finishes, top-of-the-line upgrades, stunning custom cabinetry along with granite counter tops. This park-like setting is only minutes walking distance to Great Falls Park. Truly enjoy what Great Falls has to offer.

GREAT FALLS, VA Offered at \$1,099,000

Nore room than you can imagine! This custom-built home has more charm than most Virginia Colonials. Large, bright rooms with lots of windows; fabulous neighborhood for a young, growing family. 4 Bedrooms upstairs with an additional huge expansion over the garage, large walkin closets and an extra sitting room off the Master that can be converted to a 5th bedroom. Fabulous Neighborhood, great lot for a pool.

GREAT FALLS, VA Offered at \$4,990,000

ucked away down a private, gated driveway, this SPECTACULAR "one-of-a-kind" Estate features everything a home buyer could wish for. This recently updated and unbelievably maintained property offers a rooftop deck, pond views, and complete privacy on 6 acres. Make this your own private retreat with a huge media room, sport court, in-home office space, along with embassy-size rooms for entertaining and 2 first floor bedroom suites. Two other homes available, additionally priced, and/or could be sold separately for a total of 12 acres.

McLEAN, VA Offered at \$7,500,000

xquisite is the only way to describe this 1938 farmhouse completely renovated, restored and expanded by architect David Decker. A completely private 2 acres in the middle of one of McLean's most prestigious neighborhoods, this charming home has so much to offer. Beautiful finishes, grand rooms for entertaining, a wraparound front porch, French doors throughout, beautiful views along with 7 fireplaces.



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EXUISITELY RENOVATED FARMHOUSE





The Sun Design open house features a newly expanded kitchen with a warm farmhouse feel. It can be seen during a free Sun Design tour that runs concurrently with the Great Falls Studios Tour.

ART TOUR COMPANION EVENT FEATURES REMODELED HOME

Tour sponsor Sun Design shows off its capabilities, brings 'art' to home restoration

concurrently with the Great Falls Studios Tour will be hosted by Sun Design, an architectural designbuild remodeling firm-same days, same hours.

Visitors interested in reinventing their own homes can drop by an open house where Sun has partially remodeled the main living level, to include a kitchen that is now open to the family room, and more. Craftspeople from the company will guide visitors through the space while answering questions and educating them on the design-build process.

Sun Design, which is based in Burke and has been in business for more than two decades, has just opened its second office in McLean. For the second year, it is the sole sponsor of the Great Falls Studios Tour. The

second tour that runs company's financial support makes the art tour possible.

> The partnership between a community arts organization and a regional company that brings new life to homes is based on the value of good design, each organization says. "We're delighted to have a company supporting our art event that places such importance on aesthetics in its home remodeling," said Laura Nichols, president of Great Falls Studios.

> Location of the Sun Design open house is shown on our map, pages 8 and 9, with a yellow-and-brown icon. Two of the home-based art studios on the Studio Tour are also located in homes where Sun has completed renovation work. You can find out which ones by looking at the key with our map.

For Hungry Tour Visitors: A Choice of Lunch Spots

FOUR GREAT Falls RESTAURANTS ARE OFFICIAL WATERING HOLES

be open for lunch or dinner.

The four are L'Auberge Chez François, BRX American Bistro, cuisines and price points. Dining at Mediteranee Restaurant and the Old any of them offers a respite from busy Brogue Irish Pub. (Mediteranee will art sightseeing.

our Great Falls restaurants are be open on Saturday only.) All four participating in the 2012 Studios are shown on our map and Tour as tour partners. They will accompanying key, on pages 8 and 9 of this newspaper insert.

The restaurants provide a range of



MEET THE ARTISTS

Alphabetical listing of tour artists by w	iediu
Numbers key to studio locations on our map	
Digital Artists Michael McDermott	411
	#14
Fiber Artists	#20
Jinny Beyer Cindy Grisdela	#20
Vad Moskowitz	#3
Flower Designer Binaifer Davar	#16
Jewelry Designers	
Jorge Adeler Donna Barnako	#19
Linda Rosen	
Layered Paper Artist Ronni Jolles	#12
Mixed Media Artists	<i>"</i> 12
Roberta Pruett Beasley	#24
Tina Learned	#24
Sheila Lynch	#15
Painters	
Jill Banks	
Karen Bateman Benjamin Cheshire	
Hwa Crawford	
Jennifer Duncan	#23
Elaine Elinsky	
Jo Fleming	
Betty Ganley Robert Gilbert	
Yeganeh Hejazi	
Linda Jones	
GuruSangat Khalsa	#26
Michela Mansuino	
John McCabe	
Begoña Morton Mehrnaz Moussavi	
Pat Neuman	
Gail Pean	
Alicia Sommers	#16
Judith St. Ledger-Roty	#24
Mollie Vardell	#24
Photographers	
Jan Bender	
Robin Kent	
Dee Leggett	
Val Mahan	
Terri Parent	#24
Silvia Gonzalez Roman	
Dean Souleles	#21
Potters	
David Cowdrill	
Barbara Gatterdam	
Pu-Chin Waide	
Printmaker	
William Tuthill	#8
Sculptors	-# A
Jonathan Fisher Kathleen O'Bryan Hedges	#4 #25
Wood Carver	
Michael Long	#17
Art School	



Finding the artists: Numerals in red squares on our map show the locations of individual art studios or other art venues. They are keyed to an alphabetical list of artists by medium.

Home restoration: A yellow-and-brown Sun icon shows the location where Sun Design staff will walk visitors through a recently completed home renovation. This home will be open to all visitors of the tour. Details are listed below:

Explore the warm farmhouse feel of a country, rustic kitchen with large center island, new pantry, breakfast area, powder room, and mud room.

Sun Design Bonus:

When you visit the renovated art studio of painter Jennifer Duncan, #23 on map, and home of Nancy Broyhill and painter Robert

#24

Great Falls School of Art .

representing a variety of cuisines and price points:

A. BRX American Bistro 1025-I Seneca Road

703.433.9050 www.brxgf.com American cuisine, alfresco dining, www.brixgreatfalls.com.

B. L'Auberge Chez François

332 Springvale Road 703.759.3800

French Alsatian cuisine, serving lunch and dinner.

703.759.3309 Art Studio Tour special luncheon \$11.95, 11:00-3:00.

D. Mediterranee Restaurant

10123 Colvin Run Road 703.757.9300 French Mediterranean food, open for lunch and dinner, Saturday only

Great Falls School of Art is Proud to Sponsor the 9th Annual Great Falls Studio Tour



Professional instruction provided by local and regional artists for students of all ages and experience levels. All instruction is held at the school's convenient Walker Road location. Since its opening in 2008, the school has enrolled more than 425 students in more than 90 courses. Convenient, online registration at www.greatfallsart.org



Great Falls School of Art is a Program of Great Falls Foundation for the Arts www.greatfallsart.org

Save the Date: We are thrilled to offer a week long Figure Painting Workshop Monday – Friday, Nov. 5 – 9, by renowned Teaching Fellow Lea Colie Wight. Space is limited to 10 students, Register online at www.greatfallsart.org

Animals and Art - Enhancing our Lives

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ARTISTS TO GIVE AWAY \$2000 in Prizes Online

You can win one of forty \$50 'Art Bucks' in a random drawing at Great Falls Studios' website

reat Falls Studios, organizer of the Ninth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour, has announced that its member artists are giving away forty gift certificates, each worth \$50, to be used toward purchase of art on the tour. The certificates are called Art Bucks.

The giveaway takes place via a drawing now being held, through October 18, at the Great Falls Studios website: www.GreatFallsStudios.com. To win, simply register online. Forty winners will be picked randomly and will be informed by phone prior to the Studio Tour. Winners can pick up their Art Bucks at the Great Falls Library on tour days. The library is one of the venues on the tour.

The Art Buck program has two main goals. One is to encourage you to visit our website, where you can meet artists online while you are registering for an Art Buck or look at our virtual gallery, where the art changes monthly. The other is to stimulate sales of local art at the Studios Tour.

Each participating artist will be selling original art "Made in Great Falls." The work includes some of the finest art produced in the Metro area. And it is offered at reasonable prices—lower than you would pay in leading galleries.



You can win a \$50 gift certificate, called an Art Buck, by going online. In all, \$2,000 in prizes will be given away for purchase of art during the tour.

Holiday Art Sale To Benefit School

Next Great Falls Studios event to raise money for children's' ART RESOURCES

studio tour, there's more art on the horizon for Great Fallsand this time it will focus on art education for younger kids.

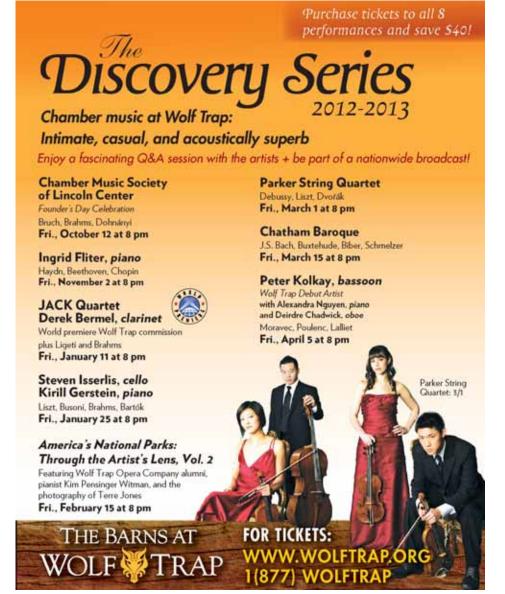
The annual Great Falls Studios Holiday Art Sale will be held December 8 and 9 from 10:00 to 5:00 at the Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, just south of the Village Centre. During the sale, selected artists from Great Falls Studios will sell paintings, photographs, pottery, jewelry, art quilts, cards and other art that is especially suitable for the gift-giving season. "

This is a great time to buy lastminute presents that are 'Made in Great Falls," said Linda Jones, a

nce the dust settles from the painter who organizes the event for Great Falls Studios. "It's also an opportunity to buy high-quality artworks for yourself."

A percentage of all sales will be donated to the school to help build its art education program. The Village Green Day School is for preschool-age children.

For up-to-date listings of other arts events scheduled throughout the year by Great Falls Studios, you can go to the calendar at the group's website: www.GreatFallsStudios.com. One upcoming event: the Great Falls Studios Art Boutique at Herndon ArtSpace (750 Center St., Herndon, VA). It will open Tuesday, October 28, through Saturday, November 3, 10:00 to 5:00.





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MEET A PALETTE OF ARTISTS: FROM POTTERS TO PAINTERS STUDIOS TOUR TAKES YOU ON A HIGHLY PERSONAL ADVENTURE IN CREATIVITY

find a wood carver wielding a chain historic printing press. saw. Or a weaver who dyes wool on her front porch. Or a printmaker part, and they all have stories. Each

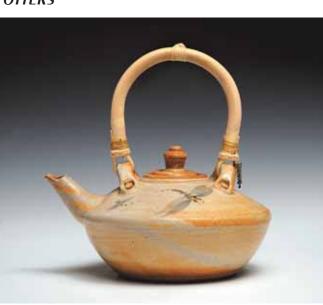
In all, there are 49 artists taking

each works in a personal space that says something novel about the you interact with the artists of Great creative process. You can meet them Falls:

On this year's studios tour you can outsmarting lithographic stones on a creates something different. And all and let some of the magic rub off. Here's what you'll discover when

Powwow With Potters

There are four potteries on the tour. They range from a historic outbuilding on an 18th-Century farm to a converted two-car garage. These studios are particularly interesting to visit because so much is aoina on-fierv kilns, splattery wheels, drying racks, earthen colors. Watch talented craftspeople transform wet clay



Laura Nichols, potter (Studio #14)

into urns, mugs, dishes, fountains, serving plates—even miniature animals.

Putter With Painters

Painters make up the biggest group on the Tour: 21 of them.

These artists are as different as cats and dogs, guns and butter, Romney and Obama. Some of them work in watercolor, oils, acrylics. Pastel and charcoal artists are in this group, too.

You can check out wildlife art, shimmering abstract pieces, ocean scenes, still lifes, landscapes, portraits. Some painters produce



Michela Mansuino, painter (Studio #24)

towering creations, some miniatures only a few inches across. You can even commission paintings for your home. Visit some of these brush-wielding artisans in group venues, such as the Artists' Atelier, where 15 creative types do their thing in a charming oversized garret. Find others at the Great Falls Library, the Great Falls United Methodist Church, or in a variety of homebased studios, one as entertaining as the next

Schmooze With Sculptors

You'll discover human figures and animals cast in bronze, or bright abstractions in wood. Studios this year: a converted shed that doubles as an art school and a small barn in an orchard. Witness the creative process in three dimensions and get insight into how the human brain copes with viewing art from multiple perspectives.



Jonathan Fisher, sculptor (Studio #4)

Befriend **Photographers**

If you're a camera buff, expect great shooting tips. Visit an old-fashioned darkroom or discover cutting-edge digital wizardry via computer. Revel in incredible images that range from black-and-white photograms to stunning views of DC-area monuments. Learn about lenses and other equipment, but pay special attention to the greatest piece of photographic equipment of all-the human eye. There are eight photographers and a digital artist on the tour.



Jan Bender, photographer (Studio #2)

JAbber About Jewelry

Three designers are on the tour. You'll find one in an intown shop, another in the treetops in a contemporary house off the beaten path, still another at the Methodist Church. Hear tales of design, adventure and inspiration. See amazing wearable art and high fashion.



Donna Barnako, jewelry designer (Studio #10)

Mingle With

Mixed Media

bizarre textures.

Look for the unexpected—

from bathroom sinks to 3-D wall hangings made of weird stuff. Discover unlikely creations. Find out where

offbeat ideas come from. "Mixed" means combinations of different art media, so there

are always surprises, including



Roberta Pruett Beasley, mixed media (Studio #24)



Vad Moskowitz, weaver (Studio #3)

FRATERNIZE WITH Fiberists

See how quilting has become high art—with stunning traditional designs or mind-blowing contemporary works. Watch talented hands at work. There are two quilters in this group (some quilters prefer to be called fiber artists these days). There's also a weaver (her loom rocks) who makes small purses.

(Continued on page 14)

启 M^CLEAN PROJECT FOR THE ARTS



MPA art fest

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2012 10 AM - 5 PM

McLean Central Park

McLean's only juried arts festival will showcase more than 50 local and regional visual artists. Children's activities and live entertainment throughout the day make this a must-see event for art lovers of all ages! MPAartfest benefits MPA's exhibition and education programs.

presents

www.mpaart.org

Event Partner Sponsors: McLean Community Center

Fairfax County Park Authority

MPA is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts and Fairfax County in cooperation with the Arts Council of Fairfax County.



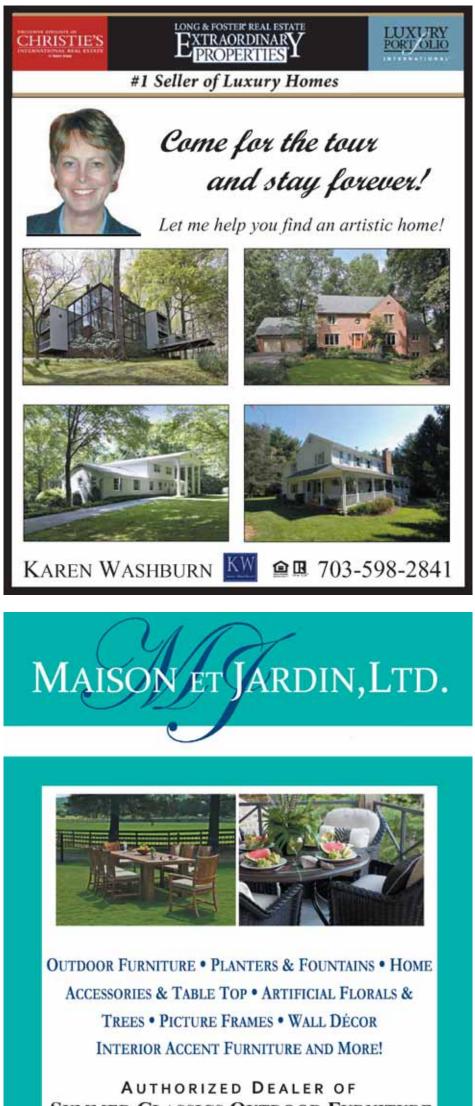
Royal Cleaners

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- Rugs
 Wedding gowns
- Draperies
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Palette of Artists

continued

Mix With Miscellaneous

These may be the best of all. Meet a printmaker (old-fashioned press), a layered paper artist (complete with baby grand piano in the studio), a wood carver (that's the one with the chain saw), and a floral designer (see live flowers as art).



Ronni Jolles, layered paper (Studio #12)



Yeganeh Hejazi (Studio #7)

Nurturing Newbies

Every year our tour has artists you've never met before. In 2012, six of them are new to the event—or returning after an absence. And that means different art for you to see. You'll find these creative talents at venues #1, #7, #16, #17, #24, #25.

Do Your Homework

Want to learn more about artists on the tour? For more samples of their work and a profile, go to: www.GreatFallsStudios.com. For some artists, you can also link to a personal website. Then enjoy the tour, the art, the studios, the creative process, friendly conversations, extraordinary properties, our artful community—and, at some unspecified studios, free cookies while they last.



2012 NINTH ANNUAL GREAL FALLS STUDIOS TOUR 15

ulick The Difference is

ARTISTRY

"Just as an artist transforms bare canvas into a lively image, Gulick frames lifestyles through the images of their design. An artful blending of form, function and substance...of tone and texture...paints a moving portrait of the only place you'll ever want to call home."

- Peter W. Gulick, President and CEO



Autumn Wood New Home Community in Great Falls From \$1.775 M

Featuring the signature portfolio for which Gulick Group is well known, including a first floor Master Suite option, and located within minutes of Great Falls Village Center, these eighteen new homes on one acre sites are one of the last chances for new home community living in Great Falls. Call 571.393.1683 or email Autumn_Wood@gulickgroup.com for more information.

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