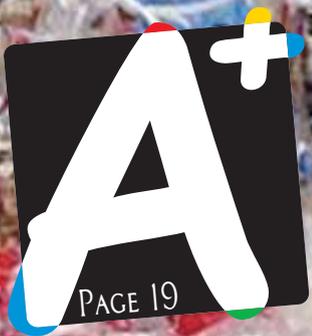


McLean Chocolate Festival Returns

NEWS, PAGE 10



Group Protests at CIA Headquarters

NEWS, PAGE 6

Tyson's Service District Created

NEWS, PAGE 3

Chocolates from Connie's Chocolate Confections of Alexandria on display at last year's McLean Chocolate Festival. This year's festival will be at a bigger venue, McLean High School, and will take place Saturday, Jan. 27.

OPINION, PAGE 8 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 17

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

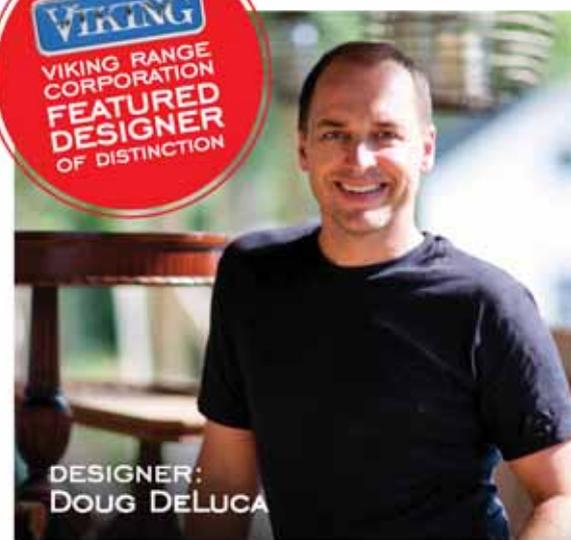




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Tysons Service District Created

New tax district will help fund Tysons Corner improvements.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted eight to two to create a Tysons Corner Service District, which is expected to raise money to help cover the estimated \$3.1 billion in new roads and public transit development planned for the area.

“Tysons is going to be a wonderful place, but right now it’s got challenges. We’re in the middle of a \$6 billion investment, and we’re doing things like requiring developers to build fields, which is extremely expensive in a build-out situation like we’ve got here, they’re investing in parks, sidewalks, bike lanes, a significant infrastructure investment,” said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), who put forward the motion at the board’s Jan. 8 meeting. “Right now we haven’t got the infrastructure, and for those people that live in Tysons it’s been a detriment, so this is an opportunity [for] residents being asked to pay a small portion of the big-picture projects that will make this area work.”

The county estimates that the district will generate around \$253 million, or eight percent of the total money needed. The property within the district is assessed at around \$11.5 billion, and about 83 percent of the area is commercial land.

THE TAX RATE for the district will not be set until the board sets county budget, but it will be based on assessed property values. The Board of Supervisors also voted to create an advisory board to provide input on the tax rate. Foust also estimated that an early prediction for the assessment would be around \$18 per month for residents.

Supervisors Linda Smyth (D-Providence) and Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) were the two dissenting votes against the district. Smyth cited a “folder of correspondence” about the proposed district.

She said letters from residents are universally opposed, while letters from developers are universally in favor.

“What the residents of Tysons are saying clearly is, ‘wait a minute, we’re not the developers, we’re not the ones generating the need for these road improvements, we’re not going to make a profit,’” she said. “Not only that, these road improvements are for the benefit of commuters, people driving into Tysons to work in the new commercial spaces. We haven’t asked for one group of citizens to pay for such significant infrastructure when it is, as they see it, a matter of a bigger community interest.”

She went on to say that “people are angry and very concerned about this way of doing business in Fairfax County... and frankly, I understand how they feel.”

Herrity said he supported the idea of Tysons redevelopment, and the Tysons Corner plan and efforts



The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has created a Tysons Service district, which will tax residents and businesses to help pay for \$3.1 billion in improvements to Tysons Corner.

to grow the county’s tax base, but felt the plan unnecessarily raised taxes on members of the district.

“I think we have a clear and viable alternative to raising taxes on the residents and business of Tysons, and that’s the restructuring of our profit dollars to include a greater focus on transportation,” he said. “Clearly developers are paying for a portion of profers, but it’s not the level it should be.

Foust compared the situation to other special tax districts in the county, such as the ones that help fund the McLean and Reston Community Centers.

“There are areas of the county that have additional taxes, some pay substantially more than what we’re talking about in Tysons, so this isn’t the first time it’s been done,” he said.

The board also voted to create two transportation funds, which will be paid into by developers. One will help pay for the needed grid of streets, the other for larger-scale Tysons Corner transit improvement costs.

THE COUNTY estimates the Grid of Streets Fund will raise approximately \$304 million. Developers will contribute \$6.44 per square foot of commercial development, and \$1,000 per residential unit built.

It is estimated the Tysons-Wide Fund will raise approximately \$253 million, with developers contributing \$5.63 per square foot of development, as well as \$1,000 per residential unit built.

The total raised by the new funds is approximately 18 percent of the \$3.1 billion in total costs.

County officials estimate that the \$3.1 billion needed for improvements can be broken into four categories: large-scale, Tysons-wide improvements (\$1.2 billion), transit (\$865 million), grid of streets (\$865 million) and neighborhood and access improvements (\$77 million).

The grid of streets will be paid for entirely by developers, with more than \$300 million coming from the Grid of Streets Transportation fund, with the rest coming from in-kind contributions.

Landowners will pay \$506 million toward the Tysons-wide road improvements, and the county will publicly fund the remainder.

Transit and neighborhood and access improvements will be paid for publicly by the county.

Virginia Delegate Mark Keam and Senator Chap Petersen (D-34) hosted a town hall meeting Saturday at Vienna’s American Legion Post 180. Nearly 200 residents attended the meeting.



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/
THE CONNECTION

Traveling Down A Familiar Road

Transportation funding, education top agenda at town hall.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

“The biggest example of ‘tragic mismatch’ since I wore madras slacks and white socks in 1980 to my first middle school dance.”

That’s how Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) described Republican Governor Robert McDonnell’s transportation funding plan, which calls for an increase in the sales tax and eliminates the \$17.5 cents per gallon gas tax.

If Petersen has anything to say about it, this year’s short legislative session will be big on the issue of transportation funding.

During a standing-room-only town hall meeting at Vienna’s American Legion Post 180 on Saturday, Petersen and Del. Mark Keam (D-35) made it clear they intend to fight McDonnell’s “nonsensical” transportation plan, which the governor announced Jan. 8, on the eve of the General Assembly’s 30-day session.

“The ‘justification’ is that the gas tax at a fixed rate brings in less money in our hybrid age. But that hardly seems like a reason to jettison it,” Petersen said.

“Eliminating our traditional road funding because cars are more efficient makes about as much sense as canceling your child’s college fund because tuition keeps rising.”

In a statement released last week, McDonnell said his plan—which would make Vir-

ginia the first state in the nation to eliminate the gas tax—“is a sustainable, long-term solution that will fund our transportation network for decades to come.”

“It provides over half a billion more dollars in highway construction funding each year and eliminates the structural deficit by 2019. In fact, our plan puts \$3.1 billion more into transportation in Virginia in just the next five years,” McDonnell said.

PETERSEN told the nearly 200 constituents at the town hall meeting that his response to McDonnell’s plan was not merely “knee-jerk partisan opposition.” He gave points to McDonnell for “starting the conversation” on ways to improve Virginia’s crumbling transportation network, which is set to run out of money for construction by 2017.

Petersen said he did not doubt McDonnell’s “good intentions.”

But calling for a 16 percent increase in the state sales tax on all goods, in place of the current per-gallon gasoline tax, was not the way to do it, he said.

Petersen said it just didn’t make sense to raise sales tax—a general tax on all residents, many of whom do not use roads—while many out of state residents passing through Virginia use the state’s highways for free.

“Of course, the retail sales tax is paid directly by the consumer.

SEE TOWN HALL, PAGE 4



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION



Del. Mark Keam (D-35) talks to Rikki Epstein, director of The ARC of Northern Virginia, who attended Saturday's town hall meeting to support Virginia's transition to a community-based care for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Vienna resident Lisa Arlt Escoto (standing), was one of nearly 200 residents to attend Saturday's town hall meeting hosted by Senator Chap Petersen (D-34) and Delegate Mark Keam (D-35).

Town Hall Meeting Focuses on Transportation, Education

FROM PAGE 3

In that sense, it is far more onerous on citizens than the gas tax which is an input cost on a product, such as gasoline, which is 'priced to market.' That's why the level of gas tax has little if any effect on the price consumers pay at the pump," Petersen explained.

Petersen said the "real story" is the discontinuing of "user fees" to fund transportation—and instead making our roads and transit projects just another item in the state general fund. "That is a startling turn of events," he said.

"By ending user-based financing and pushing our road costs primarily to general taxes, the governor sets up an annual clash between transportation and the funding of public schools, health providers, and first responders, to name a few," Petersen said, adding that the governor's plan also ensures that out-of-state highway users will use our highways for free, since the gas tax is the only way the state has to capture that revenue.

"Maryland is now for McDonnell," Petersen quipped.

"My biggest problem is that if you take a general tax and increase it on everyone, that ought to be the last resort and not the first resort," he said to applause.

Since the governor's announcement, Democrats, and even some Republicans, have come out in force against McDonnell's plan. Senate Majority Leader Richard Saslaw (D-35) said "I think that thing is so dead it's unbelievable." Peterson, however, is the only Fairfax senator to introduce his

"Eliminating our traditional road funding because cars are more efficient makes about as much sense as canceling your child's college fund because tuition keeps rising."

—Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34)

own legislation that would adjust (or index) the gasoline tax, currently 17.5 cents per gallon, based on the fuel efficiency index, rather than eliminate it.

"Thankfully, the legislature will have a chance to weigh in the next six weeks," Petersen said

CHARTER SCHOOLS, TYSONS TAX DISTRICT AND ROUTE 123

Keam, who filed a total of 14 legislative measures when the legislature convened Jan. 9, introduced his legislative agenda and took questions on a number of topics.

As a member of the House education committee, Keam said he was opposed to the governor's plan to have a constitutional amendment authorizing charter schools, allowing local school districts to decide when to allow a new charter school, without needing state Board of Education approval. McDonnell has long been a proponent of charter schools, and said Wednesday that Virginia has "one of the weakest public charter schools laws in all the country."

Keam said he thought charter schools should meet a gap, and not replace an existing system.

He received applause when he

told the crowd that the governor's plan to hold schools accountable by giving each school a letter grade was "stigmatizing the schools our children go to." Instead, he said, the governor should consider grading the state's transportation network. "I'd like to see some off-ramps get some F's," Keam said.

Walter Basnight, a member of the Town of Vienna's planning commission, asked what lawmakers plan to do about the area's increasing traffic headaches, especially on Route 123.

"It's a nightmare now and it's going to be a nightmare when Tysons gets here," Basnight said. "We need some support from the state as well."

KEAM said one of his bills—HB2141—would "increase transportation maintenance funds for highly used roads, such as Maple Avenue."

Several residents asked Keam about his plan to help McLean residents avoid higher taxes resulting from the county's plan to increase property taxes in Tysons by 7 to 9 cents to fund the area's \$3.1 billion redevelopment.

Keam said that while he fully supported the idea of redeveloping Tysons Corner into Fairfax

County's "new urban downtown," he thought it was "unfair" to tax residents the same as commercial property owners who would directly benefit from the redevelopment. He noted many Tysons residents already pay a real estate tax, storm water tax and pest management tax.

Keam said he introduced legislation—HB2131—that would give the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors "every legal tool possible" to either completely exempt residents who live in special tax districts or require that they be taxed at a lower rate than businesses in those districts.

He cited residents of The Rotonda as among those who would be unfairly taxed in the new district. The Rotonda, a gated condominium community of five 10-story buildings built in 1978, has nearly 1,200 resident units on 35 acres near Tysons and Tysons Galleria.

"The Rotonda is home to many senior citizens who live on a fixed income. All of a sudden they have to pay for new schools, playgrounds, sidewalks? For that group of constituents, I think a new tax is blatantly unfair. I'm going to do everything I can to provide relief. For new residents? They are on notice."

Another topic of concern was the potential closure of the Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTC). Several parents, who have adult children at the NVTC, asked Petersen and Keam to lobby lawmakers to keep the center open until the community could safely support a transition to a community-based home.



Nancy Burke

Police Athletic Trainer Inducted Into Hall of Fame

Treating sprained ankles, separated shoulders and aching backs are everyday occurrences for Fairfax County Police Department's athletic trainer Nancy Burke.

Burke serves a vital role for the agency in keeping over 1,300 Fairfax County Police officers in top form despite the tough physical toll the job can have on one's body.

"Obviously physical fitness is critical for those in public safety; whether they are chasing a suspect in the dark or helping lift a person out of a wrecked car, it is a very physically demanding job," Burke said.

Burke's efforts are now being widely recognized as she has been tapped for the 2013 Virginia Athletic Trainers' Association (VATA) Hall of Fame. The VATA is an organization dedicated to the health and well-being of Virginians who are physically active and this is the third year for the Hall of Fame selection process.

Burke began her career as an athletic trainer in a secondary school setting after graduating from James Madison University in 1973. After earning her Master's Degree from Eastern Kentucky University, she continued her career in Fairfax County. Her expertise in sports medicine is nationally known as she served as the head athletic trainer for World Cup Sabre Fencing in 1992 and 1994, a site medical director for the Atlanta Olympic Games in 1996, and chaired the U.S. Lacrosse Association Safety Committee, where her contributions helped result in the mandate of protective eyewear and new safety standards for goalkeepers' helmets.



PHOTOS BY KIM MORAN

Churchill Road second graders Victoria Valco, Meghan Masri, Noor Golesorkhi and Salma Hassan, all in Joshua DeSmyter's homeroom, choose pieces of fleece to make scarves for the buddy school students at Dogwood Elementary.

Spirit of Holidays at Churchill Road

Churchill Road students embodied the spirit of the holidays through a variety of service learning projects. Kindergarten students filled the gift bags they decorated with books, school supplies and treats to give to kindergarteners at their buddy school, Dogwood Elementary. Second graders also made gift bags for their buddy classes at Dogwood Elementary and filled them with the colorful fleece scarves they made themselves. Sixth grade students made holiday

cards for veterans to be distributed to the Wounded Warrior project, an undertaking that hit home for the students. For sixth grader Hope Ollivant in Megan Roman's class, "Making the cards was fun, because my dad was in the Army. It's nice to know that they're [soldiers] doing something nice for us and we can do something nice for them too." Classmate Genevieve Bourgeois said, "When I made the cards, I know they [the soldiers] won't just have a family to come home to, but thank you cards as well."



Churchill Road kindergarteners Brett Hudson, Beckett Collins and Jackie Kawakami, pictured with their teacher Laura Zielinski, are excited about the gift bags they made for their buddy school students at Dogwood Elementary.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send School Notes to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Gillian Eiserman of McLean, a junior majoring in computer science at Bridgewater College, was on The Dean's List for the fall semester of 2012.

The following students were named semifinalists in the 2013 National Achievement® Scholarship Program: **Taylor N. Brown** and **Zakiy S. Gharad** from McLean High School; **Margaret C. Secor** from James Madison High School; **Misa C. Mori** from Oakton High School.

Cadet Cpt. Monica Valcourt, daughter of Jeffery and Nelcy Valcourt of McLean, and a junior at Massanutten Military Academy located in Woodstock, Va., recently completed a MIT course

in Psychology through the Open Courseware Consortium. Ms. Valcourt is Alpha Company Commander; the highest ranking position of the only female unit at the Academy, Vice-President of the Massanutten Military Academy National Honor Society, Vice-President of Interact; a Rotary Club community service program for students, and a leader on the Army JROTC "Raiders"; an athletic and military competition team. The MIT course is one of many college level courses offered and is an introduction to the study of Psychology presented from a heavily scientific perspective. Monica, one of the youngest students to successfully complete the course, did so with an "A."

Nicolas Clay Wood of McLean graduated from Radford University at the end of the summer session. Wood, son of Ms. Jacqueline Gallman of 6621 Melrose Drive, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in foreign language.

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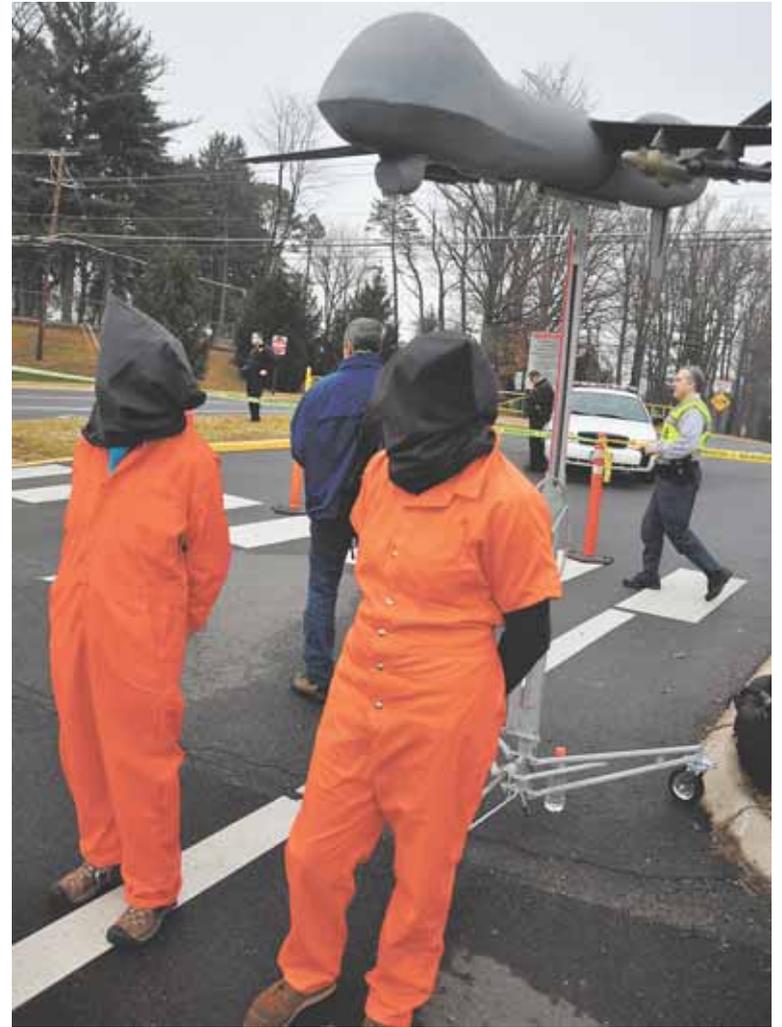
relax

NEWS

Hooded members of Witness Against Torture block the front entrance to CIA Headquarters Saturday, Jan. 12, to protest the agency's use of torture and drone attacks.



PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH / THE CONNECTION



Group Protests at CIA Headquarters

Anti-torture organization fasts, blocks off entrance.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Dolley Madison Boulevard entrance to CIA Headquarters was rendered impassable the morning of Saturday, Jan. 12, as more than three dozen people in orange prison jumpsuits and black hoods over their heads

lined up to protest actions taken by the intelligence agency in recent years.

Members of Witness Against Torture planned the rally, their third at the CIA headquarters in recent years. In addition to the protesters in prison garb, others gathered to speak and pass out information about the activities they're against.

"I wish this is something we could do every day, that would shut this place down," said Jack McHale of Burke, who had been fasting for the past week as part of the group's protest.

THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME McHale has fasted to bring atten

SEE PROTEST, PAGE 16

The group Witness Against Torture dress in prison jumpsuits and display models of Reaper drones in front of CIA Headquarters Saturday, Jan. 12. The group held the event to protest the use of torture, drone attacks and detention in Guantanamo Bay.

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OPINION

Transportation Money Eliminating the gas tax makes no sense.

Virginia, and especially Northern Virginia, is woefully short on funds for transportation. One reason is that its gas tax, a logical way to fund transportation infrastructure, is one of the lowest in the nation, and has remained flat since the '80s, since it is not indexed for inflation. So the buying power of the gas tax has been dwindling.

It seems obvious that one way to fix this is to allow it to rise with inflation, or change it to a percentage of the price of a gallon of fuel. Tying road funding to gas consumption is a logical connection, and the increase encourages conservation and more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Instead, Gov. Bob McDonnell has proposed eliminating the gas tax, replacing the funding with an increase in the sales tax plus a plan to shift money from other state spending, like education, human services and public safety,

to transportation.

With considerable agreement that Virginia needs about \$1 billion a year to pay roads and transit, this proposal would raise about one-third of that.

Part of the governor's plan also calls for a \$100 annual fee on vehicles that use alternative fuels.

Raising the sales tax to pay for roads is particularly unfair to the many residents of Northern Virginia who have chosen to live in Arlington, Alexandria and other areas that are walkable and provide easy access to public transit.

Penalizing drivers of hybrid and electric vehicles by charging them more than six times what other vehicles pay is not in the best interests of anyone who breathes the air in Virginia, and is a stark slap at innovation.

The entire proposal makes about as much

sense as forcing a select few Northern Virginia residents, the drivers on the Dulles Toll Road, to almost single-handedly pay for rail to Dulles. Dulles airport is one of the key economic drivers for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Building rail to serve the airport is an economic investment that will have broad benefits in revenue for the state. A disproportionately small amount of that revenue will make it back to Northern Virginia. So it is welcome that the governor's proposal calls for diverting some of the "new" transportation money to Dulles rail.

The current proposal would make Virginia the only state without a gas tax. It seems unwise for a state with such dramatic transportation deficits to abandon the one source of funding that makes sense. More money is needed; that requires addition, not subtraction.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

A 10-Year Mission: End Homelessness

BY MICHAEL O'REILLY

Our Fairfax-Falls Church community is one of the most affluent in the country. Our schools are second to none. We are the home for many Fortune 500 businesses. Even with the challenging economy, our unemployment rate is among the lowest in the country.

Despite these strengths, our community also includes people who are homeless and are staying at emergency shelters, living in their cars or camping in the woods. Our community includes families with no place to sleep at night and children with no place to go after school. It saddens me to report that there were over 3,000 homeless individuals in our community this past year. It is unacceptable to have homeless men, women and children in our community.

Homelessness impacts every person in our community and each has a role in ending it. Through the good work of many non-profit and religious organizations, for many years we have directed our collective efforts to managing the homeless issues. However, little was done to find longer term solutions to prevent and end homelessness. That has now changed.

The leadership of Congressman Gerry Connolly helped to galvanize all of the energy and effort in the entire community. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors with leadership from Chairman Bulova and Supervisor Catherine Hudgins and all of our key stakeholders from the non-profit, government, faith and business community came together to develop an impressive 10 Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. The plan recognizes the right of all people to have a safe, affordable place in which to live. The plan envisions our entire community working together as partners to eliminate homelessness. We have some very steep goals and lots of hard work ahead to reach our goal of ending homelessness in Fairfax County by the end of 2018.

We have made huge strides in the develop-



From left — Michael O'Reilly, Jim Corcoran and Dean Klein during Jeans Day 2012.

ment of the governance structure called The Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness. The Office to Prevent and End Homelessness was established within Fairfax County. We have constituted a Governing Board made up of business leaders, elected officials, builders, clergy, law enforcement and others. We have created a new Consumer Advisory Council to ensure that currently homeless and formerly homeless have an active voice in the implementation of our plan.

We have much more work to do. We have recently moved our collective efforts to the plan's goal of creating 2,650 new housing units. We have supported and will continue to support efforts to amend the county's housing code to permit more individual housing options. We hosted a day long outreach program for our faith based communities which shows promise at increasing the housing stock.

Through our collective prevention and rapid rehousing strategies, community case management and the provision of other critical services, we prevented last year over 1,400 indi-

Editor's Note:

This month, The Connection begins featuring a monthly column written by community leaders involved in Fairfax County's nonprofit organizations. Every year, thousands of Fairfax County residents volunteer with nonprofits in a variety of ways, whether it's driving a senior citizen to a medical appointment or serving meals to the homeless in one of the county's hypothermia shelters. According to Volunteer Fairfax—a nonprofit that matches volunteers with service projects—individuals volunteered 205,688 hours of service to the community. We launch this series with a column by Michael O'Reilly, Chairman of the Governing Board of the Fairfax-Falls Church Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness.

viduals from becoming homeless by providing community case management and other services. In addition, we have launched a Housing Locator Network to strengthen relationships with landlords and to help to move the homeless in our community more rapidly into permanent housing. Through the work of our partnership we have seen an impressive increase in homeless families and individuals placed in permanent housing from 482 in 2010 to 853 in 2012. Many adults and children have been positively impacted. This can only be attributed to the commitment that many in our community have made to end homelessness.

Our approach to preventing and ending homelessness is predicated on us doing so in partnership with a broad coalition of nonprofits, faith communities, businesses and government. Working together allows us to do amazing things.

I thank you for your interest and commitment and look forward to our continued work together with all of our partners in the coming years as we strive to prevent and end homelessness in our community. If you would like to become involved in this important work please go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless or call 703-324-9492 for more information.

Michael O'Reilly is Chairman of the Governing Board of Fairfax Falls Church Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness.

McLean CONNECTION

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LETTERS

Too Little, Too Late

To the Editor:

Kyle McCauley heaped praise on Del. Barbara Comstock for her efforts to “increase the in-state slots guaranteed for Virginia’s students to 75 percent” [Increasing Slots for Virginia Students, Connection, January 9-15, 2013].

Three things: 1) Comstock’s HB 1700 (which has no co-patrons) is identical to Del. Tim Hugo’s (R-40) HB 1605 (David Ramadan, R-87, is chief co-patron); 2) Both bills exclude Virginia Military Institute, Norfolk State University and Virginia State University; and, 3) The increased in-state slots will not go into effect until the 2018-2019 academic year by which time I anticipate young Mr. McCauley will have graduated from the College of William & Mary.

I’ll note that Hugo’s HB 1083 from the 2012 session of the General Assembly failed to make it out of the Education Sub-Committee for Higher Education and Arts. I doubt HB 1700/1605 will go any further. Yet, these bills do pander to Northern Virginia constituents who want our children to become members of the Tribe or Wahoons. Too bad they are ineffective.

The sad fact is that Virginia’s public institutions for higher learning have been grossly under-funded by the Republican dominated House of

Delegates for many years. As Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-25) notes in a recent issue of Virginia Policy Review, “Funding per full-time student has decreased 23 percent since 1992. And state funding for core academic functions at our public institutions reached a new low last year of only 33 percent.” To make-up for this neglectful funding, lawmakers and college presidents depend on the checkbooks of out-of-state families to subsidize tuition for our in-state students. The “2012-13 Tuition and Fees at Virginia’s State-Supported Colleges and Universities” report issued by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia shows that the average in-state tuition and mandatory fees is \$6,224 while out-of-state families pay \$20,853.

But to be fair, Del. Comstock was one of 43 co-patrons of HB 2510, Virginia Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2011, a bill that passed the House and Senate unanimously. However, HB 2510 merely suggested that “Each institution’s basic operations and instruction funding need, and the commonwealth’s funding split policy by which 67 percent of an institution’s cost of education for Virginia students is funded from the state general fund and 33 percent from funds other than the state general fund, shall be taken into account

by the governor during the preparation of his proposed biennial budget bill.” Governor McDonnell and the General Assembly have a long way to go to reverse last year’s 33 percent funding to the VHEO Act’s suggested 67 percent state funding.

Under-funding of state-supported colleges and universities has other consequences. State government support for student financial aid has decreased over the years. Colleges and universities have to make up the difference. This means that each of Virginia’s colleges and universities needs their own fundraising functions which includes staff and office space. Who pays for this overhead cost?

Lower state funding has probably had an effect on the available number of faculty and classrooms. What are students to do if there aren’t enough faculty to teach required courses? Not much except to take five or six years to graduate.

I’m not confident that Del. Comstock is willing to make the hard choices required to increase state support for our colleges and universities while simultaneously reducing our dependence on out-of-state families. For the sake of our children, I hope she does. In any case, for Mr. McCauley, it will be too little, too late.

Greg Brandon
McLean

A Vote to Remember

To the Editor:

I was interested to read Supervisor John Foust’s column about the challenges facing Fairfax County in 2013, and especially his comments about the financial challenges the county faces [Challenges Facing Dranesville in 2013, Connection, Jan. 2-8, 2013].

While Supervisor Foust pointed out that the board had saved “tens of millions” of dollars over the past year, he did not mention that the county saved as much as \$500 million as the result of a ruling last week in which Fairfax County joined the Virginia Department of

Transportation in a lawsuit filed by the Attorney General challenging the EPA’s right to limit the amount of water allowed to flow into the Accotink Creek streambed.

My guess as to the reason he did not mention the huge savings from this lawsuit is that Supervisor Foust was the only member of the Board of Supervisors to vote against filing the lawsuit.

That’s right—the July 2012 vote was 9-1, with all six of the other Democrat members of the board, and all three Republicans voting for Fairfax County to join in the lawsuit, with only Supervisor

Foust voting against. His vote was to allow the EPA to saddle county taxpayers with as much as \$500 million in additional mitigation expenses, that the Federal Court ruled last week the EPA had no legal basis for imposing.

Let’s remember this vote on the July 10, 2012 vote when Supervisor Foust tells us he is looking out for the taxpayers, and when he tells us taxes must go up, because all the savings have been wrung out of the budget.

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Great Falls

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Visitors enjoy a chocolate fountain from Capitol Chocolate Fountains at last year's McLean Chocolate Festival. This year's festival will be Sunday, Jan. 27 at McLean High School.

McLean Chocolate Festival Returns

New venue allows for more attendance, vendors.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The McLean Rotary Club will welcome chocolate lovers from all over Sunday, Jan. 27 at McLean High School for the second annual McLean Chocolate Festival.

"We tried our best to make this event to appeal to a broad range of people. When this event was planned, it was to draw a large part of the community, and the thought was, who doesn't like chocolate?" said Steve Richardson of the Rotary Club of McLean. "Of course we're focused on chocolate and the chefs involved are all working on some special recipes. But we'll have a children's room, live entertainment and other games and activities. With a chocolate theme of course."

"It's something to fill the weekend with no football, between the championship games and the Super Bowl."

—Steve Richardson, Rotary Club of McLean

Last year the event, which was held at the McLean Community Center, drew more than 3,000 people, prompting members of the Rotary to search out a larger venue.

"The crowd last year sort of overwhelmed the community center, and from feedback we heard after, parking was especially a problem," Richardson said. "We felt a larger facility like McLean High School would help with parking and with easier access."

More than 20 vendors will be presenting signature treats, all including chocolate in some form or another. Local con-

fectioners such as Fairfax-based Dave's Candy Kitchen, Alexandria-based Connie's Chocolate Confections, McLean-based Fluffy Thoughts and Cocoa Vienna will present chocolates, toffees, cookies, cupcakes, fudge and more.

Other more traditional restaurants, such as Tysons Corner's Brio Tuscan Grille and Seasons 52 will present chocolate twists on their classic favorites. Brio will sell mini dolcino chocolate caramel cakes, and Seasons 52 will have individual portions of desserts, as well as peanut butter chocolate swirl and rocky road ice cream.

Community groups will also be pitching in with their specialties—members of the Vinson Hall Retirement Community will sell cookies, pecan pie, brownies and bacon, all with chocolate. Chesterbrooks residences will sell a variety of fudges,

chocolate pecan pie and chocolate strawberries.

"It's something to fill the weekend with no football, between the championship games and the Super Bowl," Richardson said. "We got a lot of good feedback last year, and the one quote I always remember is someone who said they 'ate chocolate like they had never eaten chocolate before.'"

The McLean Rotary Club will use 25 percent of all proceeds from the festival to support their philanthropic efforts, which include the Falls Church McLean Children's Festival, Alternative House and Timber Lane Elementary School.

The festival will take place Sunday, Jan. 27 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at McLean High School. Admission is \$2. More information is available at www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org.

COMMUNITY

Family Remembers Life and Legacy of Kidnapped Libyan Human Rights Activist

Mansur Rashid Kikhia's family lives in McLean and Vienna area.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Nineteen years ago, on Dec. 10, 1993, Libyan human rights activist and lawyer Mansur Rashid Kikhia was kidnapped from his hotel room in Cairo, Egypt and spirited out of the country. Last month—December, 2012—Kikhia's death in Tripoli was confirmed to his family, now living in the Vienna and McLean areas. On Saturday, Jan. 12, Kikhia's family and friends celebrated the life of a man dedicated to human rights for all.

"Mansur Kikhia was advocating for democracy and the protection of human rights and freedom for all the Arab nations since the beginning of his career," said daughter Jihan Kikhia. "He was a visionary, which made him an early pioneer of the recent revolution in Libya."

Mansur Rashid Kikhia served as Libyan Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1972 to 1973, Libyan Ambassador to the United Nations, and Permanent Libyan Representative to the United Nations. At the U.N., Kikhia served as president of the U.N. Security Council in September 1976 and in October 1977. He was a leader in promoting and creating the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in the United Nations.

In protest to the killing and torture per-



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION
The family of kidnapped Libyan human rights activist Mansur Rashid Kikhia commemorated his life and legacy on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013. From left, Bisan Toron, Rashid Mansur Kikhia, widow Baha Omary Kikhia and Jihan Kikhia.

petrated by Al-Gaddafi's regime, Kikhia resigned from the Libyan government in 1980, publicly protesting against government-supported atrocities. After he separated himself from the Libyan government, he continued his opposition movement in Paris, France.

"Mansur Kikhia's story highlights the need for humankind to constantly work hard to protect and promote our most basic human rights, even in the face of life's most difficult struggles," said Kikhia.

Family and friends say that Kikhia was a

leading opposition figure to Muammar Al-Gaddafi, and they suspect it was pro-Al-Gaddafi supporters behind the kidnapping. Kikhia aimed to unite Libya's opposition groups to create a powerful front against Al-Gaddafi's oppressive regime, said Mansur Rashid Kikhia's daughter, Jihan "Jiji" Kikhia. When Kikhia disappeared from Cairo, he was attending an Arab Organization for Human Rights meeting, of which he was a founder. International Human Rights Day falls on Dec. 10.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Libyan human rights activist Mansur Rashid Kikhia was kidnapped from his Cairo hotel room on Dec. 10, 1993. His death was confirmed to his family in December of 2012.

Family friend and supporter Larry Ekin also believes that it was supporters of Gaddafi that kidnapped Kikhia, possibly with the cooperation of people inside Egypt. "How else did they spirit him out of the country," Ekin asks.

"Mansur was probably kidnapped because he was seen by the Gaddafi regime as a great threat to his government," said Ekin. "Not because of military might but because of his integrity and credibility. He had the reputation and the ability to unite various groups in opposition to Gaddafi's regime. He also had credibility with the U.N."

With Gaddafi's fall and death Kikhia's case was reopened. In December of 2012, Kikhia's death was confirmed to his family.

"So, although the end of his life was a tragedy, we are here to acknowledge and commend what he did while he was a free man with a heroic vision in a world full of limitations," said Kikhia. "We are fighting for the completion of his story and to honor his life as he selflessly did for others."

McLean Student Honored as YoungArts Finalist

Joe Broom of McLean, a sophomore at Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology (TJHSST), is a National YoungArts Foundation Finalist in music. Chosen from approximately 10,000 applications submitted by students in nine disciplines of the visual, literary and performing arts, he will participate in a life-changing experience provided by the National YoungArts Foundation. He is the first TJHSST student to be selected as a YoungArts finalist.

This year, during the 32nd annual YoungArts Week in Miami, Fla. from Jan. 6-12, Broom will join 151 other finalists in a week of intense master classes with internationally renowned artists such as Adrian Grenier (1994 Alumnus in Theater), Marisa Tomei, Bobby McFerrin, Andrew Rannells (1997 Alumnus in Theater) and Bill T. Jones (YoungArts artistic advisor). Students will also have the opportunity to share their work each evening through performances, readings, exhibitions and screenings that are free and open to the public. YoungArts Week will



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Joe Broom plays with his coach, Steven Mead, UK-based international euphonium virtuoso soloist.

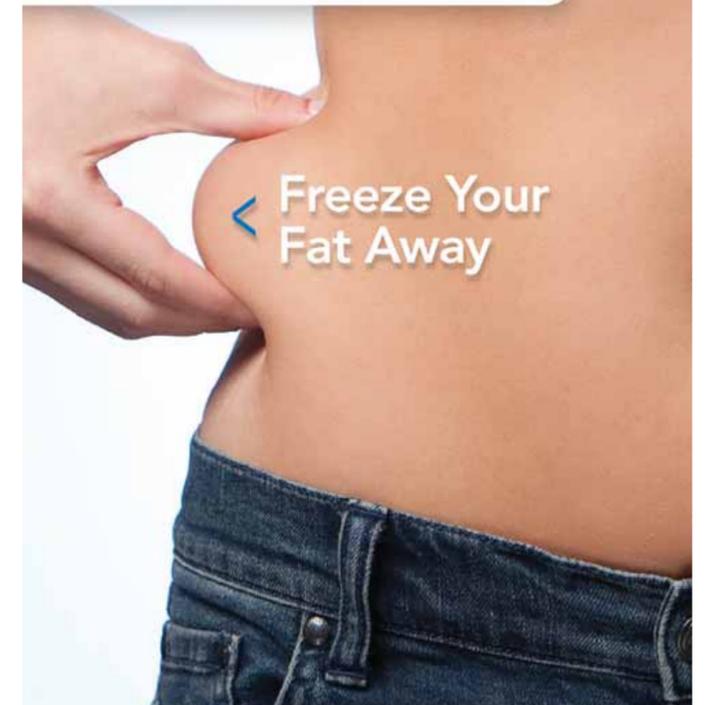
culminate in An Affair of the Arts Performance and Gala on Jan. 12. YoungArts Week performances will be live streamed on

youngarts.org.

For his YoungArts application, Broom submitted video recordings from his classical

music repertoire including Mozart's Bassoon Concerto and Eduardo Boccalari's Fantasia di Concerto.

Broom has earned recognition for his musical talent. In 2012, he won a seat in the National Symphony Orchestra Youth Fellowship program—the only euphonium player in the fellowship's 32-year history. He was a finalist in the 2012 U.S. Navy Band High School Concerto Competition, and he performed with the band at a Memorial Day concert. As a freshman, he was principal euphonium of the All-Virginia High School Band and he won the Friday Morning Music Club's Ross-Roberts Competition for High School Players. He is a member of Brass of Peace, an intensive training and performance program for gifted high school students, which performed at the Kennedy Center. He studies music with Lee Rogers, principal trombone of the Washington National Opera Orchestra, and is coached by Steven Mead, internationally renowned virtuoso euphonium soloist.



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McLean Wrestling Wins Cavalier Duals

The McLean Highlanders wrestling team finished the 2012 year strong by winning the Cavalier Classic Wrestling Tournament. With 12 teams competing in 14 weight classes and competition from Fairfax, Arlington, Washington, D.C., Suffolk, Richmond, and Fredericksburg, the Highlanders advanced five out of their 11 wrestlers into the championship finals and two in the consolation finals.

Overcoming other teams having 14 possible scorers, the Highlanders pulled together collecting bonus points from pins and major decision victories where they could. Each of the wrestlers contributed as the Highlanders fended off second-place Saint John's College High School with three head-to-head match-ups in the championship round.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The McLean wrestling team participated in the Cavalier Duals on Dec. 29.

McLean Highlanders wrestlers winning first place individual weights classes included: Conor Grammes (106), Adilet Uspeev (145) and Bryson Davis (182). Other medalists included Forrest Stieg (152,

second – injury), Gabe Sutherland (170, second), Eric Johnston (120, third) and Nick Echeverria (138, fourth). At the end of 2012, the McLean wrestling team was ranked top 10 in the Northern Region.

McLean Wrestling Wins Warhawk Duals

The McLean Highlanders wrestling team started off the holiday break by participating in the Warhawk Duals at James Madison High School on Dec. 22. A total of 10 teams competed with the Highlanders, facing five head-to-head dual meets with opposing schools.

The day started with the team giving up three forfeits out of 14 weight classes. After winning their pool with team victories against Stonewall Jackson and district rivals James Madison and Thomas Jefferson,

the team rallied to overcome an injury leading to a fourth forfeited weight class. In the semifinal match, the McLean squad beat Robert E. Lee, which put the team into the final championship dual with then-undefeated John Handley High School of Winchester. After giving up 24 points in forfeits, the team was down 36-12 with six matches left.

The Highlanders rallied realizing victory was not out of reach.

They went on to win five consecutive

matches from Nick Echeverria, Adilet Upseev, Forrest Stieg, Cochise Wanzer, and Gabe Sutherland. The final match of the day in the 182-pound weight class produced a fourth-overtime victory by McLean's Bryson Davis to win the match 42-36 and the Warhawk Duals championship for the McLean Highlanders.

Other team members include Noah Cherry, Conor Grammes, Eric Johnston, Danny Rayes, Mac McCune and Omar Jacobson.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Oakton Girls' Basketball to Face 14-1 Centreville

The Oakton girls' basketball team defeated Robinson 61-39 on Jan. 10, improving its record to 13-2 overall and 3-0 in the Concorde District. The victory was the Oakton's third straight and the Cougars' 10th in their last 11 games.

Oakton will host Centreville at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 18. Centreville is 14-1 overall and tied with the Cougars atop the Concorde District standings with a 3-0 record.

Oakton Boys' Basketball Beats Robinson

The Oakton boys' basketball team improved its Concorde District record to 2-1 with a 69-56 victory against Robinson on Jan. 10.

The Cougars will travel to face Centreville at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 18.

Madison Girls' Basketball Falls to South Lakes

The Madison girls' basketball team lost to South Lakes 55-45 on Jan. 11, dropping the Warhawks' record to 8-6 overall and 4-2 in the Liberty District.

Madison faced Fairfax on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Warhawks will host Stone Bridge at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 18.

McLean Youth Soccer Registration

McLean Youth Soccer Spring 2013 registration has begun on MYS' Web site www.mcleansoccer.org for all returning and new families. MYS offers various programs for children ages 4 through 18, including recreation, travel, McLean Premier Soccer Travel, U5 for pre-K players, and TOP Soccer for children with special needs.

The season will begin the week of April 1 and extend through mid-June. Be sure to register no later than Jan. 31 to take advantage of the early discounted registration fees. Registration is still open for MYS Winter Ballmasters Training Session 2, which begins Jan. 27. Contact the MYS club administrator at admin@mcleansoccer.org if you have any questions or call the MYS Office (703) 506-8068.

Ashley Cross Signs Letter of Intent

Ashley Cross, a Great Falls resident and Senior at Bishop O'Connell High School recently signed a letter of intent to play Division 1 lacrosse at Monmouth University. Ashley has played Great Falls youth lacrosse since second grade and has coached the youth clinics the last 2 years.

The past three years she played for Capital Lacrosse Club. She has been a starting midfielder for O'Connell High School and was selected to the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference's Second Team her freshmen, sophomore and junior years.

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
AMERPAK, INC trading as Bennigan's Restaurant, 8201 Greensboro Dr, suite 109 & 111, Mclean, VA 22102.
The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a wine and beer on premises, mixed beverages license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mazhar Chughtai, President.
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

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21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT

6245 LEESBURG PIKE, FALLS CHURCH, VA

6253 LEESBURG PIKE, FALLS CHURCH, VA

6302 BUFFALO RIDGE ROAD, FALLS CHURCH, VA

6300 BUFFALO RIDGE ROAD, FALLS CHURCH, VA

AND THE FOLLOWING PARCELS OF LAND:

(1) TAX MAP NOS. 051-3-01-0030 AND (2) 051-3-11-0188A (No assigned street address)

SALE TO BE HELD AT THE FAIRFAX COUNTY CIRCUIT COURTHOUSE

Wednesday, January 23, 2013, AT 10:00 A.M.

In execution of the Deed of Trust, Assignment of Leases of Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing in the original principal amount of \$17,000,000 dated February 1, 2005 and recorded on February 2, 2005 in Deed Book 16944 at page 1191 among the land records of the County of Fairfax, Virginia (collectively, the "Deed of Trust"), securing U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee for the registered holders of Wachovia Bank Commercial Mortgage Trust, Commercial Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-C17 (the "Noteholder"), as successor in interest to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as trustee for the registered holders of Wachovia Bank Commercial Mortgage Trust, Commercial Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-C17 and Citigroup Global Markets Realty Corp., default having occurred in the payment of the debt secured thereby, and being instructed to do so by the Noteholder, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale the property described below at public auction by the main entrance to the Fairfax County Circuit Courthouse, located at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030 on Wednesday, January 23, 2013, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The real property encumbered by the Deed of Trust that will be offered for sale by the Substitute Trustees is commonly known as 6245 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA (Tax Map No. 051-3-01-0031), 6253 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA (Tax Map No. 051-3-13-0005), 6302 Buffalo Ridge Road, Falls Church, VA (Tax Map No. 051-3-13-0010), 6300 Buffalo Ridge Road, Falls Church, VA (Tax Map No. 051-3-13-0011), and Tax Map Nos. 051-3-01-0030 and 051-3-11-0188A, as more particularly described in the Deed of Trust, and all improvements, fixtures, easements and appurtenances thereto (the "Real Property"). The Real Property will be sold together with the interest of the Noteholder, if any, in the following described personal property at the direction of the Noteholder as secured party thereof, as permitted by Section 8.9A of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended (the "Personal Property"): equipment, machinery, proceeds and all other personal property as more particularly described in the Deed of Trust (the "Personal Property"). The above described Real Property and Personal Property are collectively referred to as the "Property."

TERMS OF SALE

ALL CASH. The property will be offered for sale "AS IS, WHERE IS" and will be conveyed by Substitute Trustees' Deed (the "Substitute Trustees' Deed") subject to all encumbrances, rights, reservations, conveyances, conditions, easements, restrictions, and all recorded and unrecorded liens, if any, having priority over the Deed of Trust, as they may lawfully affect the property. Any Personal Property shall be conveyed without warranty by a Secured Party Bill of Sale.

The Substitute Trustees and the Beneficiary disclaim all warranties of any kind, either express or implied for the property, including without limitation, any warranty relating to the zoning, condition of the soil, extent of construction, materials, habitability, environmental condition, compliance with applicable laws, fitness for a particular purpose and merchantability. The risk of loss or damage to the property shall be borne by the successful bidder from and after the date of the time of the sale. Obtaining possession of the property shall be the sole responsibility of the successful bidder (the "Purchaser").

A bidder's deposit of \$50,000.00 (the "Deposit") by certified or cashier's check may be required by the Substitute Trustees for such bid to be accepted. The Substitute Trustees reserve the right to prequalify any bidder prior to the sale and/or waive the requirement of the Deposit. Immediately after the sale, the successful bidder shall execute and deliver a memorandum of sale with the Substitute Trustees, copies of which shall be available for inspection immediately prior to the sale, and shall deliver to the Substitute Trustees the Deposit and the memorandum of sale. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by the Purchaser. Settlement shall occur within thirty (30) days after the sale date, TIME BEING OF THE ESSENCE with regard to the Purchaser's obligation.

Settlement shall take place at the offices of Venable LLP, 8010 Towers Crescent Drive, Suite 300, Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182 or other mutually agreed location. Purchaser shall pay all past due real estate taxes, rollback taxes, water rents, water permit renewal fees (if any) or other municipal liens, charges and assessments. The Purchaser shall also pay all settlement fees, title examination charges, title charges and title insurance premiums, all recording costs (including the state grantor's tax and all state and county recordation fees, clerk's filing fees and transfer fees and taxes), auctioneer's fees and/or bid premiums, and reasonable attorneys' fees and disbursements incurred in the preparation of the deed of conveyance and other settlement documentation.

The Purchaser shall be required to sign an agreement at settlement waiving any cause of action Purchaser may have against the Substitute Trustees, and/or the Beneficiary for any condition with respect to the property that may not be in compliance with any federal, state or local law, regulation or ruling including, without limitation, any laws, regulation and ruling relating to environmental contamination or hazardous wastes. Such agreement shall also provide that if notwithstanding such agreement, a court of competent jurisdiction should permit such a claim to be made, such agreement shall serve as the overwhelming primary factor in any equitable apportionment of response costs or other liability. Nothing herein shall release, waive or preclude any claims the Purchaser may have against any person in possession or control of the property.

If any Purchaser fails for any reason to complete settlement as provided above, the Deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs of the sale, including Trustees' fees, and the balance, if any, shall be delivered to the Beneficiary to be applied by the Beneficiary against the indebtedness secured by and other amounts due under the Deed of Trust in accordance with the Deed of Trust or applicable law or otherwise as the Beneficiary shall elect. There shall be no refunds. Such forfeiture shall not limit any rights or remedies of the Substitute Trustees or the Beneficiary with respect to any such default. If the property is resold, such re-sale shall be at the risk and the cost of the failing bidder, and the failing bidder shall be liable for any deficiency between its bid and the successful bid at the re-sale as well as the costs of conducting such re-sale. Immediately upon conveyance by the Substitute Trustees of the property, all duties, liabilities and obligations of the Substitute Trustees, if any, with respect to the property so conveyed shall be extinguished, except as otherwise provided by applicable law.

/s/ Henry F Brandenstein, Jr., Substitute Trustee
/s/ Lauren T. Coapstick, Substitute Trustee
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Henry F. Brandenstein, Jr., Esq.
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HOME SALES

In November 2012, 113 homes sold between \$3,500,000-\$152,000 in the McLean and Falls Church area. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$3,500,000-\$497,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision
8305 ALVORD ST	6	6	4	MCLEAN	\$3,500,000	Detached	3.00	22102	WOODSIDE	
7796 GLENHAVEN CT	6	6	1	MCLEAN	\$2,875,000	Detached	0.91	22102	THE RESERVE	
1919 VALLEY WOOD RD	5	5	1	MCLEAN	\$2,440,000	Detached	1.06	22101	FRANKLIN PARK	
8418 BROOKWOOD CT	6	7	2	MCLEAN	\$2,345,500	Detached	0.82	22102	WOODLEA MILL	
1427 HARVEST CROSSING DR	4	5	1	MCLEAN	\$1,950,000	Townhouse	0.09	22101	EVANS FARM	
9000 OLD DOMINION DR	6	7	1	MCLEAN	\$1,825,000	Detached	0.82	22102	ELKINS PROPERTY	
895 CHINQUAPIN RD	5	5	1	MCLEAN	\$1,800,000	Detached	2.00	22102	MCLEAN FALLS AT CHINQUAP	
1422 KIRBY RD	5	5	1	MCLEAN	\$1,775,000	Detached	1.30	22101	MCLEAN	
1854 MACARTHUR DR	5	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,660,000	Detached	0.23	22101	CHESTERBROOK	
6020 COPELY LN	5	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,500,000	Detached	1.08	22101	CHESTERBROOK FARM	
1903 FRANKLIN AVE	5	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,485,000	Detached	0.23	22101	CHESTERBROOK	
6809 LUPINE LN	4	4	2	MCLEAN	\$1,380,000	Detached	0.99	22101	PARKVIEW HILLS	
1149 DALEVIEW DR	5	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,356,000	Detached	1.50	22102	WOODSIDE ESTATES	
6829 CLOISTERS DR	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$1,345,000	Detached	0.48	22101	THE CLOISTERS	
7001 HOLYROOD DR	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$1,334,000	Detached	0.48	22101	BALMACARA	
1359 NORTHWYCK CT	5	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,265,000	Detached	0.14	22102	SPRING HILL	
1824 OPALOCKA DR	5	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,255,000	Detached	0.24	22101	DEVON PARK	
1823 PANARAMA CT	5	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,215,000	Detached	0.30	22101	DEVON PARK	
1339 MAYFLOWER DR	5	4	2	MCLEAN	\$1,199,000	Detached	0.28	22101	BROYHILLS MC LEAN ESTS	
705 POTOMAC RIVER RD	4	3	2	MCLEAN	\$1,197,500	Detached	0.95	22102	POTOMAC OVERLOOK	
1426 BUENA VISTA AVE	5	3	1	MCLEAN	\$1,195,000	Detached	0.17	22101	WEST MC LEAN	
6804 DEAN DR	5	4	0	MCLEAN	\$1,180,000	Detached	0.24	22101	HILLSIDE MANOR	
6211 STONEHAM LN	7	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,170,000	Detached	0.42	22101	EVERMAY	
1500 LONGFELLOW ST	5	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,129,996	Detached	0.41	22101	BRYN MAWR	
1002 NORTHWOODS TRL	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$1,122,500	Detached	0.51	22102	MCLEAN COUNTRY ESTATES	
2716 PIONEER LN	4	4	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$1,060,000	Detached	0.25	22043	FALLS PLACE	
1449 BUENA VISTA AVE	4	4	1	MCLEAN	\$1,050,000	Detached	0.14	22101	WEST MC LEAN	
7006 CAPITOL VIEW DR	4	3	0	MCLEAN	\$980,000	Detached	0.32	22101	BROYHILL LANGLEY ESTATES	
6010 BALSAM DR	4	3	0	MCLEAN	\$965,000	Detached	0.34	22101	CHESTERBROOK WOODS	
8434 WELLER AVE	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$960,000	Detached	0.95	22102	WOODHAVEN	
7206 CAPITOL VIEW DR	4	2	1	MCLEAN	\$955,000	Detached	0.45	22101	OLD DOMINION GARDENS	
1431 IRONWOOD DR	5	3	0	MCLEAN	\$918,000	Detached	0.35	22101	CHESTERBROOK WOODS	
7625 SHREVE RD	5	4	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$901,500	Detached	0.50	22043	NONE	
8312 HUNTING HILL LN	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$890,000	Detached	0.56	22102	GREENWAY HEIGHTS	
6642 MADISON MCLEAN DR	3	3	1	MCLEAN	\$885,000	Townhouse	0.07	22101	MADISON OF MCLEAN	
7000 EASTERN RED CEDAR LN	3	3	1	MCLEAN	\$875,000	Townhouse	0.06	22101	MCLEAN COVE	
6629 MADISON MCLEAN DR	3	3	1	MCLEAN	\$870,000	Townhouse	0.07	22101	MADISON OF MCLEAN	
2008 CHERRI DR	4	4	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$860,000	Detached	0.23	22043	PIMMIT HILLS	
1826 GREAT FALLS ST	5	5	0	MCLEAN	\$859,000	Detached	0.39	22101	N/A	
1714 OLNEY RD	5	4	2	FALLS CHURCH	\$850,000	Detached	0.25	22043	IRVINGTON	
7711 BRIDLE PATH LN	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$850,000	Detached	0.39	22102	MC LEAN HUNT	
7491 CARRIAGE HILLS DR	3	3	2	MCLEAN	\$840,000	Townhouse	0.04	22102	HUNTING RIDGE	
2082 HUTCHISON GROVE CT	3	2	2	FALLS CHURCH	\$836,767	Townhouse	0.05	22043	WHITESTONE MARSHALL HGTS	
1540 BROOKHAVEN DR	3	2	1	MCLEAN	\$825,000	Detached	0.46	22101	BROOKHAVEN	
8220 CRESTWOOD HEIGHTS DR#1612	2	2	1	MCLEAN	\$800,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22102	ONE PARK CREST	
2086 HUTCHISON GROVE CT	3	2	2	FALLS CHURCH	\$788,276	Townhouse	0.04	22043	WHITESTONE MARSHALL HGTS	
2086 HUTCHISON GROVE CT	3	3	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$788,276	Townhouse	0.04	22043	WHITESTONE MARSHALL HGTS	
6639 BYRNS PL	4	3	0	MCLEAN	\$775,000	Detached	0.39	22101	BRYN MAWR	
1737 SUSQUEHANNOCK DR	4	3	0	MCLEAN	\$771,000	Detached	0.26	22101	WEST LEWINSVILLE HEIGHTS	
8220 CRESTWOOD HEIGHTS DR#1701	2	2	0	MCLEAN	\$770,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22102	ONE PARK CREST	
1824 FONTHILL CT #21	3	4	1	MCLEAN	\$725,000	Townhouse		22102	MCLEAN PLACE TOWNHOME	
6443 GERARD CT	4	2	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$700,000	Detached	0.25	22043	MARLBOROUGH	
8220 CRESTWOOD HEIGHTS DR#512	2	2	1	MCLEAN	\$700,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22102	ONE PARK CREST	
6528 BEVERLY AVE	3	2	1	MCLEAN	\$699,000	Detached	0.29	22101	GRASS RIDGE	
6720 MELROSE DR	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$699,000	Townhouse	0.06	22101	KINGS MANOR TOWNE HOUSES	
2001 WELFLEET CT	4	2	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$675,000	Detached	0.20	22043	NANTUCKET	
1620 41ST ST N	4	2	0	MCLEAN	\$675,000	Detached	0.41	22101	GOLF CLUB MANOR	
1813 MELBOURNE DR	3	2	1	MCLEAN	\$675,000	Detached	0.34	22101	HILLSIDE MANOR	
7333 LEWINSVILLE PARK CT	3	3	1	MCLEAN	\$675,000	Townhouse	0.05	22101	LEWINSVILLE SQUARE	
6612 IVY HILL DR	3	3	0	MCLEAN	\$670,000	Detached	0.28	22101	CHESTERBROOK GARDENS	
2011 GERVAIS DR	3	2	2	FALLS CHURCH	\$665,000	Townhouse	0.05	22043	MC LEAN PROVINCE	
1831 DEER DR	4	2	1	MCLEAN	\$660,000	Detached	0.26	22101	DEVON PARK	
6803 LUMSDEN ST	4	3	0	MCLEAN	\$650,000	Detached	0.24	22101	LEWINSVILLE HEIGHTS	
6513 OLD DOMINION DR	5	3	0	MCLEAN	\$649,900	Detached	0.26	22101	EL NIDO	
6910 BLUE STAR DR	4	2	1	MCLEAN	\$640,000	Detached	0.30	22101	DEVON PARK	
7405 BETHUNE ST	4	3	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$630,000	Detached	0.24	22043	PIMMIT HILLS	
1414 PATHFINDER LN	4	2	0	MCLEAN	\$628,650	Detached	0.25	22101	BROYHILLS MC LEAN ESTS	
2029 MAGARITY CT	3	4	0	FALLS CHURCH	\$620,000	Townhouse	0.05	22043	MAGARITY MEWS	
2201 BEACON LN	3	1	0	FALLS CHURCH	\$600,000	Detached	0.32	22043	CHURCHHILL	
7102 EASTMAN DR	3	2	0	FALLS CHURCH	\$596,000	Detached	0.35	22043	SOUTHAMPTON	
6503 TUCKER AVE	3	2	0	MCLEAN	\$584,910	Detached	0.23	22101	CHESTERBROOK GARDENS	
1905 AUTUMN CHASE CT	3	3	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$580,000	Townhouse	0.05	22043	AUTUMN CHASE	
2143 KINGS MILL CT	3	2	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$566,000	Townhouse	0.05	22043	DOMINION	
2243 BEACON LN	3	1	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$534,000	Detached	0.23	22043	CHURCHHILL	
2279 IDYLWOOD STATION LN	3	3	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$510,000	Townhouse	0.03	22043	IDYLWOOD STATION	
8220 CRESTWOOD HEIGHTS DR#503	1	2	0	MCLEAN	\$510,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22102	ONE PARK CREST	
1712 OLNEY RD	4	3	0	FALLS CHURCH	\$499,900	Detached	0.33	22043	IRVINGTON	
6805 MONTIVIDEO SQUARE CT	2	2	2	FALLS CHURCH	\$497,000	Townhouse	0.03	22043	MONTIVIDEO SQUARE	

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

Calendar Listings

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

Name of Event:

Day of the Week, Date and Time:

Name of the Place Event will Be Held:

Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:

Name and Phone Number for More Information:

Three Sentences Describing the Event:

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

mclean@connectionnewspapers.com

or mail to:

Calendar, Connection Newspapers
1606 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314.

For more information, call 703-778-9410.



www.connectionnewspapers.com

OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 & 20

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

Arlington

807 Barton St.....\$824,900.....Sun 1-4.....Cathy/John McCambridge.....Samson Props..703-906-7067

Burke

9507 Burning Branch Rd...\$489,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

Centreville

6487 Trillium House Ln.....\$999,900.....Sun 12-4.....Jean Marotta.....Birch Haven..703-402-9471

Fairfax Station

7513 South Reach Dr.....\$849,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

Haymarket

1840 Ridge Rd.....\$349,900.....Sat 2-4.....Billy Thompson.....Samson Props..703-409-0340

Herndon

12913 Alton Sq #218.....\$259,000.....Sat/Sun 1-4.....Chris Pezzana.....Weichert..703-447-1662
2204 Westcourt Ln #309...\$185,000.....Sat/Sun 1-4.....Tahir Nisar.....Weichert..571-243-8093

McLean

1825 Westmoreland St.....\$599,000.....Sun 1-4.....Glynis Canto.....Keller Williams..703-395-2355

Oakton

2604 Geneva Hill Ct.....\$1,385,000.....Sun 2-4.....Joe O'Hara..Washington Fine Props..703-676-3005

Sterling

47331 Vista Ct.....\$625,000.....Sun 1-4.....Leslie Thurman.....Long & Foster..703-904-3700

Vienna

9811 Oak Valley Ct.....\$875,000.....Sun 1-4.....Daphne Hendricks.....Prudential..703-328-7290

To add your FREE Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact Trisha at 703-778-9419, or trisha@connectionnewspapers.com All listings are due by Monday at 3 P.M.

Protest at CIA

FROM PAGE 6

tion to peace and justice issues. In 2003, he and a friend started a "Pre-Emptive Fast for Peace," which lasted three weeks and eventually grew to more than 1,200 people around the country.

McHale fasted then to bring attention to the impending war in Iraq, and to encourage people to write to their legislators urging them to vote against the war. Now, more than eight years later, McHale is hoping to bring to light the consequences of the war he hoped this country wouldn't start.

"This is a two-pronged program, we want to shine a light on tactics such as torture and drone attacks, and educate people as to the terror they cause around the world," he said. "And we want to bring attention to the 166 people still imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay by this administration."

While fasting, McHale consumes only liquids, mostly water and 100 percent fruit juices.

The orange-clad protesters stood next to several models of the General Atomics MQ-9 Reaper, an unmanned drone used by the U.S. Army, Navy and CIA.

"One of our goals is to convince people who are anti-war, but aren't opposed to drone attacks [of] the terrible affect these drones are having on civilians," said Nuala Cohen of Burke, who has been a peace activist for more than 10 years. "I've been involved in planning the last one, but this is the first time I've been out here, and it's very power-

ful to see."

Many of the protesters fasted leading up to the event, which also included a protest the previous night at the White House.

"What's disturbing to me is that the program of torture and indefinite detention that was introduced by the Bush administration has in many ways been replaced by a program of drone attacks and killing people without any kind of process anywhere in the world," said Andy Worthington, a journalist from Britain who has published books and documentaries about Guantanamo Bay.

THEY BROKE their fast after the demonstration at the CIA Headquarters, hosted by the Langley Hill Friends, a Quaker organization.

"For me, the experience of eating after a fast is overwhelming. In addition to the intense, sorely missed flavors, I appreciate the experience of chewing, and it seems that I can literally feel the food as it travels toward my empty, grateful stomach," said Chantal DeAlcuaz, a Witness Against Torture member. "As the WAT community paused from our work for a joyful meal together, I was keenly aware of conversations around drones and further protest. These discussions were a poignant reminder that though we pause to celebrate, our work will undoubtedly continue."

McHale said they plan to take at least six drone models to Washington, D.C., on Inauguration Day next week, and they plan to protest at the CIA the second Saturday of every month.

PEOPLE

Meet New St. Luke School's Principal

St. Luke Elementary School in McLean has welcomed Principal Louis Silvano. He has been busy this first semester building relationships with the school's students and staff. Originally from Liverpool, England, he has lived in the Washington area for the last 25 years. He and his wife of 34 years, Jan, reside in Vienna and have two children, Carl, who graduated from James Madison University in Media Arts & Design, and Lucie, who is in her final year as a Fashion major at Marymount University. Silvano and his family are active members of Holy Trinity parish in Georgetown. Silvano has been an educator for 35 years and has worked as a teacher and as an administrator in the following schools: Marymount School in Paris, France, The Langley School in McLean, Green Hedges School in Vienna and head of Green Acres School in Rockville for eight years. In 2008 he has served as headmaster of Saint Anselm's Abbey High School in Washington, D.C., before coming to St. Luke School.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Louis Silvano

The school is hosting an Open House on Sunday, Jan. 27 from 1-3 p.m. The public is invited to come in to meet the faculty and parents and to visit the campus.

The mission of Saint Luke School is to prepare students to become academically sound citizens instilled with a sense of Catholic values and knowledge of Catholic faith, committed to the pursuit of learning and dedicated to serving mankind. Established more than 50 years ago, St. Luke School, grades K-8, is located at 7005 Georgetown Pike in McLean.

a summer of Wonder!

McLean Community Center's Summer Camp Options 2013

- Camp McLean
- Summer Theatre Show
- Adventure Tuesday Trips
- Camp Shakespeare
- Camp Abrakadoodle Art Camps
- Old Firehouse Teen Center Summer Camp
- McLean Cooks Culinary Camps
- MPA Art Camp
- Dance, Fencing, Outdoor Adventure, Funfit*
- Mad Science
- and more!

Registration begins:
Monday, Feb. 4, MCC district
Monday, Feb. 11, for all others

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean VA 22101
www.mcleancenter.org

MCLEAN CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2013
11 AM - 6 PM
MCLEAN HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

\$2 ADMISSION - CHILDREN UNDER 6 ARE FREE

TASTE THE SPECIALTIES OF AREA CHOCOLATIERS AND ENJOY FUN AND GAMES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

THE MCLEAN CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL IS A FUNDRAISER FOR MCLEAN ROTARY, WITH PROCEEDS BENEFITTING VARIOUS LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS.

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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

ENTERTAINMENT

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

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 16

Grace Pettis and Pierce Pettis. 8 p.m., at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. The father and daughter singer-songwriters, both winners of the New Folk Award, play a show together. www.jamminjava.com.

Gin Blossoms. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. American pop-rock icons of the Arizona-brewed band play favorites from New Miserable Experience to their latest album No Chocolate Cake. \$45. www.wolftrap.org.



Gregory Ferrard, Explosion! If they only knew what they know now, acrylic on canvas, 40 x 30 inches

THURSDAY/JAN. 17

Opening Reception and Gallery Talk. 7-9 p.m., at McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. New exhibitions including Small Stories: Paintings by Nora Sturges, Matthew Mann and Gregory Ferrand in the Emerson Gallery; GOLDRushed: Paintings by Thomas Xenakis in the Atrium Gallery; and Altered Terrain: Drawings by Rosemary Lockett in the Ramp Gallery will open. www.mcleanart.org.

Perils of the College Drinking Culture Forum. 7 p.m., at McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County's highly acclaimed program prepares families for what students will face at college related to underage and binge drinking. www.unifiedprevention.org or

New Exhibitions Open at MPA on Jan. 17

McLean Project for the Arts will hold an opening reception and gallery talk on Thursday, Jan. 17 from 7 - 9 p.m. for three new exhibitions. It is free and open to the public.

❖ Small Stories: Paintings by Nora Sturges, Matthew Mann and Gregory Ferrand in the Emerson Gallery.

❖ GOLDRUSHed: Paintings by Thomas Xenakis in the Atrium Gallery.

❖ Altered Terrain: Drawings by Rosemary Lockett in the Ramp Gallery.

Membership Meeting. 7:30 p.m., at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Vienna. Following a pre-meeting dinner at 6:45 p.m., Paul White speaks on Covert Vietnam Military Operations in Laos and Cambodia. www.vva227.org.

International Guitar Night. 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road,

Vienna. A group of innovative acoustic guitarists showcases the diversity in the niche; performers include Martin Taylor, Solorazaf, Celso Machado and Brian Gore performing solos, duets, quartets and more. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

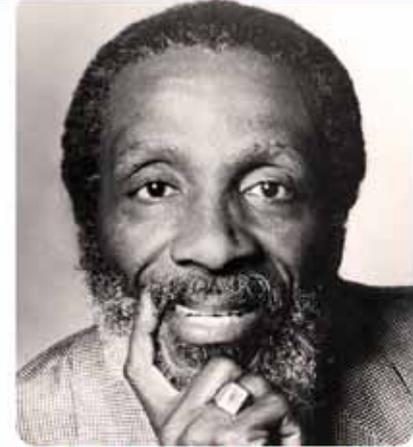
SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 18



McLean
Community
Center
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC



10th Annual MLK Jr. Day Celebration

"An Evening with Dick Gregory"

Saturday, Jan. 19, 8 p.m.

\$20/\$10 MCC district residents

Concerts at the Alden

Trio Cleonice

Sunday, Jan. 20, 3 p.m.

Free admission

"Dance & Dessert"

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m.

Free admission



Live @ The Alden

Tap Kids

Saturday, Jan. 26, 8 p.m.

\$20/\$15 MCC district residents

Old Firehouse Teen Center

Teacher Work Day Trips

Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 28-29

Fees vary

The McLean Community Center
www.mcleancenter.org

Home of the Alden Theatre
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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 17

FRIDAY/JAN. 18

Christopher Cross. 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Texan singer/songwriter, Academy Award, Golden Globe Award and five-time Grammy Award-winner Christopher Cross plays. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/JAN. 19

Oratorical Contest. 10 a.m., at the Vienna American Legion, 330 Center St. N., Vienna. High school students can register by Jan. 11 to participate. 703-867-1285 or ronp5555@yahoo.com.
An Evening With Dick Gregory. 8

p.m., at the Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A Movement leader from the 1960s and comedian, civil and human rights activist, author, recording artist, television and film personality, nutritionist and veteran committed to non-violent social change speaks in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. \$20, \$10, MCC residents. www.aldentheatre.org.

SUNDAY/JAN. 20

Breakfast Buffet. 8 a.m.-noon, at the American Legion, 330 Center St. N., Vienna. Omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon and all the fixings. \$8, adults; \$3, children. 703-938-1379.



Christopher Cross at Wolf Trap

Texan singer/songwriter, Academy Award, Golden Globe Award and five-time Grammy Award-winner Christopher Cross plays at Wolf Trap on Friday, Jan. 18 at 8 p.m.

Sea of Galilee Jesus Boat Archaeological Research. 3 p.m., at Wu's Garden Chinese Restaurant, 418 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. Marine archaeologist Dr. Alexis Catsambis talks on research conducted in the Sea of Galilee. 888-350-8842 or www.basonova.org.

TUESDAY/JAN. 22

Mike Loulakis Discusses Design-Build Legal Lessons Learned. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at Wildfire Restaurant in Tysons Corner, 1714 International Drive, McLean. The January DBIA-

MAR luncheon meeting will feature Mike Loulakis, Esq., from Capital Project Strategies, LLC with a review and update of the impact of recent legal decisions. Members, \$45; Non-members, \$55; students, free. <http://dbialoulakislegal.eventbrite.com/>.

Chihuly Talk. 7 p.m., at McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Chihuly Exhibition Educator Courtney Morano of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts gives a slide show lecture about Dale Chihuly and his VMFA exhibition. RSVP. info@mpaart.org.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 23

Coffee & Conversation With Unified Prevention Coalition. 8:30 a.m., at the UPC Offices, 2970-B Chain Bridge Road, Oakton. The Fairfax County Parent Teacher Student Association and Parent Teacher Student Organization coalition leaders gather. www.unifiedprevention.org.

Langley Fork Scenic Pull-off Completion Ceremony. 11 a.m., at 6266 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The project to build a scenic pull-off on Georgetown Pike is completed after 10 years of work; Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust hosts a ceremony with Virginia Department of Transportation representatives and the Fairfax County Park Authority. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville.

Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mountain Boys. 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Grammy Award-winner, recipient of the Living Legend Award from the Library of Congress and National Medal of Arts recipient Ralph Stanley and his late brother Carter's band the Clinch Mountain Boys play. \$40. www.wolftrap.org.

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Gunston Theatre Two, 2700 S Lang St Arlington VA 22206

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Rd. NE, Vienna, holds a Taize contemplative worship service at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 27. The service combines chant and scripture with time spent in silence in a setting of greenery and candlelight. 703-938-6521 or www.holycomforter.com.

Great Falls United Methodist Men invite you to their annual pancake dinner Tuesday, Feb. 12, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Dinner is free and donations are accepted. All proceeds will be sent to The Society of St. Andrew to help feed the hungry. For more information call the church at 703-759-3705.

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers three Sunday services: 7:45 a.m. Worship Service without music; 9 a.m. Worship Service, Children's Chapel and Children's Choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum; and 11 a.m. Worship Service with Adult Choir. 703-759-2082.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, offers a 9 a.m. traditional service and a 10:30 a.m. contemporary service on Sundays. 703-356-3346.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, at the intersection with Westmoreland Street has Sunday worship with Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m., traditional style worship; 9:45 a.m., contemporary style worship; and 11 a.m., traditional style worship. Sunday School and Adult Forum is at 9:45 a.m.

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

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

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

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

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The Importance of Recess

Pediatric researchers say unstructured play can help a child's cognitive, physical, emotional and social development.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Can climbing on monkey bars help a child's cognitive development? Can a game of tag boost preschooler's social skills? The nation's top pediatricians say "yes" and some local educators agree.

A policy statement released earlier this month by the American Academy of Pediatrics said recess, when provided in a safe environment and under supervision, provides children with cognitive, physical, emotional and social benefits. Additionally, the AAP recommended that unstructured play be used in conjunction with physical education in schools.

"Recess and unstructured play provide children with opportunities to explore, problem-solve and learn in ways that enhance their socio-emotional, physical and cognitive development," said Julie K. Kidd, associate professor and early childhood education academic program coordinator at George Mason University in Fairfax. "The physical and mental break from academic activities enables children to return to their studies more focused and ready to learn."

SOME LOCAL SCHOOLS agree that recess is an important part of a student's day. "In addition to physical education classes, our students enjoy unstructured recess every day," said Dick Ewing, head of school at the Norwood School in Potomac, Md. "Of course, there are the health benefits of the physical activity, and teachers will tell you that children are more focused in the classroom after recess, but there are also several social-emotional benefits. Children learn important life skills during recess. They learn how to effectively communicate, collaborate, cooperate and problem solve during various playground games. Creativity also comes into play as children make up their own games."

Lizabeth Borra, school counselor at Potomac Elementary School in Potomac, added: "This unstructured time gives children the opportunity to develop lifelong skills such as conflict resolution, communication, creativity, and negotiation."

Joan Holden, head of school for St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, developed play areas known as "Tinkering Spaces" on campus, "dedicated spots where students work together with educational games, building tools and puzzles, where there are no assessments or evaluations, just a relaxing, fun atmosphere that brings out teamwork, creativity, invention and problem-solving," said Holden.

American Academy of Pediatrics researchers and local educators concluded that recess and free play activities are a critical part of development and social interaction that students may not get inside a classroom. "Time outside in an unstructured environment among peers provides an important avenue



Students at Norwood School in Potomac, Md., enjoy outdoor recess.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NORWOOD SCHOOL

for the development of their creative, social and moral development," said Colin Gleason, head of the Lower School at The Heights School in Potomac.

Gleason says unstructured play provides a much-needed outlet for some children. "At this age, children, and especially boys, overflow with physical energy," he said. "They are wired ... to explore and learn about the world around them in an active way, using all of their senses. Also, by organizing play with their peers in this environment, they learn the natural laws of social interaction. They learn that it pays off to be kind towards others, to work together to make a game run smoothly [and] to make rules that are fair."

American Academy of Pediatrics researchers also recommended that recess not be withheld from children as punishment. Shannon Melideo, chair of the education department and an associate professor at the School of Education and Human Services at Marymount University in Arlington, agrees: "Too often the children who are denied recess as a punishment are the children who need recess most."

Some local educators say that recess gives children an opportunity to learn how to manage their free time. "Current research in brain development highlights the connections between physical activity, attention and memory," said Dresden Koons, head of Lower School at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac. "We ... [believe] that what happens outside the classroom benefits what goes on inside it, and vice versa."

THE AAP STATEMENT stresses that recess should complement, not replace physical education classes, even for schools with limited outdoor space, and Reston based National Association for Sport and Physical Education spokeswoman Paula Keyes Kun agreed. She said, "All children need a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Regular daily recess should be a part of every school day. It provides children with discretionary time to be active, helps them develop healthy bodies and enjoy movement."

She added that NAPSE is calling on schools across the country to find creative ways of increasing their students' physical activity levels before, during and after school.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY



George Mason University Professor Laurie Meamber uses movies to teach students about consumer behavior.

Off to the Movies

Mason professor has unconventional method of teaching complex concepts.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

An Arlington resident and George Mason University professor has an unconventional way of helping her students master complex concepts and evaluating their proficiency: She requires them to watch movies.

Laurie Meamber, an associate professor of marketing in Mason's School of Management in Fairfax, teaches a consumer behavior course in which students study the actions and motivations of buyers. Meamber teaches them how to analyze why and how consumers make certain decisions. The class studies characters in popular films to see the concepts they learn throughout the semester.

"A primary goal of a consumer behavior course is for students to better understand consumer behavior in order to become more effective marketing managers," said Meamber. "An additional goal ... is to enhance their knowledge of consumer behavior so that they as consumers can consume wisely."

Meamber says that through watching and analyzing movies, her classes examine the entire range of internal, external and situational influences on consumer behavior. She divides her class into three groups and each group focuses on one factor that affects consumer behavior: external influences, internal influences and decision-making.

"Students [write] a brief plot summary, providing descriptions of the major characters as consumers and analyzing concepts that they had learned in the course that appear in the film," she said. "They do this in a comprehensive fashion, after having learned all of the ideas

taught in consumer behavior. This allows them to reflect upon, apply and synthesize the entire range of knowledge they have acquired in the course."

Mason spokeswoman Catherine Probst said, "Along the way, the students construct consumer profiles of the characters and examine reasons why and how they make decisions throughout the film. Specifically, students are looking for influences on consumer behavior based on attitudes, motivation, income level and occupation."

Mason student, and Reston resident, Ben Coffinberger took Meamber's consumer behavior class during the fall semester. His group chose "The Devil Wears Prada."

"We presented it by dressing up as the four main characters and acting out small scenes from the movie that provided examples of important marketing concepts we learned throughout the semester," said Coffinberger. "I was forced to identify and apply the marketing concepts I learned in the consumer behavior course to the scenes in the movie. Before taking this class, I didn't think to really recognize consumer-marketing behaviors in movies, television and everyday life. Now I view things in a totally different light."

Meamber says the increasing popularity of social media makes the movie approach a successful learning tool. "As time moves forward, this type of assignment fits in with the interests and learning styles of this generation of undergraduate students," she said. "This type of assignment allows students to analyze and reflect upon movies as a medium that portrays many examples of consumers and of consumer behavior."

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WONDERFUL FALLS CHURCH CITY HOME—OPEN SUNDAY!



**OPEN
SUN. 1/20
2-4pm!**

605 Langston Lane, Falls Church...Offered for \$625,000

ENJOY simplified 1-level living in this inviting 3 bedroom/1.5 bath home in the heart of Falls Church City! Loads of updates include HVAC, water heater (tankless), washer/dryer (2010), refinished oak parquet; fresh paint; close to EVERYTHING!

LUXURIOUS & ELEGANT CUSTOM-BUILT MCLEAN HOME!



**ALSO
available
for
RENT!**

1870 Kirby Road, McLean...Offered for \$1,325,000

MAJESTY and OPULENCE ABOUND in this spectacular and palatial custom-built 2006 home featuring 5 bedrooms/5.5 baths on 3 finished levels! Top-notch appliances and sparkling granite; gleaming wide plank cherry floors; spacious luxury owner's suite!

JD CALLANDER

TOP 1% OF REALTORS NATIONWIDE
WALL STREET JOURNAL - TOP 100 AGENTS



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OVER 95 HOMES SOLD IN 2012!

