

The McLean Little League Athletes walk along Westmoreland Street as part of their opening day festivities Saturday, April 13.

Opening Day For McLean Little League

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PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

McLean resident Kathleen Murphy spoke about losing her brother 11 years ago to gun violence. She was one of several speakers during the April 13 candlelight vigil in Vienna urging Congress to support stricter gun control measures.



Sue Langley, a Vienna resident who organized the April 13 candlelight vigil, comforts preschool teacher Raba Letteri, a Lebanese immigrant who attended the vigil with her husband Paul and sons Joseph, 13, and Aaron, 9.

‘We Have Not Forgotten’

Residents rally in Vienna to support stricter gun control measures.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Less than six miles from the National Rifle Association (NRA) headquarters in Fairfax, more than 100 people gathered on the Vienna Town Green Saturday, April 13, to urge Congress to support stricter gun control measures.

“We need to send a strong message to Congress that we have not forgotten Newtown. We have not forgotten Virginia Tech,” said Pat Carol of Franconia, who attended the rally with her two teenage children. “... It’s time to demand that (legislators) protect our children, instead of the gun lobby.”

The event was part of a series of rallies this month co-hosted by Organizing for Action (OFA)—a social advocacy nonprofit that supports President Barack Obama—and Mayors Against Illegal Guns, a bipartisan coalition of 900 mayors co-chaired by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Both groups are calling for stricter gun laws, including background checks for all gun sales, gun safety training for all firearm buyers, and a ban on military-style assault weapons.

Vienna resident Sue Langley, a community activist with OFA of Virginia, organized Saturday’s event, which began at 7 p.m. and ended with a candlelight vigil to remember the children of Newtown, and the estimated 32,000 Americans who die in gun-related deaths every year.

“The Senate will be in its final stages of debate this week, and by standing together we’ll make sure

they know how many people are behind them in passing legislation,” Langley said.

THE EVENT included remarks from political leaders, gun control advocates and gun violence survivors.

“Eleven years ago my brother was murdered. He was 50 years old, and he had a wife and five children. He was shot during a robbery,” said McLean resident Kathleen Murphy, choking back tears.

“This is personal for me, not politics,” said Murphy, who launched a bid to challenge Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) in this November’s House of Delegates election. Murphy, a mother of six children, implored the crowd to keep the pressure on Congress to support measures such as expanded background checks. “We are going to hold them responsible,” she said.

In an emotional speech Earle Mitchell of Springfield, a retired U.S. Navy supply officer, told the crowd that, as a member of the military, “we were always looking for foreign enemies. The enemy I’m talking about is the NRA headquarters on I-66.”

“It’s been only four months since 26 children died in Newtown, and we’ve had 3,300 gun-related deaths,” Mitchell said. “I have young grandchildren, who all live in Virginia. Newtown could happen here. When will we say ‘enough?’”

The event began with a Franciscan blessing read by John Horesji of Vienna, coordinator of Social Action Linking Together (SALT).

“May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can change what others claim cannot be changed, and do what others claim cannot be done,” Horesji recited.

“From a faith perspective, Second Amendment rights need to be balanced with the Second Com

SEE RESIDENTS, PAGE 18

VIEWPOINTS

What motivated you to attend the candlelight vigil?

—VICTORIA ROSS

Jeanne Bierkan of Vienna

“I came here tonight because I want stronger background checks. I have two boys who grew up here, and I can’t understand why we are still arguing about something that’s just common sense.”



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Bob Hatfield of Vienna

“I’m here to support legislation that’s before Congress. We need to bring Virginia into the 21st century, and see that it’s responsible to have sane gun control measures and respect for the Second Amendment. The two are not mutually exclusive.”



Raba Letteri of Reston attended the vigil with her husband Paul and sons Joseph, 13, (right) and Aaron, 9 (left).

“I came here from Lebanon to be safe. I saw the hatred and violence between Arabs and Jews. Now everything I hear on the news is about a shooting. I don’t need to wait to lose one of my children to have a voice.”



Klara Bilgin of Burke with son Alex

“I am originally from Bulgaria. When I travel abroad, people cannot believe that there are 32,000 gun deaths every year in America. They say ‘you don’t have a dictator; you aren’t controlled by warlords, how can this happen?’ We are moving in an awful direction ... we need to demand [measures] to reduce gun violence.”





McLean Little League players walk along Westmoreland Street Saturday, April 13, as part of their opening day ceremonies.

Opening Day for McLean Little League

Players parade down Westmoreland, kick off 2013 season.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Hundreds of boys and girls kicked off their 2013 season Saturday, April 13, as McLean Little League celebrated opening day at the McLean Little League Fields. The players, coaches and parents started their morning at McLean High School before marching almost a mile down Westmoreland Street to the fields.

"This marks our 58th year of McLean Little League and our 58th parade, seventh with good weather," said Jamie Loving, a coach. "As you look around, there are players wearing 95 different jerseys today."

Other local organizations pitched in for the opening day ceremonies. A color guard from Boy Scout Troop 128 presented the flags, and the Spring Hill Elementary Harmony Group sang the National Anthem. Baseball and softball players from Langley High School and McLean High School also walked the route with the little leaguers and welcomed them onto the field.

"It's nice to see the older players, many of whom came up through McLean Little League before moving onto high school ball, come out and inspire the kids," said Dan Montgomery, parent of a player. "They all look pretty sharp in their school uniforms, and it gives them something to shoot for as they learn the game."

The ceremonial first pitch was thrown out by another player that high school and little leaguers alike looked up to, literally. Washington Nationals outfielder Jayson Werth, who at 6'5" stood above al-

most everyone on the field, threw the first pitch of the season at Field #2.

Mike Mendler, president of McLean Little League, presented several awards during the opening ceremony. The Scott Bradshaw Leadership Award was given to Ryan Lovallo, Carter Bosch and Matt Plaza.

"I've known these kids for a long time, they all have one thing in common," he said. "They're ones to lift their teammates, they're not the ones to get on them, they lift them up by their performance and by getting the rest of the teammates to support them."

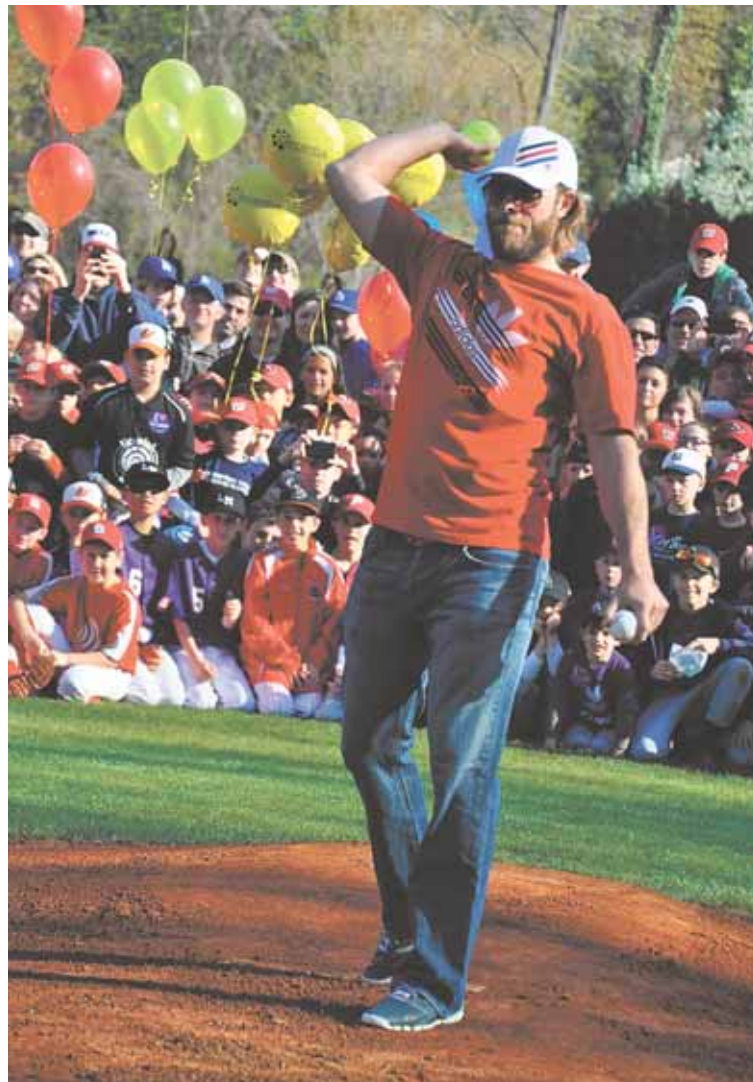
Jonathan Wiener, vice president of softball for McLean Little League, presented the Karen Vagley award to Nicole Woolridge.

"This award is for inspirational leadership and play during All-Stars competition. I asked Coach [Heath] Simon who we should give this award to, and it took him about 12 seconds to respond," he said. "Nicole played shortstop and catcher for the team, and batted third or fourth. She has been a leader there, and a leader throughout her years here."

The league also inducted Holley Remer, Sabrina Moore and Ken Schram into their Honor Roll, recognizing adults with longtime connections to the program. Sue Liverpool was named Volunteer of the Year.



McLean Little League players and parents take a moment for the National Anthem during their opening day ceremony Saturday, April 13.



Washington Nationals outfielder Jayson Werth throws out the first pitch for McLean Little League opening day Saturday, April 13.



Langley High School baseball players welcome McLean Little League softball players to the field Saturday, April 13, for opening day.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

THURSDAY/APRIL 18

Literacy Means Business. 7:30-9:30 a.m., at Gannett/USA Today Headquarters, 7950 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. A 90-minute forum beginning with a report from the Commonwealth Institute on the state of Northern Virginia's workforce followed by a panel discussion on literacy and STEM. Register. www.lcnv.org/registration.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Open House. 10 a.m.- noon., at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) is organizing an open house where visitors will be able to meet the instructors, register for classes or learn more about the SCOV's spring schedule, which offers 40 plus classes on a wide range of subjects, from a Health and Wellness series to National and World Affairs to Tai Chi. 703-281-0538 or www.scov.org/ail.htm.

Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Information Session. 11 a.m.-noon, at the Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn more about advocating for abused or neglected children. 703-273-3526 or www.fairfaxcasa.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 21

FCDOT Public Meetings and Ask Fairfax. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Westbriar Elementary School, 1741 Pine Valley Drive, Vienna. Discuss a Fairfax Connector proposed bus service plan that will coincide with the start of service on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) new Silver Line. 703-877-5606 or www.fairfaxconnector.com.

MONDAY/APRIL 22

Garden Pests and Their Controls. 1 p.m., at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2585 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Past President Elaine Holmstad of the Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association discusses the non-chemical and less toxic methods for protecting plantings. latripp24@gmail.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 23

FCDOT Public Meetings and Ask Fairfax. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. Discuss a Fairfax Connector proposed bus service plan that will coincide with the start of service on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) new Silver Line. 703-877-5606 or www.fairfaxconnector.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 25

Financial Planning During Separation & Divorce. 6:30-9:30 p.m., at The Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Get the practical information you need to make educated financial decisions from a certified divorce planner; covers all financial components of the property settlement agreement. \$50, \$40 for members. 703-281-2657, ext. 276 or www.thewomenscenter.org.

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Langley Hosts Relay for Life

Event will be first at school in 15 years.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Langley High School will be the site of the first Relay for Life event in more than 15 years starting Saturday, April 28. The event will be a 12-hour fundraiser walk to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

"One of our advisors approached a group of students with this idea, and we decided this was a great time to bring back the Relay for Life," said Harris LaTeef, a sophomore at Langley.

Students have been planning the event since late last year, which isn't much time compared to many events, some of which are planned for more than a year in advance."

The event will begin with an opening ceremony at 6 p.m. and after sunset there will be a luminaria lighting ceremony. Luminarias are one of the signa-



PHOTO BY HARRIS LAITEEF

Langley High School will host a Relay for Life Saturday, April 28, the first one at the school in 15 years.

ture parts of any Relay for Life event, they are small bags with candles in them that are lit in memory of those lost to cancer and those who have survived it.

The event is being organized by students at Langley, and will feature a variety of activities throughout the night and into the morning.

"We'll have a campsite for all participants set up in the middle of the stadium, and we'll have

bands playing throughout the night, and probably show a movie from 2 to 5 a.m.," LaTeef said. "In principle, the goal is to have at least one member of the team on the track at all times during the event, as a reminder that cancer never sleeps."

The goal for the Langley-McLean Relay for Life is to raise \$30,000 by the event. As of Sunday, April 7, they were at just under \$25,000. So far, 27 teams con-

sisting of more than 300 people have registered for the event, with teams made up of everyone from students to local church and community organizations.

More information, including how to register as an individual or as a team, as well as how to donate, can be found at www.relayforlife.org/langleymcleanva. They can also be found on Facebook under "Relay for Life of Langley and McLean."

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Achievement Scholar awardees are the Finalist candidates judged to have the strongest record of accomplishments and greatest potential for academic success in college. The 2013 National Achievement Scholarship Winners of the area are **Taylor N. Brown** of McLean High School and **Margaret C. Secor** of James Madison High School.

Forty-four undergraduate researchers at the University of Virginia have been selected for the Harrison Undergraduate Research Awards, which allow them to conduct independent research projects during the summer of 2013. The research awards support students who present detailed plans for projects that have been endorsed by a faculty mentor. A faculty senate committee selected the winners, who receive up to \$3,000.

Among the award recipients is **Matt Lycas**, 20, of McLean, a third-year neuroscience major in the college, who is researching the mechanism for a potential neuropharmacological treatment for alcoholism, examining why Topiramate is able to reduce ethanol consumption in rats.

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The pictures are mounted on colorful paper and line the hallways all around the school building.

Spring Hill Elementary Promotes Reading

To promote reading over Spring Break, the reading teachers at Spring Hill Elementary School encouraged students to “Get Caught Reading” in a unique location and have their picture taken. Over 600 students and staff shared their “Get Caught Reading” picture and in-

formation about their book when they returned to school after break. Now, wherever they walk, they see rows of pictures of students and adults reading in trees, in bathtubs (fully dressed), on skis (even in mid-air), and just about anywhere imaginable. These “flyers” will be posted for another month.

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OPINION

Value-added Evaluation?

TJ admissions illustrate growing gap between “haves” and “have-nots.”

More than 181,000 students attend Fairfax County Public Schools. So why do the 480 students who were accepted for next year's freshman class at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology seem so important?

Fairfax County Public Schools have a single elite magnet school, Thomas Jefferson, and TJ is frequently referred to as the top high school in the country. Dramatic disparity in the makeup of admissions at TJ is an indicator of disparity in early identification of students as gifted and talented, of access to advanced classes and enrichment, and in the basic education that the Fairfax County Public school system offers to all of its students.

❖ Fully 25 percent of students in Fairfax County Public Schools are poor enough to qualify for subsidized meals. Less than one percent of the incoming class at TJ is similarly economically disadvantaged.

❖ White students will make up just 25 percent of the incoming freshman class at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology; 43 percent of FCPS students overall are white.

Demographics

	FCPS	INCOMING TJ
African American	10.4%	1%
Asian American	19.3%	66%
Hispanic	22.1%	3%
White	43.1%	25%
Subsidized Meals	25%	1%

❖ Asian students will make up 66 percent of the incoming freshman class at TJ; 19 percent of FCPS students overall are Asian.

❖ Hispanic students will make up just 3.1 percent of the incoming freshman class at TJ; 22 percent of FCPS students overall are Hispanic.

❖ Black students will make up just one percent of the incoming freshman class at TJ; 10 percent of FCPS students overall are African American.

The local chapter of the NAACP and a group called Coalition of the Silence, led by former school board member Tina Hone, last year filed a civil rights complaint with the Justice Department alleging that FCPS is essentially running “separate-but-unequal” schools systems.

In a statement this month, Hone recently said there is “stark underrepresentation of Black and Latino students at the elementary and middle school level who are identified as eligible to receive instruction at a Gifted and Talented and/or Advanced Academic Program center. ... Because so few Black or Latino students (or poor students) receive instruction

through these centers and because the instruction in these centers is so robust, the pipeline of talented Black, Latino and poor students who are able to compete successfully for admission to TJ is choked.”

The underrepresentation of poor students is in many ways more disturbing than the racial disparities. While the concept of “value added” has been controversial in teacher evaluations (the sample size is too small for that) FCPS could rightly be evaluated on the value added.

Are its top performing schools really based on the value that relatively wealthy families are able to devote to their children's education? Books, computers, tablets and more at home, enrichment programs and camps, tutors, and attention from well-educated parents are the main ingredients to FCPS success.

Perhaps it is best to measure the value added by FCPS based on the performance of its poorest students, the 25 percent who qualify for subsidized meals, and who bring the smallest resources from home to the table.

The School Board has named a new superintendent, pending some final details. She is Dr. Karen Garza, currently superintendent of the Lubbock Independent School District, which serves approximately 30,000 students in Lubbock, Texas. Before that she served as the chief academic officer of the Houston Independent School District, the seventh largest school district in the country with more than 200,000 students. She faces tremendous opportunity here in Northern Virginia.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thinking of History in Real Time

To the Editor,

Letter writer Kiran Hampton asks if she is “the only one alarmed by the presence of high schools named after Confederate leaders?” [“Alarmed By School Names, Connection, April 10-16, 2013]. In response, I would say, “Why yes, I believe she is.”

History cannot nearly be understood in 20/20 hindsight. To understand that period of our nation's history you must examine and analyze the issues as if you were present during those times and not from the perspective of a person living a century and a half later. Obscured by today's political correctness is that the vast majority of people in the South at the time of the Civil War did not own slaves. In 1850, less than 6 percent of white Southerners owned slaves, leaving 94 percent who did not. To presume that some 800,000 young, white Southerners left their homes, families, and loved ones to risk their lives defending the rights of a small, wealthy minority ignores sig-

nificant other issues, such as states' rights, that had not yet been settled in our nascent republic.

If Ms. Hampton would like to participate in a present day history naming issue, I would call her attention to the Navy's politically-motivated decision to name a ship after the late Congressman John Murtha. The amphibious transport dock ship, now being constructed and scheduled for commissioning in 2015, will be named after a person known for his very public pre-trial condemnation of the Marines involved in the Haditha incident during the Iraq war, as well as his own ethical issues while a member of Congress. Further, all other ships of the class are named for American cities.

As a matter of fact, I would like to see one of the area's new schools named after Lee's dependable corps commander James Longstreet, because he became a “reconstructed rebel,” embracing equal rights for the newly freed blacks, unification of the nation and reconstruction.

Chris J. Krisinger
Colonel, USAF (Ret)

It Wasn't ‘Good Guys Vs. Bad Guys’

To the Editor:

In a letter regarding local schools named after Confederate generals [“Alarmed by School Names,” Connection, April 10-16, 2013] the author displays an extraordinary lack of understanding of the complexities of the issues leading to the War Between the States as well as a contempt for the courage and sacrifice of those who, often reluctantly, believed that their primary duty was to a sovereign Virginia rather than to what they believed had been conceived as a voluntary union of independent states.

I would ask the author of that letter two questions. First, should the US decide to leave the United Nations, and should the UN General Assembly announce that withdrawal from that body was not to be allowed and call upon other nations to send armies to compel us to remain as members, would we be justified in resisting such compulsion? Second, should we

also cease to honor Washington, Jefferson, and all other such rebels who fought against “their country?”

The War Between the States was the most tragic episode in this nation's history. It produced examples of nobility, generosity of spirit, and almost incredible courage as well as examples of cruelty, incompetence, opportunism and pettiness on both sides of the conflict. To reduce it to a “good guys versus bad guys” melodrama is to trivialize both history and the individuals who made it.

Randolph Bragg
Alexandria

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

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LETTERS

A Misreading Of History

To the Editor:

That a few local schools are named for Confederate generals bothers Kiran Hampton ["Alarmed by School Names," Connection, April 11-17, 2013]. The US Army and Navy have named forts and ships after Confederate heroes. The Veterans Administration provides headstones for Confederate graves. That wouldn't have happened if they were traitors. No Confederates were convicted of treason. Hampton's shame that Virginia fought with the Confederacy suggests a misreading of US history.

The 13 colonies seceded from the United Kingdom in 1776. Were our Founding Fathers traitors? The Confederate States of America (CSA) cited adherence to principles of that revolution for opposing Lincoln. Treason is an attempt to overthrow one's national government. The CSA never tried to overthrow the US government. It merely asked to be left in peace. The North answered by invading the South, hence use of the

term "War of Northern Aggression" that Hampton calls ridiculous. The only thing ridiculous was the total war waged against Southerners. The ancestors of many of these same Yankee invaders were the traitors of 1814 at the Hartford Convention who promoted the secession of New England and a separate peace in the War of 1812 with America's enemy, England.

In 1861, people saw themselves as citizens of their state first and Americans second. Union army units comprised almost exclusively and fought as state militia units; the US Army was small.

In November 1860, Abraham Lincoln was elected president, with under 40 percent of the popular vote in a four-man race. Virginia voted for moderate John Bell. Lincoln did all he could to provoke the Confederacy into war. He rejected reconciliation by Confederate emissaries and the Washington Peace Conference chaired by ex-President Tyler of Virginia. It took six additional months for the commonwealth to move from being pro-Union to supporting secession. Virginia pursued a very deliberate approach. Between No-

vember 1860 and May 23, 1861, the Old Dominion exhausted every avenue to prevent secession and war: citizen meetings, calling a peace conference of the states, creating a state convention to debate secession, and efforts to mediate between the Federal Government and the CSA. As with adoption of the US Constitution, the Confederate states held special conventions to approve secession. Texas, Tennessee and Virginia opted for a statewide referendum on secession. In that referendum, Fairfax County and Virginia voted reluctantly, but overwhelmingly for the ordinance of secession. On May 23, 76 percent of county voters endorsed secession, while statewide 80 percent favored secession. At 2 a.m. on May 24, Union soldiers crossed the Potomac. Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and J.E.B. Stuart fought to deliver our commonwealth from an invasion that had nothing to do with freeing slaves, but rather maintaining the forced economic dependence of the South upon the North.

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Deadline is Thursday for the following
week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.
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Sprays, Dusts, and Aerosols: A Chemical R/Evolution. 7-9 p.m., at McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. MPA opens a new exhibition of sculptor David D'Orio and printmaker Nils Henrik Sundqvist where they present an alternative version of the world and of man's use of pesticides to attempt to control nature. 703-790-1953 or www.mpaart.org.

Art Opening Receptions. 7-9 p.m., at McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Drawings and portraits in Ossia: Drawings by Rula Jones on paper, executed with sensitivity and a surrealist edge are in the Atrium Gallery; Jessica van Brakle exhibits her delicate drawings of cranes and mechanical objects in landscape settings juxtaposing the natural and manmade in the Ramp Gallery. The exhibitions run through June 1. 703-790-1953 or www.mpaart.org.

Nation Building in Iraq: Lessons Learned? 7:30 p.m., at Neighbor's Restaurant in Cedar Lane Shopping Center, 262D Cedar Lane, Vienna. Harold Bonacquist shares, former foreign service officer in Iraq, shares his perspective of the U.S. extended effort to reconstruct Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom; open to the public. 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.

An Evening With Melissa Manchester. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna.

The pop icon sings romantic ballads with a powerful voice, featuring international hits like "Midnight Blue" and "Don't Cry Out Loud." \$35.
www.wolftrap.org.

Ellis Paul and Rebecca Loebe. 7:30 p.m., at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Join Ellis Paul for a great show followed by a chat about his upcoming new album. \$20. 703-255-1566 or <https://jamminjava.com/events/ellis-paul-0419>.

The Hallelujah Girls. 8 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. A Jones Hope Wooten comedy about a group of women in Eden Falls, Ga., who turn an abandoned church into a day spa where they gather for fun on Friday afternoons. \$11 for seniors and students; \$13. vtcshows@yahoo.com or www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

Paula Cole. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Singer/songwriter Paula Cole plays songs from her recently released album *Raven*, featuring poetic lyrics and a strong voice. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

7th Annual Great Falls Studios Spring Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. Talk to the 20 artists exhibiting, browse crafts, wares and art and enter to win prizes. www.GreatFallsStudios.com.

Andrea Marcovicci. 7:30 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. The Manhattan-born cabaret star known for her captivating performances and refined voice sings Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hart, and

World War II love songs. \$27.
www.wolftrap.org.

The Hallelujah Girls. 8 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. A Jones Hope Wooten comedy about a group of women in Eden Falls, Ga., who turn an abandoned church into a day spa where they gather for fun on Friday afternoons. \$11 for seniors and students; \$13. vtchshows@yahoo.com or www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

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

Emeka Nwachukwu, 9:30 a.m., at The Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road, Vienna. A guest speaker from Nigeria shares his journey of faith from Nigeria to the United States. 703-938-6753 or <http://www.antiochdoc.org>.

7th Annual Great Falls Studios Spring Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. Talk to the 20 artists exhibiting, browse crafts, wares and art and enter to win prizes. www.GreatFallsStudios.com.

The 16 Inner Arts Series: The Art of Learning and Teaching. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at 8020 Georgetown Pike, McLean. This workshop will help to recognize the vast opportunities brought to us each day to both learn from and teach others. RSVP. <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/6198894059/rss>.

Spirituality and Growing Up. 11: 30 a.m-1 p.m., at 8020 Georgetown Pike, McLean. This workshop will provide you an opportunity to share and

receive support for guiding children on a spiritual path; children ages 5-12 are welcome to attend. RSVP. <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/6198894059/rss>.

American Cancer Society. 6 p.m.-6 a.m., at Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. A group of students from Langley High School are organizing a Relay For Life fundraising event benefiting the American Cancer Society. At the event, teams of students will pitch tents on the Langley HS football field symbolizing the fact that cancer never sleeps. Music, games, contests and activities will last throughout the night. 703-937-1904 or www.relayforlife.org/langleymcleanva.

McLean Orchestra Gala Midnight in Paris, 6-11 p.m., at The Hilton McLean, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. McLean Orchestra's annual gala features gourmet foods, an open bar, live chamber ensembles and soprano Melissa Mino, dancing, desirable live auction items, game prizes and local celebrities including NFL Pro Bowl Player Charles Mann, master of ceremonies. \$250 per person (sponsorships available) <http://mclean-orchestra.org/gala/gala-tickets/> or <http://mclean-orchestra.org/gala/>.

Garden Club of Fairfax's Oakton/
Vienna Tour. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., buy tickets day-of at Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road N.E., Vienna. Tour owners' interiors, outdoor garden rooms, an owner designed home and owner contemporary renovation with yoga studio plus a bonus tour of

Meadowlark Botanical Gardens. \$20 if purchased before April 9. 703-978-4130 or mwhip155@aol.com.

Joe Sample. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. The jazz piano legend known for his albums *Street Life*, *Rainbow Seeker* and *Carmel*, plays a gospel-soul-blues-classical fusion show. \$40. www.wolftrap.org.

John McCutcheon. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road Vienna. The singer/songwriter that Johnny Cash declared "the most impressive instrumentalist I've ever heard," known for his Appalachian sound, plays the folk songs that earned him seven GRAMMY nominations. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

Hanna Emrich at McLean Art Society Meeting: 10 a.m.-noon, at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A presentation from GWU graduate and past student of the Corcoran School of Art and Design who has shown her work and received recognition at local juried shows; guests welcome. 703-790-0123.

The Hallelujah Girls. 8 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. A Jones Hope Wooten comedy about a group of women in Eden Falls, Ga., who turn an abandoned church into a day spa where they gather for fun on Friday afternoons. \$11 for seniors and students; \$13. vtcshows@yahoo.com or www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

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The Hallelujah Girls. 8 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. A Jones Hope Wooten comedy about a group of women in Eden Falls, Ga., who turn an abandoned church into a day spa where they gather for fun on Friday afternoons. \$11 for seniors and students; \$13. vtcshows@yahoo.com or www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

Ninth annual Vienna Elementary PTA 5K & Fun Run. 8 a.m., at Vienna Elementary School, 128 Center St. S., Vienna. The DC Road Runners Club brings back the Chronotrack time chip timing system for runners racing on the USATF certified 5K course, which drew 700-plus participants last year. There is also a 1-mile fun run featured. \$25 before April 23; \$30; \$15 for children under 14. www.vienna5krun.org.

The Hallelujah Girls. 2 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. A Jones Hope Wooten comedy about a group of women in Eden Falls, Ga., who turn an abandoned church into a day spa where they gather for fun on Friday afternoons. \$11 for seniors and students; \$13. vtcshows@yahoo.com or www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

Requiem. 4 p.m., at the Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Fairfax Choral Society organizes Rossini's overture to "Il Signor Bruschino" and Stravinsky's neoclassical "Pulcinella," among other pieces conducted by A. Scott Wood and directed by Douglas Mears. \$30. Free for students under 17. www.amadeusconcerts.com.

Begona Morton's "Strawberries, Chocolate and Silver" is among the Great Falls art featured at the 7th Annual Great Falls Studios Spring Art Festival, held April 20-21 at the Village Green Day School.

Twenty Great Falls Studios artists working in oil, acrylic, watercolor, mixed media, pottery, photography, jewelry, wood carving, stone cutting, layered paper and weaving, are exhibiting at the Great Falls Studios Spring Art Festival, Saturday, April

20, and Sunday, April 21, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. Talk to artists, browse crafts, wares and art and enter to win prizes. www.GreatFallsStudios.com.

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NEWS



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Community volunteers who helped with the project.

New Benches at Cooper Middle

Four new benches, nine azalea shrubs and three dogwood trees have been installed in strategic locations around the Cooper Middle School campus as of Saturday, April 6. The benches provide a seating area for students during outdoor physical education lessons and can also be used as seating by the community for recreational activities. Assistant Principal Frank Stevens and Eagle Scout candidate and Cooper alumnus Quan

Pham designed the project. Under Pham's direction, members of Boy Scout Troop 869, from Trinity Methodist Church, and students from Langley High School worked together to complete the task. Volunteers logged over 200 hours to construct and install the benches, and to provide landscaping for Cooper Middle School. Special thanks go to Tart Lumber, Meadow Farms, Chick-fil-A and Subway for their contribution to the project.



Eagle Scout candidate Quan Pham and Cooper MS Assistant Principal Frank Stevens sitting on new benches.

WEEK IN McLEAN

McLean Orchestra to Host 'Midnight in Paris'

The McLean Orchestra's 2013 Gala, "Midnight in Paris," will be held on Sunday, April 21, 6 to 11 p.m. at the renovated Hilton McLean. Celebrate the orchestra's biggest night of the year with local celebrity Charles Mann, master of ceremonies. The night offers an open bar and gourmet hors d'oeuvres, dining on French cuisine and specialty chocolates, classical entertainment by live chamber ensembles and French songs by soprano Melissa Mino, having your photo taken next to the glittering Eiffel Tower, and dancing the night away to The Elegant DJ. A box auction, game prizes and a live auction conducted by Chicago showman David Goodman of Auction Results will offer something for everyone, including fine wine, fashion accessories, adventure experiences and luxury travel to London, Mexico, Tuscany and Paris to name a few.

To reserve tickets call 571-332-5426 or visit www.mclean-orchestra.org/gala.

SEE WEEK IN McLEAN, PAGE 15

A False Sense of Security



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not that there's anything wrong with that; in fact, as a four-year, stage IV, non-small-cell lung cancer survivor, it's amazing to have any security, false or otherwise, whatsoever. And that's the point, really: how amazingly fortunate yours truly is to still be writing columns, if you know what I mean? Moreover, being relatively asymptomatic (as I've mostly been) is all it's cracked up to be, and I say that with utmost respect, sincerity and appreciation. Yet, unless this particular survivor is delusional, incredibly naive (my two main self-preservation/defense mechanisms) or a lucky aberration beyond any statistical reference (within my limited knowledge of such references), one day – sooner rather than later, the other shoe will most likely drop; and you do know what I mean, don't you?

A few weeks back, I published a column entitled, "Definition of Slippery Slope," which discussed the range and depth of emotions a cancer patient/survivor (let's be honest: this cancer patient/survivor) feels waiting to hear back from the oncologist concerning the results of his most recent diagnostic scan ("CT" for me), the results of which will determine your most immediate future (I'd say between living and dying, but that sounds so dramatic). I readily admit though, I can now absolutely appreciate the anxiety many woman feel awaiting the results of their mammogram. Been there, and thankfully, still doing that.

One of my standard answers to queries about my overall health is: "I'm fine until they tell me otherwise;" this column's true context and another place I can go – figuratively speaking (sort of like "Strawberry Fields" and "A Glass Onion") to endure the ongoing stresses and pressures of being a terminal cancer patient who has so far outlived his oncologist's original prognosis: "13 months to two years." Even though living remains the best reward (I did not say revenge), it also exerts the greatest sense of inevitability, if certain statistical measures/ references are to be considered (nor did I say, believed).

Not that I want to buy into that "sense of inevitability," but cancer is likely not most persons' favorite word, and presumably one of their least favorite diagnoses – for a reason. Though more and more cancer patients are living longer (see graph referenced in a previous column entitled "14.8 Percent" citing a National Cancer Institute SEER Cancer Statistics Review, 1975-2009), you'd just as soon not take your chances with a malignancy. But sometimes, maybe oftentimes for all I know (and I know very little), diseases/ diagnoses really are just a function of chance (nature vs. nurture?) and perhaps so too is surviving beyond the mean (and I don't "mean" unpleasant, either) number of years or months "prognosed" at one's original date of diagnosis (rationalizing is another one of my tools).

I guess what I'm looking for is a guarantee, or at least a fair warning before – you know what (and I'm assuming you know "what" is) But I don't suppose that's realistic, so trying to enjoy the good days and not worry/anticipate the bad days ahead is my M.O.; which I imagine is somewhere between a wish and hope. And in between of course is "a false sense of security," the bane of my existence.

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

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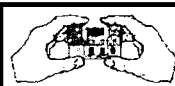
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21 Announcements

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WEEK IN MCLEAN

FROM PAGE 12

Langley High to Host Relay for Life

A group of students from Langley High School are organizing a Relay For Life fundraising event benefiting the American Cancer Society which will be held on April 27-28. The event is one of only two Relay For Life events in Northern Virginia that is completely planned and organized by students.

Almost 300 students, parents and teachers from the Langley HS community have already signed up for the event and \$18,649

has been raised since the beginning of the year toward Langley's fundraising goal of \$30,000.

Twenty-seven teams, mostly consisting of students, have registered and are currently raising money to reach their personal fundraising goals. At the event, which lasts from 6 p.m. (April 27) until 6 a.m. (April 28), teams of students will pitch tents on the Langley HS football field and will have at least one member of their team walking on the track at all times, symbolizing the fact that cancer never sleeps. To kick off the event, local cancer survivors walk the first lap around the track. Music, games, con-

tests and activities will last throughout the night.

All donations from Relay For Life go to the American Cancer Society which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

Funding Secured for New Sound Wall

Delegate Barbara Comstock (R-34) announced that funding has been approved for construction of a sound wall at the Scotts Run community in McLean. Located between Lewinsville Road and Georgetown Pike, Sec-

tion 13-A has been a long-time gap in the sound wall, which has left homeowners living on Scotts Run, Helga Place and Saigon Road with a considerable amount of traffic noise from the Capital Beltway.

The Virginia Department of Transportation announced that the bidding closed on Wednesday, March 27, with an estimated construction cost of \$3 million. The contract will now be sent to the Commonwealth Transportation Board for approval before construction can begin on Section 13-A. When completed, the sound wall will be one contiguous 3,000-foot-wall between 18 and 19 feet in height.



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SPORTS



Langley senior Cal Jadacki swings against Centreville on Saturday, April 13. The Saxons produced 11 hits, including one by Jadacki, and 13 runs but came up short against the Wildcats.

PHOTOS BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION

Langley's Hot Bats Not Enough To Beat Centreville

Saxons produce 11 hits, 13 runs in loss to Wildcats.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Senior Joseph Aulisi delivered a two-run single in the first inning of the Saturday, April 13, contest against Centreville, helping the Langley baseball team jump out to a 3-0 advantage.

In the third inning, a three-run double by senior Thomas Dungan gave the Saxons a 9-3 lead. Later in the game, senior Bryan Even smacked a two-run homer over the left-field fence.

Langley amassed double-digit runs and hit totals against Centreville. However, the Saxons would need more than their bats to beat the Wildcats.

Centreville defeated Langley 18-13 on April 13 during a battle of teams ranked in the Northern Region top 10 at Centreville High School. The Saxons, ranked No. 8 last week, totaled 11 hits and scored double-digit runs for the third time this season, but the No. 9 Wildcats came roaring back from a six-run deficit to earn the victory.

Centreville finished with 15 hits, including seven of the extra-base variety. Langley pitchers walked nine and hit three batters. The Saxons also struggled defensively, including misplaying multiple fly balls.

"We walked [and hit] 12 hitters. That's not going to help the cause," Langley head coach Kevin Healy said. "[Centreville] swung the bats. They came out and they put some pressure on us and we didn't respond very well."

After Langley built a 9-3 lead, Centreville responded with five runs in the fourth and seven runs in the fifth to take control of the game.

Even finished 2-for-3 with a home run and three RBIs, Dungan went 3-for-3 with three RBIs and Aulisi had two RBIs, but it wasn't enough.

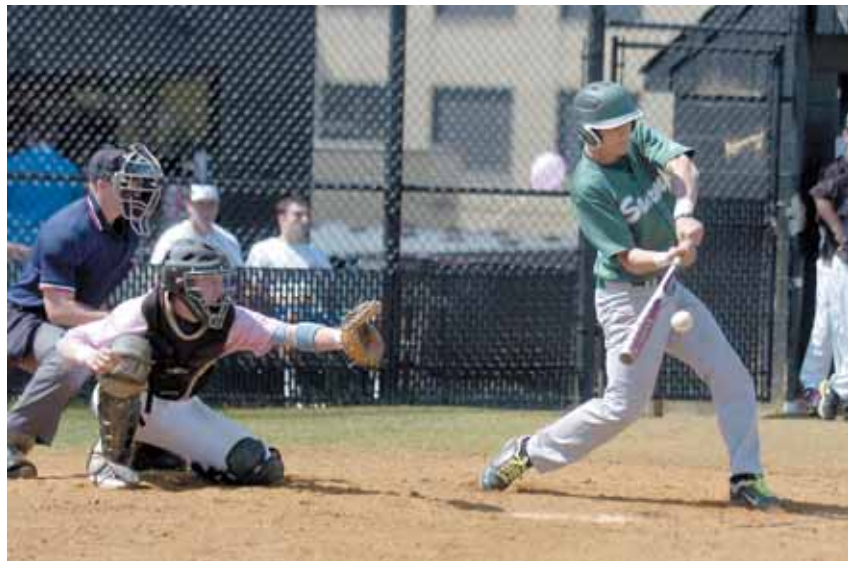
"We're swinging the bats. We hung 13 runs," Healy said. "Defensively, we've got to stop people—that's the big thing for us. I think as a team, we're hitting something like [.300]. Defensively, we just haven't stopped people when we needed to."

The loss dropped Langley's record to 6-5.

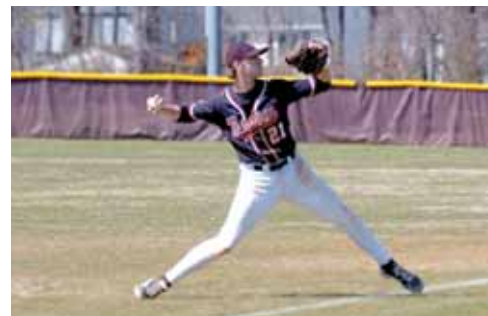
"We're still 3-2 [in the Liberty District] and we control our own destiny in the district," Healy said. "... The ones that count for seeding are still the ones we're focused on and we're in pretty good shape there. [I'm a] little frustrated with this one but you've got to flush and kind of get past it."

Langley dropped out of the top 10 this week, but bounced back with a 6-1 victory against Thomas Jefferson on Monday, April 15, improving its record to 7-5 overall and 4-2 in the Liberty District. The Saxons hosted McLean on Tuesday, April 16, after The Connection's deadline.

Langley will travel to face Marshall at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 19.



Langley junior Nick Casso had one of the Saxons' 11 hits against Centreville on Saturday, April 13.



Dan Powers and the Madison baseball team are ranked No. 1 in the Northern Region.

PHOTO BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Madison Baseball Remains No. 1 in Northern Region

The Madison baseball team held onto its No. 1 ranking in this week's Northern Region top 10 poll.

The Warhawks have been ranked No. 1 for about a month. Madison lost its season opener to Fairfax on March 20, but responded with 11 consecutive victories, including a 5-0 win against McLean on Monday, April 15. With the win, the Warhawks' improved to 11-1 overall and 5-1 in the Liberty District.

Defending state champion Lake Braddock is ranked No. 2, followed by Oakton (3), Robinson (4), Centreville (5), West Potomac (6), McLean (7) and Fairfax (8). Stone Bridge and T.C. Williams tied for the No. 9 ranking.

Madison faced Thomas Jefferson on Tuesday, April 16, after The Connection's deadline. The Warhawks will travel to face Fairfax at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 19.

Oakton bounced back from its first loss of the season—an 11-3 defeat against Madison on April 6—by beating Herndon and Chantilly. The Cougars improved to 10-1 overall and 2-0 in the Concorde District.

Oakton faced Robinson on Tuesday, April 16, after The Connection's deadline. The Cougars will travel to face Centreville at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 19.

Madison Girls' Lax Beats Langley

After opening Liberty District play last week with a decisive 24-10 win over Marshall, the Madison girls' lacrosse team (5-1, 2-0) remained focused, notching a key victory over Langley (3-3, 1-1) on April 12.

In a highly anticipated rematch of last year's Liberty District championship game (won by Madison, 18-17), the Warhawks prevailed once again, this time by the score of 16-11. Madison came out strong, scoring the game's first goal in the opening moments before building a lead, which they refused to relinquish. Madison took a 9-4 advantage into halftime, but the Saxons waged an aggressive comeback attempt after the break. Despite a determined effort by Langley, Madison answered with timely goal-scoring and solid defense.

Lead by a flurry of five second-half goals and three assists by Mellissa Kellan, the Warhawks maintained a four-goal lead for much of the game. Also contributing to Madison's crisp team effort were Katie Kerrigan (3 goals, 2 assists), Carly Frederick (2, 2), Erin Callahan (2, 1), Kierra Sweeney (2 goals) and Alex Condon (1 goal). Defensive players Maddie Roberts (1 goal) and Rachel Brennan (1 assist) also joined the scoring.

Goalie Sigourney Heerink had nine saves, including several key stops late in the game.

Madison will travel to face McLean at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 18, and will host South Lakes on April 22.

—COURTESY OF MADISON LACROSSE

Madison Boys' Tennis Beats Stone Bridge

The Madison boys' tennis team defeated Stone Bridge 7-2 on Wednesday, April 10.

In singles' action, No. 1 Chang Zhou, No. 3 Alex Dondershine, No. 4 Dylan Miks, No. 5 Mark Fertal and No. 6 Neil Feeney were victorious for Madison. The doubles teams of Zhou and Miks (No. 1), and Albert Chang and Chris Liu (No. 2) also won for the Warhawks.

Countdown to College Decision Day

Local college counselors offer advice on making the right choice.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Marta Daniels recalls the day when her son Will received his first college acceptance letter.

"He was thrilled," she said. "It was a huge relief to know that he had been accepted somewhere." But elation soon turned to stress when Will learned that he'd been accepted into all five schools to which he'd applied. "We went from being relieved that he would be going off to college next fall to panicking over whether or not we would choose the best school for Will," said Daniels.

As the May 1 national college decision day looms, the day students must shell out hefty deposits to secure their spots at colleges and universities, students like Daniels are feeling pressure. Most college counselors agree that it's important to make sure the school is a good fit for the student academically, financially and socially, and local counselors share ideas for making the decision less daunting.

They urge students to do a thoughtful assessment of who they are and what they need to thrive in an academic environment. "From community college to the ivy leagues, every school has success stories," said Mike Canfield, director for undergraduate admissions at Marymount University in Arlington. "You can be successful at any school if it is the right one."

Brie Jeweler-Bentz, Psy.D., a psychologist at The School Counseling Group, encourages students to ask, "Where to I want to be geographically? Do I need a large campus or a school with an urban campus? Will I go crazy in a small town? Do I want to paint my face and cheer on my Division I sports team?" The school's political and religious climates matter, she said, as does the local weather.

She also stressed that a school must be a good fit both socially academically. "A big rah-rah school is great, but academically



PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. STEPHEN'S & ST. AGNES SCHOOL

As the May 1 national college decision day looms, high school seniors like Jack Phillips and Elizabeth Cornick of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School must decide which colleges they will attend in the fall.

will the student get lost in a big lecture hall with 400 other students?"

Michael Carter, Ph.D., director of college counseling at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, said that fit and balance also matter. "Does the student mesh with the school's programs academically and extracurricularly? Is there a good blend academically, socially and extracurricularly so that the student can have balance?"

One way to answer these questions is to spend time on campus. "Sit in the cafeteria, have lunch and look around at the students," said Jeweler-Bentz. "How do the students dress and talk? Do they have piercings, tattoos and nose rings? Does the school click for you? Does it feel like home?"

Randy Tajan, director of college counseling at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac, Md., said students should look at colleges through a new lens, that of admitted student. "What is student life like? What about access to professors? Can you be a

student and an active citizen? They should think about again why they applied to those schools originally."

A school's atmosphere should not be underestimated, said some counselors.

"Given that our environment often affects us, for better or worse, is this school a good fit for my goals and values?" asked Michael Hude, college counselor at The Heights School in Potomac, Md. He said that students should also ask, "Does it foster an environment that will facilitate the type of growth I'd like both to experience [in college] and take with me for the rest of my life?"

Hude said that the cost of the school is an important consideration: "Will I be going into debt? Does the quality of the education and the school's reputation justify the expense and debt?"

Meg Mayo, director of college counseling at Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, Md., agrees. "I think any type of

"From community college to the ivy leagues ... you can be successful at any school if it is the right one."

— Mike Canfield, director for undergraduate admissions at Marymount University

scholarship money if awarded should play into a decision," she said. "I really worry about kids coming out of college loaded down with debt and not finding work right away."

Jeweler-Bentz adds the prospective students should take a look at those who have graduated from the institution. "Some schools have amazing [alumni] networks that can hook graduates up with job opportunities," she said. "It's also important to look at statistics on job and graduate school placement to see how good of a job particular colleges do with their students post-graduation."

Canfield said that once a student has selected a school, the next step is to connect. "Plan for orientation," he said. "Learn the process for registration. Check out the school's fan page on Facebook. Some schools host invitation-only closed social media sites."

Students should also start planning for life on campus. "What [activities are] they going to join when they get to campus? Students who are involved in campus activities or have a job on campus that is limited to 10 hours a week are significantly happier and do better in their classes than their counterparts who have neither," said Canfield.

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News

Residents Call for Stricter Gun Control Measures

FROM PAGE 3

mandment ‘to love thy neighbor as thyself.’ The Second Commandment also refers to false idols, and we need to question our worship of the Second Amendment,” Horesji said.

Del. Ken Plum (D-36) and Purcellville Mayor Bob Lazaro were the only political leaders to attend the event. Lazaro is a member of Mayors Against Illegal Guns.

“There’s a Virginia Tech every week in this country,” Lazaro said during his remarks to the crowd. “We have background checks for everything. It takes a four-day background check to adopt a dog. We need to demand criminal background checks for anyone purchasing a gun.”

Lazaro cited recent independent polls that show more than 90 percent of Americans support background checks for all gun buyers. More than 80 percent of gun owners—including 74 percent of National Rifle Association members—support requiring criminal background checks for anyone purchasing a gun.

Under current federal law, only licensed firearms dealers are required to conduct background checks on potential buyers, according to a report from Mayors Against Illegal Guns. Around 40 percent of U.S. gun transfers are conducted by unlicensed “private sellers” who are not required to conduct a federal check, and who often do business at gun shows and on the Internet—indicating that about 6.6 million guns are transferred in the U.S. every year with no background check for the buyer.

“This ‘private sale loophole’ a people who are already prohibited from buying guns—including felons, domestic abusers and the seriously mentally ill—to avoid a background check by simply avoiding licensed dealers,” according to the report.

Lu-Ann McNabb, a Centreville resident who was instrumental in starting the Angel Fund in memory of Reema Samaha, one of 32 students killed during the April 16, 2007 Virginia Tech shooting, also spoke at the event.

“During Reema’s funeral, her mother said to look at her hands, because they were unscathed. But I kissed her forehead, and I could see the exit wound,” McNabb said. “How can we continue to let our children be victims?”

Raba Letteri, a Reston preschool teacher, burst into tears after the vigil.

“I came here from Lebanon to be safe. I saw the hatred and violence between Arabs and Jews. Now everything I hear on the news is about a shooting. I don’t need to wait to lose one of my children to have a voice,” Letteri said.



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Children hold up a sign—“Remember the Newtown 26”—at a candlelight vigil in Vienna Saturday, April 13, urging Congress to support stricter gun control measures.

“May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can change what others claim cannot be changed, and do what others claim cannot be done.”

— John Horesji, coordinator of Social Action Linking Together (SALT)

THIS WEEK, the Senate is expected to consider several gun legislation amendments, including a breakthrough bipartisan agreement proposed by Senators Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) and Pat Toomey (R-Pa.) to expand background checks to online and gun show sales.

“The American people have made it clear where they stand,” Langley said. “They want a response to the tragedies caused by gun violence.”

For more information on OFA, go to barackobama.com. For more information on Mayors Against Illegal Guns, go to mayorsagainstillegalguns.org.

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PEOPLE

Virginia Counselor Educator of the Year

Marymount Professor, McLean resident Michele C. Garofalo, Ed.D., honored by the Virginia School Counselor Association (VSCA).

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

A Marymount University professor was honored recently for her work to educate and train school counselors.

The Virginia School Counselor Association (VSCA) recently named Michele C. Garofalo, Ed.D., of Marymount University in Arlington, the 2013 VSCA Counselor Educator of the Year. Garofalo, a McLean resident, who holds a doctorate in education and is also a licensed professional counselor and national certified counselor, is the assistant chair of the Department of Counseling, director of the school counseling program and a professor of psychology.

When choosing a recipient, members of the Virginia School Counselor Association consider dedication to the training of school coun-

sors and extensive contributions to the field of school counseling.

"I am honored and deeply touched by this award. It ... is truly one of the highlights of my professional career," said Garofalo, who has worked as a school counselor at both independent and public schools. "It is energizing for me to help support and mentor those who are pursuing a career path as a school counselor. It is truly a gift for me to have the opportunity to work with such amazing students who are dedicated to making a difference."

Garofalo, who has taught at Marymount for 18 years, designed the university's master of arts in school counseling program. Her colleagues say her influence is far-reaching.

"All the programs in the Department of Counseling have benefited from the ... efforts of Dr. Garofalo," said Department Chair

Lisa Jackson-Cherry. "She is passionate about teaching future school counselors who will impact the lives of children and families. She expects a high level of ethics and professionalism [and] she leads by example."

Associates credit Garofalo with creating school counseling-specific courses and bringing guest speakers, who are leaders in the field, into her classroom. She also founded the Mu Upsilon Gamma chapter of the Chi Sigma Iota Counseling Honor Society at Marymount.

"Dr. Garofalo has enhanced my graduate career in the biggest way possible," said Daisy Silva, a school counseling student at Marymount. "She allowed me space to grow as a counselor by going out of her way and setting up opportunities [for me] to see for myself if the career was right for me."

Garofalo, who also has a private



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

The Virginia School Counselor Association named McLean resident Michele C. Garofalo, Ed.D., of Marymount University in Arlington, the 2013 VSCA Counselor Educator of the Year.

practice, said she encourages school counseling students do community outreach work. "I hope that my teaching and mentoring have helped to prepare school counselors who go out and make a difference for students in

schools," she said. "The greatest gift for me is to know that I have played some small part in the preparation of accomplished professionals who make a difference for the students and everyone in the school community."

FAITH NOTES

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

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers three Sunday services and a host of musical, educational, outreach and fellowship ministries to enrich spiritual growth. A 7:45 a.m. worship service without music; 9 a.m. worship service, children's chapel and choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday school and adult forum; and an 11 a.m. worship service with an adult choir are offered. 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. There are also two services during the summer, both of which will include children's sermons. 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 an adult forum is at 9:45 a.m.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, offers a Religious Exploration (RE) program for all children, from pre-K toddlers through high school seniors, emphasizing exploration of all religious traditions while developing a personal spiritual path. Registration for the RE program, which offers classes on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings, is now open by calling 703-281-4230.

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 noon. 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.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or www.meditation-dc.org.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean. The third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Visit These Houses of Worship

Join A Club, Make New Friends, or Expand Your Horizons...

Anglican
Restoration Anglican Church...703-527-2720
Assemblies of God
Arlington Assembly of God...703-524-1667
Calvary Gospel Church...703-525-6636
Baptist
Arlington Baptist Church...703-979-7344
Bon Air Baptist Church...703-525-8079
Cherrydale Baptist Church...703-525-8210
First Baptist of Ballston...703-525-7824
McLean Baptist Church...703-356-8080
Memorial Baptist Church...703-538-7000
Mt. Zion Baptist Church...703-979-7411
Westover Baptist Church...703-237-8292
Baptist - Free Will
Bloss Memorial Free Will Baptist Church...703-527-7040
Brethren
Church of The Brethren...703-524-4100
Buddhist
The Vajrayogini Buddhist Center...202-331-2122
Catholic
St. Agnes Catholic Church...703-525-1166
Cathedral of St Thomas More...703-525-1300
Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek Catholic Church...703-734-9566
Our Lady of Lourdes...703-684-9261
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic...703-979-5580
St Ann Catholic Church...703-528-6276
St. Charles Catholic Church...703-527-5500

Vatican II Catholic Community
NOVA Catholic Community...703-852-7907
Church of Christ
Arlington Church of Christ...703-528-0535
Church of God - Anderson, Indiana
Church of God...703-671-6726
Christian Science
McLean - First Church of Christ, Scientist...703-356-1391
First Church of Christ, Scientist, Arlington...703-534-0020
Episcopal
St. Andrew Episcopal Church...703-522-1600
St. George Episcopal Church...703-525-8286
St. Johns Episcopal Church...703-671-6834
St. Mary Episcopal Church...703-527-6800
St Michael S Episcopal Church...703-241-2474
St Paul Episcopal Church...703-820-2625
St Peter's Episcopal Church...703-536-6606
St Thomas Episcopal Church...703-442-0330
Trinity Episcopal Church...703-920-7077
Lutheran (ELCA)
Advent Lutheran Church...703-521-7010
Faith Lutheran Church...703-525-9283
German Lutheran Church...703-276-8952
Lutheran Church of The Redeemer...703-356-3346
Resurrection Lutheran Church...703-532-5991
Lutheran (Missouri Synod)
Our Savior Lutheran Church...703-892-4846
Nazarene
Arlington First Church of the Nazarene...703-525-2516

Non-Denominational
New Life Christian Church - McLean Campus...571-294-8306
Celebration Center for Spiritual Living...703-560-2030
Metaphysical
Arlington Metaphysical Chapel...703-276-8738
Presbyterian
Arlington Presbyterian Church...703-920-5660
Church of the Covenant...703-524-4115
Clarendon Presbyterian Church...703-527-9513
Little Falls Presbyterian Church...703-538-5230
Trinity Presbyterian Church...703-536-5600
Westminster Presbyterian...703-549-4766
Presbyterian Church in America
Christ Church of Arlington...703-527-0420
Synagogues - Conservative
Congregation Etz Hayim...703-979-4466
Synagogues - Orthodox
Fort Myer Minyan...703-863-4520
Chabad Lubavitch of Alexandria-Arlington...703-370-2774
Synagogues - Reconstructionist
Kol Ami, the Northern Virginia Reconstructionist Community ... 571-271-8387
Unitarian Universalist
Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington...703-892-2565
United Methodist
Arlington United Methodist Church...703-979-7527
Trinity United Methodist Church of McLean...703-356-3312
Charles Wesley United Methodist...703-356-6336
Calvary United Methodist...703-892-5185
Cherrydale United Methodist...703-527-2621
Chesterbrook United Methodist...703-356-7100
Clarendon United Methodist...703-527-8574
Community United Methodist...703-527-1085
Mt. Olivet United Methodist...703-527-3934
Walker Chapel United Methodist...703-538-5200
United Church of Christ
Bethel United Church of Christ...703-528-0937
Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ...703-538-4886

Saint Ann Catholic Church

SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM
1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy
5312 North 10th Street
Arlington Virginia 22205
Parish Office: (703) 528-6276

DAILY EUCHARIST:

Weekdays
Monday-Friday, 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM
Saturday, 8:30 AM

All Are Welcome!



PARISH WEBSITE:
www.rc.net/arlington/stann

To highlight your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-778-9422

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2141 Royal Lodge Drive
Falls Church Listed for...\$1,569,000
FABULOUS 5br/3.5 bath home on 3 levels built in 2008
 by Camberley. Huge gourmet island kitchen; spacious
 owner's suite; Haycock, Longfellow, McLean schools!

JUST LISTED in Falls Church!
WONDERFUL 1/4 ACRE LOT in great Falls Church
 location. Home currently located on the property.
Haycock, Longfellow, McLean schools!

4142 N. River Street
McLean Listed for...\$1,299,900
FANTASTIC 5br/4.5 ba home at end of cul-de-sac
 w/ Mediterranean flair boasting high ceilings and
 large spaces; stunning gourmet renovated kitchen!



FOR SALE!

McLean
\$1,175,000



FOR SALE!

McLean
\$1,350,000



FOR SALE!

McLean
\$1,499,000



FOR SALE!

McLean
\$1,299,000



FOR SALE!

McLean
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FOR SALE!

Falls Church
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FOR SALE!

Falls Church
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FOR SALE!

Falls Church
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FOR SALE!

Fairfax
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