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NEWS

The McLean Citizens Association hosts a meeting about the proposed Residential Studios Zoning Ordinance Amendment Wednesday, Oct. 30 at McLean High School.



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Citizens Oppose Residential Studios Proposal

Amendment would allow for low-income residential studios in many residential districts.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The McLean Citizens Association hosted a public forum to address the county's proposed Residential Studios Zoning Ordinance Amendment Wednesday, Oct. 30. The proposal would allow for a special exception on land zoned residential R-E through R-30, commercial C-1 through C-9 and industrial I-1 through I-9. The exception would allow residential studios to be built on that land if the county grants a special exception to the builder.

A residential studio has been defined by the county as a building or portion of a building of three to 75 units per lot. They are limited to rental only.

No less than 80 percent of the units are for households making no more than 60 percent of the Area Median Income (which is about \$45,000) for a one person household.

THE STUDIOS can be no more than 500 square feet per unit, and each unit must include an in-studio kitchen and bathroom. The land must have direct access to a collector street or major thoroughfare, and there must be at least one parking space per unit provided.

Additional standards include: one washer and dryer per 10 units, if one is not within each unit and a resident manager, on-site manager or Board of Supervisors-approved off-site management.

The plan must also conform to "character, building size, height, intensity, use and scale" of any other development on the site and the surrounding neighborhood.

The maximum capacity of the unit is three people, which includes up to two children.

"The amendment addresses a number of the board of supervisors' affordable housing initiatives going back a decade or more," said Donna Pesto, of the county's Department of Planning and Zoning. "It is not intended to meet all the affordable housing initiatives of the county, because they are just zero bedroom efficiency units, and all rentals, not everyone wants to live there. This is intended for a segment of the population."

According to Pesto, less than two percent of rental units in the county are efficiencies.

"We don't have entire buildings of efficiency units, we have people who are over housed, people who have to pay too much for housing in a one or two-

bedroom because that's all that has been built in Fairfax County for ages," she said. "The statistics are there, but the development community is not voluntarily building them because there's not a lot of bucks to be made, so that's the reason why we're doing this."

Almost everyone who commented at the Oct. 30 meeting said they were opposed to the proposal, with concerns ranging from decreased neighborhood safety around any such units to enforcement should too many tenants live in a unit.

"I think this is asking for problems any which way you look at it. I think you're going to see developers trying to squeeze these types of units on a lot of properties where it won't fit, and there's no restriction on what kind of zoned residential property they can go on," said Samuel Feller of McLean. "I know Ms. Pesto stressed that they must meet with the surrounding specification, but I feel like this amendment put in writing opens the way for things to slip through the cracks, and it's the neighbors that will have to deal with it."

Others felt that such residences would lower value of adjacent properties, as well as negatively affect quality of life of current residents.

"She wouldn't call them projects, but I have a feeling that's what these types of units would turn into, especially if it becomes a large building with nothing but these units," said Ester Browning of McLean. "I feel like the fact that an exception can be had on any property zoned any kind of residential completely throws away the reason we have different kinds of residential districts."

SUPERVISOR JOHN FOUST (D-Dranesville) said he doesn't think the scope of the plan is appropriate for many residential districts.

"Personally, I think this is a good product in the right zoning category, but I don't think it's the right product for low-density residential," he said. "In my opinion, most of the board members feel that way. I don't think it would pass if it came in the way it's been presented."

The Fairfax County Planning Commission has a committee that will hold four workshops where the public can comment on the plan. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, in Conference Room 106 and 107.

More information can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/rsu/rsu.htm.

SCC Takes Aim at Student Stress

Dr. Madeline Levine to speak at Alden Nov. 19.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Safe Community Coalition, an advocacy group serving the Langley and McLean High School pyramids, as well as Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, is taking on the challenge of student stress head on.

On Tuesday, Nov. 19 they will welcome Dr. Madeline Levine, author and educator, to speak about the importance of parenting and how it can lead to happier students.

"In the McLean and Langley Pyramid if you don't go to college, don't get into a 'good' college, you are seen as a let down to your school, your family and your community," said Melissa Sporn, a mental health professional and SCC board member. "As a result I am routinely seeing patients in my practice who are overstressed, overworked and overwhelmed. Many of these students deal with these pressures by self-medicating with drugs and alcohol, cutting and/or engaging in other negative behaviors."

Levine is a California-based psychologist who has written three books on child development. Her third book, "The Price of Privilege," focuses on the problems encountered by teens that come from affluent families.

The book examines the idea of students who get good grades, are involved in activities and give the appearance of thriving, but also suffer from drug and alcohol abuse, anxiety, self-harm and anorexia, among other ailments.

Her latest book, "Teach Your Children Well," discusses the importance of good parenting step by step, from defining core values to developing purpose, well-being and meaning in children's lives.

"We've asked her to focus her presentation on our community and how to develop solutions to allow our kids to thrive and



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Safe Community Coalition will host Dr. Madeline Levine, a best-selling author and psychologist who will speak on successful parenting techniques Tuesday, Nov. 19 at the Alden Theatre.

reach their potential without stressing them out...our community is very committed to the issue of academic stress and the pressures on our youth," said Karen Calpin, vice president of programs for the SCC. "As a parent and as part of the Safe Community Coalition, I feel we have a responsibility to provide programs to our community that highlight some of the key issues for our kids. Academic stress has been noted in the Fairfax County Youth Survey as one of those topics."

Several local schools have hosted events in the lead up to Levine's presentation. McLean High School screened "Race to Nowhere," a documentary that features Levine and highlights students who have been pushed to the brink due to commitments to school, sports, clubs and more.

Langley High School hosted Dr. William Stixrud, a psychologist that specializes in development, Tuesday, Oct. 29. Stixrud spoke about how constant stress can inhibit the development of adolescent minds.

Levine will speak at 7 p.m. at the Alden Theater at the McLean Community Center Tuesday, Nov. 19.

Tickets for the Levine event are \$10, and can be purchased online at www.safecommunitycoalition.net until Monday, Nov. 18 at noon. They can also be purchased for \$15 at the door.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/THE CONNECTION

Terry McAuliffe delivers his victory speech Tuesday night.

Democrats Score Narrow Victory

Division in Republican Party cited in loss.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

When Jim Dillard first ran to represent Fairfax County in the House of Delegates in 1965, the Republican Party of Virginia was a different animal. Recalling that race on Election Night 2013, Dillard said that was a time when the party welcomed diversity between moderates and conservatives. He lost that first race, but went on to serve in the House of Delegates for more than 30 years. This year, though, he worked for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe in a fierce race for governor against Republican Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli.

"The party has gone so far to the right, and they are trying to shove all these social issues down everybody's throat," said Dillard, who represented House District 41. "That's turned off an awful lot of Republicans who used to vote for me."

Although polls leading up to Election Day showed McAuliffe with an average lead of six percentage points, the actual vote was much closer. McAuliffe narrowly edged out Cuccinelli 48 percent to 45 percent. State Sen. Ralph Northam (D-6) enjoyed a more comfortable lead against Republican E.W. Jackson, 55 percent to 45 percent. That means Northam will resign his state Senate seat, upsetting the balance between 20 Republicans and 20 Democrats. The special election for Northam's seat is expected to become a hotly contested race because the stakes of the outcome could determine which party controls the state Senate.

"That's a seat that has a split between Norfolk and the Eastern Shore," said Clark Mercer, political director of the Democratic Party of Virginia. "So the key to winning that election will be having a candidate that can draw votes from both of those regions."

IN MANY WAYS, the results of the election have yet to play out. Aside from the special election for Northam's seat, the race for attorney general appears to be headed to a recount. Late Tuesday night, state Sen. Mark Obenshain (R-26) had a very narrow lead and Republican Party Chairman Pat Mullins issued a statement congratulating him on winning the election. State Sen. Mark Herring (D-33) appeared before reporters to say he was not conceding the race.

"Right now, it's basically 50-50 and the numbers have been moving in our direction all night," said Herring. "The race is far from over."

The numbers were, in fact, moving in Herring's direction as votes continued to be tallied. By Wednesday morning, Herring had a very narrow lead over Obenshain. Because the margin of victory is likely to be less than 1 percent, a recount in that race seems likely. For many Democrats who gathered at the Sheraton Premiere in Tysons Corner, it was yet another indication that election 2013 turned out to be much closer than many people had anticipated.

"It turned out to be a race that was so close that in the annals of Virginia history it's going to go down as one of the closest races of all time," said Pat McCune of Centerville, saying the race was closer than expected.

ELECTION 2013 was a long and bitter slog for candidates, who spent much of the campaign hurling accusations and counter-accusations. Cuccinelli was dogged by his association with a wealthy businessman who made lavish gifts to the governor and attorney general that went unreported on disclosure forms. McAuliffe was haunted by accusations about his relationship to a troubled green-car company. As the race unfolded, it became increasingly negative — especially in television ads that dominated screens across Northern Virginia.

"Election nights are emotional times," said Gov. Bob McDonnell in a written statement. "For the winner there is the thrill of victory, combined with the recognition that the hard work preceding this moment is but a prelude to the tremendous effort yet to come."

Comstock, Rust In Tight Races

Competitive state races gave voters more choices, but they stick with incumbents.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Every two years, Virginia holds all of its statewide elections. When it's time to elect a new Governor, every member of the Virginia House of Delegates, a 100-seat body currently held by a GOP majority (67 Republicans – 32 Democrats and 1 Independent), is also up for re-election.

While downballot races got the spotlight, Northern Virginia actually saw the most competitive two-party races this year, with 57 contested House seats. This marks only the second time in the last decade where at least half of the 100 House seats had more than one name on the ballot.

"So what?" voters seemed to declare when casting their ballots.

Despite more choices, voters stuck with the politician they knew, giving incumbents in nearly every Fairfax County district a decisive victory.



Comstock



Rust

the vote (14,591 votes) over GOP challenger Leiann Luse with 34 percent of the vote (7,513 votes).

District link on VPAP at www.vpap.org/elections/district/

Locality: Fairfax County
2012 elections: Obama 59 percent/Romney 39 percent, Kaine 61 percent/Allen 39 percent

This district remains deep blue.

District 36

Incumbent: Kenneth Plum (D)
District Link on VPAP at www.vpap.org/elections/district/
Locality: Fairfax County; 2012 elections: Obama 63 percent/Romney 35 percent, Kaine 65 percent/Allen 34 percent

Plum is one of two Democrats in a deep blue district that doesn't have an opponent.

District 34

Incumbent: Barbara Comstock (R) narrowly wins over Democratic challenger Kathleen Murphy with 50.66 percent of the vote (14,935 votes) over Murphy's 49.20 percent (14,504 votes).

District link on VPAP at www.vpap.org/elections/district/
Localities: Fairfax County (69 percent), Loudoun County (31 percent); 2012 elections: Obama 49 percent/Romney 49 percent, Kaine 52 percent/Allen 47 percent

This district tilts Republican.

District 35

Incumbent: Mark Keam (D) won overwhelmingly with 66 percent of

District 86

Incumbent: Tom Rust (R) edged out Democratic challenger Jennifer Boysko by just 56 votes. The final unofficial SBE results, with all precincts reporting, had Rust with 50.02 percent of the vote (10,383 votes) over Boysko's 49.75 percent of the vote (10,327).

District link on VPAP at www.vpap.org/elections/district/
Localities: Fairfax County (87 percent), Loudoun County (13 percent). 2012 elections: Obama 60 percent/Romney 39 percent, Kaine 61 percent/Allen 39 percent.

This race is still undecided: Del. Tom Rust (R-86) leads Jennifer Boysko by 57 votes, provisional ballots and recount are likely to come.

Voters Pass \$250 Million School Bond

Fairfax County voters overwhelmingly supported a \$250 million school bond. With 239 (100 percent) precincts reporting, the bonds passed with 214,171 yes votes (73.89 percent) over 75,677 no votes (26.11 percent). In a news release, Fairfax County Public School officials said the money will be used to:

- ❖ Build two new elementary schools
- ❖ Help renovate 22 schools
- ❖ 17 elementary schools
- ❖ 2 middle schools
- ❖ 3 high schools

- ❖ Buy land for the South West County High School
- ❖ Enhance the capacity of one elementary school and one high school
- ❖ Replace or improve infrastructure, such as roofs, major mechanical systems, and parking lots.

For more information, visit the Fairfax County Public Schools 2013 bond referendum web page at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/>

The site includes bond referendum fact booklet, maps and project details, as well as materials printed in Spanish and Korean.

News

Jim Dolph of JSD Antiques of New Hampshire.

PHOTOS BY
STEVE HIBBARD/
THE CONNECTION



Sam A. Roberts, director of Special Events with Arthur Farbenbloom, show manager.



Gail Crockett of Aunt Tink of Reston.

McLean Antiques Show a Success

1,200 visitors attend 37th annual show at Alden Theater in McLean.

About 1,200 visitors attended the 37th McLean Antiques Show where 50 dealers from up and down the East coast sold their wares at the Alden Theater in McLean on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 9-10. The middle-range antiques show where Ethel Kennedy once shopped offered American, English and Euro-

pean antiques — everything from Oriental rugs to crystal to jewelry for \$25 to \$10,000.

"If the dealers continue to come back, then we know it's a success," said Sam A. Roberts, director of special events. And some of those dealers have been coming back for 30 years, he added. "If dealers want to come and sell, then there's a customer base here."

This is the last show organized by show manager Arthur Farbenbloom, 76, whose Pappabello Shows Inc. and family members have been planning shows since the 1980s. The proceeds go to the James C. Macdonald Arts Scholarship Fund for high school seniors in the McLean tax district.

— STEVE HIBBARD



Don Ourecky of Mahjongg Antiques of Springfield.

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PHOTOS BY KAREN PERRY

Nancy Pruett as Annie with orphan friends Nora Logsdon, Michelle Lee, Emma Gold, Tori Garcia and Helena Doms in MTC's upcoming production of Annie.

McLean High Theatre to Present 'Annie'

Show starts
Thanksgiving Friday.

The McLean High School Theatre Company (MTC) kicks off the holiday season with "Annie," opening the Friday after Thanksgiving. Artistic Director Amy Poe leads this award-winning company in bringing this family-friendly favorite to McLean and the greater DC community.

Senior Nancy Pruett leads the cast as Annie. Junior Rachel Lawhead and Jack Posey appear as Miss Hannigan and Oliver Warbucks respectively. Thomas Kelty and Nicole Sheehan, both sophomores, play Franklin Roosevelt and Grace Farrell in turn.

Director Amy Poe says, "We base the show's feel and design on the 1920s Orphan Annie comic strip. Through the prominent use of newspaper fonts, pop art, and cartoon-types of drawings in the set, lighting and costume design, we hope the audience will have a palpable sense of being in the timeless cartoon strip itself."

It has become a bit of a tradition for MTC productions to take a different take on whatever show is put up. So while audiences will certainly hear those great tunes including "Tomorrow," "It's a Hard Knock Life," and "Easy Street," they will also see a take on Annie that will be new to them and one which will be especially engaging.

Annie runs Nov. 29—Dec. 7, at the Burks Auditorium, with performances Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. with one Thursday performance, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$10-15.



The sinister siblings Miss. Hannigan (Rachel Lawhead) and Rooster (Will Stockton) in MTC's upcoming production of Annie.

Annie understudy performances are scheduled for the Nov. 30 and Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. as well as the Dec. 5 shows. For more information and tickets, visit www.mcleandrama.com.

McLean Theatre Company comprises students, parents and teachers at McLean High School working together to produce challenging and award winning theatrical productions. The home of McLean Theatre Company is the 700 seat Burks Auditorium and the more intimate 75 seat Black Box Theater at 1633 Davidson Road, McLean.

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BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication.

THURSDAY/NOV. 14

Legal Tools for Caregivers. 7-8:30 p.m., at Dolly Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. For work, fun and travel. The introductory course runs for six weeks, and will meet once a week for 75 minutes. Neda Cigar, the instructor will provide the textbooks.

The Social, Religious and Artistic Role of Color. 7-8 p.m., at Great Falls Library Conference Room, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16

Future Quest. 8 a.m.-2:40 p.m., at GMU Johnson Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A college and career forum for students with disabilities, their families and educators. Participants can learn about educational and career opportunities for life after high school. Speakers, workshops, and displays will cover all aspects of transition from school to the real world including college application process, financial aid, strategies for college success, career planning, and career opportunities. <http://futurequest.gmu.edu/>.

CASA Volunteering. 11 a.m.-noon at

the Thomas Jefferson Library, 7415 Arlington Boulevard Falls Church. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is hosting an information session about advocating for abused or neglected children. 703-273-3526, x22 or ekosarin@casafairfax.org.

TUESDAY/NOV. 19

"Race to Somewhere: Practical Advice for Authentic Success," 7 p.m. The Safe Community Coalition (SCC) is bringing New York Times bestselling author Dr. Madeline Levine to the Alden Theatre for a special event to address students' self-reported high levels of stress and

anxiety documented in the Fairfax County Youth Survey. Tickets, \$10, can be purchased online at: <http://racetosomewhere.brownpapertickets.com>

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 20

Using Today's Tools to Tell Your Story. Malene Davis, President & CEO, Capital Caring, will Speak at Nonprofit Fundraising Development Speaker Series, 8:30 a.m.- 12 noon, at Booz Allen Hamilton's Newman Auditorium, 8283 Greensboro Drive, McLean. Davis will join five fellow panelists to discuss the challenges nonprofits face in reaching their target audiences on a daily basis. Cost \$25. To register go to: <https://>

www.signup4.net/public/ap.aspx?EID=NONP32E&OID=130

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

History of Air Force Fixed Wing Gunships. 7:30 p.m., at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna. Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc., hosts John Bessette, a Vietnam War Air Force veteran, for a discussion of the history of the AC-47, "Puff the Magic Dragon," gunship development to defend outlying Vietnamese villages and military posts and to support American combat ground operations. 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.

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OPINION

Proof Every Vote Matters

Elections have consequences, including very close races.

EDITORIAL

Tuesday morning, a full week after an Election Day that included races that were more suspenseful than anticipated (and also many races that were foregone conclusions), we are probably more than a month away from certifying the winner of the Virginia Attorney General race.

At press time, the State Board of Elections reported, unofficially, that Mark Herring (D) had 1,103,610 votes with 49.89 percent of the vote; Mark Obenshain (R) had 1,103,493 votes with 49.88 percent of the vote. The 5,152 write-in votes are huge in a race that at one point had Obenshain ahead by 15 votes.

The process of canvassing or verifying the

vote has been revealing, including a malfunctioning voting machine that had more than 2,000 votes uncounted in Fairfax County, a voting machine in Richmond that hadn't been counted at all and many smaller errors. Human error and computer error are to be expected.

It will make a difference which man is elected as Attorney General. The current Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli, demonstrated the influence that office can exert on many fronts, from academic freedom and scrutiny to the challenge of health care reform to implementation of environmental regulations to investigations of the household staff of the Governor's mansion.

Del. Tom Rust (R) won reelection by just 57 votes, with 50.1 percent of the vote over Jennifer Boysko with 49.74 percent. Del. Barbara Comstock (R) won reelection with 50.64 percent of the vote over Kathleen Murphy (D) who received 49.19 percent, a margin of less than 500 votes. All results are still unofficial.

Consider another close race, in November 2007: then state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) won re-election by less than one-half of a percentage point, with an edge of just 92 votes out of 37,185 ballots cast, beating Democrat Janet Oleszek. Approximately 32 percent of registered voters in the 37th District cast ballots at the polls in that election.

Retiring Del. Jim Scott was elected in 1991 with a margin of a single vote.

Just a few of many examples that prove that every vote really does matter.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Library Reorganization Deserves More Work

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN/FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS

In September, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors called for the suspension of a major reorganization proposed to our Fairfax County Public Library system. The suspension was requested in order to provide more opportunity for outreach to concerned library employees and patrons so that proposed changes could be explained, evaluated and vetted among stakeholders. The Connection Newspaper has covered this issue.

As our nation and Fairfax County have struggled with the effects of the Great Recession and its lengthy aftermath, we have needed to make reductions to the many services and programs the county provides. Throughout this time, our Board has sought to maintain taxes at a level that is affordable for our community. I applaud our County staff for proposing efficiencies and reorganizations during this time that have helped us maintain high quality ser-



vices that also save taxpayers money. Over the past few months, I have received a number of letters, emails and phone calls regarding the proposed library reorganization as well as the "floating collection" and issues around the discarding of books. I believe, based on the feedback I have received, that the reorganization as proposed was too much for the organization to absorb. Many of the ideas contained within the plan, however, have value and should continue to be explored. Our shared goal is to make sure our libraries continue to be the vital and vibrant places that our community can enjoy and rely upon well into the future. The quality of our collection and the services we offer should reflect the standards Fairfax County residents expect.

I would like to thank members of the Library Board of Trustees and library staff for their efforts during the past few months as they have conducted a series of discussion forums on the proposed changes. I understand the meetings have been constructive and have included

some spirited debate. I especially want to thank Deputy County Executive Dave Molchany for his personal investment of time and energy to assist library staff with ensuring a thoughtful and insightful process. Our Board has asked for a progress report from the Library Board of Trustees to be presented at our Board meeting on Nov. 19 and I am looking forward to hearing directly from them.

During these recession years, library systems around the country have had to reduce hours, cut services or even close library branches; Fairfax County is not alone in this struggle. Libraries across the country have also been exploring innovative ways to contain costs while at the same time maintaining or even improving services to meet the needs of their residents. I am confident that Fairfax County will prove to be a leader in achieving this goal.

This issue has served to energize those in our Fairfax County community who appreciate the value our outstanding library system affords us. Thank you for rallying to support our libraries!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MPA Thanks Community

To the Editor:

On behalf of the McLean Project for the Arts (MPA), I would like to thank the McLean community for another year of enthusiastic support of MPAartfest. On Sunday, Oct. 6, McLean Central Park came alive with 49 juried artists, live musical performances, Open Studio, children's art and art education and delicious food and drink as nearly 6,000 local residents gathered to celebrate the 7th annual MPAartfest. It was a wonder-

ful day that fulfilled MPA's goal of "connecting art and community".

MPA is especially indebted to its MPAartfest Event Partners for 2013, the McLean Community Center, and the Fairfax County Park Authority, Co-Event Sponsor Capital One and Innovation Station Sponsor TTR Sotheby's International and the Office of Dranesville Supervisor John Foust. Their tremendous support and assistance was invaluable.

MPAartfest was successful thanks to our volunteers, sponsors and the many community organizations that provided funds, in-kind donations and hands-on la-

bor to make MPAartfest possible. In total, more than 200 volunteers planned and worked on MPAartfest alongside MPA's small, dedicated staff.

The McLean Community Foundation provided underwriting for the Children's ArtWalk, an exhibition of more than 150 works of art by school children from 15 McLean public and private elementary schools, and the New Dominion Women's Club organized and installed the fantastic exhibition. TTR Sotheby's International Realty sponsored and organized Innovation Station Art Tent, where hundreds flexed their

imaginations as they created their own still lives and portraits in our MPA Renaissance Atelier. The Friends of the McLean Community Center helped underwrite the MPA ArtReach Tent sponsored by Capital One, showcasing works by MPA's outreach art education program with at risk youth, senior citizens and developmentally disabled. Scott Ramminger and the Crawstickers, Ukelele Phil and the Hula Kids, The Exceptions as well as newcomers The Indigo Project, Madeleine Chalk, Alexa Noelle Topetzes and Daniel Wrigley con-

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McLean
CONNECTION

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
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Tuesday, November 19, 2013, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Cooper Middle School
977 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA 22101

Come see preliminary information about plans to utilize the northbound inside shoulder along I-495 from just south of Old Dominion Drive to the George Washington Memorial Parkway interchange. The shoulder will be lane controlled and used during the peak travel periods. The meeting will be held in an open-house format with no formal presentation given. VDOT representatives will be present to discuss the project and to answer questions.

Review project information at www.virginiadot.org, at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623) or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

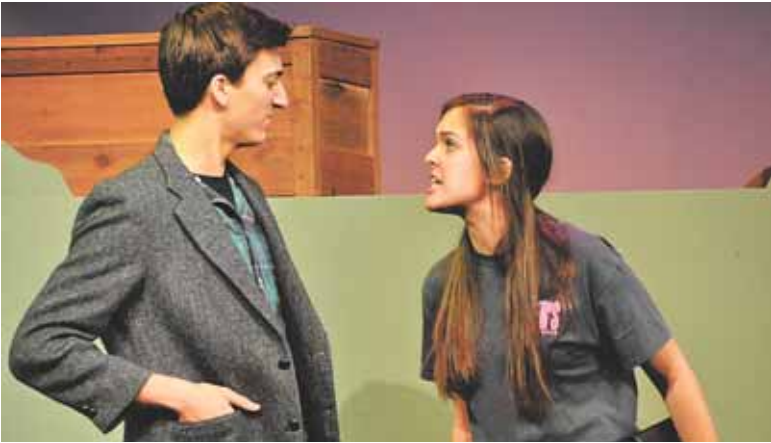
Give your written or oral comments at the meeting or submit them by **November 29, 2013**, to Mr. Paul Nishimoto, VDOT Project Manager at the VDOT District Office address above. You may also e-mail your comments to meeting_comments@vdot.virginia.gov. Please reference "I-495 Shoulder Use Project" in the subject heading.

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State Project: 0495-029-123 P101, C501
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Madeline Chalk, as Jo, tells her story to Professor Bhaer, played by Ethan Zell, during “Little Women,” Langley High School’s fall musical.



Madeline Chalk, as Jo March, argues with Professor Bhaer, played by Ethan Zell, in Langley High School’s fall musical “Little Women.”



Jo March, played by Madeline Chalk (center) tells her sisters, from left, Camila Maric, Kathryn Bailey and Jamie Goodson about her latest story idea in “Little Women,” Langley High School’s fall musical.

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Langley Presents ‘Little Women’

Students put on musical version of Louisa May Alcott novel.

By ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

When it came to playing sisters, Langley High School students Madeleine Chalk, Jamie Goodson, Kathryn Bailey and Camila Maric were more than up to the task. The four play the March sisters in Langley’s upcoming production of “Little Women.”

“We got together a lot, we did sleepovers and hung out, and I think the more we all got to know each other, the more believable it became,” said Goodson, a freshman, who plays Amy, the youngest sister. “It led to us being able to have a lot of fun with each other onstage, which makes us more believable as sisters.”

The musical is based on the 1868 Louisa May Alcott novel, which tells the story of Jo March and her three sisters, and their transition from childhood to adulthood.

“A lot of people know the story, but the musical is a different interpretation,” said Bailey, who plays Meg, the oldest sister. “It’s amazing to see how beautiful a book can be translated into a stage musical, and it’s a twist on the story a lot of people probably don’t know.”

Junior Shomin Mather, who plays the part of Laurie, a suitor for the Marches, said he thinks the musical highlights things that might not come across in the text.

“I don’t think a lot of people grasp the moral of the

story, which is to always follow your dreams,” he said. “Through the play, it becomes clear that the ones who follow their dreams overall the obstacles in front of them, are the ones that are successful.”

As a tomboyish character hardly concerned with the typical 19th century role for women, Chalk said she loved the part of Jo.

“I love the way she acts, full of energy, and she does things like jump on tables and cuts her hair, and I think her interactions with each character brings out the best in her,” she said. “The sisters are all so different, and the play does a great job of showing that, and in the process it’s just a big, old-fashioned musical spectacle.”

Other actors said they enjoyed embracing their roles.

“I really enjoyed playing Beth because she isn’t easy to play, she’s very restrained and doesn’t often show what she’s feeling,” Maric said. “It’s tricky to get that across onstage.”

Junior Vivian Vaeth plays Marmee March, the mother of the four girls, a part which she said fit her nicely.

“I see a lot of myself in the part, I’m not the oldest, but I definitely feel I can be very sensible,” she said. “Scolding my ‘daughters’ was hard to get used to, but I really love the matronly, bossy ways I had to learn, to go from being 16 to a believable mother of four daughters.”

While the women in the play further a lot of the action, several of the men have their parts to play as well.

“I liked my character, Professor Bhaer, because in the beginning he’s so rigid, and the script has these great lines that slowly start showing that there’s more to him,” said junior Ethan Zell. “By the time he starts noticing Jo, he starts living more and more off his



From right, Vivian Vaeth as Marmee lectures Jamie Goodson as Amy, during Langley High School’s production of “Little Women,” which starts Nov. 14.

emotions, then he has trouble hiding them.”

Sophomore John Bucy said he also enjoyed the change that his character, Mr. Laurence, undergoes over the course of the play.

“In the beginning he’s such a grumpy old man, and then he slowly begins to care about the Marches, especially Beth, who remind him of his deceased daughter,



Jo March, played by Madeline Chalk, imagines the protagonist of her story Rodrigo, played by Kanishk Singh, in Langley High School’s production of “Little Women,” which begins Thursday, Nov. 14.

and of better times,” he said. “It’s more fun to play a grumpy guy, to yell and shout, that’s for sure.”

Langley will present “Little Women” from Thursday, Nov. 14, Friday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. each night at the Langley High School auditorium.

The Langley School Presents ‘James and the Giant Peach’

Middle School students at The Langley School will present Roald Dahl’s fantasy adventure, “James and the Giant Peach,” in three performances Nov. 21-23 at 7:30 p.m., in the school’s Sherman Arts Center.

Published in 1961 as one of Roald Dahl’s earliest children’s books, “James and the Giant Peach” chronicles the adventures of 9-year-old orphan James Henry Trotter who lives an unhappy life with his two greedy aunts in England. When a once barren peach tree in his

yard magically produces a humongous peach, James discovers a group of friendly insects living inside. Using the peach as their mode of transportation, he and his new friends experience amazing adventures which lead them to a new life in America.

The show includes 50 participants in grades 6-8, including cast and crew, student leaders, and pit orchestra members. This is a student-run production, so students are involved in all aspects of the play, serving as actors on stage, assisting with sound and lighting,

overseeing the action as student directors, working on props, makeup, or hair, and assisting with scene changes and backstage operations.

In addition to including some unique special effects, the performance uses a “thrust” stage which provides an acting space in front of the stage on the floor. This setup not only allows for a more creative seating arrangement with seats on three sides of the stage, but also helps Langley’s student actors learn more creative ways of positioning themselves on stage. Also new this

year, each student will be involved in constructing his or her own costume, with several rehearsals devoted to costume creation.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.langleyschool.org for \$8 each.

Founded in 1942, The Langley School is an independent coed day school for students in preschool through eighth grade. Located on a 9.2-acre campus in McLean, the school reaches across multiple disciplines to discover, amplify, and embrace the talents of every child, every day.



The Langley School students in rehearsal for ‘James and the Giant Peach’ show.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

McLean’s WinterFest 2013 Scheduled for Dec. 1

WinterFest 2013 - McLean’s holiday parade – will be held on Sunday, Dec. 1. To register online to be an entry in the parade, go to the WinterFest website at www.mcleanwinterfest.org.

WinterFest again this year will present a check to Share of McLean, the local organization that helps families in need. “We’re asking residents to share their good fortune with those who have fallen on hard times by bringing grocery, pharmacy or clothing store gift cards to the parade that Share volunteers will collect,” Trish Butler, chair of the parade steering committee said.

The parade route will be the same as last year’s: Old Chain Bridge Road from Fleetwood Road to Elm Street. The parade will start at 3:30; pre-parade entertainment at 2:45 p.m. The parade route will be closed from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 1. Parking at Langley Shopping Center on parade day will be limited because of the parade vehicles and will be closed to traffic from 2:30 to 5:30 on parade day. There will be no street

parking on Beverly and part of Fleetwood Road on Sunday to accommodate the parade lineup.

❖ There is no fee to be an entry in the parade, but you must register by Nov. 20. Go to www.mcleanwinterfest.org to register as an entry or to get more information about the parade.

❖ Entries in the parade need to check in at Elm and Beverly Streets at 2:30 p.m. to sign the insurance waiver and receive your place in the lineup.

❖ WinterFest 2013 will have food trucks in Langley Shopping Center: Doug the Food Dude, Mama’s Doughnut Bites, Sweet Bites Desserts, and French fries from Bistro Vivant. Naked Pizza will be across the street in their parking lot offering pizza by the slice.

❖ Handicapped parking will be available and other parking options are posted on the WinterFest web site.

❖ For more information on WinterFest, go to the website at www.mcleanwinterfest.org or contact the parade committee at 703-917-9336.

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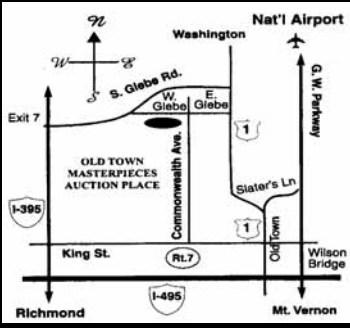
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It Wasn't Fun While It Lasted

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



But it was only a week, and I was able to leave under my own power, assisted by a wheelchair, which is of course standard procedure when leaving a hospital after an admission, so it wasn't a total loss. It was three months ago today, Friday, August 2nd that I was "ambulanced" to Holy Cross Hospital where I spent the beginning of my seven, first-ever nights in a hospital; pretty fortunate track record for someone my age. Now, however, with a terminal cancer diagnosis, the tables may have slightly turned (you think?) and hospital admissions may not be so few and far between. Hopefully not, but appointments with oncologists in chemotherapy infusion centers while being I.V.-injected with cancer-fighting drugs have a way of cutting all other extraneous interruptions to the quick. When that needle goes in, the light definitely goes on: pay attention, your life is officially at stake.

Oddly though, this three-month anniversary seemed to grab my attention/focus more than my usual 27th-of-the-month anniversary – of my original diagnosis, always does. The 27th is the anniversary (some anniversary) of when I first met my oncologist and received confirmation that I had a malignant growth in my lungs that had metastasized and when I was given my 13-month to two-year prognosis. That was four years and eight months ago, I'm proud to say. And as such, I note it every month. Not exactly another "notch on my lipstick case" but an acknowledgment nonetheless of how well I've done and how lucky I am. With the help of friends, family and health care professionals, I have survived, mostly even thrived, under these most unfortunate of circumstances. But I digress.

The point of this column was/is that this most recent hospital anniversary completely overshadowed/took mental precedence over my still-being-alive-nearly-five-years-later anniversary on the 27th, which rarely happens. In fact, I completely forgot about it; didn't even note it on the calendar or mention it to my wife, Dina or my brother, Richard – which I always do. It wasn't until a few days later that I realized I had not made my usual reinforcing mention of my status still being quo. Unusual, in that a terminal diagnosis tends to stick with you and occupy lots of mental space, so forgetting about the circumstances that are likely shortening your presumptive, normal life expectancy is perplexing. These circumstances would seem to be a front and center, dominant part of your day that you NEVER forget.

But I did. And I don't know if that's healthy, a sense of accomplishment, a sense of enlightenment, naiveté, delusions of a grander future, mental gymnastics, compartmentalization at work or just plain forgetfulness; as in, even for a cancer patients: life can still be normal. Or maybe, after four and a half years, this whole cancer thing has become sort of ho-hum. Not exactly passé, but certainly familiar and part of my daily routine. But a hospital stay, that was different, that was traumatic, that was scary. The cancer used to be scary. But I've been there and have done that for a while now. I had not been previously hospitalized, however. That may have been when my circumstances again reared their ugly, realistic head. Just another reminder that I didn't really need.

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

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21 Announcements

Kay W. Duda, 73 of Ocean passed away Thursday November 7 at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Neptune with her family by her side. She was born in Washington D.C. and raised in Arlington, VA. Kay and her husband of 52 years, Peter "Eddie" raised a beautiful family in Virginia before moving to New Jersey in 2005 to be near their daughters. Kay was very active in the school system, her church and community. She worked for American Home Funding, Annandale, VA and then for Alliance Business Center in Washington, D.C. Kay was a vibrant and caring person. She would visit and care for the sick in her community and worked at the food bank. In keeping with Kay's caring spirit it was her decision to donate her eyes to the Sharing Network so others may have a better quality of life. Kay thoroughly enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She was a wonderful woman who will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Kay is survived by her husband Peter "Eddie" Duda of Ocean; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Aleece and Ernie Marino of Wall, Melanie Jablonski of Wall and Nicol and John Sheehan of Brick; six grandchildren, Andrew and Katie Jo Marino, Gavin and Jillian Jablonski and Declan and Vivian Sheehan. She is also survived by her sister and brother-in-law Patsy and Paul Fair of Eatontown; many nieces and nephews in New Jersey. Kay was predeceased by her parents Mary and Don Womack.

Arrangements were entrusted to Orender Family Home for Funerals, Manasquan. Services were private. Memorial donations may be made to the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean 3300 State Hwy 66 Neptune, NJ 07753. To send condolences to the family please visit www.orenderfamilyhome.com

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Fairfax Water

NOTICE OF WATER RATE PUBLIC HEARING

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2014, include the following:

1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$3,850 to \$3,950†.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$9,500 to \$9,750.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,050 to \$1,090†.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$35 to \$36.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$9.20 to \$9.80†.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.29 to \$2.42 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$3.45 to \$3.55 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
9. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$44 to \$45.
10. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from \$17 to \$20.

A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates/index.htm>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

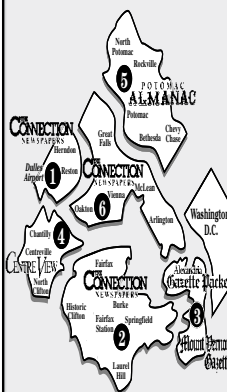
All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

†Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

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SCHOOLS

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

Matthew Kramer of McLean, a sophomore at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, participated in the weeklong Virginia Space Coast Scholars Summer Academy program at the NASA Wallops Flight Facility on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

Joshua D. Higbee of McLean received the National Merit Brigham Young University Scholarship. The McLean High School graduate plans to study economics.

Nicholas M. Kemp of McLean received the National Merit Northwestern University Scholarship. The George C. Marshall High School graduate plans to study music.

McLean students **Lance L. Hungar**, homeschooled, **John T. Baird**, **Anna C. Cox**, **Jason S. Cui**, **Benjamin G. Espey**, **Jessica M. Ji**, **Olivia C. Lynch**, **Harrison J. Nam**, **Rebecca Oh**, **Nathaniel A. Speiser**, **Catherine G. Sununu**, **Leah S. Surratt**, **Katherine T. Tan** and **Stephen Tung** of Langley High School, **Adam R. Barth**, **Samuel Clayton** and **Elena R. Kagan** of McLean High School, **Lauren M. Abraham**, **Sarah N. Chiang**, **Grant Hoechst**, **Susan Sidamon-Eristof** and **Eleanor G. Tolf** of the Potomac School, and **Kyle Alexander**, **Nadege Aoki**, **Eric Bo**, **William Bradbury**, **Arno Chang**, **Cameron Ewell**, **Emma Gee**, **Jordan Goodaon**, **Owen Gray**, **Caitlin Kim**, **Julie Kim**, **Veronica Lee**, **Sayed Malawi**, **Caroline Murton**, **Christine Nguyen**, **Somya Shankar**, **James Sullivan**, **Nisha Swarup**, **Alexander Wood-Thomas** and **Jennifer Yin** are National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

tributed outstanding musical performances from the Gazebo Stage throughout the day, while the Woman's Club of McLean and the Rotary Club of McLean provided volunteers and the Montessori School of McLean provided shuttle bus transportation. Once again, the Boy Scouts camped overnight to protect the park, and many local teens pitched in to help, fulfilling their community service requirements.

We thank the local press and the McLean Auxiliary Police Department.

We offer special thanks to MPAartfest Honorary Chair Rip Sullivan, Dranesville's new representative on the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, for his leadership, vision and commitment to build awareness of MPAartfest in the community. We are grateful to Harth, J. Gilbert's, Seasons 52 and Windows Catering Company for their support of the MPAartfest Soiree fundraiser and Ann and Jeff Goettman who so generously hosted the event in their beautiful McLean home to benefit MPA programs and exhibitions.

Many thanks go to our sponsors, listed on www.mpaart.org. Without their help MPA could not provide this free event to the community, nor allow the artists to keep 100 percent of their sales. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, MPA must look to private sources to raise the majority of the funds needed for its operations, programs, exhibitions, and of course, to bring MPAartfest to McLean.

Thank you McLean! Please visit us at the MPA galleries located at the top of the McLean Community Center. We don't want to wait until MPAartfest 2014 to see you again!

Bill DuBose, Chair
MPA Board of Directors

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SPORTS

A Breakout Year for Great Falls Rugby

For 2014 season, Eagles look for more new players and coaches.

BY THERESA COETZEE

This past summer, there was a new group marching in the Fourth of July parade – 40 or so kids and parents affiliated with Great Falls Rugby. The Eagles even brought along a candy-tossing mascot. Reaction to the new organization varied. “I didn’t know Great Falls had a rugby club;” “I want to sponsor you next year;” and “Do those little kids tackle?” were all overheard. The answer to the later question is, “not the little ones.”

The club’s first appearance in the community’s annual patriotic event was (in a way) symbolic of a breakthrough year. Under the leadership of head coach, Gary Coetzee, and with the financial and laborious support of numerous parents, coaches, and community businesses Great Falls Rugby has begun to make its presence known to Rugby Virginia. Every age group from U7 to U19 placed either 3rd or 4th in Rugby Virginia’s annual summer tournament. This was quite an achievement for a three years young club competing in a Commonwealth-wide, USA Rugby sponsored organization.

Founded in 2011, the club’s first year was marked by a grassroots spirit among a mere 22 players. This year Great Falls Rugby has 92 registered members ranging from age 5 to 19. The club displayed their new kit this season, a major improvement on the previous seasons. Each player received a top quality sublimated practice jersey, and matching shorts, socks and a ball. In addition, the club provided match jerseys for



Great Falls Youth Rugby high school team with coach, Gary Coetzee.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Great Falls Youth Rugby U-11 team with their coach, Martin Koen, after placing third in the annual Rugby Virginia tournament.

each team at all games. No other club in the Virginia league has managed to match this. “It is important to build a sense of pride and achievement amongst the members and parents of the club,” Coach Coetzee said. “We want our kids to wear their jerseys outside of rugby and encourage their friends to join!”

Coach Coetzee would like to see registration soar past 140 in 2014. “This is an ambitious but achievable goal,” he said. “The problem is that for the younger age groups we are purely a summer sport competing with swim team and family vacations.”

The sport also competes with a perception of violence. But, those who know the game see a youth program that teaches teamwork and provides an exceptional workout. The younger age groups play “touch rugby.” In this version of the game if a player is tagged below the waist he may take two steps but then must pass the ball. Tackling starts at age 11.

According to several studies, the concussion rate in tackle rugby is, surprisingly, lower than for American football. This is due largely to the style of tackle. In fact, some football programs are now promoting and educating young players on rugby style tackle techniques in an effort to reduce injuries.

Looking toward the 2014 season, the Eagles seek opportunities to promote the club throughout the Herndon, Great Falls, Reston, McLean and Sterling areas. They are also looking for both new players and coaches.

For more information please visit www.greatfallsrugby.com. The club is also on Facebook. For information on Rugby Virginia visit <http://rugbyvirginia.com>.

AREA ROUNDUPS

Langley Football Goes to Seven in a Row With Win Over McLean

The Langley Saxons extended their win streak to seven in a row, as they ran the table after a 1-2 start to finish the regular season strong with a victory over archrival McLean, 35-12.

The Saxons built a 21-0 lead on the Highlanders before McLean could get on the scoreboard in the annual “back yard” brawl between teams with players on a first name basis. The win propels the surging Saxons to a five seed in the 16-team 6A North region playoffs on the strength of its 8-2 overall, and 6-1 conference record. Both marks the best performance in over a decade for Langley.

The Saxons used three long drives to build their early lead, going 71 yards on

nine plays, 80 yards on 13 plays, and 51 yards on 10 plays to mount a 21-0 lead with 2:31 left in the second quarter. Tyler West punched in the first two scores on runs 2 and 19 yards, while Phil Antypas caught a 6-yard pass from Nick Casso for the third score. However, after an outstanding kick return by Chris Merrill, it took the Highlanders only two plays to go 36 yards to cut the lead to 21-6 when Gabe Sutherland found pay-dirt on a 19-yard TD gallop. Sutherland had 96 yards on 16 carries for the game. The Langley defense prevented any further damage with a last-second stand as the clock ran out on the first half with the Highlanders threatening again before intermission.

McLean got the ball to start the third period, and promptly marched 75 yards on seven plays, with a 31-yard scoring strike from Danny Hecht to Manny Enriquez-Hesles cutting the Saxons lead to 21-12, but that would be as close as it would get. Hecht completed 4 of 10 passes for 61 yards and one touchdown.

Langley responded to the challenge with

two third quarter scores of their own to expand their lead to 35-12, with Erik Swayne supplying all five extra points.

The long scoring drives (14 plays, 69 yards and 7 plays, 61 yards) were typical of this year’s Langley offense. Behind the confident play of senior quarterback, Nick Casso, Langley’s potent spread/read-option attack has averaged 41 points a game. The balanced mix of run, with the junior West, who had 31 carries for 188 yards and two touchdowns, and gun of Casso, who was 7 of 14 for 76 yards and two touchdowns (Austin Denham’s 17-yard touchdown catch being the clincher), has operated all year behind the Saxons’ dominant offensive line lead by seniors Norris, Kolencik, and Molster; ably assisted by the outstanding play of junior Connor Halm, and sophomore Ben Culmer. With the Langley defense stepping up with big plays, especially senior captains Kevin Fisher (LB) and Garrett Collier (FS), with help from Michael Porter and Brain Pitts, the Saxons have proven to be unbeatable over the back end of the season.

As a five seed, Langley will host its first playoff game in decades when the visiting Battlefield Bobcats (6-4) come calling on Friday, Nov 15.

Langley Ice Hockey Opens with Win

The Langley ice hockey team opened its season with a 12-2 win over the Herndon/West Springfield squad. Langley’s captain, Drew Schneider, notched five goals, while sophomore Jason Guidi had a hat trick and freshman Faisal Alsaif contributed five points with two goals and three assists.

After making it to the state championship and losing six seniors last year, the Saxons debuted eight freshmen with expectations of continued strong play in the upcoming seasons.

The Saxons’ next opponent is Osborne Park on Friday, Nov. 15 at 6:10 p.m. Come out to Skatequest in Reston and cheer on your Langley Saxons.

ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/sep/26/fairfax-county-calendar/>.

THURSDAY/NOV. 14

Jacqueline Saunders Portrait

Demonstration. 10:30 a.m.-noon, at The Vienna Arts Society, 115 Pleasant St., N.W., Vienna. Presents award-winning watercolor artist as she captures a person on a piece of paper in a series of brief impressions. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

The Social, Religious, and Artistic Role of Color.

7-8 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. With an emphasis on the historical evolution of color in dyes and pigments from ancient times to the present day, Ms. St. Ledger-Roty will discuss what natural materials make what colors.

"Little Women." 7:30 p.m. Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Students put on musical version of Louisa May Alcott's famous novel.

FRIDAY/NOV. 15

Andrew Belle. 7:30 p.m., at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., McLean. The alternative artist plays songs from his new album, "Black Bear," which debuted at top spots on the billboard. www.jamminjava.com.

Creative Framing Featured Artist:

Shari MacFarlane. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at Creative Framing, 332 Maple Ave W, Vienna. Enjoy original works by water and mixed media artist.

"Little Women." 7:30 p.m. Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Students put on musical version of Louisa May Alcott's famous novel.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16

"Little Women." 7:30 p.m. Langley

High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Students put on musical version of Louisa May Alcott's famous novel.

Landscape Painting

Demonstration. 1-4 p.m., at Color Wheel Gallery 65, 1374 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Gallery 65 hosts Jill Basham at a landscape painting demonstration. She discusses the process of blocking and color, and her signature style of visible brushstrokes and the transference of emotion into her paintings. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP. 703-356-6345 or <http://cwgallery65.com/>.

Cabaret Dinner and Dance.

7-11 p.m., at the Colvin Run Dance Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Waltz, rumba, tango, foxtrot, cha-cha, samba and swing. "New York, New York" theme. Attire is ballroom casual. \$15 for program and snack bar; \$30 for program and dinner. 703-759-2685 or www.colvinrun.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 17

Sunday Soiree. 3-5 p.m., in the community hall at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The series of casual, afternoon dances returns for the fall session with an "autumn splendor" themed dance with music courtesy of the Wayne Tympanick Trio. Refreshments are included in the cost of admission. 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, www.waynetympanick.com or www.mcleancenter.org/special-events/upcoming.

A Young Soloists recital featuring violinist Julia Marie Angelov, 12; cellist Raymond Lin, 15; and duo pianists Emma Guo, 15, and Lyric Yu, 15, 3 p.m. at the Alden Theatre of the McLean Community Center, 1234



Jill Basham will give a painting demonstration Saturday, Nov. 16 from 1-4 p.m., at Color Wheel Gallery 65, 1374 Chain Bridge Road, McLean.

Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The free concert will include music by Beethoven, Bartok, Mozart, Scarlatti, Chopin, Liszt, Debussy, and Stravinsky. For further information call 703-620-9535.

TUESDAY/NOV. 19

The Great Falls Writer's Group.

12:45-2:15 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Writers of every level discuss and read from their own work. All are welcome.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 20

VPS Photo Competition. 7:30-9:30 p.m., at Thoreau Middle School, 2505 Cedar Lane, Vienna. Taylor is a

nature photographer who has spoken at the Smithsonian National Orchid Show, the US National Arboretum, US Botanic Garden and other mid-Atlantic garden venues. The competition is open to anyone who is a paid member of VPS on the evening of the judging. 703-758-0672 or www.vpsva.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

Christmas Craft Show.

10 a.m.-7 p.m., at Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Variety of hand-made items and craft supplies for purchase, plus a soup and sandwich lunch and bake sale. More info: www.oaktonbrethren.org or 703-281-4411.

Opening Reception of Fall Solo Exhibitions.

6-8 p.m. GreaterRestonArtsCenter, 12001 Market Street, Suite 103, Reston. 703-471-9242

"James and the Giant Peach."

7:30 p.m. The Langley School, 1411 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Chronicles the adventures of 9-year-old orphan James Henry Trotter who lives an unhappy life with his two greedy aunts in England. Tickets: \$8. www.langleyschool.org

FRIDAY, NOV. 22

Featured Artist Linda Larochelle.

10 a.m. - noon at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Linda Larochelle, a printmaker, will demonstrate forming her composition, transfer and carving of linoleum and further use of images. She will also discuss choice and use of tools and equipment. 703-790-0123.

Mozart Requiem. 8 p.m., at St. Mark

Catholic Church, 9970 Vale Road, Vienna. A performance of the Requiem

in D Minor (K. 626), in remembrance of John F. Kennedy, on the 50th anniversary of his death. Free. 703-771-8390.

Christmas Craft Show.

10 a.m.-7 p.m., at Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Variety of hand-made items and craft supplies for purchase, plus a soup and sandwich lunch and bake sale. More info: www.oaktonbrethren.org or call 703-281-4411.

Kekuhi & Kaumakawai

Kanaka'ole. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Hawaiian chanters of the 20th century, this family duo present native songs in a multigenerational performance. Tickets: \$25-\$30. Call 1.877.WOLFRAP or wolftrap.org.

"James and the Giant Peach."

7:30 p.m. The Langley School, 1411 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Chronicles the adventures of 9-year-old orphan James Henry Trotter who lives an unhappy life with his two greedy aunts in England. Tickets: \$8. www.langleyschool.org

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 22-24

Area-wide Art Exhibition. 7-9 p.m. and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sunday noon-4 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Vienna's largest exhibition of the year features hundreds of original artworks by artists from around the region, to include Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. Enjoy music and light refreshments while meeting the artists at two receptions. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

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Saint Ann Catholic Church

SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM

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Home LifeStyle

Home for the Holidays

Amateur chef Dave Mulligan gets the kitchen of his dreams...just in time for Thanksgiving.

BY JOHN BYRD

As Dave Mulligan tells it, he owes the long-coveted “blue eyes” granite countertops now in his kitchen to events that started with a leaking shower one floor above. “From a few drops a mighty torrent ensued,” Mulligan chuckles, referring to the flood of creativity that eventually transformed his entire house from top to bottom.

But to begin at the beginning...

In the early 1990s, Mulligan and wife Nancy purchased the spacious Oak Hill colonial they still occupy. The house was 2 years old and completely up-to-date in every respect. Moreover, with four bedrooms, a 500-square-foot kitchen with breakfast zone, a family room, and a 1,500-square-foot lower level, there was more than adequate space for two people.

“About my only peeve was that I *hated* the tile countertops in the kitchen,” Mulligan said. “Otherwise, I saw the interior as completely in vogue...even

Details

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors tours of recently remodeled homes as well as workshops on home remodeling topics. Headquartered in Burke, the firm recently opened a second office in McLean. Call 703-425-5588 or visit www.SunDesignInc.com.

when friends began telling me it wasn’t.”

The leak, however, was a sign that the house now needed attention — which, in turn, prompted Mulligan to call Sun Design Remodeling, the firm that had executed an award-winning whole house makeover for his brother, Bob, a few years ago.

It is at this point that Craig Durosco, Sun Design’s founder, enters the story.

“As we talked out our visions for a new master bath,” Dave Mulligan said, “I realized that Nancy and I had a lot of ideas for improving the house we’d just been putting off.”

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, Nancy Mulligan and Sun Design’s Christy Doebel took charge — completely renovating the master bathroom, then the guest bath; then adding a full bath to the lower level.

For Dave Mulligan, who is the family’s passionate cook, the makeover agenda didn’t become really personal until conversation shifted to the kitchen.

“With the holidays coming up, I suddenly saw that our kitchen was stuck in the 1980s,” Mulligan says.

SEE CHEF, PAGE 19



PHOTOS BY BRIAN BURRIS

Dave and Nancy Mulligan, who have occupied their spacious Oak Hill Colonial for more than 20 years, wanted their kitchen to better accommodate daily needs and



An Insta-Hot water tap (top) and soap dispenser (lower) are among the conveniences adjacent to a chef’s sink

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3 8304 Fox Haven Drive, McLean — \$2,700,000



10 11990 Market Street #1815, Reston — \$1,165,000



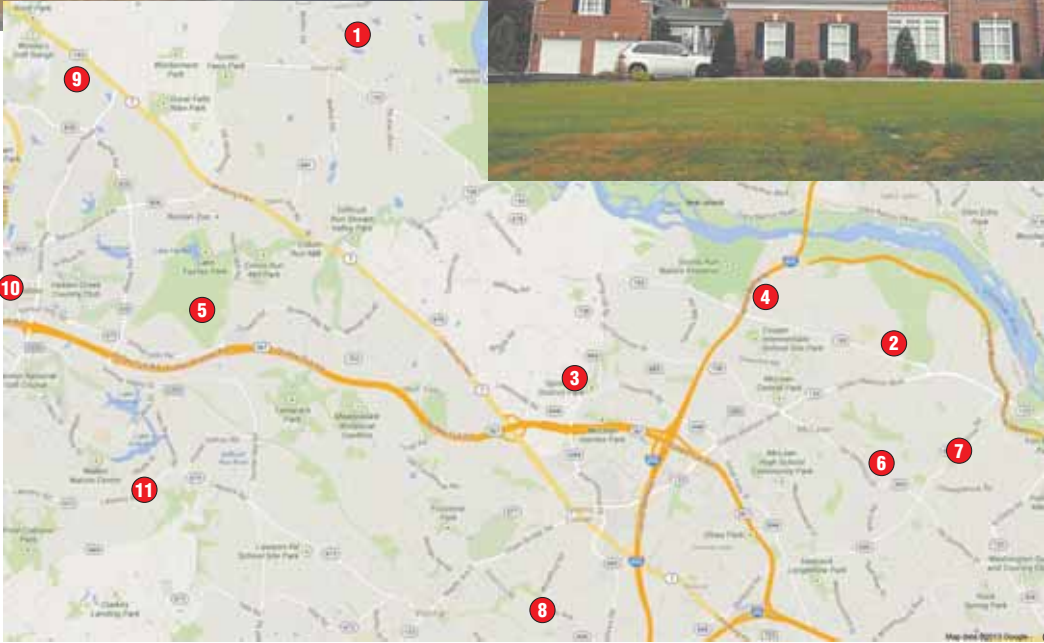
11 11111 Lawyers Road, Reston — \$1,045,000



8 8514 Electric Avenue, Vienna — \$2,700,000



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1 576 INNSBRUCK AVE	6	..	7	..	2	...	GREAT FALLS	..	\$7,400,000	Detached	5.00	22066	GUNNELLS RUN FARM	09/04/13
2 1001 DOGUE HILL LN	5	..	5	..	2	...	MC LEAN	....	\$5,570,000	....	Detached	....	0.89	.....	22101	..	LANE ON GEORGETOWN PIKE	..	09/12/13
3 8304 FOX HAVEN DR	5	..	5	..	2	...	MCLEAN	....	\$2,700,000	....	Detached	....	0.83	.....	22102	.....	FOXHALL OF MCLEAN	.....	09/05/13
4 7025 BENJAMIN ST	6	..	5	..	1	...	MCLEAN	....	\$2,325,000	....	Detached	....	0.97	.....	22101	.....	LANGLEY FOREST	.....	09/26/13
5 1631 ADMIRALS HILL CT	7	..	7	..	2	...	VIENNA	....	\$2,140,584	....	Detached	....	1.74	.....	22182	.....	BACHMAN PROPERTY	.....	09/19/13
6 1523 FOREST VILLA LN	5	..	5	..	2	...	MCLEAN	....	\$1,978,955	....	Detached	....	0.58	.....	22101	.....	FOREST VILLA	.....	09/26/13
7 1591 MADDUX LN	6	..	5	..	1	...	MCLEAN	....	\$1,900,000	....	Detached	....	0.52	.....	22101	.....	CHALICE CREST	.....	09/24/13
8 8514 ELECTRIC AVE	9	..	8	..	1	...	VIENNA	....	\$1,595,000	....	Detached	....	0.57	.....	22182	.....	ALAN CAVACAS PROPERTY	....	09/16/13
9 11602 TORI GLEN CT	7	..	6	..	1	...	HERNDON	...	\$1,365,000	....	Detached	....	0.90	.....	20170	.....	OAK CREST ESTATES	.....	09/12/13
10 11990 MARKET ST #1815	3	..	2	..	1	...	RESTON	....	\$1,165,000	....	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	.....	20190	..	MIDTOWN AT RESTON TOWN	..	09/27/13		
11 11111 LAWYERS RD	5	..	4	..	1	...	RESTON	\$1,045,000	Detached	2.09	20191	LAWYERS CREST	09/30/13

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To make en suite dining more inviting, seats at the counter are slightly lower than standard height. Mulligan calls this a great spot to sample his dishes.

PHOTO BY
BRYAN BURRIS



Amateur Chef Gets His 'Dream Kitchen'

FROM PAGE 17

"For people who like to entertain as much as we do, the old plan didn't make much sense."

Indeed, with its U-shaped counter surfaces, 30-inch cooktop range, limited storage and drab lighting, the existing kitchen was a kind of cockpit in which the cook toiled away in self-imposed isolation.

When there was a party underway, it was also up to the Mulligans to regularly convey edibles between the kitchen and the formal entertainment areas.

"I understood what an open kitchen-centric plan had to offer," Dave Mulligan said. "But it's the details that make it work."

So the question that really unleashed Dave Mulligan's involvement was: "how do you want the new kitchen to feel?"

"I pictured a gathering place," he said. "A lively hub where the entertaining occurs."

That said, new ovens and cutlery drawers were less important than welcoming ambiance and uncluttered traffic patterns.

To create continuity with the rest of the house, Durosko and team relocated an obtrusive hall closet, widening an archway so that the kitchen would be in view from the front foyer. Sightlines being critical, ceiling-flush HVAC bulkheads were re-routed to make way for tall cabinets trimmed in crown molding. Other finishwork details — cherrywood cabinet facings, stainless steel appliances, textured marble backsplashes — converge to present a warmly textured, yet visually neutral surface.

All of which inspired kitchen's *piece d' resistance*: a custom-designed coffered ceiling.

"I knew right away that this was the magic I'd been looking for," Dave Mulligan said. "I wanted the ceiling to be just as eye-catching as the walls and counters."

On the other hand, there's much to be said for the custom-designed

food preparation island and dining counter. With its 6-foot by 6-foot by 8-foot triangular surface, the configuration supports food preparation and clean-up tasks while accommodating place settings for five.

To make the island still more inviting, seats at the counter are slightly lower than standard height, a psychological invitation to join the party reinforced by the soft-leather chairs.

"You're dining in the chef's kitchen now," Dave Mulligan said. "To sample dishes, sip wine...and

enjoy."

On the more functional side of the equation, the new kitchen is also equipped with two microwave ovens, two refrigerators, a convection steam oven and a 48-inch gas range with six burners. With the addition of a walk-in pantry, storage capacity has been increased by 50 percent.

Better yet, the space makes entertaining "pure pleasure," Mulligan said. "We're hosting Thanksgiving this season for the first time in years — and it's wonderful to be so thoroughly prepared."

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