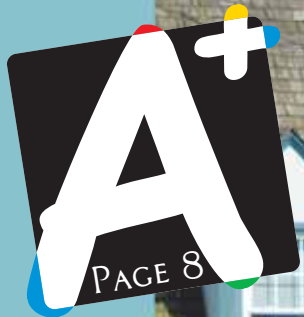


Great Falls  
CONNECTION

# Great Falls Celebrates Spring

NEWS, PAGE 10



OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12

PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN / THE CONNECTION

## Langley High Holds Case Day

NEWS, PAGE 3

## 'Deer Management' Options Explored

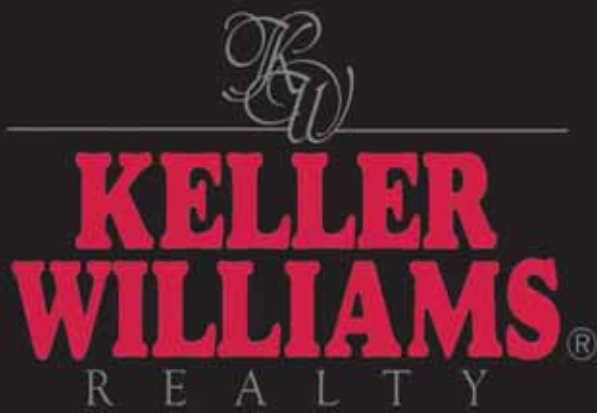
NEWS, PAGE 3

Parents cheer on their kids as they claim eggs at the Great Falls Village Green. The egg hunt is a major attraction of the Great Falls Spring Festival hosted by both the Great Falls Optimist Club and Adeler Jewelers.

APRIL 16-22, 2014

ONLINE AT [WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)





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PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

Langley High School had its 22nd annual Case Day April 8.

## Langley High Holds Case Day

### Students hold mock trial for Riley vs. California.

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

A mock debate over cell phone privacy and the law drew hundreds of students, parents and even some very distinguished guests to Langley High School's library last week.

Langley High's 22nd annual Case Day explored Riley vs. California on April 8, a case on the Supreme Court's current docket that allowed students to debate whether a cell phone - which holds a wealth of personal information - can be searched without a warrant.

Seniors Anna Cox and Grace Sununu served as the case petitioners. Seniors Ben Parker and William Miner played the respondents.

"In the same way an empty house has the same amount of protection as a full house, an empty cell phone has the same amount of protection as a full cell phone," Cox explained to a panel of mock justices played by students, local law experts and former U.S. Supreme Court Clerk William K. Suter.

"This event allows the student body to delve into a controversial national issue and tackle analysis and argument on a professional level, and provides the unique opportunity to work alongside and hear from such professionals," according to the event pamphlet.

However, the event affected the students more personally than the statement says. Most students that age have only had cell phones for a few years, if they have one at all.

**PETITIONER COX** explained that even a diary that was seized from someone arrested could not have as much information as a cell phone, which often serves

as a handheld computer for many people. In addition to the amount of data that can be stored, the phone can also receive real-time texts and emails that could be incriminating to the person who was arrested.

"Justice" Caroline E. Costle, who founded law practice Greensberg Costle, worried the person - who might be a lawyer - might receive a confidential text from a client or information about them having an affair. This information might not be relevant to the arrest, but is an invasion of their privacy, she said.

Miner, representing California, said the process of getting a warrant can be unpredictable and important information could be deleted if not searched right away. In addition, the physical proximity of the phone to the person would be an important factor to whether it would be searched.

During his response to the oral argument, Suter said Case Day is an event that should take place in every high school in the country.

"I think Case Day is the finest educational program of its kind," he said.

He answered questions about his appointment as a Supreme Court Clerk and his service as a general in the Army. Suter also told the students that they should attend law school if they don't know what they want to do as an occupation yet.

"The number of people applying for law school has been decreasing over the last few years," he said. "Saying there are too many lawyers is like saying there are too many smart people."

#### STUDENTS SAT ATTENTIVELY

through his responses about the case and his work and laughed when he said he went to basic training with Elvis Presley.

"He was very entertaining and had very funny stories about how the Supreme Court works behind the scenes," said senior Rachel Mayman. "He was inspiring to all our students interested in politics and business, preaching about working hard and seizing opportunities."



Senior Anna Cox defends her case for cell phone privacy.



PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

From left, deer management experts Kristen Sinclair, Kevin Rose and Jerry Peters.

## 'Deer Management' Options Explored

### The deer population has boomed, experts tell Great Falls Citizens Association Town Hall meeting.

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

Hundreds of deer are eating tree limbs in the national parks and decorative hastas in gardens, and short of introducing wolves to the area, residents want to get rid of them.

Great Falls Citizens Association had three local deer management experts discuss what the residents' options were April 8 at a town hall meeting at The Grange.

All three said there is no way of knowing how many deer are in the area. However, because there is no natural predator, the deer population has boomed.

"We hear a lot that we have destroyed the deer's natural habitat," said Kevin Rose, State Department of Game & Inland Fisheries certified wildlife biologist. "Actually, we created a better deer habitat by building suburbia."

He said deer like areas that are on the edge of the forest, which is why they are found in Great Falls.

"We know about 1,500 deer are killed through hunting every year, on average," said Kristen Sinclair, Fairfax County Park Authority.

She said another 1,000 deer are killed in vehicle accidents. However, these accidents can be dangerous for the driver as well.

**THE LAST LOCAL FATAL COLLISION** was October 1997 in McLean. The accident led the Fairfax County to adopt a deer management plan that is currently managed by the Fairfax



State Department of Game and Inland Fisheries wildlife biologist Kevin Rose discusses homeowners' best options to manage deer population.

County Police Department.

The parks, Sinclair said, use managed hunting, sharp-shooting and archery to thin the deer population. Each of the methods is highly regulated and a lot of the venison is donated to Hunters for the Hungry. Non-lethal methods, such as sterilization, are currently being tested in the county, but are not allowed outside the test site.

Rose said homeowners can take the matter into their own hands by regularly using natural repellants on plants, such as eggs, raw garlic and pepper. However, if the deer is hungry enough, they will still eat the plant. Also, the repellants need to be reapplied every time it rains.

"You have to do it before they learn that this is where they're eating the buffet," he said.

He said guard dogs are also a very effective method of getting rid of deer. However, the best method - he said - is to hunt the

SEE EXPERTS, PAGE 4





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## WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

### Holocaust Survivor to Speak at Great Falls Library

Holocaust survivor Henry Greenbaum will talk about his experience as a Polish Jew who was liberated from Auschwitz concentration camp and eventually made his way to the United States. His presentation — Out of the Darkness, Into the Light: Surviving the Holocaust — will be held on Wednesday, April 23, at 7:30 p.m. at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

Greenbaum now serves as a volunteer at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Seating is limited. Please register for this event at <http://bit.ly/1pIEtWL> or phone the Library at 703-757-8560.

### Great Falls Senior Center Holds Luncheon at Chez Francois

Sixty members of the Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) enjoyed its second annual luncheon at L'Auberge Chez Francois April 1. During the luncheon, the host, Jacques Haeringer visited each table, thanking guests for coming and inviting GFSC to schedule "Lunching at Chez Francois" as an annual event.

GFSC's mission is to enrich the lives of the community's seniors with stimulating and social net

SEE WEEK, PAGE 5

## Experts Discuss Deer Control issues

FROM PAGE 3

does. The less does there are, the less fawns Great Falls will see each spring.

He said the more human ways to get rid of deer are to kill it with a high power crossbow in an elevated stand. Trap transfer tends to stress the deer into cardiac arrest and meat from deer that take certain contraceptives cannot be consumed.

Green Fire founder and Great Falls resident Jerry Peters talked about his own efforts to reduce the

deer population in his neighborhood. He said the deer on his private property became very tame before he started hunting them with a crossbow. At one point, he saw 13 in his yard.

**AT THAT POINT**, he decided to take action. He surveyed his neighbors to find who would want to help thin the deer, who would allow hunting on their property and who would allow deer to be tracked through their property.

"The greatest support came from the long-term owners, the people

who have been there for a long time and remembered what the forest looked like in the '80s."

He agreed it is difficult to know exactly how many deer are in Great Falls, but he guessed it could be 100 per square mile.

"It's not about nature anymore," said Rose. "We've taken out the wolves. We've taken out the cougars. We can manage the resource, but will our culture let us?"

To take GFCA's deer management and forest health survey, visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LN757YT>.

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# WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

FROM PAGE 4

working opportunities. It holds monthly programs that generally cover one topic and are presented by an expert in that field. Membership is available for \$10 a year.

Those interested in learning more about the GFSC can contact mimim@aol.com. For membership only, send check payable to GFSC (not tax deductible), P.O. Box 425, Great Falls, VA 22066 with name, mailing address, phone number and email.

## History Award Nominations by Mail Only

As previously announced, the Great Falls Historical Society is seeking nominations for the annual Jean Tibbetts History Award, honoring outstanding contributors to the research, articulation, dissemination, and preservation of the history of life along the Potomac River corridor from

McLean to west of Dranesville and south through Herndon.

Due to recently-identified technical problems, GFHS cannot accept email nominations. All nominations must be submitted by mail. Anyone who has already forwarded a nomination via email should submit a hard-copy document. All nominations, with complete documentation, must be postmarked no later than Monday, April 21, and mailed to: GFHS History Award Committee, PO Box 56, Great Falls, VA 22066.

### 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/APRIL 17

**Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter Meeting.** Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna. Edward D. Connor, WW II Army Air Corps veteran, will discuss the Battle of the Bismarck Sea of March 2-4, 1943. Admission is free. For information, call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit [www.vva227.org](http://www.vva227.org).

**Great Falls Writer's Group Meeting.** 12-1:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Alice Nodine, editor-in-chief of *Elan Magazine*, the premiere arts magazine serving Northern Virginia, will discuss strategies on how to get published and the changing nature of the publishing industry. Light lunch served. All are welcome; no registration necessary.

**New Business Open House.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Church Street Antiques, located at 131 Church Street NW, Suite 2, Vienna. Church Street Antiques offers vintage items repurposed into unique artwork. You might find old door knobs turned into hooks, lamps made out of tea cups or a necklace made out of antique keys.

#### SUNDAY/APRIL 20

**United Christian Parish Easter.** Youth-led Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. and a family Worship Service at 10 a.m. 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. The United Christian Parish will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter. For more information, call the church office at 703-620-3065 or visit [www.unitedchristianparish.org](http://www.unitedchristianparish.org).

#### WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23

**Out of the Darkness, Into the Light: Surviving the Holocaust.** 7:30 p.m. Holocaust survivor Henry Greenbaum will talk about his dramatic experience as a Polish Jew who was liberated from Auschwitz concentration camp and eventually made his way to the United States. He now serves as a volunteer at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Seating is limited. Please register for this event at <http://bit.ly/1pIEtWL> or phone the Library at 703-757-8560, Great Falls Library 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

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# OPINION

## Celebrate Earth Day

Get outside with your family, participate in group activities, or just walk in your favorite park.

**E**arth Day is April 22, observed April 19-27 and beyond. Fairfax County offers many useful and educational ways to enjoy the day. Don't miss the chance to get outside, observe the developing spring weather, flora and fauna. Here are some of the opportunities:

**Environmental Film Festival**, Sunday, April 20 through Thursday, April 24, Cinema Arts Theatres: 9650-14 Main Street, Fairfax. Each day, networking will begin at 3:30 p.m. and films begin at 4 p.m. The public is welcome to join in discussion on film topics and how they relate to Fairfax County. Students throughout the County have been encouraged to submit 2-5 minute films which will be shown throughout the Festival in between feature films and will be rebroadcast on Cox Communications local Channel 74 following the Festival. Environmental nonprofit organizations like the Audubon Society, Lands and Waters, Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District will be at Cinema Arts for the daily networking sessions at 3.30 p.m.

[http://www.fcrpp3.org/wp-content/uploads/green\\_inspirations.pdf](http://www.fcrpp3.org/wp-content/uploads/green_inspirations.pdf)

**Cub Run RECenter for Earth Day**, Saturday, April 19, 9 a.m.-noon, 4630 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly: "Nike Reuse-a-Shoe Program," bring old, worn-out athletic shoes to Earth Day. Nike Reuse-a-Shoe will grind them down to create a new material called Nike Grind which is used to make sports courts, turf fields, tracks and more. Activities include: planting, weeding, mulching, watershed clean-up, crafts for kids and bring questions for Master Gardeners. What to bring: water bottle, sunscreen, hat, garden gloves and bug repellent. Age: 5 - adult (ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult).

**Springfest**, April 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton: pony rides, plant sales, climbing wall, bounce house, petting zoo, face painting, two shows by Billy B, Reptiles Alive!, Under The Sea. 9-11 a.m. Stream Cleanup and Tree Planting with Occoquan Regional Park. Donate toothpaste, toothbrushes, cereal and rice to Lorton Community Action.

**Invasive Management Area** Volunteer Program is a community-based project designed to reduce invasive plants on our parklands. This volunteer-led program gives residents an opportunity to protect plants and wildlife of Fairfax County's forests while spending time outdoors, meeting new people and restoring natural habitats. Key components of this program are habitat restoration and a long-term commitment to the park. Many workdays planned during Earth Week, April 19-26, including in Vienna, McLean, Springfield and Burke. Virginia's Annual Invasive Plant Removal Day is May 3. To sign up, contact IMA Coordinator Erin Stocksclaeder at 703-324-8681

**Fairfax County Biological Stream Monitoring:** Aquatic forms of insects (called "benthic macroinvertebrates") live on the bottom of rocks and debris lying in the streambed. These small organisms play a big role in helping Fairfax County staff monitor the health of a stream. Data collected by volunteers is incorporated into a number of different water quality reports, including the Stream Protection Strategy Baseline Study. Join the hundreds of existing volunteers in collecting this important information and make a difference in the health of Fairfax County's streams! If you are interested in becoming a monitor, email the coordinator or call 703-324-1422, TTY 711.

## Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 11, 2014, and every year at this time, we call for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery. Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children. Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. (We will not print your full address or contact information.) You can upload photos and information directly to our website at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/) or email to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection**, April 26, Reston South Park & Ride Lot, 2531 Reston Parkway, Reston. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/disphhw.htm>

**Electric Sunday**, April 27 and May 18, I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax 22030: Fairfax County residents can recycle televisions, computers and peripheral devices — including keyboards, speakers, printers, external drives and other such materials — and unbroken fluorescent light bulbs and tubes on Electric Sundays. There is no charge for Fairfax County residents to participate in Electric Sunday; however, you may be required to show proof of residency.

**Help Create A Bee-Friendly Landscape, seedling sale:** The trees and shrubs in this year's seedling sale will help provide habitat for bees and add beauty to your landscape. The 2014 Shrub and Small Tree Package includes 10 seedlings for \$16.95. The Tree Package includes six seedlings sold for \$11.95. A full, nonrefundable payment must accompany your order by Monday, April 28. Orders may be picked up on Friday, May 2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., or Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.-noon. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm>

## High-quality Preschool Helps Children Succeed

Fairfax County must expand access to Virginia Preschool Initiative.

**A**s a retired general and the husband of an educator, I would like to highlight the importance of quality preschool as the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors makes final decisions about the county budget.

I am alarmed that 75 percent of all young Americans ages 17-24 are not able to serve in the military, primarily because they are too poorly educated, too overweight or have a criminal record.

In Virginia, 18 percent of young people do not graduate from high school on time. In addition, one in four of Virginia's high school

graduates who try to join the military cannot serve because of low scores on the military's exam for math, literacy and problem-solving.

This poses challenges for a 21st century military and a 21st century workforce alike. We have the most technologically advanced military in the world, but we need educated men and women to operate it. And the military isn't alone: businesses in the private sector are seeking many of the same skill sets and running into the same challenging deficits.

Fortunately, we know what

works when it comes to helping more children do well in school and in life. High-quality preschool can help children succeed in school and avoid criminal involvement, opening the doors to college, careers and military service, if they choose to serve.

Early education also provides a safe, nurturing, educational environment for children while their parents work. 66 percent of Virginia children under the age of 6 have all available parents in the workforce, according to KIDS COUNT data from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. The average working parent in America misses five to nine days of work per year because of childcare problems. Research confirms that if parents have quality early care and edu-

cation available in their communities, not only will absenteeism and turnover go down, but productivity will also go up.

Long-term studies following the graduates of preschool programs up to age 40 have shown that early education can produce very strong and lasting results.

Here in Virginia, the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) was established in 1995 to serve at-risk 4-year-olds who do not participate in Head Start. This program is important because it is the only option for a lot of children, and because we know it delivers solid benefits.

VPI graduates are less likely to repeat kindergarten and more

SEE PRESCHOOL. PAGE 7

## Great Falls CONNECTION

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# OPINION

## Preschool

FROM PAGE 6

likely to meet or exceed minimum levels of competency in literacy.

VPI's return on investment shows that this is important not only for the children but for taxpayers as well. An analysis by the Economic Policy Institute and The Commonwealth Institute determined that quality early education in Virginia saved taxpayers over \$2 billion dollars over 17 years in special education savings, child welfare savings, decreased grade retention, reductions in juvenile and adult crime, increased earnings by parents, and increased tax contributions.

Unfortunately, quality early education is not equally available to all children who need it in the metropolitan Washington area.

A new report from the nonprofit Mission: Readiness, of which I am a member, shows that Fairfax County lags far behind other

local jurisdictions and the District of Columbia in access to preschool.

Nearly half of the children from low-income families in Fairfax County who are eligible for the Virginia Preschool Initiative are not enrolled and hundreds are on a waiting list while the county sends funding back to Richmond rather than match state dollars.

County leaders in Fairfax must find a way to close this gap and offer high-quality early childhood education to all children who need it.

High-quality early education builds a solid foundation and helps more young people develop in mind, body, and character so they can succeed at whatever career path they choose, including military service.

**Michael E. Ennis**

Major General, U.S. Marine Corps  
(Retired)  
Oakton

### Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers.

Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

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### PHOTO GALLERY!

#### "Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Connection will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:  
The Great Falls Connection,  
"Me and My Mom Photo Gallery,"  
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Alexandria, VA 22314  
Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

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# Challenging A Child’s Mind Through Reading

## Experts say reading is critical to cognitive and emotional development.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION



PHOTO BY KATIE PEEBLES

Arlington mother Holly Karapetkova reserves time for reading in the schedules of her two young children. It has become such an important part of their daily routine that it is a treasured family activity. It is also vital to her children’s development says Karapetkova.

“Reading is an extremely complex mental activity that engages a child’s—or adult’s—brain much more intensively than television or video games,” said Karapetkova, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Literature at Marymount University in Arlington. “When you read, you employ higher-order cognitive skills. You learn to imagine things that you have not yourself experienced.”

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT** and literature experts say that reading helps children develop imagination skills and an ability to learn and think in new ways. It also boosts emotional development.

“You learn to empathize with others, and so you are able to grow emotionally as well,” said Karapetkova. “Critical thinking, imagination, and empathy are all qualities that are essential to our nature as human beings, and essential to our success in the world.”

Fred Bemak, Ed.D., Professor and Academic Program Coordinator, College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University, says that even a few minutes each day can have a significant influence. “Reading to a child 20 minutes a days will increase their ability to read and think above grade level,” he said. “That is just a matter of sitting with a child and reading with them, but it has a such profound influence.”

A lack of reading time also makes an impact on children. “When a child doesn’t have access to books or when a parent doesn’t have knowledge about reading to a child, that is where we see an achievement gap,” said Bemak.

Mary Catherine Coleman, Lower School Librarian and JK-12 Library Department Chair at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, said reading offers children a broad view of the world. “I think, and research shows, reading helps to develop children’s thinking because it helps to develop a background knowledge about the world,” she said. “Reading also helps children to see the world from a different per-

**Marymount University professor Holly Karapetkova reads with her 4-year-old daughter. Experts say that reading is a complex mental activity that engages a child’s brain more intensively than watching television or playing video games.**

**“Reading to a child 20 minutes a day will increase their ability to read and think above grade level. That is just a matter of sitting with a child and reading with them, but it has a such profound influence.”**

— Fred Bemak, Ed.D., George Mason University

spective, helping children develop an understanding, empathy and compassion for others and the world. It challenges children to look at events, people and things in a different way.”

“When it comes to imagination, books challenge children to create a movie in their minds,” said Coleman. “They need to imagine a world, characters and experiences that they are not familiar with.”

“Reading challenges children to move beyond what

### Book Suggestions

#### THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE:

“Escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s Library” by Chris Grabenstein  
“Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy” by Karen Foxlee  
“Capture the Flag” by Kate Messner

#### FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADE:

“Doll Bones” by Holly Black  
“Under the Egg” by Laura Marx Fitzgerald  
“Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin” by Liesl Shurtliff

they see in front of them,” said Coleman. “It also teaches children how to be storytellers, how to share experiences and fosters creativity.”

Karapetkova said that reading is more open-ended than other media and challenges a child’s cognitive abilities. “When you read, even when they are pictures, your brain has to do a great deal of work to process information and piece the story together,” she says. “In a movie or video game, everything is predetermined and spelled out for you, and there’s a lot less room left to the imagination to make leaps and discover things on its own.”

Karapetkova has experienced this in her own life. “I have found with my older child that one book often leads to another,” she said. “We might read something that piques his interest and sends him back to the library for more information, and the information he can find in the library is seemingly endless.”

The same is not true with television or video games. “When he watches a film or plays a video game, he never says to me, ‘I want to find out more about organisms deep under the sea because that’s where Spongebob lives,’” said Karapetkova. “But when he reads a book, he asks questions and his curiosity and imagination open up.”

Michael Moynihan, Upper School Head, The Heights School in Potomac, Md., believes in eschewing some electronic media and promoting “a renewed culture of reading...[and] conversation”.

**SO WHICH BOOKS** do experts recommend? “Really, anything you and your children enjoy reading together will do the trick,” said Karapetkova. “My children are several years apart. My daughter is 4 and my son is 9, and I have been amazed by how much each enjoys the books I pick out together for the other. I’ll sit down with my daughter to read ‘Brown Bear, Brown Bear’ or another picture book and my son will stop whatever he is doing to join us.”

“And my daughter also enjoys listening to what my son and I are reading aloud together,” said Karapetkova. “We’ve been reading a variety of books this year, including things like Harry Potter and C.S. Lewis, and she listens and grasps part of what is happening. So their interest in each other’s books reminds me that children can be drawn to and learn from a great range of books.”



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## COMMUNITY

PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

**Children dash about the Great Falls Village Green to claim eggs. This year 8,000 eggs were placed on the Village Green, some filled with chocolate and gem stones provided by Adeler Jewelers.**



# Great Falls Celebrates Spring

## Community enjoys 30th Annual Spring Festival.

BY RYAN DUNN  
THE CONNECTION

“**W**hen the weather is nice we always have a nice turnout,” said Wendy Adeler Hall, daughter of the Great Falls jeweler Jorge Adeler. On Sunday, April 13, families from the Great Falls community and Northern Virginia gathered at the Village Green for the annual Spring Festival. The Spring Festival and Egg Hunt was hosted by the Great Falls Optimist Club and Adeler Jewelers, a family business which has served northern Virginia for more than 20 years.

This was the 30th annual Spring Festival held in Great Falls. Inflatable moon bounces, tractor hayrides, and other entertainment were available for children. A highlight event was the egg hunt, with approximately 8,000 eggs laid out on the Village Green for children to locate and claim. “It is awesomely organized, we love Great Falls,” said Christine Gabriel who brought her son Christian to participate in the event.

About 840 of the plastic eggs were filled with gemstones and chocolates. The gemstones and chocolates were supplied by Jorge Adeler, owner of Adeler Jewelers, in another annual tradition. “My dad has a real passion for what he does,” said Wendy Adeler Hall. “For most kids it is a treasure hunt. My dad absolutely loves colored gem stones.” Funds raised from the event will go to the Great Falls Optimist Youth Fund.

“We had a blast, it was fun,” said Herndon resident Tricia C. Ratliff, who attended the event with her husband and children.



**Participants in the Sunday's Great Falls Spring Festival at the Village Green had the opportunity to enjoy good weather and refreshments.**



**Inflatables and other entertainment were available for children attending the Great Falls Spring Festival at the Village Green. This was the 30th annual Spring Festival.**

Owner of one of the oldest business in Great Falls, Adeler started the egg hunt as a gift to the community, and since partnered with the local Optimist club for about 20 years. Local merchants also participated to sponsor rides. The event grew from just an egg hunt

to an entire spring celebration. Adeler intends to continue sponsoring this event to help build a sense of community that brings families together.

For more information about Great Falls Village Center, visit <http://gfvcca.com/>.



**Christine Gabriel and her son Christian pose for a photo with the Easter Rabbit at the Great Falls Village Green. This year was the 30th annual egg hunt.**



**Popcorn, cotton candy and other refreshments were available to participants in the 30th annual Great Falls Spring Festival at the Village Green.**



**Children and parents line up for the annual egg hunt, which is a major attraction of the annual Great Falls Spring Festival at the Village Green.**



# CALENDAR

Send announcements to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## WEDNESDAY/ APRIL 16

**125th Birthday Celebration for Charlie Chaplin.** 7:30 p.m. The Alden, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The Alden in McLean will celebrate Charlie Chaplin's 125th birthday with an evening of silent films with live musical accompaniment. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit: [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org) or call 703-790-0123.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 18-SUNDAY/APRIL 20

**"The Cripple of Inishmaan"** Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. Excitement ripples through the sleepy Irish community of Inishmaan as a heartbreakingly hilarious campaign bursting with dark humor and touching devotion. General admission: \$27. Seniors \$22. Students and Military \$15. Purchase online at [www.1ststagein.com](http://www.1ststagein.com) or 703-854-1856.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 18-MONDAY/MAY 5

**Six Artists Return.** 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The Frame Factory, 212 Dominion Road



**Spend your Saturday watching "The Lion's Whiskers" Puppet Show, a musical adaptation of a traditional Ethiopian folktale featuring a charming cast of human characters as well as African animals. Show takes place on April 26 at The Alden.**

NE, Vienna. An exhibition and sale of paintings, drawings, sculpture and jewelry by local artists Jackie Elwell, Elaine Florimonte, Debbie Glakas, Lisa Neher, Sarah Swart and Barbara Wagner. [www.theframefactory1.com](http://www.theframefactory1.com)

## FRIDAY/APRIL 18-SUNDAY/MAY 4

**"Willy Wonka, The Musical."** Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. through May 3, with Sunday matinee performances at 2 p.m. on April 27, and May 4. Vienna Theatre Company, Vienna Community Center 120 Cherry St., SE Vienna. This multi-generational, family friendly musical is Roald Dahl's timeless story of the world-famous candy man and his quest to find an heir in this stage adaptation of Dahl's book, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, which features the songs from the classic

family film Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. General admission \$14. To reserve tickets, email [vtcshows@yahoo.com](mailto:vtcshows@yahoo.com). For more information, call 703-255-6360 or visit [www.viennatheatrecompany.org](http://www.viennatheatrecompany.org).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 19

**Wildfire Breakfast Buffet & Easter Egg Hunt.** 9-10:30 a.m. Wildfire, 3rd floor, Tysons Corner. The buffet will include Cinnamon French Toast, Applewood Smoked Bacon, cornbread, Banana Bread Muffins, and a selection of juices, milk and coffee. After brunch, all our young guests will be given Easter baskets and invited to search for candy and toy-stuffed Easter eggs hidden around the restaurant. Each child will also receive a complimentary

coupon for Kid's Mac & Cheese, Kid's Pizza or Kid's Chicken Fingers. \$20/ per person plus tax (gratuity not included). For more information or to make a reservation, call Amanda or Erika at 703-442-9110.

## Easter Egg Hunt at Nottoway Park.

10:30 a.m. (1-2 yrs.); 11 a.m. (3-4 yrs.), 11:30 a.m. (5-6 yrs.), 12 p.m. (7-9 yrs.) Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Visit with the Easter bunny and hunt for candy, toys and eggs filled with treats. Bring your own basket. Egg hunt start times: Walk-in registration starts 9:30 a.m. (\$8 per child—cash only). Call 703-324-8566 for information.

**Salting Fish.** 1-4 p.m. The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Visit the farm family as they clean and salt down their yearly catch of herring. They invite you to help scale, clean and pack the fish into jars. Learn about the important contributions the Potomac River makes in their lives. \$3 adults; \$2 children and senior citizens. Complimentary admission with Claude Moore Colonial Farm membership. Free parking. Weather permitting. [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org)

**MELODIME.** 10 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. On tour to support their latest album, Where the Sinners & the Saints Collide, produced by Rick Beato (Shinedown, Parmalee, Needtobreathe). One hundred percent of album proceeds are donated to the nonprofit charity Now I Play Along Too, which gives music instruments and education to kids around the world. The band will be conducting an instrument drive at this show - fans get in free if they bring an instrument to donate.

**Brunch at Great Falls Nails & Spa.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 731 H1 Walker Road, Great Falls.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 20

**Breakfast Buffet.** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Vienna American Legion, 330 Center

St, N, Vienna. Adults \$8, children \$3: omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, etc. Call 703-938-1379 for info. The Easter Bunny will be there, so bring your camera!

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23

**All Star Beer Dinner.** 6:30 p.m. Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, McLean. A four-course menu of baseball-inspired food and beer pairings. Each "inning" will feature a craft brew from a different baseball-loving city. Nick Hardt, On Tap On Line "bierdo," will be the guest speaker for the evening. \$50 per person. To make a reservation, call 703-442-9110.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 24

**Annual Arbor Day Celebration.** 4 p.m. The tree planting ceremony will be held next to the Parks and Recreation Department's community learning garden, located behind Vienna Elementary School, 128 Center Street S.

**6th Annual Green Expo.** 6:30 - 9 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street SE, Vienna. Presentations and discussions for children and adults from more than 35 juried organizations and businesses will include information on energy efficiency, purchasing local organic products, creating green gardens, recycling options and more practical ideas to save money and help the environment. [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

## THURSDAY/APRIL 24-SATURDAY/APRIL 26

**"Catch Me if You Can."** 7 p.m. McLean High School Burks Theater, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. A musical that tells the story of Frank Abagnale, Jr., a teenager who runs away from home in search of the glamorous life. Tickets are available at [www.mcleandrama.com](http://www.mcleandrama.com). Adults \$15; Students/Seniors \$10.

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## Come "Meet and Greet" the 2014 Candidates for the McLean Community Center Governing Board

**When:**  
Thursday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m.

**Where: (New location)**  
Old Firehouse Teen Center  
1440 Chain Bridge Rd,  
McLean, VA 22101

**Who:**  
Five adult candidates, six teens from the McLean High School boundary area, and one teen from the Langley High School boundary area.

**Format:**  
Informal Reception

Five adults are vying for adult votes to fill three seats on the Governing Board. Five teens from the McLean High School boundary area and one teen from the Langley High School boundary area are vying for teen votes to fill one board seat from each high school boundary area.

Refreshments will be served. For planning purposes, please let us know if you will attend by emailing [elections@mcleancenter.org](mailto:elections@mcleancenter.org).

## SEE YOU THERE!



**The McLean Community Center**  
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[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)





# SPORTS



**Madison senior Katie Kerrigan (7) totaled four goals and four assists during a 19-8 victory against Langley on April 10.**



**Madison's Alex Condon, right, defends against Langley's Marina Smith during the teams' April 10 matchup at Madison High School.**



**Langley senior Lauren Clubb (14) scored a goal against Madison on April 10.**

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## Madison Girls' Lax Continues Dominance of Langley

### Warhawks beat Saxons for fifth time in two seasons.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**L**ast season, the Langley girls' lacrosse team faced Madison four times, including the state championship game. Each time, the Saxons came up short.

On April 10, the conference foes faced off once again. Unfortunately for Langley, a new season and a new head coach did not generate a new result.

The defending state champion Warhawks remained undefeated in 2014, defeating Langley 19-8 at Madison High School. Langley kept it close for a half and trailed 8-4 at the break, but senior attacker/midfielder Katie Kerrigan and junior midfielder Kierra Sweeney helped Madison pull away and improve to 4-0. Each of the Warhawks' victories this season came by more than 10 goals.

"When we play together as a team," Kerrigan said, "no one can stop us."

Madison has won 24 of its last 25 games dating back to last season, including five victories against Langley. The Warhawks beat the Saxons during the 2013 regular season, the Liberty District championship game, the Northern Region final and the

state final. On Thursday, led by first-year head coach Rebecca Watkins, Langley trailed 7-4 late in the first half before Madison's Alex Condon scored on an assist from Kerrigan with 19 seconds remaining, giving the Warhawks a four-goal halftime advantage.

"We definitely know that Langley has a bunch of talented players and we knew that, coming into this game, that it was going to be a lot more competitive than our past games," Kerrigan said. "We knew that we had to step it up and play together as a team and just take it to them."

The Warhawks took it to the Saxons in the second half, starting with a Kerrigan goal. The Ohio State signee finished with four goals and four assists. Sweeney led the team with six goals.

"[Kerrigan and Sweeney] kill themselves day in and day out to be able to sort of raise the bar for the girls around them," Madison head coach Amanda Counts said. "They blow us away every time we watch them play. That's on them. They get all the credit. They show up with that."

Condon, a senior midfielder, also had a big night for Madison, scoring five goals. Sophomore midfielder Shannon Condon

scored two goals for the Warhawks, and senior midfielder Ellie Bentley and junior midfielder Katie Sciandra each had one.

"They're extremely driven," Counts said about the Warhawks. "They really enjoy competition. Langley provides us that competition, so it's a fun game whenever we come across it."

How do the Warhawks stay focused after winning a state title and blowing out opponents early in 2014?

**"Last couple of games against Westfield and against Oakton, it was more of an individual effort versus a team effort, so those losses were really hard. Tonight, yes the scoreboard said we lost, but, honestly, I felt like we won. We played as a team, we played intensely, we played with heart, and that's something I just needed to see from them."**

— Langley girls' lacrosse coach Rebecca Watkins

"I think my motivation, especially since so many of my good friends are going to go off to college next year, is [to realize] I have such limited games with them," said Sweeney, who is committed to Dartmouth. "If we just play each game to the best of our ability, it's going to make my little time I have left with them so much more enjoyable."

The loss dropped Langley's record to 4-3. While the Saxons have lost three of four, including a 14-5 defeat against Oakton on April 2 and a 19-5 loss to Westfield on April 8, Watkins said she was pleased with her team's performance against Madison.

"Last couple of games against Westfield and against Oakton, it was more of an individual effort versus a team effort, so those losses were really hard," she said. "Tonight, yes the scoreboard said we lost, but, honestly, I felt like we won. We played as a team, we played intensely, we played with heart, and that's something I just needed to see from them."

Sophomore midfielder Halle Duenkel led Langley with five goals. Junior midfielders Nicole Lee and Aubrey Zarella, and senior midfielder Lauren Clubb each scored one.

Watkins said the Saxons' tough early-season schedule should pay off for the team down the stretch.

"All I ask them to do," she said, "is play their hearts out every single game."

Langley will travel to face Stone Bridge at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 25.

Madison will compete in the Centreville Invitational on Wednesday, April 16.

### Langley Softball Hands Madison First Loss of Season

The Madison softball team suffered its first loss of the season, losing to the Langley Saxons 5-1 on April 11.

Sophomore pitcher Katie Vannicola took the loss for Madison. The Warhawks fell to 7-1.

Defensively, Madison played an error-free game and Vannicola fanned 11 batters, walked none and allowed eight hits. At the plate, the Warhawks

tallied a season-low one run.

The first three innings were evenly matched as both teams recorded 1-2-3 innings. Vannicola struck out six Langley batters in a row then threw out the next three batters trying to bunt to get on base, making nine consecutive outs herself.

The fourth inning proved to be the difference maker for the Saxons. Langley managed to score three runs on two outs and four

hits to put the Saxons on the board, 3-0.

It took the Warhawks until the sixth inning to get on the board against the Saxons. With two outs, sophomore left fielder Jordyn Pistilli reached on error and managed to get to third base. Sophomore center fielder Blake Brackett (1-3, RBI) had an infield hit that scored Pistilli. Madison threatened again in the bottom of the seventh inning. Sophomore Ally Fogel (1-

3) drove a two-out base hit through the right side. Senior first baseman Elizabeth Fallas (1-3) followed with another single. Vannicola hit a ball to the Langley shortstop, who tried to get Fogel at third but Fogel beat the throw. However, senior pitcher Emily Templin was able to pitch her way out of the inning ending the threat and capturing the win for the Saxons.

Senior shortstop Kat Olson (1-3) had the Warhawks' other hit in

the game.

The Warhawks head to Myrtle Beach, S.C., to participate in the Grand Strands Spring Break Tournament and will play five games over five days. Upon their return, the Warhawks will take on Hayfield at Madison High School on Tuesday, April 22.

Langley, which improved to 5-1 with the win, will travel to face McLean at 6:30 p.m. on April 22.



## NEWS

### Great Falls Volunteers Take Part in Watershed Clean Up

Northern Virginia residents participated in the Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup on Saturday, April 5, sponsored by the Alice Ferguson Foundation. Last year, this Potomac watershed cleanup through the region collected over 300 tons of trash. The Great Falls Citizens Association organized over a dozen volunteers this year to clean up along Difficult Run stream and worked for over three hours to pull out debris along the trails and woods along the stream, which flows into the Potomac River. Many of the volunteers were high school students.



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# Dying of Curiosity

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



As I was completing last week's column ("I Thought I Was a Goner") and thanking my oncology nurse, Ron, in the process, for the excellent care he has provided me for nearly five years now; a week after I wrote a column thanking my Certified Holistic Health Coach, Rebecca Nenner, for the health and fitness-type knowledge she has given me over those same five years; it dawned on me that perhaps my subconscious mind knew something that my conscious mind didn't: that I should move closer to the undertaker like Radar's Uncle Ernest did two days before he died, in the M\*A\*S\*H episode titled "Novacaine Mutiny" from season four.

I don't want to think that, and I certainly don't want to believe it; nevertheless, I thought it an interesting point to address: as a terminal cancer patient, as much as I fight against it mentally and physically, the presumptive death sentence that a "13-month to two-year prognosis" portends is the kind of news that's difficult – make that impossible – to ignore. And as much as I try to defend myself, as you know, with humor, a positive attitude and a variety of self-preservation, defense-type mechanisms – still, at the end of the day (heck, at the beginning and middle, too), I may talk and write a good game, but one's mind often interferes. The trick is knowing whether that interference (subconscious) is real or imagined. I struggle with that assessment every day, as I presume most characterized-as-terminal patients do as well.

As my struggle enters its sixth year, let me assure you, its familiarity has not bred content (nor contempt, either). Though I certainly know the warning signs, the dos and don'ts, and my responsibility in all of it, that doesn't mask – to me, anyway, the underlying reality: lung cancer kills. The survival rates, especially five years post-diagnosis, are in the low single digits. Fairly grim, I admit. Yet I am extremely happy and fortunate to say that I am one of those low-single-digits (and yes, I have been called worse; not much better though, considering my diagnosis). However, I am not in remission and I'm still receiving chemotherapy. In truth, I am an anomaly, an aberration; and expecting that my life continues without any further cancer-related ado seems naive and from most of what I read, fairly unrealistic. Now as much as I try to compartmentalize all these cancer facts and feelings – successfully for the most part, I'd like to add – the reality of my situation does manifest itself from time to time. This column has attempted to identify a recent example, my last two columns, where these facts and feelings may have collided.

Though nothing in my current health – or recent awareness of it (scans, lab work, physical exam, old symptoms, new symptoms persisting/getting worse, etc.) would indicate a change (a fatal flaw, if you will), there are always things with which I am totally unaware that may have changed and perhaps the way I learn about these changes is through my subconscious. I certainly don't know how or when I'll know when I'm at death's door. Perhaps there will be a knock, perhaps not. Still, I can't help wondering – and wanting to know – sort of.

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

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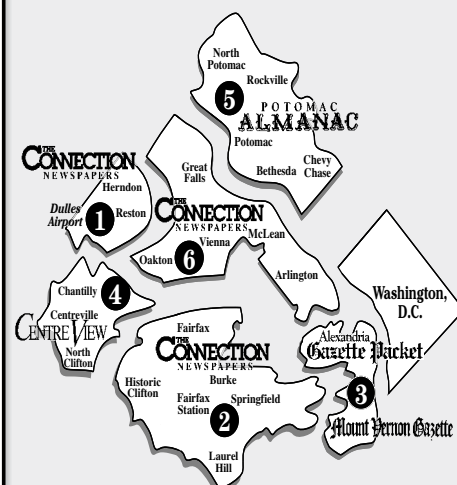
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- ❖ Christine Tamir of Annandale High School (undecided).
- ❖ Marvel Elisabeth Onga Nana of Centreville High School (biomedical engineering).
- ❖ Heather Lawrence of Edison High School (political science).
- ❖ Bezawit Yohannes of Hayfield Secondary School (law).
- ❖ Ade Samuel of Herndon High School (chemical engineering).
- ❖ Sarah Gutema of McLean High School (neuroscience).
- ❖ Lani Allen of Marshall High School (writing).
- ❖ Suha Suliman of Robinson Secondary School (pediatrics).
- ❖ Gelila Yitsege of South County High School (neuroscience).
- ❖ Derek Phillips of South Lakes High School (aerospace engineering).
- ❖ Anthony Carrington of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) (medicine).
- ❖ Cheyanne Rivera of TJHSST (psychiatry).
- ❖ Comfort Sampong of TJHSST (development economics).
- ❖ Shalisa James of Westfield High School (English literature).
- ❖ John O'Connell of Westfield High School (computer science).
- ❖ Tolunimi Oyeleye of Westfield High School (chemical engineering).
- ❖ Tianay Ziegler of Woodson High School (biological engineering).

Each of the students received \$2,500 National Achievement Scholarships supported by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the NASP, with the exception of Allen, whose scholarship is underwritten by the Xerox Foundation.

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