

McLean
CONNECTION

Home LifeStyle

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Jimmy Heath, Sam Roberts and Danny Heath have been seen at McLean Day for 25 years. Roberts will retire before the centennial event next year, so this year's McLean Day is a special one.

MAY 14-20, 2014

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Tommy Lukas
Master of Ceremonies 1989-2011

MCLEAN DAY

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SATURDAY, MAY 17 • 11 A.M.-5 P.M.



Community Stage

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12:15-1 p.m.	Mutts Gone Nuts
1:15-2 p.m.	Magician Brian Curry
2:15-2:45 p.m.	Mutts Gone Nuts
3-3:15 p.m.	McLean Citizens Association's Teen Character Awards
3:15-4 p.m.	McLean HS Jazz Ensemble
4:30-5 p.m.	Joy of Dance

Attractions

- Large carnival rides
- Amusements and free kiddie rides
- Free field games, sports games and tennis lessons
- Festival foods
- Free pony rides and balloon sculptures
- Visit exhibitor booths, featuring local non-profits, businesses, and crafters.

MCC Governing Board Elections

10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Meet the candidates!
Take the shuttle or vote in advance!

Lewinsville Park
1659 Chain Bridge Road

For details go to www.mcleancenter.org/special-events, or call 703-790-0123.

McLean Day is the only festival the Central Intelligence Agency sends representatives to, according to Sam Roberts.



PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

Celebrating McLean

99th annual event is last for event director.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

It's the place to be.

At least, that's according to a phrase the McLean Community Center's Director of Special Events coined for McLean Day: Celebrating Our Hometown, which takes over Lewinsville Park from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

This year will mark the 99th annual McLean Day, a free event. Roberts will retire before the centennial event, so this year's McLean Day is a special one.

"When I was hired in 1989, my executive director told me, 'Your mission is to provide a sense of community,'" said MCC Director of Special Events Sam Roberts III.

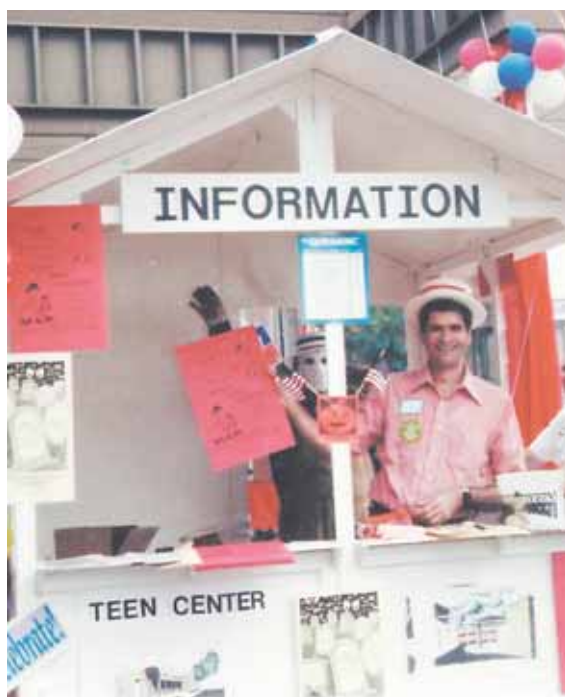
His biggest accomplishment was turning the event from one that about 4,000 attended in 1989 to one that nearly 18,000 come to every year. The festival - which began as a fundraiser for a local elementary school, now covers every inch of Lewinsville Park.

"I think people like it, because there are a lot of things the festival offers," he said. "It's kind of a down-homey event. It's a place to see your neighbors and find out about local businesses."

The event only had a few games and bounce houses when he started. Because of the number of rides, food vendors and sponsorships McLean Day gets now, it does not use as many tax dollars as it has previously.

"Now it's gotten to the point where we don't have to promote it much," he said. "We've accomplished what we were trying to do."

He does not just mean he does not have to promote it to attendees. He also does not have to promote it to vendors. Every year, he tells his vendors that the spaces in Lewinsville Park fill up by the cutoff date in early February, he said. And every year, there are vendors that unsuccessfully ask after the cutoff date to have some space to promote their business at the event. Local businesses are put on a wait



Sam Roberts promotes the festival at Langley Shopping Center in 1990.

list. Vendors who are not local are told to wait until next year.

One business has served the festival as long as he has.

Amusements by J&J in Sterling was headed by Jimmy Heath 25 years ago when Roberts took the helm of McLean Day. Now his son, Danny, is the new owner of the business.

Danny said he has pictures of himself as a young boy in the 1970s on a ride at McLean Day.

"I've done it for 25 years with my folks," he said. "I'll have both my daughters working in the Kids Zone. It's just about celebrating your hometown and seeing old and new friends."

He remembers the festival when it was a much smaller event.

"They made it into an event that impacts so many different people," said Danny. "It's got its own unique flavor."

Roberts sees J&J as an example of what he will miss most about the festival. He said he sees so many examples of kids who used to come to McLean Day who now serve as volunteers or staff for the event and bringing their own children.

"This is what makes me love what I do," he said. "That, to me, paints the picture of a successful event."



PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) speaks during the awards ceremony.

Honored for Promoting Affordable Housing

Tyson's event adds Carson Lee Fifer, Carl Auvil and Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) to AHOME Hall of Fame.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

Three local men were honored for their dedication in affordable housing.

AHOME Foundation added Carson Lee Fifer, Carl Auvil and Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) to its Hall of Fame during its third annual reception on Thursday at the Tysons Corner Capital One headquarters building.

AHOME stands for Affordable Housing Opportunities Means Everyone.

"AHOME started back in the late '80s to change legislation in the state to include in the zoning a requirement for affordable housing," said past AHOME board president and Hall-of-Fame member Jerry Hopkins.

He said the Hall of Fame reception started three years ago to honor local advocates for affordable housing.

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) was the event's guest speaker. He said he was "preaching to the choir" about Fairfax County's - and Tysons' - need for



U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) accepts his AHOME Hall of Fame award.

more affordable housing.

"There's thousands of jobs here, especially in the retail sector, and there is planned to be more," he said.

He did not agree that retail workers and local teachers had to travel up to an hour away to find housing they can afford to live in. He believed the community should include people from an economically diverse background.

"We don't have much affordable housing, and that's why we have AHOME," he said.

SEE HOMELESS, PAGE 7

C-Section Boom in Northern Virginia

Region has some of the highest rates of cesarean-section deliveries for low-risk pregnancies.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

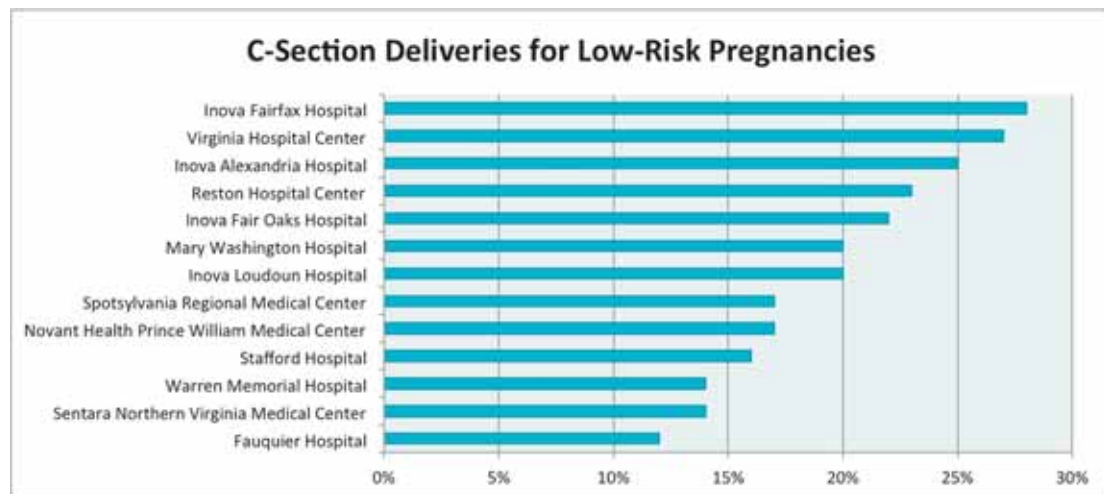
Behind the closed doors at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church and the Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington, a quiet change has been taking shape over the last few decades. Doctors at these two hospitals have been performing cesarean-section deliveries for low-risk pregnancies at a rate that far exceeds what happens at most hospital across America. Last week, the two hospitals landed on Consumer Reports' top 10 list for hospitals with high C-section rates.

"It's an alarming trend," said Dr. Michele Davidson, associate professor and coordinator of the PhD Nursing Program at George Mason University. "You have a much higher maternal mortality and morbidity rate when you perform a C-section versus a normal birth. So you're taking a surgical risk that does not need to be taken."

C-section deliveries have long been used for high-risk pregnancies, when the health of the mother or the baby is at risk. Since the 1960s, though, doctors have increasingly been performing C-section deliveries for low-risk pregnancies. These include women who have never had a C-section before, are not delivering prematurely or are pregnant with a single baby that is properly positioned. Critics say the procedures drive up costs and increase risks for mothers and babies, although hospitals say they are providing options to women.

"We work closely with expectant mothers and physicians to support choice, while providing a safe and personalized birth experience," said Maryanne Boster, director of corporate communications for the Virginia Hospital Center. "We are partnering with our physicians to constantly monitor and balance the needs of the mother and baby while ensuring we work towards the best outcome for both."

SINCE 1970, the number of C-sections performed in the U.S. has increased 500 percent. Davidson said a number of reasons are driving the trend. One is fear of litigation, largely driving by high-profile lawsuits



SOURCE: CONSUMER REPORTS

involving women whose uterus ruptured when they tried to induce labor in a pregnancy following a previous C-section delivery. Another trend driving the increased number is that more and more women are electing to have the procedure, a practice known as cesarian-on-demand.

"They're done with such frequency that they are a very safe procedure," said Del. Patrick Hope, who is a lobbyist with the American College of Cardiology. "Of course, what we are seeing is that the health plans are paying it. And so the health plans, which have everything at stake and are looking at the procedures and looking at the guidelines, they are clearly indicating it's appropriate."

Ultimately, though, the higher numbers may be related to money. Doctors can get higher rates of reimbursement when they opt for C-section deliveries. They also free up their schedule, allowing them to see more patients. The average labor time for a first-time baby is 16 to 18 hours, precious moments for doctors whose time is money. Davidson said she once worked at a hospital in Washington, D.C. where one doctor had a 100 percent C-section delivery rate.

"The only way one of his patients would delivery vaginally is if she walked in complete and he wasn't there," said Davidson. "He C-sectioned everyone because he didn't want to wait around for these women to deliver."

"It's an alarming trend. You have a much higher maternal mortality and morbidity rate when you perform a C-section versus a normal birth. So you're taking a surgical risk that does not need to be taken."

— Dr. Michele Davidson, associate professor and coordinator of the PhD Nursing Program at George Mason University

ANOTHER POSSIBLE explanation for Northern Virginia having higher rates of C-section deliveries for low-risk pregnancies has to do with the culture in the region. Many professional women want to have a baby on their schedule rather than waiting around for labor. And military families are often under pressure to have babies on a schedule that has a strict deadline related to deployment. In many cases, these women undergo selective induction, a process in which labor is induced on demand.

"When you give someone the medication to start labor when her body is not really ready, you start to see failed inductions

which lead to a C-section," said Davidson. "So that's another factor that we did not have in the 1960s at all."

In March, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine published in new practice guidelines designed to curtail the number of unnecessary C-sections. The two groups acknowledged that, in some cases, the procedure is medically necessary for the health and well-being of the mother or the baby. For example, the groups concluded cesarean delivery is firmly established as the safest route of deliver when when

have conditions such as placenta previa or uterine rupture.

"Childbirth by its very nature carries potential risks for the woman and her baby, regardless of the route of delivery," the women's health organizations reported. "For most pregnancies, which are low-risk, cesarean delivery appears to pose greater risk of maternal morbidity and mortality than vaginal delivery."

ALTHOUGH MOST of the increase in C-section deliveries came in the 1970s and 1980s, recent years have seen yet another spike. Since the mid-1990s, C-section deliveries have increased yet again. In 2011, for example, one in three women in the U.S. gave birth by cesarean delivery, a 60 percent increase since 1996. Some are concerned that the rapid increase in cesarean birth rates raises significant concern that cesarean delivery is overused without clear evidence of improved maternal or newborn outcomes. Some leaders in the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists are calling it a "epidemic."

"I like to use that word because it's dramatic," said Aaron B. Caughey, M.D., a member of The College's Committee on Obstetric Practice who helped develop the new recommendations. "I use that word because this is nationwide and worldwide. It's something that's occurring that we need to understand better, and in my opinion it's something that we should work to forestall."

Communities to Discuss School Start Times

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) will hold eight community meetings—one per cluster—in May and June to gather feedback from students, parents, employees, and community members on proposed adjustments to school start times. Participants are welcome to attend the meeting that is most convenient for them.

All meetings will run from 7 to 9 p.m. with the exception of the meeting at Poe

Middle school on Saturday, June 7, which runs from 10 a.m. to noon. The schedule for community meetings on school start times is as follows:

Monday, May 19 — Hayfield Secondary School (Cluster 4)
Tuesday, May 20 — Langley High School (Cluster 1)
Tuesday, May 27 — South Lakes High School (Cluster 8)
Wednesday, May 28 — Madison High

School (Cluster 2)

Saturday, June 7 — Poe Middle School (Cluster 3)

Monday, June 9 — South County High School (Cluster 5)

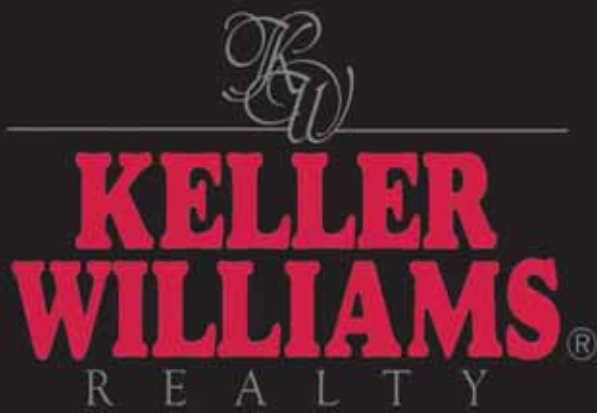
Tuesday, June 10 — West Springfield High School (Cluster 6)

Wednesday, June 11 — Centreville High School (Cluster 7)

The Fairfax County School Board adopted a resolution in April 2012 to seek solutions to establish high school start times at 8 a.m.

or later. In March 2013, the Board awarded a contract to Children's National Medical Center (CNMC) to develop a proposal to achieve this goal. CNMC presented several scenarios to the Board at its April 23 work session. These community meetings are designed to gather input and feedback from stakeholders.

Additional information about the four options being considered is available online.



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Michele Cornejo

The Bob Nelson Team

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Together, we are doing important work fostering community involvement and building resiliency in our youth.

NEWS

PHOTOS BY LAURA SHERIDAN/WOMAN'S CLUB OF MCLEAN



Safety-patrol students display their awards. Club education committee member Rebecca Horahan and Fairfax County school resource officer Thomas W. Harrington are behind the students; Woman's Club president Mildred Thompson is at right.

Young Musicians, Safety Patrols Awarded

The musicianship of four students at Cooper and Longfellow Middle Schools in McLean was recognized by the Woman's Club of McLean at a ceremony on Tuesday, May 6, where the students also performed on their instruments. Tracy McConnaughay, of Cooper Middle

School, played "In the Hall of the Mountain King," by Edvard Grieg, on the euphonium. Min Lee, also of Cooper Middle School, played Concerto No. 3, k. 216, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, on the violin, accompanied by Myunghee Lee. Ji In Park, accompanied by Myunghee Lee. Ji In Park,

SEE MUSICIANS, PAGE 12



Tracy McConnaughay, of Cooper Middle School, with her euphonium.



Min Lee, of Cooper Middle School, performing Mozart concerto.



Ji In Park, of Longfellow Middle School, performing Stamitz concerto.



Nadia Jo, of Longfellow Middle School, performing Saint-Saens concerto.

News

People mingling during the AHOME Hall of Fame reception.



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

Getting Homeless Into Homes

FROM PAGE 3

Fifer was one of the key people involved in creating the Fairfax County Affordable Dwelling Unit program and worked with Delegate Bob Andrews to create Loudoun County's own ADU program.

"Affordable housing cannot and should not be a partisan issue," said Fifer.

Carl E. Auvil's award was received by his daughter Beverly Auvil. Carl, who is 95 years old and resides in Pennsylvania, is a former Fairfax County Housing Hygiene Board chairman. According to a press release, he researched aspects of affordable housing for the county for the board's Housing Study Commission. He was not satisfied that the creation of a Housing Authority was not a part of the recommendations of the report. He took the matter into his

own hands.

"To help ensure the passing of the referendum, Auvil went door to door explaining the importance of affordable housing," states the press release. "Auvil's hard work paid off when the referendum passed by 120 votes."

Rep. Connolly was honored for helping to establish the Penny for Affordable Housing Fund in 2006, according to the press release. Over the course of six years, the fund garnered \$119.6 million for affordable housing in the county.

During his speech, he said getting the county's homeless into homes was the quickest way to turn them into productive members of society with jobs, and in turn, being able to feed their children.

"Housing is so key to getting people back on their feet," said Connolly.

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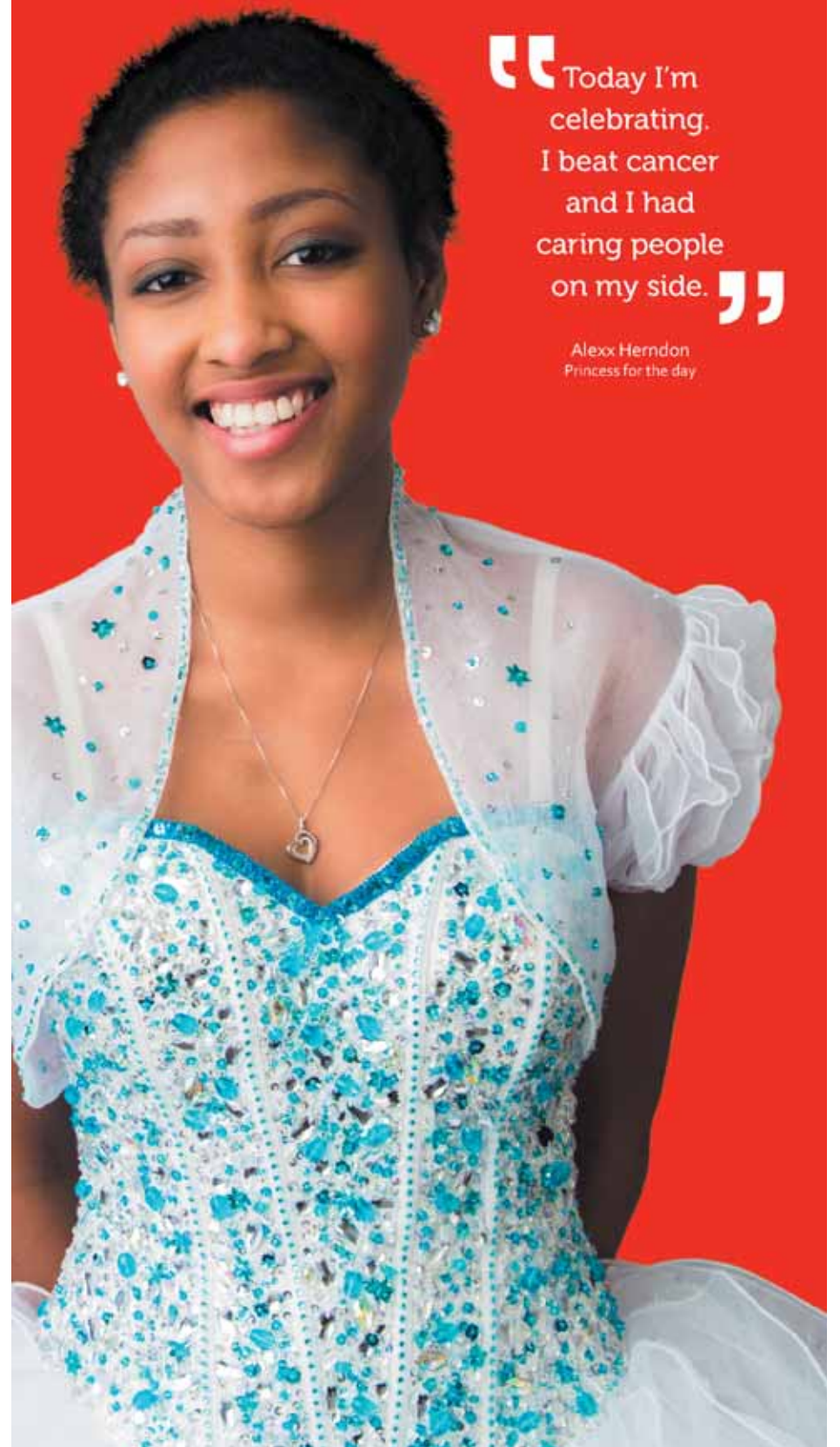
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Alexandria celebrated her 16th wearing her gown, not ours.

Alexx was diagnosed with bone cancer her first year of high school. Instead of going to an adult hospital, her family got help from a cancer treatment team focused completely on pediatric medicine. Watch how specialized care created a special day at JustRightForChildren.com/Alexx.



“Today I’m celebrating. I beat cancer and I had caring people on my side.”

Alexx Herndon
Princess for the day

Virginia Proves Elections Matter

Health and economic issues are entwined.

Some people continue to assert, either with their words or by simply abstaining, that voting just doesn't matter. Here in Virginia, nearly every day we prove that is incorrect.

All of Virginia's elected representatives who are elected by the entire state are of the same political party. They are all Democrats: Gov. Terry McAuliffe, Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam, Attorney General Mark Herring and Virginia's two U.S. Senators, Mark Warner and Tim Kaine.

None were elected by a landslide but the trend is undeniable; the results are tangible.

Herring won his race over Mark D. Obenshain (R) by fewer than 200 votes out of more than 2.2 million votes cast. But that slimmest of margins has cleared the way for a new approach on many issues, especially after the previous four years of Gov. Bob McDonnell and Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli.

In January, Herring announced his office would support legal arguments that Virginia's

ban on same sex marriage is unconstitutional. Judge Arenda Wright Allen on Valentine's Day overturned that ban, and on Tuesday, May 13, the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond begins the process that should result in same sex couples being able to marry in Virginia.

In April, Herring advised that Virginia students who are lawfully present in the United States under the Federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program qualify for in-state tuition, provided they meet Virginia's domicile requirements.

EDITORIAL

This week, Gov. McAuliffe began administrative processes to blunt the effects of restrictive regulations placed on women's health centers that provide abortion, that would essentially have forced most to close by applying onerous standards intended for hospitals.

"I am concerned that the extreme and punitive regulations adopted last year jeopardize the ability of most women's health centers to keep their doors open and place in jeopardy the health and reproductive rights of Virginia women," McAuliffe said. He also began the process of changing the makeup of the Board of Health via appointments, including return-

ing James Edmondson of McLean to the board.

In the meantime, the gerrymandering of district lines for members of the General Assembly maintains the conservative, Republican super majority there.

Those members of the House of Delegates in particular seem prepared to cut off their noses to spite their faces, to do almost anything to deny health care to more than 200,000 very poor Virginians who could be covered by expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. Not only would this be fully covered by Federal funds for the first years and covered 90 percent thereafter, but it would bring enormous economic benefits to Virginia. McAuliffe is correct to look for ways to expand Medicaid administratively, bypassing the General Assembly. It has been done elsewhere.

"This is not just a health issue — it's an economic issue," McAuliffe said yesterday in announcing review of the regulations on women's health clinics, but the statement applies also to expanding health care in Virginia. "In order to grow and diversify our economy, Virginia needs to be open and welcoming to all."

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

No, I'm Not a Parent; I Just Act Like One

BY JOAN BRADY

I'm not a biological mother, an adoptive mother, a stepmother or a foster mother. But I have experienced some of the joys and heartbreaks of motherhood.

More than 12 years ago, I began as a homework tutor at a group home for foster kids. It was there that I met 7-year-old Dontae.

He would tell you that he tricked me into spending more time with him by pretending that he didn't know his letters. I would tell you that I was drawn to him in ways that I think mothers are drawn to their children. He needed someone. Maybe he needed me.

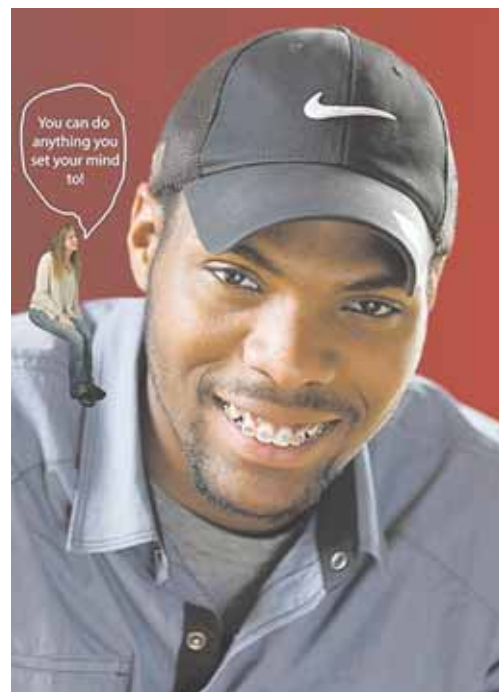
Within months, I began training to become Dontae's Court Appointed Special Advocate or CASA. A CASA is a volunteer who becomes the advocate for a foster child, representing a vulnerable child against the competing priorities of rotating social workers, lawyers and caregivers.

Dontae had 23 placements in just under three years during his time in foster care. With a lack of stability and security, it was no wonder that his behavior was out of control. His anger was often frightening and sometimes put us both in danger.

I quickly learned that he needed consistency and boundaries, but most of all, he needed unconditional, unwavering support.

My friends' kids were much younger than Dontae and social services and court appointed therapists didn't offer any meaningful insights or strategies. I operated on instinct, which sometimes served me well, but often did not.

I told Dontae over and over again what my parents had told me from the time I can remember: "You can do anything you set your mind to." While I might have gotten that per-



Joan Brady to Dontae: "You can do anything you set your mind to!"

sistent and caring motivational support right, there was so much I was getting wrong.

Fortunately, in my second year with Dontae. I met a talented therapist with a young child. In exchange for photographs of her daughter, she promised to meet with me weekly, the day after I saw Dontae.

Each week, I reported on our most recent visit. She would carefully explain where and why my instincts had betrayed me and sent me back out to do better the next time. Her insights were invaluable over the years.

Dontae returned to his mother's home after three years in foster care and she supported

my continuing to be part of their lives. I helped to navigate the frustratingly complex educational system and was there to encourage Dontae. But at 14, Dontae was not really much different than he had been when I met him at 7. He was often filled with rage. The slightest thing could set him off. And one day after battering me with harsh and menacing words, he attempted to jump out of my car as I drove down the highway.

I remember my parents threatening to leave us, four kids at the side of the road, during a particularly bad road trip. I knew just how they felt. But I didn't leave Dontae at the side of the road. And three years later, he started to change.

In the past five years I have gotten to experience some of the joys of parenthood; first job, raises, good grades, school dances, wonderful trips and meals enhanced by interesting conversations. I have also struggled with the frustrating dilemma of trying to keep a kid on track, alternating between nagging, bribing, screaming, negotiating and supporting.

Dontae stayed in school well beyond what should have been his graduation date, cramming 12 years of education into just two. And next month he will graduate.

If you had asked me if I thought this was possible 12 years ago, I would have quietly shaken my head. But come June, I will be loudly cheering Dontae on at his high school graduation and embarrassing him by taking too many pictures.

No, I'm not a parent. I just act like one.

Joan Brady is a professional photographer; mentor and advocate for current and former foster children; volunteer with paws4People, Fairfax Families4Kids, and others; and a resident of Great Falls. Reach her at joan@joanbradyphotography.com

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WEEK IN MCLEAN

AAUW to Hold Book Collection Saturdays

In preparation for its 45th Annual Used Book Sale to be held Sept. 19-21, the McLean Area AAUW will have four used book collection Saturdays between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. May 31; June 21; July 19; and, Aug. 9.

Desirable contributions include musical CDs as well as DVDs of television series and movies; recent editions of histories, including military histories, biographies, political analyses, gardening, health, general literature and business and economics books. AAUW also needs travel books published since 2009 and, as always, treasured collectibles and special art books, mystery stories, children's and general interest adult books.

The collection hours are shorter than in previous years and books cannot be left at the Bank outside of the collection hours. Sale proceeds support the professional development and scholarships for women.



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CALENDAR

Send announcements to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

THURSDAY/MAY 15 – SUNDAY/MAY 17
“The Pirates of Penzance.” 7 p.m. Oakton High School. A satiric operetta about a group of inept pirates off the shore of Cornwall, England in the 1880s. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

FRIDAY/MAY 16
2014 Future Fund Awards Gala. 8 – 11 p.m. The Cherry Blossom Charter, 105 N Union Street, Alexandria. Join members of the Future Fund, a giving circle of more than 100 young professionals at the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia, for a celebration of the 2014 Future Fund grantees – Linden Resources, Inc., and Quality of Life Foundation. \$75-\$95. <https://www.cfnova.org/our-programs/future-fund/awards-gala>

SATURDAY/MAY 17
McLean Day 2014. 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Now in its 99th year the event will feature amusement rides, a trackless train, pony rides, entertainment, field games, fair food, exhibitors , balloon twisting and more.
Tai-Chi & Stretch. 8-9 a.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.
Emy Tseng. 5-7 p.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.
McLean Day 2014: Celebrating our Hometown. 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. A spring carnival for family and friends to enjoy. www.mcleancenter.org/special-events.

Kilmer Center Run, Walk & Roll. 7:30 a.m. Kilmer Center, 8102 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. For children and young adults with significant intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities. Activities include a 5K Run, 1 mile Walk and Roll (multi-terrain wheelchair accessible race course), and Wellness Expo/Community Resource Fair. Entry fee of \$20 per participant includes a t-shirt. To register, visit www.fcps.edu/kilmercenter/. To volunteer, contact Sarah DiGioia at sedigioia@fcps.edu.
Vienna Choral Society for Parodies and PDQ Bach. 7:30 p.m. UUCF, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. An evening of mockery, humor, and some gosh-darn sophisticated singing. Plus



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCC

The McLean High School Jazz Ensemble will perform music of the classic big band era as well as contemporary pieces.

McLean to Celebrate Hometown

Residents of McLean welcome the happy return of fun in the sun each year with a familiar kickoff—their hometown festival, McLean Day. Sponsored by the McLean Community Center, the event is the perfect place for friends, neigh-

bors, local businesses and organizations to come together to enjoy all that makes their community special. McLean Day 2014: Celebrating Our Hometown will be held on Saturday, May 17, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road. Admission is free.

For festival updates, driving directions, shuttle bus stop locations and a festival area map, visit: www.mcleancenter.org/special-events or call the Center at 703-790-0123/TTY: 711. The Center's telephone will be answered from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the day of the festival.



Doreen Montis, Bubble Vision, on exhibit at the Great Falls Library, April-June

a few end-of-surprises that you won't want to miss. Tickets are \$25 (adults) and \$20 (seniors/students) - available through <http://viennachoralsociety.org/events/> and at the door. (Youth 14 and below attend free with a paying adult.)

SUNDAY/MAY 18
Breakfast Buffet. 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Vienna's American Legion Post 180, 330 Center Street, N. Vienna. Adults \$8, children \$3: omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, etc.

Open to the public, proceeds benefit Girls State. For more info, call 703-938-1379.

THURSDAY/MAY 22
Great Falls Writer's Group Meeting. 12-1:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Kemal Kurspabic, editor of the Great Falls Connection, will address the group on "Life on Deadline—From the Frontline Sarajevo Daily to the Great Falls Connection," in which he will talk about his years as a foreign correspondent and international journalist, and his role at The Connection. Potluck lunch will be served. Writers of all levels are welcome, no registration necessary. Call 703-926-7457 for more information.

FRIDAY/MAY 23
Patriotic Campfire. 7 - 8:30 p.m. WNC Campfire Ring - On Soapstone Drive, between Glade Drive and Lawyers Road. All ages. Celebrate Memorial Day by singing patriotic songs around a campfire. Roast a hot dog on a stick and make a yummy marshmallow treat. Play old-fashioned games and get a fun start to your holiday weekend. Reservations required by May 20. Fee: \$7/person RA members, \$9/person non-members. For more information, email naturecenter@reston.org, or call 703-476-9689 and press 5. a satiric operetta about a group of inept pirates off the shore of Cornwall, England in the 1880s.

SATURDAY/MAY 24 – SUNDAY/MAY 25
Model Trains at Open House. 1-5 p.m. 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose. 703-938-5157. www.nvmr.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 24 – MONDAY/MAY 26
ViVa! Vienna! 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Rides, food, entertainment, kids' activities and Memorial Day tribute celebrate community spirit. www.vivavienna.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 25
Young Soloists Recital. 3 p.m. Alden Theatre of the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Featuring violinist Kenneth Ryu Naito, 14, and pianists David DiMeglio, 13, Eric Lin, 13, Ann Liu, 16, and Miyabi Saito, 17, in music by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Prokofiev, Franck, Glazunov, Haydn, Grieg, and others. Free. 703-620-9535.

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.

SATURDAY/MAY 17
The Art of Wellness - a Health & Healing Fair. 1-5 p.m. Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Explore allopathic and complimentary healing systems from over 40 vendors and attend lectures, workshops and book signings. Entrance fee: \$10. <http://www.unityoffairfax.org>

MONDAY/MAY 19
McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The group will be discussing plans for their Aug. 24, event commemorating the bicentennial of the burning of the nation's Capitol during the War of 1812. If interested in taking part in the organization and its upcoming event contact Carole Herrick at 703-356-8223.

Home Modification Workshop. 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Want to know how small changes in your home can make a big difference to your comfort and safety as you choose to age-in-place? Want to know how to finance the modifications, what tax incentives are available, how to retain the re-sale value your home and how to steer clear of fraud and scams? Call 1-877-926-8300 or register online at <http://states.aarp.org/may-19/> where you can also learn more details about the program, including speakers and content.

FRIDAY/MAY 23
Summer and Fall Registration Open House. 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. McLean Children's Academy, at 6900 Elm Street, McLean. Registration open house for morning, afternoon and full day preschool classes. Bring your child and come tour the school. Please call 703-734-2353 for more information and to let us know which open house you will be attending. Registration info is also available on www.childrensacademy.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 24
McLean Child Safety Seat Inspection Event. 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Lewinsville Center, 1609 Great Falls Street, McLean. The McLean District Police Station holds child safety seat inspections once per month.

ONGOING
Vienna Toastmasters. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center on the 2nd floor room opposite the elevator, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. A friendly place to get comfortable with public speaking and impromptu speaking for new and experienced speakers. Open to the public.

VOTE

Vote on McLean Day

McLean Community Center Governing Board Election
Saturday, May 17, from 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road

Your Vote is Your Voice!

All qualified residents of Small District 1A Dranesville are encouraged to vote for members of the 2014-2015 MCC Governing Board.

- You need not be registered to vote in the general election
- Proof of residence, such as a driver's license, is required

Absentee Ballot

Vote now by absentee ballot and avoid the crowds! View the candidate statements on the Center's Web site. Call the Center or send an E-mail message to "elections@mcleancenter.org" to request a ballot package be sent to your home. Or, stop by the Center at 1234 Ingleside Avenue and pick one up. Completed ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 14** to be counted.

The McLean Community Center
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Student musicians with their parents and supporters. Woman's Club president Mildred Thompson is at right.

Woman's Club Honors Area Students

FROM PAGE 6

of Longfellow Middle School, performed the Concerto in G, 1st Movement, by Carl Stamitz, on the flute, accompanied by Hee Ra Son. Finally, Nadia Jo, also of Longfellow, performed the Concerto in A Minor, 1st Movement, by Camille Saint-Saens, on the cello, accompanied by Jade Sohn. The four students each received an award of \$100 from the Woman's Club.

Ten students at McLean elementary schools were recognized for their significant contributions as safety patrol members. The honorees were: Halle McLean and Cotter Smart, of Chesterbrook Elementary School; Sean Loftus and Teymur Zavar, of Churchill Road Elementary; Samantha Gonzales and Omar Al

Masri, of Franklin Sherman Elementary; Sydney Leonard and Kailen Jordan, of Kent Gardens Elementary; and Sarah Gaiter and Patrick Oh, of Spring Hill Elementary. The students received trophies engraved with their names and those of their schools, and each school received an award of \$80 for safety program equipment.

The students' parents and the school principals, music directors and patrol sponsors attended the ceremony, as did Officer Thomas W. Harrington, school resource officer of the Fairfax County Police Department. The award ceremony is an annual event of the Woman's Club of McLean.

— LAURA SHERIDAN

SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com by Friday.

[node/79/#USAMO](#)

Ten Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students earned top 10 finishes at the DECA International Career Development Conference held recently in Atlanta.

The following FCPS students earned a top 10 finish at the national level:

❖ Paige Ahmed, Sophie Eaton, and Lauren Fisher of Robinson Secondary School, Learn and Earn Project.

❖ Conor Boyle and Emma Heiden of Marshall High School, Marketing Communications Team.

❖ Sydney Applegate and Mason Hawkins of Oakton High School, Hospitality Services Team.

❖ Michael Briody and Wes Hammerschmidt of Marshall High School, Buying and Merchandising Team.

❖ Claire Heiden of Marshall High School, Principles of Marketing.

A total of 37 FCPS students were recognized as finalists at the 2014 competition.

Longfellow Middle School students **Aaditya Singh, Franklyn Wang, and William Sun** have qualified to the United States of America Junior Mathematical Olympiad (USAJMO) 2014. The USAJMO is an invitation only competition where the MAA invites the top scoring 230 students (10th graders and below across the US) based on a combination of their performance in the AMC-10 and AIME competitions. See more at: <http://www.maa.org/>

Courtney Cross, of Great Falls, graduated from Bishop O'Connell high school. She is a sophomore at Villanova University and was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of 2013.

Matthew Kent, of Vienna, was named to the Dean's List at Carnegie Mellon University for the fall semester of 2013.

Lindsay Weber, a 2010 graduate of James Madison High School, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of 2013 at Radford University.

Julian Kell, of Vienna, was named to the Dean's List at University of New England for the fall semester of 2013.

Aline Dolinh, 15, is a sophomore at Oakton High School in Vienna and has been appointed as the National Student Poet by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. Dolinh will participate in readings and workshops at libraries, museums and schools in Virginia as well as create community service projects to expand their reach while increasing engagement in the literary arts.

Kate E. DeWeese, daughter of Randi and Steve DeWeese of Vienna, graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School, and first-year student in the Bachelor of Arts Program, has been inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta honor society at Bucknell University.



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Empty-Nesters Spread Their Wings

A Springfield couple creates a personalized interior custom-suited to support everyday pleasures, using the existing footprint.

BY JOHN BYRD

A sunny space; an uplifting view; a generous footprint that includes a sizeable breakfast zone, a food preparation island and easy access to a large back deck.

On the surface, the kitchen of David and Cindy Kunzman's colonial-style home in Springfield had everything to recommend it. On the other hand: when the kids have moved on, transforming a kitchen into your everyday gathering place can become a personal passion. It's largely a matter of thinking creatively; and finding the right resources.

"We'd been thinking about a new kitchen almost from the day we moved in," said David Kunzman who had purchased the circa-1990s four-bedroom home about 10 years ago. "We didn't move quickly, partly, because the original floor plan worked pretty well. Fundamentally, we were developing our wish-list, going to home shows and waiting for the right opportunity."

That opportunity was meeting David Foster at a home his firm, Foster Remodeling Solutions, had recently renovated. Kunzman liked what he saw and heard. Shortly afterward, Cindy Kunzman was introduced to Foster's designer, Mimi Lee.

"That's when the project took off," Kunzman said. "Mimi really helped us shape our ideas."

THE FIRST STEP was a thoughtful re-examination with Foster of the existing floor plan: what worked and what could be improved upon.

The cooktop and clean-up were in the right place, the Kunzmans decided. The food prep island — while small — was a critical leg in effective work triangles. The breakfast nook was appropriately positioned, and there was lots of natural light. The main issues were in performance: more functional storage, some personal-use items begging for custom design, and, of course, ambiance.

It wasn't just that the existing interior was dated, or that it evoked qualities unquestionably associated with a suburban production house. The couple's larger goal was finding a design style that appropriately expressed their



PHOTO BY DIMITRI GANAS

While staying within the footprint of their existing 18-year old-kitchen, Dave and Cindy Kunzman gained significant improvements in both function and design. Cindy Kunzman worked closely with designer Mimi Lee at Foster Remodeling Solutions in developing a warmly textured ambiance that combines selected hardwoods, tumbled marbles and granite. Foster increased storage capacity and introduced a much larger food preparation island without moving walls or adding square footage.

Details

Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offers workshops on home remodeling topics. Call 703-550-1371 or visit www.fosterremodeling.com.

evolving tastes.

"The more we talked," Lee said, "the more we seemed to be naturally exploring ideas associated with transitional-style interior design."

Transitional style, Lee said, introduces traditional, often formal touches into an open floor plan. The style objective, thus, guided the selection process —cultivating a warmly textured feel appropriate for rooms often bathed in natural light.

THE STARTING POINT, however, was modifying the floor plan to gain useful square footage without moving walls.

Deleting a pantry tucked in an interior wall, for instance, enabled the Foster team to pick up just enough floor space to introduce a substantially larger food prepara

SEE A SPACE, PAGE 15

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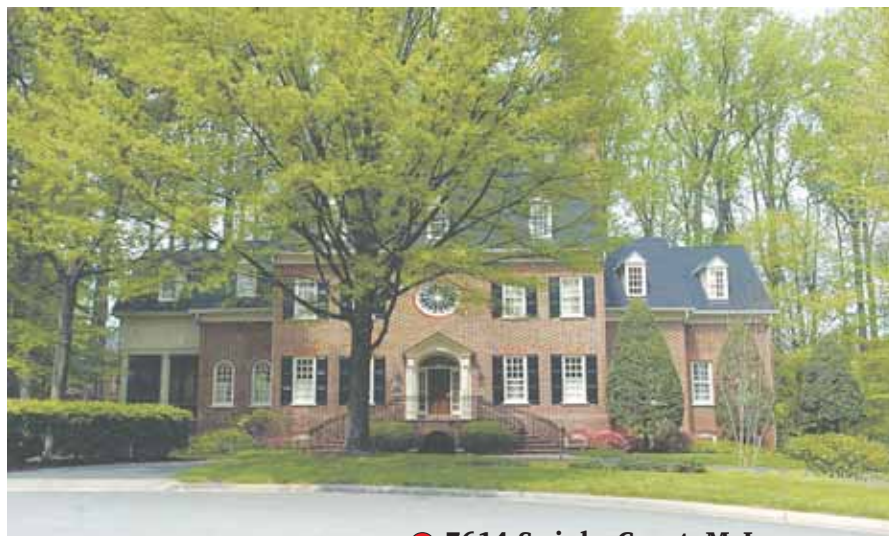
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March, 2014 Top Sales in Great Falls and McLean



1 1614 Kirby Road, McLean — \$2,850,000



2 7614 Swinks Court, McLean — \$2,850,000



9 9911 Mill Run Drive, Great Falls — \$1,560,000



10 128 Commonage Drive, Great Falls — \$1,525,000

1221 Kelley Street SW, Vienna — \$1,355,000



10101 Copper Court, Oakton — \$1,190,000



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1 1614 KIRBY RD	6	..	7	..	1	MCLEAN	\$2,850,000	Detached	0.60	22101	MCLEAN	03/25/14
2 7614 SWINKS CT	7	..	9	..	2	MCLEAN	\$2,850,000	Detached	0.95	22102	SWINKS MILL WOODS	03/28/14
3 6707 LUPINE LN	6	..	6	..	2	MCLEAN	\$2,560,000	Detached	1.25	22101	PARKVIEW HILLS/LANGLEY FOREST	03/26/14
4 1112 INGLESIDE AVE	5	..	5	..	2	MCLEAN	\$2,000,000	Detached	0.64	22101	REIDS GROVE	03/12/14
5 1911 BARBEE ST	6	..	6	..	2	MCLEAN	\$1,925,000	Detached	0.39	22101	KENT GARDENS	03/17/14
6 1809 FRANKLIN AVE	5	..	5	..	1	MCLEAN	\$1,834,000	Detached	0.23	22101	CHESTERBROOK	03/25/14
7 7104 HOLYROOD DR	4	..	2	..	2	MCLEAN	\$1,735,000	Detached	0.95	22101	COUNTRYSIDE	03/31/14
8 1657 PERLICH ST	5	..	5	..	1	MCLEAN	\$1,728,000	Detached	0.31	22101	CHESTERBROOK MANOR	03/14/14
9 9911 MILL RUN DR	6	..	6	..	3	GREAT FALLS	\$1,560,000	Detached	1.12	22066	HILL CREST ACRES	03/28/14
10 128 COMMONAGE DR	4	..	4	..	0	GREAT FALLS	\$1,525,000	Detached	6.57	22066	SOUTHDOWN	03/28/14

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A Space Reflecting Who You Are

FROM PAGE 13

tion island, and dining counter — which now accommodates seating for three. Moreover, while finding the square footage needed for a much larger refrigerator, a stacked double oven and even an Advantium range, the makeover still manages to provide more usable storage than the previous kitchen.

“This is David working some kind of magic,” Kunzman said.

“We designed deeper cabinets with roll-out trays,” Foster said. “The cabinets and drawers are designed for specific items, and positioned to facilitate a whole series of interlinked work triangles. It’s a plan that emphasizes convenience and efficiency.”

Naturally, in such a world, one expects cabinets custom-sized for large pots; roll-out spice racks; a side drawer for hand towels; and a dedicated spot for the espresso coffeemaker.

But this plan also introduces such originals as a pull-out drawer with his-and-her iPad charging stations; a slot to hold the RF Universal remote; and a TV mounted



The custom-designed wet bar — which is positioned for easy access to the back deck — includes a 40-bottle wine/beer refrigerator, a clean-up sink and an icemaker. The glass-faced cabinets display David Kunzman’s collection of beer mugs from favorite micro-breweries.

so that the screen points in any direction desired.

Carrying integrated home entertainment a step further, Foster positioned audio speakers above the cabinets and mounted the sound system in the basement.

The most personal built-in, however, is the 8-foot-by8-foot-by3.5-foot wet bar on the interior wall

of the breakfast nook. With a 40-bottle wine/beer refrigerator, a clean-up sink and an ice maker, the console is convenient to the breakfast table and, more importantly, to the deck and outdoor play area just beyond the double French doors.

“The wet bar is a real step-saver that makes entertaining on the

PHOTOS BY DIMITRI CANAS



The surface to the new food prep island/dining counter is more than twice the width of its predecessor and accommodates place settings for three. The design team choose granite in a hue known as Giallo Oatmeal, complementing a tumbled marble backsplash that incorporates glass tile accents.

deck much easier,” Kunzman said.

On the interior design front, Cindy Kunzman made full-use of Mimi Lee’s talents and advice, often visiting Foster Remodeling’s Lorton showroom to look at cabinets facings, marble samples or ideas for flooring.

What evolved was an interior that makes use of color-contrasted natural materials, decorative elements and finish work detailing: a cooktop hood faced in cherrywood that tapers upward to

ceiling-flush crown moulding; a Giallo Oatmeal granite surface mounted on the food prep island’s espresso-stained cabinetry base; and a backsplash of tumbled marble that incorporates glass tile inserts as art deco-styled accents.

“You build this kind of interior one detail at a time; that’s how you achieve distinction,” Kunzman said. “But more importantly, it’s satisfying to be in a space that so completely expresses who you are. It’s comfortable; it feels like home.”

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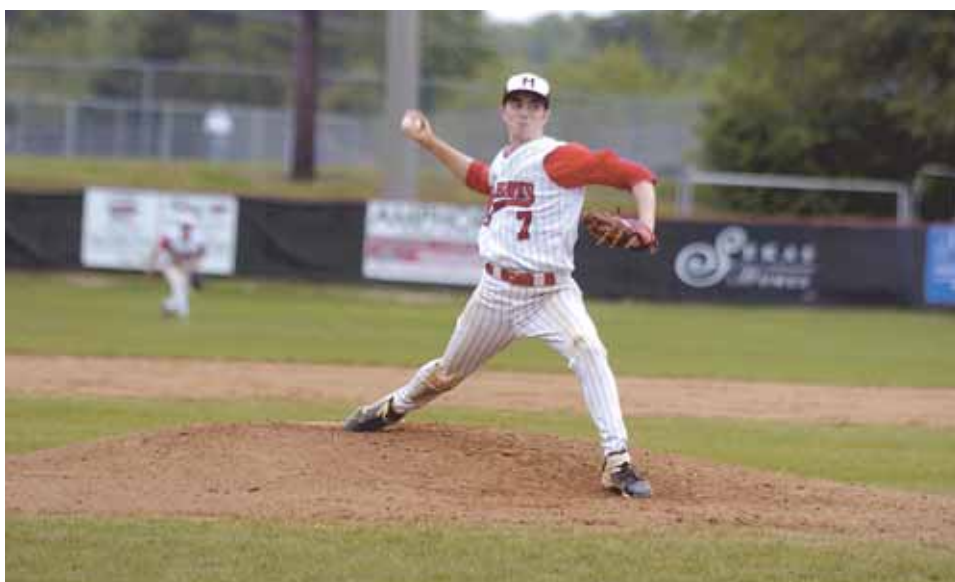
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Madison pitcher John DeFazio struck out 10 in six innings while earning the win against McLean on May 9.



McLean catcher Caleb Beatty finished 3-for-4 with a double and a solo home run against Madison on May 9.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Madison Pitcher DeFazio Shuts Down McLean

Warhawks junior strikes out 10 against Highlanders.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Friday's Madison-McLean matchup figured to be a pitching duel between a pair of future Virginia Tech right-handers. By the end of the second inning, however, Madison junior John DeFazio was the only ace left standing.

The Madison baseball team led 5-0 after one inning, 7-0 after two and cruised to an 11-3 victory over McLean on May 9 at Madison High School. DeFazio, a junior who is orally committed to the Hokies, earned the win, allowing two runs and seven hits over six innings. He struck out 10 and did not walk a batter, helping the Warhawks improve to 16-2.

"I felt great tonight with all my pitches," DeFazio said. "My curveball, especially, has been as consistent as it's ever been this year. I was able to put my fastball wherever I wanted it — especially on the inside part [of the plate]."

DeFazio, who pitched a perfect game against Washington-Lee on April 26, held McLean scoreless until the fifth inning, when reserve Billy Gerhardt and catcher Caleb Beatty led off the frame with back-to-back solo home runs. Madison head coach Mark Gjormand said a 10-run lead contributed to DeFazio allowing the long balls. "I thought he was outstanding," Gjormand said. "I thought his offspeed stuff was better than on his perfect-game day two weeks ago. ... When you're up 10-0, you're really throwing in the middle of the plate and you're just trying to get out of here, so we got him off the corners and that's on [the coaches]. John understands the game and he did a great job pitching to a 10-run lead in that situation."

Trey Ramsey pitched the seventh inning for Madison, allowing one run and two hits.

Langley's McSteen K's 18

Langley pitcher Jake McSteen struck out 18 batters during an 11-2 victory against Hayfield on May 10.

McSteen threw a complete game, allowing four hits and a pair of unearned runs while earning his sixth win of the season. McSteen, a senior left-hander,

will play baseball for the University of Nebraska.

The win improved Langley's record to 11-7. The Saxons concluded the regular season against Madison on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Conference 6 tournament will begin Friday, May 16.

He walked one and struck out three.

While DeFazio was dealing, McLean starter Joey Sullivan struggled. The senior lasted just 1 1/3 innings, allowing seven runs — four earned — and five hits while walking two and hitting one batter. The Virginia Tech signee threw a first-pitch ball to seven of 13 batters faced before moving to shortstop.

McLean head coach John Dowling said Sullivan, who threw a five-inning perfect game against Langley on April 5, didn't have his best stuff against Madison.

"[Sullivan's] fastball command was lacking," Dowling said. "His biggest asset is that when he commands his fastball down in the zone, he becomes very, very difficult [to hit]. Like any pitcher, when he doesn't do that and he has to pitch from behind, he becomes a lot more hittable."

MADISON TOOK CONTROL early, batting around in the first inning while building a 5-0 lead. A sacrifice fly by shortstop Pete Nielsen, a Sullivan balk and an RBI

single by first baseman Jimmy Goldsmith gave the Warhawks a 3-0 advantage before designated hitter Matt Favero delivered a two-run double.

DeFazio drove in a run with a sacrifice fly in the second inning and Nielsen produced an RBI single.

In the third inning, a wild pitch, another DeFazio sacrifice fly and another Nielsen RBI single put Madison up 10-0. Nielsen finished 2-for-3 with three RBIs.

"Joey's going to Virginia Tech, he threw a no-hitter this season, we're very well aware,"

Gjormand said. "... Our kids actually like seeing a live fastball better than soft lefty or soft righty."

While Madison built a double-digit lead, McLean didn't have a runner reach third base until the fourth inning and didn't score until the fifth, when home runs by Gerhardt and Beatty kept the Highlanders from suffering a five-inning, run-rule defeat.

"The whole team has been used to slow pitching," Beatty said, "and [DeFazio] came in with a little heat."

Gerhardt, who started early in the season before suffering an elbow injury, peppered the scoreboard in left field. Beatty followed with an opposite-field homer to left. The home runs seemed to fire up the Highlanders, but it was too little too late.

"That right there is what we need [Gerhardt] to be able to do, is when he is able to get in the lineup, take advantage of those opportunities," Dowling said. "That's exhibit A of what we're trying to get some of these guys to do because we, at times, don't go out there and play with that aggression that we need to be successful."

Beatty finished 3-for-4 with a double. Right fielder Colin Morse had an RBI single in the seventh inning.

McLean won its first five games and improved to 8-2 with a 16-3 victory over Edison on April 14. However, the Highlanders dropped seven of their next eight, including a 1-0 loss to Washington-Lee on May 10. "Some guys are starting to get it," Dowling said after the Madison loss. "Some guys are starting to go out there and they realize that they are skilled enough as a group that if they compete and they do it without any fear of failure, that they can be pretty darn good. Today, it took us 15 outs to get there, which is far too many against a team as good as Madison."

WHILE MCLEAN HAS STRUGGLED, Madison has thrived, winning 16 of 17 after opening the season with a 3-0 loss to Stone Bridge on March 21. The Warhawks are looking to make a deep postseason run after an early playoff exit last season. Madison won 22 straight games in 2013 before losing to eventual region champion Lake Braddock in the region quarterfinals.

"We feel like we're capable every year," Gjormand said. "Last year, it was a tough break because we ran into Lake Braddock. They weren't even supposed to be on that side of the bracket. We win 22 in a row and it was bound to happen that we weren't going to play well. We played our worst game of the year in our last game."

The Conference 6 tournament begins Friday, May 16.

Project Enlightenment students at a show.



PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

Project Enlightenment is History at McLean High

The decades long-program ends - for now.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

A unique class that has held a place at McLean High School for about 20 years, either as a club or in class form - will not be offered next year.

Project Enlightenment, which began as a re-enactment club, may return to its former status, disappointing many of the students who learned to love history and drama because of it.

"My class was too small to run in the present financial situation, so it was collapsed," said Project Enlightenment and physics teacher Dean Howarth.

His class this semester was 25 students.

He is worried that McLean High School is so academically driven that Project Enlightenment will not be as successful as it is now - as a course that is graded based on independent research and performance at museums and national historic landmarks throughout the D.C. metro region.

He knows that the decision to not offer the course was not the school's fault. He hopes that the course can be revived sometime in the future - even if it is after he retires.

"Where do you get into a situation where an affluent county runs tens of millions of dollars in debt?" said. "Now we're in a situation where Fairfax Public Schools is monolithic. It has inertia and doesn't have the nimbleness to react to the changes that are coming."

He said he does not know how the county is able to spend thousands of dollars on things like a new grading system next year, but cannot fund a unique program at what he considers to be one of the best school in Northern Virginia.



Elizabeth McCune and Ruth Sangree, seniors, look up information about their characters during their Project Enlightenment class.

"The first things to get cut aren't those systematic, bureaucratic things," he said. "They're the things kids like."

He hopes to revive the class into a club for next year. He said the club was once the biggest at the school. Project Enlightenment used to do two shows a year. The last few years, it has gone to nearly 15 shows in research libraries, community programs, elementary schools and museums.

"It's become such a unique, long-term project that's become such a tradition for the school," he said.

McLean High senior Elizabeth McCune found her love for history through the class.

The 18-year-old has been involved with Project Enlightenment since her sophomore year, and is disappointed that it will not be offered as a class next year.

"It makes me sad, because this class honestly has prepared me for college more than my other classes because of the independent research we have to do," she said.

The class also makes her practice her penmanship, do public speaking and read biographies and autobiographies for research.

She is attending Stanford University next year. She said Howarth inspired her to be a teacher, but she decided against it when she saw just how limited teachers are in the school system.

"I'm considering majoring in agricultural engineering, because one of my characters is a botanist," she said.

Several of the younger students had to find new classes to fill their schedule after the class got canceled.

"I had signed up for it, and they told me they didn't have enough people for it, and I had to find a new class to take," said Sophie Huffman, junior. "It was disappointing. Some of my backup classes got canceled as well."

SEC Chairman Revisits McLean

Mary Jo White shares an open forum evening with McLean Area Branch of AAUW.

The McLean Area Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) had an opportunity to share an intimate open forum evening with Mary Jo White, the 31st and current chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The SEC is the federal agency charged with protecting investors from crimes such as illegal stock trading, accounting fraud, and unscrupulous financial advising.

Born in Kansas City, Mo. and raised in McLean, she has maintained a close relationship over the decades with her sixth grade teacher at Kent Gardens School, Suzanne Watts, who invited White to spend an evening with the McLean Area AAUW.

After graduating from High School in McLean, White moved on to the College of William and



Mary Jo White

Mary, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. She later studied law at Columbia University, eventually becoming U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, the only woman to have ever held that post. Known as a tough prosecutor who successfully took on the likes of mobster John Gotti and the terrorists responsible for the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, White is the first former prosecutor to head the SEC.

White answered all questions and offered insights into not only the SEC but her journey through various professional venues usually as the first or as one of few highly ranked women balancing work with motherhood and her multi-decade marriage. White is a lifelong rapid Yankees fan as well as an enthusiastic attendee at Washington Nationals games where she was honored to throw a pitch recently.



PHOTO BY KIM MORAN

Churchill Road kindergarten students and their parents celebrated Mother's Day with homemade muffins and other treats. From left are Elizabeth Maclay and mom Christine Maclay, Anne Kim and son Elliot Pomper, Keira Buggs and daughter Julia Jackson, Erin Thurston (kindergarten teacher, standing), Julie Broad with son Finnegan and nanny Yurany Del Castillo Reyes.

Muffins for Mom at Churchill Road

Churchill Road kindergartners celebrated Mother's Day on Friday, May 9 by hosting "Muffins for Mom." Students in each of the four kindergarten classes (Barbara Lewis, Erin Thurston, Laura Matthews and

Krista Zier) worked with the arts teachers Julie Brodzik and Jenny Whiteman to create hand-stitched squares for their moms. The students also made special Mother's Day placemats.

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Still Curious, But Maybe Not Dying



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Although one never knows, especially if that one is living in "cancerville." And by "cancerville" I mean, euphemistically speaking, anywhere where one of us diagnosed with cancer is living. Living being the operative word. Still, as my column from a few weeks ago entitled, "Dying With Curiosity" discussed, cancer patients are often besieged by their subconscious, changing fact into fiction and manipulating feelings into inevitabilities. If only there was a switch to turn off the mind games that don't exactly mind their "man-ners" or "women-ers" for that fact, I'd flick it in a second. Cancer creates physical problems – as we all know, but I have to tell you, it's the mental problems that can be just as deadly.

It was in this column that I attempted to flesh out why I was – at this particular point in my cancer career – thanking people, people I had never previously thanked and people who quite frankly needed thanking. But was I thanking them ("I Thought You Were a Goner" and "Thanks, Coach") because it was the proper thing to do, or was it my subconscious cashing a check that I had not realized needed to be written – if you know what I mean? And if you don't, to clarify: did my subconscious know something that my conscious mind had yet to find out? Was I in fact getting things in order before it was too late?

Conversely (oddly enough), my columns published over the most recent two weeks were what we call non-cancer columns: "Father and Son 'Twogether'" and "A Tale of Two Seasons," as if a didn't have a cancer thought on my mind, subconsciously or otherwise, that needed to be written. No feelings – or facts for that matter, about cancer that one might interpret as creepy or curiously prophetic, given the terminal diagnosis with which I live every day. No. Just normal, everyday-type minutiae that those familiar with my first 10 years of columns published in this space (I guess we'll call them pre-cancer columns now), are likely familiar. Topics ranging from the mundane to the ridiculous, as if I didn't have a care in the world; certainly not a cancer care, that's for sure.

And so it dawned on me: were these two columns ("Father and Son 'Twogether'" and "A Tale of Two Seasons") examples of my subconscious mind once again exerting its power over my conscious mind and providing fodder for non-cancer columns because it could? Or was this my subconscious mind telling me to relax and not think so much, especially about the two "thank-you" columns: "I Thought You Were a Goner" and "Thanks, Coach"? Either way, it seemed to me an odd juxtaposition of material over a 4-week period: two columns that contemplated death (sort of) and two other columns which contemplated nothing, really, certainly not death, anyway.

The upshot of which has been to unburden me a little bit, to make me a little less focused on the presumptive path that lies ahead and instead direct me onto an alternative route, one that features more future and less past. I'd like to think I can live like that; I just hope my subconscious mind has no more to say about it.

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

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6927 Butternut Court

McLean \$1,199,000
 STUNNINGLY beautiful 5br/3.5 ba colonial with
 NUMEROUS updates throughout! Gourmet granite &
 stainless steel kit; renov. baths; stone patio/trex deck!

JUST LISTED in Chesterbrook Woods!



5910 Woodley Road

McLean \$1,489,000
 SPECTACULARLY renovated 5 br/3 full & 2 half bath
 home w/ loads of light & custom touches throughout!
 Updated island kit overlooks lush backyard/waterfall!

FABULOUS McLean location!



1819 Rupert Street

McLean \$799,000
 OVER \$15K in RECENT UPGRADES! Beautiful
 eat-in gourmet kitchen with brand new stainless steel
 appliances; gleaming hardwoods; lovely lush lot!

The Dogwoods at Langley!



5829 Bent Twig Road

McLean \$999,999
 FABULOUS 4br/3.5 bath brick colonial on 3 finished levels
 features generous room sizes; large owner's suite w/ sitting
 room & remodeled bath; wooded lot and quiet cul-de-sac!



Under Contract!

McLean \$899,000



FOR SALE!

McLean \$899,000



FOR SALE!

McLean NOW...\$999,000



FOR SALE!

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