

A Music 'Out of This World'

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Father's Day Photo Gallery

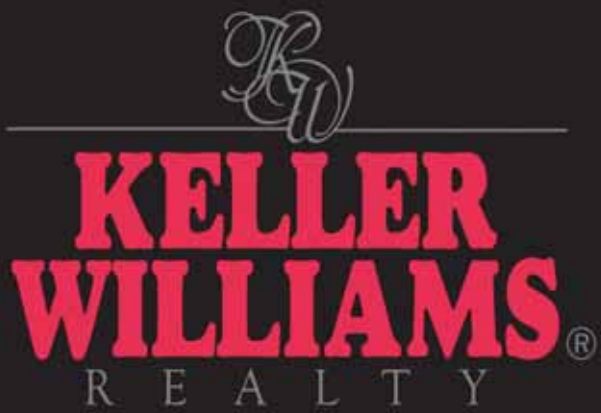
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With music including a rendition of "Halo" amongst the set list, the concert would not be complete without an electric guitar or two. Langley senior Alex Blankinship played the electric bass during the "Out of This World" concert.

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The team members hold their first place trophy in front of FIRST's festival banner.

World Champions

Great Falls' Lego Robotics Team brings home first place at World Festival.

RACHEL STONE
THE CONNECTION

Where some might see colorful bricks, the six members of Team Positive Aftermath see Legos as the building blocks of the future. In a brain-charged feat at the St. Louis FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics World Festival, these elementary and middle school students won rave reviews for their robot and research. Returning home to Great Falls, their heads were filled with new ideas, and their arms toted their first place trophy award for innovative solutions and research.

Along with regional and state contests, a year of preparation under expert coach Aditi Vij brought the team to St. Louis for the world championship of Lego robotics. They faced over 600 teams under one roof, flown in from 70 regions around the globe.

Much unlike athletic competitions, FIRST innovatively encourages inter-team cooperation, which fosters enduring international friendships. "Our favorite part was definitely meeting all the other teams!" remembered sixth grader Alex Tisseront.

THE TEAM'S ROBOT "Bubbles" was lauded by judges for its multi-gear design and pneumatic function, which maximized accuracy and efficiency. "Our team went through at least six different robots before coming up with our final design," remarked sixth grader Sanjana Meduri. "So giving up is not a word in our dictionary!"

As in any project, the final product was the result of apportioned roles and teamwork. Programming, digital design, research and documentation, construction, and professional outreach were all on the team's agenda. With perseverance, the end result was realized through long weekend practices, evening calls, and biweekly meetings.



The team takes a field trip from competing to the St. Louis Gateway Arch.

But if robot construction wasn't enough, the team also recruited the aid of MIT professors and the National Institute of Health (NIH) to tackle the problem of safe drinking water in the wake of disasters. According to their findings, the demand for potable drinking water is expected to exceed supply by 40 percent in the next two decades.

Using labs at NOVA, the team created patented prototypes of a water purifier, which filters all from heavy metals to hurricane contaminants. "We also grew e-coli cultures to test the bacterial effect of colloidal silver," explained seventh grader Aaraj Vij, "Doing the experiments ourselves and seeing the results was both fun and educational!" Their creativity and intellect is destined for good. "Our dream has come true, and we want to keep pushing forward until our solution is in stores internationally," said seventh grader Vishnu Murthy.

Even after brainstorming and Google hangouts, these members aren't ready to split. They enjoy dozens of hours of time together—on field trips, fundraising for the Red Cross, and mentoring younger teams. "We tend to bring out the best in each other!" said seventh grader Siona Prasad.

THEIRS IS A TEAM that bridges school boundaries and earth's four corners; they attend five area schools and their nationalities include French, Indian and Chinese. One fun tradition has been learning a new dance each year—this year, the robot dance itself—and sharing their interests of chess, music, athletics and even comedy.

Zach Wang, a sixth grader, thanks the coaches for fine-tuning his public speaking skills. "At first, I didn't like to talk, and now I'm much less shy," he said. Parent Astrid Tisseront also listed First Lego League contributions of real-life skills: everything from research presentation and receiving feedback, to analytical questioning and product marketing. "These are certainly not the first things 'legos' and 'robotics' bring to mind."

Now heading into its fifth year, Team Positive Aftermath encourages fellow students at school and in the community to join them. Learn more at www.usfirst.org.



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH

Clinical Psychologist Jennifer Leyton-Armakan talks to teens during the Teen-to-Teen Mental Health Summit Thursday.

Teens Talk Depression

Mental Health Summit focused on destigmatizing depression.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

What if mental illness and suicide didn't have a stigma? That's a question Safe Community Coalition and the Josh Anderson Foundation hope to make into a reality.

The two organizations invited students from schools throughout the area and parents to the Teen-to-Teen Mental Health Summit at McLean Community Center on Thursday to listen to a panel of teenagers about their experience with depression and how to help those who may be fighting the problem themselves.

"You have to speak up, or you will be battling it alone," said Will Rau, senior at Langley High School. "Happy thoughts or wishful thinking won't cut it."

Each of the six panelists - from schools like Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology, McLean High and Langley High - urged those with depression to get professional help. The first step for many was to tell their parents.

"Telling my parents was one of the best things in my life because at that point, things started to change," said Jack Saunders.

Saunders said he was a happy kid, but he began feeling a change in his mood when he was in middle school.

"I was always a happy person," he said. "My parents would call me their sunshine."

By the time he was in high school, he coped with his stress by scratching, then cutting, his arm. He also coped through alcohol, and nearly drank enough to kill himself one night.

"I wanted to get better, and that was a big part of it," he said. "You have to want to get better."

Miss State Fair of Virginia

Hanna Hunt took her pageant crown off of her head that night to reveal herself as a Langley student who suffered from anxiety. The 17-year-old junior made teen depression and anxiety her platform after winning the pageant.

She said she often feels alone and like a failure even after having successes.

"I didn't want to go to therapy because you don't want to think you're crazy," she said.

After the panelists spoke, teens and parents separated. Parents were informed the best way to help teens deal with depression and anxiety while the students had a break-out session to figure out the best way to destigmatize depression at school.

After the teens discussed options, they presented the list to other groups. Many students found the event and discussion helpful and enlightening.

"I have experience with depression," said 17-year-old Jamie Simon, Reston. "It was good to hear other people tell their stories, and I felt a grounding experience that helped me orient myself."

Others came to the event because they had friends who were dealing with depression and did not know how to help them. In February, two students at Langley High School killed themselves in the same week due to unspoken depression, causing a surge of interest in the topic and a hope for change.

"I came here because I'm interested in this topic," said 16-year-old Apiding Osika, McLean. "A lot of people at my school have these issues, and I don't know how to help them. It helped me to see how to deal with the issue and see how common it is."



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STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The award for Best Play went to “The Children’s Hour” at Langley High School. (From left): Hayley Wenk, Madeleine Chalk, Kathleen Welch and Rachel Mayman.

Cappies Awarded for High School Theater

The 15th Annual Cappies Awards Gala for high school theater was held Sunday, June 8 at The Kennedy Center. Nine Cappies went to

West Potomac High School for “Spamalot,” including the coveted Best Musical award. The Best Play
SEE CAPPIES, PAGE 5

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NEWS



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION



The award for Graduating Critic went to Jamie Joeyen-Waldorf of Great Falls from Langley High School.

The award for Supporting Actress in a Play went to Lily Brock of Herndon for "The Children's Hour" at Langley High School.

Cappies

FROM PAGE 4

award went to Langley High School for "The Children's Hour." The Cappies' show season extended from October 2013 to May 2014, and Cappies shows were attended, on average, by 45 student critics. This year's event included 58 public and private high

schools from Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Montgomery and Prince William counties, the cities of Falls Church, Alexandria and Manassas, and Washington, D.C. The event was hosted by Judy Bowns, Janie Strauss and Ed Monk.

— STEVE HIBBARD

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which changes to Gunston Road/VA-242. In about 2 miles you'll pass the main entrance to the Meadowood Recreation Area on your right. Don't turn here, rather continue on another half of a mile. You'll turn right through a gate onto a dirt drive. If you use Google Maps, Mapquest, or other GPS, you can use these coordinates as your destination and it will take you right to the location: 38.670731, -77.190827



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OPINION

Clearing the Air on New Carbon Standards

BY CONGRESSMEN GERRY
CONNOLLY (VA-11) AND
PAUL TONKO (NY-20)

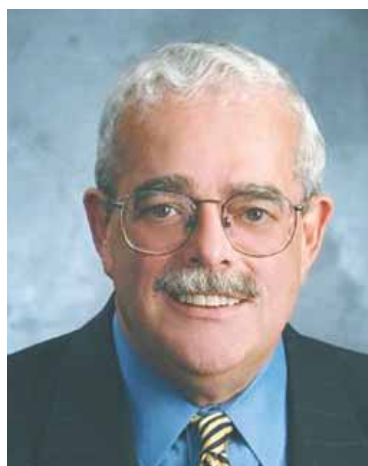
CO-CHAIRS, SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
AND ENVIRONMENT COALITION

The EPA's new proposal to safeguard the air we breathe and contain a primary driver of climate change by reducing carbon emissions from existing power plants is the lynchpin to reducing our carbon footprint. As co-chairs of the House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition, we welcome action on carbon pollution and look forward to working with all stakeholders in a responsible manner to advance a 21st century energy economy for America.

Power plants are responsible for 40 percent of U.S. carbon pollution. Without addressing this source of pollution our efforts fade in significance. Similar safeguards already exist for other hazardous pollutants such as lead, arsenic, and mercury. And they have worked. Why shouldn't the same apply for carbon? By targeting this source of pollution, we protect public health, the economy, and national security.

Unfortunately, there are those who would have us believe that these and other EPA safeguards threaten our shared national priorities. Just as they did when Congress, in a bipartisan fashion, adopted the Clean Air and Clean Water acts a generation ago, these critics offer the same hackneyed arguments they always make: they contend the public does not want these protections, they will kill jobs, bankrupt the economy, and cause electricity rates to double. This is the same crowd that waged deceitful campaigns warning of death panels, a government-run takeover of healthcare, and socialized medicine in the hopes of distracting us from the urgent need for the Affordable Care Act.

Such false and misleading claims were shameful then, and if



Connolly

repeated, will jeopardize the tremendous strides we've made in protecting public health. Unfortunately, some took to attacking the EPA's latest proposal even before it was released. Last week, Speaker Boehner said the EPA is "hurting our economy" with such proposals, though he did note he was no expert on climate change and had not yet seen the proposed regulation. Let's move beyond such rhetoric and look at the facts.

Take the first claim that carbon pollution restrictions will kill jobs and devastate the economy. Evidence tells us that we can have both a clean environment and a strong economy. In a recent op-ed, Christine Todd Whitman, a Republican, who is the former Governor of New Jersey and was EPA Administrator under President George W. Bush, highlighted that "...between 1970 and 2006, U.S. GDP grew by 195 percent, yet thanks to regulatory changes annual emissions of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, and lead all decreased significantly." In other words, economic growth and regulation can and do intertwine successfully.

Investing in new energy standards actually has helped fuel that economic growth. For example, since the Clean Air Act was passed in 1970, every dollar spent on compliance standards has yielded \$4-\$8 in economic return on that investment.



Tonko

The fact is that these standards have been a catalyst for a new generation of clean energy, new investment in plants and equipment, and the creation of thousands of domestic jobs. Employment in the American solar industry, for example, grew ten times faster than the national employment average rate last year.

Another tired but predictable claim opponents will make is that electricity rates will increase. The Washington Post's fact checker, who does not take a position on EPA rules, debunked this allegation noting that "this [claim] does not pass the laugh test." The Clean Air Act amendments of 1990 also were assailed by similar attacks. So what happened to electricity rates? They decreased. Between 1990 and 2006, electricity rates fell by 47 percent in Arkansas, 332 percent in Georgia, 64 percent in Illinois, 28 percent in Indiana, 35 percent in Michigan, 30 percent in North Carolina, 18 percent in Ohio, 36 percent in Pennsylvania, 40 percent in Utah, and 36 percent in Virginia. Even the power companies agree. The CEO of American Electric Power, one of our nation's largest utilities, said that with enough time to prepare, the transition to a cleaner energy future can occur "without a major impact to customers or the economy."

Finally, these perennial alarmists will argue that the American pub-

lic does not want the "boot of government regulation on their neck." To the contrary, when it comes to basic health protections, the American public overwhelmingly has said it doesn't want the threat of pollution on its neck. A 2012 American Lung Association report found that Americans support the Clean Air Act by a 2-to-1 margin. The same report found nearly 3 out of 4 respondents believe we shouldn't have to choose between health and safety standards and promoting the economy. They understand that the opponents are presenting them with a false choice and that we can and must do both. And when it comes to setting limits on carbon pollution from power plants, a February 2014 poll found 7 out of 10 Americans support these safeguards. Seventy percent!

But you won't hear the House majority reminding the public of these inconvenient truths. They prefer reckless rhetorical arguments and irresponsible inaction. Reducing carbon emissions poses a significant challenge, and we look forward to working with industry, the environmental community, and stakeholders at the local, state, and federal levels to address this challenge. But first we must be willing to move beyond these campaigns of fear and deception.

Thankfully, there are indications that industry and the public understand this. For example, use of solar power by American companies increased by 40 percent last year.

Those businesses, and their customers, understand the value of investing in American ingenuity and innovation – a healthier environment, a sustainable source of domestic energy, creating new high-skilled jobs.

The Obama Administration has taken a bold step in proposing a 30 percent reduction from 2005 levels in carbon emissions from power plants. We support that effort and know that America's health and economic wellbeing will benefit immeasurably.

Great Falls CONNECTION

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FRIDAY/JUNE 13

McLean Senior Source Training Session. 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. A volunteer-managed organization, seeking to make

McLean a friendly, connected, and supportive community for all, while recognizing the special needs of older adults and adults living with disabilities.

To register, please email
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with the subject line "MSS Training."

MONDAY/JUNE 16

Spanish Conversation Group. 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

Practice Spanish as a foreign language in this casual conversation group.

Preschool Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Join us for stories, song and activities. Ages 3-5 with a grown-up.

TUESDAY/JUNE 17

Red Cross Blood Drive. 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. NetApp, 1921 Gallows Road, Vienna.

Improve your English Skills. 11 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave, McLean. Get focused help with reading, writing, speaking and listening. Adults.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 18

English Conversation Group. 1 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave, McLean. Practice your English in a conversational setting. Adults.

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Celebrate Great Falls on July 4th

The 4th of July Hometown Celebration and Parade in Great Falls will be held on Friday, July 4 at Great Falls Village Centre. Celebrate Great Falls Foundation has announced a dawn-to-dusk schedule that includes:

* 8 a.m. — 5K Walk/Run — Great Falls Freedom Memorial

The Great Falls Trailblazers are bringing the Annual 5K Walk/Run to local trails. Join the participants at the Freedom Memorial on the Library grounds. From there, go off-road on the Lucy Hanes Trail, along Arnon Chapel and past Great Falls Elementary before heading back to the Freedom Memorial. Register that morning.

* 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. — INOVA Blood Drive — Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department

The Great Save Lives, Give Blood. Everyone who completes the donor screening procedure will receive a free Donor T-shirt. Photo ID required. Allow 1 hour for donor visit. Call 866-256-6372 to schedule your appointment today.

* 9 a.m. — Little Patriot Parade — Village Centre Green (at the Gazebo)

Babies and Toddlers up to age 5 are welcome to parade their finest patriotic display around the Green. Awards for "Young George



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

The Celebrate Great Falls float makes its way down Columbine Street during the annual Great Falls Fourth of July parade last year.

Washington," Little Miss Betsy Ross," and "The Star Spangled Family." 9 a.m. Registration at the Gazebo — 9:15 a.m. Little Patriot Parade start.

* 10 a.m. — Main Parade — Great Falls Village Centre

See the floats, horses, antique cars and pets making a loop in the Main Parade. Be sure to spot the winning floats for Best Neighbor-

hood, Best Business and Best Organization.

Starts on Columbine Road and proceeds around the Village Centre Green.

After the parade, enjoy burgers, dogs and snowcones along with music, field games and festivities on the Village Centre Green with your Great Falls neighbors. There will be no Fireworks this year.

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News


Faith Notes

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

The Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna is hosting a Father's Day worship and Picnic beginning at 10 a.m. on Sunday June 15. Each man attending will receive the book, "Playbook for an Uncommon Life" by Tony Dungy. A potluck picnic will follow the worship service where each person brings food of their choice to share. For more information go to www.antiochdoc.org or call 703-938-6753.

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

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



Route 7 Widening Fairfax County

Public Information Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2014, 6 – 8:30 p.m.
Forestville Elementary School
1085 Utterback Store Road, Great Falls, VA 22066

Find out about plans to widen Leesburg Pike (Route 7) from four to six lanes between Reston Avenue and the west end of the bridge over the Dulles Toll Road (a 6.9 mile segment), to increase capacity, decrease congestion, and improve safety, in conformity with the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan.

The project would also include intersection improvements, as well as a 10-foot shared-use path on both sides of the road to increase mobility for cyclists and pedestrians.

Stop by between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project. VDOT and Fairfax County staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information at www.virginiadot.org, at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-259-2118, 800-367-7623 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

Give your written comments at the meeting, or submit them by **July 8, 2014** to Bethany Mathis, Program Manager, Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email meeting_comments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "Route 7 Widening – Reston Avenue to Dulles Toll Road" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the project manager at the above phone numbers.

State Project: 0007-029-128,P102,R202,C502,B610 UPC: 52328
Federal Project: DEMO-5A01(439)



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Three generations united on May 17, as Honor Flight World War II Veteran, 87-year-old Jim Tisthammer of California, was joined by his daughter, Janet T. and grandson Luke T. Jameson of Great Falls at the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C.



Samantha Siffring, of Great Falls, Caroline, 16; Josh, 14; and their father Jim, at a wedding in The Outer Banks last June.



Floyd, Stephanie and Christian Gaibler of Great Falls celebrating Christmas at Riverbend Country Club.

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Reid Siffring, 4, and Oliver Siffring, 2, with their grandfather Jim McQuaig, of Great Falls, helping out at the office.

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 12

Ringo Starr & His All-Starr Band. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Filene Center, 1551 Trap Rd, Vienna. Celebrate an era with a band of rock n' roll virtuosos from the Beatles, Santana, Journey, Toto and more! \$35-\$65. 703-255-1900.

Summer Exhibitions Opening Reception and Gallery Talk. 7-9 p.m. McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean.

FRIDAY/JUNE 13 - SUNDAY/JUNE 22

"Bat Boy: The Musical." 1st Stage Theatre in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. A musical comedy/horror spoof and satire on American prejudice featuring a half-boy, half-bat creature as the main character. Performances now through June 22. Fridays 8 p.m., Saturdays 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets: \$32, Students & Military: \$15, Senior (age 65): \$27. <http://www.1stStageTysons.org/>. 703-854-1856.

FRIDAY/JUNE 13 - SUNDAY/JUNE 15

Salvador Dali: The Sculpture Collection. Wentworth Gallery, 1807 U. International Drive, McLean. 703-833-0111.

FRIDAY/JUNE 13

II Volo. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Filene Center, 1551 Trap Rd, Vienna. Pop-opera trio of Italian teen heartthrobs combines soaring voices with playful charm in a multilingual "mixture of Andrea Bocelli and the Jonas Brothers." (The NYTimes) \$30-\$65. 703-255-1900.

SATURDAY/JUNE 14

Memorial Race and Fun Run. 8:30 a.m. at Franklin Middle School, 3300 Lees Corner Road, Chantilly. First "Born to Run" 5k Memorial Race and Fun Run in honor of the late teacher Jannine Parisi. \$30+ for 5K, \$15+ for 1K goes towards an education fund for Jannine's two daughters. To participate, register at www.prraces.com. Volunteers needed, contact Assistant Principal Bryan Holland at bholland@fcps.edu.
Wolf Trap's 25th Annual Louisiana Swamp Romp™. 2 p.m. Wolf Trap Filene Center, 1551 Trap Rd, Vienna. The Big Easy party is back! Dance to Louisiana's hottest bands and jump in the second line parade. \$30. 703-255-1900.

Great Falls Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. www.celebrategreatfalls.org/

farmersmarket
Maria Spearman (Tai-Chi and Balance). 8-9 a.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. 703-288-9505.

Scott Ramminger and the Crawstickers (Blues). 5-7 p.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. 703-288-9505.

Pancake Breakfast. 8 a.m. - noon. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. South, Vienna. The Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary will sponsor the breakfast. All you can eat pancakes, sausage, bacon, juice and coffee. Adults \$8.00, Seniors 65+ \$7.00, Children under 12 \$6.00, Children under 4 free. For more information please contact: auxiliary@vvfd.org

SUNDAY/JUNE 15

Intro to Kayaking (12-Adult). Noon. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. This introductory-level class is perfect for beginners or for those who want to learn how to paddle more efficiently. Learn about different kayaks, paddles, personal flotation devices and safety gear. On the water, learn to move the boat in every direction using forward and reverse strokes, a turning stroke, a slice stroke and stopping maneuvers. Register at: <http://parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov/>

Kayak Tour-Moonshine & Mayhem (14-Adult). 9 a.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. What is now Riverbend Park once was a safe haven for illegal whiskey-making operations during the 1920s. Journey by kayak past river islands and discover its shady past. This is not a whitewater tour. No previous experience required. Kayaks provided. One-person and two-person kayaks available. Download waiver and bring completed to tour. <http://1.usa.gov/1aubG3L>.

Great Falls Concerts on the Green. 6 p.m. Great Falls Centre Green. Multi-talented Daryl Davis performing his signature jazz and blues. www.celebrategreatfalls.org

MONDAY/JUNE 16

Preschool Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Join in for stories, song and activities. Ages 3-5 with a grown-up.

Read to the Dog. 4 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Tony Pepperoni wants someone to read to him. School age children.

Kids Book Club. 5:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Ages 8-12. 703-757-8560.

TUESDAY/JUNE 17

Historic Vienna Event. 7:30 p.m. Council Chamber of Vienna's Town Hall, 127 Center Street S., Vienna. Historic Vienna, Inc. will sponsor a lecture by local author, Air Force



PHOTO BY TERESA CASTRACANE/
COURTESY OF 1ST STAGE

Farrell Parker and Jimmy Mavrikes in "Bat Boy: The Musical" at 1st Stage through June 22.

veteran and diplomat Robert F. Dorr, who will discuss his newest book "Fighting Hitler's Jets," which combines basic historical information with compelling personal stories of how Americans flying propeller-driven planes were able to develop combat tactics to defeat the newly introduced German jets. For more information, call 703-938-5187 or visit www.historicviennainc.org.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 18

Morning Book Group. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call for current title. 703-757-8560.

Pokemon League. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Come play Pokemon with your friends! Ages 5-15.

THURSDAY/JUNE 19

Reading Buddies. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Grab a book, grab a buddy. Beginning readers and teens practice reading together. Teen volunteers please arrive at 4:15 p.m.

Evening Book Group. 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call branch for title. 703-757-8560.

FRIDAY/JUNE 20

Playdate Cafe. 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Play area for toys for children. Coffee and conversation for grown-ups. Ages 0- Preschool with parent or caregiver.

Drop-In Chess. 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop in and play chess. All skill levels welcome.

Summer on the Green Concert. 6:30 p.m. Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Avenue E, Vienna.

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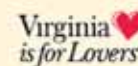
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McLean Baseball Secures State Berth with Win Over Madison

Highlanders lose in region final, will face Western Branch at states.

BY JON ROETMAN

THE CONNECTION
embers of the
McLean baseball
team waited pa-
tiently in the

first-base dugout at Madison High School as a steady rain drenched the field. The Highlanders had put themselves in a position to win. Now, it was a matter of determining whether they would return to action to finish the job, or if Mother Nature would take care of business.

After a half-hour had passed, umpires determined there would be no more baseball played on this Wednesday evening. The McLean dugout erupted. Players leaped over the railing and sprinted into right field for a celebratory dog pile.

McLean defeated Madison 5-1 in a rain-shortened 6A North region semifinal contest on June 4 in Vienna. With the victory, the Highlanders secured what is believed to be the first region-final berth in program history.

The Highlanders led 5-1 after six complete innings. After McLean failed to score in the top of the seventh, Madison came to bat in the bottom half during a steady rainfall. The Warhawks had runners on first and second with one out and Michael Nielsen facing a 1-2 count when umpires stopped the game.

The rain continued to fall during a nearly 30-minute delay. At 9:30 p.m., umpires called the game and the Highlanders were heading to the region final.

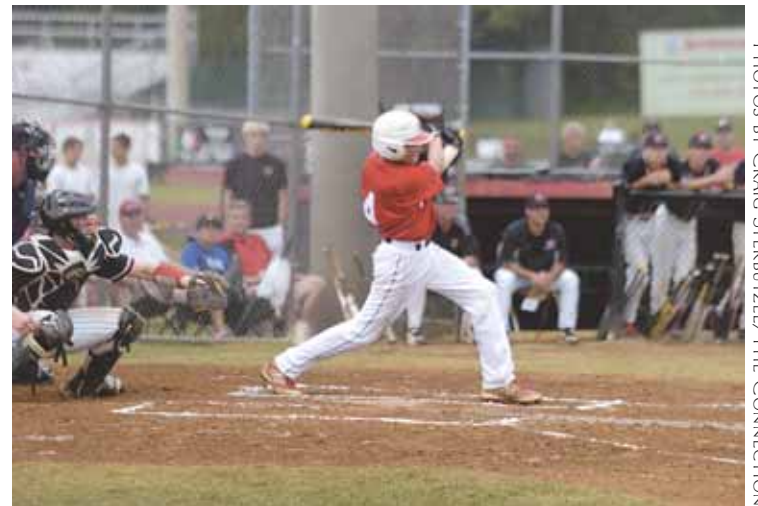
"To be honest, it felt like a million years," McLean sophomore shortstop Conor Grammes said about the half-hour rain delay. "I kept waiting for those umpires to come out and call the game or say we had to go back out there. Even if we did have to go back out there, we all had the mindset. We didn't let each other stop thinking about the game. We kept our heads right. It all played out the right way."

McLean head coach John Dowling said it was "unfortunate" the game ended the way it did, adding the Highlanders were ready to get back on the field.

"It was an odd situation," he said. "Looking at the field, we could sort of anticipate what was happening, but it's a crappy way



Joey Sullivan and the McLean baseball team earned a state tournament berth with a 5-1 victory against Madison in the 6A North region semifinals on June 4.



McLean sophomore shortstop Conor Grammes went 4-for-4 with two doubles against Madison on June 4.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

McLean Falls to Chantilly in Region Final

McLean would lose to Chantilly in the region final, 12-0, on June 6. The Highlanders used quality pitching, sound defense, and timely hitting to advance through the region tournament, but none of those three were present for the Highlanders in the championship game. Chantilly took control early with nine first-inning runs and cruised to victory at Chantilly High School. It was the Chargers' first region title in program history. Neither team used either of its top two pitchers during the contest. While four

McLean hurlers combined to give up 12 runs, Chantilly's Matt Hogle tossed a four-hit shut-out against the Highlanders. McLean also committed three errors in the field.

"I'd like them to take nothing away from tonight — get rid of it," Dowling said. "That's clearly not a reflection of the team we've been the last three weeks."

While McLean fell short of a region title, the Highlanders will have standout pitcher Sullivan and Colin Morse rested and ready for the state tournament. McLean will face 6A

South region champion Western Branch in the semifinals at 3 p.m. on Friday, June 13 at Robinson Secondary School.

"We need to get past this," Dowling said. "We wanted them to remember what this moment feels like because we don't have to feel this moment again this year. Everything is still in front of us. We've had one goal since Day One: to get to states. Now we're there. We kept saying, get us to states and we've got a chance. We have the arms to get it done."

to end a pretty well-played game by both sides."

While the game wasn't finished on the field, McLean put itself in position to win during the first six innings thanks in large part to the performance of pitcher Joey Sullivan. The Virginia Tech signee was roughed up in his previous start at Madison High School on May 9, allowing seven runs — four earned — and five hits in 1 1/3 innings. Wednesday night was a different story, as the senior right-hander tossed a complete game, allowing one earned run and three hits in six innings. He walked one, hit one batter and struck out four.

"I thought about it, but today I was loose," Sullivan said about his previous start at Madison. "We had nothing to lose and I had nothing to lose. ... Tonight was probably the toughest environment I've ever thrown in because it was so humid. Early in the [game], I really couldn't get a grip on the ball, I was so sweaty."

With McLean leading by four runs, Sullivan walked the Madison leadoff batter in the bottom of the sixth inning, but responded by striking out the next three Warhawk hitters.

"Joey did a great job," Dowling said. "It's been the same story all year long — when he commands

his fastball, he's extremely difficult. When he keeps his fastball down, he gets a ton of groundballs and he was able to locate three pitches today, pretty effectively until the storms came. When he does that, he's tough because he's got the velocity. He always throws strikes, but it's those quality strikes that make the difference for him."

The Madison baseball team ended the 2014 season with a 21-3 record.

McLean jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning against Madison starting pitcher John DeFazio. The first five Highlander batters reached base, starting with Sullivan reaching on an error and ending with third baseman Jesse Jones drawing a run-scoring base on balls. Left fielder Grady Paine also got credit for an RBI in the inning, when he was hit by an 0-2 pitch with the bases loaded.

McLean added three runs in the fifth inning. Grammes and catcher Caleb Beatty led off the frame with back-to-back singles, and Jones, first baseman Jonathan Clines, and right fielder Evan Blake each delivered an RBI single.

Grammes, a 5-foot-10, 155-pound sophomore, went 4-for-4 at the plate, including a pair of doubles, and played solid defense at shortstop.

"Conor had a fantastic game and he's been, of late, making some very big adjustments that are now paying dividends now on the diamond," Dowling said. "Again, he kind of gets overlooked because he's not physically imposing. He's not the quickest guy, he's not the biggest guy, but nobody squares the baseball up better than Conor Grammes."

"We said at the start of the season that we felt like we had two of the best shortstops in the conference on our team. When Joey pitches, we don't lose a single bit of defense with Conor out there. He did a terrific job."

Beatty went 2-for-3 at the plate. Blake finished 2-for-2.

DeFazio suffered the loss for Madison. The junior right-hander, who is committed to Virginia Tech, allowed five runs — four earned — and eight hits in 4 2/3 innings. He walked three, hit two batters and struck out five.

Madison's Nielsen led off the bottom of the third with a double, and Trey Ramsey followed with an RBI single for the Warhawks' only run.

The loss dropped Madison's record to 21-3 and ended its season. The Warhawks entered Wednesday's contest having won 21 of their last 22 games. They

won both regular-season meetings with the Highlanders, beating McLean 8-1 on April 8 and 11-3 on May 9.

The Highlanders, however, were much improved Wednesday. McLean, the No. 4 seed from Conference 6, has won six of its last seven games after struggling during the second half of the regular season.

"We started to play loose, because we knew we were the underdog," Sullivan said. "Especially for me. It was my final couple weeks of my senior year and I'm enjoying them in school. We started playing loose, we started playing together. We got hot at the right time. It's been a fantastic ride."

The Highlanders started the season 8-2, but dropped seven of their next eight, evening their record at 9-9.

"For a while now, we've grown into a pretty confident group," Dowling said. "[There was a time] there in the middle [of the season] when we weren't very confident and we didn't have cause to be. The [coaching] staff, we knew the whole time — and it's tough to convince 16-, 18-year-old kids — we knew the whole time we still had the talent, it was just a matter of executing."



Natalie Fahlberg, this year's president of the Tri-M Honor Society, plays the violin during the senior-exclusive performance of "Transformers."



At the last concert of the year, Langley Orchestra recognizes each senior for their plans after graduation. Co-concertmaster Julia Hara smiles as she is recognized for her college plans in an honors program.



Senior violinist Gretchen Roesel beams as it is announced that she will attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

PHOTOS BY CHI PHAM

A Music 'Out of This World'

Langley High School Orchestra presents its final concert of the year.

BY KATHERINE CASSIDY
LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR

The Langley High School Orchestra performed its final concert of the year on Tuesday, June 3, in the Langley HS Auditorium. The "Out of This World" themed concert was the perfect combination of presenting music and honoring the seniors as they performed on their high school stage for the last time. Directed by Dr. Scott McCormick and Ms. Bo-Min Son, Langley Orchestra enthralled the audience with music inspired by the mystery of space, receiving a standing ovation from the full house.

"The concert was a great way to end the year and the pieces performed were very captivating and fun to listen to as well as play.

"Transformers" was a terrific piece to close the concert and send the seniors off to graduation," said sophomore Minh Pham.

The concert opened with the Sophomore Orchestra playing familiar music by John Williams from the movies "E.T." and "The Empire Strikes Back." The Philharmonic Orchestra performed another John Williams composition, "Across the Stars," assisted by former Langley student Alyssa Katahara, who is currently studying harp at the Interlochen Arts Academy. The acoustical limits of the auditorium were tested by the Philharmonic Orchestra's rendition of "Jupiter," a boisterous movement from Gustav Holst's "The Planets." Senior Benjamin Nguyen performed an interesting piano interlude, "Attack of the Titans." The Freshmen Orchestra presented fantastic renditions of classics in popular culture: the themes from "Star Wars," "Jurassic Park," and "Raider's March." In an attempt to release the audience's inner nerd, the Symphonic Orchestra performed "Halo," from the popular video game, with seniors Alex Blankinship (electric bass) and

Aaron Sun (synthesizer), and guest Joseph Reilly (electric guitar). The Symphonic Orchestra combined with the Chamber Orchestra to boldly go where no Langley HS musicians have gone before in their performance of music from "Star Trek."

Although the Langley Orchestra is an entirely string orchestra, this pops concert was performed with full orchestra which included brass, wind, and percussion instruments. Orchestra students were grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with professional musicians and Langley band students, as the variety of instruments enhanced the music and truly brought it to life.

"This year was truly brilliant and we will miss the seniors so much! This concert was fantastic and the rising seniors and I will work our hardest to ensure that every concert is even more memorable next year!" said Sara Zahir, incoming president of the musical honors society, Tri-M.

In the spirit of Orchestra Tradition, the final concert of the year recognized the senior class for their four years of contribution to the orchestra. Soon-to-be gradu-



Senior cellists Julia Pennington and Harrison Nam play in their last concert at Langley HS.

ates shared their favorite memories from Langley Orchestra when introducing songs during the concert. Following each member receiving individual recognition for their plans after graduation, the 50 seniors came together and performed a medley from the popular movie "Transformers." Craig Hunter, Langley Orchestra alumnus, arranged the music, and Senior Aaron Sun created special musical effects on the synthesizer. "The orchestra concert was a phenomenal experience and a great way for the seniors to end their journey with a bang. From fun music to cool sound effects, everything about it was a blast!" said Langley High Junior Ali Farzad.

This concert was not only the final concert for seniors, but was also the final Langley Orchestra

concert performed in the Langley Auditorium until the high school has completed its renovations. The hard work of students, parents, and the Langley directors ensured that Langley Orchestra ended the year with a bang. The concert was a collaboration with the LHS science department's Astronomy teacher Sarah Ell and her students, who brought the Outer Space theme to life in their astronomy exhibits. The LHS student tech crew, under the direction of LHS German teacher Herr Rademacher, conveyed the wonders of Space by projecting lasers onto the ceiling in time with the music.

As he bid farewell to the students of the Class of 2014, Director Dr. Scott McCormick encouraged all to "Live long, play beautifully, and prosper."

WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

Summer Art Camps Offered in Great Falls

The Great Falls Foundation for The Arts (GFFFTA) will host Summer Art Camps in Great Falls. Sessions are offered June 26 thru Aug. 22, mornings (9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.), afternoons (12:30-4:30 p.m.), plus a full-day option.

Fun camps this year include: Creative

Dance — Drawing — Painting — Mixed Media — Manga Drawing — Photography — Think & Draw like DaVinci — Photography for Teens — Teen Mixed Media.

Age range is age 6 - teens depending on the camp week. See the weekly schedule.

Details & registration: All camps are held at classroom studio at - GF School of Art, 1144 Walker Road, Suite D in Great Falls.

Camp helps children develop art skills of the week's theme. Professional artist teachers make classes fun and encourage creativity.

The Great Falls Foundation for The Arts (GFFFTA) is a local charitable organization running GF School of Art, Working Artists' Studios and Gallery. Visit www.greatfallsart.org or email school@greatfallsart.org

Do More 24 Set for June 19

Through Do More 24 - a region-wide, 24-hour online marathon of giving on Thurs,

June 19 - United Way NCA is, on one single day, calling the entire DC metro region together to help keep hundreds of local nonprofits vital throughout the year.

So far 400 nonprofits - including many serving Fairfax/Falls Church - are participating.

Last year, \$1.3 million was raised through the first Do More 24 day.

On June 19, there will be live updates at domore.org throughout the day and night.

Something New – or Old, to Consider

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



And therein lies the anxiety. Although, all things considered – and as you regular readers know, I like, maybe even need, to consider all things – the medical assessment of the most recent CT scan of my upper torso and thorax/lungs showed a new object in my left lung, “approximately the size of a silver dollar,” according to my oncologist. What this object is, exactly, cannot be determined at this juncture; technology prevents such clarity, unfortunately. Nevertheless, its appearance and location are possibly cause for concern, possibly not.

The context for this confusion is that the chemotherapy drug, Alimta, with which I’ve been infused every three weeks since last September, seems to be working. The main tumor we’ve been tracking has shrunk, as has the fluid level (which as you may recall is what landed me in the hospital for a week last August); both of which are positive and exciting developments, and news, as I’m fond of saying, with which I can live. And live I shall, unencumbered emotionally by this as-yet-to-be-determined growth for the next two months until my next CT scan, when the tomography will provide another assessment – and comparison to the scan just completed.

The considerations, according to my oncologist, are as follows: the chemotherapy drug I’m taking is having the desired effect – shrinkage of both tumor and fluid. Moreover, my recurring, every-three-week lab work is good, indicating my body continues to tolerate the drug; ergo, treatment can continue. Secondly, because the largest tumor in my lung is smaller and the fluid build-up has reduced, more of the lung is visible, for lack of a better description. Combined with the not-perfect technology, there may be more to see now than ever before, and/or more to see from a different angle. Sort of like the warning printed on side view mirrors, except in this case, objects are not closer than they appear; rather they’re seen where they were never seen before. And since the object has never been seen before, my oncologist doesn’t know if the growth is new – and possibly malignant, or old, and smaller even than it was because the Alimta is shrinking it, too. In summary, it’s a definite maybe. Cause for concern? Sure. Cause for alarm? Not by me. And since my attitude is “it’s nothing until it’s something,” for the moment, for the next two months, I intend to live my life as per usual.

My oncologist is not ignoring this new finding, nor is he overreacting to it however, and stopping treatment which seems to be working. He wants me to return for a follow-up CT scan one month ahead of my normal three-month interval, and of course, see him the following week to discuss the results. After that next scan, at that next appointment, we’ll know more definitively how best to proceed. At present, I continue to be asymptomatic and relatively pain-free; yet another good sign, and circumstances for which I am extremely grateful. Nothing is forever in the cancer world, though. Things can change, and their significance can change. Still, I don’t want to be naive; cancer is a killer, especially lung cancer. But I’ve survived five-plus years now since my diagnosis, balancing the known with the unknown. I see no reason to stop now.

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

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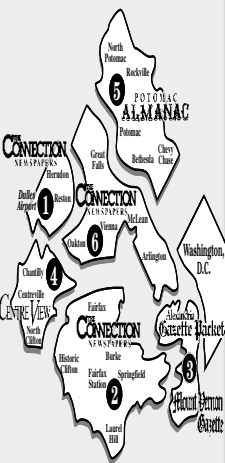
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A Porch with a View

Outdoor rooms call for special materials.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When a Great Falls homeowner decided she wanted to breathe new life into her large covered porch after a long, cold winter, she called on Anna Kucera, owner and principal designer of Gracious Living by Design in Alexandria, to give the space a fresh look in time for warm-weather gatherings.

“The client has an expansive porch with incredible views of Great Falls,” said Kucera. “She [wanted] to refresh and update the outdoor living space while still allowing the vista to remain the focal point.”

Kucera’s goal was to create a space that was at once tranquil and invigorating, but also respected the home’s architectural features, including stonework and wood siding. Kucera was careful to upholster the casual, but elegant seating with fabrics that were durable, heavily textured and able to withstand the elements.

“Although the porch is covered, we needed to select materials that could withstand moisture and sun exposure,” said Kucera. “And considering the large quantity of cushions on the porch, it was prudent to select upholstery fabrics that would not become tiresome after a season or two.”

The upholstered cushions were crafted

from outdoor fabrics made of 100 percent solution-dyed acrylic. The main seating area is accessorized with custom-sized, flat-woven, polypropylene area rugs by Couristan.

“Both solution-dyed acrylic and polypropylene are inherently mildew and fade resistant,” said Kucera. “We selected an off-white solid woven from Stroheim

“We created emphasis by combining succulent citrus shades of green, orange and yellow. The mood could easily be changed with pillows by combining soothing tones of sea glass, green and aqua, or by boldly contrasting black and off-white.”

— Anna Kucera,
owner and principal designer of
Gracious Living by Design

to cover the back and arm cushions. For the seats and contrast welt on the back cushions, we chose a neutral tone fabric with a subtle dot

SEE PORCH, PAGE 4



PHOTO BY VERONICA BRUNO

This Great Falls porch offers spectacular views, which designer Anna Kucera emphasized when redesigning it for warm weather entertaining.

Pub by the Pool

Remodeler collaborates with Great Falls architect-homeowner to create expansive lower-level.



PHOTO BY DIMITRI GANA

Chris Arnold at Foster Remodeling Solutions completed the intricate lower level interior of a Great Falls home. One component: a replica Irish bar with an exposed 300-bottle wine rack tucked under the stairs.

BY JOHN BYRD

Sometimes it’s not that the lower-level is “unfinished,” but rather that the house itself is “incomplete.”

Consider a 4,500 square foot Craftsman-style home on a five-acre lot in Great Falls that gracefully segues to a sizeable pool and patio. Yet there’s no same-level bathroom, no changing room, no convenient shower; just 1,500 square feet of ground-level insulated basement situated behind French doors, large divided glass windows and ample natural light.

Interestingly, the owner is an architect. He had sketched out a floorplan years ago, but — busy with other priorities — was waiting to meet someone with the skills to build-out the lower level to his satisfaction.

Seventeen years later, after interviewing several contenders, he hires Chris Arnold, top designer at Foster Remodeling Solutions.

“I was presented with a floorplan and

several key concepts,” Arnold said. The owner “had been looking for a design/build firm to guide the material selection

SEE PUB, PAGE XX

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HomeLifeStyle

A Porch with a View

FROM PAGE 3

pattern designed by Wendy Tsuji and Linda Ueda for Perennials.”

The rugs are perfect for alfresco gatherings: “Clients who enjoy entertaining outdoors and love natural sisal rugs are impressed with the way polypropylene rugs offer the same look with the added benefits of easy clean-up ... along with durability,” said Nancy Hardy, a design associate at Gracious Living by Design.

Kucera used a neutral and timeless palette as a backdrop for vibrant pops of color in accessories such as toss pillows. “We created emphasis by combining succulent citrus shades of green, orange and yellow,” she said. “The mood could easily be changed with pillows by combining soothing tones of sea glass, green and aqua, or by boldly contrasting black and off-white.”

To complete the space, Kucera picked up a few accent pieces at The Virginia Florist of Alexandria. “I found accessories and finishing touches such as orchids in cachepots, a sweet bird votive holder and greenery-filled urns.”

These carefully chosen details gave the



PHOTO BY VERONICA BRUNO

Alexandria, Va., based designer Anna Kucera chose neutral, weather-proof fabrics for the seat cushions on this Great Falls porch, which she accented with vibrantly colored throw pillows.

porch a polished aesthetic. “The objects and works of art that we look for and carry are as important as the floral arrangements that we create because we think they should always work together,”

said Kevin Green, owner of The Virginia Florist. “Our clients are interested not just in flowers, but in decorating their environments, and we share that kind of holistic approach.”



PHOTO BY VERONICA BRUNO

Alexandria, Va., based designer Anna Kucera created a covered porch space that was tranquil and invigorating, but also respectful of the Great Falls home’s architectural features, including stonework and wood siding.

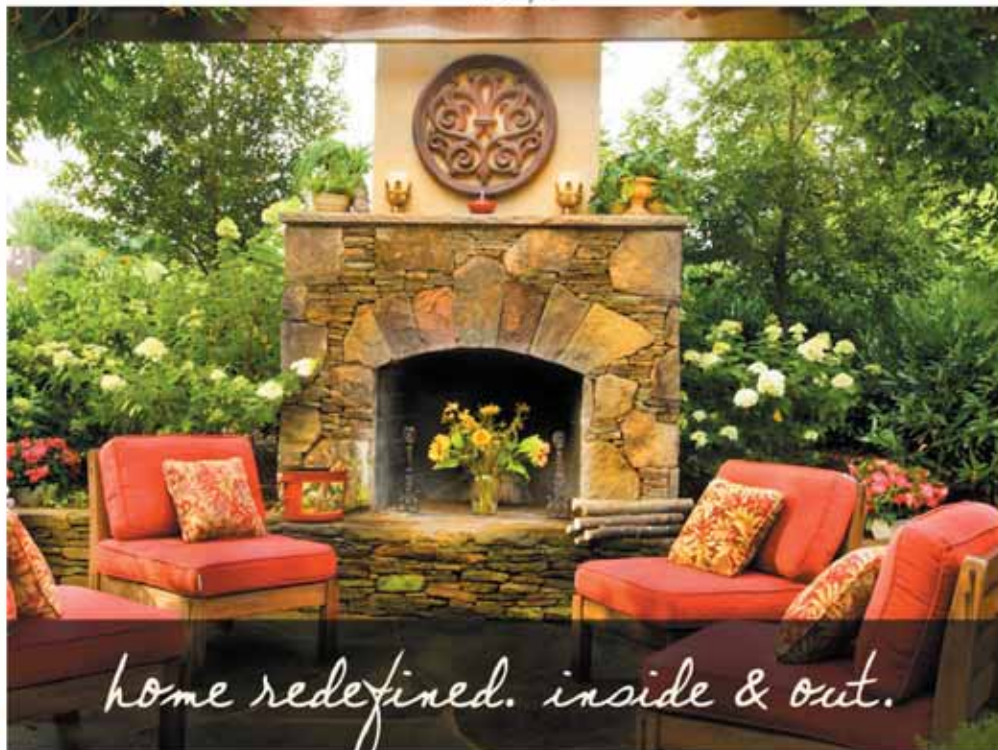
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Home LifeStyle

Pub by the Pool

FROM PAGE 3

process and generally help him realize the many details in a project of this scope. It was an exciting assignment from the start.”

That scope included a suite of rooms that includes a replica Irish pub, a billiards room, a media room, a fully-equipped fitness center and a wine cellar, not to mention to the needed changing area, bathroom and pool-access foyer.

“The collaboration began where the floorplan left off,” Arnold said.

Every aspect of the interior design needed to be developed, much of it in pursuit of a very specific ambiance, starting with the replica Irish pub.

“We talked about some of the pub’s general characteristics, exposed beams, support columns, backbar. Then, it was up to my group to draft the elevations,” Arnold said.

As became apparent, the pub would be one of the suite’s central gathering areas. A half wall separates it from the billiards room; from the bar one wanders (beverage in hand) into the spacious media room.

“We wanted the pub to have its own integrity, to be nicely differentiated, yet it also needed to interact with adjoining rooms,” said Arnold.

Hence, the Anglo-Irish style “drink rail” between the billiards room and the bar; the stacked fieldstone hearth in the family room.

Borrowing a few ideas from photos of actual pubs, Arnold constructed replica beams and stained them the signature black of rough-hewn timber. The room’s existing steel vertical supports are, likewise, now clad in the same walnut-hued wood.

Searching for a festive central icon envisioned by the owner, Arnold and team proposed a 300-bottle wine rack neatly tucked behind glass doors under the stairway.

“It’s entirely practical dry space storage, but the owner was looking for something visually compelling that would add to the ambiance,” he said. “In addition to being spacious, it’s actually lit from behind for optimal effect.”

To help unify the suite’s public spaces, Arnold and team installed prefinished oak hardwood flooring with seven inch planks in the pub, billiards room and family room. Sticking with the darker, “old world” color tones, the bar counter is surfaced in Black Galaxy granite.



A wine rack built under the staircase and lit from behind is both practical storage space and a festive icon that sets off an otherwise empty wall.



The billiards room, visually linked the suite’s other public spaces, was designed to accommodate a regulation-sized pool table.

Backbar cabinets are in cherrywood with a dark espresso stain. For contrast, mirrored wall panels, glass shelves and halogen lighting create a sparkling surface any pub aficionado will admire.

Just below eye-level, a stainless steel counter surface with a welded-in sink helps the barkeep maintain order. Complete with kegerator, icemaker and dedicated wine- and beverage- refrigerators, it’s a plan that can quench almost any thirst.

Other lower level chambers are equally well-conceived. From the pool, one passes through French doors into 135-square-foot foyer tiled with slip-resistant porcelain. To the left, there’s a shower room and changing area complete with bench; on the right, the ever-convenient half bath.

The suite’s largest gathering spot is a nearly 400 square foot family room accessible from the pool foyer and the pub. Featuring nine-foot ceilings and four eight-foot divided-light windows flanking a central fireplace, the room satisfies multiple requirements. There’s an 80-inch LCD video screen mounted on 15-feet of

wall space for video entertainment and a state of the art audio system.

The defining focal point, however, is the hearth, which is plainly visible from the pub and billiards room. Originally a standard builder-grade brick, the new design employs cultured stacked fieldstone, a nod to “old country” ambiance that shows to good effect on cooler days.

The adjacent billiards room, which features a three window bay, was designed to accommodate a regulation-sized (10x5) pool table. Visually linked to all the suite’s public rooms, the room is spacious, airy, interactive.

On the other hand, the 200-square-foot fitness center has been situated for privacy. Accessible only through a back hall, the family gym offers weight machines and a treadmill in a brightly lit space adorned with photos of top rugby teams (the owner’s favorite sport).

In short, a perfect place for pursuing a “personal best.”

Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offers workshops on home remodeling topics. For Information: 703/550-1371 or www.fosterremodeling.com



Accessible only through a back hall, the 200-square-foot fitness center offers weight machines and a treadmill in a brightly lit room adorned with photos of the owner’s favorite sport: rugby.



Owners wanted interactivity in the primary gathering areas. The Anglo-Irish “drink rail” separates the bar from the billiards room. Pre-finished oak flooring visually unifies the pub, the billiards room and the adjacent media room.

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Lovely colonial-style home

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Great Falls

\$2,495,000

TWO HOUSES IN ONE...A grand Main House with attached Guest House!

Stately, all-brick exterior with over 10K finished square feet of pure elegance. Custom-built with incredible craftsmanship & finishing throughout. Main House boasts 3 fully-finished levels with 4 Bedrooms, 5 full Bathrooms, 2 half Bathrooms, double staircase foyer, 2-story Family Room, gourmet French Country Kitchen, 5 fireplaces and 4-car garage. Guest House provides additional 2 Bedrooms, 2 full Bathrooms, 2nd full Kitchen, open living area and 2 fireplaces. Beautifully sited on idyllic 2.64 acres with oversized pool & pastoral views. Additional 2.16 acres with additional 4-car Garage and 1 Bedroom / 1 Bathroom apartment also available. Langley High School. *A truly luxurious compound...so many possibilities!*



Leesburg

\$1,399,000

Magnificent estate home on nearly 4 acres in picturesque "Beacon Hill!" Best lot in the community with spectacular views & vistas. Dramatic open floorplan with upgrades & custom features throughout. 5 Bedrooms, 4 full Bathrooms & 2 half Bathrooms. 2-story Family Room, Solarium, Main-Level Library, 3 fireplaces. Incredible lower "Game Level" with full Bar, Billiards, Media Area, Exercise Room, 5th Bedroom & full Bathroom. Beautiful pool & spa overlooking private backyard. *An entertainer's dream!*



Great Falls

\$1,949,000

Exquisite estate home located on 1+ acre corner lot in wonderful, upscale Great Falls neighborhood! Bright & open floorplan with premium finishes throughout. 5 Bedrooms & 5.5 Bathrooms. Double staircase foyer, 2-story Family Room, gourmet Kitchen, Solarium, Conservatory, Main-Level Library. Incredible Lower-Level featuring Theatre Room, Game Area, Wine Room, Exercise Room, 5th Bedroom & Full Bath. Langley High School. *A perfect 10!*



Potomac Falls

\$710,000

Immaculate, better-than-new home located directly across from "Trump National Golf Club!" Beautifully-appointed & upgraded throughout. 3 fully-finished levels with 4 Bedrooms & 3.5 Bathrooms. 2-story foyer, Main-Level Library, luxurious Master Suite. Finished Lower-Level with large Rec Room, Den & full Bath. Lush corner lot. Resort lifestyle...*Bring your golf cart!*



Great Falls

\$1,049,000

Charming, fully-updated Colonial located in the heart of Great Falls! 3 fully-finished levels with 5 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths. Updated throughout with premium materials & a designer's touch. Stunning Kitchen & Bathrooms. Extensive hardwood floors on both Main & Upper Levels. Just steps to Great Falls Village Center, Great Falls Swim & Tennis Club (Priority Membership available), fine shops & dining. Langley High School. *Coveted in-town living!*