

Great Falls CONNECTION

Children's Studio of Great Falls

NEWS, PAGE 3

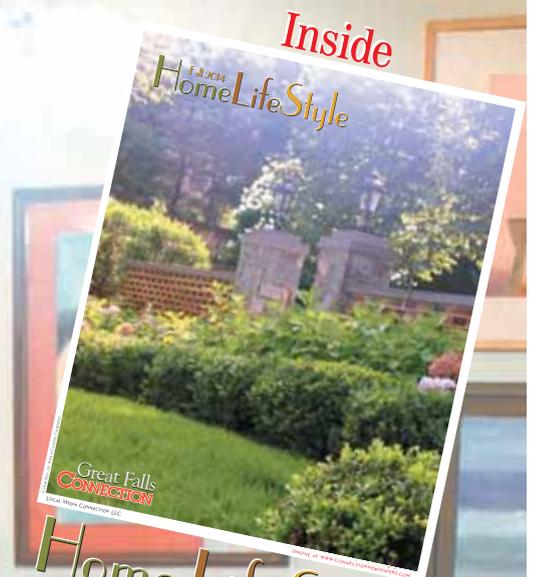
Karen Graham helps
Josie Gillespie, 10, at
Children's Studio of
Great Falls.

Winning Art Bucks in Great Falls

NEWS, PAGE 3

Comstock's Comfort Zone

NEWS, PAGE 4



OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 7 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 8

PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

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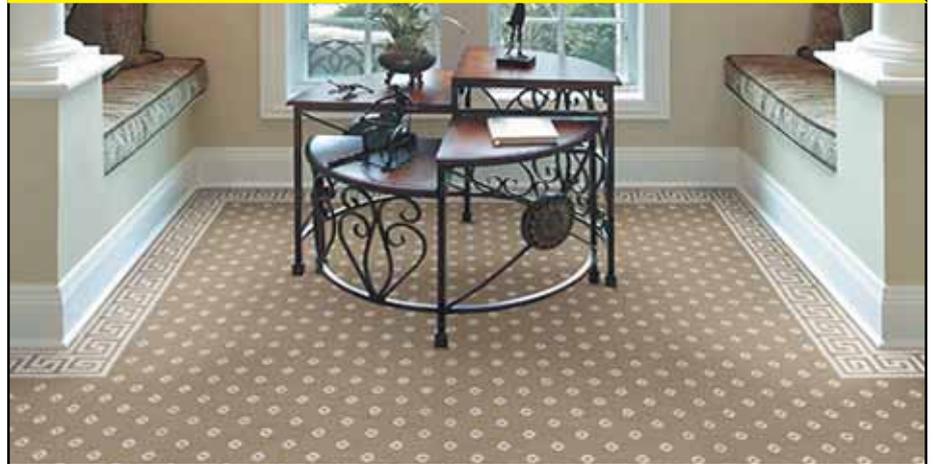
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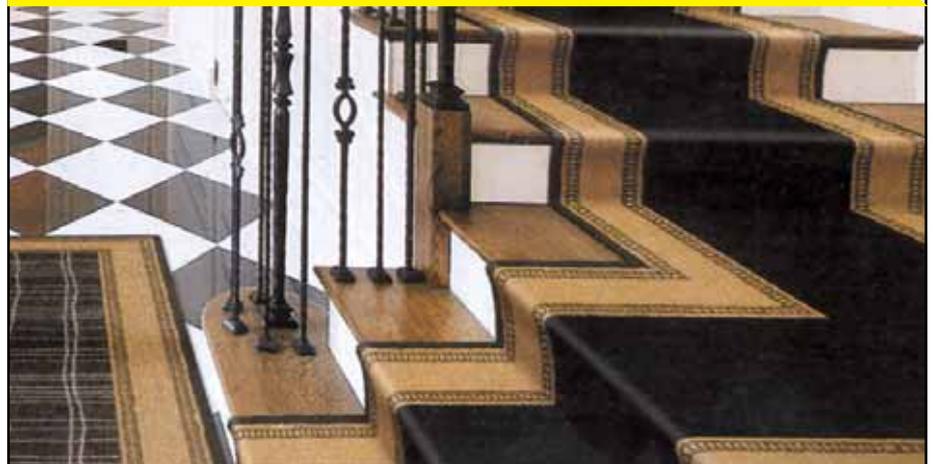
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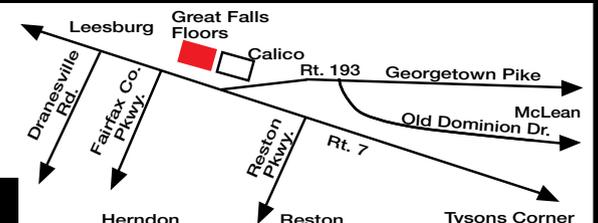
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Shea Gillespie, 10, Keiko Tani, 10, and Josie Gillespie, 10, learn about shadows and light while painting a pear at Children's Studio of Great Falls.



Karen Graham helps Keiko Tani, 10, with her painting at Children's Studio of Great Falls.

PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

Children's Studio of Great Falls Students learn about art techniques through history.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

In a cabin near Difficult Run Stream, Josie Gillespie paints a pear.

She and two other girls are Karen Graham's art students at Children's Studio of Great Falls on Fridays, a two-year-old local business that doesn't just teach children to make art — it teaches children to appreciate art.

"My life starts after 3:30 when school ends," said Graham.

Graham has spent the last 10 years painting and teaching for Great Falls Foundation for the Arts, Studio on the Green and Boys

and Girls Club of D.C. In addition to her private studio classes, she also teaches art at Siena Academy.

She said that when she was in her teens, she wanted to go to art school, but her father requested that she study to be a nurse or teacher.

Years later, she is following her passion.

"I use all mediums and I try to teach the kids that you don't just have to use canvas and special paper," she said. "You can use cardboard or rocks or anything."

The students use their mediums to follow their passion as well.

"I like art, because it makes my imagination pop," said Keiko Tani, 10.

As Graham cut the watercolor paper for the day's lesson, she asked her students about the art Henri Matisse created while bedridden. When the girls looked to each other for answers, Graham told them how he created his famous contemporary cut-outs during that period.

Another artist she talked about while setting up a scene for a still life was Mary Cassatt.

"She was an American woman artist," she told the students. "There weren't many who became famous."

The art room is filled with books of famous artists, paintings and photos of

Graham's actress stepdaughter, Lauren Graham. Several gnomes, the studio mascots, line a high shelf on the wall.

The students talked about how inspiring the cabin is for their artwork. The cabin was used to film scenes of "Clear and Present Danger" starring Harrison Ford, according to Graham.

"It's cosy," said Josie Gillespie, 10. "It's really relaxing."

Her twin sister, Shea, said she enjoyed using oil pastels in class.

"There are no mistakes in art," she said.

For more information about the studio, visit <http://www.childrenartgreatfalls.com>.

Winning Art Bucks

Enter to win \$1000 in prizes at Great Falls Studios 2014 Studio Tour.

The artists of Great Falls Studios will be giving away \$1000 in gift certificates, each worth \$50, to be used toward the purchase of art during the group's 2014 Studio Tour.

Now in its eleventh year, the Tour will take place this year on three days, Oct. 17-19 in Great Falls. During the Tour, fifty local artists will be demonstrating their work and selling original art "Made in Great Falls." The work includes some of the finest art produced in the Metro area. Our artists have been juried into major national shows, exhibited at leading art centers, and won grants and awards.

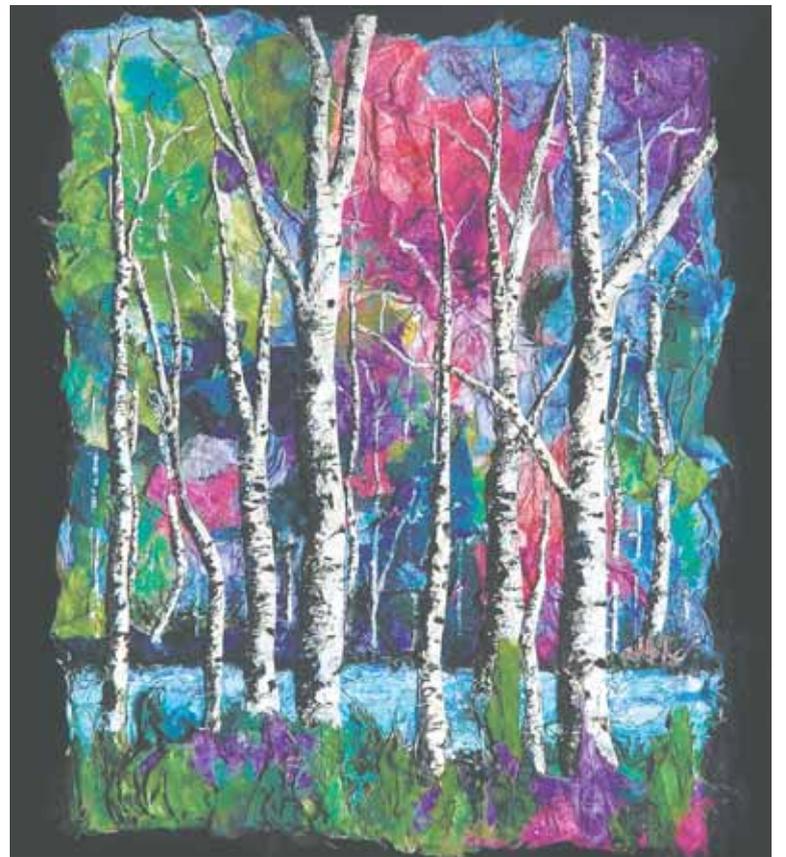
Visitors can sign up to win one of the gift certificates, known as Art Bucks, at the Great Falls Community Library on Friday, Oct. 17 and Saturday, Oct. 18. Twenty winners will be picked randomly on Saturday afternoon and informed by phone that evening. Winners may pick up their Art Bucks in the large conference room at the library on Sunday. The certificates will be good on Sunday, and for five days

after the Tour ends, Oct. 20 - 24, 2014. One winner per family (multiple registrations are not accepted). Members of Great Falls Studio and their families are not eligible to win.

The library is one of the venues on the free, self-guided driving tour, featuring works of art from participating artists. The tour is a unique family-friendly way to meet artists in their creative habitats, talk to them about their process and inspiration, and see them work. Visit the Great Falls Studios website at www.GreatFallsStudios.com for a preview. You'll be able to see representative images of the artists' works, read about what you'll see on the Tour, and print out a map and directions to plan your visit.

While you're on the website, browse member artist pages and take a look at the Virtual Gallery, an online exhibit that changes monthly. In October, artists participating in the Studio Tour will be featured in the Virtual Gallery.

The tour is sponsored again this year by Sun Design Remodeling, an award winning home redesign company. Sun Design will have a recently remodeled open house on the tour, with its creative staff on hand to discuss new projects visitors may have in mind. Both organizations benefit from this association, building on the creative energies of their artists and designers to provide an important service to the community.



Ronni Jolles, a layered paper artist, will be one of 50 artists showcasing their work at the Great Falls Studios 2014 Studio Tour held October 17-19. Photo supplied by artist.

ELECTION 2014:

CANDIDATE PROFILES

Comstock's Comfort Zone

GOP candidate Barbara Comstock believes a woman's place is in the House ... of Representatives.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Second in a series of candidates' profiles.

It's just weeks before Election Day, and the contest to replace retiring Republican Congressman Frank Wolf in Virginia's 10th Congressional district has become one of the most watched, most expensive and most contentious races in the country.

But on this crisp fall October morning, Republican candidate Barbara Comstock is in her comfort zone.

She is campaigning door-to-door with Wolf, whom she counts as a longtime friend and mentor, in McLean, her hometown for the past 30 years, which she has represented in the Virginia House of Delegates since 2010.

"I'm feeling great about the race," said Comstock, her voice a little hoarse from non-stop campaign events. "I thoroughly enjoy meeting people from every walk of life. I've been particularly touched by the reaction I get from young women. They notice a woman is out here campaigning."

Comstock is making a point.

She is aware of the criticism leveled by Democrats who assert that she is part of the GOP's "War on Women," noting Comstock's vote in favor of the controversial "transvaginal ultrasound" bill in the Virginia legislature.

And while Comstock makes no apologies for her strong conservative presence in Richmond, she said she finds it ironic that anyone would label her "anti-woman."

"Really, when I hear that, I think about the fact that I grew up ... surrounded by strong women," Comstock said. "I think of my grandfather, who had four girls. He was a real feminist. I remember him telling us 'Don't let any man keep you down. You can do anything if you work hard enough.' He lived through the Depression, and was a very proud man. He was never able to go to college, but he was the smartest man I knew."

Comstock said she was inspired to establish a Young Women's Leadership Program in January 2013 after reading Sheryl Sandberg's 2013 book "Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead." In the book, Sandberg, the chief operating officer of Facebook, advises women to seek mentors in the workplace and be more assertive with respect to their careers.

AFTER READING THE BOOK, Comstock said, "I wanted to start a program that provides young women, middle and high school girls, to meet and connect with professional women from a variety of sectors."

Since the leadership program began, approximately 60 girls throughout McLean, Great Falls, Vienna and Loudoun County have participated, meeting professional women such as Donna Brazile, CNN political commentator and Democratic strategist; Erin Egan, chief privacy officer for Facebook, and Bobbie Kilberg, president and CEO of the Northern Virginia Technology Council.

The program was "incredible and unforgettable" said Danielle Hayden, a junior at Potomac Falls High School in Sterling. "This program reassured me that there is opportunity everywhere you go in many fields, whether it is government service, running a small business or working for a government agency like NASA."

Comstock grew up in Springfield, Mass., but remembers the influence of her first visit to Virginia, a third grade family trip to Co-

lonial Williamsburg.

She remembers sitting in the historic Capitol building — in the town where Jefferson studied law with George Wythe — and thinking for the first time that she could be a lawyer too.

"I think that was the first time I wanted to be a lawyer ... I was struck by how these ordinary people did such extraordinary



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) campaigns with husband Chip and daughter Caitly Roller in McLean last month.

Q&A with Barbara Comstock

Q: What are some of your favorite restaurants in your district?

A: "We love The Old Brogue in Great Falls. It's like Cheers, where everybody knows your name. Also The Tavern in Great Falls and J. Gilberts in McLean."

Q: What personal qualities do you have that make you the best candidate for this position?

A: "All of my bosses would tell you this. I work very hard. As a woman in law and politics, sometimes I've had to work twice as hard as my male counterparts. Also, I am a problem-solver. When we were out campaigning, Congressman Wolf would introduce me to voters as a problem-solver, someone who can get things done."

Q: What are you most proud of?

A: "Obviously my three children. They are all doing well, and it's really fun to see your children succeed. Dan is a 2005 graduate of University of Virginia; Peter is a 2007 graduate of Virginia Tech, and Caitly graduated from Villanova University in 2010 and George Mason in 2012. Peter is now helping me with my campaign; Caitly is a scientist who performs DNA analysis on rape kits. She was married last spring, so she is Caitly Roller now, and I'm excited to say she is now expecting her first child and our second grandchild."

Q: What would you tell young women who are considering a career in politics?

A: "Jump in! Believe in yourself, give it your all and 'lean in.' You can make a difference."

Q: What are your top priorities if you become the next 10th district representative in the U.S. House?

A: 1. Pass legislation increasing the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

2. Work to repeal and replace ObamaCare which already has caused millions of hardworking Americans to lose their health insurance and have their wellbeing and financial health threatened.

3. Pass meaningful tax relief for families and small businesses to encourage job creation in Northern Virginia.

4. Protect our national security and protect our defense and national security infrastructure as well as the salaries and retirement of our dedicated military

Q: What do you consider your major accomplishments as a Virginia legislator?

A: ♦ Virginia's laws cracking down on Human Trafficking



Republican candidate Barbara Comstock surveys a construction site in Loudoun County with longtime U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) last spring. Wolf's retirement announcement paved the way for Comstock's congressional run.

♦ Virginia's Competitive Bidding Law Saving Hundreds of Millions

♦ Virginia's First Lyme Disease Legislation

♦ Virginia's Law to allow for Offshore Exploration of Energy

♦ Virginia's Research and Development Tax Credit to promote Tech Jobs

♦ Virginia's Tax Incentives to Promote Data Centers and Tech Jobs

Q: What is something people might be surprised to learn about you?

A: "My mother was a 'Ted Kennedy Girl.' My family campaigned for Kennedy. We were Democrats."

Bio

Virginia Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) grew up in Springfield, Mass. She earned her B.A. in political science from Middlebury College in 1981 and her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1986. She is an attorney and founding partner of Corallo Comstock.

At the beginning of the 2014 legislative session, Comstock served on the following committees:

- ♦ Commerce and Labor
- ♦ Science and Technology, Chair
- ♦ Transportation

Prior offices: McLean Community Center Governing Board - 1993-1996

Personal: She lives in McLean with her husband, Chip. They have three children, Dan Comstock, Peter Comstock and Caitly Roller.

things."

The trip was typical of the influence of her mother, Sally Burns, a long-serving teacher and school administrator. "We would read biographies and then go visit the places we read about," she said. "I developed a real sense of history."

Comstock says her mother has been the most influential person in her life. "My mom is definitely my best friend, that's been one of the great parts of my life."

Burns introduced her daughter to politics as well as history, but from the opposite side of the aisle from where Comstock currently sits. "My mom was a Ted Kennedy girl — back when Rose Kennedy was doing teas" for campaign events, said Comstock.

Now Burns supports her Republican offspring. "My mom has been very active since my first campaign. My parents live with us,

SEE COMSTOCK, PAGE 5

ELECTION 2014:

CANDIDATE PROFILES

Comstock

FROM PAGE 4

and the fun thing is that our whole family campaigns together.”

Comstock’s politics are much different than those of the unabashedly-liberal Kennedy.

She worked for two terms as an aide to Wolf, and headed the public-affairs branch of President George W. Bush’s Justice Department. The National Review, in its endorsement of Comstock, said, “Comstock’s strong conservative presence in Richmond has earned her high marks from, among others, the National Rifle Association, the Family Foundation of Virginia, and the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, which awarded her its 2012 Free Enterprise Award. She has also received the endorsement of pundits such as Mark Levin and Sean Hannity.”

Pat Herrity, a Republican member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, said, “Barbara is exactly the type of common-sense conservative leader we need to pull the party and district together and win this.”

But despite her conservative cre-

dentials, Comstock seeks to emphasize her willingness to reach across the aisle and work with Democrats. She points to her work on human trafficking issues, where her bills toughening criminal penalties and increasing support for victims received near-unanimous support in the Virginia General Assembly.

Kate O’Beirne of McLean, a former Washington editor of the National Review and co-chair of the Catholics for Comstock Coalition, said, “While seeking common ground for the common good, Barbara has remained deeply committed to her strong values. She is a staunch supporter of working to create a culture of life and has led the fight on behalf of victims of human trafficking.”

Comstock has the endorsement of the outgoing incumbent, who was out knocking doors with her on the first Saturday in October.

“No one will work harder for the 10th District than Barbara Comstock,” Wolf said. “She’s honest, ethical and her energy and ability to get results will make her a great congresswoman.”

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OPINION

Ebola? Whooping Cough? Enterovirus?

Wash your hands, get your flu shot.

There is plenty to be fearful about. Local outbreaks of whooping cough, due to some parents opting out of vaccines; whooping cough can be deadly for infants. Enterovirus, an upper respiratory illness mostly affecting children, which can become very serious very quickly for some children. The spectre of ebola killing thousands of people in West Africa, and also possibly arriving via any international airport.

But there are a few things you can do to protect yourself and those around you from likely the biggest infectious health threat in your neighborhood, influenza.

The flu will kill thousands of people in the United States this flu season, ranging from October to May. Over 30 years, the average number of deaths was more than 20,000 annually according to the CDC, although the number ranged from 3,000 to 48,000.

Flu vaccination is cheap, easy and effective. Getting vaccinated was associated with a 71

percent reduction in flu-related hospitalizations among adults of all ages and a 77 percent reduction among adults 50 years of age and older during the 2011-2012 flu season.

Get a flu shot. Make sure everyone in your family gets a flu shot. Most people with health insurance can get the vaccination without paying anything for it. Getting vaccinated doesn't just protect you, it also protects the people around you who might be more vulnerable, including young children, people over 65, pregnant women, people with other health conditions like being in cancer treatment or with chronic upper respiratory problems.

EDITORIAL

Quoting the CDC:

"Influenza is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization and sometimes even death. Every flu season is different, and influenza infection can affect people differently. Even healthy people can get very sick from the flu and spread it to others. Over a period of 31 seasons between 1976 and 2007, estimates of flu-associated deaths in the United States range from a low of about 3,000 to a high of about 49,000 people. During a regular flu season, about 90 percent of deaths occur in people 65 years and older. "Flu season" in the United

More on Flu and Flu Vaccines

Centers for Disease Control

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm>

Fairfax County

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/flu/>

States can begin as early as October and last as late as May.

"During this time, flu viruses are circulating at higher levels in the U.S. population. An annual seasonal flu vaccine (either the flu shot or the nasal spray flu vaccine) is the best way to reduce the chances that you will get seasonal flu and spread it to others. When more people get vaccinated against the flu, less flu can spread through that community."

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm>

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why Comstock?

To the Editor:

The Keystone Pipeline has strong bipartisan support. Therefore it is telling that Democratic candidate John Foust is out in left field opposing this job-creating program that would provide more affordable energy and more tax revenue and more jobs. When faced with the question as to whether or not he supported the Keystone Pipeline in a recent debate, he gave three different answers in one debate, ultimately saying that he wouldn't support the project.

This knee jerk ideological position makes no sense when this pipeline would modernize our country's infrastructure and help put our country on the path to energy independence.

For someone who claims to be

for creating jobs, John Foust stands against the Keystone Pipeline to stand with rigid ideologues and Barack Obama. We need a representative in Congress who understands the importance of working on bipartisan legislation that will help get the economy moving. Barbara Comstock's strong support for the Keystone Pipeline, offshore drilling and all of the above energy policy is what we need moving in Congress. Not only is this Barbara Comstock's position, but it turns out Democratic U.S. Sen. Mark Warner even supports these things — placing John Foust even more outside the mainstream and not ready for primetime in Congress.

Frank and Barbara Gloeckner
Great Falls

Appalling Comment

To the Editor:

We have supported both John Foust as our Fairfax County supervisor and Barbara Comstock as our Virginia delegate. Both have been responsive to our concerns. We regard both as friends. Now that they are competing to represent us in Congress we are required to pick one over the other.

The decision was made easy after John's appalling comment that Barbara has never held a real job

and his misrepresentations about her positions. We are appalled by John's campaign of deceit against Barbara.

Yes, politics is a contact sport, but what's come out of John's campaign is beyond the pale. It makes us wonder if we ever knew him and is why we are voting for Barbara for Congress.

Diana and Robert Bork
McLean

Meeting ID Requirements

To the Editor:

Thank you for your informative editorial about the new Photo ID requirement ("Does the Change in Voter ID Laws Matter?" Connection, October 1-7, 2014) and the opportunity for those who do not have acceptable Photo IDs to obtain free ones for voting purposes from any general registrar's office.

The Fairfax County Office of Elections is not arranging transportation for people to get to the office, though some organizations may be. The county is taking the photo ID equipment out to libraries, government centers, in-person absentee voting sites, and other locations to enable citizens to get the IDs more easily. The schedules

Why Foust?

To the Editor:

As a two term Fairfax County supervisor from McLean, he has balanced numerous county budgets and has found ways to save millions of dollars of unnecessary spending. Thanks to John Foust's active support, Fairfax County has all day kindergarten and the Metro had just been extended to Reston.

His opponent, Barbara Comstock, while serving as a member of the Virginia House Delegates, has voted against the views of Northern Virginia. In spite of horrendous highway gridlock, in 2013 she voted against a bipar-

of locations and times are on the Office of Elections website.

People who apply for a Photo ID too late to receive it in the mail can ask for a temporary photo ID. It will be accepted as a valid ID for voting. Registered voters going to the polls on election day who do not have an eligible photo ID can vote a provisional ballot and then go to the Office of Elections by noon on the Friday after election day, obtain a temporary photo ID, and have their provisional ballot counted.

Sidney Johnson

Voter Service Director
League of Women

Voters of the Fairfax Area

tisan transportation bill that was supported by a republican governor. This bill passed and added much needed revenues for highways and public transportation. She also voted against expanding health care coverage to 400,000 people in our state even when the federal government will pay 100 percent of the cost for the first two years and thereafter pay 90 percent of the cost. Many business leaders, health care advocates, church members and the majority of the people in Northern Virginia favor this health care legislation because it will save lives and money.

Dick Peacock
Manassas

Great Falls CONNECTION

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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Great Falls Rotary Club Weekly Speaker Series. 7:30- 8: 30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road Great Falls. Interested in joining? Download the membership form from our website.

Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30 - 10 a.m. Feel free to drop in. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists meet for coffee.

Great Falls Writers Group. 11 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Support group for writers.

Reading Buddies. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Beginning readers and teens practice reading together.

A Bailar. 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Salsa, cha cha, and more - Latin dance and music for the whole family with Cantare, Latin and American music. All ages. Please sign up each child and adult separately. 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/OCT. 10

Playdate Café. 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Toys and play space for children; coffee and conversation for grown-ups.

Drop-in Chess and Backgammon. 1

p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. All skill levels are welcome.

2014 Sweet Home Virginia Gala. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sheraton Tysons Hotel, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Tysons Corner. Approximately 600 business leaders, philanthropists, and community organizers will participate in the gala, awards and scholarships will also be presented. \$300. www.cfnova.org.

Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30- 10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists meet for coffee. Feel free to drop in.

Look at the Stars! 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 8

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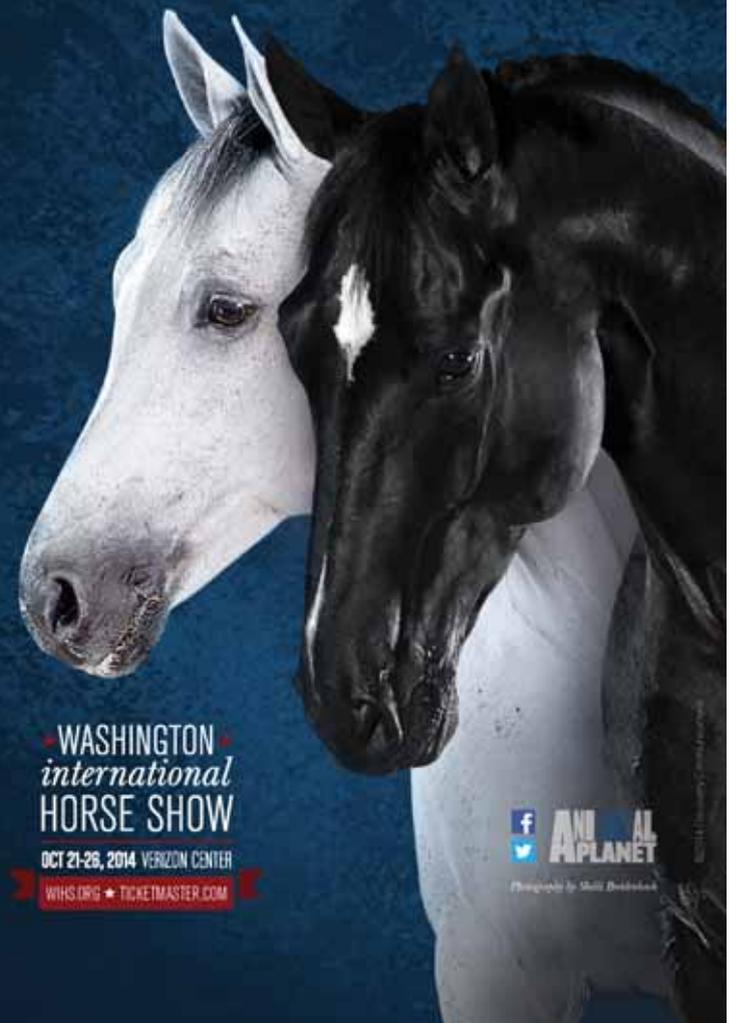


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ANIMAL PLANET

Photograph by Matt Brubaker

McLean QB Maffei Sets State Record for Completions

Senior signal caller completes 42 passes in loss to Herndon.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

McLean quarterback Brian Maffei completed a state-record 42 passes during a 51-35 loss to Herndon on Oct. 2.

McLean coaches scrapped their offensive game plan after falling behind early in their Oct. 2 contest against Herndon, relying almost exclusively on the right arm of senior quarterback Brian Maffei to bring the Highlanders back. Maffei completed short passes. He connected with receivers down the field. He threw four touchdown passes, including three to receiver Patrick Dolan.

At the end of the night, the McLean football team fell short against Herndon, 51-35 at McLean High School. Maffei's performance, however, was worthy of a place in the VHSL record book.

Maffei completed 42 of 71 passes for 415 yards, with four touchdowns and two interceptions. His 42 completions would set a single-game state record, according to the Virginia High School League Book of Records. The previous best total of 39 was shared by West Potomac's Cole Walter (2008) and Falls Church's Adam Daly (2013).

Maffei said he realized he set a state record the following morning, when a teammate's mother posted the news on social media.

"I'm not going to lie, it felt pretty good knowing I set a new state record," Maffei said, "but I was still pretty upset because of the loss."

Maffei, a first-year starter for the Highlanders, missed the previous three games with an ankle injury he suffered during McLean's season-opening victory over Washington-Lee on Sept. 5. The Highlanders went 2-1 in his absence, including wins over Marshall and South Lakes, with receiver CJ Downey filling in at quarterback.

Maffei's 27-yard touchdown pass to Downey cut

the Herndon lead to 44-35 with 3:27 remaining in the fourth quarter, but the Highlanders would get no closer. "It was a very big help getting our quarterback back in," Blair said. "The Downey kid, he played very well coming off the bench not having any game experience at the quarterback spot. ... [Maffei has] a very good command of the offense. ... It's been four weeks since he's seen action and he's knocking some rust off too [and] ... he [led the offense to] 35 points."

Maffei's first touchdown pass was a 3-yard toss to Dolan with 2:46 remaining in the second quarter, cutting the Herndon lead to 17-9. Maffei's 19-yard touchdown pass to Dolan with 25 seconds left in the first half made the

score 24-15.

Maffei's third touchdown pass to Dolan, this one a 15-yarder, came with 10:20 remaining in the fourth quarter, cutting the McLean deficit to 38-29. McLean's final points of the evening came courtesy of a 27-yard touchdown pass from Maffei to Downey with 3:27 left. "We obviously had a lot of success offensively," Maffei said. "We missed a couple opportunities and we wished we had a couple plays back. ... I missed some of my throws. I could have easily had six or seven more [completions]. ... There is always room for improvement."

With the loss, McLean dropped to 3-2. The Highlanders will travel to face Stone Bridge at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10.

"I'm not going to lie, it felt pretty good knowing I set a new state record, but I was still pretty upset because of the loss."

— McLean quarterback Brian Maffei

FROM PAGE 7
Great Falls. Observatory Open. Come to the observatory park for Friday Night viewings. For more information visit <http://www.analemma.org/>.

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

Theatre IV's "Bremen Town Band." 2 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. \$15/\$10 MCC district residents.

"Bremen Town Band." 2 p.m. The Alden, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. A menagerie of unlikely friends, including a donkey, a dog, a cat and a rooster, sets off in search of musical stardom in the German town of Bremen. The production is appropriate for children age 4 and older. Tickets are \$15 for the general public, \$10 for MCC tax district residents. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit: www.aldentheatre.org or call 703-790-0123.

McLean Volunteer Fire Department Open House. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. McLean Volunteer Fire Department, 1455 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Live rescue demonstrations, fire safety education, and other fun activities for the whole family.

McLean Orchestra Season Opening Concert: Russian Flair. 8 p.m. Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. A rich program of Russian favorites such as Tchaikovsky and more. mclean-orchestra.org/tickets.

Cars & Coffee. 7-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House. Located at 760 Walker Road Great Falls. Gathering of antique, custom and exotic cars.

Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Bring recyclable bags. For more information visit www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org.

Awards and Artists Reception. 7-9 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. The reception and exhibit are free and open to the public. 703-956-6590. www.artspaceherndon.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 12

TF Halloween Schooling Show. 9-4 p.m. Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Free to spectators, fees to participants to the horse show: \$10 office fee, and \$15 per class. For application and more information, go to <http://www.turnerfarmevents.org/>.

Benefit Concert. 3 p.m. Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean.

Come and hear the music of Lizabeth Flood, jazz pianist and vocalist who performs regularly in the metropolitan Washington D.C. area. Gifts of Hope is an alternative gift-giving program that serves as an intermediary between donors and organizations serving individuals and families in need. www.giftsofhopemetrodc.org.

MONDAY/OCT. 13

Read to the Dog. 4:30-5:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls Library Meeting Room 2nd and 4th Mondays of the Month. Call 703-757-8560 to sign up.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

Learn to Draw Cartoons. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Learn to draw cartoons with artist Bud Little. Ages 6 and up. Please register for this program at 703-757-8560.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

Cre8tive Movies. 10 a.m.-Noon. Tysons Corner Microsoft Store, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The Cre8tive series of workshops will introduce attendees to different forms of art using Windows 8.1. Edit, add effects and sound to your own movies. Free. Call the Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna (SCOV) office to register for classes or for additional information, 703-281-0538.

Morning Book Group. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Call branch for title of book to be discussed, 703-757-8560.

Jaws. 1 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Midday movie screening at the Alden Theater. Free.

Pokemon League. 4:30 - 6 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Meeting Room. Age 5 to 15. Come play Pokemon with your friends.

An Article of Hope. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Local filmmaker Dan Cohen, director and producer of the film will answer questions afterwards. Free and open to the public. Call 703-956-6590 or go to www.artspaceherndon.org.

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



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THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Candidate Meet and Greet Forum.
7 - 9 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Come and meet your candidates for the 8th and 10th Congressional Districts in an informal setting. Learn their views on important issues and interact one-on-one with them. The current congressmen for these districts are Jim Moran (8th) and Frank Wolf (10th).

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting an Open House from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Residents are invited to see Fire & Rescue Apparatus displays, rescue demonstrations, public safety education, and activities for kids and adults alike. Admission is free, and all events will take place at the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department, 9916 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

THURSDAY/OCT. 16

Great Falls Rotary Club Weekly Speaker Series. 7:30- 8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road Great Falls. Interested in joining? Download the membership form from http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org/.

SATURDAY/OCT. 18

Financial Fitness. 12 p.m. Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Lecture series for ages 55+. \$7/\$5 MCC district residents.

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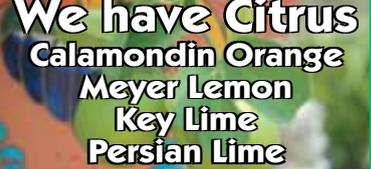
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Week Of, Weak On, Week Off

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



This column completes the three-week arc which describes what I have endured mostly successfully for approximately five years now: chemotherapy every three weeks – with one year off for good behavior (not really good behavior; the year off was to switch to a twice-daily pill, Tarceva, to be taken at home, since the previous treatment was no longer stemming the tide). It's been my experience that these anti-cancer drugs don't exactly work forever. Realistically speaking, if they work at all – on/in you, you take them until they don't work anymore; then you hope there's another drug somewhere: in the pharmacy, in the office, in the pipeline, that the cancer won't recognize and ignore, to give you hope that as a patient, you haven't run out of treatment options. And so far, as you regular readers know, my body's tolerance (let's call it "good behavior") has been above and beyond; his "third miracle," my oncologist says.

Two weeks ago, I wrote about the weak-week immediately following chemotherapy. Last week, I wrote about the week-of/week preceding the actual infusion, waiting for the lab results and dealing with the associated anxiety pertaining to all of it. This week, I'd like to jump ahead to two weeks post-chemotherapy, the week after I feel worst and the week before I feel anxious again worrying about new results and then anticipating the Friday infusion and the subsequent post-chemotherapy discomfort to follow. This of course is my favorite week, my week feeling most normal, my week when cancer is not top of mind, more so middle of mind. But I'll take it in the middle, that's a significant enough displacement so I don't mind it there. (This may be a bit of mind over matter/any port in a storm, but when you're in the cross-hairs, any break in the usual action, any respite from the incessant emotional, mental and physical demands of living with cancer is well worth the time it takes to get there. I never bemoan its arrival if delayed; I cherish the relief it brings whenever and however it makes its presence felt.)

Obviously, even during this third week/week off, my disease is hardly forgotten or a thing of the past. Most definitely it's still a thing of the present. Moreover, if it were not for my ability to compartmentalize, rationalize, delude and pretend, this off week wouldn't be so helpful. It is part of my process in order to try and secure a future. Although, it is a little challenging sometimes to maintain the illusion when my daily routine is so cancer-centric. But after five-plus years of it, the routine has become almost second nature and not, believe it or not, a constant reminder that I have cancer; more like a means not to a premature end. It's not even anything I think about any more.

Just like the week-of, weak-on and week-off have become. It's what I do. It's who I am. It's how I roll. Nothing to complain about. Something more to write about. If I had my druthers, I'd rather not be writing about life in the cancer lane. But since this seems to be my permanent address, and I'm a homebody at heart, I'll continue to write about what I know best. It used to be sports and chocolate; now it's about living with cancer. Living being the operative word. And you know what, it makes me happy writing about it.

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

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Native Foods California, LLC trading as Native Foods Cafe, 1216 W. Broad St. Falls Church, VA 22046. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Daniel Dolan, CEO NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring Fairfax Petroleum Realty, LLC to develop a Corrective Action Plan Addendum (CAPA) to address cleanup of methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) in groundwater at the site. If you have questions regarding the cleanup, please contact:

Kleinfelder
1340 Charwood Road, Suite 1
Hanover, Maryland 21076
(443) 925-6048

Attention: Mark Steele

The CAPA was submitted to the Northern Regional Office of the DEQ on October 2, 2014. If you would like to review or discuss the CAPA with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact Alex Wardle (Alexander.Wardle@deq.virginia.gov) at (703) 583-3822. The DEQ Northern Regional Office will consider written comments regarding the CAPA until December 5, 2014 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Hard copy of the CAPA will be available at the Great Falls Library. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; PC# 2010-3028.

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Carfit Safety Evaluation. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street South, Vienna. Carfit experts can determine if your car fits you properly for maximum safety and suggest improvements. Mature drivers in general are safe drivers, but in case of accident they can have more chance of injury if their car is not individually fit to their needs. Learn how to best position yourself to maximize safety when driving your vehicle. Free. Call 703-255-6360 to register and for more information.

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Candidate Meet and Greet Forum. 7 - 9 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Come and meet your candidates for the 8th and 10th Congressional Districts in an informal setting. Learn their views on important issues and interact one-on-one with them. The current congressmen for these districts are Jim Moran (8th) and Frank Wolf (10th).

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

State Historical Marker Unveiling. 10 a.m. 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Public ceremony to unveil the new "Fields of Fire" marker, which highlights activities of the Union Army's XII Corps during the Civil War and a heat wave in the region that afflicted marching soldiers and made a tinderbox of county fields and woods.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

Chapter 1116 Vienna- Oakton of NARFE(National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees) Meeting. 1:30 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, Vienna. The speaker will be Gayle Nelson, Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Nelson will give updates for the coming year's choice for federal employees. Meeting is open to all members and their guests. Free.

Congressional Candidate Meet and Greet. 7-9 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Meet candidates for congressional districts 8 and 10. Sponsored by AARP Virginia, AAUW McLean Branch, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans of Virginia (CAPAVA), League of Women Voters Fairfax Area, and the McLean Citizens Association.

Book Sale Set Up. All day. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Used book sale. Wide selection for all ages in excellent condition.

Computer one-on-one. Noon. Oakton Library 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Internet basics, email, Microsoft Word and Powerpoint.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

ESL Conversation Group. 2 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Practice English in this casual conversation group.

THURSDAY/OCT. 16

Great Falls Rotary Club Weekly Speaker Series. 7:30- 8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road Great Falls. Interested in joining? Download the membership form from <http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org/>.

SATURDAY/OCT. 18

Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Weichert Realtors, 1760 Reston Parkway, Reston. Clean our your unwanted household items. A donation of \$25 per space to Habitat for Humanity is all you need to reserve your space. Cash from all the items you sell is yours. 703-264-0000.

Financial Fitness. 12 p.m. Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Lecture series for ages 55+. \$7/\$5 MCC district residents.

MONDAY/OCT. 20

Vienna/Oakton Vision Impaired (VIP) Resource Group Meeting. 10:15 a.m. - Noon. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue, Vienna. The guest speaker is Duveen Winter, who will demonstrate the newly released "E-Bot," as well as the new 24" Clearview CCTV/digital magnifier with speech. If you need a ride, please call The Shepherd Center (3 day advanced notice is required) at 703-281-0538. For other VIP related inquiries, please contact Chato Carter at 703-938-1533.



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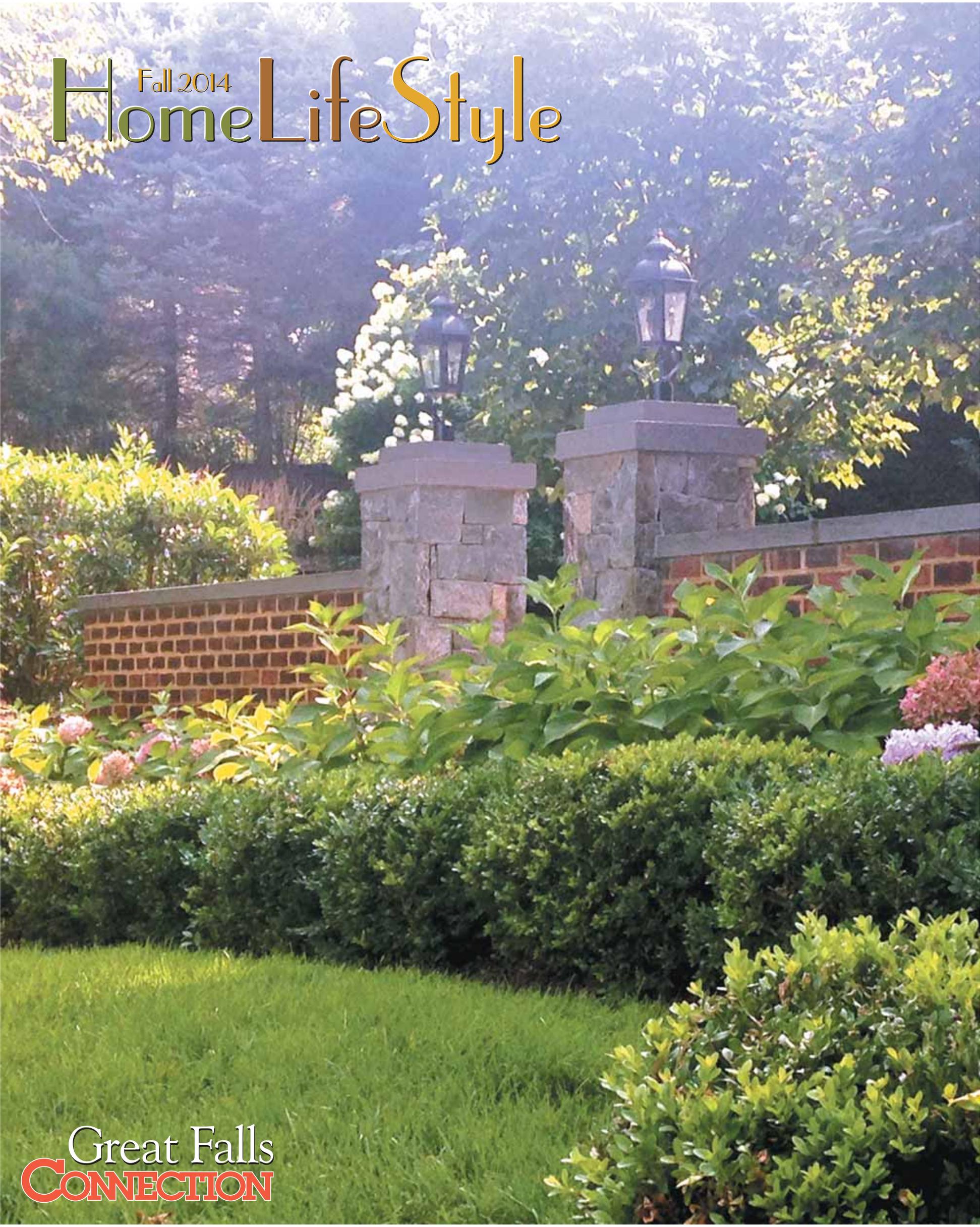
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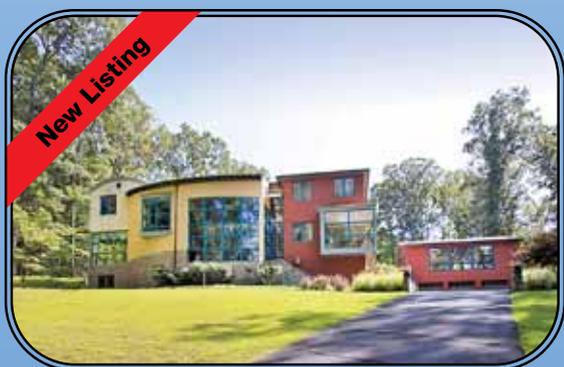
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The Family That Plays Together ... Needs New Space

Innovative Great Falls solution with art studio meets needs of three generations.

BY JOHN BYRD

“A home is a machine for living in,” architectural pioneer Eduard LeCorbusier said in the 1930s, by which he meant good residential design should meet current lifestyle requirements, yet retain enough flexibility to readily transition into a place that supports newly arising needs.

Design consultant Mindy Mitchell, concurs on some basic principles.

“You want a solution that fully responds to everyday needs,” Mitchell says. “But it’s also useful to consider how you might be re-using key spaces from time to time, or even a decade from now.”

This may be especially true in a “creative” household, Mitchell adds, where the goal is fostering an environment that organically responds to all sorts of overlapping projects.

Case in point: the recently re-invented lower level plan to the Great Falls home of Lesley and Tim Hackman, two long-term residents now actively involved in the community’s burgeoning art scene.

Looking around the sunny family play space, which will be featured in the upcoming remodeling home tour Oct. 17-19, it’s a little hard to imagine that last year the Hackmans were scarcely using the suite at all.

Recently retired, Tim was free from professional obligations. The couple’s two



PHOTO COURTESY OF MITRO HOOD

In the newly designed family entertainment area, a wall-sized console with a flat screen television stretches out in front of an L-shaped “viewing” couch. A fully stocked beverage center is on the opposite wall convenient to adjacent outside patio.

daughters were out of the house, raising families of their own. Like most empty-nesters, the Hackmans were idly wondering how to better use a spacious home designed for past needs.

“We had been talking about upgrading some rooms, but weren’t using the lower level for much more than laundry and storage,” Lesley recalls. “All the light in the entire suite originated from windows and doors on the rear [side of the house], so the interior rooms were too dark. Still, we hadn’t gotten too far into an actual plan.”

Then an unexpected turn brought latent remodeling considerations to the fore: last spring the entire lower level was flooded by three inches of water when a sump pump failed; it was a situation that could not be ignored.

“One way or another, we knew we were

going to have to do something about it,” Lesley said.

A professional organizer as well as a space planner, Mitchell has been working with Sun Design Remodeling for close to a decade.

“I’m generally the point person and *de facto* project manager,” Mitchell said. “My job is to help owners get a clear idea of what they’re looking for so that the design process is focused and on-track from start to finish.”

This is especially critical, Mitchell notes, when the makeover needs to satisfy a diverse agenda.

Lesley wanted functional studio space for her quilting and photography, but she had also decided to babysit two of her grandchildren three days a week, a commitment that would require work stations for arts

Details

Visit the Hackmans’ remodeled lower level during the Great Falls Studio Tour, Friday-Sunday, Oct. 17-19, 1-5 p.m. daily. Visit www.SunDesignInc.com or call 703-425-5588.

and crafts projects as well as kitchenette suitable for the occasional cooking lesson.

They wanted a media center large enough for the extended family (both daughters live in the metro area), and places to prepare and share a meal with easy access to an adjacent outdoor patio and backyard barbecue.

On an entirely different note, the lower level still had to perform its duties as the family laundry room. And it should also provide quarters for the occasional sleep-over guest.

“It’s when an agenda becomes more specific that space planning really needs to be thoughtful and precise,” Mitchell says. “In this case, we sought ideas that would give every lifestyle component its own integrity while also allowing for modular adjustments where needed.”

The existing full bath is enlarged and upgraded into something suitable for overnight guests while one wall of the studio now accommodates a handsome custom cabinet that conceals a comfortable Murphy bed.

The redesigned “all purpose room” (laundry/kitchenette/dining table) now features a full-sized refrigerator, microwave and dishwasher. The washer and dryer are entirely out-of view behind paneled doors.

The great room on the lower level’s south-

SEE THE FAMILY, PAGE 4

Planting for Fall Planning your autumn garden and yard.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

As the first few weeks of fall unfold, carrying with them the promise of rich and vibrant colors, many local residents are starting to plan their fall gardens, both ornamental and edible. Pruning and overall garden cleanup will make way for fall plants. In fact, this is the perfect time to clear away summer foliage and plant, horticulture gurus said.

“Because the ground is still warm and air is cool, there is less transplant shock for plants when you take them out of the con-

tainer to plant them,” said Kelly Grimes of Good Earth Garden Market in Potomac, Md. “Now is a great time to put in a landscape.”

The first step is preparing the ground. “You have to amend the soil; that is mixing in compost and soil so the plants’ roots can grab a hold of the soil with compost,” said Grimes. “That really helps any planting.”

Katia Goffin of Katia Goffin Gardens in McLean, Va., likens planning a garden to putting together a puzzle. “Everything has to [look] like it belongs,” she said. “It’s about designing your bed line so it enhances your property, versus ‘I stuck this in my garden and doesn’t it look good?’”

Take a few minutes and actually plan out your garden because no matter what you decide to plant for fall, an aesthetically appealing garden starts with an effective strategy. “It is getting a good plan together,” Goffin said. “It is a question of scale and putting it together right. You have to look at your plot of land and decide where you want plants to go and how you want it to look.”

FOR DECORATIVE GARDENS and yards, mums and pansies are among fall’s

SEE PLANTING, PAGE 10

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The Family That Plays Together ...

FROM PAGE 3

western corner is set up for family entertainment. There's a beverage center with a wine refrigerator in one corner. On the opposite side of the room, a wall-sized console with a flat screen television

stretches out in front of an L-shaped "viewing" couch.

The new family room now segues down an adjoining hall into Lesley's new studio (formerly the unused guest room) which is also

SEE NEW SPACE, PAGE 5



PHOTO COURTESY OF MITRO HOOD

The redesigned "all purpose room" now features a full-sized refrigerator, microwave and dishwasher. Among other functions, Lesley Hackman uses the space to instruct her grandchildren in cooking.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MITRO HOOD

The stairway from the upper level opens directly into the media center. Lesley's studio is down the hall. Sun Design's Mindy Mitchell, who is also a professional organizer, was instrumental in designing a space with ample storage that's easy to maintain.

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Needs New Space

FROM PAGE 4

accessed from the “all purpose room” through a pair of frosted glass doors designed to maximize available light from the rear elevation.

“As a functional measure, we designed a series of shelves to hold on-going projects, Mitchell said. “But they’re all neatly tucked inside custom cabinetry, which means the

studio can easily transition into a comfortable and private guest room when necessary.”

UPSTAIRS, the program called for fully upgrading the master bath and an adjacent hall bath. The master bath features a walk-in shower with a glass surround and granite surfaced whirlpool bath that affords a restful view of the backyard tree tops.

Lesley Hackman says the makeover has proven to be a perfect solution in this newly active phase of her life.

“I can spend the morning or afternoon working on art projects and helping the grandchildren. Then take a hot bath. It’s a great environment,” she said. “I’m really glad we created it.”

John Byrd has been writing about residential architecture, building and remodeling for 30 years.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MITRO HOOD

The upgraded master bath features a walk-in shower with a glass surround and a granite-surfaced whirlpool bath that affords a restful view of backyard tree tops.



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<p style="font-weight: bold; color: #003366;">October 18 (10am until Noon)</p> <div style="background-color: white; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #003366; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #003366; font-size: 0.9em;">THE 7 QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ASK FOR LUXURY REMODELING SUCCESS</p> </div>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: #003366;">November 1 (10am until Noon)</p> <div style="background-color: white; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #003366; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #003366; font-size: 0.9em;">HOW TO AVOID COMMON KITCHEN REMODELING PITFALLS</p> </div>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: #003366;">December 6 (10am until Noon)</p> <div style="background-color: white; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #003366; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #003366; font-size: 0.9em;">THE 7 QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ASK FOR LUXURY REMODELING SUCCESS</p> </div>
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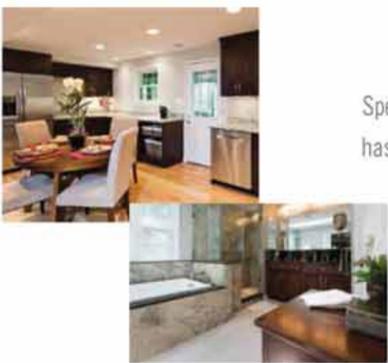
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THE MAP

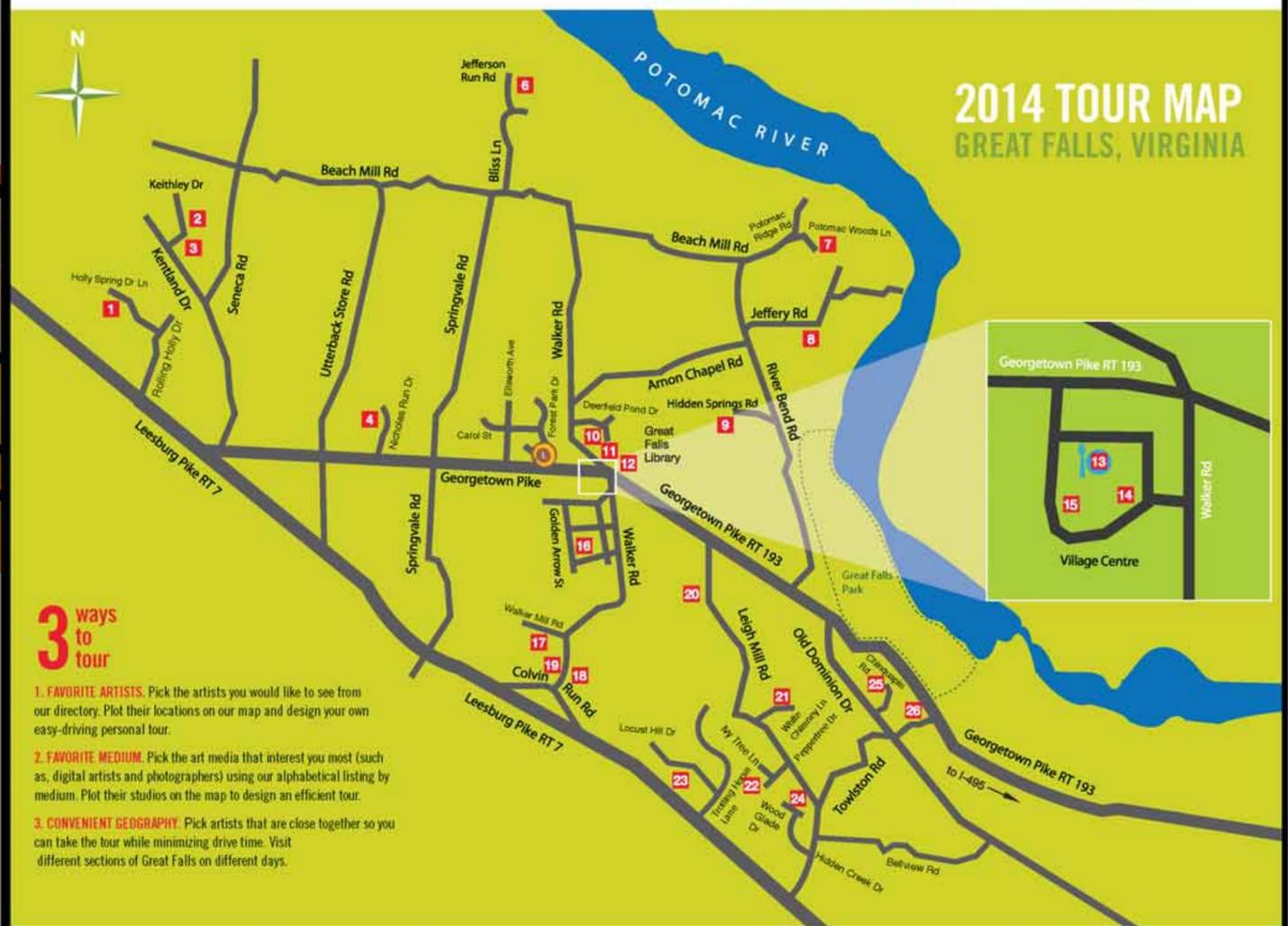
The Studios. The numerals in the red squares correspond to the number given to each studio. The numbers run roughly from west to east and north to south on the map. At right, you will find an alphabetical listing of the artists by medium, and the number of each artist's studio. These numbers will also be found on the road sign nearest the studio. Wheel chair access is marked with a wheelchair icon, hands-on activities marked with a hand icon.

Sun Design venue. The yellow-and-brown sun icon corresponds to a location where Sun Design is showcasing home renovations. Join Sun Design and Children's Author and Homeowner, Lesley Hackman for a remodeled home tour, 735 Forest Park Road.

THE ARTISTS

<p>Digital Artists</p> <p>Walt Lawrence.....#19 Terri Parent.....#19</p> <p>Fiber Artists</p> <p>Dory Emmer.....#26 Cindy Grisdela.....#19 Vad Moskowitz.....#3</p> <p>Jewelry Designers</p> <p>Jorge Adeler.....#15 Donna Barnako.....#19 Richard Masaniello.....#26</p> <p>Layered Paper Artist</p> <p>Ronni Jolles.....#19</p> <p>Mixed Media Artists</p> <p>Roberta Pruett Beasley.....#19 Penny Burk.....#21 GuruSangat Khalsa.....#20 Heidi Mraz.....#10</p>	<p>Painters</p> <p>Naz Akbar.....#13 Leslie Anthony.....#14 Jill Banks.....#19 Karen Bateman.....#9 Hwa Crawford.....#18 Coty Dickson.....#14 Jennifer Duncan.....#17 Elaine Elmsky.....#19 Robert Gilbert.....#24 Lori Goll.....#11 Layla Gray.....#14 Yeganeh Hejazi.....#19 Carol Howard.....#19 Yiyun Huang Huff.....#7 Linda Jones.....#26 Tina Learned.....#19 John McCabe.....#19 Begonia Morton.....#4 Pat Neuman.....#8 Ann Noel.....#11 Vandana Pamecha.....#25 Gail Pean.....#14 Jay Pigeon.....#11 Lockini Rumburg.....#1 Judith St. Ledger-Roty.....#19 Lisa Tureson.....#19</p>	<p>Photographers</p> <p>Jan Bender.....#2 Robin Kent.....#22 Dee Leggett.....#11 Silvia Gonzalez Roman.....#18 Dean Souleles.....#23</p> <p>Potters</p> <p>Barbara Gatterdam.....#16 Laura Nichols.....#9</p> <p>Printmakers</p> <p>William Tutthill.....#6</p> <p>Wood Carver</p> <p>Michael Long.....#20</p> <p>Great Falls School of Art.....#19 The Old Brogue.....#13</p>
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Most artists are open for all 3 tour days. Refer to the full brochure available at all studios for exceptions.



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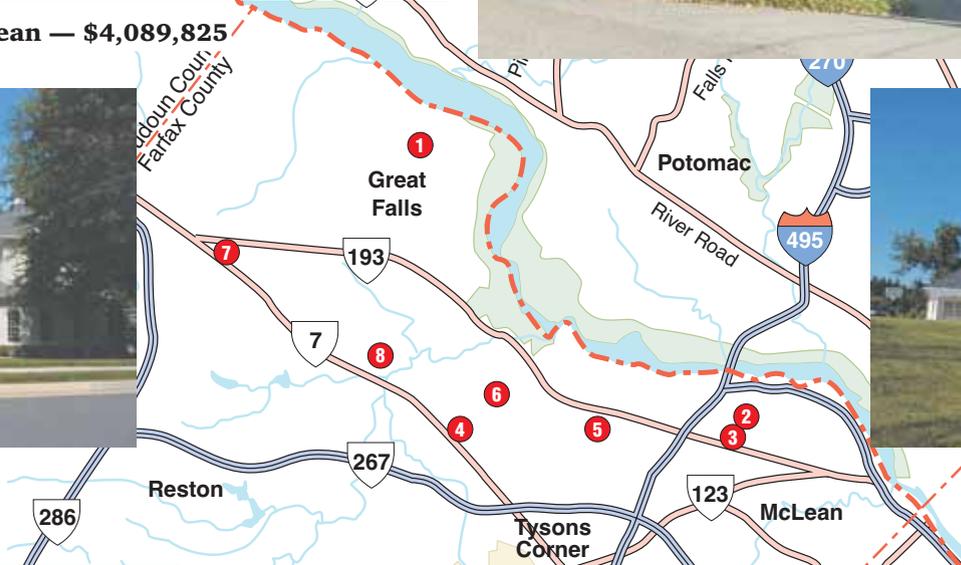
3 926 Douglass Drive, McLean — \$4,089,825



5 866 Centrillion Drive,
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4 1266 Lyons Street,
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3 926 DOUGLASS DR	6	6	3	...	MCLEAN	\$4,089,825	Detached	1.00	22101	LANGLEY FOREST	08/22/14
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Painter Leslie Anthony, a member of Artists on the Green, specializes in paintings of horses and dogs. Bring in a photo of your pet during the Great Falls Studios 2014 Studio Tour Oct. 17-19, 2014 and she might paint it. Anthony is one of 50 artists whose work you can see on the tour. Visit www.greatfallsstudios.com/tour/php

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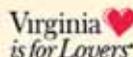
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Planting for Fall

FROM PAGE 3

best flowering plants. “Mums need full sunlight to open and come in obvious, bold fall colors,” said Grimes. “Pansies will take part sun, are a great color and will continue to bloom through spring.”

Yarrow, asters, sedums, Lenten roses, and coral bells are among the fall plants that Jonathan Storvick, natural resource manager at the Office of Sustainability at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., recommends.

“Fall is a great time to plant larger-sized perennials and container shrubs,” said Storvick. “It also happens to be the time of year when nurseries are trying to get rid of a lot of their stock, so you can find some great deals.”

For example, said Joel Cook of Merrifield Garden Center, in Fairfax, Merrifield and Gainesville, Va., “Burning bushes have beautiful fall colors like orange and fire red. As far as trees, maples like Japanese maples, sugar maple or black gum maple have beautiful colors.”

Another eye-catching option is the yellow twig dogwood. Its “bright yellow branches and twig color ... are also fantastic for winter,” said Mark White of GardenWise in Arlington, Va. “This shrub develops in great clumps and is a wonderful contrast against any red twig. Oval-shaped green leaves turn to orange-red in fall, followed by white fruit tinged with green.”

Grasses, added Katia Goffin, are ideal for fall and can be mixed with other foliage. “You can put ever-

greens in your yard and add some grasses. There are tons [of grasses] that are flowering and look [good] with evergreens.”

One plant that is often associated with cooler weather is a holly tree, but Eric Shorb of American Plant in Bethesda, Md., offers a caveat. “As we get closer to the end of November and the beginning of December you want to be careful about planting such broadleaf evergreens,” he said. “If they haven’t had time to develop a sufficient enough root system they can become susceptible to wind burn because the roots will not be able to absorb moisture.”

Instead, he recommends deciduous trees and fine leaf evergreens. “A Leland Cypress or an Arborvitae that don’t need as much moisture will survive better as the weather gets colder.”

ORNAMENTAL VEGETABLES also work well in fall and beyond. “There is decorative cabbage and kale, which will grow anywhere and are deer resistant, which is a big factor these days,” said Grimes. “As the temperatures get cooler, they get more color and last in winter.”

Then there are the edible vegetables. Good options are spinach, Swiss chard, arugula, mustard greens and red lettuces, said Storvick, who also suggested “root crops [like] carrots, radishes, parsnips and beets. You can also plant garlic and leeks now for spring harvesting.”

There are a few common mistakes that

SEE PLANTING, PAGE 11

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Planting for Fall

FROM PAGE 10

homeowners make, however: “Planting plants that deer eat and not thinking about the critters that come though your yard is something I see a lot,” said Grimes.

Giving a garden too much water is another frequent mistake, according to Storvick. “Overwatering, especially when the weather starts to get colder, [and] leaving new plants unprotected ... are probably some of the most common mistakes I’ve encoun-

tered. Mulching around the base of plants helps protect them from cold and wind, as well as keeping in moisture.”

Also, take care when pruning spring-blooming shrubs and trees, he cautioned: “While a lot of plants prefer winter pruning, a lot of our great spring-blooming shrubs, like azaleas, for example, will only produce flowers on the previous season’s growth, so by pruning in the winter, you eliminate all of the flower buds. For these plants, it’s best to prune them immediately after they’re done blooming for the season.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIA GOFFIN GARDENS

Katia Goffin suggests mixing grasses with evergreens when planning a fall yard.

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