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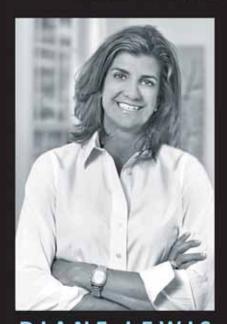
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Protesters outside NOVA Firearms in McLean on Saturday, Sept. 26. The gun store is located on property that is adjacent to Franklin Sherman Elementary School.



PHOTO BY ANJALI GUPTA

Protesters rally outside of NOVA Firearms in McLean.

# Hundreds Protest as Gun Shop Opens Next to McLean Elementary School

By Danielle Grae
The Connection

undreds of people protested in McLean outside the gun shop NOVA Firearms on its opening day, Saturday, Sept. 26. Protesters were upset because the gun shop is on property that borders Franklin Sherman Elementary School.

McLean resident Victoria Manoogian was driving through McLean on Friday morning when she saw people carrying guns into a location that had been a photography studio. When Manoogian discovered that a gun shop was opening right next to Franklin Sherman Elementary School, she started a petition on change.org against the new location for NOVA Firearms and worked with local government officials to organize the Saturday protest.

"IT DOESN'T MATTER if you are a Republican or a Democrat. It doesn't matter whether you are for or against using guns. We just don't want this store at this location bordering an elementary school. We certainly don't want to have to drive by the store and explain it to our kids," Manoogian

Janie Strauss was former PTA president at Franklin Sherman Elementary School, and now represents Dranesville District on the Fairfax County School Board.

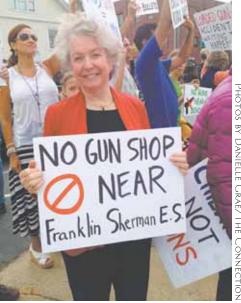
"Franklin Sherman Elementary School is one of the schools in my district that I am sworn to protect," Strauss said. Strauss is looking into whether legal action can be taken to shut down NOVA Firearms, but



Victoria Manoogian, of McLean, organized the protest against NOVA Firearms new location next to Franklin Sherman Elementary School in McLean.

even if NOVA Firearms legally borders an elementary school, Strauss believes that its location is inappropriate.

According to Strauss, the Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990 is a federal United States law that prohibits any individual from knowingly possessing a firearm within 1,000 feet of school property or in a school zone, but the law allows exceptions including that guns are allowed on private property that is not part of school zones and unloaded and locked guns are not prohibited.



Dranesville District Representative, Fairfax County School Board member, and former PTA president at Franklin Sherman Elementary School Janie Strauss joined in the protest.

"Children learn best in a school where they feel safe and protected and where there is a calm environment. I believe that a gun store that is selling high volume, high powered guns does not contribute to a safe and calm school environment," Strauss said.

Other elected officials at the protest included Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34), State Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31), Del. Rip Sullivan (D-48), Del. Marcus Simon (D-53)

SEE RESIDENTS, PAGE 13



NOVA Firearms owner James Gates holds a gun in his shop: "I understand that we share a backyard with the elementary school. If I could have avoided that, I would

"The protesters are exercising their right to free speech, and I'm okay with that."

— James Gates, McLean gun store owner



From left, Charlie, Elisabeth, Renate and Charlie's daughter Kimberleigh



From left, Charles, Renate, Elizabeth and Charlie Boswell at Color Wheel's first art gallery, The Village Gallery, in 1971.

### McLean's Color Wheel Celebrates 50 Years

# Family business knows how to make a house a home.

Abigail Constantino
The Connection

harlie Boswell says "To make a long story short," several times when he told the story of his family's store, Color Wheel. But 50 years of being in business makes it difficult to compress the history of the McLean institution located in the Langley Shopping Center.

Color Wheel will hold an open house on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

The store specializes in paints, wallpaper, window treatments, custom frames and custom bedding and upholstery.

**THE BOSWELL FAMILY** has owned it since 1965. Shelves of wallpaper books since the store's beginning stand next to window blinds that open and close at the touch of a button.

"Fifty years ago, we would never have imagined you could operate shades and blinds remotely," said Charlie. Charlie was only 6 years old when his grandfather Earl Boswell, a professional painter and paper hanger, bought the paint and wallpaper store from a man who has only had it open for six months.

Earl liked the name and kept it. "He probably could not afford a new sign," said Charlie.

The previous owner also did custom picture framing and taught Earl how to do it, as it was something to do in between customers. The framing department is now one of the busiest departments.

In the 1970s, the men's store next door became available. An agreement with the landlord, the Smoot family of McLean, allowed Earl to try expanding the store rentfree for a few months. They sealed it with a handshake. Charlie said his grandfather was a "handshake kind-of-man."

Earl and his wife, Nellie, passed the business to their son Charles, a Fairfax County police officer. Charles and his wife, Elisabeth, ran the business until they passed it to their children, Charlie and Renate Boswell Eschmann.

As the business expanded from one store to several stores over the years, so did the family. Charlie met his wife, Mary, in 1980 when she worked at the store.

"Family business often involves spouses," said Charlie. "When you leave work, you talk about work at home."



Color Wheel founder Nellie Boswell, circa 1979, helps a customer choose wallpaper.

Color Wheel added locations in Shady Grove in Maryland, Vienna and Fairfax. It also dabbled in art galleries a few times. Only the McLean and Fairfax stores exist today.

Charlie marks the store's history not with exact dates but with the people who have worked there and became part of his extended family. "My best memory of the store

are the people who worked here," he said.

In 2014 Color Wheel underwent a financial restructuring and had to downsize several long-term employees, such as general manager Jacinta Porto, a 40-year employee, and Eric Crowe, who worked as the paint department manager for 17 years.

"I miss them to this day," said Charlie. The store continues to evolve as the market and customers' needs change.

**PLANS** for what to do in the old gallery space is in the works but still under wraps. They have also switched the home decor department from an in-store model to an in-home type of service. Charlie and Mary's daughter Kimberleigh works as the store's interior designer and does a lot of in-home consultation with customers.

Charlie said that what makes Color Wheel different from big box stores is that customers get not just a product but service and knowledge. The typical customer? Someone looking for something special.

For Charlie, the store was more than just a way to make a living for his family. "It's about the special relationship with customers," he said.

The store is located on 1374 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The Fairfax branch is located at 2802-D Merrilee Drive, Fairfax. Light refreshments will be served at at both locations during the open house.

#### –Week in McLean–

## Run With Warriors in McLean

Joined this year by Under Armour, the McLean 5K Run with the Warriors is expected to increase by over 50 percent in attendance from the 2014 race. To date, the McLean 5K has raised over \$214,000 for Wounded Warrior Transitional Housing through registration and corporate sponsorships since it began in 2011.

Run with the Warriors is hosted by Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation and Century 21 New Millennium and the race apparel partner Under Armour. A few of the additional sponsors of the event include Bank of Georgetown, Citi Bank, JBG, P.F. Changs, and Thundercat Technology.

Local veterans, wounded warriors, and active duty service members of the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; 20 local corporate sponsors; and over 1,200 local runners and walkers will participate in McLean 5K Run with the Warriors benefitting Wounded Warrior Transitional Housing at Vinson Hall Retirement Community on Saturday, Oct. 3. Race-day registration begins at 6:45 a.m. The 5K starts at 8 am. Downtown McLean, 6631 Old Dominion Drive, McLean

Event Page: www.McLean5K.com; Foundation Page: www.vinsonhall.org/founda-

tion/about-us/programs

For more information on Wounded Warrior Transitional Housing at VHRC, visit www.NMCGRF.org.

#### Alpha Leadership Breakfast at Tysons

On Oct. 1, The Alpha Leadership Breakfast, sponsored by Holy Trinity Church (HTC) in McLean, will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Tyson's Corner where a panel of leaders will discuss key elements of their success.

Speakers, including U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10), six-time former Congressman Jim Slattery, LTG Claude M. "Mick" Kicklighter (Ret), Ernst & Young Vice Chair & Managing Partner (Ret), Debbie Kissire, and Carlyle Group CEO and President Glenn Youngkin, will cover a variety of topics, including:

How to build and motivate a great team; ethics in the workplace; ways that faith can inspire us in our careers; maintaining a healthy work life balance; the role of mentors; wise ways to pursue success; how to make a difference at home or at work.

A short time will also be given to reflecting on how The Alpha Course has helped millions of people worldwide in all areas of life and leadership.

For tickets go to www.HTC.us/alb

#### Native Trees for McLean Neighborhoods

Homeowners can improve the environment and contribute to the health of their neighborhood by planting a native tree in their front yard this fall or next spring with the help of the McLean Trees Foundation (MTF).

"Homeowners who plant trees enhance the character, quality, health, and beauty of our community," said Joyce Harris, Chairman of MTF. "Additionally, homeowners benefit economically from planting trees. Trees increase property values by 10 to 15 percent and reduce heating and cooling costs. Homes with trees sell faster than homes without trees."

Homeowners can learn more about trees when they participate in the McLean Neighborhood Tree program, a new initiative of MTF. The program is funded in part by the McLean Community Foundation and encourages homeowners to become actively engaged in the selection, planting, and care of their trees.

To join the program, homeowners must complete an application that can be found online. Once an application is received, MTF volunteers visit the

homeowner's property to discuss the program, review the property, and recommend native tree species and planting locations. If the homeowner decides to participate in the



PHOTO CONTRIBUTE

The Eadhara family planted this native, flowering Redbud tree in the spring with the help of the McLean Trees Foundation (MTF) volunteers.

program after the consultation, a \$50 fee is charged to help supplement program costs.

More information can be found on MTF's website: www.mcleantreesfoundation.org.

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backyard. McLean Hamlet is one of the most family friendly neighborhoods within McLean and is complete with sidewalks, streetlights, neighborhood pool and tennis club, multiple playgrounds, parks and a direct walkway to the nearby Springhill Elem School (Langley High Pyramid) and Recreation Center.. this home has it all!! FX8754413

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quiet street with a fully fenced backyard complete with a shed, garden and a large deck for entertaining. The Briarwood community is ideally located for all commuter routes with easy access to I-66 & I-495 and both National and Dulles Airports, and within walking distance to the neighborhood metro bus stop! FX8757675



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### **OPINION**

### Changing Perspective on Death Penalty

#### Evolving standards will eclipse the death penalty entirely at some point in the future.

EDITORIAL

t's sad to see senseless death as a response to senseless death. Alfred R. Prieto is not a sympathetic figure, a serial killer who was on death row in California when DNA connected him to murders and rapes in Reston and Arlington that took place in 1988. He is scheduled for execution this week, at 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 1.

Evolving standards of decency have led to the understanding that it's wrong and unconstitutional to subject people whose crimes were committed when they were juveniles or people with intellectual disabilities to the death penalty.

The Arc of Northern Virginia, an advocacy group for people with intellectual disabilities, asked Gov. Terry McAuliffe to send Prieto back to California so that his intellectual disabilities, raised in the sentencing phase of his trial, could be analysed. McAuliffe has declined to intervene in Prieto's case. It was a Virginia case, Atkins v. Virginia, that led the U.S. Supreme Court to rule that execution of people with mental retardation is unconstitutional.

Prieto was sent to Virginia to face trial even Raver's death and to that of Veronica Jefferson,

though he was already on death row in California because of the belief, clearly correct, that he would be more likely to be executed in Vir-

Over time, it seems clear that evolving standards of decency will end the death penalty in the United States. The number of death sentences has dropped dramatically since 2000, and executions have declined as well, from a

> high of 98 in 1999 to just 35 in 2014, the lowest in 20 years, according to Amnesty International.

Prieto committed heinous crimes, and releasing him from prison should never be an option.

Warren Fulton and Rachel Raver were last seen around midnight in Washington, D.C. on Dec. 2, 1988. The two George Washington University students, both 22, were found dead Dec. 6, 1988 in a field off Hunter Mill Road in Reston. Both were shot in the head. Raver had been raped. Investigators believed they had been abducted and forced to drive to the remote location. DNA evidence linked Prieto to

#### Vigil to Oppose **Death Penalty**

Virginians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty will hold vigils around the state on the evening that Alfredo Prieto is scheduled for execution, Thursday, Oct. 1.

Arlington Vigil in opposition to the death

Oct. 1, 8:30-9:10 p.m.

Clarendon Metro Station. The vigil will be held in the public park between Clarendon and Wilson Boulevards, right behind the Metro exit. Attendees are welcome to bring signs with appropriate, peaceful, anti-death penalty messages.

For more information, contact Elise Cleva at elise.cleva@gmail.com or see http:// www.vadp.org/

a 24-year-old CIA finance officer who was raped and shot to death in Arlington County in May 1988, although he was never tried in that case. A Fairfax County jury sentenced Prieto to death in 2006.

The murders and rapes were unsolved for 17 years until 2005 when California's DNA database joined a national database.

- MARY KIMM

### Share Volunteers Gear up for Annual Holiday Celebration

hare volunteers are already beginning preparations for their annual holiday programs. It takes more than 50 volunteers to pull off the festivities which generally serve around 640 needy individuals (250 families) living in the McLean, Great Falls and Pimmit Hills areas. Throughout the season, you will see many community partners helping to prepare for the event with food and toiletry drives, Trees for Food, wish trees, and so much

For Thanksgiving, each family will receive a grocery store gift card and a bag of some food staples, as well as a few traditional favorites. At the annual Holiday Celebration in December, each family will be welcomed to a festively decorated hall and served a light meal, holiday cookies and toasty beverages. Santa will be on hand for photographs and will even bring a gift for each child all the way from the North Pole! There will be live music and some giveaways. Before departing, each family will receive their holiday wish gifts, a grocery gift card for a special holiday meal, a bag of toiletries and detergent (these are expensive items that can't be purchased with food stamps). Babies and toddlers will get baby bags with diapers, wipes, an outfit, and a small toy, and the homeless will get a bag of items especially helpful for life on the streets, such as warm socks, travel size toiletries, and fast food gift cards.

Share is a unique organization in that not only is it entirely volunteer run, it relies on community partners to keep it running. No

where is that more evident than for the holiday programs. After clients turn in their holiday wish lists in October, the wishes go out to the faith communities, schools, local businesses and generous individuals.

For instance, Franklin Sherman Elementary yearly has a mitten tree, Haycock Elementary classes adopt families, Giant has a wish tree every year, and many churches have angel trees. Each year, businesses, such as McEnearney Associates Realtors, adopt families for both Thanksgiving and the December holidays, and Child's Play Toys generously helps Santa fulfill his extensive toy list. There are even folks in the community who have asked their party guests to bring mittens or socks with a gift card attached for Share families. In all, the holiday program team needs to raise approximately \$50,000 yearly in donations, as well as procure assorted gift items.

Donors to the Share holiday program can be assured that their gifts will be 100 percent useful to those who receive them. For instance, grocery gift cards are given in lieu of traditional Thanksgiving food baskets because many of the families served come from different cultures and backgrounds with different tastes and so they may not eat traditional Thanksgiving foods. A grocery gift card prevents food waste and allows the families to select foods that will be truly appreciated and enjoyed. Also, the clients fill out a wish survey for each family member and then volunteers help the clients go over the wish list. That way if someone, for example, needs a pair of pants for work, they can ask for a gift card for the appropriate store so they can go try on and select pants that will meet their needs. If someone needs bedding, they can ask for the appropriate size and a favorite color. A single mom can ask for gift cards for her children and then she can select gifts for her children that she knows they will love. Many elderly people just ask for grocery gift cards because they don't need stuff, they just need a little help making ends meet with their food bud-

Want to be a Share community partner this holiday season? Contact Chris Wilbur at Sharewishes@gmail.com to sponsor a client or family or to find out how your business or organization can help.

Write The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor The Connection 1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314 Call: 703-917-6444. By e-mail: north@connectionnewspapers.com



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Izzy O'Brien and Anum Chotani pose with a Great Falls Park sign while gathering more information about volunteering in our local community parks.



Jessie Broyles and Kat Quatrini talk with the representative of McLean Bible Church and learn about their volunteer opportuni-

#### Cooper Eighth Graders Begin a Year-long QUEST

On Tuesday, Sept.22, members and leaders of the McLean community met with eighth grade Cooper Middle School students in order to share information about service learning opportunities. Eighth graders are beginning the year-long Service QUEST project in which they will identify an issue and develop a solution while giving back to the community.

#### Chesterbrook Marker Dedicated

On Sept. 19, a Fairfax County historic roadside marker was dedicated at Park and Kirby Roads to bring awareness to all of the significant history of the Chesterbrook community. The area was known as Lincolnville after the Civil War, but the name changed to Chesterbrook in 1897 when the community received a post office. Four long-time Chesterboook residents spoke, relating an agricultural community that was enriched by the Chesterbrook School and two churches: the speakers were Elaine Strawser Cherry, Viriese Hall Thornton, Peggy Stalcup Byers and Janet Beall. The sign and dedication ceremony were sponsored by the Fairfax County History Commission and McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia.

Marker text: Lincolnville, a farming community that developed along Kirby Road after the Civil war, was renamed Chesterbrook ca. 1897. The "first Colored Baptist Church of Fairfax County" was founded ca.1866 by reverend Cyrus Carter. The one-room Chesterbrook School opened in 1906 on present-day Linway Terrace. The school moved to Kirby Road in 1926. Chesterbrook Methodist episcopal Church South, formed in 1906, worshiped in the schoolhouse, then relocated to Kirby Road in 1921. Classes for the Chesterbrook Colored School were



Photo by Lloyd J. Flooi

From left: Elaine Strawser Cherry, Janie Strauss, Carole Herrick, Viriese Hall Thornton, Peggy Stalcup Byers, John Foust and Janet Beall.

held in the Odd Fellows Lodge adjacent to the general store which the Stalcup family operated for many years.

#### Fairfax County Hosts Volunteer Fair

Older adults, seniors, and retirees looking for flexible, meaningful volunteer opportunities are invited to "Venture into Volunteering," a free volunteer fair, on Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Lorton Workhouse Arts, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton.

The Fairfax County Department of Family Services' Area Agency on Aging, AARP, Fairfax County Park Authority, RSVP Northern Virginia (Volunteer Fairfax, Volunteer Alexandria, and Volunteer Arlington) and The Positive Aging Coalition are partnering to host this event.

More than 30 organizations and Fairfax County agencies will be on hand to talk about their volunteer programs and benefits including: Fairfax Opportunities and Resources, Fairfax Pets on Wheels, Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital, Lorton Community Action Center and the Shepherd's Center of Annandale/Springfield.

Refreshments will be provided and participants will have an opportunity to enter a prize drawing.

Nationwide, nearly one-third of adults 45 years and older volunteer. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics among those having a bachelor's degree or higher, nearly 40 percent volunteer. The oldest of the generation of 77 million born between 1946 and 1964 is facing retirement or are working part-time in retirement and are looking for additional meaningful ways to stay engaged in civic life. "Venture into Volunteering" will introduce you to many local organizations where your talents and skills are useful and needed.

For more information or to request reasonable ADA accommodations, contact Jeannine Deem Purdy, Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, at 703-704-6075, TTY 711, or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults.

#### What is Design for Independent Living?



What is design for independent living or aging-in-place exactly? If you are like the majority of Americans you want to continue living at home in a familiar environment throughout your maturing years. Aging-in-place means living in your home safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age or ability level. It addresses the need to remodel existing homes and design new homes so that people can age in place and not have to move to assisted-living facilities. In addition to the economics that generally favor remodeling vs. moving into an assisted-living facility, there is also the psychological impact of be-ing uprooted from your community, familiar rituals, independence and privacy.

Since the vast majority of homes we live in are not well designed for this, a movement in residential construction has sprung up to meet this new consumer demand.

Too early to think this applies to you? Consider how many folks struggle with bouts of arthritis at an early age. If you fell and broke a leg, how easy would it be to get up and down stairs in your house? Perhaps you have an aging parent or relative who is facing these challenges who may need to move in with you.

The good news is that aging-inplace home renovations have become the norm and the possibilities are virtually endless. And, not only are they functional, but they can be beautiful as well.



Russ Glickman, founder of Glickman Design Bulld, is a Master Certified Remodeler and Certified Aging in Place Specialist. The award-winning Glickman Design Build learn has completed those.

has completed thousands of general remodeling and accessible design projects in the Metro DC area and is passionate about the work they do. Their work has been featured in a variety of publications.

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On Oct. 4, McLean Central Park will transform into a lively landscape of mini art galleries showcasing and offering for sale the work of a diverse group of juried artists at MPAartfest from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 468 Dolley Madison

See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose on Oct. 17 from 1-5 p.m. at 231 Dominion Road

#### Calendar

#### **ONGOING**

"Along the Way." Through Sept. 30 at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. "Along the Way," Jill Banks solo exhibit of original oil

"Figuratively Speaking." Friday-Sunday through Oct. 11 at 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. Portraits and figures n watercolor and mixed media by Deborah Conn. Tickets: \$15-\$30. www.1ststagetysons.org.

#### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 30

Fall for the Book: Peter Straub. 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Author Straub will thrill fans with a

reading of his work. Busy Beavers. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Did you know that there are beavers in our creeks and ponds? Do the beaver dance, listen to some stories and make a beaver dam as we learn about these nocturnal

Playdate Cafe. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton, Toys and Playspace for children. Coffee and Conversation for grownups. Ages birth-5.

#### THURSDAY/OCT. 1

Paw Parade. 2 p.m. Brightview Great Falls, 10200 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Residents, families, friends, associates and dog lovers are invited to bring their well-behaved furry friends to parade around the

#### FRIDAY/OCT. 2

Claude Moore Colonial Farm Cajun **Barbecue and Silent Auction** Fundraiser. 6-9 p.m. Pavilions of Turkey Run, 6310 Colonial Farm Road, McLean. Event also features a silent auction, live music, 18th

century dancing and beer tasting. Tickets: \$25-\$35. www.1771.org/

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 3

"Sleeping Beauty." 2 p.m. McLean Avenue, McLean, \$10-\$15.

Oktoberfest Vienna. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m Historic Church Street, Vienna. Enjoy beer, wine, food, music, kids activities www.viennava.gov/ index.aspx?NID=670 for more.

#### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 3 -4

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

Fall Book Sale. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Hardbacks \$2, trade paperbacks \$1, pocket paperbacks 50 cents, kids books 25 and 50 cents. Cash only. All proceeds benefit the community library

#### SUNDAY/OCT. 4

MPAartfest. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. McLean Central Park, 468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The park is rransformed into a lively landscape of mini art galleries showcasing and offering for sale the work of a diverse group of juried artists. Visit www.mpaart.org.

Tysons Farmers Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 8400 Westpark Drive, McLean. Sundays, through Nov. 15.

Julie Lythcott-Haims Book Signing. The former Dean of Freshman at Stanford University, will speak and sign copies of her book "How to Raise an Adult: Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare Your Kid for Success.

#### MONDAY/OCT. 5

**Barrel & Bushel and American Craft Beer Present Seasonal** 

**Tasting.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Barrel & Bushel, 7901 Tysons One Place. Tysons Corner. The event will include seven individual tastings of seasonal peer paired with a signature dish from Barrel & Bushel including 72-hour pork belly lollipops, chorizo sliders, hot fried chicken sliders, pub burger sliders, mean beans and more. Tickets to the tasting are \$25 at the door and re-registration is encouraged in order to reserve a spot in advance. Pre-register for the event by visiting https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ american-craft-beer-event-with-tombobak-tickets-18554821972.

#### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 7

October Coffee. 11 a.m. McLean Project for the Arts, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The McLean Newcomers and Neighbors, a social club founded in 1969, will host their October coffee. The director will give a short presentation on the current exhibit, a multi-media exhibition featuring works by D.C.-based artist and musician Robin Rose. It is open to prospective members. www.McleanNewcomers.org.

#### THURSDAY/OCT. 8

**Vienna Arts Society Monthly** 

Meeting. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. VAS Monthly Meeting will feature Anabela Ferguson, who will discuss her process for restoring paintings to their original state.

2nd Annual NOVA Pride Multifaith **Worship Service - The Faithful** Road; A Shared Journey of Gratitude and Commitment. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Rd., Oakton. Join with people of faith to gather in gratitude or gains in LGBT civil rights, the opening of doors of a growing number of faith communities, and to celebrate the 2nd Annual Northern

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 10

Virginia Pride Festival.

www.unityoffairfax.org

Elizabethf@pofev-nova.com

Oktoberfest Bazaar and Craft Fair. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Hunger Church, Charles Wesley United Methodist Church, 6817 Dean Drive, McLean. Handcrafted jewelry, silk floral arrangements, baked goods and loads of crafts. Free crafting and activities for children while you shop.

Community Sale. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Historic Pleasant Grove, 8641 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The sale will feature antiques and vintage items, housewares and more, as well as homemade baked goods. www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org.

McLean Symphony Orchestra. 7:30-9:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Mozart, and R. Rodgers – Sound of Music Symphoni Highlights, Tickets: \$15-\$20, http://

#### SUNDAY/OCT. 11

Concerts at the Alden. 3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Pianist Petronel Malan, in collaboration with Music Friends of the Fairfax County Public Library will perform in a recital.

#### FRIDAY/OCT. 16

Julie Fowlis in Concert. 8 p.m. McLean Community Center 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Tickets: \$20-\$35.

#### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 16-18 Great Falls Studios 2015 Art Tour.

Travel the back roads and main streets of the village to individual and group studios. Meet more than 40

GFS member artists - quilters, painters, potters, sculptors, jewelers, photographers and more - in their natural environment. Demonstrations exhibits and hands on activities in creative spaces. Exceptional art for sale, www.GreatFallsStudios.com.

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 17

Providence Fall Festival. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Providence Baptist Church, 8980 Brook Road, McLean. Games and crafts for children, pumpkin carving, hay rides, pony rides, slides, and moon bounces. Vendors and artisans include Thirty-One, Scentsy, Jamberry Nails, Rodan & Fields and more. Participate in one of the old fashion cake walks or just sit back and enjoy funnel cakes and festival foods. Free admission, rain or shine, fun for all

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

#### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 17-18

**Tysons Fall Harvest Festival.** 12-5 p.m. Lerner Town Square at Tysons II, 8025 Galleria Drive. Arts and crafts, petting zoo, moon bounce, great craft eers, 10 of Virginia's best wineries, and more tastes of fall.

Claude Moore Colonial Farm 1771 Market Fair. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Warm yourself by the fires and enjoy the splendor of autumn with crisp local apples, warm savory meat pies and hearty breads, or let Market Fair entertainers, tradesmen and the militia amuse and educate you. Visit www.1771.org.

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 17-24

**Roald Dahl Double Feature.** 2 & 7 p.m. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. George C. Marshall's drama department will open the 2015-2016 Season with a Roald Dahl Double Feature including "The Twits" and "Danny, the Champion of the World." Tickets \$5-\$15. http://statesmentheatre.org.

#### SUNDAY/OCT. 18

Anniversary Wine Dinner, 7-9 p.m. Ruth's Chris Steak House, 8521 Leesburg Pike, McLean. This dinner

njoy the best that fall has Activities include: Inova Healthy to offer at the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Play Zone, Fairfax Express Trackless two days, Saturday, Oct. 3 from 10 Cars, Instrument Petting Zoo, Scarea.m. until 7 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. crow Making, Petting Zoo, Model 4 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. North-Trains, Pumpkin Decorating, KidWay ern Virginia's largest family fall fes-MidWay rides, County Corner showcasing family-friendly services such tival includes more than 100 interactive activities, a full kids' carnias Kids IDs and more than 30 performances geared specifically to elval, exhibits and programs focusementary school and toddler-aged ing on education, sport and fitness,

Government Center on Oct. 3-4.

in unbearable pain) has re- made incendiary remarks criticiz-

turned to his home after 18 ing American involvement in the

BY DAVID SIEGEL

The Connection

rackling dialogue,

powerful ideas and

well-crafted art

istry describe "Now

Comes the Night" written by

award-winning E.M. Lewis now

playing at 1<sup>st</sup> Stage. The play is about the very personal conse-

quences of living in a danger-

ous world, when harm comes

In program notes, playwright

Lewis indicated she wrote "to try

to understand things that I find

unfathomable." Director Alex

Levy indicated: "I'm interested

in plays that explore big human

questions in specific and con-

temporary ways." With an as-

sured hand, Levy has fashioned

"Now Comes the Night" into an

intense, believable drama un-

covering the damage done to a

television news anchor who

The time is 2006. Newsman

Michael Apres (a taunt perfor-

mance by Dylan Myers as a man

Apres is in the midst of crises.

the environment, public safety and

personal health, all on the grounds

Center, 12000 Government Center

explores 90+ rated wines paired with

dishes from around the globe. Wines

International favorites. \$95. http://

p.m. Meet at the Vienna Town Green.

walk up to three miles in the Vienna

community & return to the Town

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

www.ruthschris.com/restaurant

**Vienna Crop Walk for Hunger.** 2

Sonoma Pinot Noir to classic

Parkway, Fairfax.

traveled to Iraq to try to under-

stand what was at stake.

through traumatic incidents.

of the Fairfax County Government ties require a minimal charge. All-day super passes, which include unlimited turns on the

children. Fall for Fairfax KidsFest is

free to attend; however, select activi-

Life in Times of Living Dangerously

1st Stage presents a world premiere of "Now Comes the Night."

Green for refreshments and door prizes. Money raised goes to CHO and to Church World Services (www.cwsglobal.org ) for emergency help and disaster relief abroad. Sign up at www.viennacropwalk.org.

#### THURSDAY/OCT. 22 **Haunted Gingerbread Houses**

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Fall for Fairfax KidsFest returns to the Fairfax County Kidway Midway, moon bounces,

Photo by Teresa Castracane/Courtesy of Ist Stage.

flood from the emotionally mangled

can he trust? What is real? And,

who is the third man in the room?

as either hero or villain)

From left: Jaysen Wright, Dylan Myers and Sun King Davis

in "Now Comes the Night" at 1st Stage in Tysons.

The symptoms of PTSD are clear.

Apres has given an interview to

his former co-anchor Brad (Jaysen

Wright; a solid, best friend, who

will not let his old friend harm him-

self). In the interview Apres had

Fall Festival Offers Two Days of Fun

and the trackless train, are on sale now at www.fallforfairfax.com at discounted prices prior to the festival. Individual tickets and super passes will also be sold onsite. Weekend passes are available online only.

In addition to all of the fun fall activities, two festival stages will feature a line-up of popular ange Line) to the festival grounds children's performers, including: The Curiosity Crew starring Ryan Buckle, Rocknoceros, The Great for Fairfax KidsFest, visit Zucchini, Wildlife Ambassadors, and Under The Sea, as well as the

Workshop. 6:30-8 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside

#### SUNDAY/OCT. 25

Concerts at the Alden.  $3\ p.m.$ McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Free

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 28 69th Annual Vienna Halloween

#### Where and When

"Now Comes the Night" by E.M Lewis runs at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons. Performed through Oct. 11, Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sun days at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets: \$30 with seniors, students and military dis counts. Call 703-854-1856 or visit www.1ststagetysons.org

both by Kathryn Kawecki. Kawecki provides the audience with meticulously detailed renderings of a man in a calamity. Lighting design by G. Ryan Smith gives off the passing hours from initial dark late night, to early morning muted light to the bright afternoon sun. Props by Cassandra Schulz and Rachel Barlaam's sound design puts the audience right in the middle of a man's muddled mind and the national politics of the moment.

Whether baby boomer or millennial, those interested in challenging theater by an Apres, once he begins to open up. Was he naive going to Iraq? Who award-winning playwright about life in times of living dangerously, "Now Comes the Night" will leave you pondering (Sun King Davis in the knotty role its crisply-presented, visually "Now Comes the Night" is imeffecting, multi-layered point of months of captivity. The audi- Middle East. Brad has reasons to pressive technically; adding re- view. The production is part of ence comes to understand that doubt the statements genuineness. markable authority to the producthe D.C. area's "Women's Voices Thoughts, memories and visions tion. Set and costume design are Theater Festival.'

meal, a variety of tasty dining op-

Center building, which will high-

light various non-profit organiza-

Parking is plentiful at the Fairfax

County Government Center and

free shuttle bus service is provided

from the Vienna Metro Station (Or-

every hour beginning at 10 a.m.

For general information about Fall

www.fallforfairfax.com or call 703-

Parade. 7 p.m. Maple Avenue,

"The Man Who Laughs." 2 p.m.

McLean Community Center, 1234

Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Tickets:

"Celebrating 125 Years of the Town of

Vienna" come in costume to celebrate

Halloween. Visit www.viennava.gov.

324-FAIR (3247).

SATURDAY/OCT. 31

tions that serve Fairfax County.

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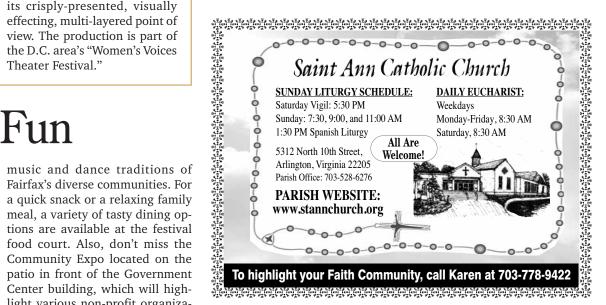
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NOVEMBER

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## Looking for Fun in McLean?

Check This Out

#### McLean Community Center calendar of events for October 2015.

he McLean Community Center offers the following activities in October. Residents of the Center's tax district, Small District One-A Dranesville, are eligible for discounts on fees. Unless otherwise indicated, all activities will be held at the Center, which is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue.

#### ONSTAGE @ THE ALDEN

Theatre IV: "Sleeping Beauty" Saturday, Oct. 3, 2 p.m. \$15/\$10 MCC district residents

#### OFTC TEACHER WORKDAY TRIP

Kings Dominion Friday, Oct. 9, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. \$80/\$70 MCC district residents Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean

#### **CONCERTS AT THE ALDEN**

Sunday, Oct. 11, 3 p.m. Free admission

#### OFTC FRIDAY FIELD TRIP

Bennett's Curse Friday, Oct. 16, 3:30-10 p.m. \$50/\$40 members Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean

#### 9/11 MUSEUM & MEMORIAL TOUR

Saturday, Oct. 17, 7 a.m.-10:30 p.m. \$195 per person/\$190 district residents

#### ONSTAGE @ THE ALDEN

Julie Fowlis in Concert Saturday, Oct. 17, 8 p.m. \$35/\$20 MCC district residents

#### ALDEN THEATRE USHER EVENT

Monday, Oct. 19, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Want to be a part of the arts? Learn how you can become an usher at The Alden.

#### HAUNTED GINGERBREAD HOUSES WORKSHOP

Thursday, Oct. 22, 6:30-8 p.m. \$45 per house/\$35 MCC district residents



Cast of Sleeping Beauty



Photo courtesy of Michelle Fowlis

#### Julie Fowlis

#### OFTC FRIDAY FIELD TRIP

Double Feature at AMC Tysons Friday, Oct. 23, 3:30-10 p.m. \$33/\$23 members Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean

#### CONCERTS AT THE ALDEN

Sunday, Oct. 25, 3 p.m. Free admission

#### MONSTER MASH 5TH & 6TH GRADER PARTY

Friday, Oct. 30, 7-9 p.m. \$35/\$25 MCC district residents Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean

#### SILENT FILM @ THE ALDEN

"The Man Who Laughs"
Saturday, Oct. 31, 2 p.m.
\$12/\$8 MCC district residents

For more information, call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit the website, www.mcleancenter.org. For OFTC activities, call 703-448-8336. For the Alden Theatre Box Office, call 703-790-9223.



Photo by Laura Sheridan

Woman's Club Officers and Guests at Sept. 27
Wine-and-Cheese event. From left:
Woman's Club president Joan Morton,
Homes Tour homeowner Craig A. Parisot, co-chairman of Homes Tour Doris Hoehn, honorary tour host Bill DuBose; seated:
Homes Tour chairman Carol Bonney.

#### McLean Woman's Club Holds Kickoff to Holiday Homes Tour

The Woman's Club of McLean held a wine-and-cheese reception on Sunday, Sept. 27, to preview its 49<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Homes Tour in early December. This year's tour will feature four large houses in three choice neighborhoods of west McLean.

In addition to Woman's Club members, the event was attended by Bill DuBose, McLean financial planner and advisor and honorary host of this year's tour, and Craig A. Parisot (R), candidate for delegate from District 34 to the Virginia House of Delegates as well as one of the four Homes Tour homeowners. The wine and cheese was held at the spacious McLean Hundred home of Carol Bonney, chairman of this year's tour. McLean Hundred, along with nearby Woodside Estates and Millwood, are the home neighborhoods of the four tour houses.

The four homes are all large, elegant houses on half- to one-acre lots and are easily accessible from Lewinsville Road and other local arteries. Each house will be decorated with the holidays in mind and will highlight family life in McLean. In addition, the Woman's Club will simultaneously host a Boutique at Historic Pleasantville Church at 8641 Lewinsville Road featuring holiday items, a variety of gifts, jewelry, scarves, handbags,

drinks and desserts, baked goods, tour tickets and a silent auction.

Woman's Club members have been working on preparations since February, when they began soliciting advertisements for the tour brochure. Additional efforts over the summer included selection of the homes, brochure preparation, publicity arrangements and plans for decoration.

All proceeds will be donated to local charities and nonprofit organizations, such as Share, Inc., Alternative House, the McLean Project for the Arts (The Children's Outreach), Claude Moore Colonial Farm, the McLean Volunteer Fire Department, Fisher House and the McLean Symphony, as well as used for scholarships and education.

The tour will take place on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets will be available in early October at local businesses, including Mesmeralda's Gifts of McLean, Karin's Florist of Vienna and Great Dogs of Great Falls, or may be obtained on the tour day at the church or at one of the featured homes. The Boutique, for which tickets are not required, will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information: 703-556-0197 or www.mcleanwc.org.

— Laura Sheridan

#### Spring Hill Elementary School's Block Party on the evening of Sept. 25 featured DJ 'Noel with Everything Entertainment.' He led the crowd (over 850 people) in dance moves, especially the children. Food was provided by St. Germaine Catering. The Spring Hill Elementary **School Block Party** will become an

annual event.

### Spring Hill Elementary Hosts Block Party





Spring Hill Elementary continued its tradition as a close-knit community on Friday, Sept. 25, with an evening Block Party on the school's largest parking lot and playground. This picture shows people lining up for dinner, provided by St. Germaine Catering.

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### Here's What's Happening at MCC



#### Onstage @ The Alden Theatre IV's "Sleeping Beauty"

Saturday, Oct. 3, 2 p.m. \$15/\$10 MCC district residents

#### Old Firehouse Teen Center **Teacher Workday Trip Kings Dominion**

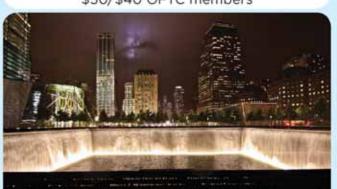
Friday, Oct. 9, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. \$80/\$70 MCC district residents

#### **Concerts at The Alden**

Sunday, Oct. 11, 3 p.m. Free admission

#### Old Firehouse Teen Center Friday Field Trip **Bennett's Curse**

Friday, Oct. 16, 3:30-10 p.m. \$50/\$40 OFTC members



#### Take a Day Away 9/11 Museum & Memorial Tour

Saturday, Oct. 17, 7 a.m.-10:30 p.m. \$195 per person/\$190 MCC district residents

Onstage @ The Alden Julie Fowlis sings "Music of the Scottish Isles"

> Saturday, Oct. 17, 8 p.m. \$35/\$20 MCC district residents

The McLean Community Center www.mcieancenter.org Home of the Alden Theatre

www.aldentheatre.org





### Sports

### Chantilly Volleyball Holds Off Langley in Five Sets

Saxons' Donaldson tallies 15 kills, Shklyar has 13.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

ith the Chargers having gone 10 days without a match, Chantilly volleyball coach Charles Ezigbo had limited expectations entering Monday's meeting with Langley.

"I was really happy that we competed tonight — that's my main thing," Ezigbo said after Monday's action. "I just wanted to compete after that long layover."

Facing one of the top teams in the region, Chantilly did more than just compete.

The Chargers overcame a potential backbreaking fourth-set loss and a late fifth-set deficit to defeat the Saxons 3-2 (20-25, 25-22, 26-24, 25-27, 15-13) at Chantilly High School.

After trailing 11-10 in the fifth set, Chantilly benefited from some Langley miscues down the stretch, along with a key block by Chargers junior Simone Jeffries. The result was Chantilly improving to 5-2 while avoiding a three-match losing skid.

The Chargers had an opportunity to end the match earlier, when a kill by junior Julia Recto gave Chantilly match point, 24-21, in the fourth set. But Langley responded by scoring six of the next seven points, including two kills and a block by sophomore setter Elena Shklyar, to win 27-25 and force a fifth set.

"That's our first fifth-set match and we didn't know how we were going to handle it," Ezigbo said. "Obviously, we have things to learn because we almost gave it away."

While Chantilly "almost gave it away," it was Langley head coach Susan Shifflett who was left frustrated with her team's inability to capitalize.

"We had 16 unforced errors in the first set and 20 unforced errors in the second set," Shifflett said. "And then our match point is a silly ball into the net. I'm a little frustrated with not taking care of the ball. We had a stretch there for two weeks where we were just on fire and they had the fire in their belly and now all of the sudden they've gone flat. Hopefully we can get that back together, get back to practice and start fresh again."

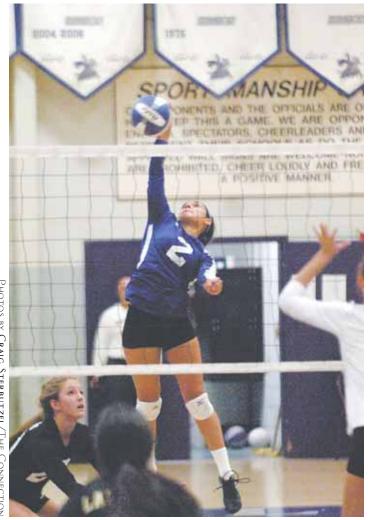
The defeat dropped Langley's record to 10-3.

"I told them they need to learn from it," Shifflett said. "You can't do that to the ball. You can't keep doing those kinds of mistakes and expect to be where we need to be when it counts. No, I don't want them to forget about it. I think they need to dwell on it a little bit."

After the teams split the first two sets, Chantilly held off Langley to win the third set, 26-24. The Chargers held leads of 22-17 and 24-21, but thanks to four kills and a



Jessica Donaldson led Langley with 15 kills during the Saxons' five-set loss to Chantilly on Monday.



Milleysha Molina led Chantilly with 19 kills during Monday's five-set victory over Langley.



Langley's Elena Shklyar (12) and Katie Sissler attempt to block Chantilly's Julia Recto on Monday.

block by Shklyar, Langley battled back to tie the score at 24. Chantilly would not let this set slip away, though, as Recto responded with back-to-back kills, giving the Chargers a 2-1 advantage in the match.

Five-foot-4 junior Milleysha Molina led the Chargers with 19 kills while hitting against the taller Saxons.

"I always just push it to wherever the corners are or wherever it's open," Molina said. "Me being a short player, I can't always hit

top-notch [attacks]. I've just got to choose where to hit."

Five-foot-9 Recto finished with 14 kills.

"I think it's really speed and just technique," Recto said about succeeding against the Saxons. "Our setters did a great job of getting the sets where we needed it to be and we kind of just had to trust our defense to tell us where we needed to go to get a kill."

Alexa Carlisle, Katerina Bagatska and

Brynn Feighery each had five kills for Chantilly. Jeffries finished with 5 1/2 blocks.

Senior outside hitter Jessica Donaldson led Langley with 15 kills. Sophomore middle blocker Allison Franke had nine kills and senior outside hitter Kristian Stanford finished with six. Senior middle blocker Katie Sissler totaled five kills and six blocks.

Shklyar finished with 13 kills, five blocks and two aces.

"She can do everything," Shifflett said about Shklyar. "She's a good server, she's probably, I think, the best setter, absolutely, in the region, if not in the state, and she's a sophomore. And she can hit a heavy ball."

"If we can have her pass, set and hit to herself, that would be nice," Shifflett added with a laugh.

Langley will return to action at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 1 with a road match against Potomac Falls.

After a 4-0 start, Chantilly lost to Fairfax (3-1 on Sept. 15) and Madison (3-1 on Sept. 17) before beating Langley on Monday.

"The two games that we lost," Recto said, "definitely humbled us and got us to re-focus on our next matches."

The Chargers will travel to face South Lakes at 7:15 p.m. on Oct. 6.

"It was an amazing feeling," Recto said about beating Langley. "Everybody on the team did their part to really pull through that last set. Last year we lost to them in a regional match, so it just felt really nice to earn our spot back."

### Residents Protest Gun Shop Next to School

From Page 3

and Supervisor John Foust, (D-Dranesville).

Alexandria resident Abby Spangler, who founded two national organizations, Protest Easy Guns and the Campaign to Close the Gun Show Loophole, in the wake of the Virginia Tech shootings in 2007, was also at the protest.

"Americans are fed up with gun violence. We are fed up with easy access to guns by criminals and dangerous individuals, and we're fed up with the terrible loss of human lives in America because of our terrible gun laws. The carnage has to stop," Spangler said.

**NOVA FIREARMS'** owner James Gates is sensitive to the concerns of the protesters.

"I understand that we share a backyard with the elementary school. If I could have avoided that, I would have," Gates said. "Our main issue now is that we wanted to stay in McLean near our old shop so we could keep our current clientele. It's hard to find a landlord in this area who will lease to a gun shop, and it's hard to find somewhere where you are actually zoned to be able to sell the firearms. And this location happened to be a good mix of all three at a good price."

NOVA Firearms was originally located in Falls Church, then moved to a larger Falls Church location, then moved to a larger location in McLean near the post office, and just this past week moved to its current controversial McLean location, Gates said.

"We found out about the protest late last night," Gates said during the protest. "The protesters are exercising their right to free speech, and I'm okay with that."

"We just don't want this store at this location bordering an elementary school. We certainly don't want to have to drive by the store and explain it to our kids."

- Victoria Manoogian

Gates has experience dealing with outraged protestors at his gun shop. NOVA Firearms signed a five year lease for a shop in Cherrydale, Arlington. Arlington residents petitioned and protested, ultimately convincing the landlord to back out of the lease.

By contrast, Gates feels more confident about keeping NOVA Firearms open in its new location thanks to its landlord, McLean Automotive Service Center, which is located right next to NOVA Firearms.

"The landlord has been really nice to us. We are hoping that they will stick behind their word and honor their contract," Gates said.

By moving to the larger McLean location, Gates hopes to use the extra space to offer firearm safety classes. He wants to educate

people to feel more comfortable around firearms. Gates also hopes to take people out to shooting ranges to show them how to safely shoot guns. NOVA Firearms is working on its class schedule and plans to have classes up and running in October. Other than the guns that the employees carry, none of the guns in NOVA Firearms are loaded.

Alexandria resident, volunteer firefighter, EMT, and new employee at NOVA Firearms Erik Lorentzen agreed that gun owners should be properly trained.

"For carrying in public, I do have fairly progressive views. I believe that people should have to pass a shooting test. You should have to prove that you can function a weapon safely and that you can hit what you are aiming at. The worst possible nightmare anyone could possibly have is shooting at a bad guy and hitting a good guy instead," Lorentzen said.

WHEN CUSTOMERS buy a gun, they must go through a NICS FBI background check. NOVA Firearms employees take 15 to 20 minutes to fill out and submit each background check to both the state and federal governments. The background check comes back as approved, delayed, or denied within 15 minutes to four hours after the information is submitted. According to Gates, approximately 90 percent of background checks are approved. There is no waiting period beyond the background check.

Blue Ridge Mountain resident and journalist Greg Rushford visited NOVA Firearms during the protest to buy a deer rifle. He said he has been hunting deer his entire life and served in the military. Rushford has been a customer of NOVA Firearms at its former McLean location for three years and plans to continue shopping at the new location. NOVA Firearms is convenient for him because he also has a residence in Reston.

By contrast, McLean resident and federal government employee Emily Buday is less concerned about convenience for gun buyers than the safety of her identical twin daughters, who are first graders at Franklin Sherman Elementary School, virtually in the gun shop's backyard.

"I love this community, and I love this school. I love being a part of McLean, but this is the first thing that has made me question where I live," Buday said.









### Locked and Loaded

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And into the breech (not to be confused with breach), I went earlier today. It wasn't exactly the Charge of the Light Brigade when breach might have been the more appropriate characterization, it was simply my annual MRI, when the doctors check to see if the cancer in my lungs has spread to my brain, which in 30 percent of the patients - the highest percentage of spread in fact - it does. So today, I had my head examined: a checkup from the neck up. Though I'm mostly asymptomatic – as usual, other than a few random headaches reported by yours truly; nothing chronic or debilitating, no pain or suffering, no dizziness or disorientation - it made for a prudent course of diagnostic action, nonetheless. I'm not really worried about the results, more like wondering, if that distinction even makes sense. Still, I'd just as soon not complicate my life any further right now. It's all fairly manageable. Involving my brain, "what there is of it," (a Three Stooges quote) however, would likely force us to confront new demons: demons which at present are mostly confined in their box (compartmentalized in my head, actually).

Now whether our feelings are the result of a possible occurrence in the brain simply being new and different or whether its appearance there would indeed be worse, we certainly don't know, but for some reason, it seems worse than a finding in the lung. Not that stage IV lung cancer is to be minimized in the least; hardly, it's a "terminal" disease; and not that I understand any more about brain cancer and the blood-brain barrier or treatment complications it can cause or can reference any statistical outcomes that support or confuse our feelings more than I can about the non-small cell lung cancer with which I am more familiar, our perception is, a confirmation of tumor activity in the brain would likely upset the very delicate balance of our figurative apple cart. An apple cart I will readily admit we've gotten used to balancing.

But I'm getting ahead (no pun intended) of myself. My oncologist was not anticipating much new information from this MRI, nor was he reacting to my symptoms as much as he was mindful of the interval of time since my last MRI: one year or so. I did/do take some comfort in his nonchalance. Although, reading a doctor's expressions or body language or attempting to interpret and understand their reasons and explanations for making certain medical suggestions is akin to taking a Rorschach test: you might see or hear what you're predisposed to – or not. There may be some fact and/or some fiction to consider, but who knows exactly what and when any of it is relevant or accurate? It might simply be a curiosity. But I have to tell you, a "curiosity" is the last thing a "terminal" patient wants to hear or perceive from his oncologist. I want the truth – as I've always told him, and anything to do with the brain truthfully makes me feel unlocked, unloaded and in trouble. Maybe "breach" is the more appropriate word. I suppose I'll know soon enough. I'll just have to be patient. Something I've been very good at being for six years and seven months,

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

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