

Meet the Best Friends of Great Falls

PET CONNECTION, PAGE 10

Charlotte Karanik, 10, of Great Falls plays with one of her two horses. Together with her sister Elizabeth, 13, she has taught little horses lots of tricks including how to moonwalk, smile, wave, walk on their hind legs and give kisses.

Langley
Case Day
2016: 'Release
the Hounds'

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Langley Hockey
Wins In Senior
Night

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PET CONNECTION



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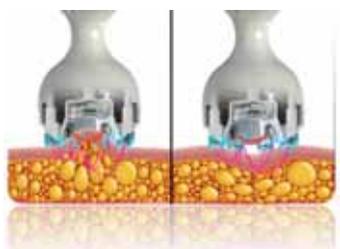
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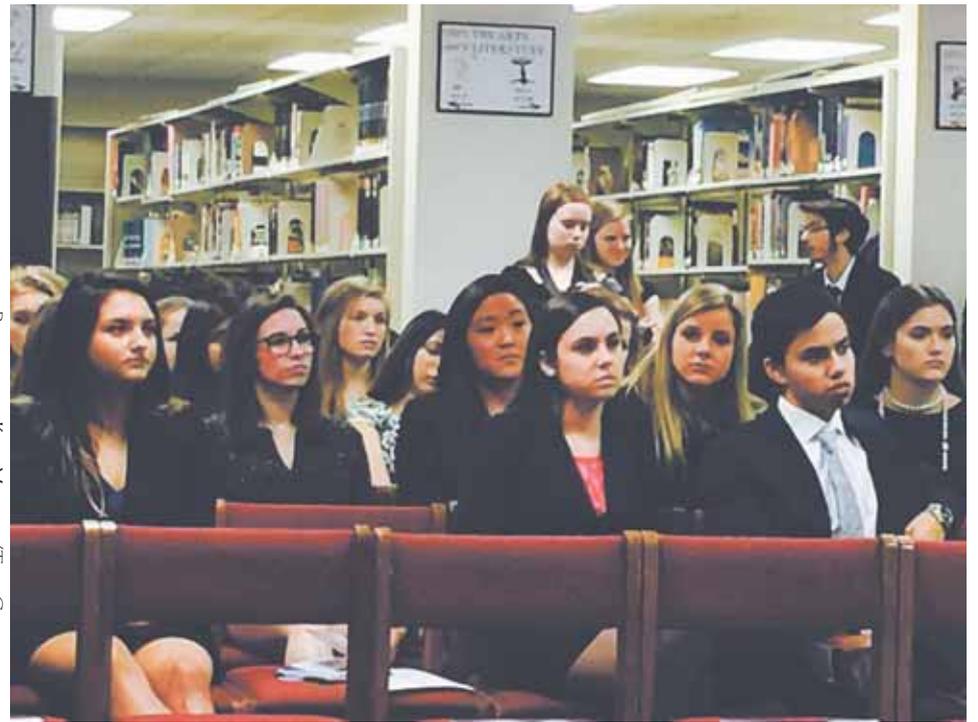
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Ameen Al-Dalli, Lily Brock, Priya Miller and Adam Speers get a chance to relax and reflect after presenting oral arguments.



More than 250 seats were set up in Langley High School's library for the student body to watch Case Day 2016.

PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Langley Case Day 2016: 'Release the Hounds'

Justice Antonin Scalia remembered at Langley during Case Day, which he helped originate.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin "Nino" Scalia helped former Langley teacher James Catlette develop Case Day into an annual academic gift to each Langley graduating class.

"We want to thank him for his 24 years of support," said Alexis Apostolou, of Scalia, at Case Day on Friday, Feb. 19, held in the Langley High School library.

Many of the seniors involved in presenting and executing the student-run program on Friday, Feb. 19, got to attend the actual Oral Arguments in *Utah v. Strieff*, held at the United States Supreme Court on Monday, Feb. 22.

"Langley has a connection that few law schools and colleges have with the Supreme Court, and its ability to do Case Day is, I think, incredible," said Langley senior Adam Speers. "It definitely sets it apart from other schools."

JUSTICE SCALIA died in his sleep from natural causes, on the night of Feb. 12 or the morning of Feb. 13, following an afternoon of quail hunting and dining at the Cibolo Creek Ranch in Shafter, Texas.

Scalia was 79 years old.

"I know Justice Scalia is a friend to Case Day, and was invaluable and important to the program especially in its early years," said guest speaker and attorney William S. Consovoy.

"I think this is a good time to think about Justice Scalia's role on the court. He's undoubtedly one of the most influential members of the court in its history," said Consovoy, who spoke about the history of



Gen. William K. Suter, clerk of the Supreme Court from 1991-2013, gets Dranesville School Board member Janie Strauss to laugh while giving a tribute to Justice Antonin "Nino" Scalia.

the Supreme Court and its evolution.

"He really believed what should drive the analysis is the text, the actual words of the constitution. What the words of the text mean, what they say, what they actually say, and what they don't say," he said. "That gave him an anchor."

Scalia was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Ronald Reagan and sworn in on Sept. 26, 1986. At the time of his death, he was the longest-serving justice on the Supreme Court.

Gen. William Suter served as clerk to the U.S. Supreme Court from 1991 to 2013.



Student justice Clare DaBaldo shares the bench with Dranesville School Board member Janie Strauss for Case Day 2016, now in its 24th year at Langley High School.

"If you students want to see good writing, read his opinions," said Suter. "He was the greatest of the great," said Suter. "Faithful to his family, faithful to his faith, faithful to the law."

Scalia married Maureen McCarthy on Sept. 10, 1960.

Catlette said he taught seven of Scalia's nine children — five boys and four girls — when they attended Langley High School. A portion of Scalia's 28 grandchildren currently attend the school that serves McLean and Great Falls.

Langley students piped Catlette via Skype

from Florida and Catlette, Gen. Suter and Stuart Mendelsohn reminisced about Scalia with fondness, laughter and respect.

Suter recalled when the Supreme Court presided over a case involving the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and he provided Scalia with 2,400 pages of reading material for a weekend.

"What happened to the 8th Amendment?" he said. "Don't justices get protection from the 8th amendment?"

The 8th Amendment involves protection from cruel and unusual punishment.

Former Dranesville Supervisor Stuart Mendelsohn, often involved in Case Day, said when he had Scalia children next to him, "they would pass me notes, make sure you argue this, make sure you argue that."

Adam Speers grew up with Scalia's grandchildren since pre-school.

"The thing about Justice Scalia, he's so conservative and yet it's impossible, it's virtually impossible, to refute his logic on any case," said Speers. "Justice Scalia is a huge loss."

"A devastating loss to the Langley community," said senior Katherine Weyback, who served on the education committee for Langley Case Day 2016.

Paul Scalia presided over his father's funeral service at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, on Saturday, Feb. 21.

More than 3,000 people attended the ceremony to honor Scalia.

CASE DAY is "such a fantastic institution at Langley, I'm honored to be a part of it," said senior Priya Miller, who argued for the respondent in Friday's mock trial.

SEE SUPREME COURT, PAGE 6

PET CONNECTION



Sprocket, left, and Wagner, right, were none too pleased to have a potty break outside during Snowzilla. They are the Brandts', of Great Falls, "foster failures" from Brevard Humane Society, where they volunteered when they lived in central Florida. Sprocket is 6 years old and Wagner is 10. "We love them with our whole hearts."



"Driving Miss Pippa" is what happens when man and dog head out for a drive in Great Falls. "Pip" is a three-year-old Briard, a French herding breed.—Frank Barnako, Great Falls

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Nothing is more fun than four Jack Russell dogs in the snow and we've gotten nothing but great joy from all of them. "Follow the Leader," our Jack Pack - Moxie, Bodgy, Jerry and Digger. — Norma Jamsheed, Great Falls



Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Winston, left and Trevor, right. They are sunning on our front porch, getting ready to take me for a walk in our neighborhood or in a nearby park. They are always eager for these walks, and so am I! Winston is a rescue, coming to us through the Lucky Star Cavalier Rescue organization. — Doug Colley, Great Falls



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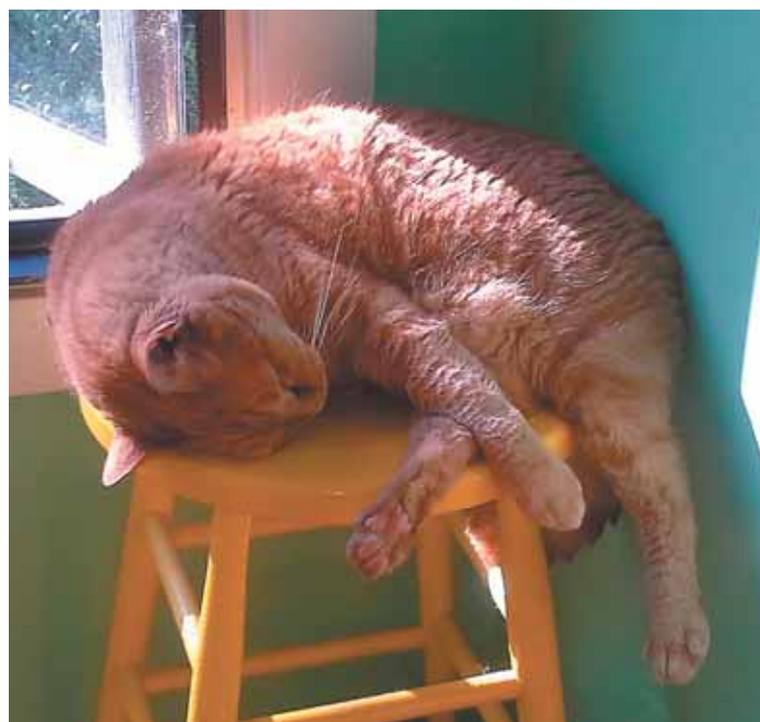
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Mr. Giant is an 11-year-old orange tabby cat adopted from a shelter when he was 18 months old. He is indeed a giant cat weighing in at twenty pounds and an integral and loving part of the household. He follows me around in the morning, up and down the stairs. He is particularly good at placing his paws under the space heater and his face so close that his whiskers could singe. This picture is Mr. Giant sitting in his favorite lookout place where he watches us eat breakfast and talks to the birds. After that, it is a four hour nap time for a twenty pound cat on a ten pound stool. —Jack Nutter, Great Falls

WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

Book Launch/ Reading at Great Falls Library

On Friday, Feb. 26, 1—4 p.m. there will be a book launch/reading of Pu-Chin Waide's book - "Hong Cheng: Memoirs of a Turbulent Life Through Rose-Tinted Dust Storm," at Great Falls Library, 9803 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

It is the story of Pu-Chin's father from his birth and early days in a tiny village on the border of China and Tibet, to the Sino-Japanese War and WWII. A life full of change, strife and painful farewells, but through all these difficult times, there was always glints of sunshine and humor, and time for the ordinary stuff that life is made of.

History Alive at Great Falls Senior Center Event

The Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) will have Mary Ann Jung, award-winning actress, Smithsonian scholar, writer and director recreate one of history's outstanding women, Clara Barton, who dared to work as a battlefield nurse and founded the Red Cross in America, at the March 1 event. Jung researches and writes her own scripts and performs in the authentic costumes, accents, and characters' eras. She has appeared on CNN, the Today Show, Good Morning America. She has been a lead actress and director of Renaissance History and Shakespearean Language at the Maryland Renaissance for over 32 years. She performed as Queen Bess and was director with the Florida Renaissance Festival from 1994-2006; she was also director of Street Theater and Family Performances for Artscape.

The March 1 event will be held at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 1020 Springvale Road, Great Falls. The program runs from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and includes lunch. Space is limited so reserve with Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or call 703-759-4345. To become a member for 2016, send your name, address, phone number and email with a check for \$15 per person payable to GFSC, P.O. Box 425, Great Falls, VA 22066. Also visit gseniors.org.

The event sponsor is Great Falls Assisted Living (A Memory Care Community), 1121 Reston Avenue, Herndon.

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Supreme Court Inspires Case Day at Langley

FROM PAGE 3

Students Miller, Speers, Lily Brock and Ameen Al-Dalli were selected after a tryout to make Oral Arguments before Langley's nine-justice bench.

"I was ecstatic," said Miller. "It was certainly a rigorous tryout and a bit intimidating, but, once I found out, I was so overwhelmed with happiness and excitement to get involved with this day. I knew it was a lot of hard work ahead."

Each year, Suter serves as the Chief Justice of the mock-trial. Attorneys Cary S. Greenberg, Caroline E. Costle, Mark Haskell, David Koplow, Stuart Mendelsohn participated and Dranesville School Board Member Janie Strauss is often involved.

Langley students Clare DaBaldo and Bita Golshani were selected to join them after tryouts on this year's Langley Supreme Court bench.

The case, *Utah v. Strieff*, considers "whether evidence seized incident to a lawful arrest on an outstanding warrant should be suppressed because the warrant was discovered during an investigatory stop later found to be unlawful," according to scotusblog.com.

DaBaldo announced and helped write the dissenting opinion.

"Officer Fackrell's brief detention of the respondent, as found by the state trial court, 'was not a flagrant violation of the Fourth Amendment' and was done in good faith," she said. "There was sufficient attenuation between the initial unlawful stop and the lawful arrest on the preexisting warrant."

MORE THAN 250 students attended the mock trial.

"It was not so much my peers I was worried about when I was being questioned, it was the people with law degrees," said Speers.

But Speers may have had the line of the day, when asked by Mendelsohn what the officer was to do in the specific case if he found the defendant with a bag of drugs hanging visibly out of his pocket.

"I think that is a sobering example of why an officer must abide within the confinements of the law," said the Langley senior. Al-Dalli learned the day before that he



The Langley Supreme Court bench included student Clare DaBaldo, Dranesville School Board member Janie Strauss, and attorneys David Koplow and Cary Greenberg, and Gen. William K. Suter, clerk of the Supreme Court from 1991-2013.

PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

would be speaking first.

"They said, 'Get ready for them to release the hounds on you,'" said Al-Dalli, who argued for the State of Utah, the petitioner.

Lily Brock fielded 31 questions during her 15-minute oral argument.

"I actually enjoyed the questions. A lot of what they asked was what I wanted to address so it kind of steered me towards that," she said.

THE MOCK-TRIAL is set up precisely like a Supreme Court case.

"It goes by fairly quickly especially if the justices are asking a lot of questions. It's a pretty fast experience. Being up there, it was an exciting experience to be questioned and to have this conversation up there with these law professionals," said Miller.

Speers tried to relax as he spoke and reacted.

"It's funny, when they give you a question you think you can answer you feel great, when they give you a question that stumps you or you give the wrong response,

it's kind of like a split commentary in your mind," said Speers. "You have one part of your brain thinking, 'What did I just say?' and the other trying to hear and be able to respond to the question they are about to pose based on your mistake."

Miller said her acting experience at the Alden Theatre at the McLean Community Center helped.

"Certainly when you're up there doing oral arguments, improv is your friend," she said. "You don't know what questions are going to be asked, you have to work with it."

"You guys did such an amazing job, you have much to be proud of," said Langley teacher Allison Cohen who sponsors the program and gives guidance to students with teacher Micah Herzig.

ALL FOUR STUDENTS knew of Case Day's importance to each graduating class.

"Absolutely. It's beyond beneficial. This is not something you can fluff your college apps with because those are already sub-

mitted, it's just the students that want to be involved," said Speers.

"From the beginning of this year, I told myself I'm definitely going to try out, no one is going to convince me otherwise," said Al-Dalli. "You can't find an experience like this anywhere else. Fairfax County, the United States. We got to take a tour last week of the Court."

"This is definitely the best experience at Langley in all my four years. I remember freshman year hearing about case day, and I remember thinking, 'Why are all these seniors so excited?'" he said.

"Probably academically it was the best thing I've done in high school. Actually, for sure it was," said Brock. "It was just so wonderful to commit yourself to something so much and then to present it and not just to go up and pontificate but to actually have something you're saying questioned."

"It's been a pretty big time commitment," she said. "I'm so excited to see the actual petitioners and the actual response from the Solicitor General and to afterwards meet with Justice Elena Kagan."

"I was always aware of Case Day and always felt its presence," said Miller.

"To be able to go to the Supreme Court and get to see it in real life allows us and gives us a perspective of the scope of this actual case and to see discussions being held on a such a prestigious level."

Especially now that Case Day is over, it will be exciting to have this insider information," she said.

Al-Dalli said the people that view the Supreme Court Case "won't have the ability to connect to the case and to connect to the different lawyers arguing it like we did."

"I just argued this case in front of these lawyers, and professional lawyers will be arguing the same case in front of the most prestigious court in the United States. I can't describe how excited I am for that," he said.

Al-Dalli is contemplating either a pre-law or pre-med track when he attends undergraduate school next fall.

"I learned so much. If someone asks me something about the Fourth Amendment now, I could go on and on and on."



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Bad Bills

General Assembly has potential to do lots of damage in a short period.

From pressing for use of a barbaric form of execution, the electric chair, to codifying discrimination, to stripping localities of the major tool for ensuring infrastructure is in place for new development, to hiding more and more critical public information from the public, the Virginia General Assembly is poised to do harm to the Commonwealth. (We'll look at good bills in a future editorial.)

EDITORIAL

Here are bills that have passed either the House or Senate by crossover, and important bills that were killed, in no particular order. This is by no means a complete list.

HB815, Electric Chair, passed the House 62-33, brings back the electric chair, providing that if lethal injection is not available as a method of execution, electrocution shall be used instead and vice versa.

SB552 creates secret police departments, and moves in exactly the wrong direction. Provides that the names and training records of law-enforcement officers and fire marshals shall be considered personnel records and excluded from mandatory disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Passed 25-15.

SB549/HB770 on Proffers, uses a megaton bomb to tie localities' use of proffers to help pay for infrastructure needs with new development when what was needed was a study of flyswatters to address specific limited abuses.

HB773/SB41 - Codifies discrimination, prevents the state government from taking any action against a person or organization that discriminates based on a sincerely held religious belief that marriage is or should be recognized as the union of one man and one woman.

Sanctuary bills: SB705 Makes "sanctuary cities" liable for "full amount of any personal injury or property damage caused by an illegal alien within such locality." SB270 The General Assembly shall reduce state funding to the extent permitted by state and federal law to any locality found to be a "sanctuary city."

Senate killed several bills on title loan oversight, even after investigative reporting showed interest charges exceeding 200 percent, bait and switch tactics and many poor Virginians losing their cars.

HB 2 - No "right to breathe." Requires the Department of Environmental Quality to receive approval from the General Assembly for a state implementation plan to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants prior to submitting the plan to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

HB 1090 - Defunds Planned Parenthood

HB 143 allows high proof grain alcohol sales.

HB 560 - Makes it more difficult to convict someone of brandishing a firearm by requiring proof that a person pointing, holding or

brandishing a firearm or similar weapons had the intent to induce fear in the mind of another.

HB 766 - Allows any protective order to be used as a de facto concealed carry permit, without requiring the holder to receive any training in the safe handling of a firearm, or show any proficiency with a firearm. Advocates for victims of domestic violence say what is needed is to remove weapons from such situations.

Killed SB67, would have added discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity to the Virginia Fair Housing Law as an unlawful housing practice.

Killed SB12, would have prohibited discrimination in public employment on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Killed bills that would have required notification of oil spills.

Outlawed living wage requirements for contractors of local government.

HB 4 Anti-union, proposed constitutional amendment putting Right to Work in the constitution.

HB 3 - Charter Schools Constitutional Amendment - removes local control over local schools and spending, doesn't belong in the constitution.

— MARY KIMM

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Letter to Animal Lovers

Dear Animal Lovers,

Like most kids, I always wanted a puppy to hug, play with, and love. My parents promised me my first pet when I turned 10, old enough to help take care of our puppy. My parents kept their promise, and on my 10th birthday we adopted "Clue" from the Washington Animal Rescue League (WARL), in D.C. I wrote a book on him that you can check out for free through our Fairfax County Public Library - "Get a Clue: A True Story about a Boy's Best Birthday Present."

We also adopted Sparky, a Golden Retriever-Chow mix. We celebrated Sparky's fourth birthday on Feb. 5.

Rescue shelters like WARL do an amazing job helping and saving puppies and animals from hoarding facilities or puppy surrenders from owners who cannot take care of new litters.

A really wonderful rescue shelter we help is Homeward Trails Animal Rescue (HTAR) in Fairfax Station. We foster puppies, who cannot live at the shelter, because they are too young and need a family to love them until they are adopted.



Sachin Muralidhar, of Great Falls, with Sparky on Sparky's fourth birthday on Feb. 5.

We also volunteer at the shelter, to help clean the dogs' crates, mop the floors and fold laundry. Please consider volunteering at any of these shelters or maybe donate some of your allowance to help these adorable, helpless animals, so they can have a better life. You can volunteer an hour, a weekend, a couple of weeks, or a month, whatever fits your schedule and is convenient for you. Meet some of



From left, Sachin Muralidhar, his father and brother Sid with foster Border Collies and Sparky (front).

the most amazing volunteers. Helping these sweet animals will make you feel so good - I know I do.

Some shelters you can visit and volunteer at:

Washington Animal Rescue League, 71 Oglethorpe St NW, Washington, D.C., 202-726-2556, www.warl.org

Homeward Trails Animal Rescue, 11116 Fairfax Station Rd,

Fairfax Station, 703-249-5066, www.homewardtrails.org

Fairfax County Animal Shelter, 4500 West Ox Rd, Fairfax, 703-830-1100, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter/foster.htm

Woof-woof!

Sachin Muralidhar

Great Fall

Eighth-grader at Cooper Middle School

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SPORTS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left — Mason Liddell, Taylor Kuligowski and Sophie Rogers.

Langley Rowers Win Two Gold, One Silver

The Langley High School Crew excelled at the Mid-Atlantic Erg Sprints, the largest indoor rowing event for juniors (18 years or younger) in the United States.

From Langley, Mason Liddell took home the gold in the Junior Lightweight Men 1500m (age 15), Taylor Kuligowski took home the gold in the Junior Women 1500m (age 15), and Sophie Rogers took home the silver Junior Lightweight Women 2k (age 17). Also, competing for Langley and placing well

in their categories were: Stephen Kalinsky, Eliza Pastore, Emily Elkas, Helen Chambers, Leah Damelin, Katie Slade, Nick Stankey, Paul Gorka, Justin Meeker and Erin Pierce.

The Mid-Atlantic Erg Sprints included more than 2,000 competitors from over 100 clubs, with athletes ranging in age from five years to over eighty. It is the largest satellite-qualifying event for the World Indoor Rowing Championships (C.R.A.S.H.-Bs) which will take place in Boston on Feb. 27.

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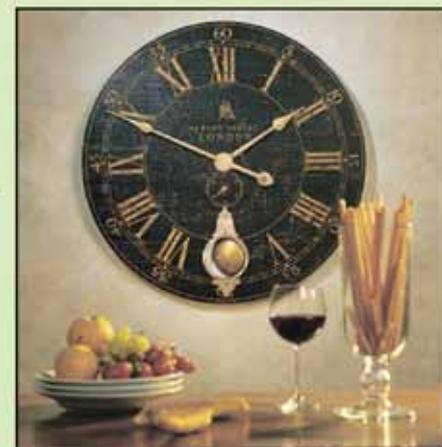
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PET CONNECTION



Bee, Paulie Bleeker, Harry Potter and Charlotte Karanik of Great Falls

Meet the Best Friends of Great Falls

BY JOAN BRADY

From dogs to cats to birds to gerbils, bunnies, crocodile skins, fish and miniature horses, kids in our region love their pets.

Many brag about their pet's cuddliness

and most love how nice it is to come home to a pet that is always excited to see them. We even have some young entrepreneurs, in our area, who are working with their pets to start their own businesses.

SEE BEST FRIENDS. PAGE 14



Back row Emma and Ava Wolff. Front row: Bella, Olivia and Charlotte Wolff of Great Falls

With six kids, a dog and a hamster, this is one busy household. The oldest four kids agree that 10-year-old Emma handles most of the pet care, but all of the kids like having pets. Four-year-old Olivia likes to read to labradoodle Bella and notes that Bella likes books about dogs best. The kids all

think that Bella looks most like 8-year-old Ava, because "they both have big eyes." Four-year-old Charlotte is proud that she named the family hamster. How did she come up with "Whisper?" When they first got her, "she was scared and we had to be very quiet," says Charlotte.



Gizmo (pug), Bee and Paulie Bleeker Karanik of Great Falls



Charlotte and Harry Potter of Great Falls

Despite being shorter than Saint Bernard's, miniature horses require a great deal of care. They are, after all, horses. When 13-year-old Elizabeth (Bee) Karanik told her parents she wanted two of them, they agreed, but with conditions; Bee and her 10-year-old sister, Charlotte, would be fully responsible for all of their care, including grooming and training as well as the cost of veterinary care and food.

The girls got the horses last August and have earned enough money to cover several hundred dollars in vet bills and the roughly \$100 per month in food. For now, Bee is training several Shetland ponies and

a goat for money and Charlotte babysits. But along with a friend, they are training mini-horses, Paulie and Harry so that they can be hired for birthday parties.

So far, the girls have taught the little horses lot of tricks including how to moonwalk, smile, wave, walk on their hind legs and give kisses. Bee hopes that the horses will become part of the community; attending local parades and doing therapy work at local senior centers. You can learn more about their little party pony business on their website: mylittlepartyponies.weebly.com and by following them on instagram [my_little_party_ponies](https://www.instagram.com/my_little_party_ponies)



Wally, Lilly and Jerry Kishore of Great Falls

Sixteen-year-old Lilly Kishore loves that the family dog, Wally, sleeps with his four paws up in the air. He can be very naughty when he isn't napping and has been known to jump onto the dining room table to enjoy whatever food he finds there. When Lilly decided she wanted another pet, she wanted something cool. Blue crown conure, Jerry, spends much of his time perched on Lilly's shoulder, which really is pretty cool. Jerry will live for 50 years, so Lilly has had to devise a long-term plan. He will stay with her parents while she is in college and she will take him when she graduates.



Jesper and Annika Pender of Great Falls, Breezy (the horse), Teddy, Coco, Brenna and Gannon Pascual of Great Falls and Falls Church.

Since their parents love to tease, the Pender-Pascual kids weren't sure if they were really getting a pet, until each one showed up. The kids all agree that the coolest thing about their canines; Coco and

Teddy, is that they were both re-homed from a professional football player. While Breezy, the horse, is more suited for adult riders, Annika enjoys hanging out with her and giving her carrots.



Mona Malik-Baig, Midnight, Salma, Jamal (holding Crocodile Skink, Smaugh, if you look closely), Kareem and Gandalf Baig of Great Falls

Rhys and Sparty Frishling of Great Falls

Rhys Frischling and his older sister made a pact several years ago, Rhys would act like a dog until their parents got them one. It took a while, but a few months ago, the three Frishling children were surprised with a rescue dog. Seven-year-old Rhys says he was so excited when he saw Sparty that he screamed. He wants people to know that his dog is very cute. Don't believe him? Rhys is happy to show you pictures.



Faith, Patrick with Silky, and Sharon with Sierra, Nugent of Great Falls

The Nugents have a full household which includes two dogs, two cats and a tank of turtles. Sixteen-year old Patrick and his 13-

year-old twin sisters, Sharon and Faith, think that the best things about having dogs is that they always ready to play, they are always happy and the dogs are always glad to see them.



BB
The Nugents are also fostering BB, who they rescued from an uncertain fate. In addition to living a life of neglect, he had been hit by a car and suffered injuries to one of his legs, which have rendered it useless. The Nugents have been nursing him through heartworm treatment and will be caring for him through his amputation surgery and recovery. The family is going to have a hard time giving up their cuddly and loving foster. For more information on adopting BB, call Barbara at phone 703-887-7194 or email her at bpnugent@aol.com

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Langley Saxons Jason Guidi (88) and, in the background, Julian Taylor (36) are victorious against Lake Braddock.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Langley Hockey Celebrates Senior Night with Win over Lake Braddock

The Langley Saxon Hockey Team celebrated Seniors Night on Friday, Feb. 5 with a 7-4 win over Lake Braddock. Langley's two seniors, Jason Guidi and Wyatt Conrow, played big roles in the win. Conrow began the scoring with a goal just over a minute into the game. Guidi then scored the first of his four goals less than two minutes later. The two

seniors also accounted for three assists for a total of eight points. In the third period, junior Kevin Wang added two goals to the effort. Freshman Max Campbell was strong in goal and kept the game out of reach for Lake Braddock.

—FRANK M. PIERUCCINI

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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

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FCPS Spring Break 3/21-3/25

APRIL

4/6/2016.....Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout
Easter Sunday is March 27
4/13/2016.....Real Estate Pullout – New Homes
4/20/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
4/27/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools Pullout
4/27/2016.....Mother's Day Celebrations, Dining & Gifts I
4/27/2016.....Spring Outlook 2016

MAY

5/4/2016.....McLean Day Pullout
5/4/2016.....Mother's Day Dining & Gifts II
5/4/2016.....Wellbeing
Mother's Day is May 8

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CALENDAR

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

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 24

1964 The Tribute. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Recreates the Fab Four's early '60s concerts—see their astonishing show live, complete with period instruments, clothing, hairstyles, and onstage banter. \$38-\$42. www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/FEB. 25

Marty Stuart. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Grammy winner Marty Stuart's music reflects the rich legacy of his Mississippi roots and the intersection of gospel, drinking and cheating ballads, and rock. \$50-\$55. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 26

Itamar Zorman, Kwan Yi. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Violin and piano pieces by Mozart ("Sonata in B-flat Major K. 378"), Crumb ("Nocturnes"), Brahms ("Sonata in A Major"), Bartok ("Sonata no. 1 for Violin and Piano"). \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

McLean Art Society Meeting. 10 a.m.-noon. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Gavin Glakas, a well known portrait artist will be the featured presenter. He will bring his own model and will do an oil painting demonstration. Guests invited. 703-790-0123.

SATURDAY/FEB. 27

Scott Miller. 6:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. Staunton, Va. native, singer songwriter and farmer. www.jamminjava.com.

John Eaton, The Swingin' '30s. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Join renowned pianist and vocalist John Eaton as he interprets the Great American Songbook. \$25-\$27. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/FEB. 28

Crys Matthews. 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Herndon resident Crys Matthews and two of the Mid-Atlantic's best singer-songwriters for a night of amazing music. \$15. jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/FEB. 29

An Evening with Neil Young. 8 p.m. Tyson's Corner 16, 7850 Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Watch the concert as it is broadcast live on the big screen. <http://www.fathomevents.com/event/an-evening-with-neil-young-live>.

MONDAY-TUESDAY/ FEB. 29-MARCH 1

Herb Alpert and Lani Hall. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Join Alpert and his Grammy-winning wife—the original voice of Sérgio Mendes' Brasil '66—as they take the stage with their dynamic band. \$55-\$65. www.wolftrap.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 1

David Cook. 7 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. American Idol winner. \$25/\$40. www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 2

Imagine Dragons in Concert: Smoke+Mirrors. 7:30 p.m. Tyson's

Corner 16, 7850 Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Watch the concert as it is broadcast live on the big screen. <http://www.fathomevents.com/event/imagine-dragons-in-concert>.

THURSDAY/MARCH 3

Game Night: King of Tokyo. 7 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Bring friends, grab a snack from the Cafe and get ready for some board game fun. Free. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

SATURDAY/MARCH 5

"Wishes and Dreams" Reception. 4-6 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Free. viennaartssociety.org. 703-319-3971.

Robert E. Simon, Jr. Children's Center Book Fair. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. The students, parents and staff from Robert E. Simon, Jr. Children's Center will host a variety of activities to entertain children including an 11 a.m. Storytime, bookmark making and face painting. Free. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

Author Reading and Signing. 1 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Local children's author Alison Grace Johansen will read and sign copies of her picture book "HumFree the Bee Has a Food Allergy." 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15



Blooming Flowers, Warm Beaches on Display in Great Falls

Great Falls Studios photographer James Diedrich is displaying an exhibit titled *Blooms and Beaches* at Triny's Tex-Mex Cafe in Great Falls. The blooming flowers and warm beaches will help get us through the balance of winter. This exhibit is from now until the end of March.





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PET CONNECTION

Nero and Georgia Martin of Great Falls

Georgia Martin, 7, likes having two dogs and is especially close to Nero, who she likes to play with. Nero is apparently very good at hide-and-seek. The naughtiest thing he has ever done was to eat Georgia's homework, which made a big impression on her. Georgia is responsible for feeding both dogs, "unless I forget," she says.



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Gabby, Lola, James and Zeus Perotti of Great Falls

When Guy Perotti and his wife, Ileanna, saw the post on Craig's List, "Come get this dog," they immediately jumped in the car to go get Lola. Seventeen-year-old James, and his 13-year-old sister, Gabby, helped deliver Lola's puppies, a litter that included Zeus, their second dog. The naughtiest thing either of the dogs has ever done? When Zeus was a puppy, he pushed the chair into position so he could use it to jump onto the dining table, where he peed on the chicken they were about to eat for dinner.



Jackson and Delaney of Great Falls

Jackson was really excited to pick up his puppy around Christmas time last year. He loves playing with Delaney, but says she does love to nibble him. Four-year-old Jackson wants everyone to know that Delaney goes to his school where sometimes she poops. But not to worry, his mom cleans everything up with little bags.



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Sophia, Nisah, Billy Stoltz of Great Falls

Nine-year-old Sophia and 6-year-old Billy love their big snuggly dog, Nisah (Neesah). They like when she runs next to them while they ride their bikes and scooters. When she isn't sleeping or stealing socks, she likes to play tug-of-war and to cuddle. She recently enjoyed some sledding after Snowmageddon.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 13

Author Reading and Signing. 4 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. David Priess will tell stories from 50 years of Presidential intelligence at the highest level and sign copies of his new release, "The President's Book of Secrets." 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

TUESDAY/MARCH 8

Protecting Neighborhood Trees. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The event will be forum co-sponsored by Supervisor John Foust, the Fairfax County Tree Commission, and the Great Falls Citizens Association. Speakers will focus on tree preservation during the real estate development process, and what citizens can do to help protect the existing tree canopy. prvickers@aol.com. 703-759-3280.

THURSDAY/MARCH 10

Vienna Art Society Meeting. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Speaker will be Davi D'Agostino who will discuss and demonstration her paintings in oils and acrylics and how she plans subject matter for her own works and also for the classes she teaches. Free. viennaartsociety.org. 703-319-3971.

Game Night: Sheriff of Nottingham. 7 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Bring friends, grab a snack from the Cafe and get ready for some board game fun. Free. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

SATURDAY/MARCH 12

Model Trains and Thomas at Open House. 1-5 p.m. Historic Vienna Train Station, 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends. The layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. Free. Donations accepted. www.nvmr.org. 703-938-5157.

Churchill Road Elementary School Book Fair. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Students, parents, staff will host activities to entertain children including an 11am Storytime, bookmark making, face painting and student performances. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

Author and Illustrator Reading and Signing. 3 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. McLean native Scott McBride and co-author Rod Thompson will read and sign copies of their book "The Adventures of Connor the Courageous Cutter: Saving Sarah." Illustrator Brian Martin will join them. Free. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

TUESDAY/MARCH 15

Whiskey Classics Dinner. 7-9 p.m. Ruth's Chris Steak House-Tysons Corner, 8521 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Ruth's Chris Tyson's Corner and Macallan Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky presents a five-course "Whiskey Classics Dinner" prepared by Executive Chef Jean Bosch. \$99.99. <http://www.ruthschris.com/restaurant-locations/tysons-corner>. 703-848-4290.

Perennial Personalities. 10 a.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., Vienna. Karen Rexrod, plant expert and former owner of Windy Hill nursery, will present her favorite



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Lynn Goldstein, Apres l'Crozon, 12" x 16", Pastel, on display at Broadway Gallery in Great Falls from March 1-23.

Ongoing

Northern Virginia Photographic Society Art Show. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 15-Feb. 29. The Frame Factory, 212 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna.

McMurry Artist Showcase. Feb. 1-24. Broadway Gallery Fine Art and Framing, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Local artist Richard McMurry's stylized landscape paintings will be on display. www.broadwaygallery.net. 703-450-8005.

"When the Rain Stops Falling." Feb. 4-28. 1st Stage Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. Epic in scope and poetic in language, this beautiful, haunting play crosses continents and challenges the boundaries of time to tell the story of one family and the events that bring them together and drive them apart. \$15-\$30. www.1ststage.com. 703-854-1856.

Pigments of My Imagination. Jan. 4-March 31. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Long time Great Falls resident Donna Barnako, has created over a dozen colorful and whimsical small works. Her subjects are varied, from pigs to puppies and cowboy boots.

Weekly Storytime. Wednesday and Saturday. 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.

Gentle Yoga. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Emmaus United Church of Christ, 900 E Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Gentle Kundalini Yoga, one free introductory session, senior discounts. Increase your flexibility, improve your breathing and health, reduce your stress. Ravi Kaur has 15 years experience teaching yoga. \$15 per session. www.edimprovement.org. 571-213-3192.

"Poetry in Motion" Exhibit. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. From Feb. 2-27. Exhibition of VAS members paintings with the theme "Poetry in Motion." Free.

Tai Chi Beginners' Practice. Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weekly Tai Chi practice. Group has met for over 20 years. Free. FreeTaiChi.org. 703-759-9141.

"Wishes and Dreams" Exhibit. March 1-April 2. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Free. viennaartsociety.org. 703-319-3971.

Goldstein Artist Showcase. March 1-23. Broadway Gallery, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Great Falls Gallery will feature the pastels and mixed media paintings of local artist, Lynn Goldstein. www.broadwaygallery.net. 703-450-8005.

perennial personalities. Karen's expertise and knowledge of perennial plants and their habits. Free. lmc323@aol.com.
Cocktails and Conversation. 5-6:30 p.m. Capital Grille, 1861 International Drive, McLean. The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia invites you to a private event for substantial supporters and friends of the Community Foundation. Reserve at www.cfnova.org/cocktails or call Tara Nadel at 703-879-7637.

THURSDAY/MARCH 17

Spanish Storytime featuring CommuniKids. 11 a.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Give your child the love of language at a fun, engaging Storytime in Spanish. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

Game Night: Splendor. 7 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Bring friends, grab a snack from the Cafe and get ready for some board game fun. Free. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

FRIDAY/MARCH 18

Flashlight Egg Hunt. 7 p.m. Glyndon Park, 300 Glyndon St., NE, Vienna. Enjoy a family evening searching for eggs and prizes in the dark! Please bring a flashlight so you can find the eggs. Jump like a bunny in the moon bounce and visit the Easter Bunny. 703-255-6360.

SATURDAY/MARCH 19

Old-Fashioned Egg Hunt and Roll. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Freeman House, 131 Church St., NE, Vienna. Children 12 and under and their parents are welcome to participate in an egg roll and visit with Easter Bunny, hosted by Historic Vienna, Inc. 703-938-5187.

Mr. Jon and Friends. 10:30 a.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. This energetic family music is all about fun, movement, and laughter. Mr. Jon & Friends makes music for kids and their families that inspire fun, laughter, and dancing. \$25. Family pack available. <http://jamminjava.com/event/1032603>.



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Here's What's Happening at MCC



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St. Paddy's Day Party**
Friday, Mar. 4, 7-9 p.m.
\$35/\$25 MCC district residents

**An Alden Production
"Sideways Stories from
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Sat. and Sun., March 5-6 and 12-13, 3 p.m.
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Take a Day Away!
2016 Philadelphia Flower Show
Monday, Mar. 7
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**MCC Governing Board
Public Hearing on
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Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.

The McLean Community Center
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SPORTS

Langley Girls Win First Conference Title Since 1988

Saxons upset previously unbeaten Fairfax.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

History would suggest that the Fairfax Rebels' 18-3 run to open the second half of the Conference 6 tournament championship game should have finished off Langley, which saw an eight-point lead turn into a seven-point deficit.

In terms of recent history, Fairfax entered Saturday's contest with an undefeated record, having beaten Langley twice during the regular season.

On a larger scale, the Saxons hadn't won a conference/district championship since 1988.

Despite facing unfavorable odds, Langley weathered the third-quarter storm and responded with a run of its own — a run that would end both Fairfax's 24-game win streak and the Saxons' 27-year title drought.

The Langley girls' basketball team outscored Fairfax 17-6 during the final 9-plus minutes and pulled out a 42-38 victory on Feb. 20 at South Lakes High School, giving the Saxons their first conference/district championship in nearly three decades.

"It feels amazing," Langley head coach Amanda Baker said. "I'm very proud of the



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

The Langley girls' basketball team on Feb. 20 won its first conference/district championship since 1988.

kids. I'm very happy for them."

Langley's comeback started in the final 62 seconds of the third quarter. Trailing 32-25, the Saxons scored six straight points, including a pair of buckets by senior guard Lizzy Shamloo, to cut the Rebel lead to one entering the fourth.

Langley's run extended to 12-0 when senior guard and conference Co-Player of the Year Paige Galiani scored with 6:17 remaining, giving the Saxons a 37-32 advantage.

Fairfax would pull within one with a little more than a minute remaining, but a layup by Langley junior Ariana Aulisi and a free throw by Galiani helped secure the victory.

"We have some veteran players and they understand that this is a game of runs," Baker said. "We had a nice little run in the second quarter, Fairfax had theirs in the

third, and so at the end of the third we just talked about wanting to have the last run."

Langley outscored Fairfax 14-4 in the second quarter and built a 22-14 halftime lead. Fairfax came alive in the third quarter, however, knocking down a trio of 3-pointers. Meanwhile, the Rebels' pressure defense made life difficult at times for the Saxons.

A 3-pointer by senior guard and first-team all-conference selection Jalita Montgomery gave the Rebels a 32-25 lead with 1:31 remaining in the third.

"I definitely think it was key to keep our energy up throughout that, like cheering on the bench and on the floor the entire time," Galiani said. "... We're definitely not a third-quarter team, so we didn't come out as strong as we had hoped, but we made it and we got through it and we came back.

We had our streak right after theirs. It went pretty well, I would say."

Galiani led all scorers with 17 points and was named tournament MVP. She scored 12 of Langley's 14 points in the second quarter.

"She wanted it really bad and it showed," Baker said. "She played like a senior leader [and] Player of the Year."

Shamloo finished with 11 points — all in the second half.

Shamloo played "without any fear," Baker said. "She knew at the end to just go out and play and she wasn't worried about making or missing. She was just doing her thing."

Aulisi scored nine points for the Saxons and sophomore point guard Jordyn Callaghan added five.

Callaghan was selected to the all-tournament team.

Fairfax senior guard Noe'll Taylor, Co-Player of the Year in the conference, scored 13 points and Montgomery added 10.

Langley hosted Centreville in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The winner will face the winner of West Springfield and Stonewall Jackson on Wednesday, Feb. 24.

What are the Saxons' expectations for regionals?

"At the beginning of the season, the goal was to position ourselves for championships," Baker said, "and I think we've done that and we're in a good position now to fight for a second one here."

Saxons Shoot Their Way to Conference 6 Title

Langley makes nine 3-pointers against South Lakes.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

After wearing out the nets with his perimeter shooting, Langley junior Chas Battaglia helped cut one down in celebration.

Battaglia hit four 3-pointers, scored a game-high 16 points and helped the Langley boys' basketball team defeat South Lakes 52-49 in the Conference 6 tournament championship game on Feb. 20 at South Lakes High School.

The Saxons trailed 33-25 at halftime and were down 10 early in the second half but started a comeback with a 9-0 run that consisted of 3-pointers by Battaglia, Grant Hughes and Colter Carton. With the score tied at 39, Hughes buried a 3-pointer with 1:18 remaining in the third quarter that gave Langley the lead for good.

The Saxons finished with nine 3-point-



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

The Langley boys' basketball team defeated South Lakes on Feb. 20 to win the Conference 6 championship.

ers, including five in the second half.

"When we shoot, we're the best team around," Battaglia said. "There's no stopping us, because we have [6-foot-5 Conference 6 Player of the Year] Nate [Shafer] down low and if we can shoot around the perimeter I think we're one of the best teams out there."

Battaglia knocked down a pair of free throws with 1:01 remaining to extend Langley's lead to 50-44.

The junior guard earned tournament MVP honors.

"He was just huge," Langley head coach

Scott Newman said. "Once he got in rhythm, made a few shots ... he has grown tremendously over the course of the season. I'm just really proud of him."

Langley also got a key defensive play down the stretch from senior guard Tavon Tarpley.

The Saxons led by two when Tarpley stepped in a passing lane and came up with a steal. Carton made one of two free throws, extending the lead to three with 7.6 seconds left, and South Lakes missed a potential game-tying 3-pointer at the other end.

"I saw his eyes all the way through,"

Tarpley said. "... Coach told me not to gamble the whole game. At the last second I gambled ... [and] I got it."

The victory was Langley's 14th in 15 games during the 2016 portion of its schedule. The Saxons went 13-1 against conference opponents during the regular season and earned the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament. After earning a trip to the championship game with victories over McLean and Washington-Lee, the Saxons beat South Lakes to win the program's first conference/district title since 2011.

Five players scored points for Langley on Saturday, but each scored at least seven. Along with Battaglia's 16 points, Shafer and Carton each scored 10, Tarpley finished with nine and Hughes added seven.

Langley faced Herndon in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The winner will face the winner of West Springfield and Osborn on Wednesday, Feb. 24.

South Lakes faced Robinson on Tuesday. The winner takes on the winner of West Potomac and Patriot.

PET CONNECTION



Clockwise from left, The Conner family of Great Falls, Chrissy, Todd, Lydia, Jack and their 14-plus-year old purebred mutt Wallace.



Dog Wonder Wallace with his super friends Wonder Woman Lydia and Batman Jack Conner of Great Falls.

Our Dog Wallace!

Meet our black Lab, English Setter, Dalmatian mix (so we think), or what we like to call, our purebred "mutt."

He was named after, Sir William Wallace, as we knew little about his family history. He has lived up to his name. Wallace has been with us for 14 + years. So essentially – our parent's first child. Wallace has brought us such joy over the years but many of those years have not always been so kind to him.

He has suffered from mange, Lyme disease and cancer scares. Although these years might have been tough for him, he continues to fight on. Wallace will never give up! That's one of the reasons we love him as much as we do. Bad times behind, Wallace is an avid sports fan, and roots for the Washington Redskins and Nationals, where he features collars from each team as the season goes by.

Wallace can also be found wearing costumes for our annual Halloween card. He has been featured as

many things, including: a baby, The Tin Man from "The Wizard of Oz," Dino from the Flintstones, Daphne from Scooby Doo, Pluto from Mickey Mouse, Captain Hook from "Peter Pan," Yoda from "Star Wars," a hot dog, Cat in the Hat, a Redskins quarterback and Robin in a superhero-themed card. Our latest card was not published, as he fell ill. BUT he was himself, as a Dalmatian in front of a Great Falls fire engine.

Wallace also loves swimming in our pool in the backyard when we open it in the summer. He loved to play frisbee as he jumps into the pool in his younger days. As the years continue to go by, we see Wallace slow down but continue to fight and keep wagging that tail. Every day is blessing for us.

In conclusion, Wallace isn't only just our dog, not just our brother, but our best friend.

—JACK, 11, AND LYDIA, 13, CONNER, GREAT FALLS

George Scott and Maverick the beagle.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Great Falls' Lois and George Scott's pet beagle Maverick.

A Friend for the Ages

Let me introduce Maverick our lovely beagle. My husband and I both turned 80 in 2015 and life had gotten quiet in our household. It had been six years since our dog Petey crossed the rainbow bridge and we were missing not having a

dog. Enter Maverick who flew from Missouri to join our family. From the very start he has given us unconditional love, joy watching his antics, companionship, insisting on many walks a day and being our caregiver! You often

hear that senior citizens need pets and it is so true. Our lives have been greatly enriched with this wonderful dog.

—LOIS AND GEORGE SCOTT, GREAT FALLS

A Gentle Giant

This is our dog Duke in a familiar pose. Duke loves the meadow at Riverbend Park and visits there often. He frequently stops to enjoy the smell of the many flowers. We are certain Duke plays a central role in the pollination of wild flowers. Duke is a real conversation piece and we have met many that have stopped to give Duke a pet on his head and ask where we got such a tame bear.

Our dear Duke passed away this past December, but his spirit lives on in our hearts and minds. Every time our family walks in the meadow we will remember his



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Duke Keating-Williams

pose and his gentle soul. We will smell the flowers and do our best to keep up your efforts in pollination. Rest in peace, dear Duke.

—THE KEATING-WILLIAMS FAMILY (MITCH, CAM, SUSAN AND MICKEY), GREAT FALLS



Twin sisters, from left, Gloria and Rose Boos, 12, sixth-graders at Great Falls Elementary with their two-year-old Puff the Pomeranian.

My Star

BY ROSE BOOS, 12
SIXTH-GRADER AT GREAT FALLS ELEMENTARY

Once you were my dog named Star

And you were oh so very sweet
You were the sweetest dog I would ever meet

You were so mellow
And were indeed a nice old fellow

Most of all, I loved you with all my heart
But when you left, we were torn apart
I miss you so much, but I know you are looking over me every day
So every night I think about you and mention you when I pray

All I am saying is I love you very much
And Still remember your soft, warm touch



Rose Boos, 12, sixth-grader at Great Falls Elementary with her two-year-old Puff the Pomeranian.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

A Further Explanation



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Though last week's column, "One Hundred Pills," ostensibly was about the pill count of my most recent prescription and my interpretation of its meaning, the underlying point of the column which I might have failed to clearly mention was: cancer and the effect it has on your thinking; consciously, sub-consciously, and probably even unconsciously as well. If I had not been diagnosed with a "terminal" disease: stage IV, non-small, cell lung cancer (NSCLC), would I even have heard how many pills were in that bottle, or considered at all the numerical impact on my life, and that life's expectancy? Moreover, would I have been the least bit concerned with pharmacy/prescription procedures, medical or otherwise? And finally, would I have stumbled emotionally because of any of it? I'll be presumptuously self-assured and answer all of these previous questions: The answer would be a resounding "No."

And the cause of all these questions and the effect on the answers is cancer. To say cancer is a difference-maker is an insult to all difference-makers. Because cancer is insidious, and often, as evidenced in last week's column, a life-changer both physically and mentally, its effects rear their ugly head when you might not expect it. All I did was pick up a prescription but since cancer is in charge, I went off on a tangent of anxiety. But, and this is the point - perhaps lost in last week's column, which I am now focusing on in this week's column: you can't help yourself. Whether or not you admit to or acquiesce to cancer's control, it does take over. In effect, your brain is rewired, figuratively speaking. You simply don't think, consider, prioritize, react, etc., as you did prior to your diagnosis. It's almost as if you were struck by lightning; it's a jolt, emotionally, and you'll never be the same.

Sure, on the outside (to people looking at you), everything may appear normal (if you're amazingly lucky), but on the inside, especially in your head/brain, the world, your place in it and your behavior while being there has taken a turn. Not necessarily for the worse, but definitely for the different. Oddly enough, the changes are not so subtle that you don't notice them or won't acknowledge them or can't articulate them. In my experience, I notice/acknowledge and articulate them. However, I am hard-pressed to do much about them. It's not as if I've become an inconsiderate, selfish, intolerant, uncaring and self-indulgent a--hole (different than I'd like to think I was/mostly still am), but, and I'm not proud to admit this: I do have my moments. And when I do, I blame the cancer. As I asked my oncologist one day about my hair turning gray seemingly overnight, could I blame the cancer? He quickly responded: "You can blame the cancer for anything you want." And so I have, occasionally.

Not that I have taken his statement to heart or embraced it as a regular excuse, but cancer does seem to have its way. And though I am well aware of its tentacles and subliminal-almost ties that regularly bind, I am still cognizant of who I am and who I want to be. Nevertheless, author Siddhartha Mukherjee didn't title his book about cancer (and PBS didn't likewise title its miniseries): "Cancer, The Emperor of All Maladies" because cancer is kind and gentle and benign. Hardly. Cancer is none of these characterizations. And what's worse, it changes people; at least it's changed me, and not always for the better.

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

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Edward Koch, M.D., a gynecologist, announces the closure of his clinical practice located at 6707 Old Dominion Drive in McLean Virginia as of April 30, 2016. Dr. Koch can be reached at 703-288-0794 or by email at egkmdpc@hotmail.com. Information about medication refills and medical records can be obtained using the telephone number or the email noted above. Dr. Koch will remain in McLean as a medical consultant.

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JIGO, LLC trading as La Cote D'or Cafe, 6876 Lee Hwy, Arlington, VA 22213. The above establishment is applying to the OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises; Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jacques Imperato, owner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates 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

ABC LICENSE

The Shamrock Arlington, LLC trading as The Spirits of '76, 3211 Washington Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises; Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Patrick Doody, Member
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P&M Group, LLC trading as Red Galanga, 144 Church St, NW, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises; Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Perawat Pradawong, member
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CONSOLIDATED PLAN PUBLIC NOTICE

On Friday, March 25, 2016, the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will hold a public hearing on items relating to the Commonwealth of Virginia's administration of the Consolidated Action Plan 2016-2017 Action Plan.

The public hearing will be held at 10:00 AM until 11:00 AM in the 12th Floor North Conference Room of the Main Street Centre, 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. DHCD will be taking comments on the proposed 2016-2017 Action Plan including goals and objectives for housing and community development; the projected use of funding; the method for distributing \$7,034,121 in HOME Investment Partnership funds; \$2,754,274 in Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funds; \$745,593 in Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funds, and \$16,881,481 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Copies of the plan document may be requested by calling (804) 371-7100, (804) 371-7122, or (804) 371-7084 TDD. Persons requiring special accommodations should call (804) 371-7110. The Plan will appear on the agency's web site at http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov under "What's New."

The Department will receive written comments and testimony on the proposed 2016-2017 Action Plan through the close of business on April 15, 2016 at the following address:

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
Attention: Lyndsi Austin
Main Street Centre
600 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, Virginia 23219

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10-11 a.m. Christ Presbyterian Preschool, 12410 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Open house tours for the current school year and 2016-17. www.christpresbyterianpreschool.com. 703-691-9120.

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MONDAY/FEB. 29
Dissecting Dyslexia Talk. 6:30-8 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Carol Dimas and Sara Platenberg of Educational Advocacy and Consulting will discuss today's issues regarding Dyslexia: Dyslexia and the school system, current legislation, parent/student rights, recommended interventions. Free. www.educationaladvocacyandconsulting.com.

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ONGOING
The Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/.
Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.
Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.
Fairfax County needs a volunteer Senior Center Marketing Coordinator to assist the Friends of Fairfax County Senior Centers with marketing. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.
The Lewinsville Senior Center in McLean needs instructors for the following classes: Line Dance, Zumba Gold, Certified Arthritis Exercise, Square Dance, Basic Guitar, Art and Basic Spanish. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.
The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area seniors to medical appointments and other activities. Opportunities to volunteer for other services are also available. No long-term commitment and hours are flexible to fit your schedule. Visit www.scov.org or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email volunteer@scov.org.

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Vienna Toastmasters. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center on the 2nd floor room opposite the elevator, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. A friendly place to get comfortable with public speaking and impromptu speaking for new and experienced speakers. Open to the public.
Run With the Doctor. Every other Saturday at 7 a.m. 8230 Boone Blvd., Tysons Corner. The Center for Orthopedics and Sports Medicine offers its services in a convenient format to runners at this running event. Free. facebook.com/runwiththedoctor.
Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 1:30-2:30 p.m. and 2-3 p.m., The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Classes are held in a heated indoor pool and are designed to work on balance and core muscles. \$10. 703-667-9800.



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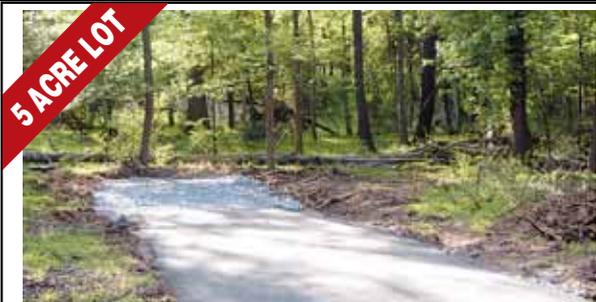
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