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COMMUNITY

OUTLOOK 2017

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Great Falls CONNECTION

Actor Mary Ann Jung holds up "Mastering the Art of French Cooking" a two-volume French cookbook that was written by Julia Child and her two French friends, Simone Beck and Louisette Bertholle.

Julia Child 'Meets' Great Falls Seniors

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New Residential Development Proposed in Great Falls

Developer worked with the community to get approval for nine homes.

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) and Benjamin Wiles, his staff aide who works on land-use issues, identified some of the developments within the Dranesville District that they will be focusing on over the next couple of months.

All of the developments have received interest from surrounding communities, leaving Foust and the other supervisors with ample feedback to consider before the proposals reach them for a vote.

Gulick Group, Inc. applied to rezone an 11-acre parcel south of where Challedon Road ends in Great Falls from a rural agricultural district to a residential district.

The rezoning would permit the landowner to construct nine homes on the property. The original proposal was for 10 lots, according to Benjamin Wiles, a staff aide for Supervisor John Foust.

The change was prompted by concerns of the Great Falls Citizens Association and



PHOTO COURTESY OF A FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

The property is an undeveloped, forested 11-acre parcel that is currently accessed from the north via Challedon Road, a paved Virginia Department of Transportation-maintained road. Challedon Road runs northward, to connect to Brevity Drive, which runs westward to connect to Springvale Road. There is a temporary cul-de-sac where Challedon Road ends.

neighbors over the project's stormwater management plans.

The southern boundary of the property coincides with the northern edge of a seg-

ment of the Piney Run floodplain, according to a staff report by the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning. The floodplain and its adjacent slopes are iden-

tified as a Resource Protection Area and an Environmental Quality Corridor.

A stormwater channel that drains to Piney Run bisects the site approximately at its midpoint from the north property line to the south property line, the report continues.

Since the original proposal, the applicant has submitted several revisions that have resulted in preserving more tree canopy and now exceeds water quality and quantity standards, when compared to what would be required of a project that is permitted under the property's current zoning, also known as by right development, according to Wiles.

The GFCA has since submitted testimony in support of the application and the Fairfax County Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the application on Dec. 8, 2016.

"The applicant has been cooperative and I think we have a proposal now that is beyond the standard requirements for both tree preservation and stormwater," Foust says.

A public hearing for the project with the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 24, after deadline for this week's paper.

"We still have a public hearing, but unless something extraordinary would come out of that public hearing, I anticipate that the project will receive support from the Board of Supervisors," Foust says.

Actor Brings Julia Child To Life For Seniors

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

Members of the Great Falls Senior Center were transported back in time to the '60s to witness Julia Child rehearse for her infamous cooking show, "The French Chef."

Child became sidetracked when she realized she had a roomful of guests and began telling them about her life and how she ended up a household name and one of America's favorite cooking personalities.

Trying to match Child's high-pitched voice and playful demeanor, actor Mary Ann Jung brought the celebrity to life for 45 minutes. Her show, "Julia Child - Queen of Cuisine," pays tribute to the energy, passion and playfulness that Child brought to her greatest loves: her husband and cooking.

During the performance, Jung pulled Jim Mills from the crowd to play the role of Child's husband, Paul Cushing Child. While she described the couple's relationship, Jung provided Mills with flashcards. These cards contained quotes from Child's husband that the volunteer was required to recite for the audience—many of them comical and all of them real.



PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

Julia Child, played by actor Mary Ann Jung, pulls Jim Mills out of the crowd to play the role of Child's husband, Paul Cushing Child.

Jung researches and writes her own scripts for her one-woman shows.

"I don't make stuff up," Jung told the audience during a Q-and-A after the performance. "It usually takes me a year to research and write my shows."

When she had questions that couldn't be

resolved through her own research, she sought answers from Alex Prud'homme, Child's great-nephew, she told the audience.

This was Jung's third performance for the GFSC. She already performed as Clara Barton, a Civil War nurse and American Red Cross founder, and World War II's Rose "Rosie

the Riveter" Leigh Monroe for the group.

"She's usually one of the ones people say to bring back," says Marietna "Mimi" Mascolo, a spokesperson for GFSC.

If Mascolo wants to bring Jung back for yet another performance, she has more shows in her repertoire of historical women.

Jung portrays Sally Ride, America's first female astronaut, in her latest show, "Sally Ride - Who Wants To Be An Astronaut?"

She anticipates the show inspiring students to get involved in science, technology, engineering and math.

In the meantime, Mascolo says the GFSC's next guest speaker will be author Mike High, who will be talking about his book, "The C&O Canal Companion" and his passion for cycling.

His book takes readers on a tour of the 184-mile Chesapeake and Ohio Canal that stretches from Washington, D.C., to Cumberland, Maryland and the Allegheny Mountains, as well as the trail along the canal, which the author says is his favorite trail to bike.

The discussion and lunch will be at the Dranesville Church of the Brethren at 11500 Leesburg Pike from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 21.

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NEWS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Keller Williams McLean/Great Falls Leadership: Managing Broker Patrick Page, CEO/Team Leader Amina Basic, Principal Broker Ron Cathell, Assistant Team Leader Boni Vinter and Principal Owner Derek Blain.

The Keller Williams Realty Brokerage in McLean/Great Falls Sets a New Record

The Keller Williams Realty brokerage in McLean/Great Falls has set a new record for sharing its profits with agents. They gave back over \$500,000. "We are so thrilled and proud to say that our office shared over half a million dollars of its owners' profit with our agents in 2016 setting a new record, not only for our office, but for all of Keller Williams in Virginia and West Virginia," said Amina Basic, Team Leader for Keller Williams in McLean. "This money came out of the pockets of our owners as appreciation to those of our agents who have helped to make us grow." Keller Williams closes its books each month and determines its net profit. It then gives back nearly 50 percent of those profits to its agents who introduced

new or transferring agents to the office. The Keller Williams office in McLean launched in April 2008 during the start of the great recession. Today, it has more than 350 agents making it one of the largest single brokerage offices in the greater metro area, all in less than 10 years. "It's all about our amazing agents," said Basic. "Now, we have set our goal to profit share over a million dollars in a single year. And we can do it. We thank all of our clients for putting their trust in us. The absolute best part is that we give back to the community every single year. Last year we did our annual golf tournament and raised over \$46,000 for leukemia lymphoma society. Together everyone achieves more."

WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

College Student Pleads Guilty To Developing Malicious Software

Zachary Shames, 21, of Great Falls, pleaded guilty to charges of aiding and abetting computer intrusions.

According to the statement of facts filed with the plea agreement, Shames developed malicious software, known as a keylogger, that allowed users to steal sensitive information, such as passwords and banking credentials, from a victim's computer. Shames sold his keylogger to over 3,000 users who, in turn, used it to infect over 16,000 victim computers. Shames developed the initial versions of his keylogger while attending high school in Northern Virginia, and continued to modify and market the illegal product from his college dorm room.

Shames faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and will be sentenced

on June 16. The maximum statutory sentence is prescribed by Congress and is provided here for informational purposes, as the sentencing of the defendant will be determined by the Court based on the advisory Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Author Mike High to Speak at the Great Falls Senior Center Event

The Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) has announced author Mike High as guest speaker for the Feb. 21 event. The Feb. 21 event will be held at the Dranesville Church of the Brethren 11500 Leesburg Pike from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and includes lunch. The Event Sponsor is Celebrate Great Falls Foundation. Reservations are a must so contact Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or call 703-759-4345. Visit gfseniors.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE

Several shots were fired at a Fairfax County Police officer's vehicle on Jan. 22; one struck the passenger side rear quarter panel.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE

Rain over night makes it difficult to determine license plate information on the suspect's vehicle from in-car video of the incident.

Police Car Takes Fire while in Pursuit in Great Falls

Chief Roessler pleads for help locating those responsible.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Police Chief Edwin Roessler began his Jan. 23 press conference on a dramatic note, saying he was grateful to be standing there not having to plan a police officer's funeral.

Just before midnight on Jan. 22, several shots were fired at a marked police cruiser from another vehicle in the Great Falls area, he said. The other driver and at least one passenger who bailed out while police were in pursuit managed to escape capture, which meant everyone walked away from the incident without causing a funeral.

The scene began with what police describe as a white older model sedan running a red light on Georgetown Pike. An officer out of the Reston police district station attempted a traffic stop nearby at the 600 block of Rossmore Court. At that point a passenger got out of the suspect's car and ran off.

"The driver of the car then sped away from the cruiser, making a U-turn in the cul-de-sac," police said in a statement, "then traveled back toward the officer and opened fire, striking the cruiser at least twice."

The police car was hit on the hood, feet from the vehicle's interior, and again on the passenger side rear quarter panel.

The officer then calmly called in the shooting to dispatch, Roessler said, and resumed pursuit of the suspect's vehicle. But the suspect eluded the officer heading west-bound on Georgetown Pike.

"This is one particular time we in the police department need the help of our great community to bring these armed and dan-



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE

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gerous suspects to justice," Roessler said. "If they're willing to kill a police officer, they're willing to kill anyone to escape justice. I can't beg enough for the help of the community."

Roessler said he doesn't know the gender of either the driver or the runner, or if there were additional passengers in the car. Nor is it known whether shots were fired from inside the vehicle or out the sedan's windows.

The officer did not return fire, the chief said, as the suspect's car came at the cruiser at a high rate of speed.

The officer was not injured and their name is being withheld while a risk assessment is completed.

"This was hopefully not a targeted ambush situation," said Roessler. "We need to vet through that process."

The last time an officer was fired upon was during a jewelry store heist in Springfield last spring, Roessler added.

The chief urged anyone with information to contact police at 703-691-2131. They can also contact Detective C. Guyton at 703-856-8547. Police said tipsters may be eligible for a cash reward up to \$1,000 for contacting Crime Solvers electronically by visiting <http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org> or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES(274637). Tipsters remain anonymous.

"If they're willing to kill a police officer, they're willing to kill anyone to escape justice. I can't beg enough for the help of the community."

—Fairfax County Police chief Edwin Roessler



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Police chief Edwin Roessler begged the community to help bring suspects to justice who ran from a routine traffic stop and then allegedly fired.

OPINION

Not Helping the Local Economy

Federal hiring freeze will have rippling effect.

The hiring freeze announced earlier this week, will not help the local economy which has struggled in recent years due to the sequester, automatic cuts and limits to federal spending. The federal government is a critical part of the local economy and had helped recession-proof the Northern Virginia area, but more recently it has been a negative.

Kudos to U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) for speaking out against a foolish freeze on federal hiring. As the lone Republican representing Northern Virginia in Congress, her opposition is important.

"The federal budget cannot be balanced on the backs of our federal workforce. I don't support this type of across-the-board freeze and think it is better to look at priorities and areas where appropriate cuts can be made and where we can consolidate efforts or identify unnecessary costs that can be eliminated," Comstock wrote. "As the General Accounting Office has previously reported, past hiring freezes in both Republican and Democrat administrations have cost the federal government money in the long-run because of staffing problems, or problems in recruiting or disruption of key government operations and required services to the American people. We will be monitoring and highlighting the results of this freeze and how it is impacting the mission of various agencies."

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) identifies the freeze as one of many "anti-federal workforce policies" in the works.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protesting Vote Suppression

To the Editor:

I am fed up with gerrymandering and other tactics politicians use to stack the votes in their favor! Gerrymandering distorts the electoral process, undermines democracy, and renders legislative elections a

meaningless exercise. I am a tax-paying citizen of Virginia, but my one vote does not count as one vote. Here in Virginia, state legislators redraw district lines, which means that the party in power of the State House and Senate can draw the lines to serve their own interests, not those of our communities. Since Virginia has been Republican controlled, that means that my Democratic vote has less value in my district than a Republican vote does in another district.

According to Governing.com, Virginia is ranked as one of the most gerrymandered states in the country (fifth worst!), both on the congressional and state levels

based on the lack of compactness and contiguity of its districts. Throughout the State, counties and cities are broken in half or into multiple pieces to create heavily partisan districts. Most of the "elections" in Virginia therefore result in no change in party because of these gerrymandered districts!

With Republicans in control of the Virginia House and Senate, the gerrymandering, not only suppresses Democrat votes, but has had a detrimental impact on persons of color causing distinct echoes of Jim Crow laws. Are we going to allow discriminatory disenfranchisement to proceed unchecked in our State? I urge all Virginians and Virginian Representatives to support changes to the Virginia constitution and enactment of laws that would strengthen voting rights, make voting easier and fairer, and eliminate unfair redistricting that politicians use to keep themselves in power.

Nancy Blethen
Springfield

"Past hiring freezes in both Republican and Democrat administrations have cost the federal government money in the long-run because of staffing problems, or problems in recruiting or disruption of key government operations and required services to the American people."

— U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-VA10)

"An across-the-board federal hiring freeze is a mindless way to manage. ... It fails to take into account the need to actually beef up certain capabilities in the federal government, like cybersecurity," Connolly said. "This Executive Order, coupled with many of other anti-federal workforce policies being proposed in Congress, will have a depressing effect on our ability to recruit and retain the next generation of federal workers."

U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) calls it

Bills to Watch in General Assembly

In no particular order, more to come next week:

- ❖ SB 1005 Community services boards and behavioral health authorities; services to be provided, in particular, access to same-day access to mental health screening services.
- ❖ SB 923 raises felony larceny threshold to \$500 (\$1,000 would have been better).
- ❖ SB 1379 that discourages universities from stockpiling cash, and instead lowers tuition for Virginia students and families.
- ❖ SB 931 removes the exemption for "working papers and correspondence" for university presidents.

scapegoating. "The number of federal workers is at its lowest level since the 1960s, and over 30 percent will be eligible to retire in the next year," Beyer said. "A report by the General Accounting Office (GAO) on previous federal hiring freezes stated such freezes are not an effective strategy for shrinking the size of the workforce, and only serve to disrupt agency operations and in the long-term increase the cost of government operations."

❖ SB 1376, requires a 30-day notice from the Board of Visitors before tuition can be raised.

❖ SB 1102, records of closed investigations of unattended deaths were not exempt from the state Freedom of Information Act.

❖ SB 1442, requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to identify an evidence-based, standardized instrument for mental health screening for anyone incarcerated in local, regional, and community correctional facilities.

❖ Various proposals for nonpartisan redistricting.

Area Residents Join March on Washington

One of the thousands of signs displayed at the Saturday's March on Washington, D.C. The Women's March on Washington turned out to be one of the largest demonstrations in the city's history, according to city officials, drawing more than 500,000 participants. The march was scheduled to follow on the heels of Friday's Inauguration of the 45th president, Donald Trump.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN LOVAAS

Great Falls CONNECTION

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FAITH NOTES

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

The S.P.O.T for Youth Wednesday's at 7 p.m. A place where youth can come together and pray, ask questions about the faith and receive mentorship. The spot is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Vienna located at 450 Orchard Street, NW Vienna.

First Baptist Church of Vienna located at 450 Orchard Street, NW Vienna. Sunday services are held at 7:45 and 10 a.m. weekly. Wednesday Night with the Family service is held at 6 p.m. followed by corporate singing at 7 p.m. Bible studies take place Tuesday's at noon.

Wesley United Methodist Church located at 711 Spring Street SE, Vienna, Virginia 22180, at the corner of Spring Street and Moore Avenue. 10:30 a.m. - Fellowship time in the fellowship hall, 11 a.m. Traditional family worship in sanctuary. If you are seeking a church home which encourages: caring and supportive fellowship, an active and devoted prayer life and study of scripture, support for local and world missions, an open, responsive awareness to the presence and power of God's Holy Spirit.

Youth Activities at Wesley United Methodist Church Activities are open to all 6th-12th graders. Youth Sunday School meets every Sunday at 10:00am in the Upper room.

Youth Bible Study will meet every Sunday at 4:30pm off-site. Following bible study we will ride together over to the church for youth group. Email the Youth Ministry Staff for the address if interested!

The Anchor meets every Sunday from 6pm-8pm in the fellowship hall. Join us for dinner, games, worship, and diving deeper into the Word!

During the summer, Youth Sunday School meets most Sundays at 9:00am in the Upper room.

To receive the newsletter or for more information contact youth@wesleyvienna.org.

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church at the intersection of Lewinsville and Brook Roads in McLean, just a mile west of Tysons, invites you for a casual Saturday Service at 5 p.m., followed by conversation and fellowship or for Sunday Services at 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. Sunday School for Youth and Children takes place during the 10 a.m. Service. Look for our Pumpkin Patch this October, and check www.stthomasmcleanva.org for Special Events and Services through the year. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, 8991 Brook Road, McLean, 703-442-0330.

Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna offers a monthly Healing Eucharist with the Laying on of Hands and Anointing for Healing (first Sunday of the month, 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Chapel. The Healing Ministry is led by the Rev. Valerie Hayes and Alexandra MacCracken and includes a team of lay healers who have gone through intentional training and formation. Questions? Please contact the Rev. Valerie Hayes at vhayes@holyccomforter.com.

Yoga Class with a Christian Focus is held Saturdays, 3-4 p.m., McGill Hall or the Library at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. This group is suitable for those with beginner and/or intermediate yoga experience. Dress comfortably and bring a mat. Feel free to bring a towel, block(s) or strap if you have them. Questions? Please contact the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

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The Kensington is a tastefully elegant assisted living and memory care community that we designed and built with the unique needs of seniors in mind. Then, we sought out

the most talented and kindhearted team we could find. We trained them to deliver care and service that reflect our continued commitment to excellence and a deep understanding of older adults who need daily lifestyle assistance or support as they cope with memory loss.

While we get ready to formally open our doors, we invite you to stop in, introduce yourself, tell us about your family and tour our model suites. A warm welcome awaits!

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Announcing Group Interviews for The Kensington Falls Church

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For immediate consideration or more details,
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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, JAN. 27

McLean Art Society Meeting with Oil Painter Pattie Hipscher 10 - noon McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Ms. Hipscher teaches at the Washington Art League and is a recent recipient of an award from The Arlington Artist's Alliance for a portrait of her son. 703-790-0123.

Old Firehouse Friday Night Trips Bazooka Ball Sports 3:30 - 10 p.m. Join the staff at The Old Firehouse as they go to Bazooka Ball Sports to play two versions of indoor, paint-less paintball, using Nerf and airsoft balls instead of actual paintballs. Pizza, arcade tokens and two hours of Bazooka Ball are included in the fee. A signed waiver is required by Bazooka Ball for participation. \$40/\$30 MCC district residents.

SATURDAY, JAN. 28

Virginia's Indian Tribes 10 - 12 a.m. McLean Community Center 1234 Ingleside Ave. Most Virginians have no idea about the 11 present-

day Virginia tribes, the issues they've encountered, or how they continue to thrive. For a fascinating look at their past and present the McLean Area AAUW invites you to hear Karenne Wood, a member of the Monacan Indian Nation and director, Virginia Indian Heritage Program, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Cost: free.

"Flamenco 101: An Overview of Flamenco History and Styles" 6:30 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. A lecture and Q&A session with Flamenco educator Estela Vélez de Paredez that will deepen your understanding of flamenco dance and make your experience watching Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana much richer. \$5/\$3 MCC tax district residents.

Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana 8 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. You'll forget all about the winter weather outside when Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana heats up The Alden. Flamenco Vivo

SEE WINTER FUN, PAGE 9

'Poema de Andalucía' at The Alden on Saturday, Jan. 28

New York City's Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana, one of the nation's premier flamenco and Spanish dance companies, comes to The Alden at the McLean Community Center (MCC) for a single performance at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28. Tickets are \$35 for the general public, \$20 for MCC tax district residents. The theatre is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue. Tickets are on sale now. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit: www.aldentheatre.org or call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.



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This free program will be led by Betsy Sue Scott, Esq. Betsy Sue is Principal in the Law Office of Betsy Sue Scott of Reston. Her specialties include wills, trusts, probate, estate administration, elder law, and assisted living admissions. She serves on the Board of Trustees of Virginia Diocesan Homes.



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WINTER FUN

FROM PAGE 8

brings an exciting evening of flamenco to the stage featuring accomplished artists from the U.S. and Spain. \$35/\$20 MCC tax district residents.

SUNDAY/JAN. 29

The Sixth Annual McLean Chocolate Festival, 1 a.m. to 5 p.m. The McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The admission fee is \$2 per person. Children age six and under are admitted free. Buy treats to eat on site or stock up for Valentine's Day. Featured on the Festival Stage will be performances by Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids at 1:30 p.m., and bluegrass music by Mike Mitchell and the Wildman's at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Ongoing demonstrations of colonial American chocolate-making will be presented by American Heritage, a Mars company. There will be plenty of free parking. www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org

Capitol Steps Fundraiser 7 p.m. Langley High School Auditorium 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Capitol Steps are a DC-based troupe of Congressional staffers who put the "MOCK" in democracy. They'll be performing their musical satire. Their latest program, "What to Expect When You're Electing," is updated with material from the recent election and is hilarious. Tickets are on sale NOW and can be purchased by emailing: missyperkings72@gmail.com Cost: \$30.00.

FRIDAYS-SUNDAYS/FEB. 3-19

McLean Community Players "Company." 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. A 1970 musical comedy based on a book by George Furth with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The original production was nominated for a record-setting fourteen Tony Awards and won seven. \$25/\$23 MCC tax district residents. Visit <http://www.mcleanplayers.org/>

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 8

Storytime: Valentine's Day 11 a.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons Corner Center 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center McLean. It's almost Valentine's Day! Join us for a Valentine themed Storytime.



The McLean Chocolate Festival will be held on Sunday Jan. 29 from 1 to 5 p.m. at The McLean Community Center located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Admission is \$2 per person. Children age six and under are admitted free. Buy treats to eat on site or stock up for Valentine's Day. Featured on the Festival Stage will be performances by Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids at 1:30 p.m. and bluegrass music by Mike Mitchell and the Wildman's at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Ongoing demonstrations of colonial American chocolate-making will be presented by American Heritage, a Mars company. There will be plenty of free parking. www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org

FRIDAY/FEB. 10

Valentine's Day Arts & Crafts Hour 11 - noon Once Upon A Dream, 527 Maple Ave E #200, Vienna. There will be arts & crafts to celebrate Valentine's Day. Additional \$5 per child.

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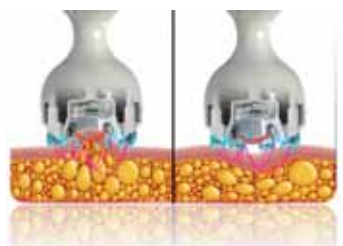


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SPORTS



PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION

Langley junior Andrew Derminassian #32 goes for a jump shot.



Head Coach for Langley Scott Newman and assistant coaches Andrew Hypnar and Billy Wilkerson discussing plays with their team at the end of the first quarter.

South Lakes Secures Narrow Win Over Langley for a Second Time

BY COLIN STOECKER
THE CONNECTION

It was a close and exciting game between the South Lakes Seahawks and the Langley Saxons on Thursday night.

“The win was impressive after our loss against Hayfield Secondary School in Alexandria a few nights ago,” said head coach and assistant athletic director at South Lakes, Andrew Duggan.

South Lakes had superior ball control and possession for most of the game, the bonus in their favor in the last quarter helped them in a tight spot, and they came out the winning team.

Both teams were tied right until the last few seconds of the game when South Lakes scored again in the bonus, and Langley couldn’t get another basket in the last few seconds before the buzzer. South Lakes’ record now stands at 11 wins and 5 losses.

This was the second time that South Lakes prevailed against Langley. South Lakes beat Langley in the first round by 11 points, 68 to 57. Despite the optimism of Langley’s head coach, Scott Newman, his team wasn’t



South Lakes sophomore Cameron Savage #5 dribbles around a Langley defenseman.

able to pull off a win Thursday night.

Langley’s record now sits at 8 and 8.

Langley’s head coach Scott Newman said

that his team was a little slow to start off the season. “We lost 4 games at the buzzer, these were close, and we think we’ve found a formula that was working for us,” he said. But his goal for his team was improvement over the course of the season. And, it was a close game this time.

“I am thrilled,” said Newman about the performance of his team so far this season. “I told my players there are going to be teams that are good fast and plateau and we will improve,” Newman said.

Some notable players from Langley’s starting lineup this season are senior Chas Battaglia, 5’10” guard, senior Sami El-Rafey 6’6” forward, and junior Colter Carton, 5’11” guard.

For the Saxons, El-Rafey had an outstanding night in terms of scoring with 15 points, followed by Carton with 11 points and Battaglia with 10 points. El Raffey also led his team in rebounds with 10 total followed closely by junior Andrew Derminassian, 6’4” forward, who had 9 rebounds.

On South Lakes team. much of their start-

ing lineup aren’t seniors.

“Our point guard, sophomore Cameron Savage, started all of the games last year,” said head coach Duggan.

Seahawks players, junior Emmanuel Aghayere, 6’5” forward, sophomore Cameron Savage 5’10” guard, and junior Damon Johnson 5’10” guard all have at least one more year with their team before graduating. Johnson and Savage will likely be playing basketball on the college level.

Even with a winning record, Duggan insists that his team didn’t play as well as they could have against Langley in the first round.

Senior Marcus Cherry, 6’4” guard was the lead scorer for the Seahawks with 12 points followed closely by junior Emmanuel Aghayere with 11 points and 11 rebounds, and junior Andrew Powers, 6’4” with 9 points.

“We were focused on playing better basketball, on our defense and rebounds, you know the little things,” said Duggan. “This team plays hard as snot.”



South Lakes sophomore Brian Adams #4 looks for the pass.



Langley senior Chas Battaglia #2 shoots over South Lakes guard Damon Johnson.

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/JAN. 26

"Arts Night Out" 6:30 - 9 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. MPA Exhibitions Director, Nancy Sausser, will guide us through the artwork on exhibit with an insightful Art Talk at 7:45 p.m. All proceeds from this benefit will be donated to local charities. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. For more information and to order tickets visit www.ndwc.org.

FRIDAY, JAN. 27

McLean Art Society Meeting with Oil Painter Pattie Hipscher 10 - noon McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Ms. Hipscher teaches at the Washington Art League and is a recent recipient of an award from The Arlington Artist's Alliance for a portrait of her son. 703-790-0123.

Old Firehouse Friday Night Trips Bazooka Ball Sports 3:30 - 10 p.m. Join the staff at The Old Firehouse as they go to Bazooka Ball Sports to play two versions of indoor, paint-less paintball, using Nerf and airsoft balls instead of actual paintballs. Pizza, arcade tokens and two hours of Bazooka Ball are included in the fee. A signed waiver is required by Bazooka Ball for participation. \$40/\$30 MCC district residents.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY/JAN. 27 & 28

The Art of Marriage Friday 6:45 - 9 p.m. Saturday 9 - 3 p.m. When you were standing at the altar reciting your marriage vows, did you have any idea that marriage would

be so complex? It probably didn't take you long to understand that your spouse is not as much like you as you thought. But figuring them out is more than just an equation. Marriage is more than a science; it's an art. And like any art form, requires an investment of time, focused study and the right tools. If you need to soften some of the edges in your relationship, or want to brighten the landscape of your marriage, The Art of Marriage is for you. \$60 Early Registration by January 12. viennapres.org/strengthen-your-marriage

SATURDAY, JAN. 28

Virginia's Indian Tribes 10 - 12 a.m. McLean Community Center 1234 Ingleside Ave. Most Virginians have no idea about the 11 present-day Virginia tribes, the issues they've encountered, or how they continue to thrive. For a fascinating look at their past and present the McLean Area AAUW invites you to hear Karenne Wood, a member of the Monacan Indian Nation and director, Virginia Indian Heritage Program, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Cost: free.

"Flamenco 101: An Overview of Flamenco History and Styles" 6:30 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. A lecture and Q&A session with Flamenco educator Estela Vélez de Paredez that will deepen your understanding of flamenco dance and make your experience watching Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana much richer. \$5/\$3 MCC tax district residents.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

McLEAN COMMUNITY PLAYERS
Present

Stephen Sondheim's Ground-Breaking Musical! Opens Friday, Feb 3!



Book by
George Furth

Music and Lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim

Originally produced and directed on Broadway by Harold Prince
Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

Directed by Sharon Veselic
Produced by Jerry Gideon and Claire Tse

Alden Theatre • McLean Community Center

February 3-19

Friday and Saturday, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: 866.811.4111 OR www.McLeanPlayers.org

The McLean Community Players, Inc. is funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County.

See The Accessibility page at www.McLeanPlayers.org for dates of Audio-described and ASL-interpreted performances

Suitable for ages 17 and older

COMPANY is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

CONNECT WITH MCP: [FACEBOOK.COM/MCLEANPLAYERS](https://www.facebook.com/McLeanPlayers)

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

Run for a Seat on the McLean Community Center Governing Board



PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELECTIONS MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER GOVERNING BOARD SMALL DISTRICT 1A OF THE DRANESVILLE DISTRICT FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA



This OFFICIAL NOTICE of elections to select members of the 2017-2018 Governing Board of the McLean Community Center (the Governing Board) is given to residents of Small District 1A of the Dranesville District, Fairfax County, Virginia (referred to as "Small District 1A"). The McLean Community Center (MCC) operates as a Special District Agency of the Fairfax County Government through a Memorandum of Understanding between the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Governing Board. On February 8, 1984, the Board of Supervisors approved the Memorandum of Understanding, which authorizes the elections. The MCC is funded by residents of Small District 1A in Greater McLean for their use through a real estate tax surcharge, the result of a 1970 Small District 1A bond referendum.

Elections are held on **McLean Day** at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia. This year, McLean Day is on **Saturday, May 20, 2017. Voting on McLean Day takes place from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Candidate Qualifications:

Each resident who lives within Small District 1A is eligible to run for a seat on the Governing Board within the appropriate category. If you need help determining whether you reside in Small District 1A, please contact the MCC at 703-744-9348, or by emailing elections@mcleancenter.org.

ADULTS: Candidates must be residents of Small District 1A and must be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before May 20, 2017.

TEENS: Candidates must be 15, 16, or 17 years old on or before May 20, 2017, live within Small district 1A, and live in the boundary area for either Langley or McLean high schools. You **do not** have to attend either high school. You may attend another school, including one that is outside of Small District 1A, or you may be home schooled. You can only run for the seat representing the high school boundary area where you live.

Available Governing Board Seats and Terms:

Three (3) adult Governing Board seats will be filled through the election. The candidates who receive the three (3) highest numbers of votes will serve three-year terms on the Governing Board.

One (1) Governing Board youth seat for teens living within the Langley High School boundary area will be filled for a one-year term.

One (1) Governing Board youth seat for teens living within the McLean High School boundary area will be filled for a one-year term.

Candidate Petitions Requirements:

ADULTS: Must get the signatures of ten (10) residents of Small District 1A who are 18 years old or older on or before May 20, 2017.

TEENS: Must get the signatures of ten (10) residents of Small District 1A who are 15, 16, or 17 years old on or before

May 20, 2017, and who live within the same high school boundary area as the candidate.

Petition Packets containing a petition, instructions, and all pertinent paperwork may be obtained at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, Virginia, 22101. Candidates must pick up and return their own petitions.

DEADLINE: Each resident seeking election to the Governing Board shall file a completed petition with the MCC at the address shown below **by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 17, 2016:**

**McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue
McLean VA 22101**

For more information about the elections, please call 703-744-9348, go to www.mcleancenter.org/about/candidates, or email the MCC at elections@mcleancenter.org.

Merrily Pierce, Chair
Elections & Nominations Committee
McLean Community Center Governing Board

NOTICE: Due to the renovation of the Ingleside Avenue facility, effective Monday, April 3, MCC will relocate to the McLean Square Shopping Center. The majority of MCC's classes will be held at 6645 Old Dominion Dr., McLean, VA 22101. MCC's administrative offices will be located at 6631 Old Dominion Dr. (on the first floor of the Century 21 New Millennium building).

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Music: grades 3 - 7
10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 6
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11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service
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CHRISTIAN LEARNING ACADEMY (SUN.) 9:00AM-9:45AM
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Bobby (Matt Liptak) gets in the middle of a fight between Sarah (Carla Crawford) and Harry (Scott Graham) in a 'Company' rehearsal photo. McLean Community Players present 'Company' at the Alden Theatre in the McLean Community Center on weekend Feb. 3 to Feb. 19, 2017.



PHOTOS BY IRISH EYES PHOTOGRAPHY
BY TOBY/COURTESY OF McLEAN
COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Funny and Bittersweet

McLean Community
Players present musical
"Company" at The Alden.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Under the direction of Sharon Veselic (Herndon), the McLean Community Players (MCP) are bringing a fresh perspective to Stephen Sondheim's Tony Award winning, musical "Company."

The richly celebrated "Company" is a groundbreaking musical-comedy. It looks into being single, relationships, and marriage as a 30-something man named Robert has major fears of commitment. The musical takes place as he is about to spend quality time with his best friends; five married couples.

In an interview with Veselic she spoke of directing a fresh "Company" for MCP audiences. "This is a new 'Company' that will take the '60s mannequin characterizations, and bring them into the present time.

"Every show evolves, changes, adapts and recreates itself within the original script," said Veselic. "The time period will remain, but the characters are now more thoughtful, sensitive and searching within."

"In this production, the goal is to give the audience a 'thinking' cast of New Yorkers—not the version of the hard, unlikable, bitter characters of the past," said Veselic.

The Sondheim musical numbers pack a wallop about love lost and life's uncertainties in both serious and comic manners. The iconic show features Broadway musical standards such as "Getting Married Today," "The Ladies Who Lunch," "Being Alive," and "Barcelona."

Northern Virginia award-winning music director John Edward Niles will direct a 9-member orchestra through Sondheim's fifteen musical numbers. Local dance instructor and choreographer Melanie Barber will direct the dance sequences.

In a recent roundtable interview, MCP performers including Matt Liptak who plays Robert, Cara Crawford, Sharon Grant, Melissa Pieja and Alana Sharp made clear that the personal issues "Company" spotlighted remain; even with the digital world and social media. Finding the "right" person to love, having best friends and a full life all matter.



From left — Robert (Matt Liptak) and his three girlfriends, Marta (Kristina Friedgen), Kathy (Vanessa Miller), and April (Melissa Pieja) in a 'Company' rehearsal photo. McLean Community Players present 'Company' at the Alden Theatre in the McLean Community Center on weekend Feb. 3 to Feb. 19, 2017.

Where and When

McLean Community Players present "Company" at the Alden Theatre in the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Performances on weekend Feb. 3 to Feb. 19, 2017. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$23-\$25. Visit www.mcleanplayers.org or call OvationTix at 866-811-4111

Both Liptak and Veselic emphasized that the McLean Community Players' "Company" will be "uplifting for audiences old and new to the show. For those who have seen the show before, the characters will be less cynical and cold. For those who may be unfamiliar with 'Company' the characters will be alive, likeable and not merely one-dimensional caricatures.

No matter an audience member's generation or familiarity with Stephen Sondheim's celebrated "Company," the McLean Community Players promises to explore emotional attachments, fears of commitment, marriage and friendship through marvelous award-winning, well-sung musical numbers.

The evening all begins with a doorbell ring to invite audiences to become best friends with the McLean Community Players' "Company."

THE CONNECTION

Newspapers & Online

UPCOMING SPECIAL SECTIONS

FEBRUARY

2/1/2017.....Valentine's Dining & Gifts I
2/1/2017.....Wellbeing - National Children's
Dental Health Month
2/8/2017.....HomeLifeStyle
2/8/2017.....Valentine's Dining & Gifts II
Valentine's Day is February 14
2/15/2017.....A+ Camps & Schools
2/22/2017.....Connection Families: Pet Connection

MARCH

3/1/2017.....Wellbeing
3/8/2017.....HomeLifeStyle Real Estate
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CALENDAR



The Daraja Ensemble will perform at Saint Francis Episcopal Church located at 9220 Georgetown Pike Great Falls on Sunday Feb. 19 from 4 to 6 p.m. This fellowship woodwind quintet from the University of Maryland takes its name from the Swahili word for "bridge." Coming together from around the country and abroad, their wide-ranging performances include ongoing outreach to Tanzania. Cost: Season pass \$150 or \$30 at the door. Visit: <http://amadeusconcerts.com/>

FROM PAGE 11

Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana 8 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. You'll forget all about the winter weather outside when Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana heats up The Alden. Flamenco Vivo brings an exciting evening of flamenco to the stage featuring accomplished artists from the U.S. and Spain. \$35/\$20 MCC tax district residents.

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Plan Ahead Great Falls

TUESDAY/FEB. 21

Discussing C&O Canal Companion.

Guest speaker at the The Great Falls Senior Center event, author Mike High, has cycled in many places around the world but the trail along the C&O Canal is his favorite. His C&O Canal Companion takes readers on a mile-by-mile tour of the 184-mile Potomac River and towpath that stretches from Washington, DC, to Cumberland, Maryland, and the Alleghany Mountains. The event will be held at the Dranesville Church of the Brethren 11500 Leesburg Pike from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and includes lunch. Reservations are a must. Contact Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or call 703-759-4345. Visit gfseniors.org.

6th Annual McLean Chocolate Festival

Sunday, January 29, 2017

11 am - 5 pm

McLean Community Center



\$2 admission

Admission for children under 6 is free


Taste the specialties of area chocolatiers. Enjoy fun for the whole family. The children's game room features Ukelele Phil!



The McLean Chocolate Festival is a fundraiser for McLean Rotary, with proceeds benefiting many local organizations.




Visit the website at:
www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org



Learn as if you were to live forever; live as if you were going to die tomorrow.

—John Wooden





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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way.
 2. not appreciated or understood.
 3. no longer owned or known

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Whew



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

How do you spell relief? ROLAIDS? Hardly. I spell relief: "Mr. Lourie, your scan remains stable." News, as I'm extremely fond of continuing to say, "I can live with." And despite the fact that I'm ending the previous sentence with a preposition, I'm sure you can appreciate how relieved I am to be 'stable,' and how amazing it is to hear my oncologist characterize me as his "miracle" (not possessive really, more descriptive). So life goes on, for another three months anyway, until my next scheduled diagnostic scan which this time will include an MRI of the abdomen as well as the CT of the lungs to give my oncologist a bit more information to more thoroughly evaluate my condition/status. Having been there and done both previously, the prospect doesn't really concern me. Although it's easy to be a big shot now, three months out, especially after receiving a good report. Perhaps my columns in April will be a bit more realistic — given that my life will once again be on the tomography/resonance-imaging-line.

Planning for the future however begins with yours truly assessing the present and wondering why I was so nervous the days before the scan and of course the two days after, until we saw the oncologist and received the results. I mean it's not as if my life — and quality of life — isn't at stake when these scans are interpreted; nevertheless, stressing about it doesn't help, or should I say, doesn't enhance my prospects. Somehow, integrating/assimilating the stress and anxiety of it all and not giving cancer its due must remain a major part of the psychological solution. I can't give into it emotionally and for some reason, that's exactly what I did this past week. I need to learn from my mistake. Though I'm sure it's understandable under the death-defying circumstances, it's not helpful. It may even be harmful.

I should know better, and I have known better; that's what's peculiar here. Moreover, I'm usually up for the challenge. In fact, I take pride in my ability to take on the challenge. Heck, it's not exactly my first dance with the devil so what's the fuss? The 'fuss' is obvious but fussing over things/outcomes I can't control is not the process that works here. Going with the flow, taking the good with the bad (and vice versa), not putting any part of the cart before the horse meaning: not presuming any negative facts not yet in evidence and most importantly, as the band "Wet Willie" sang in the 1970s, you've got to "Keep on Smilin.'" Humor may not truly be the best medicine, but laughing and joking is hardly the problem.

Cancer is the problem, but sometimes the patient/me is the problem. As Moe Howard said to his brother Shemp in a Three Stooges short entitled "Pardon My Backfire:" "Every time you think you weaken the nation." And though I don't want to weaken my nation/resolve with respect to my underlying disease, occasionally, as perhaps happened this past post-scan week, I get caught up in my own circumstances and think too much, and lose some cohesion and poise. Neither of which a cancer patient can afford to lose. I know — as a cancer patient/survivor — that if I do receive bad/disappointing news, it will be bad enough when I receive it so thinking/worrying that the news will be/could be bad before I actually learn that it's bad is a complete waste of valuable emotional where-withal. Wherewithal that I'll possibly need later should the news in fact be bad. What my survival has taught me is that even after initially receiving some very discouraging life expectancy statistics for lung cancer patients from my oncologist back in 2009 when I was originally diagnosed, one might still have a future. I'm living proof of that. And it just might be the present that provides the means, justified or not.

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

EMPLOYMENT

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(Accenture LLP; Arlington, VA): Analyze, design and/or develop best practice business changes through technology solutions. Must have willingness and ability to travel domestically approximately 80% of the time to meet client needs. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply, go to: <https://www.accenture.com/us-en/careers/jobsearch> (Job # 00441963).

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\$100 CASH paid for focus group participation for offering opinions on court cases. No experience needed. Groups held on Wednesday evening (2/1), Thursday morning (2/2) and Thursday afternoon (2/2) in the McLean area. Each group will be four hours long. All backgrounds, genders and education levels wanted and you must be 21 years of age to apply. To apply to participate in one of the groups call Focus Groups at (304) 377-2903 on Friday, January 27th, 2016, ONLY, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Calls will not be accepted on any other day or at any other times.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Public Notice:
Proposal to Voluntarily Remediate a Property

There is contamination from Petroleum impacted soil on site at Gilliam Place, 3507 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA 22204

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is working with Gilliam Place LLC c/o Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH) to develop a Remedial Action Plan to address cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbons at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup please contact Vincent Maiden, P.G., Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Northern Regional Office, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23218, Vincent.Maiden@deq.virginia.gov or Jason Beck, C.P.G., Senior Environmental Project Manager, ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC, 703-471-8400, jbeck@ecslimited.com

As part of the remedial action process a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) was submitted to the Northern Regional Office of DEQ on January 10, 2017, which allows for corrective action at the property to begin immediately. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed RAP with the staff of DEQ, please feel free to contact the Corrective Action Project Manager, Vincent Maiden, whose contact information is listed above. You may also contact Jason Beck, the environmental consultant for Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing, whose contact information is listed above. DEQ will consider written comments regarding the proposed Remedial Action Plan until February 24, 2017 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is a significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to DEQ at the address listed above. DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; VRP Case # 00664.

Respectfully submitted,

ECS MID-ATLANTIC, LLC on behalf of ARLINGTON PARTNERSHIP FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
JD Sisters, Inc., trading as Aroma Indian Cuisine, 4052 Campbell Ave. Arlington, VA 22206. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine & Beer On Premises; Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Jyoti Chhatwal, President
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC NOTICE
Maru, Inc trading as Maru Korean Cuisine & Sushi, 128 Maple Ave West, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises and Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Chun Ki Lee, President/Owner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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Head of school of BASIS Independent McLean (BIM), Sean Aiken discusses electoral process with BIM students.

BASIS Independent McLean Elects Its New Mascot by Student-Designed Election Process

BASIS Independent McLean started its inaugural year this fall in McLean, Tysons Corner's first k-12 school, and quickly went to work on the election process to vote in their first school mascot, the BASIS Independent McLean Bobcats. The student-designed electoral process, led by BASIS Independent McLean ninth grader, Rohit Narayanan, mimicked a voting system similar to the United States, and provided a learning tool for students to understand the electoral process during the recent presidential election. For more information on the school, go to <http://mclean.basisindependent.com>.

Although the BASIS Independent McLean students selected the Bobcat name, they are now dealing with post-election results, as they became aware that two other BASIS ed campuses already claim the Bobcat school mascot. A lesson in innovation and leadership, Narayanan and students leaders will be discussing their options to maintain the similar mascot or to review and vote from their secondary mascot selections. Students are now distributing a student-pro-

duced public service announcement to take an opinion poll to see if students want a special election. If so, students will have time to campaign and create materials that work for all grade levels.

"This has been a rigorous electoral process," said Rohit Narayanan, ninth grader at BASIS Independent McLean and lead on mascot voting process.

"We all know this was a big presidential election year, and so we thought it timely to weave in our student-led election process and use it as a way to teach the students about our country's electoral voting process, while the students take the lead at every stage," said Sean Aiken, head of school, BASIS Independent McLean. "No process is perfect, and our students are getting to learn that as well, as we re-evaluate our mascot options since our first choice was already picked by our sister campuses," said Aiken.

BASIS Independent McLean is located at 8000 Jones Branch Drive in McLean. Visit them at <http://mclean.basisindependent.com>.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline for submissions is noon on Friday.

SUNDAY/JAN. 29

Home Seller Seminar: Become A Savvy Seller. Free, no obligation, offered by Lyons McGuire Homes & Estates of Keller Williams Realty. Speakers include a professional stager, organizer, & photographer. Learn insider secrets to getting the most money for your home. 1-4 p.m. at Keller Williams, Great Falls, 774-A Walker Rd. Great Falls. RSVP: LyonsMcGuire@LyonsMcGuire.com

FEBRUARY

Free public service seminars -
 -Decluttering: Feb. 2, McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Rd., McLean.
 -Aging in Place: Feb. 8, Falls Church H.S., 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church.
 -Downsizing: Feb. 14, Marshall H.S. 7731 Leesburg Pk., Falls Church.
 -Retirement Communities Feb. 22, Madison H.S., 2500 James Madison Dr., Vienna.
 For more information and seminar registration go to RetireeRealEstate.org, or call 703-772-3033.

Fairfax-based non-profit Britepaths offers free Financial Education

classes and sessions at various locations in the Fairfax County area to low- and middle-income adults who reside throughout Northern Virginia. The offerings are free and open to the public, but reservations are required. Below is a listing of our Winter/Spring offerings. A graphic with information is also available at: <https://britepaths.org/news/get-financially-fit-new-year>

THROUGHOUT MARCH 2017

Free Public Service Seminars. March 1, 8, 15, 21, 29, at 7 p.m. on Selling Your Home, Aging in Place, Downsizing, Retirement Communities Seminars. Free public service seminars on Selling Your Home (March 1, McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Rd., McLean), Working With Builders (March 8, Falls Church HS, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church), Financing Your Retirement (March 15, Marshall HS, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church), Tax & Estate Planning (March 21, Madison HS, 2500 James Madison Dr., Vienna), and Decluttering & Organizing (March 29, Oakton HS, 2900 Sutton Rd., Vienna). For more information and seminar registration go to RetireeRealEstate.org, or call 703-772-3033.



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