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Fairfax County Board Chairman Sharon Bulova and Budget Committee Chair Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) get ready to work through the issues at the last Budget Committee meeting before the Advertised FY 2018 Budget goes to Mark-Up.

NEWS

McLean Area AAUW Members on Equal Pay Day

Across the nation, women must work all of the previous year and up until April 4 to earn the same pay as men have earned during the past year.

Members of the McLean Area Branch of the American Association of University Women met on Equal Pay Day, April 4, to raise awareness of the purpose of that date.

Together with other members, discussions covered the science behind the statistics, personal workplace discrimination experienced, and the facts of the Lily Ledbetter legislation, signed in 2009, as well as current efforts to improve the status of working women.

AAUW volunteer Lobby Corps has been active in promoting the current Paycheck Fairness Act, introduced recently in the House and the Senate.

With PayDay candy bars in hand, pictured are Aroona Borpujari, Mary Lou Melley, Rebecca Horahan, Adriana Bianchi and Diane Alden.



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Main Street McLean, Other Developments Studied

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 — and specifically in McLean — that they will be focusing on over the next couple of months.

Sunrise Senior Living Facility Will Finally Be Settled

This is the last chance for Sunrise Senior Living to have its proposal approved by the county to construct a 73-unit assisted living facility on a 3.7 acres of land at the northwest corner of Kirby Road and Westmoreland Street.

This is the organization's second attempt to build the facility. After receiving significant push back from the community for its first design years ago, Sunrise withdrew its application.

Now Sunrise has submitted a new proposal, it has not had any easier of a time with community members.

In January, homeowners in surrounding communities and homeowner groups continued to voice concerns. Their primary concern was the traffic at the intersection. Due to these traffic concerns, Sunrise submitted an amended plan to the county. It moved the proposed entrance to the facility from Kirby Road to Westmoreland Street. The company also committed to providing a shuttle to and from the metrorail for its employees.

Community members also objected to the facility's proposed three-story height. With this feedback, Sunrise lowered the height of the building to 35 feet. It did this by moving one of the building's proposed floors underground. The newest version of the proposal also moved 33 of its 55 parking spaces to an underground parking garage.

Still, the Fairfax County Planning Commission voted 10-1 at its March 29 meeting to recommend that the Board of Supervisors deny the application.

A recurring theme at the Planning Commission hearings was that the cumulative impact of institutional uses in the area is beginning to have a negative impact on the community, according to Wiles. The commission was also concerned that adding an intense institutional use at a prime intersection of the community will alter the residential character of the area, as described in the county's Comprehensive Plan, according to Wiles.

"The Board of Supervisors definitely respects the recommendations coming out of the Planning Commission, but we don't have to follow them," says Foust.

However, he agrees with the commission in this instance.

"I typically reserve judgement until the final hearing, but this thing has been vetted quite a bit and I am very convinced that it



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLISON WEINSTOCK

The Signet residences will range in size from 950 square feet to more than 2,800 square feet with prices ranging from \$800,000 to more than \$2 million.

should be denied."

Whether his colleagues on the board agree will be determined at the hearing, which is scheduled for May 2.

Amending the Tysons Comprehensive Plan Amendment

On March 14, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the Tysons Comprehensive Plan, which was originally amended by the county in 2010.

The purpose of the new amendment was to make editorial changes, update sections of the plan related to monitoring of development and infrastructure, and incorporate the findings of several studies related to urban design standards and public facilities, according to Wiles.

Two proposed changes received considerable attention.

The first was an update to the "Initial Development Level" for office development. When the Tysons Plan was approved, the Board of Supervisors included a list of transportation improvements that would be needed to accommodate the planned 113 million square feet of development by 2050.

The board agreed to review whether the funding and construction of transportation projects were keeping pace with development once 45 million square feet of office development was approved. The county recently met that threshold.

Based on the approved funding plan and projected pace of infrastructure projects, the board determined that needed transportation projects could keep pace with development. However, it agreed to revisit the plan again when the development level meets 55 million square feet.

The second item was proposed language related to athletic fields that added flexibility in where the 20 athletic fields planned for Tysons could be located. Foust opposed this proposed change because it would have allowed Tysons developers to propose projects in McLean to meet their athletic field requirement.

This change was not adopted as part of the amendment.

Under the normal formulas used by the Park Authority, the level of density that Tysons is expected to reach would require something in the order of 60 fields, according to Foust.

"However, everyone agreed that 20 would be enough to work in Tysons because of its urban setting and the fact that the fields would be artificial turf, lit and operated later than you would operate them at a community setting," Foust said. "That was a big compromise, to agree on just 20 fields in Tysons."

The alternative that was floated by developers would have just been to pay to improve existing fields around Tysons.

"The alternative would be unfair to the surrounding communities," Foust said. "Most people realize our fields are already way over-booked. If we're adding 100,000 residents to Tysons, we're going to have to include the athletic fields they'll need to create a community."

The McLean Citizens Association has been interested and involved in Tysons development for nearly two decades, according to Lisa Horn, the association's Tysons Liaison Committee co-chair.

Horn testified during the Board of Supervisors public hearing on the amendment on March 14.

"This has been a long and good process," Horn said. "We didn't get everything we wanted, but it was a very fair and transparent process."

Main Street McLean

McLean Properties, the owners of the Old Dominion Shopping Center and the Chain Bridge Corner Shopping Center, is working to redevelop the spaces into one combined mixed-use development.

Hundreds of community members attended a public meeting to learn about the preliminary designs at the McLean Community Center in February. The proposal is call-

ing for a pedestrian-oriented mix of office, retail and residential uses and is based on a "Main Street" concept. This street would connect the residential and commercial spaces together and would run north-south through the development.

However, the proposal requires an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan as well as rezoning.

McLean Properties is planning to have more meetings with the McLean Citizens Association and the McLean Planning Committee. Another community-wide meeting will also be scheduled for late May.

McLean Properties submitted its application for review by the county.

"I think their plan is consistent with their concept, which I like," Foust said.

The initial plan included buildings as tall as eight stories, with 425 residential units, approximately 470,000 square feet of office space and about 125,000 square feet of retail space, not including the Giant grocery store.

"I think they have listened to a lot of the feedback that they've gotten from the community and they have downsized it somewhat," Foust said. "It's still a very significant development for McLean, but the scale has been adjusted down. We will continue to evaluate it and talk about it."

A Planning Commission hearing on the plan amendment for the development has been scheduled for July 13.

McLean Community Center Closed for Renovation

Ground was broken for the 18-month renovation of the McLean Community Center on Wednesday, March 22.

"The McLean Community Center is certainly a hub for McLean's community, but that hub has been looking a bit tired lately," Foust said at the groundbreaking. "But that is going to change very quickly."

The Sorensen Gross Company will be doing the work for the renovation for \$5.1 million. The center's budget for the renovation project and temporary relocation of all its programs is \$8 million, which has already been allocated and is ready to be spent.

The current building, built in 1975, is approximately 51,000 square-feet. The project will renovate approximately 33,000 square-feet of the original building.

The indoor work will improve the administration suite and bring the building up to compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act. The work will allow the consolidation of all staff members into one administration office area.

New meeting rooms, a multipurpose room and an expanded lobby will also be added to the building, providing it with 7,700 square-feet of additional space.

The multipurpose room will be outfitted with flooring and mirrors to accommodate the center's dance programs, according to Sachs.

SEE COMMUNITY OUTLOOK, PAGE 4



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COMMUNITY OUTLOOK

FROM PAGE 3

The Duval Art Studio, Alden Theater and recently-renovated kitchen will not be worked on during the project.

Exterior work includes an upgrade to the center's existing stormwater management system, additional parking spaces, a new front entrance design and the enclosure of the existing outdoor courtyard.

During the renovation, most of the center's classes will be held at 6645 Old Dominion Drive in the McLean Square Shopping Center. The temporary location has four classrooms and will also house the center's registration office.

However, all the center's dance programs will need to be moved to a separate location in the Langley Shopping Center at 1374 Chain Bridge Road. Last week, the community center announced that these classes will be held at the Color Wheel, a paint store.

The community center's administrative offices will also be temporarily moved to the shopping center at 6631 Old Dominion Drive on the first floor of the Century 21 New Millennium building. This space will house the executive director, finance, facilities and public information offices.

New Downtown Condominiums for Sale

The JBG Companies real estate investment and development firm started selling upscale condominiums at 6900 Fleetwood Road in the heart of downtown McLean on

Wednesday, April 19.

The Signet offers 123 condos on six floors above 5,000 square feet of street-level retail. The Signet is comprised of one-, two- and three-bedroom floor plans, as well as dens. Many also feature terraces or balconies.

Designed by Franck & Lohsen Architects, Page Architects and New York-based interior design firm Bill Rooney Studio, the residences will range in size from 950 square feet to more than 2,800 square feet with prices ranging from \$800,000 to more than \$2 million.

The Signet also includes lobby space, a fitness center, a courtyard, a resident lounge and concierge services.

"The Signet residences and common areas can be described as generously proportioned and appointed with forward-looking luxury," Bill Rooney said in a press release. "The aesthetic is balanced and anchored with heritage detailing."

The ground-floor retail is designed to accommodate a restaurant with sidewalk café seating and parking for visitors and users of the public amenities. The property will also include gardens, walking paths and a public park.

"The Signet will become McLean's landmark community offering area residents the opportunity to move up, but not away," Greg Trimmer, a principal at JBG, said in a press release. "The property raises the bar in luxury living that presents a high level of services and amenities."



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County Moves Closer to FY 2018 Budget

More funds recommended for Diversion First, schools.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

In what may be described as a dress rehearsal for the FY 2018 Budget Mark-Up, Budget Committee chairman Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) began the April 21 meeting by reviewing the items included in the FY 2017 Third Quarter Review and the FY 2018 Budget Mark-Up Adjustments, and then led the discussion on the Budget Guidance for FY 2018 and FY 2019.

The FY 2017 Third Quarter Review yielded a balance of \$403,407. Based on feedback from the community, the advertised decision is to restore funding in the amount of \$150,000 to the Insight Memory Care Center for one year in FY 2018. The program contract had been scheduled to be reduced by 50 percent. The remaining balance of \$237,526 after Revenue Stabilization and Managed Reserve Adjustments, is available for one-time spending requirements in the next fiscal year.

As part of the Budget Mark-Up process, Add-On Adjustments, combined with the balance from the FY 2018 Advertised Budget, totalled \$3,678,055 after the subtraction of funds to Circuit Court Clerk for a new judge. The monies that comprise the balance come from additional state revenues, the elimination of funding for the Infill Tree Sign Program, excess Mosaic revenue, a new \$5 Circuit Court fee for paper-filed documents and savings from other areas.

THE COMMITTEE then made recommended adjustments utilizing the advertised balance.

If ultimately approved by the board, the balance makes it possible to partially fund the next



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Board Chairman Sharon Bulova and Budget Committee Chair Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) get ready to work through the issues at the last Budget Committee meeting before the Advertised FY 2018 Budget goes to Mark-Up.

phase of the Diversion First Program which had seen no additional funds in the new Advertised Budget. Phase 2 of Diversion First calls for funding of more than \$5 million, but with only a small balance available to the board, those funds were reduced to \$1.9 million. The program will still be able to add 18 new positions to continue diverting those with mental illnesses towards treatment instead of entering them into the judicial system, or jail, if their offenses are relatively low-level.

The Community Readiness and Support Program (CRSP) would also receive a reprieve if the recommended adjustments are officially accepted in the FY 2018 Budget. This outpatient day program serves a small, but vulnerable population who suffer from a variety of mental and developmental issues, often complicated by drug or alcohol abuse.

The program is viewed as special in the county by many of its clients and by other mental health care professionals because of the

small staff-to-client ratio, with a nurse on site, and a more structured setting and program that allows participants to improve and often avoid future hospitalizations or worse. CRSP was originally slated to close as of June, and the clients and their families had been informed. A large contingent in support of the program added their testimonies during the Budget Public Hearings.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS will also benefit from the recommendations, with just over \$1.7 million in additional support, lessening the shortfall gap from the FCPS's budget request from about \$60 million, to \$48.4 million. Both McKay and Board Chairman Sharon Bulova pointed out that the recommendations for the disbursement of these funds for the most part followed the formula applied to the original Advertised Budget, with the school system still receiving 52.8 percent of the General Fund disbursements.

With the adjustments and recommendations, Fairfax County would be approving a balanced budget for FY 2018, but be facing a shortfall of an estimated \$95.7 million from the start.

Other fee adjustments and taxes in the budget include:

- ❖ An increase in Sewer Service Charges of \$0.07 per 1,000 gallons.

- ❖ An increase in the Sewer Availability Charge from \$7,750 to \$8,100.

- ❖ An increase in the Stormwater Services district tax from \$0.0275 to \$0.03 per \$100 of assessed value.

- ❖ Implementation of the Reston Transportation Service District with a tax rate of \$0.021 per \$100 of assessed value.

- ❖ A decrease in the Phase I Dulles Rail Transportation Improvement District tax rate from \$0.17 to \$0.15 per assessed value per the recommendation from the Phase I District Commission, and

SEE STEP CLOSER, PAGE 13

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FAIRFAX

Your Summer, Your Child, Your Values

A time for parents to build humanitarian spirits.

BY SHARON STRAUCHS

It's summer. The rigors of homework, youth clubs and team-scheduled Saturdays are over. No more carpools. Now it's your turn to make empowering choices to impact your child's life and eventually the lives of their children.

While our kids are young, the challenge is how to find summer-perfect opportunities that are fun, yet meaningful, and how to get the kids away from their electronic devices. When choosing summer activities, this is your golden opportunity to focus on your specific family values. While swimming lessons, camp-outs, and sports are important, wouldn't it be wonderful to incorporate activities that help your children focus beyond themselves and to the world beyond Northern Virginia?

We educators emphasize that the earlier your child engages in volunteer activities you find important, the more likely children will grow up respecting your family's values. In the D.C. Metro Area, there is a plethora of humanitarian programs for the under-18 age group that will get them into the habit of helping others.

College advisers all know that beyond APs, GPAs, and SAT/ACT scores, colleges today scrutinize applicants' activities, their "resumes," to help determine acceptances and scholarships.

So start now, at a pivotal point in your child's life and witness the hot, summer days of NOVA becoming wondrous as you watch priorities slowly change. We recommend starting at www.VolunteerFairfax.org (Opportunities Just for Youth). Plus, in Virginia, kids have the opportunity to earn service-oriented awards such as the "Diploma Seal of Excellence in Civics" (www.doe.virginia.gov), or "The Prudential Spirit of Community Award," Virginia state-issued civics "diploma" for students in grades 5-12 who complete at least a 50-hour service project.

Where could you possibly begin to invest 50 or more hours, and for what cause? Our family discovered the famous "Meals on Wheels" program, started by former U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf, and delivered meals to senior citizens for our 10-year, part-time family project. (www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org)

For our "foodie" kids who are cooking or gardening enthusiasts, The Food Network

sponsors "No Kid Hungry." Proceeds from bake sales are donated to help end childhood hunger (www.bake.nokidhungry.org) and the Gardening for Good project encourages kids to grow vegetables to donate to senior centers, or help fight senior hunger by sharing a meal. This encourages kids to learn to cook, and helps your family bond with a senior while eating and storytelling. (www.hunger.generationOn.org)

What about our animal-loving children? They can develop a Dog Park Clean-Up plan at their favorite park or socialize with dogs and cats at local shelters with the Puppy and Kitty Love programs. This is great for families who love pets but can't actually own one. (www.GenerationOn.org/parents/resources/projects/animal-welfare).

As always, we parents must insure that activities are safe and the charities are legitimate. The benefits of helping humanitarian organizations while taking advantage of your relaxed summer schedule can create so many powerful, long-lasting memories and family summer traditions. Aesop states, "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

Sharon Strauchs has been Director/Owner of Herndon-based Cortona Academy in Northern Virginia. Visit www.CortonaLearning.com.

Infant Screening Saves Lives

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

Several weeks ago at the invitation of their leader I spoke to a group of Boy Scouts about government and the responsibilities of citizenship. Talking with me helped the Scouts meet one of their requirements for a merit badge. One of the Scouts asked me about the most important legislation I had ever gotten passed. I told him about multiple issues on which I had worked, but I focused on one that I thought he might know little about but would show the range of issues with which legislators deal. I told him about my work to expand infant screening in the Commonwealth.

Prior to my election to office I served on the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board. A member of that Board whose adult son was a resident at the Northern Virginia Training Center told me of the great hope there was in detecting health issues in infants at the time of their birth with blood screening. At the time Virginia had only three tests, one of which was pku testing. I remembered our conversation after I was elected, and I got new tests added as scientists developed them.

Metabolic disorders that can be discovered from a pin prick of an

infant's heel can lead to early and sometimes simple treatments that can lead to a healthy child and adult. Without treatment numerous medical conditions can develop including severe developmental delays and chronic illnesses. Metabolic disorders affect the chemical processes in your body that must work together correctly for you to stay healthy.

I was honored to work on legislation that added most of the 30 tests that are done in Virginia on that same spot of blood from an infant to detect these disorders. Last week I was reminded of the experience that I had working with Dr. Barry Wolf of the then Medical College of Virginia who had discovered that the disorder in which the body is unable to recycle the vitamin biotin can lead to developmental delays in children, hearing and vision loss, breathing problems, and problems with balance and movement. When discovered early such as through a screening test, the disorder can be treated with nutritional supplements that can result in a normal life for the person.

With Dr. Wolf's research and my legislative proposal, in 1984 Virginia became the first state in this country to begin infant screening for biotinidase deficiency. Since that time every state and many foreign countries have started the

screening. The March of Dimes recognized us for that accomplishment. The reminder of this story came from a local doctor in Reston who was a medical student at MCV at the time and knew of Dr. Wolf's research and my bill. She wrote to us both telling us of a teenage patient she had just met who at birth had been found to have the deficiency but with treatment was living

a normal life. She wrote to both of us that "because of researchers like you and advocates like you...our world is made a little better for all, and lives are saved for some precious few. That's something to be proud of."

I hope the Boy Scouts understood why I consider the work on infant screening to be among the most important I have done.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Comstock Should Support Protecting Democracy Act

To the Editor:

This past Tax Day, citizens across our nation demonstrated to demand that President Trump release his tax returns, as all his predecessors have done for the past 40 years. Clearly, Trump is trying to hide something, and the public has a right to know what it is.

The call for Trump to release his taxes even came from Virginia's 10th District U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock, whose voting record in the current Congress shows her to be a staunch Trump supporter. In a statement, Representative Comstock noted that Trump's tax returns might possibly shed light on Trump's ties to Russia.

But Comstock can, and should, do more. She should cosponsor the

Presidential Tax Transparency Act bill that requires the President and candidates for president to disclose the last three years of their federal tax returns.

Even more important than Trump's taxes is the Russian attack on our democracy during the last election. Comstock should cosponsor the Protecting Our Democracy Act that establishes an independent bipartisan commission to investigate Russian interference in our elections. Comstock's statement demanding that Trump release his tax returns is welcome, but compared to everything that is in her power to do it is a timid gesture.

Richard Markeloff
Herndon

McLean
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NEWS

Cokie Roberts, Other Women Share Success Stories at Madeira

Empowering young women is the theme of The Madeira School's day-long, public event to celebrate 50 years of its transformational Co-Curriculum Program, an award-winning effort that blends academic excellence with real world experiences by taking students into the community for service, onto Capitol Hill for internships, and inside organizations for career placements. The event, to be held April 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. features an exceptional line up of speakers and panelists — many of whom are alumnae — to offer personal stories and discussions of successes, challenges, and discoveries.

Select sessions and speakers include:

❖ 10 a.m. — Keynote: Cokie Roberts, NPR's Morning Edition host and ABC News political commentator, will discuss "Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation."

❖ 11:30 a.m. — Design Thinking in Real Life: How to bring design, creativity, and innovation into your everyday life with Emi Kolawole, founder Dexion LLC.

❖ 11:30 a.m. — Earth in Crisis: Bold strategies to effect social change with Lucy Blake, president, Northern Sierra Partnership; Catharine Gilliam Burns, conservation consultant; and Meg Goldthwaite, CMO, NPR.

❖ 3 p.m. — Backstage! Professional ac-

tors share the good, bad, and ugly of a career in show business, with Fatima Quander, dancer; June Schreiner, actress; and Holly Twyford, actress.

❖ 3:30 p.m. — Necessity is the Mother of All Invention: Seizing opportunities in the modern marketplace with Samantha Meyer duPont, head designer and proprietor, Sam DuPont; Brandon Holley, CEO, Everywear; and Katherine Petty MacLane, Director at Pi Executive.

❖ 3:30 p.m. — Pandas Gone Wild: A photographic journey inside China's efforts to save the giant panda from extinction with Sadie Quarrier, National Geographic Senior Photo Editor; and Ami Vitale, Nikon Ambassador and National Geographic magazine photographer.

❖ 3:30 p.m. — Running for Office: Navigating the course from volunteer to candidate with Oregon State Rep. Janelle Irick Bynum and Sylvia Larsen, former member of the New Hampshire Senate.

❖ 5 p.m. — Keynote: Julia Reed, contributing editor at Elle Décor and at Garden & Gun magazines, to discuss how internships and service shaped her career.

The conference will be held at Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The event costs \$100 and is open to the public. To register, visit www.madeira.org.



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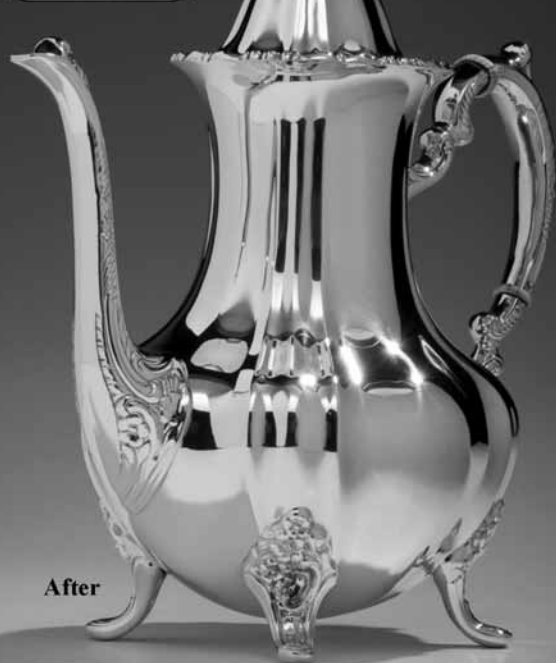
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Vienna • 703-255-1330

Solovey Jewelers
Tue, May 2 • 11:00 - 5:00
1475 Chain Bridge Rd
(McLean Commerce Ctr)
McLean • 703-356-0138

Five Star Jewelers
Wed, May 3 • 10:00 - 5:00
5765 Burke Centre Pkwy
Burke • 703-239-1300

Silverman Galleries, Antiques & Antique Jewelry
Thu, May 4 • 12:00 - 5:00
110 N Saint Asaph St.
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25-YEAR WARRANTY ON REPLATING

Fighting Summer Brain Drain

Academic camps keep minds engaged when school is out.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Summer often evokes images of pool splashing and backyard barbecuing. For some educators though, warm weather months represent a potential loss of skills acquired during an academic year. Known as “brain drain,” this concept refers to research that shows that, on average, students lose one to three months of learning when they are not engaged in academic activities during summer months. Academic camps can address this loss of academic skills while allowing children to enjoy summer fun.

“... Students have the opportunity to explore a topic in depth, without juggling competing scholastic demands or intramural activities,” said Dr. Janine Dewitt, professor of sociology at Marymount University in Arlington.

ton.

For example, campers at Summertime Camp at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School in Alexandria will have an opportunity to choose from a variety of specialized camps ranging from physics and French to zoology and rocket and space science.


“Specialty camps are great ways to try new things, to expand horizons and to challenge yourself,” said Jim Supple, associate dean of students and director of summer programs at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School. “One of the best things about specialty offerings is that there are so many. Children are naturally curious — specialty camps provide a way for children to learn more about their curiosities and interests.”

Campers at 3E (Explore, Enrich, Enjoy) Summer Camp at Marymount University will explore science through nature and electronic gadgets, mathematics

through making boats and geodesic domes, language arts through writing stories, and fine arts through creating dramas and cartoons. The camp will be offered during two sessions: July 10-14 and July 17-21 with half and full day options for students ages 6 to 12.

Ana Lado, Ph.D., camp director and a professor at Marymount, says that the goal is to give students a chance to brush up on, gain or maintain academic skills in a relaxed environment. “Campers will be in small groups with a low camper to counselor ratio and guided by Marymount University Department of Education faculty, students, and alumni,” she said. “Throughout each week of camp, campers will be able to choose among a variety of projects that pique their interest. Campers will create new social connections, grow academically, and develop physically.”

High school students who want an in depth study of globalization can attend Marymount’s D.C. Institute from July 9-12. During the camp, named The Global Village,



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students will live on campus and earn college credit.

"We will talk about how increasing global connections shape our lives today," said Dewitt. "Students can expect classroom discussions that focus on a series of central questions followed by field trips to area museums and site visits."

The Heights School in Potomac, Md. will host academic summer camps in science, math, Latin and creative writing. "Parents should approach the choice of camps much in the same way that they approach the choice of schools," said Rich Moss of The Heights. "It is a mistake to focus on facilities and activities; ethos and values are key."

For parents concerned about balancing the need to maintain academic skills with the need for downtime, Dewitt says that, "Parents can prevent academic burnout by limiting the number of scheduled activities over the course of the summer, and selecting only those that foster their child's natural curiosity. Summer courses that allow students the freedom to select different types of learning activities can be both energizing and fun."

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- Circus Camp Stars
- Digital Photography
- Electric Art & Engineering
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- Lil' Boots
- Performing Arts Mix
- Rhythms of Percussion
- Spa Science



mix+MATCH

build your perfect summer

Weekly camps run June 26 to August 4 in McLean
Busing and lunch options available

www.langleyschool.org/summer-studio



Ani-Mazing Summer Zoo Adventure Camp

Weeks of July 10th and 17th from 9am-3pm



Roer's Zoofari Camps features plenty of fun, interactive, hands-on learning, including arts and crafts and science projects.

Campers enjoy daily encounters with animals as well as unique behind-the-scenes experiences.

Camp activities will be conducted in a variety of environments from the barn to the classroom.

Camp size is limited to 40 students ages 6 to 12. Daily and Weekly rates.

Enroll online www.roerszoofari.com

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www.marymount.edu/GlobalVillage



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Arlington, Virginia



**McLean
Community
Center**
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC



Old Firehouse Friday Night Trips Bowlmor Lanes

Friday, April 28, 3:30-10 p.m.
\$55/\$45 MCC district residents

Jammin' Juniors Concert

Peter McCory

Wednesday, May 2, 12:30 p.m.
McLean Central Park Gazebo
1468 Dolley Madison Blvd.
Free admission



Old Firehouse 5th & 6th Grader Party

The Glow Party

Friday, May 5, 7-9 p.m.
\$35/\$25 MCC district residents.
Advance registration is highly recommended.



Jammin' Juniors Concert

Two of a Kind

Wednesday, May 10, 12:30 p.m.
McLean Central Park Gazebo
1468 Dolley Madison Blvd.
Free admission

Old Firehouse Friday Night Trips Dave & Buster's

Friday, May 12, 3:30-10 p.m.
\$45/\$35 MCC district residents



McLean Day

Saturday, May 20, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Lewinsville Park
1659 Chain Bridge Rd.
Free admission

Jammin' Juniors Concert

Farmer Jason

Wednesday, May 24, 12:30 p.m.
McLean Central Park Gazebo
1468 Dolley Madison Blvd.
Free admission



The McLean Community Center

www.mcleancenter.org

Home of the Alden Theatre

www.aldentheatre.org

Administrative Offices
6631 Old Dominion Dr.
McLean, VA 22101
703-790-0123, TTY: 711



ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Ed Behrens' Photographs. Various times through April 30 at Katie's Coffee House, Village Centre, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. The showing will celebrate Ed's ten years as a member of Great Falls Studios, his very active 80th birthday. Call 703-759-0927 for more.

Free Tai Chi. Every Saturday, from 7:55-9 a.m., Introduction and Beginners' Practice, meet on the outdoor basketball court located directly behind the Dolley Madison Public Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. in McLean Central Park, McLean.

The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia, a senior women's softball league, is looking for players. Any woman over the age of 40 is encouraged to join. All skill levels are welcome. Play on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna. Visit www.goldengirls.org.

First Sunday Jazz Brunch 11-2 p.m. Recurring monthly on the 1st Sunday at Bazin's on Church 111 Church St N.W., Vienna. Enjoy brunch accompanied by the soft jazz sounds of Virginia Music Adventure. Visit www.fxva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/

The Freeman Store & Museum Wednesday through Sunday noon-4 p.m. 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. The Freeman Store & Museum is dedicated to Preserving and promoting Vienna's heritage through the identification, preservation, and interpretation of history significant places, events, and persons.

Historicviennainc.org

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

Bingo Night. Sundays. 4 p.m. Flame Room, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S, Vienna. \$10. www.vvfd.org/bingo.html.

Fishing Rod Rentals 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Rentals available during visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. \$6/rental (2 hour max). Valid driver's license required. Rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for those 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

Colvin Run Mill open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax County's operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. Fees: \$7/adult, \$6 students 16+ with ID, \$5 children & seniors. Admission to park is free except for some special events.

Fundamentals of Watercolors. Mondays 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Lorrie Herman will help students get comfortable working with watercolors and understanding this medium. Visit www.greatfallsart.org for more.

Still Life Painting. Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls,

756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Still life provides a great tool to hone skills. Recommended for students of all levels. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

Evening Painting. Tuesdays 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Jill Banks focuses on oil painting fundamentals with two sessions each of still life, landscapes, and portrait/clothed figure from a live model. Visit www.greatfallsart.org for more.

Intro to Jewelry Design. Tuesdays 9 a.m.-noon at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. JJ Singh teaches a class for anyone interested in exploring the world of metal clay and its design possibilities. Visit www.greatfallsart.org for more.

APRIL 22-MAY 31

Artists Show. Various times at the Broadway Gallery, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. "Levels of Abstraction," show featuring the works of Hiromi Ashlin, Genna Gurvich, Sandi Ritchie Miller, and Buck Nelligan. Visit www.broadwaygallery.net or call 703-450-8005 for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 27

Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Long and Foster, 1355 Beverly Road, McLean. Long and Foster is partnering with Children's National for a blood drive, the blood mobile will be located in the front of the building. Call 703-790-1990 or visit www.cnmcblooddonor.com.

Tree Celebration. 4:30 p.m. at Meadow Lane Park, 400 Courthouse Road SW. In celebration of Arbor Day, Mayor Laurie DiRocco will be

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 12

Unique Potomac River Waterfront Property

175' frontage & private 80' ft pier (water 10-15')! Located on a 35 ft bluff above the Potomac - enjoy the phenomenal 235 degree panoramic river view to the horizon in the other direction. Catch fresh fish and crabs daily. This one level, 3 BR, 2.5 BA beautiful home, with 2 car garage makes waterfront living a reality. Watch the ospreys & eagles soar over the Potomac from your house, back patio, deck, gazebo, or pier, in Colonial Beach, about 75 miles from N. VA/DC



Colonial Beach, VA

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Saxon Stage Serves Drama Langley High School presents "Gypsy."

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

What happens when a renowned strip-tease artist raises her two daughters to lead a life of show business and onstage performance?

Plenty of drama. Langley High School's new musical, "Gypsy," follows Mama Rose Hovick and her two daughters, June and Louise, as they travel the American vaudeville circuit of the 1920s.

The cast finished its first round of performances last weekend, but the Saxon Stage will raise its curtain for a second round of shows from Thursday through Saturday, April 27-29.

Taking audiences along for the journey involved creating more than a dozen sets, according to junior Madison Deyo, 17, who is the stage manager for the musical.

"Our set changes a lot and the lighting changes for each scene," she said.

This is Deyo's sixth mainstage production at the school, working



PHOTOS BY DIANA LIM

Farmboys, played by students James Shun, Cuinn Casey, Sean Leech, Josh Guinn, and Sam Buroker; Mama Rose, played by junior Jamie Goodson; and June, played by senior Sydney Copp (blonde wig); wish Louise, played by junior Jessica Peros (center), a happy birthday.

her way up the ranks to call the shots from behind the scenes.

"If I mess up, we're in trouble," she jokes. "I'm there to make sure everything runs smoothly."

But the emotions on the stage run wild.

"It's a train," said senior Jamie Goodson, 18, who plays Mama Rose. "It just never stops. When I finish a run through, I'm just emotionally drained."

Stepping into a role of a mother who is much older than she is also complicates her experience.

"It's the hardest role I've ever played," she said. "I have to imagine what it's like to take care of people."

But she and her character do share something in common: A passion for the stage.

"Theater is her life and she's wanted to do this her whole life,"



Herbie, played by sophomore Mark Bosset, and Mama Rose, played by senior Jamie Goodson, finally agree to marry each other with a kiss on stage.

said Goodson, who will start attending the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in musical theater next fall.

By the end of the show, which spans over a decade, her character deals with the frustration of not having much to show for her work and sacrifices in the number

"Rose's Turn."

"The end is so vulnerable for me," Goodson said.

She uses some of her own personal memories to deliver the performance in the song.

"If it's not coming from a real place, the audience isn't going to feel for you," she said. "I hope I don't end up like her. I'm in a place she was once."

The aging of the actors is a challenge that the whole cast embraced.


"I age a decade in the show," said sophomore Mark Bosset, 16. His character, Herbie, requires applying powder to his hair with a toothbrush to age his character, a graying effect.

"It's fun to put yourself in the shoes of this character," he said.

There is also a strobe light effect to dramatically age the actors, who are played by elementary students, to the high school actors.

"It looks amazing," said Deyo. "It took a couple of rehearsals, but it looks good."

General admission for the show is \$13.41 online at www.lhsgypsy.brownpapertickets.com and \$15 at the door while seats remain.



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Invites You to

"Meet the Candidates" in the 2017 McLean Community Center Governing Board Elections.

When:
Sunday, May 7, 3-5 p.m.


Who:
Six adult candidates, two teens from the Langley High School boundary area, and four teens from the McLean High School boundary area.

Where:
The Old Firehouse Teen Center
1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
McLean, VA 22101


Format:
Informal Reception

Six adults are vying for adult votes to fill three seats on the Governing Board. Two teens from the Langley High School boundary area and four teens from the McLean High School boundary area are vying for teen votes to fill one board seat from each high school boundary area.

Refreshments will be served.
For planning purposes, please let us know if you will attend by emailing elections@mcleancenter.org.
See you there!



The McLean Community Center
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org



Can't Vote at McLean Day for the 2017-2018 MCC Governing Board?

Vote by Absentee Ballot now through May 17 at either:

McLean Community Center (MCC)	Old Firehouse Teen Center (OFTC)
<p>Administration Offices: 6631 Old Dominion Dr. McLean, VA 22101 703-790-0123</p> <p>Class Programs/Registration Office: 6645 Old Dominion Dr. McLean, VA 22101 703-744-9348/TTY 711</p> <p>Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 10:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Closed on Sunday</p>	<p>1440 Chain Bridge Rd. McLean, VA 22101 703-448-8336/TTY 711</p> <p>Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. (closed on weekends)</p>

OR

Absentee voting affidavits and ballots must be returned to one of these locations by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17.

Requesting Absentee Ballots:
You can pick up absentee ballot packages and vote at both MCC offices or OFTC. You can also request absentee ballot packages by email at elections@mcleancenter.org or by telephone at 703-744-9348.


Returning Completed Applications and Ballots:
You can return your absentee voting affidavits and ballots to the front desk at either MCC location or OFTC. You may also mail them using the pre-addressed envelope enclosed in the absentee ballot package.

Mailed affidavits and ballots must be received at the administrative offices by due date.


Absent voting ends promptly at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17.

Hand delivered absentee voting affidavits and ballots must be received at either MCC location or OFTC by that time.

If you have questions:
Please call 703-744-9348 or email elections@mcleancenter.org



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The Kensington Falls Church Presents Energized Fitness for Parkinson's

with Sheetal Yadav, MPT

Kick-Off Friday
April 28, 2017 and then hosted weekly
10:30am-11:30am

at The Kensington Falls Church
700 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA

Refreshments served • RSVP to Karen Akers at
703-992-9868 or to kakers@kensingtonsl.com

The Kensington Falls Church is pleased to collaborate with the Parkinson Foundation of The National Capital Area (PFNCA) and Genesis Rehab Services to offer Energized Fitness for Parkinson's. The program provides a high-energy fitness experience geared toward improving mobility and strength while participants share time with others facing Parkinson's.

Energized Fitness is led by Sheetal Yadav, MPT, who brings many years of experience in providing physical therapy to geriatric clients. Sheetal is our ally in striving to maximize health and optimize independence for people with Parkinson's. Please RSVP to join us.



Sheetal Yadav, MPT, has 11 years of experience as a physical therapist, 7 of which have been working exclusively with geriatric clients in a variety of settings. She has extensive experience working specifically with clients who have neurological conditions, including Parkinson's. Sheetal, born and raised in India, came to the United States to Loma Linda University in California to pursue a Master's Degree in Physical Therapy.



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703.992.9868 | 700 West Broad St, Falls Church, VA 22046
www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com



ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 10

joined by Cub Scout Pack 1116 to plant an oak tree. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.
Dinner and Whisky. 7 p.m. at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Tyson's Corner, 8521 Leesburg Pike. Introducing a five-course dinner paired with Johnnie Walker Whisky. Call 703-848-4290 or visit www.ruthschris.com/Restaurant-Locations/tysons-corner for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 28

Community Service and Scholarship Awards Gala. 7 p.m. Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Urban League honoring champions in the community for leadership and community service and awarding student scholarships. Call 703-836-2858 or visit www.nvul.org

Fairfax Genealogical Society. 7:30 p.m. at Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Station Hall, 2148 Gallows Road, Vienna. Sarah R. Fleming presentation "From the Ashes—A Burned County Case Study," efforts to piece together evidence to determine ancestors; reviews strategies and records used despite a courthouse fire. Call 703-644-8185 or visit www.fxgs.org/events.

APRIL 28-30

Spring Art Show. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday at Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. ValeArts "Fresh Paint," Spring Art Show features guest artists Mary Beth Gaiarin and Andrea Cybyk among others. Visit www.valearts.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 29

Rummage Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 2351 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Donate gently used items in the Fellowship Hall April 24-28 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 703-281-3987 or visit www.GoodShepherdVa.com.

Fairfax County Anniversary. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Virginia Room, City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St. "A Place Called Home: Fairfax County. A 275th Anniversary Event" is a day-long exploration of the history of Fairfax County. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or 703-293-6227, ext. 6.

Korean Culture and Food Forum. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Korean United Methodist Church of Greater Washington, 1219 Swinks Mill Road, McLean. Cultural programs such as Korean dance performances, paper folding, trying on traditional Korean costumes and games for children. Call 703-863-2259 for more.

2017 Summer Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Opening Day, Great Falls Farmers Market, 778 Walker Road. Visit greatfallsfarmersmarket.org.

"Preserving Family Heirlooms". 10 a.m. at Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Station Hall, 2148 Gallows Road, Vienna. Tina Beaird presents a brief history of paper manufacturing and photography while describing how to store and preserve such items, and techniques for preserving historic and modern scrapbooks. Call 703-644-8185 or visit www.fxgs.org/events.

Community Shred Day. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the AOG Wealth Management Office, 10130-E Colvin Run Road. Free. Email mmiller@aogwealth.com or call 703-757-8020.

Taste of Vienna. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department fire station at 400 Center St. S. Free admission and live entertainment. Proceeds from the sale of food and beverages will benefit the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Visit tasteofvienna.org.

Homeless Community Forum. 1-4 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Representatives from local government, nonprofits, and faith groups gather for a community forum on homelessness in Fairfax County. Call 703-281-1767, or visit unityoffairfax.org for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 30

Green Expo. 2-5 p.m. at the Windover Heights Historic District, 277 Windover Ave., Vienna. The yards and gardens of approximately 50 homes in the Town's northwest historic district will be open to visitors as part of the annual Walk on the Hill. Open air artist, jazz ensemble, Hickory Grove performances and historic tour. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.

MONDAY/MAY 1

Love Your Baby Day. 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at

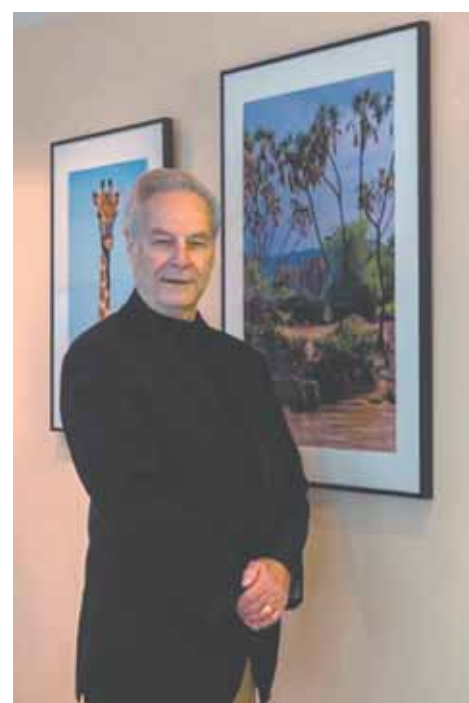


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Ed Behrens photos will be on exhibit in April at Katie's Coffee Shop, Village Centre, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls during the month of April.

Beloved Yoga, 1137 Walker Road, Suite 2, Great Falls. Learn about the many aspects of the prenatal and postnatal journey and support available to have a healthy pregnancy, and raise a healthy and happy baby and family. Visit www.belovedyoga.com for more.

Willy Porter in Concert. 7 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Performing with his singing/songwriting partner, Carmen Nickerson. Visit jamminjava.com.

Spiritual Practices Class. 7-9 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Explore the world of spiritual practices in this experiential survey class. Call 703-281-1767 or visit unityoffairfax.org for more.

TUESDAY/MAY 2

Girls Night Out and Social. 5-8 p.m. at Kona Grill, 11724 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Email rebecca@novahousewives.com.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 3

Great Falls Historical Society. 6 p.m. at L'Auberge Chez Francois, 332 Springvale Road, Great Falls. 40th Anniversary Celebration. Call 703-759-3800 for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 6

Oak Hill Fun Run. 6-10:30 a.m. Oak Hill Elementary School, 3210 Kinross Circle, Oak Hill. Support the school or earn service hours by running the annual Oak Hill 1K or 5K. Call 703-467-3535 or email OakHillES.Attendance@fcps.edu.

Ayr Hill Garden Club. 8 a.m.-noon on the lawn next to the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. This year's sale, which features plants that come largely from club members' gardens, will emphasize benefits of native plants to the local ecology. Garden flea market items also will be available. Email emilielarson@rcn.com.

World Labyrinth Day Workshop. noon-4 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, VA. Free. Call 703-281-1767 or visit unityoffairfax.org for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 7

Community Open House. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Great Falls Animal Hospital, 10125 Colvin Run Road. Tour the hospital and see the behind the scenes activities that keep your pets healthy. Visit www.GreatFallsAnimalHospital.com for more.

Jazz Concert. 7 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. Featuring Duke Ellington's "Almighty God Has Those Angels" sung by Metropolitan Opera soprano Danielle Talamantes Visit viennapres.org/ or call 703-938-9050 for more.

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Step Closer

FROM PAGE 4

❖ Maintaining the current Tysons Service District tax rate at \$0.05 per \$100 of assessed value.

If approved, these tax and fee increases become effective on and after July 1, 2017 unless otherwise noted.

Most of the supervisors' comments and requests for further discussion occurred during the Budget Guidance for FY 2018 and FY 2019 portion of the meeting.

There was general agreement that the County Board and the School Board needed to build on their growing cooperation and joint efforts to tackle financial issues. An example was provided, where at the upcoming Public Safety Committee meeting in June, both boards will have the opportunity to discuss the impact of gang violence in the community. Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) suggested that combating the opioid abuse crisis be another issue on which the boards combine their efforts.

Disagreement surfaced when the topic turned to Employee Pay and Employee Pensions of county employees. Supervisors Herrity and Penny Gross (D-Mason) took opposing stances, with Herrity saying that the two items should be considered together as part of total "employee compensation" rather than "in silos" and Gross was of the opinion that they are obviously part of a whole, but separate factors needing separate consideration. Everyone agreed that any changes that might ultimately be made should not affect current employees or break any promises that have been made.

It was agreed to leave further in-depth discussion for the upcoming Personnel Committee meeting in June, but both Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) and Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) requested that the county executive come back to the board with actual figures.

"Give us the real numbers on the Pension Plans," asked Cook.

"We need to monetize employee benefits in order to make a plan," said Storck.

Five-year, fiscally-restrained plans were requested by the board for implementation of the recommendations from the Ad-Hoc Commission on Police Use of Force, as well as priority funding to address the issues identified in last year's Human Service Systems Needs Assessment. In addition, the county executive was tasked with revising the current five-year plan for the Public Safety Staffing Plan.

Budget Guidance for Uniformed Police Pay and Staffing has been included as part of the FY 2019 Advertised Budget, and the county executive directed to "utilize updated market data to determine appropriate pay grades for Police positions and to included the necessary funding to continue implementation."

Virginia voters approved a constitutional amendment in November's elections that would allow localities the option to grant real estate tax relief for the surviving spouses of first responders killed in the line of duty. Budget Guidance calls for staff to present to the board a proposal to pursue implementation of this change, in time for a possible Jan. 1, 2018 effective date.

AMONG THE REMAINING ITEMS considered under Budget Guidance, Metro funding generated the most debate and the most number of supervisors and staff weighing in on the situation. "It is anticipated that FY 2019 and future years will require significant increases in county contributions which are not sustainable with existing revenue resources," reads the Budget Guidance statement on Metro.

With potential changes to funding from the federal government, and the acknowledgement that the issue requires regional action with an increased leadership stance by the county, the subject was eventually closed, with staff charged with monitoring the situation, participating in regional discussions on funding, and to keep the board informed for the development of funding options.

The last agenda item was a review of the FY 2018-FY 2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which included considering the establishment of a CIP section that identifies and supports ongoing major maintenance of all county infrastructure, and considering raising the annual bond sale limits above \$275 million to help support the program, while still ensuring that the County's Triple-A Bond Rating is protected.

The next step will be the Budget Mark-Up on April 25. The board is scheduled to vote on the final Budget on May 2, with time made available for public comment at that meeting.

Fairfax County committee meetings and board meetings are open to the public and streamed live via Channel 16 on the County's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov, where residents will also find copies of the Advertised Budget, Budget Guidance and related documents.

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April 28-30

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.
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A Midsummer Night's Dream will be performed at
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Tickets: Brown Paper Tickets 1-800-838-3006 OR www.McLeanPlayers.org

Audio description for the visually-impaired will be offered by the Metropolitan Washington Ear at the matinee performance on Sunday, Apr. 23, 2017. See the Accessibility page on MCP's website for more details.
The McLean Community Players, Inc. is funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County.

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

And So It Begins ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The onslaught of radio and television advertising for grass seed and riding mowers. I suppose if I was a responsible homeowner, given the time of the year: spring/April, I might have an interest in such timely offerings. However, since I'm not and since I'm still unable to manage the two acres that I own, affectionately referred to as "Belly Acres," going on 25 years dating back to May '92 when we initially took ownership, the best I can do is borrow my neighbor's riding mower and spend a couple of hours every two weeks or so trying to keep the grass below my knees. Cancer issues not totally withstanding.

Actually, aside from having little interest, minimal experience and multiple home/tool maintenance issues/pre-existing conditions, I am the perfect target: a homeowner who can't do anything on his own and needs help all the time for everything. Specifically as it involves my yard; I have grass, trees, bushes, shrubs, daffodils, flower beds, wild flowers, weeds and more weeds. If I were so inclined and wanted to confide to someone in a Lawn & Garden store, I would have to admit that a novice looks experienced compared to me. I need to be taken by the hand — literally — and instructed as if the words being spoken to me were a foreign language. Which of course, they are.

This previous paragraph presumes however that I have a budget and even a passing notion to attempt to improve upon the randomness that characterizes "Belly Acres." I can still remember a conversation I had with a local lawn and garden consultant when we first moved in. A gentlemen came by and together we walked around the property. After ending up back at the house, he asked me what I wanted to do. I said something like, "I don't know, you tell me." He responded with words I could semi understand but mostly it was unintelligible — to me, so I asked for a clarification.

After grasping the obvious, finally, I asked: "Is what you're telling me that I could hire someone to work full time for the rest of his life and still the work wouldn't get done?"

"Yes," he said.

That's when I fully understood the problem. I then thanked him for his time and haven't revisited the issue since. Talk about pointless. And so, all these years later, the property remains nearly as it was. Oh sure, tress have fallen down, branches, limbs, sticks and stones have hit the ground — and house, and together have cluttered up the general appearance. However, any effort beyond paying people to clean up the miscellaneous yard debris has been lost in the passage of time and in my lack of initiative. Throw in a "terminal" cancer diagnosis and at least for me, pulling weeds, etc., became a fairly low priority.

Still, it doesn't mean that I don't pay attention to advertising aimed at homeowners, especially the ones promoting grass seed and riding mowers. Many of which are quite funny and clever. Not quite clever enough to get me off the couch and into a store to spend money on a project, especially on one whose timeline might not match mine. That's not to say that I'm living like I'm dying so why bother? No. it's more about common sense and gratification. I don't need to wait for — anything. Oh sure, I need to plan for tomorrow but not at the expense (pun intended) of today. It's not exactly akin to a fool and his money but when you've been diagnosed with cancer, priorities change, as do budget/time allowances; in fact/feeling, everything changes.

I don't mean to imply that I'm a closed book, unable to get out of my own way or incapable of taking the good with the bad. As you regular readers know, I'm really pretty flexible when it comes to my less-than-ideal circumstances. Nevertheless, it doesn't mean that I don't have my moments. Hearing/seeing these lawn and garden promotions has given me pause though. Not enough to change my mind but enough to motivate me — to write a column.

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

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements** **21 Announcements**

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify existing antennas on an existing building located at 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. The modification will consist of removing and replacing three existing antennas at tip heights not to exceed 151 feet above ground level on the existing 147-foot building. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6117001653-MRG c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail S, York, PA 17403, or via telephone at 339-234-3535.

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ABC LICENSE
Board Room VA, LLC trading as The Board Room, 925 N Garfield Street, Arlington, Arlington County, VA 22201-2179. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off; Mixed Beverage Restaurant (seating capacity 151 seating or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mark R. Handwerger, Managing Member authorizing advertisement. 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.gov

ABC LICENSE
Board Room VA, LLC trading as The Board Room, 925 N Garfield Street, Arlington, Arlington County, VA 22201-2179. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Brewery; Wine and Beer On and Off; Mixed Beverage Restaurant (seating capacity 151 seating or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mark R. Handwerger, Managing Member authorizing advertisement. 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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SCHOOLS

Potomac School Student, Teacher Honored

Senior Peter Holmes, a student in The Potomac School's Science and Engineering Research Center (SERC) program, was awarded third-place honors at the regional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS), held at Georgetown University in March. He received a scholarship and the opportunity to present his research, which focuses on a new method for producing ethanol as a biofuel, at the national JSHS in San Diego in April.

This is not the first time Peter has been recognized for this research. In January, he was named one of 300 Regeneron Scholars nationwide, as part of the Regeneron Science Talent Search, a prestigious pre-college competition that also awards scholarships.

Peter began working on his project as a junior. Having read about using algae to make ethanol, he said, "I tried to think outside the box about a new way that could be more productive and more efficient. That would be to have a single organism, or at least one system, that can both ferment and photosynthesize at the same time, making the whole process more effective." Peter's research advisor, Dr. Isabelle Cohen, said, "His scientific approach was one of the soundest I have witnessed in my many years of research and teaching."

Cohen's support prompted Peter to nominate her for the regional JSHS's 2017 Teacher Award, which she received at the



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Peter Holmes '17 and Dr. Isabelle Cohen

symposium. In his nomination, Peter wrote, "I would characterize Dr. Cohen as the most intelligent, hard-working, and considerate person I know. Within her role as an advisor in the SERC program, Dr. Cohen oversees approximately 10 students a year in their independently crafted research projects.

...Dr. Cohen does much more than merely monitor; she becomes a trusted confidant throughout the whole process. ...Without Dr. Cohen constantly pushing me to my greatest potential, I would not be where I am scientifically, nor appreciate the field nearly as much."

Cohen teaches science in Potomac's Upper School; she has been a member of the school's faculty since 1997.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

SOBER-RIDE FOR CINCO DE MAYO

Free Sober Rides. Friday, May 5, 7 p.m. through Saturday, May 6, 4 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code CINCODC in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code. Visit www.soberride.com.

THROUGH SUMMER

Vienna Street-sweeping Program. The Town of Vienna began its annual street-sweeping program beginning March 20. The Town is divided into eight sections for purposes of the sweeping program. During the first pass through Town, the Public Works Department asks that residents not park on the street. Find the "sweeping" sections at viennava.gov/sweeping. Additionally, signs will be placed on streets marking a window of 7-10 days during which the truck will come through. Contact public works at 703-255-6380.

THURSDAY/APRIL 27

Autism Awareness Month. 10 a.m.-noon at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other cognitive disabilities may not recognize danger, react well in an emergency or

be able to seek help. Attend this workshop to learn safety risks for individuals with special needs, proactive steps to reduce the risk of potential dangers, information on the new Yellow Dot Program and more. Register online at bit.ly/2ogNf84 or call 703-204-3941.

SATURDAY/APRIL 29

Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at McLean District Station, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Drop off unused or expired medications at a Fairfax County Police district station (pills or liquids only, no pressurized canisters or needles). Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb or email wwwcsb@fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

TUESDAY/MAY 2

Town Elections. 6 a.m.-7 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. NE, Vienna. Town of Vienna residents will cast votes for three Vienna Town Council seats. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 6

Document Shredding Event. 9 a.m.-noon at Long & Foster 1355 Beverly Road, McLean. Free, secure document destruction for the community, bring your unwanted documents and TrueShred will do the rest. Call 703-790-1990 for more.



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505 Dorchester Rd, Falls Church \$1,599,000
Make this home your dream vacation! 6BR/4.5BA in a quiet area of FCC! Chef's kitchen with granite counters, top-of-the-line appliances, kit island, sep. bfast area open to fam room w/ built-ins and fplace; Sep. formal DR; UL w/ 5 BR incl master suite w/ walk-in closet & luxury BA; LL rec rm w/ 110" home theatre w/ reclining seats, audio & 6th BR/ gym; Outdoor space is a jewel w/ screened-in porch, deck w/ outdoor kit, fplace, hot tub, & level yard!



1810 Westmoreland St, McLean \$699,000
Lovely all-brick home featuring 3BR/2BA in convenient McLean location! Kitchen updates including appliances, counters and backsplash; Separate formal dining room; Walkout to fenced backyard that is perfect for entertaining; Formal living room with wood-burning fireplace and bright, natural daylight; Lower lvl recreation room with plenty of space and walkout to screened-in porch; Fresh interior paint newly completed!

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