

ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO COURTESY OF 1ST STAGE

Katie Nigsch-Fairfax, Edward C. Nagle and Matt Dewberry (rear) in the 1st Stage production of 'By Jeeves.'

Light-hearted Comedy

'By Jeeves' at 1st Stage.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Don't try to make sense of it. That will defeat the entertainment of "By Jeeves" at 1st Stage. A whimsical musical comedy; earnestly accomplished lighthearted fun by a large ensemble cast out to please. If you enjoy that very peculiar British sense of absurdity full of visual and verbal foolishness often scolding the upper classes with tongue firmly in cheek this is for you.

"By Jeeves" is best described as a flimsy frolic. A missing banjo at a church gathering somewhere in England in the mid-1930s starts the roller coaster ride. There are any number of mistaken identities, several star-crossed lovers, speedy word plays that hit and miss and about 10 songs with music that provides a wave to carry everything forward. At the end love conquers all.

"By Jeeves" is the trifle of the mind of Alan Ayckbourn who wrote the book and lyrics based upon the works of that British writer PG. Wodehouse (1881-1975). Music was composed by Tony Award winning Andrew Lloyd Webber usually known for lush, big musicals such as "Cats," or "Evita."

DIRECTOR STEVIE ZIMMERMAN is new to the Washington, D.C. area and does fine with the frivolity. With Music Director Jeffrey Newberger

Where and When

"BY JEEVES" AT 1ST STAGE

1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. Tickets: \$15-\$30. Performances through June 19. Fridays 8 p.m., Saturdays 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. and Sundays 2 p.m. & 7 p.m. Call 703-854-1856 or visit <http://1ststage.com>.

they have cast 10 dynamos. The ensemble is fearless as only youth can be in hitting their comic marks as the production picks up speed. With the simple choreographed dances and movement by Jordan Gehley, the cast moves breathlessly with rarely a missed beat. The costuming by Cheryl Wu is delicious.

Many in the ensemble have terrific voices and most carry notes well. The lively music is cued up and played admirably by pianist Billie Whittaker and bassist Jon Steele. The voices are especially lovely in duets and larger numbers. Voice standouts include Katie Nigsch-Fairfax, Paul R. Scanlan and Joshua Rosenblum.

The first-rate touch of Matt Dewberry as valet Jeeves is central. He is above the inane higher-class mores of his man and protagonist Bertram Wooster played by Edward C. Nagel in his profession debut.

The work of Dewberry is inspired; he speaks few lines and then with a coolly clipped diction; careful in presentation. Dewberry's greatest gift is his demeanor; twinkling eyes, lifted eyebrows, a titled face with turned down mouth, with a smirk or a quiet look of disdain. He is the underlying strength to the evening. The cast uses him for protection when the going gets way out there.

Send announcements to mclean@connectionnews.com. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnews.com

THURSDAY/JUNE 2

"Jack and the Bean-Stalk." 12 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. With an irreverent Cow, a crafty, bean-peddling Stranger and a saucy Hen What Lays the Golden Eggs. Tickets \$15 at www.1ststage.com or 703-854-1856.

Bill Cosby. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$40 in house, \$20 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.
Jesse Malin: Night of Stories and Songs. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 3

"By Jeeves." 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. A musical inspired by the P. G. Wodehouse stories of Bertie Wooster and Jeeves. \$30 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststage.com.

I Can Make a Mess Like Nobody's Business, Into It Over It and Mansions. At 6:30 p.m., followed by **Future and Chris Collat Band** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

New Majority Comedy Tour Starring Gabriel Iglesias & Russell Peters. 8 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. With Lisa Lamparelli. Tickets \$49.50-\$75 through www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT, 202-397-SEAT and 410-547-SEAT. www.patriotcenter.com.

German American Exchange Concert. 7 p.m. McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. The McLean HS Chamber Orchestra performing with forty students from Detmolder Jugendorchester of Detmold, Germany. Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, Grieg's Piano Concert, Leroy Anderson's The Typewriter and more. Free, donations welcome. www.mhsorchestra.org.

Gilbert and Sullivan's "H.M.S. Pinafore." 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. With the New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players. Tickets \$8-\$50. www.wolftrap.org.

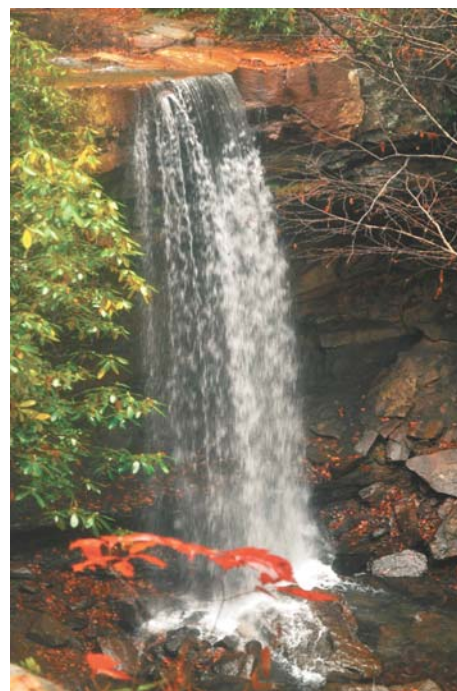
SATURDAY/JUNE 4

Skirmish at Fairfax Court House Reenactment and Living History Day. Historic Fairfax Courthouse, 4000 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. A reenactment of the first organized land engagement of the Civil War will occur from 1-2 p.m. west of the Courthouse grounds at the corner of North and Main Streets. After the skirmish reenactment meet the Cavalry and infantry reenactors at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, to talk about the reenactment, what it was like for soldiers in the 19th century, and explore the historic Blenheim Estate. Also at the Blenheim Estate will be the Virginia Historical Society panel exhibit, *An American Turning Point: The Civil War in Virginia*, from May 23 to June 6. Free. 703-591-0560.

Manassas Heritage Railway Festival & Civil War Weekend. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William Street, Manassas. Step into a military encampment on the museum lawn as living historians from Confederate and Union regiments demonstrate wartime medicine, musket and artillery fire, and camp life. Free

crafts for children, tours of historic caboose, music, and model railroad displays a community celebration of Manassas Railway heritage. Outside activities free, \$1 Museum admission. 703-369-1873.
"By Jeeves." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. A musical inspired by the P. G. Wodehouse stories of Bertie Wooster and Jeeves. \$30 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststage.com.
Laura Cantrell at 7 p.m., followed by **Mc Graves and Nikko** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
"Jack and the Bean-Stalk." 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. With an irreverent Cow, a crafty, bean-peddling Stranger and a saucy Hen What Lays the Golden Eggs. Tickets \$15 at www.1ststage.com or 703-854-1856.
Barney Live in Concert: Birthday Bash! 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Celebrate Barney's birthday with more than 25 upbeat sing-along tunes. Tickets \$20-\$30, \$45 Gold Circle Seats and \$75 Dino Seats also available. 703-573-SEAT or www.barneylivetour.com.
Billy T's Time Machine. 5 p.m. Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.
Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Books, magazines and more for adults and children. TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com or 703-790-8088.
Tea and Chocolate. 1 p.m. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Discussion and sampling. \$25. Registration required at 703-759-2771.
Community Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. Tours of the fire equipment. Refreshments available for purchase. Free admission. www.vvfd.org.
Colvin Run Community Hall Dance. 10201 Colvin Run Road Great Falls. Live music by The Family band. Lesson at 8 p.m. for \$5, dancing 9-11:30 p.m. \$12. 703-795-2003 or www.colvinrun.org.
World Children's Concert. 6:30 p.m. Christ Crossman United Methodist Church, 384 North Washington St., Falls Church. Broadway, opera, folk and more. \$10-\$20. www.worldchildrenschoir.org.
Scrub Your Paws Dog Wash. 1-4 p.m. at the Antioch Christian Church parking lot, 1860 Beulah Road, Vienna. Hosted by Junior Girl Scout Troop 3735 from Wolftrap Elementary School. The troop will also sell home made dog treats. Donations benefit the Friends of Homeless Animals. jody@telecomhub.org or 703-407-4229.
Gilbert and Sullivan's "H.M.S. Pinafore." 8 p.m. Wolf Trap

"Under the Influence" is a solo exhibit of photographs by Terri Parent, on display through June 30 at the Artists Atelier Gallery, 1144 Walker Road, Suite H in Great Falls. parent.terri@gmail.com.



Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. With the New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players. Tickets \$8-\$50. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 5

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department will hold an All-Day Bingo in two sessions. Session 1 - Doors open and sales begin at 10 a.m. Kitchen opens at 11 a.m. Games begin at 12 noon. Progressive Casino Pack game has \$15,548 in it. Session 1's winner will have a chance at \$16,147! Game time 12 - 4 p.m. Session 2 - Sales begin at 4:30 p.m. Games begin at 6 p.m. If our progressives continue to build, they will be worth even more in session 2. Game time 6 - 10 p.m. Free dinner will be served during the break between session 1 and session 2. Visit the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department website at <http://www.vvfd.org>.

Saint Luke Organ Celebration. 4 p.m. Saint Luke Parish, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Organist Paul Skevinton performs works ranging from the Baroque to the 20th century. Free, donations accepted. 703-356-0670 or www.saintlukemclean.org.
"By Jeeves." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. A musical inspired by the P. G. Wodehouse stories of Bertie Wooster and Jeeves. \$30 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststage.com.
"Jack and the Bean-Stalk." 12 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. With an irreverent Cow, a crafty, bean-peddling Stranger and a saucy Hen What Lays the Golden Eggs. Tickets \$15 at www.1ststage.com or 703-854-1856.
Community Wide Pet Blessing. 2 p.m. Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road, Vienna. Free gift to every pet blessed, pet supply vendors and ways to help other pets in the area. www.antiochdog.org or 703-938-6753.
A Dance for Japan Relief. 1 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Kikuyuki Dancers of America, Inc. present Onoe style Japanese classical dance, a raffle and silent auction of Japanese textiles, arts, and crafts. All proceeds donated to the Japanese Red Cross Society. \$40 general admission, \$25 students, available at 888-945-2468 or www.japanedance.org.
Mike Terpak Blues Explosion. 6 p.m. Concerts on the Green, Great Falls Village Center, Great Falls. Blues. www.gfveca.com/concerts.
Rockshop Unleashed at 1:30 p.m., followed by **Kurtis Parks and The Anthem, Brian Franke and Hathaway Brown** at 8 p.m.

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Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Manassas Heritage Railway Festival & Civil War Weekend. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William Street, Manassas. Step into a military encampment on the museum lawn as living historians from Confederate and Union regiments demonstrate wartime medicine, musket and artillery fire, and camp life. Free crafts for children, tours of historic caboose, music, and model railroad displays a community celebration of Manassas Railway heritage. Outside activities free, \$1 Museum admission. 703-369-1873.

Wolf Trap's 22nd Annual Louisiana Swamp Romp. 2 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. With Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue, Sonny Landreth, Geno Delafosse & French Rockin' Boogie, and Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

MONDAY/JUNE 6

Access Royale, Burning Daylight, Naylor Court and Mission South. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/JUNE 7

"Jack and the Bean-Stalk." 12 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. With an irreverent Cow, a crafty, bean-peddling Stranger and a saucy Hen What Lays the Golden Eggs. Tickets \$15 at www.1ststage.com or 703-854-1856.

Hank and Cupcakes, HyeTension and Fives. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 8

Ian McLagan. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/JUNE 9

Ted Vigil: A Tribute to John Denver. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
"Jack and the Bean-Stalk." 12 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. With an irreverent Cow, a crafty, bean-peddling Stranger and a saucy Hen What Lays the Golden Eggs. Tickets \$15 at www.1ststage.com or 703-854-1856.
Lecture: "The Battle of Big Bethel." 7 p.m. Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville. Speaker Rick Britton discusses The Battle of Big Bethel at this special 150th anniversary lecture. Sponsored by the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Free. 703-830-2223.
Art about Art. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. N.W., Vienna. Artist and children's book illustrator Jonathan Linton, who will demonstrate principals of design. Free. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 10

"By Jeeves." 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. A musical inspired by the P. G. Wodehouse stories of Bertie Wooster and Jeeves. \$30 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststage.com.
Alte Kameraden. 7 p.m. Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Gemütlichkeit festmusik. Weather permitting. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic basket. Free. 703-757-0220 or www.fairfaxband.org.

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PHOTO BY JEFF MALET

From left, Daveeda Shaheen, Jay Branscomb, Sam Simon and Karen Masih in 'Seeds.'

Murder Mystery, Comedy at Alden

'Diverse Weekend' highlights McLean Drama anniversary.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Celebrating its 7th anniversary the McLean Drama Company (MDC) will be presenting a retrospective weekend of performances with a wide range of dramatic and comic entertainment at the Alden Theatre. The performances will have a connecting theme. "They are diverse socially and politically relevant work for our times, including new work," said Rachel Bail, MDC founder.

The performances will "showcase the breadth and scope of the diversity of material that the McLean Drama Company has staged over the course of its seven years at the Alden Theatre," said Ely Lamonica, director for the upcoming productions. In its casting and technical crew the Company strives to be "well-balanced; representing the community," according to Susan Baumel, MDC Vice President.

The anniversary celebration will be held the weekend of June 10-12. Included will be a revival of "Emily and I" written by Rachel Bail, the one act murder mystery play involving global and local McLean themes with underlying issues such as domestic violence. Topic humor also abounds with the serious nature of the play. For that Bail spoke of "the realities of a time when foreigners were to be taught English with a soft southern accent so that they might fit in better when they came to the United States."

Where and When

McLean Drama Company, The Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Performances are: Friday, June 10, 8 p.m.; Saturday, June 11, 8 p.m.; and Sunday, June 12, 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10-\$15. Call Alden Theatre Box office at 703-790-9223 or visit www.mcleancenter.org/alden/performances.asp. General information: www.mcleandramacompany.org.

The evening will also include productions of two prize-winners from the Company's 10-minute new play competitions. The company is "proud of its new play work presenting them before a live audience for reactions," Baumel said. The two are: "At the Home," the 2011 prize winner written by Paul Marx, a story based upon the difficulties facing the children of aging parents, and "Seeds" by Shayne Gardner, the 2009 winner, focusing on a couple as they consider issues in deciding to have a child.

The evening will also have the political satirist Key Rynne, a former member of The Capitol Steps providing comic flair. Rynne will be a fictional "Bud Noir, a crusty if benign, smiling skeptic and Capitol Hill insider commenting on current events in the persona of a 1940s film noir detective-turned-Congressman," he said.

Sam Simon, a longtime actor with MDC, said "this is a great opportunity to showcase local talents and new plays, bringing them to life for the first time. For an actor this is a great opportunity with great freedom to create a role that does not often come along."



Here's What's Happening at MCC

Summer Session Class Registration is Open!

MCC is offering an exciting assortment of summer camps, classes, community events, youth activities and visual and performing arts programs this summer. Jump in!

Alden Theatre McLean Kids Series Theatreworks USA's production of *Click, Clack, Moo* **Sunday, June 5, 3 p.m.** \$12/\$8 district residents

For ages 4+. Cows that type? Hens on strike! This hilariously "moo-ving" new musical is based on the Caldecott Honor Book by Doreen Cronin.

Old Firehouse Teen Center Rising 7th Grader Dance **Friday, June 10, 7-10 p.m.** \$5 members/\$10 all others

OFTC invites all rising 7th graders to join the fun at this dance for prospective new members. Teens can come and bring a friend to this special dance with concessions and carnival food.

Young Soloists Recital **Sunday, June 19, 3 p.m.**

Admission is free; tickets are not required.

The premier showcase for great chamber music in Northern Virginia. The Concerts at the Alden series is sponsored by the Music Friends of the Fairfax County Public Library and the Alden Theatre.

Summer's Sensational! Camp Registration is Ongoing

Your children can choose their own adventures this summer as MCC offers a wide variety of special interest camp programs for all ages. Can you add this to the template in some way?



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