



## BeanTree Learning Students Explore The Pentagon

### Meet Under Secretary of the Army



School-age students at BeanTree Learning experienced a once in a lifetime visit to what many in the U.S. consider to be the most top-secret, mysterious

and spectacular facility in the nation's Capital - the Pentagon. Ashburn Campus Executive Director Sharon Parkinson said the visit was planned in order to provide the students a hands-on learning experience unlike any other at a poignant time of year. The students had a private "briefing" with Dr. Joseph Westphal, Under Secretary of the Army; and Colonel Jeremy Martin, the Military Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, who provided them with an inside glimpse of the facility, its briefing rooms, and its city-like structure.



## The Geshher Green Initiative

The 3Rs, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle are alive and well at Geshher Jewish Day School, a

Virginia Naturally Recognized School. Through the Geshher Green initiative, students cultivate vegetables in the gardening boxes, turn the compost bin, nurture the butterfly meadow, and take care of the seven distinct natural habitats that surround the 57 acre wooded land. And, don't be surprised if you visit during lunch time! Even our silverware is compostable!



## Seeking Sitters

DC Metro parents have a new resource to help them find a trustworthy babysitter. SeekingSitters, a nationwide babysitting referral service, opened recently, providing families with safe and reliable childcare. They offer online services for scheduling, invoice tracking & sitter profile review. Each Contract Professional Babysitter has extensive experience, has undergone an intense interview process, and has passed a thorough background investigation. Only the most qualified are accepted onto the Babysitting Team. Owner Lisa Opolion says, "Being working parents, we fully understand the dilemmas parents face finding a trustworthy babysitter. We are delighted to bring SeekingSitters to DC and provide metro area families with easy, safe babysitting solutions for all of their childcare needs." Visit [www.seekingsitters.com](http://www.seekingsitters.com) or call 703.662.3172!



## Swan Ballet Dance Schools



Swan Ballet Dance Schools is celebrating 30 years in 2010! In June, Swan kicked off its special anniversary with its annual recital at W.T. Woodson High School. Staff, students and parents will continue to celebrate this milestone into fall classes and the annual performance of *The Nutcracker*. Since 1980, Swan Ballet has

offered quality instruction in a pleasant family atmosphere and through positive word of mouth has expanded to two studios (Fairfax & Chantilly) touching the lives of hundreds of students and families in the northern Virginia area. Ages 2 - Adult.

## Kids Co Jr. Early Learning Center



KidsCo Jr. is an Early Learning Center in Damascus, MD catering to children aged 6 weeks-5 years old. We are a progressive program that stresses the importance of self

esteem, self reliance, and fostering a love of learning to guide young children into a successful Kindergarten year. We are excited to raise the bar by implementing The Creative Curriculum for all of our classrooms! By introducing children into a developmental continuum based on social, emotional, physical, and academic goals, a learning plan is customized for each of our families in a loving, safe atmosphere. Join our excitement in sharing this dynamic initiative with your community!



## Seasonal Sensation, McLean's Harvest Happenings

Young children, ages 3-7, can celebrate all the wonders of the fall season at McLean Community Center's Harvest Happenings located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue. The event will be held 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25. Admission is \$5 per person; free for children 2 or younger. Harvest Happenings will feature a number of free activities, including amusement and carnival games, arts and crafts, face painting, a moon bounce, prizes and more. In addition, participants also can purchase and decorate small pumpkins. Free popcorn, cotton candy and snow cones will be available for those in attendance. Children's entertainer Kidsinger Jim and award-winning children's music group Rocknoceros will perform. Parents can register in advance or pay at the gate. For more information or to register, call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

