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Once, traffic from Cedar Green Road could turn both ways on Route 28. Soon, it may not be able to turn onto 28 at all.

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PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION



Stop Ahead

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Bound for Beijing

NEWS, PAGE 2

New Neighbors

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Celebrating The Environment

E, PAGE 10

Locals Push Toward Beijing

Wheelchair racers George of Herndon and Byers of Sterling will race in Paralympics.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Northern Virginia will be represented by at least two athletes in Beijing this year. Tyler Byers of Sterling and Josh George of Herndon were the first two American finishers in the wheelchair division of the L.A. Marathon in March, making them automatic competitors in the marathon event of the Paralympics, which will follow the Olympic games in September.

Byers hopes to qualify for some of the shorter-distance races during trials this month at Arizona State University, and George, a Herndon High School graduate, is considered a favorite for gold medals in several sprinting events.

The two have also been friends for about 10 years and roomed together at the 2004 Paralympics in Athens.

"It's definitely fun to have someone who's a good friend also be a close competitor," said Byers, adding that, although he hadn't trained with George for some time, his friend continued to push him to work hard by doing so himself. "He definitely pushes me more than I push him," said Byers, although he added that George might disagree. George finished March's marathon about 45 seconds ahead of Byers.

He recalled spending the summer living with George's family in 2002 while interning at the Department of the Interior. "I was



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Tyler Byers of Sterling races in the Gasparilla 15K in February of 2008. This September, he will travel to Beijing to race in the Paralympics.

faster than him back then," said Byers, who, now 26, is two years older. "After just a couple of weeks, he was about even with me." He called George "one of the most gifted all-round athletes I have ever met," noting that George had once even been a national table tennis champion, although he might no longer care to admit it.

"You can't go there and not see the Great Wall."
—Josh George, Herndon

GEORGE HAS HELD three world records for wheelchair sprinting, which he said he hopes to take back.

George pointed out that Byers was one of few people able to race at world-class levels and continue to improve while working a full-time government job he described as "not exactly a slouch of a job."

"He's a crazy intelligent guy," said George. "His wife always makes fun of him for being a computer nerd." He said most top wheelchair racers, including himself, try to get by without full-time jobs because the demands of training are so high.

He said Byers approached training "very scientifically," focusing on maintaining the proper diet, completing workouts exactly as they are planned and training outdoors

SEE FRIENDS, PAGE 5

Still Open, for Now

Pacific Boulevard to be extended, Cedar Green to remain open.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Loudoun legislators are continuing to try to keep businesses along Route 28 accessible as the highway becomes a "limited access facility." On May 15, Del. Dave Poisson (D-32) succeeded in convincing the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to allow drivers to continue accessing Belfort Park via Cedar Green Road, and the Board of Supervisors voted on May 20 to make a transfer of funds to extend Pacific Boulevard north to Severn Way.

When the businesses along Route 28

agreed to become part of a special tax district to help pay for interchanges at the crowded highway's major intersections, they also agreed that access to the road would become limited primarily to those interchanges. However, with the road grid around the intersection of Route 28 and Waxpool Road incomplete, that limited access has become problematic.

Poisson cited safety concerns in his argument not to close down Cedar Green, saying fire and emergency vehicles needed more than a couple of points of access to the Belfort Park area that is served by the road, but businesses in Belfort Park have

SEE WHEN, PAGE 4

Salam, Shalom

ADAMS and Beth Chaverim become neighbors.

BY JENNIFER LESINSKI
THE CONNECTION

Last September, Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation celebrated moving into its permanent home on Beaumeade Circle in Ashburn. The congregation had spent 11 years in a sort of nomadic state, renting space where it could.

In late May, the congregation extended a hand to another religious community looking for a home. The Beth Chaverim

congregation agreed to sublease a 3,000-square-foot portion of its synagogue to the All Dulles Muslim Society (ADAMS) for its new Ashburn center.

"Like the ADAMS Center's satellite location, we too, have been out and about," Marshall Medoff, president of Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation, said. "To be able to give back to another faith community the hospitality we have been shown is unbelievable."

TO CELEBRATE, the ADAMS Center held an open house Saturday, May 31, which included members of both faith communities. The celebration included food, guest speakers and a program by

SEE FAITH, PAGE 6

Survivors Triumph in Sea of Pink

One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer.

By KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Lisa Gray's sister and niece each held one of her hands, the day Gray chose to have her head shaved in a hair salon. Gray's own hairdresser was too emotional to cut off Gray's hair, hair not yet claimed by chemotherapy.

"I had my eyes closed, crying, and a voice that wasn't familiar to me, all of a sudden, was in my ear," said Gray. "She said to me, 'You are so strong and you are wonderful.' It was the lady in the beauty parlor sitting next to me.

"You know or you think you're dying and anytime anybody gives you some strength, it just helps you through that day," said Gray, a self-employed technical writer.

Gray, 55 of Kingstowne, is an eight-year survivor of breast cancer. Next Saturday, June 7, she will walk the Susan G. Komen National Race for the Cure for the sixth time.

DEBBIE HAYES, of Potomac Falls, was 33 years old when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1989.

At that time, there wasn't a lot of information and it wasn't publicly discussed, she said. "Everyone assumed it was going to be nothing," because of her age.

"You know when they wheel you into the room for the consultation and your parents are crying and your doctor is crying, you know it's something."

"I was scared to death," she said. "That's the first question I asked, am I going to die?"

Hayes, 52, will be a 19-year survivor of breast cancer in three weeks.

Hayes now works full time to provide support and services to women diagnosed with breast cancer as part of a Herndon-based organization, Breast Cancer Network of Strength Mid-Atlantic, which has received funding from Komen for the Cure.

"I have come into contact with some of the most incredible women," she said. "To realize how many of us there are, how strong we are, and all the synergy between us, is touching."

COTY DICKSON was a 41-year-old single mother with two children, 12 and six-years-old, when she was diagnosed with breast cancer after detecting a lump during a self-examination.

Dickson's mother had died of breast cancer three years earlier. Dickson's grand-



Coty Dickson, of Great Falls, with her husband Dan Dickson, shown here in France.



Lisa Gray



Susan Sonley



Patti Brownstein, here in Brussels.

mother also died of breast cancer.

Dickson, of Great Falls, chose one full year of chemotherapy rather than six months following her modified radical mastectomy.

"Somehow I have to get strong so I can rear these children," Dickson said she was thinking. "I have to get this six-year-old through high school. What can I do to get 15 years?"

Dickson, now a 20-year survivor of breast cancer, has participated in the National Race for the Cure for 15 years. Now 61 and retired from the federal government, she has remarried, takes art classes at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, and has traveled to all 50 states as well as to France, Italy and England with her husband Dan Dickson.

"You try to make sure you seize the moment," she said. "Even though I'm a 20-year survivor, it never goes away, you always think about it."

"I did the walk, I was alive, I was a survivor. From that point on, I was a survivor."

— Lisa Gray,
eight-year survivor

"I look at those girls and it breaks my heart, the little one won't even know her mother," Sonley said.

"WE'RE ON the right side of the coin, but there's another story here, the sisters that we've lost," said Susan Sonley, a 14-year survivor from Reston.

One of her friends, a team member, lost his 32-year-old wife to breast cancer. The couple had three girls.

Gray found herself counting in eights at her niece's high school graduation. "Here were these young women, high school graduates, and I couldn't accept that those young women would have to face this," she said.

THIS YEAR, about 182,460 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed. More than 40,000 women will die.

When the cancer is detected early before it spreads beyond the breast, the survival rate is now 98 percent, compared to 74 percent in 1982.

Komen for the Cure has invested \$1 billion for breast cancer research and community outreach. The organization pledges to invest \$2 billion more over the next decade. Without a cure, an estimated 5 million Americans will be diagnosed and more than a million could die in the next 25 years.

More than 1,070 women in Virginia die each year of breast cancer, on average 113 in Fairfax County, 25 in Arlington County, and 18 in Loudoun County.

Next Saturday, more than 3,500 breast cancer survivors and 50,000 supporters altogether are expected to participate Saturday in the walk and race. In the United States today, there are nearly 2.5 million survivors.

Bob Heyer is a living reminder that breast cancer doesn't only affect women.



Get Involved

Readers can still participate in the 2008 Komen National Race for the Cure. Late registration will be available this Thursday and Friday, June 5 and 6, from 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave., NW, in Washington, D.C. See www.nationalraceforthecure.org or call 703-416-RACE.

Sonley, vice president of Grubb and Ellis, organizes a team of participants and donors each year. She leads the highest-grossing National Race team, which has raised more than \$500,000.

"I found out it was easier to raise money than to get my friends out of bed [for the race]," she said.

"I look at young people, 14-, 16- and 22-years-old and I want them to live a cancer-free life," she said. "Until we find a cure, there's work to be done."

One of every eight women in the country will be diag-

In 2008, there will be 1,990 new cases of breast cancer diagnosed in men in the United States. An estimated 450 men will die from breast cancer in 2008 in the U.S.

Heyer, 67 of Fairfax Station, remembers when a doctor told him 11 years ago that he needed to have an operation to find out if he had a malignant tumor in his chest.

"If you do, you're going to have a mastectomy. I said, 'What's that?'" said Heyer, who flew planes for the Navy for 20 years, and now is an engineering consultant.

"I never knew guys get that," he said he's often told. "They are kind of caught back."

PATTI BROWNSTEIN was taken aback, when she was diagnosed in December 1998. "I kind of didn't believe it, because I was in the lowest risk group," she said. "It was very frightening when you're a mother of two teenagers. Very frightening."

Only five to 10 percent of breast cancers are due to heredity; in fact, the majority of women with breast cancer have no significant family history or other known risk factors, according to www.komen.org.

Brownstein, 54 of Great Falls, didn't detect the cancer in her body.

"A mammogram saved my life," Brownstein said, a nine-year survivor.

Brownstein, owner of LGP Promotional Group, Inc., travels to Aruba to celebrate her wedding anniversary each year with her husband Alan Brownstein.

Brownstein hopes for a cure, not only for early detection. "I'd love to change the theme," she said.

SUSAN G. KOMEN was Nancy G. Brinker's sister. Brinker, who went on to found Susan G. Komen for the Cure, promised her dying sister that she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever.

The first year Gray walked the National race, she had planned to serve as a volunteer. Her sister said, "No, I don't think we should volunteer, I think we should walk. You can walk, you walk Duncan every day."

Duncan was Gray's dog; Gray got up each day to walk Duncan despite exhaustion from chemotherapy and radiation treatment.

Gray walked the race for the first time six years ago with her sister, niece, brother-in-law, neighbor and college friend.

"Unbeknownst to me, they all put banners on their backs," Gray said. "They wrote they were walking in honor of me. Then I cried some more."

"I did the walk, I was alive, I was a survivor. From that point on, I was a survivor."

"A mammogram saved my life."
— Patti Brownstein,
Great Falls

Charity Race

Steven Laurenson of Cascades, along with three other cyclists, has formed a team to compete in the Race Across America, a 3,000-mile nonstop, timed race from Oceanside, Calif., to Annapolis, Md., in an effort to raise money for the Children's Melanoma Prevention Foundation. The team leaves California June 11 and is expected to reach the finish June 18 or 19. To donate to the campaign or to find out more information, visit www.ride4melanoma.com.

Community Outreach

In response to the recent fire on Meadowood Court where six firefighters were injured, members of the Ashburn Volunteer Fire Company, the Leesburg Volunteer Fire Company, the Loudoun Volunteer Rescue Squad and the Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management have joined together to provide information to the residents on the recent events, as well as educating them on home safety. The outreach project is scheduled to commence Wednesday, June 4, from 6:30-8 p.m. In the event of bad weather, the event will be held Thursday, June 5, from 6:30-8 p.m. Residents will also be provided information on how to receive an in-home fire safety inspection or to obtain smoke detectors if needed.

During the campaign, fire and rescue members will be canvassing the community, providing safety information and addressing questions about the recent fire.

Transportation Meeting

Gov. Timothy M. Kaine (D) will a town hall meeting to discuss the upcoming transportation special session set for June 23. The meeting is Wednesday, June 11, 7-8:30 p.m., at Harper Parker Middle School auditorium, 701 Potomac Station Drive, N.E., Leesburg.

Staff from the Unclaimed Property Division of the Virginia Department of Treasury will also be in attendance to help citizens check for money, stocks, bonds, dividends, utility deposits, insurance proceeds and tangible property being held by the state.

No sign-in is required to attend or ask questions. All town hall meetings are open to the public.

Woman Charged

Loudoun Sheriff's deputies responded to a residence in the 18500 block of Seminole Court in Leesburg around 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 31. In the incident a woman who was a former employee of the victim showed up at the residence.

Inside the home were a husband and wife and their daughter. The daughter ran to a neighbor's house where they contacted authorities. The woman held the husband and wife at gunpoint for approximately 30 minutes.

Members of the Loudoun Sheriff's Office established a perimeter around the residence and made contact with the woman. The woman was eventually taken into custody and the firearm was recovered. No one was injured in the incident.

The woman is being held on a temporary detention order at a local hospital pending a mental evaluation. The incident remains under investigation.

Community Survey

Residents that were unable to attend one of the community outreach sessions for Potomac/Sterling Community Outreach Project can go to the project Web page at www.loudoun.gov/potomac-sterling to fill out a Community Survey. To learn more about the process and to view the community boundary descriptions, visit the above mentioned Web page or e-mail potomac_sterling@loudoun.gov for comments and questions.

Attempted Robbery

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office is investigating a reported attempted robbery and assault in Sterling early Thursday, May 29. The victim was walking along a cut-through path in a wooded area near Alberta Terrace around 6:15 a.m. when she was approached by three subjects. One the men demanded her wallet.

NEWS

When 'Limited Access' Is Too Limited

FROM PAGE 2

expressed concern that a lack of accessibility has already caused a drop in clientele.

The CTB agreed to allow drivers to continue using Cedar Green to enter Belfort Park until either the Route 28 interchanges are complete or until improvements are made to the area's internal road grid, but the road is to be closed to traffic getting onto Route 28. After either set of improvements is completed, Cedar Green is to be shut down to all but emergency traffic.

Poisson said "much work needs to be done" in the area, which is primarily occupied by businesses but also includes residential and civic space. He said there are still no plans or resources to make the internal improvements.

Terrie Laycock, acting director of the Office of Transportation Services, said the completion of the Route 28 interchanges, of which only three are still under construction, would not improve access to Belfort Park. "I think where the CTB is coming from is that 28 is planned to be limited access," she said. "I think that is what's driving the language in the resolution, not that it assists or helps the Belfort Park area."

A BELFORT PARK Task Force of business owners and residents was recently created to study the area and come up with a plan to improve it and the Board of Supervisors is asking the state to keep Cedar Green a two-way road until the task force has made its recommendations.

Supervisor Andrea McGimsey, (D-Potomac), who chairs the task force, said the group is scheduled to make its report by January but added, "My guess is we'll be wrapping it up sooner than that."

She said one concept being considered was to take advantage of the limited vehicular access to turn an area that is already mixed-use into a "walkable, bikeable community."

"We're kind of making lemonade out of lemons," said McGimsey. She said the task force would probably invite members of the community to a design charrette in order to get their input.

She also expressed her gratitude to both Poisson and state Sen. Mark Herring (D-33) for their work to keep Cedar Green open. "This isn't even Del. Poisson's district and he's really helped out," she said, noting that Belfort Park lies in the territory of Del. Bob Marshall (R-13), who until recently was running for the U.S. Senate.

Catty-corner from Belfort Park, on the other side of the Route 28/Waxpool Road interchange, Dulles 28 Center, home to Wegmans, Target, Carmax and other businesses, is now accessible only via Waxpool Road. Laycock called the single-point access "a huge public safety issue."

TO SOLVE THE problem, the Board of Supervisors voted to transfer more than \$2.1 million that it had



Beyond Sterling Village Center, the interchange that limited access to the shopping center looms.

PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

"Is it better to bank money for the future or is it better to put it toward a project that's ready to go today?"

— Terrie Laycock,
Office of Transportation
Services, acting director

been saving up for two park-and-ride lots in Ashburn and Dulles South in order to have Pacific Boulevard extended north to Severn Way.

More than \$1.6 million had been stashed away for a three-acre park-and-ride lot in Ashburn, which Laycock said was perhaps less than half of what would be needed to build the lot after the cost of lighting, landscaping and storm-water management. Eventually, the lot was to become a parking garage near a Metro station, but Laycock said the developer who had proffered the site was having trouble buying it from another property owner. No land had yet been settled on for the lot in Dulles South, for which \$500,000 had been saved.

In the face of scant transportation funds, Laycock said the county had to decide, "Is it better to bank money for the future or is it better to put it toward a project that's ready to go today?" She said the stretch of Pacific Boulevard was already partially designed and a contractor had been chosen.

Laycock said a second project to continue the road north to Nokes Boulevard was also funded and already under construction. Meanwhile, to the south, the segment of Pacific Boulevard that is to run from Dresden Street to Moran Road is to be proffered by America Online once its site reaches a certain density, and the stretch between Moran and Cedar Green roads is part of a proffer from Lerner Enterprises for a development it has not yet started.

Laycock said the county would continue to seek land and funding for park-and-ride lots in the future.

NEWS

Friends To Represent U.S. in Paralympics

FROM PAGE 2

unless there are inches of snow on the ground.

Derek Brown, Byers' former coach at the University of Arizona, said Byers' work ethic "made him a coach's dream." Brown had been working to recruit Byers since he was about halfway through high school. Byers was soon the captain of the track and road racing team, and before he graduated, Brown made him his assistant coach. Brown said Byers' command of teammates' respect made it "a natural position for me to put him in."

He said Byers also managed to keep his place in the honors program while training and coaching. "Tyler was a well-rounded student-athlete," he said. "He always had a really great grasp of time management, as far as priorities go."

Having grown up in a family where

work came first, Byers said he was not willing to put racing before his career. "As much as I'd like to be a professional in the sport of wheelchair racing, it's not going to take me through my life," he said.

BYERS AND GEORGE don't compete directly in sprinting events because they're classified in different functional levels, as Byers was born with sacral agenesis, a spinal defect, while George was injured in a fall when he was 4.

George said his parents, wanting to make sure he remained active, got him involved in wheelchair sports not long after his injury. He was in his first junior race when he was 7 and racing and basketball would become his favorite sports. He played both at the University of Illinois, "and that's when I started taking racing more seriously," he said. "We have a great coach here."

"We put in a lot of time," said Adam Bleakney, George's coach, noting that George trains for three to five hours a day, six days a week and averages about 110 miles per week. He said George had most improved as a distance racer, while he had always been a natural sprinter. "Because he's so strong and doesn't weigh very much, he's a classic hill climber," he said.

He noted that George won gold medals in all four individual events he entered in

the 2006 International Paralympic Committee's Athletics World Championship. "In Beijing, he's going to be at the top of his game and he'll challenge anybody in the world for a gold medal," said Bleakney.

George met and befriended Byers on the racing circuit and it wasn't until he graduated from college that Byers moved to Northern Virginia to work for the government, first living in Reston and then moving to Sterling about a year and a half ago.

GROWING UP in Spokane, Wash., Byers regularly watched the wheelchair racers in the local Bloomsday 12K and he got his first racing chair when he was 9. He began competing at the national level at the age of 12 and when he was 19, he won six out of seven races he entered in the Junior Nationals competition.

But he said his best performance was in 2003, when he qualified for the World Finals in the 1,500-meter race — considered the marquee event of wheelchair racing — in the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) championships. "Out of 40 world-class athletes, I managed to qualify for one of the top eight spots," he said.

Byers' recent showing in the L.A. Marathon marked a four-minute personal record. "So I'm really feeling like I'm having a break-

through year," he said.

Byers said he had not had a chance to plan his time in Beijing but added that his wife would become his tour guide, as she would be living outside the village where the athletes are stationed.

George said he planned to distribute wheelchairs in the Chinese countryside. In March, he became the national spokesman for the nonprofit Free Wheelchair Mission, which builds low-cost wheelchairs and distributes them to those who can't afford to buy a chair. He said he also planned to visit more traditional tourist draws, such as the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square. "You can't go there and not see the Great Wall," he said.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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"I'm really feeling like I'm having a breakthrough year."

— Tyler Byers,
Sterling

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Faith Communities Come Together

FROM PAGE 2

the ADAMS Center Scouts.

"We've been looking for three and half years then we came to see this place," Syed Akhter Alam, chairman of the ADAMS-Ashburn Community Center. "This is a place where we can start programs and build bridges."

Before subleasing the space, ADAMS held daily prayers, Ramadan prayers, Friday

prayers, potluck dinners and children's programs in four rented locations throughout Ashburn. The new center brings all the activities under one roof within the community. ADAMS' main center will remain in Sterling and the organization also holds Friday prayers in rented space in Tysons Corner, Reston and Fairfax.

"We looked at different options and learned Beth Chaverim had a vacant unit.

In the Neighborhood

Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation and All Dulles Area Muslims Society-Ashburn Community Center share space at 21740 Beaumeade Circle, Suite 100, Ashburn.

We approached them," Rizwan Jaka, president of ADAMS Center, said. "We thought what better opportunity to work together."

The ADAMS Center has held interfaith programs in the past including hosting a Jewish Seder and Catholic, Jewish, Muslim dialogues. It has also held prayers in various churches over the years. But the sublease marks the beginning of a relationship between Beth Chaverim and ADAMS.

"It's a good opportunity to come together. It's very natural to us," Jaka said. "It's part for the course. It's a beautiful thing."

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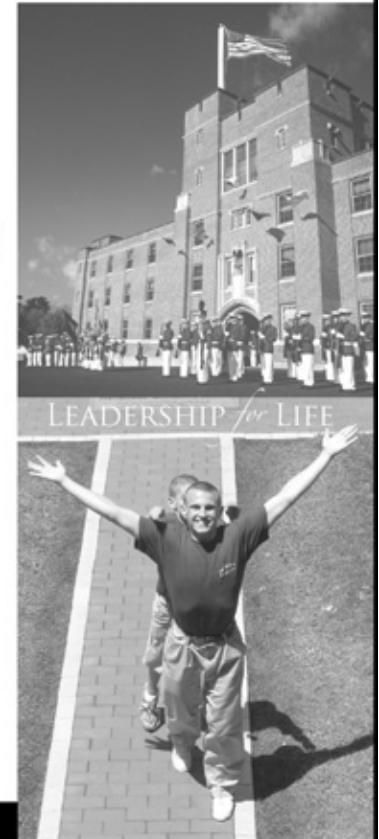
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The only folks who won't like this book are employers, whose employees will spend the day around the water cooler arguing over which idea was worse: the overtime shootout or Disco Demolition Night. Just as I had successfully eliminated some of these horrendous sports ideas from my memory bank, here comes Greg Wyshynski putting 'em on a tee, inviting readers to take a swing. Great stuff.

Ernie Johnson, TNT's "Inside the NBA"

CRIME

The following incidents were reported by the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office. This report is not all-inclusive for cases reported.

PEEPING TOM

44100 block Natalie Terrace, Ashburn. June 1, 3:30-4 a.m. The residents of the home reported seeing a possible person attempting to look into the residence.

BURGLARY

20400 block Broad Run Drive, Sterling. May 31, 4:23 a.m. A 19-year-old male of Sterling was charged with

drunk in public, grand larceny, burglary. Authorities responded to the residence for a reported burglary in progress. The suspect was apprehended at the scene. He remains held without bond.

LARCENY

20900 block Professional Plaza, Ashburn. May 31, 2:22 p.m. An unknown subject entered the Broadlands Medical Center under the pretext of doing work in the building. While the employees were out of the room the suspect allegedly removed cash from the office. The suspect is described as a tall black male with a thin build. The incident remains under investigation by the

Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division.

ROBBERY

22300 block Sterling Boulevard, Sterling. May 31, 1:16 p.m. A 25-year-old male of Leesburg was charged with robbery. The suspect allegedly robbed an employee of Joe's Pizza and Subs.

The suspect allegedly approached an employee as he left the rear door of the restaurant and brandished a knife. Several other employees came to assist and held the suspect until authorities arrived.

He remains held without bond.

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 4

PUBLIC HEARING

6 p.m., Leesburg Town Hall, 25 West Market St., Leesburg. Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership will hold a public meeting to review and discuss draft recommendations for the management of portions of U.S. Route 15/20/231/22 and to nominate the route for designation as one of "America's Byways". Call 703-318-0276 or e-mail shellmast@comcast.net.

THURSDAY/JUNE 5

STERLING LIONS CLUB

Luciano Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria, located in the Dulles Park Center at 1054 Elden St., Herndon. Beginning Thursday, June 5, the Sterling Lions Club will be meeting every first and third Thursday. The meetings will begin with a social at 7 p.m., followed by dinner and program at 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome. RSVP to Lion Mike Ryan, public relations chairman, 703-723-0077 at least 24 hours in advance.

RESEARCHING VISUAL COLLECTIONS

10-11 a.m., Thomas Balch Library, 208 West Market St., Leesburg. Beth Schuster, library reference Specialist, will introduce users to visual collections. Call 703-737-7195.

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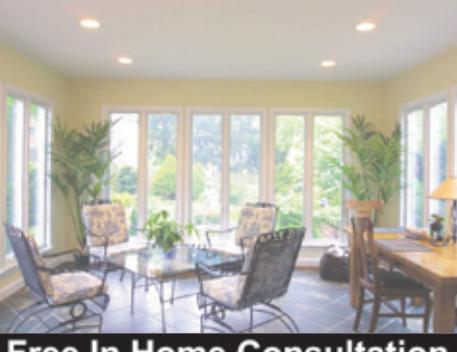
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OPINION

Why I Race for the Cure

Cancer survivor makes a difference by leading top fund-raising team in Race for the Cure.

BY SUSAN SONLEY

This weekend my team, Champions for the Cure, will again participate in the Susan G. Komen National Race for the Cure, held annually on the first Saturday in June on the National Mall. My goal is to always be the team that raises the most money and I've accomplished it for the past nine years. As I add names to my massive mailing list, I reflect on why I became involved. It's not a simple answer, but it carries a strong message of hope and solidarity.

I was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 40, in 1994, and had multiple surgeries, radiation and chemotherapy. When it was all over and my life started to regain some semblance of normalcy, I learned it wasn't really over. Did the treatment work well enough to give me another year or two? This is a question for which there is no answer. So when the treatments are over, it's really not over.

I was always aware of breast cancer because my mother, 29 at the time, was diagnosed in 1959. She had four small children under the age of 6 and underwent a treatment program



GUEST EDITORIAL

that would be considered barbaric today. A radical mastectomy and immediate hysterectomy followed by massive doses of radiation were very hard on her, but saved her life. My father was her steadfast supporter, but it was a very difficult time and all of our lives changed because of her illness. Within two years my mother lost her own mother to metastatic breast cancer.

Today we have so many more resources available, thanks to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Komen has raised awareness to unprecedented levels and put breast cancer funding on our lawmakers' agenda. We now have many surgical and treatment choices; counseling and support groups are standard procedure. My family would have been so lucky had my mother had half these resources.

At my first race in 1995, I was thoroughly unprepared for the emotions that overwhelmed me that beautiful June morning as I walked onto the National Mall. The uncertainty and fear that were constant companions during my illness were mitigated by the fellowship, love and support from the tens of thousands whose lives had also been touched by breast cancer. I

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Not the Whole Story

To the Editor:

Upon reading your description of the 10th district GOP convention [Connection, May 21-27], I was confused.

It left the impression that the signs and support existed for current Congressman Frank Wolf and not for his Republican challenger Vern McKinley. You noted the supersized Frank Wolf sign hanging as backdrop to the stage, which was hung in disregard to the plainly stated note on the convention door asking all signs to be posted outside the auditorium. However, outside the auditorium signs for Vern McKinley matched signs for Frank Wolf. There were about a dozen people waving McKinley signs on each corner of the entrances to the convention and some more volunteers handing out literature and manning his booth. Several attendees said that they had reservations about supporting the newcomer Vern McKinley against incumbent Frank Wolf in this upcoming June 10 pri-

mary, even though McKinley's stand on the issues much more closely mirrored their own. However, after the showing of his supporters with their signs and enthusiasm and the speech he made at the convention, many people changed their mind and are now

firmly declared to vote for Vern McKinley. I estimate about a third of the delegation expressed their support, and therefore is evidence that an even greater portion of "rank and file" 10th District Republicans support McKinley as the best candidate to beat whomever

the Democrats elect on June 10th.

I thank you, in advance, for assuring that the full story and another point of view is reported.

Leslie Demchenko
Delegate to the 10th District
Republican Convention

For more primary-related letters, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER LESINSKI/THE CONNECTION

7 p.m., Monday, June 2, Northern Virginia Community College fields, Sterling.

THE CONNECTION

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FAITH

Send announcements, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to *The Loudoun Connection*, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102 or e-mail to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call Jennifer Lesinski at 703-917-6454. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

The 10:30 a.m. service at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** Sunday, **June 8**, is "Service of the Living Tradition." The Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael will encourage reflection on the past year. A social justice forum will follow the service. UUS

meets every Sunday, at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 22135 Davis Drive. Call 703-406-3068 or visit uusterling.org.

The 10:30 a.m. service at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** Sunday, **June 14**, is "Strength and Vulnerability, A Father's Day and Every Day Consideration." The Rev. Anya Sammler will invite reflection on the persistent human desire to fix the problems and mend the pain. A church picnic will follow at Claude Moore Park. UUS meets every Sunday, at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 22135 Davis Drive. Call 703-406-3068 or visit uusterling.org.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Send announcements, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to *The Loudoun Connection*, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102, e-mail to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com or fax to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call Matthew Razak at 703-917-6457. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

The **Loudoun County Young Democrats** held their first meeting to formalize the first, officially VAYD sanctioned Young Democrats organization in Loudoun County. During the meeting, the members adopted a new constitution, elected officers and discussed activities and events for the summer. The organizations first officers include Robert Latham, president; Marrett Ceo, vice president; Atticus Reaser, treasurer; Maddy Barnes, secretary; and Princess

Mirabal, outreach chair.

The Ashburn Ruritan Club is a 501C(3) nonprofit community-service organization focused on community service, fellowship and goodwill. The club aims to improve the Ashburn community by providing merit-based scholarships and support for underfunded educational programs. To join or attend a meeting, contact the club at 866-670-5984 or ashburnruritan@onebox.com. The meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month in the Ashburn Library.

The **South Riding Lions Club**, which focuses on helping the vision and hearing impaired in Centreville, Chantilly, Herndon, South Riding, meets the **first Thursday** of each month at the Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church, 43987 John Mosby Highway, Chantilly. New members wel-

First Baptist Church of Sterling invites the public to "Echoes of His Love" performed by Phazz One Ministries. Experience Jesus through the witness of those He touched.

Come celebrate the life of Jesus through character sketches, narration, song and sign language in this worship experience **June 15**, at 9:30 a.m., at 21449 Potomac View Road in Sterling. Visit www.fbsterlingva.org.

The **Unitarian Universalist Church of Loudoun** Sunday services are held, at 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., at the UUCL chapel, located at 20460 Gleedsville Road in Leesburg. Call the church at 703-737-7644.

come. Call Jim Vertrees, 703-327-3538.

Loudoun County Public Libraries will be hosting various book discussions and book clubs for adults. For a complete listing of dates, times and locations, visit www.lcpl.lib.va.us.

Loudoun County Public Libraries will be holding children's book clubs and discussions at various locations and for various ages. For a complete list, visit www.lcpl.lib.va.us.

Crochet Club, at the Leesburg Senior Activity Center, 215 Depot Court, Leesburg. Meets **Fridays**, 9 a.m.-noon. Free. Call 703-737-8039.

Walking club, at the Leesburg Senior Activity Center, 215 Depot Court, Leesburg. Meets **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**, 10:30 a.m. Free. Call 703-737-8039.

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ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE



Acoustic Bugoo performs at last year's Loudoun Wildlife Festival.

When Music Goes Wild

Area students hold concert to help support wildlife.

BY MATTHEW RAZAK
THE CONNECTION

Before last year Ben Walters had never even come close to organizing a concert, let alone one that helped raise money for a good cause. But then inspiration hit and Walters, then a senior in high school, realized that he could combine two of his passions, the environment and music, and thus created the Loudoun Wildlife Festival. The festival was a success attracting more than 300 people and this year it returns, Saturday, June 7, to raise awareness about Loudoun's ecosystem and money for the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy (LWC) once again.

"I got the idea for the festival and I contacted the LWC and they liked it. I'm a very concerned citizen in regards to the environment and I'm also a very active musician and I wanted to do something to help the environment and the most accessible tool I had was with music," Walters, whose band The Acoustic Bugoo will be performing at the festival, said.

The festival, which will take place at the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship in western Loudoun County will feature a multitude of events including music from local bands, a reptile zoo and a chance for the family to get out and hike around the scenic area. The LWC will be there to offer information on what they do and help people learn about their surrounding environment and how they can help protect it.

"The Blue Ridge Center is privately donated and there are nature trails that LWC helps put up It's a really beautiful part of Loudoun County and it's very scenic and the whole place has this environmental theme," Helen Van Ryzin, an LWC board member who has helped organize the event, said. "The LWC will have a booth with membership and a raffle and other fun stuff."

THE FESTIVAL will have plenty of other fun stuff, too. Live folk music will be presented throughout the event from bands throughout the area and at 6:30 p.m. the headlining band, Dirty River, will have a performance for everyone. The number of bands has almost doubled from the previous year as the festival has grown.

"It's much bigger and we're getting more music," Walters said. "The main focus this year is to increase the size of the event and increase the outreach. I'd say the philosophy of the concert is to create a local environmental concert and getting people outside and hearing music that is unique to the area. I'd say educating is probably the greatest benefit of the event."

The music itself will be mostly folk with a selection of bands that the organizers enjoyed to listen to. Walters said that the bands were chosen based on what they thought would go well with the theme of the show and on what music was really fun and enjoyable to listen to.

The event is designed around families coming out and listening to the music and having a great day outdoors. The organizers hope that the music will draw people to the area and help them realize that there is a very robust local ecosystem in the county. Van Ryzin said that the center is a perfect location for concerts, too, with an area set up specifically for music and easy access to trails so people can wander to and from the concert at their leisure.

"They're all going to be exciting," Seitz said. "Everything I'm bringing is so cool. We'll even have poisonous American toads and these are all animals that live right here in Loudoun County."

THE LWC AND the rest of the organizers of the event are hoping that this year's festival becomes even more popular than last year's and helps to raise more money to help fund many of the group's programs. Last year, the festival raised \$1,400 and while the main focus for the event is more on awareness than collecting money, the organizers hope to raise even more this year. All donations and proceeds will be given to the LWC.

THE ZOO is being presented by Reptiles Alive and will feature native amphibians from around Loudoun. The creatures will be presented with information and an expert there to discuss what they are and how they impact the environment. Children can come

and learn about all of them and where to find them in their own backyards.

"A lot of people when they think of ecology and ecosystems and the environment, they have a tendency to think of things that are far away like the rain forest," said Caroline Seitz, the director of Animals Alive, when discussing the importance of learning about the local environment. "I think that people have a lack of understanding of what is living here right in their own neighborhood. The point of the presentation will be to present to people the animals that we need to help right here in Loudoun County. The rainforest is cool, but there are plenty of fantastic animals to protect here."

The zoo will offer information to help protect these local animals such as ways to cut back on energy and avoid littering. It will also be full of animals that one might not see on a regular basis, but that definitely live in Loudoun. Seitz gives the example of wood frogs that have the ability to freeze solid and then defrost and be fine and also little cricket frogs that sound like two marbles being rubbed together when they chirp. There will even be a giant bullfrog with a head injury that was rescued

from an Asian grocery market.

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"This year hopefully we'll raise a bit more money. The money will go into the general fund for wildlife programs," Van Ryzin said.

More

The Loudoun Wildlife Festival will be at the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship, 11661 Harpers Ferry Road, Purcellville. For more information on the event visit http://www.loudounwildlife.org/Loudoun_Wildlife_Fest_2008.html.

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PROFILE

Local Groove

The Groove will perform Thursday, June 5, 7-9 p.m., at the Brambleton Town Center. The Groove performs music from the '70s and '80s. The concert is free. Visit www.brambleton.com or call the Brambleton Visitor's Center at 703-542-2925. The entire band worked on the responses.

Favorite pieces? Why?

Our favorite pieces are the songs we get the best reaction from. They include songs from Michael Jackson, Patti LaBelle, Earth, Wind and Fire, Rick James, Rick Springfield and the like.

Where is your favorite place to perform and why?

Playing different venues around the country are always the best — but for local shows we really love clubs with big stages and great music loving people — these include Ned Devine's, the State Theatre and we have an upcoming first-time show at the Clarendon Grill that I am sure will become a favorite.

Introduce yourself:

The Groove is a four piece '70s and '80s disco/funk band. Tim Marsh, vocals; Mike Scoglio, bass; Rob Manfredi, guitar; Joe Amato, drums. www.myspace.com/TheGrooveSpace

How long have you been performing?

We have been performing for the past three years as The Groove.

What has been your best memory when it comes to music?

What is not to like? The best is feeling the energy the crowd provides back to the band during a performance.

Anyone you would really like to play with? Why?

We would love to open for any classic rocker that is still working the circuit — it would be interesting to get insight to the real life on the road.

Describe your sound:

For a four-piece band, we wanted to create the sound and energy of the typical nine-piece event band. Logistically and financially four pieces makes more sense for our clients and their events, but we made sure that we did not sacrifice anything for the show. Big sound, big production, choreographed moves — you get it all at a Groove performance.

Most recent song you've listened to?

We have been listening to a lot of Blondie lately, like the Rolling Stones, she has some real good disco beat tunes that may end up in a set very soon

How can people hear your music?

They need to come to www.myspace.com/TheGrooveSpace for a complete schedule — we have a big show coming up at the State Theatre on Saturday June 14 — we would love to see them there!



CALENDAR

Send announcements, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to The Loudoun Connection, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102 or e-mail to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, contact Matthew Razak 703-917-6457. For additional entertainment listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com, E section.

THURSDAY/JUNE 5

SPRING CONCERT. 7:30 p.m., Briar Woods High School, 22525 Belmont Ridge, Ashburn. Briar Woods High School will be holding free spring concert.

BRAMBLETON CONCERT. 7:30 p.m., Brambleton Town Center. Features The Groove performing music from the '70s & '80s will perform. Free. Visit www.brambleton.com or call the Brambleton Visitor's Center at 703-542-2925.

FRIDAY/JUNE 6

FURRY FRIDAY. 5-7 p.m., Sterling Community Center, 20 Enterprise St., Sterling. Once a month, animals from the Loudoun County Animal Shelter will be at the Sterling Community. Bring the whole family for a real "happy hour" with animals looking for new homes. Visit www.loudoun.gov/animals.

NATURE TIMES TWO. 9:30-10:30 a.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Age 2. Toddlers explore nature with an adult. No unregistered siblings. Cost: \$7. Theme: Ponds. Call 571-258-3700.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK. 7:30-9 p.m., Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St. All ages. Shakespeare fun with the Sterling Playmakers, bring picnic basket and watch a variety of one-act scenes from Shakespeare and other 17th century writers. Free, moves indoors for inclement weather. Call 703-430-9480.

INDOOR PLAYGROUND. 5-7 p.m., Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St. Ages 1-5 with parent. Includes moon bounce, riding toys, tumbling mats and more. Cost: \$2. Call 703-430-9480.

JAZZ ON THE POTOMAC. 5:30-10 p.m., Lansdowne Resort, 44050 Woodbridge Parkway, Lansdowne. Features Phase II. Enjoy summer foods prepared by the culinary team. Call 703-729-8400 or visit www.lansdownerresort.com.

EVERLASTING SANDCASTLES. 9:30-10 a.m., Douglass Community Center, 407 East Market St., Leesburg. Ages 2-3. Build a sandcastle without going to the beach. To register, contact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

TODDLER ONE & TWO. 11 a.m., Rust Library, 34D Catcott Circle, Leesburg. A one-on-one program of rhymes, songs stories and parachute play. Ages 1-2 with parent/caregiver. Register online at www.lcpl.lib.va.us or phone 703-777-0323.

SATURDAY/JUNE 7

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK. 7:30-9 p.m., Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St. See June 6 item for details.

LOUDOUN SUMMER MUSIC FEST. 5 p.m., Belmont Country Club, 19661 Belmont Manor Lane, Ashburn. The Wailers will perform with Lionize. Cost: \$15 advance, \$20 at the door. Call 703-327-9096 or visit www.liveatbelmont.com.

BICYCLE SHOW. 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Cirque du Cyclisme (Circus of Cycling), Loudoun County Fairgrounds. Bicycle show and bicycle goods swap meet, features vintage lightweight racing and touring bikes from Europe, North America and Japan and the artisans carrying on the traditions. Admission: \$5 per person including parking, children under 12 free. Contact Wayne Bingham at 703-300-3269 or wbingham753@gmail.com.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 5-16. Prizes awarded in different categories. Rain date: June 14. Free. Call to register, 571-258-3700.

CHORI FUND-RAISER. 2-5 p.m., Community Church in Ashburn, 19790 Ashburn Road. The Battle of the Church Choirs, Heal Haiti's Hunger, a benefit concert to help residents of Haiti and Loudoun County sponsored by the Community Coalition for Haiti. Residents are asked to donate canned and dry goods to Messiah's Market, a local food pantry at Community Church, for distribution to area families. All proceeds from ticket sales will support healing hunger initiatives in Haiti. Cost: \$20 adults, \$10 for children, \$40 family pack. Call 703-880-4160 or visit www.chaiti.org.

L Y M P H O M A C H I L D R E N S C O C C E R handling by Hardcore Hockey. A large fish illustration.

MONDAY/JUNE 9

TURTLE AND FRIENDS. 9:30-11 a.m. and 12:30-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-6. Search for reptiles.

Cost: \$10.50. Call 571-258-3700.

FLOWER POWER. 4 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Learn about the parts of a flower and make your own tissue paper. Ages 6-11. Register online at www.lcpl.lib.va.us.

FANCY FLOWER FRAME. 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Douglass Community Center, 405 East Market St., Leesburg. Ages 2-3. Create works of art to display around the house. Bring a small photo (wallet size) or take a picture. Cost: \$. To register call 703-771-5913.

FRIDAY/JUNE 13

NATURE EXPLORERS. 9:30-10:30 a.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-4. Discover the outdoors with a grown-up friend. Cost: \$. Theme: Beautiful Butterflies. Call 571-258-3700.

3rd Annual Teen Film Competition: It's a Mystery ...



Lights, Camera, Action! Create a short film and submit it to the Library's Film Competition, June 18-Aug. 2. Use the theme "It's a Mystery ..." in creating the film. Get some friends together or do it solo. Get all the details and guidelines at your library when you sign up or online at www.lcpl.lib.va.us. Registration is required. Recommended for ages 12-18.

St., Sterling M is for Mystery. Learn all about this summer's reading program, a summer filled with suspense. All ages. Visit www.lcpl.lib.va.us.

SPAGHETTI DINNER. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church, 201 E. Frederick Drive, Sterling. Spaghetti, tangy sauce, meatballs, salad, bread, beverages and desserts. Free to everyone although donations will be accepted in order to support the St. Matthew's Mission Teams, which are traveling this summer to Philadelphia, Pa.; Long Beach, Miss.; Pomona, Belize; and South Africa. Call 703-430-2121.

TUESDAY/JUNE 10

GARDENING. 12 p.m., Demonstration Garden, Ida Lee Park, Leesburg. The Loudoun County Master Gardener Volunteers will present a gardening program on Shade Gardening with Natives. No registration is required; bring a lunch. Visit the Loudoun County Master Gardener Web site www.loudouncountymastergardeners.org or call the Master Gardener Volunteers' Help Desk Office at 703-771-5150.

YEAH, DADDY. 1-2 p.m., Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling. Ages 2 1/2-4. Celebrate the things dads do. Cost: \$8 plus \$2 supplies fee. Call 571-258-3500.

MASKS. 11:45 a.m.-12 p.m., Douglass Community Center, 405 East Market St., Leesburg. Ages 3-5. Create own mask. Cost: \$. To register, contact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

SUNDAY/JUNE 8

Shaking Up Shakespeare

The Sterling Playmakers seemed to take William Shakespeare quite literally when he wrote "All the world's a stage." So literally that they've completely disregarded the need for a true stage for its summer Shakespeare performances and opted to do the shows outside in a park. Shakespeare in the Park is the Sterling Playmakers' collection of Shakespearean scenes put on by several different directors at the gazebo at the Sterling Community Center under the open sky, June 6 and 7, at 8 p.m. and June 8, at 2 p.m.

"We want to show that community theater can do good Shakespeare and we want the audience to be entertained and find a new respect for Shakespeare. We hope people will realize that Shakespeare is fun and friendly," Kevin C. Robertson, artistic director for the Sterling Playmaker's production of Shakespeare in the Park, said.

THE PERFORMERS have been rehearsing their plays for the past few weeks to get ready for the shows. Most of the actors are local performers who want more experience

in Shakespeare or want to refine their skills. They'll be given that chance because the directors have each taken their own slant on the short scenes from multiple plays, most of which are from comedies, Robertson said.

"One of our directors has chosen to set the scene from 'Titus Andronicus' in a sort of war-like setting with the actors in military uniforms. One of our scenes has the death of Caesar happening with our young actors killing Caesar with pink balloons," said Robertson of the many variances on the plays.

It isn't just Shakespeare this year either. The Playmakers have decided to take on some of the playwright's contemporaries by putting on scenes by Marlowe and Johnson. The Playmakers have even come up with an introductory scene with the three playwrights talking at a pub about their work.

Despite some of the more sordid subjects these three men take on in their work, Robertson said, the event is very family-orientated pointing to the fact that the actors themselves range in age from 6 to 60. People are encouraged to bring a blanket and some food to have a picnic while watching the performances, which will last around two

hours and 15 minutes.

"It is very family friendly," Robertson said. "We have some strong material, but it will mostly go over younger children's heads and we have some very young actors so we have scenes that are very funny and appropriate for kids."

Richardson said that performing outside isn't that much trickier than inside except for the noise level and the fact that the actors must project more. In fact the outdoor performance is much more akin to what it would have been like to see a Shakespearean play in his own time. The actors will even be costuming themselves in the same way.

"What we're doing is very traditionally," Robertson said. "We essentially have a standard uniform, which is black pants and a T-shirt and then you simply throw the appropriate costume over it and go on from there, which is how they would do it in Shakespeare's time."

The Sterling Community Center is located at 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. For information call 703-430-9480.

— MATTHEW RAZAK

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Only one link in the chain of destiny can
be handled at a time. —Sir Winston Churchill

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2 COLOMA CT	4	2	2	STERLING	\$434,900	Detached	0.319995	04/30/08
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CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Send announcements, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to The Loudoun Connection, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102 or e-mail to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Baby Signs with Dana Carmichael, Friday, **June 6**, at 10:30 a.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place and Tuesday, 1 p.m., **June 10** at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road. A basic baby sign class. Recommended for ages 6-24 months with parent/caregiver. Register online at www.lcpl.lib.va.us or phone the branch, Ashburn Library, 703-737-8100; Cascades Library, 703-444-3228.

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office will be conducting a **gang awareness seminar** **June 10**, from 7-8 p.m., at the Dulles South Station, 25216 Loudoun County Parkway, Chantilly. Members of the Gang Intelligence Unit will be educating the public regarding gang activity in the county and surrounding region.

To reserve a seat, contact Audra Vogel at 571-258-3049.

Children's Exercise. Children can learn to exercise at the Douglass Community Center, 405 East Market St., Leesburg. Hosted by the Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, the program will be held Thursdays, **June 19-July 10**. Sessions for 3-year-olds run 3:30-4 p.m.; 4- and 5-year-olds sessions are 4:15-5 p.m. The cost ranges from \$35-\$45. To register, contact 703-771-5913 or email dcc@loudoun.gov.

A **hip hop/break/jazz workshop** will be held **June 26-27** and **July 28-Aug. 1**, from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Jazz shoes are required. Bring a snack each day. Camp fee of \$150 per child. For children ages 10-15. Held at the Creative Dance Center in Ashburn. To register contact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

Dance Tech Workshop. Dance-intensive work on ballet, jazz and lyrical technique with turns and leaps. Ballet or jazz shoes required. For ages 7-11. Fee: \$150 per person. Held at the Creative Dance Center in Ashburn, **Aug. 4-8**, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. To register, con-

tact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

Claude Moore Recreation Center is offering **Fit Kids classes** for ages 2-5 years old. New session includes tumbling classes, fit kids fitness and a special class for 2-3 year olds: Balls, Balls, Balls. Call 571-258-3600 for times.

The Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling, is offering **Music Together, Tuesdays and Fridays**, from 9:30-10:15 a.m. and 10:30-11:15 a.m. The class offers developmentally appropriate early childhood curriculum for parents, children and primary-care givers. Call 571-258-3500.

The Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, is offering **My First Preschool, Mondays and Wednesdays**, from 9:10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; and **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, from 9:10:30 a.m. Class for children who will be 2 years old by Sept. 1, 2008. Call 571-258-3500.

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22050 Hyde Park Dr.	\$749,000	Sun 1-4	Lisa Thurston	RE/MAX	703-652-5773
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802 Sandy Landing Dr. SE	\$459,900	Sun 1-4	Amanda McCarthy	Long & Foster	703-981-7424
40802 Woodside Pl.	\$650,000	Sat 1-4 & Sun 11-2	Steven Sebeck	RE/MAX	571-209-1030

Middleburg

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A Postseason Parade for the Patriots

Park View boys' soccer putting together memorable playoff run.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Park View High boys' soccer coach Arturo Jimenez could not be more proud of his team, which has bought into his possession style of play and displayed an unselfish brand of ball, game in and game out, all season.

The results have been more than most Patriot fans could have ever expected as Park View has put together one of the most memorable sports postseason runs in school history.

SOCER

Two weeks ago, Park View captured the Dulles District tournament title by defeating Heritage in the championship match. Last week, at the Region II playoffs, the Patriots reached the finals where they bested Handley (Winchester), 1-0.

"Going into states, anything can happen. We're playing real well right now."

— Park View boys' soccer coach
Arturo Jimenez

Next up for Park View was this week's Virginia State AA tournament where the Patriots (17-2-3) were set to meet visiting Grafton High (Yorktown, Va.), a Region I team and member of the Bay Rivers District, on Tuesday.

Jimenez brought a style of possession soccer to the Patriots this season, and the squad has excelled.

"The kids have grasped what I was trying to do," said Jimenez, who coached the Park View High girls' team in 2006 and 2007 before taking over the reigns of the Patriot boys' program this season. "We just connected on the way I wanted to play."

The coach used discipline right from the start of the season to serve notice he meant business. Players were absolutely required to be on time for practice and team meetings, or else risk their spot on the team.

On the field, Park View began the season fast with wins over George Mason and James Madison High



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Park View, in blue, is on a postseason tear. The Patriots have won both Dulles District and Region II titles in recent weeks.

Schools. Since then, the Patriots have continued to grow and get better as a team.

ONE OF THE STAPLES of the team's success this season has been its selfless play. The Patriots have had numerous players score goals this season and have passed the ball well. By the end of the regular season, the team was primed to make a strong postseason run, and the Patriots have done just that. Going into this week, Park View was a perfect 6-0 in the postseason (district and region tournaments combined).

At the recent district tournament, Park View reached the finals with wins over both Freedom, 4-0, and Loudoun County, 2-1. Then, in the title game against Heritage, the Patriots outlasted the Pride and won the overtime contest in penalty kicks.

It marked the first time Park View had beaten Heritage this season after suffering a 2-0 loss in one regular season meeting and tying the Pride, 1-1, in another.

"We actually did not play that good," said Jimenez, of his team's championship game win. "But we hung in there and played good defense. We didn't really play that well on offense and Heritage played very well."

Omar Gonzalez played an outstanding game in the net for the Patriots.

AT REGIONALS, Park View earned a hard-

fought 2-1 quarterfinals round victory over Western Albemarle to advance to the semi-finals.

"We had a good game plan for them," said Jimenez. "We played to our strengths – possessing the ball. That team was very good and played well."

The Patriots traveled to Winchester to take on Handley in the region semis. And Park View handed the Judges their first loss of the season in a 1-0 overtime affair.

The game's only goal came early in the first overtime session when Pedro Mendoza found the net for the Patriots.

Park View had numerous scoring chances throughout regulation, but could capitalize only in the OT, which proved to be enough. Jimenez said Handley's goalie played an exceptional game.

"Their keeper played the best game of his life," said the coach. "We hit the post six times."

Jimenez said the Patriots were going up against a formidable foe in Handley.

"Handley had a couple of really good guys," said the coach. "They were fast up top, had a good midfield and had a guy in the back who scored most of their goals [during the season]."

The win over Handley put Park View into

the championship game where it met – and defeated – Brentsville District (Nokesville), by a 6-1 score.

The Patriots led 2-0 at halftime before Brentsville got a score to close within 2-1. But from that point on, Park View dominated play as it scored the game's final four goals.

The Patriots led 2-0 at halftime before Brentsville got a score to close within 2-1. But from that point on, Park View dominated play as it scored the game's final four goals.

"We just took over," said Jimenez. "I think they realized at 2-1, we better start playing or we're done."

Park View got two goals apiece in the win from Alex Valasco, Jose Herrea and Andreas Contreras.

The region title was the first for Park View since 1992.

"Going into states, anything can happen," said Jimenez, of his team's next postseason step. "We're playing real well right now."

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Loudoun Soccer's silver U11 girls team, the Dynamite, scored an explosive victory over Memorial Day weekend at the Manassas Bull Run Tournament. The Loudoun team tied the SYA Bombers, 1-1, beat the Ashburn Soccer Club's Radicals, 2-1, and bested the epic Storm of Shepherdstown (West Virginia), 3-0.

The Loudoun 96G Silver met the Clifton/Centreville-based SYA Bombers, currently ranked first in the Old Dominion Soccer League U11 G1 division, again in the final game, winning in overtime 1-0.

Loudoun Silver is a select, travel soccer team of 10 and 11 year old girls who all reside in Loudoun County, from Ashburn to

Purcellville, from Leesburg to Round Hill, from Waterford to Lansdowne.

They play under the strong direction of head coach Nima Ebrahimnejad and assistant coach Alex Isaac.

Loudoun County athlete Steve Laurenson has organized a team of four local cyclists, including Ken Shuart, Jody Bennet and Stuart Levy, to race 3,000 non-stop miles from Oceanside, Calif. to Annapolis, Md. in an effort to raise \$90,000 for the Children's Melanoma Prevention Foundation.

The team will leave Oceanside on June 11 and hope to arrive at the City Dock finish line in Annapolis, on June 18 or 19.

Proceeds of the race will be used to educate children about sun safety, raise funds for melanoma research, and increase awareness for skin cancer prevention across the nation.

Created in 1982, the Race Across America – raceacrossamerica.org – is the most rec-

ognized and longest endurance annual cycling event in the world. The route is over 3,000 miles, touching 14 states and climbing over 100,000 feet. Teams typically cross the country in six to nine days, averaging 350 to over 500 miles per day. Visit the web site for more information or call Steve Directly at 703-909-4880.

The Potomac Softball Camp will be holding week long camps for girls ages 7 to 13. The first session is scheduled for June 16-20 and the second session is Aug. 4-8. Both camps will be on the campus of Potomac School in McLean. Sessions will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and Friday from 9 to noon. Cost is \$240. For more information contact Wayne Loving at jwloving@verizon.net

The Girls High School 4's Indoor Volleyball Tournament, for rising ninth to 12th grade girls, will be held on Saturday, July 12 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Douglass Community Center. Form your own team with four to seven players. Cost is \$50 per team. Please register by June 30. For more information or to register, contact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail

dcc@loudoun.gov

The 2nd annual Douglass Preschool Soccer Tournament will be held July 17 and 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Practice will be held on the 17th and a game will be played on the 18th. For boys and girls ages 4 to 6. Registration fee is \$8 per child, which includes a free t-shirt. Advance registration is required (registration starts on June 3). Held at the Douglass Commu-



COURTESY PHOTO

The U-11 Dynamite girls' soccer team won a championship at the Manassas Bull Run tournament over Memorial Day weekend.

nity Center in Leesburg. For more information, or to register, contact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail

The Blossoms' synchronized swim team of Leesburg is inviting the public to its annual exhibition, set to take place on Saturday, June 7 at the Ida Lee Recreation Center (main pool) in Leesburg. The time of the exhibition is from 10 to 11 a.m. See the elegance, grace, and power as these young swimmers demonstrate this rare Olympic sport. For more information, call 571-215-3679 or go to blossoms-synchro.com

The ASC Radical will hold open tryouts for its U12 WAGS Fall 2008 season on June 6 and 8 from 6 to 7:30 p.m., with Briar Woods High varsity coach Ann Vierkorn. The team is looking for experienced competitive, dedicated players to complement its current roster. The team's style is possession soccer with an emphasis on creativity and skills. The focus is on individual player development in a positive coaching atmosphere. Girls will develop the technical skills, tactical knowledge and competitive spirit needed to compete at high levels. For more information, email

ASC_Radical@verizon.net

The Briar Woods High boys' tennis team swept Monticello, 5-0, at the recent Region II semifinals.

The Falcons (18-1) were scheduled to travel to Western Albemarle, a 5-2 semifinals winner over Loudoun County, for the state finals. It marked the second straight year in which the two teams have met for the state championship. Last year, Albermarle defeated Briar Woods in the state title match.

In its semi win over Monticello, Briar Woods cruised with Stephen Law, Patrick Melbourne, Kyle Slack, David Baroody and Brett Stockman all winning in straight sets.

The Broad Run High girls' soccer team defeated Briar Woods, 3-0, to win the recent Dulles District Tournament.

For the tournament, Broad Run outscored its three opponents by a combined total of 18 goals to two. The Spartans won their quarterfinals round game over Park View, 8-0, before besting Potomac Falls, 7-2, in a semifinals contest.

In its first round win over Park View, Broad Run got goals from Valerie Powell, Elle Zoepfl, Kelly Smith, Carina Chavez, Rachel Tharp, Kelly Evans, Holly King and Taylor Starr.

In the semis victory over Potomac Falls, the Spartans received goals from Powell, Zoepfl, Tharp, Brittani Gray and a Hat Trick from Evans.

In the title match win over Briar Woods, Kelly Smith scored two goals and Evans had one.

The Lady Spartans carried their 19-0 record into the Region II tournament.



Park View High track and field standout Natalie Baird set a new Virginia High School League record in the girls' discus event at last week's Virginia AA State Championships. She earned the mark with a toss of 161 feet, seven inches.

dcc@loudoun.gov

The team will leave Oceanside on June 11 and hope to arrive at the City Dock finish line in Annapolis, on June 18 or 19.

Proceeds of the race will be used to educate children about sun safety, raise funds for melanoma research, and increase awareness for skin cancer prevention across the nation.

Created in 1982, the Race Across America – raceacrossamerica.org – is the most rec-

Panthers Win One, Lose One at Regionals

Potomac Falls' baseball season ends with loss to Brentsville.

In a Region II quarterfinals round baseball playoff matchup between Potomac Falls and Fluvanna County last week, a five-run, third inning by the Panthers was all of the offense they needed in a 7-3 triumph over the Flying Flucos.

The seven runs was more than enough for Potomac Falls starting pitcher Jacob Kline, who earned the decision on the mound.

With the victory, Potomac Falls advanced to the region semifinals later in the week. There, the Panthers saw their season end with a loss to top seed Brentsville. Potomac Falls, coached by Joe Terango, finished the

BASEBALL

season with an 18-7 record.

In the quarterfinals game, Fluvanna got to Kline in the first inning when Robert Thompson led off with a single to left field. Tyler Denby followed with a ball between third and short that shortstop Greg Woodlief could not make a play on. With two runners on, Kline struck out Ryan Foster before giving up an RBI single to Josh Garrison to give the Flucos a 1-0 lead. Keith Pillow then singled to left, but outfielder Eric Dimsey came up throwing hard. The throw was cut off by Rob Malan, who gunned

down Denby at the plate on a close play.

Potomac Falls responded with two runs on three hits in its half of the inning. Malan led off with a single to right field. He advanced on a passed ball and then a balk. After a strikeout, Malan scored on a wild pitch to tie the score at 1-1. Aaron Sweger then singled to left and scored on Pat Nightingale's deep double to right field to give the Panthers a 2-1 lead.

Kline kept the Flucos in check over the next two innings before Potomac Falls exploded for five runs in the third inning. Woodlief started the rally with a single to right. Sweger then followed with his second hit of the game and Mike Spring walked

to load the bases. Nightingale then hit into a fielder's choice to score Woodlief. With runners on the corners, Chris Pelto hit a ball up the middle that pitcher Kyle Via tipped. Pelto was safe at first on the play, as Sweger scored. Chad McMichael followed with a walk to load the bases and Kline helped himself with a double to right that scored all three runners and gave the Panthers a 7-1 lead.

In the fourth inning, Fluvanna picked up a run. Keith Pillow singled to right. Then, Hunter Shepherd followed with a bloop single to left. Pillow was then knocked home on a single by Thompson to left field. The scoring ended in the fifth inning when Fluvanna's Josh Garrison doubled to deep center and scored on Justin Edwards' single to right.

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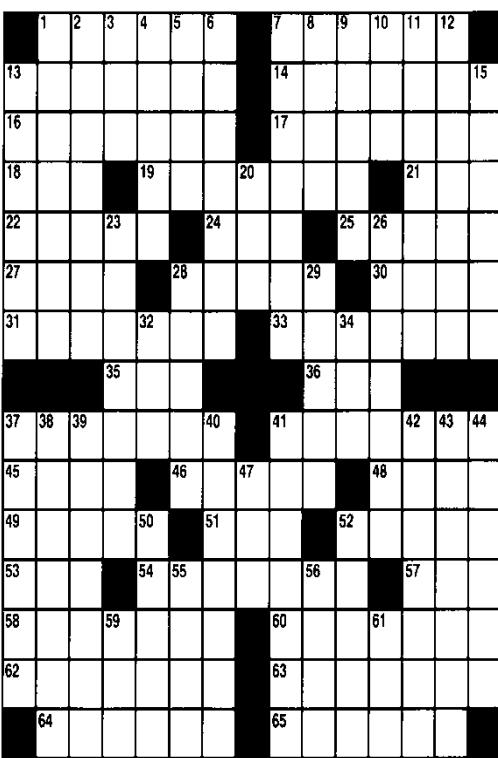
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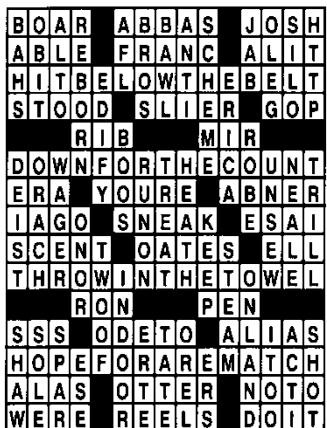


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- 1 Coffee get-together
- 2 V.I.P.'s
- 3 Low-fat meat
- 4 Stumped
- 5 Relaxing
- 6 Affectionately dainty
- 7 Photo —
- 8 It's strapped around the head
- 9 Predatory fish
- 10 Hotsy —
- 11 Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 — minor
- 12 Outpouring
- 13 Communist-hunting grp. of the 50's
- 14 Setup
- 15 Stir
- 16 First call, perhaps
- 17 Zingers
- 18 Suffix with acetyl
- 19 \$\$\$ for old age
- 20 Gambling game
- 21 Some
- 22 W.W. II org.
- 23 Not give —
- 24 Top parts of suits
- 25 — in the right direction
- 26 Business magazine
- 27 Opera singer Simon —
- 28 Mathematician's ordinal
- 29 Tell accidentally
- 30 Overseas article
- 31 Most dreary
- 32 Risky way to run
- 33 Arranged in order
- 34 Some West Indians
- 35 Borrower's quest
- 36 Mug
- 37 In
- 38 — in again
- 39 Features of The New York Review of Books
- 40 Participant
- 41 Servings for the sick
- 42 Way out
- 43 Modern means of identification
- 44 It "is nothing but perception," wrote Plato
- 45 Tropical toppers
- 46 "Ta-ta!"
- 47 Switch positions
- 48 Make a case
- 49 They're guarded in competition
- 50 Italian art patron
- 51 Christian inscription
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- 53 Criminal patterns, for short
- 54 Samoan capital
- 55 Mamie's hairdo
- 56 Stock page heading: Abbr.
- 57 Fighting force
- 58 Forum
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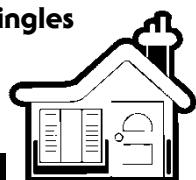
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21 Announcements

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'The Biggest Wiener'



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Indulge me, if you will, as I write out loud a story idea I have for a new Reality Show. Inspired by the recent popularity of the some-people's-reality show, The Biggest Loser (where contestants compete to lose weight), my show would combine elements from a reality show, a competitive eating competition and a game show (specifically elements from the "The Price Is Right" as well as from a game show no longer on television called "Name That Tune"). Of course, food would be involved, lots of it.

The set up would be similar to "The Price Is Right" with three contestants standing behind their respective podiums, bidding. What they would be bidding on is food, not its cost but rather its consumption. The contestants would not only have to guess how many calories are in the food/on the platter, but also predict how fast it would take them to eat what's on the plate — similar to when contestants had to predict how many notes it would take them to "Name That Tune."

The food on the plates would be the same for all three contestants (just like the items for bid on "The Price Is Right"). The food could be an appetizer, a main course, a vegetable or a dessert. Items would have to be approved by the I.F.O.C.E., the International Federation of Competitive Eating ("the esophoscenti"). Sponsorship/advertising could come from the purveyors: hot wings from Hooters, hot dogs from Nathan's Famous, hamburgers/sliders from Krystal, etc. In addition, guest celebrity competitive eaters would appear but not compete, champions like Joey "Jaws" Chestnut, #1 ranked competitive eater in the world (yes, there are world rankings) and the 2007 Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating Champion who defeated the six-time defending champion, Takeru "Tsunami" Kobayashi, (presently ranked #3) by eating 66 hot dogs in 12 minutes — beating Kobayashi by three hot dogs and a bun; Patrick "Deep Dish" Bertolti, ranked #2 (22 pieces of 16" pizza in 10 minutes); Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas (46 Phillips' crab cakes in 10 minutes), ranked #6; ChipBurger Simpson, ranked #9 (13.25 Gianelli sausage sandwiches in 12 minutes); Crazy Legs Conti, ranked #11 (34.75 ears of sweet corn in 12 minutes) among many other eaters with many other accomplishments.

Each eating competition would last somewhere between three and 12 minutes, with the actual calories consumed and speed at which said calories were inhaled exhibited on screen in real-time. Also in real-time, computers would figure out baseball-like statistics, like the "C.C.P.M.," as an example, calories consumed per minute or the "C.C.P.D.," calories consumed per dollar. As the weeks/competitions continue, there could be ongoing top-ten-type groupings listed in the local television program guides similar to what's seen in the Sports section.

As for the shows themselves, there could be features about the contestants (as so often seen during the Olympics) — competitive eating tips on training and technique from I.F.O.C.E. champions, stories on the various cities/communities who have submitted applications to host future events along with their unique, indigenous foods: crab cakes in Maryland; crawfish in New Orleans; BBQ in Texas, Cincinnati, Louisville, etc.; lobster in Maine; baked beans in Boston, as but a few examples among unlimited possibilities. What community wouldn't benefit from such publicity?

This show would have it all; celebrities and "wannabees;" statistics to separate the "gurgitators" from the re-gurgitators; "the spirit of competition, the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat," a wide world of spurts, you might say; and unfortunately, the embarrassment and humiliation so characteristic of much of today's television entertainment. However, this program will not succeed on the merits, nor will it ever be classified as "must see t.v." but it may very well capture an audience that has seen — and heard — enough of the sublime and is ready to embrace the ridiculous. I can't say that audience would include me, regularly, but if the host locations or the food interested me, I might tune in — especially if I was hungry.

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

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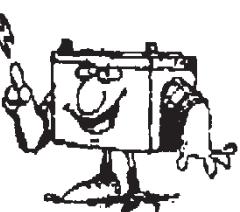
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