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The Colonial Swim League summer season concluded last weekend with its four Divisional meets, including the Gold Division competition at CountrySide.

Summer Swim Sendoff

SPORTS, PAGE 14

Emergency
Lawn Care

NEWS, PAGE 3

Enforcement
Over Amenities

NEWS, PAGE 3

Finding
Homes

NEWS, PAGE 3



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL / THE CONNECTION FAITH, PAGE 13 ❖ E SECTION, PAGE 10 ❖ REAL ESTATE, PAGE 13 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 14 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 17

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BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY/JULY 30

LOUDOUN COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE will meet, July 30, at 7:30 p.m., at the Loudoun County Government Center in Leesburg. Special guest speaker, Joe McCain, brother of Republican presidential candidate Senator John McCain. Call 703-627-LCRC.

FRIDAY/AUG. 1

LA LECHE LEAGUE OF ASHBURN will hold its next meeting at 10:15 a.m., at the Ashburn Library located at 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. The topic is "The Art of Breastfeeding and Avoiding Difficulties." Pregnant and nursing women as well as their children are welcome to attend. Free.

Call a La Leche League leader at 703-753-3214.

SUNDAY/AUG. 3

REPUBLICAN MEET-N-GREET. 2-4 p.m., Lansdowne Potomac Club, 43459 Riverpoint Drive, Lansdowne. Free ice-cream social for the whole family. Get free McCain signs and bumper stickers. Call 703-999-6428.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT. 7-10 p.m., at the Potomac High School on Algonkian Parkway. Cascades National Night Out event. Join neighbors and deputies from the Sheriff's Department to learn about safety in the community. Contact Lindsay Perrin at 703-406-0820, Ext. 101.

VOLUNTEERING

ESL and Immigrant Ministries needs volunteers to teach English to adult immigrants in 17 locations in Northern Virginia. Training is provided in August. Day and evening classes begin in September. To submit an online application, visit <http://eslim.org>.

Capital Hospice needs volunteers for the Point of Hope Camp, **Aug. 1-3**, at Camp Ramblewood, 2564 Silver Road, Darlington, to work alongside professionals assisting children, teens and adults grieving a recent loss. No experience is necessary and mandatory training is free. Transportation, food and lodging for volunteers will be provided. To volunteer, call 703-538-2030, e-mail srichardson@capitalhospice.org or visit www.capitalhospice.org.

The YMCA Loudoun County is preparing for its **20th Annual Leesburg 10K/20K race on Aug. 10**. Organizers are in need of volunteers of all ages for various assignments throughout the morning and early afternoon. The race will begin at 7:30 a.m. and will end around 11 a.m. They need help with registration beginning 6 a.m., water stop stations beginning 6 a.m., race marshals beginning 6 a.m., split timers beginning 6:30 a.m., and various other duties.

Contact Amy Grabowski agrabowski@ymcadc.org or 703-777-9622.

Loudoun Volunteer Services announces a new board of directors to include a new slate of executive officers. New members Megan Descutner of HCA Capital Division; Bob Gleason of the Sterling community; Mike Kalasanckas of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority; Melanie Miles of the Miles LeHane Group Inc.; and Joan Ziemba of George Washington University's Virginia Campus joined the board at its annual retreat, held at the Claude Moore Park Recreation Center in

seeking volunteers to assist in emergencies. In the event of an emergency, Loudoun Volunteer Services is prepared to assist the Loudoun County Office of Emergency Management by coordinating volunteers. These are volunteers who are not currently affiliated with an organization and who are willing to assist with the emergency. Training will be conducted **in February**. To register, visit www.loudoun.gov/volunteer and click on "Volunteer Reception Center Support Team." Contact Lisa Rose, volunteer coordinator, at 703-737-8424 or lisa.rose@loudoun.gov.

PET OF THE WEEK

To adopt a featured animal or any other animal, visit the Loudoun County Animal Shelter on Route 9 at the intersection of Route 704 in Waterford. Animals can be viewed at the shelter Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 1-6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1-8 p.m.; and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Business hours for the shelter are Mondays-Fridays, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The shelter is closed Sundays. Call 703-777-0406 or 540-882-3211. View other animals at <http://www.loudoun.gov/animals/shelter.htm>.



Dallas is a 5-year-old spayed female collie.

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County Mows Down Untended Lawns

Sterling gets mowed under emergency tall grass ordinance.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

The Parks and Recreation Department already had a contract with a landscaping company, so it fell to that department to manage the taming of unkempt lawns under the newly enacted emergency tall grass ordinance.

Steve Torpy of parks and recreation said Blake Landscapes had mowed and cleaned up 19 lawns recently, with most of those jobs taking four to six hours and costing around \$300 to \$390 per lawn. However, he said a few that were in “absolute horrid shape” had taken about 15 hours to be brought under control and cost considerably more. Torpy said the department did not currently have any more yards slated for mowing.

Under the emergency ordinance, which can be enacted for 60 days, a yard no longer needs to harbor rodents or qualify as a health hazard in order for the county to have the lawn cut at the owner’s expense. Once the grass is more than a foot tall, the home is in violation and can be given a notice that if the situation is not corrected in 10 days, the county will clean it up and bill the homeowner.



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

This yard on North Craig Street is among those slated to be mowed by a county contractor, at the owner’s cost, if the owner does not bring the lawn under control shortly.

The ordinance was enacted July 15 in response to skyrocketing complaints of unkempt lawns, particularly in the Sterling area. In 2006, 14 such complaints were filed in the county and that number rose to 27 in 2007. Already this year, 244 tall grass complaints have been lodged with the

Health Department.

Torpy said none of the properties mowed had been occupied. Most, if not all, were likely to have been foreclosures owned by banks.

“Some properties may be pretty quick and easy to clean up. Others may take a consid-

erable amount of time,” said Danny Davis of county administration, noting that several yards had shrubs that needed to be attacked with a Bush Hog, a heavily built rotary mower. Davis was responsible for draft

SEE MOWING, PAGE 5

Restoration Trumps Planning

At special board meeting, residents more concerned with enforcement than amenities.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

When the Board of Supervisors announced early this year that it would be revisiting the idea of suburban community plans that had been introduced in 2001 but never addressed, it was with talk of crosswalks and stop signs, transportation and parks. But these were rare topics of discussion at an emotional special meeting of the board in Sterling last week, where the public was invited to offer comment after county staff presented the preliminary results of its community planning study.

Instead, most residents who addressed the board spoke of the decline of the Sterling Park community, where, they said, ill-kept and often overcrowded houses, crime, cars parked on lawns, illegal immigrants and a gen-

eral drop in community standards had changed the face of the neighborhood.

An estimated 300 people packed the auditorium at Park View High School, Tuesday, July 22, and most of the 40 or so speakers offered impassioned testimonies about the contrast between the Sterling Park of today and that of past decades. Although the Sterling and Potomac communities comprise all of Loudoun east of Broad Run, almost all of the speakers were from Sterling Park and most were long-term residents.

David Yokum, a Sterling resident since 1971 and the first member of the public to

speak, set the tone for the comments to follow, when he opened by saying, “I came to a sleepy neighborhood and I’ve seen it grown to — I can’t — I can’t believe it.” The problem, he said, was that laws, particularly zoning or

“This is a wake-up call to the board. We are sick of it.”

— David Yokum

SEE RESIDENTS, PAGE 6

Pet Adoption a Success

Furry Fridays give residents a chance to find a four-legged companion.

BY BIANCA MITCHELL
THE CONNECTION

Fur was flying Friday as people filed into the Sterling Community Center with the desire to adopt a four-legged friend. The event: Furry Fridays Animal Adoptions, put on by the Loudoun County Animal Shelter in partnership with the Sterling Community Center.

Laura Rizer, the community outreach manager, said she really loves being able to get the animals into this area. “It’s nice because having the event on Friday gives people who work an extra hour to come and look for animals. It’s a great chance for

people to learn about our shelter and what we do.”

THE EVENT began in May and has continued to be a hit with the community ever since. Once a month, the shelter will bring up to 11 animals to the Sterling Community Center. On Friday, the adoption fair featured three cats and five dogs; two of the cats were adopted within the first hour. “It’s really easy to adopt. We ask that people fill out an application,

then come back to the shelter when their application has been reviewed. If the animal needs to be spayed or neutered, they can pick their new pet up from the vet, other

SEE FURRY, PAGE 5

Loudoun County Animal Shelter

To learn more about pet adoption or the shelter, visit www.loudoun.gov and click on the animal shelter link under “Services.”

Sales Tax Holiday

During the commonwealth's third annual sales-tax holiday, which will take place Friday, Aug. 1-Sunday, Aug. 3, taxpayers can purchase certain items tax free. Items exempt from the 5 percent state and local retail sales tax will include school supplies priced at \$20 or less each, as well as clothing, including footwear, priced at \$100 or less each. All Virginians can purchase these items tax free – purchases are not required to be for student use.

Visit the Virginia Department of Taxation's Web site at <http://www.tax.virginia.gov> for a complete list of exempt items, answers to frequently-asked questions, guidelines for the sales tax holiday and additional information.

Stabbing in Ashburn

Monday, July 28, at about 6 p.m., deputies responded to a reported stabbing in the 42000 block of Redfield Street in Ashburn.

According to the Sheriff's Office, the incident occurred after the suspect forced his way into the residence and assaulted his estranged girlfriend and her mother. During the altercation, he was stabbed by the mother.

The suspect, a 25-year-old male of Washington, D.C., drove himself to Inova Hospital at Lansdowne, where he was treated for a stab wound to the shoulder. After receiving medical treatment, he was arrested by Loudoun deputies and charged with burglary and two counts of assault. He is being held in the Loudoun Adult Detention Center with a no bond status.

Seeking Information

Loudoun County Animal Control is seeking assistance from the public to locate the person responsible for shooting a domestic cat in Sterling July 24.

The 3-year-old female domestic shorthair cat was found injured by her owner this morning at approximately 12 p.m. The owner transported the cat to a veterinary clinic, where the veterinarian determined that the cat had been shot with a pellet gun. The cat is now recovering from its injury.

The incident took place in the 200 block of Elizabeth Court in Sterling. The exact time is unknown.

A similar incident is also under investigation by Animal Control. Another cat was found shot by a pellet gun July 17 in the 20000 block of Great Falls Forest Drive in Great Falls. It is unknown at this time if the incidents are related.

Anyone with information is asked to call Loudoun County Animal Control at 703-777-0406.

Teen Found

A teenager missing for over four months was located in Alexandria Tuesday, July 22. Karla I. Rodriguez-Gavarrte, 16, was last seen March 10 and was reportedly attempting to travel to the Chicago, Ill., area. Karla was located by members of the Alexandria Police Department. She has been returned to Loudoun County safe and sound.

Reward for Information

Loudoun County Crime Solvers is offering a reward for information in the search for a pickup truck involved in a hit-and-run collision last week that seriously injured a Sterling man.

According to the Sheriff's Office, July 18, the victim was sitting at the traffic light on Route 7 westbound at River Creek Parkway when around 1 a.m. his vehicle was struck from behind by an unknown pickup truck. The driver the pickup, an unknown male, exited his vehicle and apparently checked on the victim before fleeing the scene in his vehicle. The suspect vehicle is described as an older model, dark in color pickup truck. The vehicle was last seen heading westbound towards Leesburg. The vehicle is believed to have extensive front-end damage.

Anyone with information about this crash or know the whereabouts of the suspect, call the Loudoun County Crime Solvers at 703-777-1919 or toll free at 1-877-777-1931. If the information leads to an arrest and indictment the caller could be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

NEWS

Crashing the Parties

Resident will cover convention for Sí TV.

Sterling resident Michael Monrroy will be Sí TV's correspondent at the Republican Convention in Minneapolis-Saint Paul this September.

The 18-year-old won a nationwide online election for the privilege of covering the event from the convention floor.

Sí TV is the only channel that caters to English-speaking Latinos, and it presented VotoLatino's Crash the Parties contest, which sought young, Hispanic candidates to cover the conventions. Contestants posted videos online in which they explained why they should represent the Hispanic youth at the conventions, and for two months, viewers voted on the videos.

With 2,004 votes, Monrroy beat the second-place contestant by 662 votes. He spent last Tuesday, July 22, in Washington, D.C., where he attended a ceremony honoring him and the winner of the contest for the Democratic Convention, where he was intro-



PHOTO BY DAVID HATHCOX

Sterling resident Michael Monrroy who will cover the Republican Convention for Sí TV, poses with actress Rosario Dawson, middle, and Wendy Carrillo, who will cover the Democratic Convention.

duced by actress and VotoLatino co-founder Rosario Dawson, gave an acceptance speech and was interviewed by several major news outlets. That morning, he got some advice from CNN anchor Rich Sanchez.

Monrroy is a graduate of Park View High School and is majoring in political science at American University. He was one of 21 contestants vying for a chance to cover the Republican Convention.

— MIKE DICICCO

Loudoun County Fair Returns

The Loudoun County Fair is back for another year.

The 73rd annual Loudoun County Fair kicks off this week at the County Fairgrounds in Leesburg. This year, there are dozens of things for the whole family to partake in and enjoy. The mainstays of fair fun such as carnival rides, games and livestock and agricultural events will be taking place all week along with pavilions to visit and many other special events.

The fair offers different forms of admission for all members of the family. The weekly pass for adults 13 and up costs \$25, while a weekly pass for children 6-12 is \$10. The daily passes are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. A daily family plan is also available for \$25 per car with no more than two adults and unlimited children. Children under 6 are admitted free all week, all children under 15 are free until 4 p.m. on July 31, while people 62 and up get in free until 4 p.m., Senior Citizen's day on July 30.

The fair will also be holding its wildly popular Kiss-a-Pig Contest, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this summer. The contest, which concludes the fair, gives the contestants the opportunity to raise money that will go towards the upkeep of



PHOTO BY KIM CENTAZZO/THE CONNECTION

Carly Griffith wins Miss Loudoun County Fair 2007.

the fairgrounds, maintenance of the multiple barns and buildings, youth programs and scholarship awards.

Each contestant was selected a few months ago, spending the time leading up to the fair creatively raising money. The contestant that raises the most money is the lucky winner and is announced in front of the grandstand crowd Saturday night at the start of the rodeo and gets to smooch a real pig.

Other fair staples will be held all week, such as the pie-eating contest Thursday, livestock auction Friday, and professional rodeos on Thursday and Saturday. In addition, each night of the week, a different 4-H club will be holding a dinner for the whole family at \$6-\$7 per person. Each

club is named after a type of livestock and will be serving that dish on their assigned night.

— JUSTIN FANIZZI

For More

The 73rd Annual County Fair takes place July 28-Aug. 2, at the Loudoun County Fairgrounds, 17558 Dry Mill Road, Leesburg. To find out more about the fair including the schedule of events, club descriptions, livestock auction signup and directions, visit www.loudouncountyfair.com, call 703-777-3835 or e-mail info@loudouncountyfair.com.

Furry Friends Find Homes

FROM PAGE 3

wise they can take them home with them," Rizer said. Six-year-old Aliana Chameliss was one of the attendees in search of a new companion. "Right now I don't have a dog, but we used to have dogs. We are planning on adopting a dog today," she said.

FOR RIZER, the event is all about getting the animals into a new part of the community and into the homes of caring and dedicated people. "This event has been really successful, we have had four or five animals adopted in total just from these events." Summer intern Britney Dow who will be a senior at Heritage High School was visiting the event for the first time and agrees on the event's high performance. "I have enjoyed working at it very much. From what I can see, this event has been extremely successful."

"This event has been really successful."

— **Laura Rizer, Loudoun County Animal Shelter, community outreach manager**



PHOTO BY BIANCA MITCHELL/THE CONNECTION

A 4-month-old female kitten searches for a new family.

Lawn Mowing Gets Underway

FROM PAGE 3

ing much of the ordinance.

THIS FALL, the county is to consider enacting a permanent tall grass ordinance, as neighbors Fairfax and Prince William counties have done. In the case that the law becomes permanent, Davis said parks and recreation would probably continue to use its contractor to mow the lawns for a year or two before deciding whether staff could handle the task. "If three lawns need to be mowed, it might be cheaper for someone from parks and rec. to take a lawn mower out," he said. Handing the job to county staff could also require additional hires.

Board of Supervisors Chairman Scott York (I-At Large) said recouping the cost of mowing would be a priority. "There is no way that I'm going to want taxpayers hung out to dry for a bank's lawn," York said. He said he had asked the county attorney to look into the possibility of placing a lien on any house whose owner did not pay the bill for a mowing, in order to ensure "that we collect every penny." He said it was unlikely that a bank would then be able to sell a house without paying the bill.

York said that after the 60 days were up, the county would consider whether and how to enact a permanent ordinance. A public hearing on the subject has not yet been scheduled, but he said one would likely be held sometime around October. "We want to have it in place for the next growing season."



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

This yard on North Sterling Boulevard was recently cut, apparently by the owner, after a notice of violation was served on the property.

"There is no way that I'm going to want taxpayers hung out to dry for a bank's lawn."

— **Board of Supervisors Chairman Scott York (I-at large)**

ACCORDING TO the staff report, Fairfax County has cut 56 lawns through its tall grass ordinance and Prince William County has cut more than 1,000. Both counties contracted the work out.

Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio (R-Sterling) said notices of violation had been served on 40 houses, with 21 owners responding by cutting the grass themselves. He said 50 more notices had been served and that he expected that about half of those yards would end up being cut by Blake Landscapes.

"They do a very good job," he said of the contractor.

County staff advised against Delgaudio's proposal to allow teams of volunteers handle at least some of the mowing, citing concerns about liability and oversight.

★ ★ ★ *GloryDays* GRILL ★ ★ ★

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SLIDE

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This summer, treat yourself to our delicious line-up of mouth-watering sliders: **CRAB CAKE**, BUFFALO CHICKEN, SAUSAGE AND PEPPER, CHEESEBURGER and **BBQ PORK**.

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HOW TO GET YOUR ORGANIZATION'S SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE CONNECTION

Calendar Listings

The Connection Newspapers contain a Calendar of Upcoming Events every week. While we cannot guarantee that every event we receive information about will be listed, here is the information we need for your upcoming event to be considered for the Calendar. We welcome photographs of similar events held previously, which sometimes appear with Calendar items.

Name of Event:

Day of the Week, Date and Time:

Name of the Place Event will Be Held:

Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:

Name and Phone Number for More Information:

Three Sentences Describing the Event:

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome. All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. Send listings to: Calendar, Connection Publishing, Inc., 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102. Or Fax to 703-917-0991. For more information, call 703-917-6444.

THE CONNECTION
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Blood Shortage Hits Loudoun County

Summer brings decrease in donations.

People who want to make a difference are usually left feeling short changed, that their actions will not carry a greater impact on anybody or anything. However, Inova Health Systems and patients in need across the county are providing the opportunity to change lives at a time of critical need.

Inova Health System Blood Donor Services is reporting a significant shortage of blood, said Rebecca

Hileman, assistant director of Inova Blood Services. Hileman attributes it to the summer season, as traditionally, this time of year brings a lull in donations for a variety of reasons.

"Summertime is always an extra concern and challenge to us," Hileman said. "At other times of the year people would come out, but they are not available. We experi

Donate Blood

Inova Blood Services always needs the community's help, no matter the season. Visit www.inova.org/blood_donor to make an appointment to donate or for a list of scheduled blood drives and how to sponsor a drive. Must be 16 with parent or guardian permission or 17 to donate. Refer to the site for eligibility information.

SEE IN NEED,
PAGE 7



PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

Inova Blood Donor Services.

Residents Voice Concerns

FROM PAGE 3

dinances and speeding regulations, were not being enforced. "This is a wake-up call to the board," Yokum said. "We are sick of it."

THE INTENTION OF the community plans was to solicit input from residents about improvements that could be made in their communities, on the streets where they drove, the parks where they played, the trails where they biked. Eastern Loudoun was divided into four planning communities, and the board decided to begin by addressing the two farthest east, the Potomac and Sterling communities, which are separated by Route 7. Planning staff gathered input by holding four public meetings in the area in April and May, posting a survey online and taking e-mail comments.

The preliminary report showed that about twice as many online responses came from the Sterling area as from Potomac and that the "majority of stakeholder comments by far" raised concerns about declining quality of life in the respondents' neighborhoods. The report went on, "The largest number of stakeholders concerned with community change believe the Potomac and Sterling communities are becoming a haven for foreign-born, illegal immigrants," and it said these respondents blamed illegal immigrants for a rise in crime, gangs, overcrowded houses, foreclosures, loss of legal citizens' jobs and services, a lack of respect for neighbors and a lowering of community standards.

An equal number of residents worried about a growing population of non-English speakers, the report said.

AMONG THE MEETING'S speakers were original Sterling Park residents Ed and Fran Brocke, who had helped to get the community started when it opened in 1963, but had since left for Ashburn due to the changing conditions. "This has been my home for

many years," said Fran Brocke, her voice cracking. She recalled helping to name Park View High School and her husband starting several of the youth sport leagues. "We see so much of it being ripped away from us now," she said. Fran Brocke said the problem was not only unmowed lawns, but also a variety of zoning violations like illegal parking and equipment stored illegally on driveways.

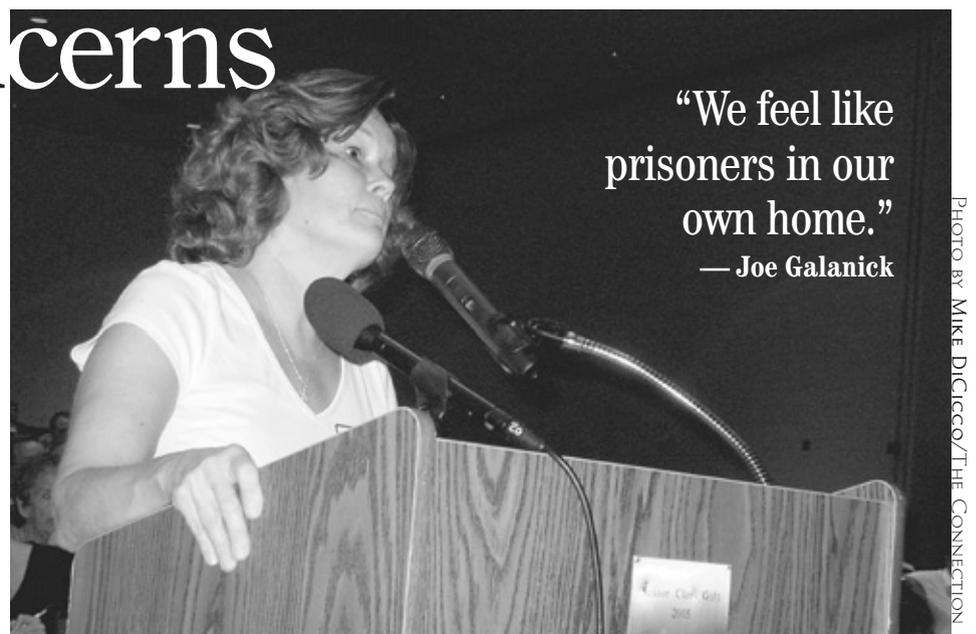
With no homeowners association, the community relied on the Board of Supervisors to act as such an association, said Ed Brocke. He was the first of several to suggest that the supervisors take a tour of the neighborhood.

Cathy McNickle is a Cascades resident, but had come not for her community but "to stand with Sterling Park." She urged supervisors from points west to educate their constituencies on the "deep-seated" problems in easternmost Loudoun.

Larry Wilber said it would have been easy to criticize the personnel responsible for enforcing zoning laws, but that he thought they did not have sufficient resources.

Chairman Scott York (I-At Large) agreed. He said staff had asked the previous board for help and had been denied. While Loudoun funded one and a half full-time positions for the task of zoning enforcement and had received complaints about 465 homes in the last year, he said, Fairfax had dealt with 354 homes in that time with a team of 25 people.

FORTY-YEAR Sterling Park resident Bill Maykrantz said he hoped the board would move ahead with a plan to get Loudoun employees into foreclosed houses and would "not take another two and a half years or two and a half months" to stop people from parking on their lawns. He reported that he had seen something like 13 cars parked in a backyard on Argonne Avenue. He said the fact that the Sheriff's Office handles vehicles that are illegally parked on the street, while zoning handles



"We feel like prisoners in our own home."
— Joe Galanick

PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Longtime Sterling resident and recent Sterling District supervisor candidate Jeanne West testifies at the Board of Supervisors' special meeting at Park View High School.

those parked on private property, resulted in residents simply moving the vehicles back and forth from road to yard.

"Please don't forget and ignore Sterling any longer," said Jeanne West, who recently ran for Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio's (R-Sterling) seat. She said the community needed investment. "Look at Sterling Library and then go to Cascades or Ashburn."

Her husband, Willie, asked the board to encourage VDOT to clean up its property in Sterling, which he said was only adding to the community's "seedy look." "We have trees growing out of our storm sewers," he said. "The streets haven't been capped and sealed in more than 10 years."

When Joyce Pryor called the county about the "used car lot" in her neighbors' backyard, she was told there were "too many cars to do anything about," she said. "The Vietnamese family across the street has built a house in their backyard," Pryor said, although she added that the residents claimed the structure was attached to the house. "I'm afraid to go out of my home. I'm afraid to answer my door." She said her Jordanian neighbor had come over to ask if she and

her husband would like to rent their basement to his friends. She was told that the friends "don't like children and they want something quiet," she said.

"We need a lot more cops out there," Garen Khoranian said. He related an occasion when a drunken man had entered his house and fallen asleep in his hallway at 1:30 in the morning. He said he had treated the man very kindly, picking him up and taking him home, because he was afraid the intruder might be an MS-13 gang member. Khoranian said the problem should be addressed by focusing on safety and cleaning up the neighborhood and that this would drive illegal immigrants out.

Joe Galanick recalled the days when his wife had eagerly looked forward to walking her dog with her neighborhood friend, a habit that ended five years ago due to cat calls from neighbors, an increased number of pit bulls and the fact that her friend moved away because her house was repeatedly tagged with graffiti. "We feel like prisoners in our own home," Galanick said. He

SEE LOOKING, PAGE 7

Searching for Prowlers

The Loudoun Sheriff's Office is investigating several reported prowler incidents in the county and are asking residents to report any suspicious activity.

Two recent incidents occurred in the area of Ashburn Farm. On July 11, deputies responded to Cherrystone Place for a report of a prowler. The teenage victim told authorities she exited her home around 2:15 a.m. and saw an unknown subject sitting in a porch chair. The suspect grabbed the victim. After a struggle the suspect fled the scene. The suspect was wearing all dark clothing. He was described as being 5 feet 7 inches with a chubby build. A search of the area was conducted and no one was located.

A second incident was reported July 18 when a

group of friends were outside of a residence on Wild Meadow Court when they saw an unknown subject dressed in dark clothing walking around their home. The immediate area was searched, including a portion of the Washington & Old Dominion trail.

It is unclear at this time if these cases are related. Member of the Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division are researching other suspicious person calls in the county.

The agency is reminding residents to report any suspicious activity or persons to the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office at 703-777-1021. Anyone with information on any of the prowler cases contact the Loudoun Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division at 703-777-0475.

In Need of Blood Donations

FROM PAGE 6

ence this nationwide every summer."

HILEMAN ATTRIBUTES the summer shortages not only to people being preoccupied, but more importantly, to the fact that school is not in session. High school and college campus blood drives are usually the foundation of the donations and with students not in classrooms,

"All types [of blood] are very important to us. We are using it as fast as we are getting it."

— **Rebecca Hileman, Inova Health Blood Donor Services, assistant director**

the drives cannot be held.

In addition to the summer downturn, Hileman said that simply getting people to donate is difficult in the first place. She said less than 40 percent of people are eligible to donate blood and that less than 5 percent of those eligible actually does. This fact is alarming considering that Inova Blood Donor Services is responsible not only for providing blood to those in Loudoun County, but for six local hospitals plus the National Naval and Walter Reed Army Medical Centers.

While certain kinds of blood are facing a greater shortage than others, Hileman said that the donor center cannot be overly discerning

when it comes to actual blood type. She said that they do not ask for specific types, as all are needed to sustain the area.

"All types [of blood] are very important to us," Hileman said. "We are using it as fast as we are getting it."

Inova planned several events for the summer in an effort to get people to the donor center at Dulles Town Center or other nearby Inova locations. In addition to the daily blood drives, the center has created a program called "Make It A Life Saving Summer 2008," which is aimed at bringing people out in larger numbers. Under the guidelines of the program, any person who donates blood now until Sept. 30 will be entered into a drawing to have a chance to win a Caribbean cruise, an iPod, big-screen television, \$500 gas card and many other prizes.

HILEMAN SAID a new law passed by the Virginia State Legislature will also help in their quest to receive donations. Prior to July 1, the minimum age to donate blood was 17

"Our mission everyday is to have a safe and adequate supply of blood."

— **Rebecca Hileman**

but in response to the ever-shrinking pool of eligible candidates, a law was passed allowing 16-year-olds to donate with permission from a parent or legal guardian.

"Our mission everyday is to have a safe

and adequate supply of blood," Hileman said. "We want people to be aware there is the classic summer shortage of blood and that we are counting on our donors."

— **JUSTIN FANIZZI**

Looking for Help from Board

FROM PAGE 6

said the couple was looking for an opportunity to move out of Loudoun.

ALL OF THE supervisors present agreed that changes needed to be made. Supervisors Kelly Burk (D-Leesburg) and Sally Kurtz (D-Catoctin) were not in attendance.

"We're together, we're united and we're not going to take it anymore," Delgaudio said. He thanked the other supervisors for coming out to hear his constituents and for recent action the board has taken, such as the tall grass ordinance, an upcoming online zoning violation complaint form and allowing the

Sheriff's Office to begin working with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

"I will say for certain, I've heard plenty, which will cause me to go home and think about the issues you all face in this community," Supervisor Jim Burton (I-Blue Ridge) said. "Clearly, some things need to change here in Sterling."

Supervisor Stevens Miller (D-Dulles) cautioned against pinning all of the problems on illegal immigrants, saying that less than 5 percent of the gang members arrested in the county are here illegally. He said he wanted to tackle problems as they arose, not because they were being perpetrated by a certain demographic.

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OPINION

Seeking More Diversity at TJ

Start by nurturing passion for science in young students from all backgrounds.

Why does it matter how many students of different ethnic or racial groups apply or are accepted to Fairfax County's world-famous math and science magnet school?

The problem isn't so much what happens at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. In a county of more than a million people, and more than 165,000 public-school students, the population at TJ is a drop in the bucket.

EDITORIAL What matters is how the county is nurturing passion and talent for math, science and other subjects in all 137 elementary schools and then in its 26 middle schools.

In 2004, a Blue Ribbon Commission addressed concerns about under-represented minority groups at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. The under-represented groups are African-American and Latino students, who do not apply for admission in numbers proportional to their enrollment in the school system.

That commission recommended that admissions look at students more holistically and depend less on strict cutoffs of grade point averages and test scores.

We don't really know how that "holistic approach" has worked in the admissions trenches. The initial pool of applicants to be considered has about doubled, but the number African-American and Latino applicants has, if anything, decreased.

THE 2004 COMMISSION found black stu-

dents accounted for 1.1 percent of TJ's students and Hispanics making up 2.4 percent. And though one out of five students in Fairfax County is poor enough to qualify for free and reduced-price meals, only one out of every 100 students at TJ is poor by the same standards.

The student population granted admission for fall 2007 was about 1.86 percent African-American (nine students) and 2.06 percent Hispanic (10 students).

It's time for schools to consider each individual student. Every first-grade teacher in every elementary school should be asked to identify a half-dozen to a dozen students who have interest in math and science. All students should be exposed to hands-on science, field work in the natural world and experiments that will light up the interests of young minds.

Of course we know that the current curriculum is supposed to accomplish this and that high stakes testing in elementary school has also put more focus on certain areas. But we wonder whether the focus on testing has forced more of an academic, paper and pencil approach, rather than investing in the excitement of discovery.

But by having a list starting in first grade and moving forward through elementary school of students with passion for science, the schools will have data and resources to nur-

ture these students. It's a powerful motivator for a teacher to tell a student as young as 6 or 7 or 8 that he or she has a special talent or love for science, or math, and that the student might want to consider being a scientist when he or she grows up.

Focusing on individual children in elementary schools that have the highest percentage of poor children is also essential.

THIS SORT OF approach will result in more students, of all races and economic background, excelling in math and science across the board, not just at TJ.

But in addition, half the slots at TJ should be assigned by middle school, on a percentage basis, so that students from different geographic locations in the county have guaranteed access to the school. And encouraging students who qualify for free and reduced-priced meals, students who are from poor families, is also critical.

Real passion for science, the kind of passion that results in young men and women choosing careers in science, is not measured in test scores and grades. It's measured in enthusiasm and attention. If as School Board members say, they want to see TJ add to the number of people who go on to be leaders in math and science, they'll have to find a way to foster and measure passion and interest.

A recent proposal to have a 3.0 grade point cutoff for applicants is not a step in that direction.

— MARY KIMM

Applying to TJ

Eighth-grade students who live with their parent or legal guardian who resides full time in a participating school district — the counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Fauquier, Loudoun, or Prince William or the city of Falls Church — are eligible to apply to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. See <http://www.fcps.edu/news/tj.htm> or <http://information.tjhsst.edu/admissions/>.

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 or e-mail loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call 703-917-6454; for additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

The **book discussion group** at the Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will meet Tuesday, **Aug. 19**, from noon-1:30 p.m. August selection "Little Dorrit," by Charles Dickens. Interested members welcome. Call 703-430-2397.

La Voz of Loudoun, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, received a \$1,000 donation to support the English and Family Integration Program from Dominion Virginia Power. The program provides English language instruction, life skills instruction and information to the parents and family members of at-risk youth. The program helps to provide encouragement and support to recent immigrants as they integrate into the Loudoun Community and is the result of a collaboration between La Voz of Loudoun, the Loudoun Community Services Board (LCCSB) After School Program and the Fields of Leesburg

Management Company.

Countryside Quilters meet the **first and third Tuesday** of each month, 7:30 p.m., at the Community Lutheran Church, 21014 Whitfield Place, Sterling. Guild activities include book and fabric exchanges, workshops, speakers, field trips and community service projects. Call Leanne, 703-304-6721.

MADD Loudoun announces the new MADD Loudoun Victim Support Groups for families/significant others who have been impacted by a drunk-driving crash. The group is for families, significant others who lost a loved one, for injured survivors and their families. The MADD Loudoun Victim Support Group will meet on the **third Wednesday** of each month, 7:30 p.m., at 210 Wirt St., Leesburg.

The **Sterling Silvers** at the Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, meet **Tuesdays** at 11:30 a.m. Call 703-430-2397.

The **Loudoun Walking and Volkssport Club** invites the public to check out its self-guided year-round walks. The club offers eight walks in the county that can be done any day at just about any time. Contact 703-737-2175.



Snapshot James Russell and Madeline Arthur, both of Sterling, react after being asked back for a second audition for a chance to be in the ensemble for an upcoming production of "Les Miserables," at Wolf Trap, at auditions held at Tysons Corner Center July 19. The two friends live on the same street.

THE CONNECTION

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The Douglass Community Center, 405 East Market St., Leesburg, has openings in the **child-care program** for children ages 3-5. Program hours are 7 a.m.-6:15 p.m., Monday-Friday. Call 703-771-5910.

Riverside Presbyterian Church middle-schoolers are heading to **Ligonier Camp**, from **Aug. 3-7**. Includes high/low ropes, caving, zip line, white water rafting, water park, Christian speakers and more. Cost: \$285. Visit www.ligoniercamp.org. To register, visit www.riversidechurch.com or call Daniel or Linda, 703-444-3528.

Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church will be holding a "**PowerLab**" **vacation Bible school**, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., **Aug. 3-7**, at Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church, 43115 Waxpool Road, Ashburn. Each day there will be a family dinner at 5:30 p.m. with the program beginning at 6 p.m. Parents are encouraged to eat with the children every day and participate in the opening and closing parts of the program. Cost: \$10 per child with a maximum of \$20 per person. Register online at <http://www.oswlc.org>.

Dance Camp. Children ages 11 and

up can learn the foundations of dance and build technique at this workshop, held at the Creative Dance Center, 20604 Gordon Park Square, Ashburn. The camp runs, from **Aug. 4-8**, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and costs \$150 per child. Ballet or jazz shoes required. To register, contact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

Children can acquire new art skills at the **Abrakadoodle minidoodlers camp**. Located at the Douglass Community Center, 405 East Market St., Leesburg, the camp is for children ages 20 months-3 years and the remaining session is **Aug. 5-7**, from 1:30-2:15 p.m. Cost: \$60 per session. To register, contact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

Congregation Sha'are Shalom is accepting registration for Jewish education preschool at the Rosie Uran Jewish Education Center.

Classes are available for children as young as 18 months attending with an adult caregiver. Information is available at http://www.sha-areshalom.org/edu_rujec.php or call Sheri Brown 703-737-0686.

The Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling, is offering **Handwriting without Tears** summer camp for ages 3-6; **Printing Success** for ages 6-7; and **Get Crackin with Cursive** for ages 8 and up, Mondays-Fridays for two hours. Cost: \$150 plus \$10 supply fee.

Call 571-258-3500 for dates and times.

session will be held, from 7-10 p.m., at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy, 45299 Research Place, Ashburn. Registration required, contact Audra Vogel at 571-258-3049.

Scrapbooking workshop, Wednesday, **Aug. 13**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Learn how to scrapbook or update some scrap booking skills. Cost: \$10. Child care for ages 2-6 will be available for a nominal charge. Call 703-430-9480.

The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, is offering a **ceramics class**, **Thursday, Aug. 21**, from 10:30 a.m.-noon. Cost: \$21 for members, \$22 for nonmembers. Advance registration required, call 703-430-2397.

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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CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

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Children ages 3-5 can celebrate summer with arts, crafts and group play at the **summer explorers** precamp. Classes meet for one week, Wednesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., **July 30-Aug. 1**. Cost: \$25. Advance registration required, call 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

Jazz dance workshop with Kellie Goosens, Thursday, **July 31**, 6-7:30 p.m., at Depot Court, Leesburg. Cost: \$10. Contact: benjamin.shoenberger@loudoun.gov or call 540-338-7973. Workshop being offered by VSAarts of Loudoun County.

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

Jazz dance workshop with Kellie Goosens, Thursday, **Aug. 7**, 6-7:30 p.m., at Depot Court, Leesburg. Cost: \$10. Contact: benjamin.shoenberger@loudoun.gov or call 540-338-7973. Workshop being offered by VSAarts of Loudoun County.

The Loudoun Sheriff's Office will hold its **29th women's self-defense workshop** Tuesday, **Aug. 12**. The class is open to all female residents of Loudoun County over the age of 14. The



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Moving Together

Riders gear up to compete in the Caroline Muldoon Pas de Deux Cup Challenge.

BY MATTHEW RAZAK
THE CONNECTION

Combining pair's figure skating and horse riding might at first seem like a bad idea full of injured people and horses. However, when the graceful choreographed movements of ice skating and the style and form of dressage riding are combined then the result is something called a pas de deux and according to the riders who participate in it, it is absolutely stunning. Residents will be able to see for themselves though as Morven Park will be hosting the Caroline Muldoon Pas de Deux Cup Challenge, Saturday, Aug. 9, as part of its Summer Fling Dressage Show.

"The challenge is a competition based on two horses performing a choreographed performance to music," Charlie Muldoon, director of development at Morven Park, said. "The basis of it is a type of equine sport called dressage. This is one of the higher up competitions of it. Two riders and horses come together and practice for months to get ready. It's a rare competition because it takes so much time to prepare for and it's one of the more exciting events of the dressage world."

THE EVENT, which is named after Muldoon's mother Caroline for her work with horses in the area, is one of the more prominent pas de deux competitions. The cup attracts a strong group of riders, as it is one of the few competitions to offer a cash prize of \$5,000 for winning. So far, the event is scheduled to have eight groups of riders.

"My daughters were amazed that horses could do the movement and be so synchronized with such wonderful choreography. It just held their attention," Kelly Plunkett, who attended the event last year and is now working with it, said. "For me it was just amazing to see the level of expertise with the horse and the rider."

In the competition, two riders perform a routine that must feature certain move sets that judges will follow. The event is freestyle, so riders choreograph their own routines around a song and then get the horses to work together within it. Competitors are judged on their synchronization, style and difficulty and the scores go toward their year-long point score.

"One of the big things about it is that they're riding in front of international



A pair of riders at last year's Pax de Deux Cup Challenge.

judges," Muldoon said. "The show has international judges there and they'll be performing in front of crowd, so you really see the best come out of these competitors."

THAT CROWD is composed of not only dressage fans but people from all over said Plunkett and the entire event is designed around the family coming and having fun and learning. People are encouraged to bring food or a picnic while they watch the competitions or they can buy it from vendors that will be at Morven Park. Much of the proceeds from the event will benefit programs at Morven Park and while there is a VIP tent that costs a bit more, ticket prices are kept low so that anyone can attend.

"We'd love everybody to come. The tradition of the riders is to be in black coats and a tie and all that stuff, but the tradition on the outside is for everybody. It's just so beautiful there and everything is for the public to come watch," Muldoon said.

"One of the things I'm really trying to let people know about is that you don't have to be in the equestrian community to enjoy this," Plunkett said. "We want people to come out and have a good time and have a great Saturday afternoon."

The event will also allow for attendees to get a truly up-close and personal view of the horses and the riders. Not only will the rid-

ers be around to answer questions about riding and horses, but they will also be happy to talk with children and adults about the sport.

"This year there will be tables and people can come up and talk and ask questions. Any event rider loves to have people come and say 'hi' and talk with us about everything," Stephanie Alvoud, of Waterford, who has competed in the cup for the past two years along with her daughter, said.

The arena and seating for the event is also one of the best for viewing say the cup's organizers. All of the seats are up close and allow for a great view of the riding unlike at some other competitions where bleachers move the audience further away. This allows for viewers to really get a grasp on what the riders are doing and appreciate the difficulty of the choreography.

"The great thing about this is that the seats are set up right to the arena, so everybody regardless of ticket, has front row seats. Everybody has great seats," Muldoon said.

FOR THE RIDERS this is a chance to perform in front of a large crowd or people that isn't comprised of horse enthusiasts and other competitors. The ride is one of the more difficult things to do and getting it all working together can be challenging, but performing in front of a large crowd is something that makes it easier for both the horse and the rider.

"I like the atmosphere a lot [at Morven Park], being around all the people helps you



Summer Music Fest

This year the Loudoun Summer Music Festival has had it a bit rough with the weather. The yearly concert series that brings some of the biggest names in music to the area for concerts to support local charities has had seven out of 10 concerts affected by weather conditions this year. While the series isn't in danger of being canceled it is in need of more funds so the last show of the season featuring KC and the Sunshine Band is incredibly important said Tracey Parent, the president of the Loudoun Foundation and the Summer Music Festival.

"It's really important for a handful of reasons," she said. "It's a great community event and it brings residents together for something they can enjoy plus everything is donated to a good cause."

KC will perform, at 5 p.m., at the Belmont Country Club, 19661 Belmont Manor Lane, Ashburn. Food, beer and wine available for purchase and the cost for entry is \$17 in advance, \$20 at the gate, children under 6 free.

"We bring KC back every year because he does such an amazing show. It seems like everybody has a good time at KC's show. You see grandparents dancing with children so we want it to go off with a big bang," Parent said.

Call 703-327-9096 or visit www.liveatbelmont.com for tickets.

More

The pas de deux will take place at Morven Park International Equestrian Center, 41793 Tutt Lane, Leesburg, Saturday, Aug. 9, from 5-8 p.m. Adults are \$25 with children 12 and under \$5. Visit www.morvenpark.org.

SEE TWO, PAGE 12

THE ARTS

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 loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call 703-917-6454; for additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Last Chance

The Arts Council of Fairfax County and the Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) present the annual juried exhibition Arts Council @ GRACE, **through Aug. 1**. Art works in all media by 21 artists, including Sterling artist **Elissa Farrow-Savos**, will be exhibited at the GRACE gallery located in Reston Town Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. The GRACE gallery is open Tuesdays-Saturdays, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Visit www.restonarts.org or call GRACE at 703-471-9242.

Paintings and drawings by Arlington resident **Frederick Markham** will be on exhibit, from **through Aug. 1**, at the Waddell Art Gallery at the Loudoun Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 1000 Harry Flood Byrd Highway, Sterling. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Mondays-Fridays. Contact Donald Depuydt at 703-450-2627 or ddepuydt@nvcc.edu.

Medlin Art announces it is celebrating its 25th year in business. A reception will be held at the gallery at 2 Loudoun St., S.E., Friday, **Aug. 1**, from 4-9 p.m. and Saturday, **Aug. 2**, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Ongoing

The Sterling Playmakers present "**Okla-homa!**" weekends **through Aug. 10**, at Potomac Falls High School, 46400 Algonkian Parkway, Sterling. Showtimes are Fridays and Saturdays, at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Cost: \$15 reserved, \$12 general admission. Call 703-437-6117 or visit www.sterlingplaymakers.com.

A series of **aerial photographs** by Loudoun County photographer Jim Hanna is on exhibit at Washington Dulles International Airport **through Aug. 26**. The exhibit, coordinated by the Washington Metropolitan Airport Authority and Gallery 222, is the fourth in the program's rotating series of displays.

The exhibit is installed in the area beyond the security checkpoints in the Main Terminal on the Arrivals Level. Visit www.gallery222.com.

Coming Soon

The Artists' Undertaking Gallery in Historic Occoquan presents "Etched in Time," an exhibit of etchings by Roger Frey of Woodbridge and etched and fused glass by **David Barnes** of Sterling. The exhibit runs **Aug. 5-Sept. 1**.

An artist reception will be held Saturday, Aug. 9, from 4-6 p.m. The gallery is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, and is located at 309 Mill St. in Historic Occoquan. Contact the gallery at 703-494-0584 or at www.theartistsundertaking.com.

Aurora Dinner Theatre presents playwright Tina Howe's comedy of manners, "**The Art of Dining**," to be produced at West Belmont Place, National Conference Center, 18980 Upper Belmont Place, Lansdowne, **Aug. 8-17**. Cost: \$65 per person, including tax and tip and are available by visiting www.AuroraStudioTheatre.org, tickets must be purchased in advance. Fridays and Saturdays, dinner at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m., dessert at intermission.

Sundays, dinner at 2 p.m., show at 3 p.m., dessert at intermission. Visit www.AuroraStudioTheatre.org or call 540-668-7072.

OUTDOORS

Fluttering About Loudoun

There are more than 80 species of butterflies living in Loudoun County, so it's acceptable to feel a little behind on seeing them all. Residents should be able to knock out a good chunk of the species list Aug. 2, when the 12th Annual Loudoun County Butterfly Count will be occurring. On that day participants usually see more than 50 species of butterfly while helping the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy get information on the county's butterfly population.

"It got started back in 1997 and we had a person who was doing some casual recording of butterfly species around Loudoun County and he was finding that there were a lot of species around the county. There was this national butterfly count every summer so why though why don't we start one of our own," Nicole Hamilton, the butterfly count's coordinator and former president of Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy, said.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE count will be divided into groups, each being led by a local butterfly expert. The groups meet at different points and go throughout the county to butterfly hot spots to start counting and identifying butterflies. One team member is in charge of keeping track of numbers and species and the others identify, with the help of guides, the plethora of butterflies they see.

"By the end of the day you can't believe that in this radius you've seen so many different butterflies," Hamilton said. "It's really cool. Some species are just really rare like the Giant Swallow Tail, we might see one every few years or so."

Hamilton said that the count is not just a great way to see butterflies, but a good way for anyone to spend a fun day outside. While the counts last till around 4 p.m. usually people in the groups are able to come and go as long as they arrange it ahead of time, which is useful for people with children who, Hamilton said, are some of the best butterfly spotters. Many participants will bring binoculars and some food to help them through the day. The count also avoids double counting butterflies via the simple tactic of being careful.

"As we go, we don't back track. We stay as a group and each team usually has five or



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

An American Lady.

six people on it so it isn't so unwieldy. So we'll come up to a certain garden area and then we'll move forward from there and if we see a butterfly is moving with us we don't count it twice. You just make sure you're not doing the back track," Hamilton said.

The data from the count will be used for a variety of purposes not the least of which is tracking the population of butterflies throughout Loudoun County and establishing how much an impact development is having on their habitats. The count will be compared to previous years and the numbers will all be sent to the national butterfly count to map nationwide populations.

Hamilton said that the butterfly population in Loudoun is constantly changing. "A few years ago there was an amazing field of wild flowers, which was great for butterflies and unfortunately it got developed so now

its just a housing development with lawns. In the data we collect we take note of impact that development causes. So we're keeping track of those habitats."

As for this year's count Hamilton isn't too sure how the numbers will turn out. The extremely wet summer the area is having could cause both an increase or a decrease depending on how it has impacted the butterfly's habitats. The rain could be producing a lot more plants for the butterflies to feed on but at the same time it can wash away eggs and hurt the caterpillars.

"We're really not sure what to expect, but either way it will be a really fun day," Hamilton said.

To register visit www.loudounwildlife.org/butterfly_count.htm or call 540-882-9638 or e-mail nhamilton@loudounwildlife.org.

— MATTHEW RAZAK

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 loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call 703-917-6454; for additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 30

ARCHAEOLOGY DAY. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. All ages. Help screen, wash and sort artifacts behind the Lanesville House in Claude Moore Park's Historic District. Free. 571-258-3700.

STORIES WITH A TWIST. 4 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Listen to Barbara Spilman Lawson's unforgettable and extraordinary stories and songs, presented in her own unique and hilarious manner. All ages. Free,

limited tickets will be available, starting half an hour before the performance. 703-430-9500.
1960s FILMS. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Watch "Blowup," just one of several films from the 1960s that the Ashburn Library will be showing on Wednesdays throughout the summer. Recommended for adults; admission is free. Visit www.lcpl.lib.va.us for a complete listing of future movie showings.
TEEN MYSTERY NIGHT: ROCK 'N ROLL OVER DEAD. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Sterling. Can you solve the mystery with the evidence and clues presented? Ages 12-18. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-444-3228.

THURSDAY/JULY 31

TWILIGHT TUNES. 7:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 605 W. Market St., Leesburg.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 12



Bird Encounters

Leesburg Animal Park, 19270 James Monroe Highway, has opened a free-flight Lory aviary, featuring four different species of Lory parrots. Visitors can hand-feed these rainbow-colored birds for a small fee. Admissions are \$7.95 for children and seniors, \$9.95 for adults, children under 2 are free. Expanded park hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Visit www.LeesburgAnimalPark.com or call 703-433-0002.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE

Music by the Phoenix Swing Band. Bring a chair or blanket, food available for purchase. Concert will be indoors in the event of rain. Free; donations accepted for the pipe organ fund. Call 703-777-4912.

FRIDAY/AUG. 1

TODDLER ONE & TWO. 11 a.m., Rust @ Catocin Library, 34D Catocin



Lafayette Day returns to Temple Hall Farm Regional Park in Leesburg, Aug. 9.

Circle, Leesburg. Includes stories, rhymes and movement; parachute play for toddlers. Recommended for ages 12-24 months with parent or caregiver. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-777-0690.

CI IS FOR CRIME CAPER! 5:30 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. A crime has been committed at the library, follow the clues to rescue a special work of art. Ages 7-11. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-737-8100.

STORY TIME MATINEE: The Mysterious Tadpole. 2 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Louis' uncle has given him a tadpole for his birthday. As he watches the tadpole grow, it soon becomes clear that it is not turning into an ordinary frog. Ages 3-6. 703-737-8100.

JAZZ ON THE POTOMAC. 5:30-10 p.m., Lansdowne Resort, 44050 Woodbridge Parkway, Lansdowne. Features Sharon Thomas Experience. Includes summer foods prepared by the culinary team. Call 703-729-8400 or visit <http://www.lansdowneresort.com>.

FROM SWANN'S CASTLE TO GOVERNOR'S MANSION: EXPLORING AN OLD SOUTHERN ESTATE. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Morven Park, 17263 Southern Planter Lane, Leesburg. Learn Morven Park's history from 19th century plantation to early 20th century hunt country estate and working farm. Guided tours include exhibits, carriage collection, Confederate huts and outdoor walk around property. Cost: adults \$5, children \$1. Meet at Coach House Visitors Center. Call 703-777-6034.

SATURDAY/AUG. 2

ACOUSTIC ON THE GREEN. 7-9 p.m., at the Leesburg Town Green, 25 West Market St., Leesburg. Featuring Michael Sheppard. Free, visit www.acousticonthegreen.com.

NYC TRIP. 6:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m., Bus departs from and returns to Stein Mart, 1021 Edwards Ferry Road, N.E., Leesburg. Travel by luxury motor coach to New York City. Cost: \$60 per person; individuals under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Must register at the Douglass Community Center, 405 East Market St., Leesburg; call 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

FROM SWANN'S CASTLE TO GOVERNOR'S MANSION:

EXPLORING AN OLD SOUTHERN ESTATE. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Morven Park, 17263 Southern Planter Lane, Leesburg. See Aug. 1 item for details.

SUNDAY/AUG. 3

MONTHLY BREAKFAST. 8 a.m.-noon, Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, 20688 Ashburn Road. Breakfast of pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, gravy and biscuits, hash browns, coffee and juices. Features monthly themes and Kids Activity Corner; apparatus bay area is open to children of all ages. Cost: adults \$6, ages 3-8 \$4, under 3 free and seniors \$5. Call 703-729-0006.

BLUEMONT CONCERT SERIES. 7 p.m., lawn of the Loudoun County Courthouse, Leesburg. Features Holmes Brothers: Gospel and blues. Bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on and a picnic to enjoy before the show. Cost: \$5 per person, \$4 for Bluemont Friends and seniors, \$2 for children 12 and under; proceeds go to support Bluemont's year-round Artist-In-Education program in area schools. Contact the Bluemont office at 540-338-4640 or www.bluemont.org.

SUMMER MUSIC FEST. 5 p.m., Belmont Country Club, 19661 Belmont Manor Lane, Ashburn. The Loudoun Summer Music Fest presents KC and The Sunshine Band. Food, beer and wine available for purchase. Cost: \$17 in advance, \$20 at the gate, children under 6 free. Call 703-327-9096 or visit www.liveatbelmont.com.

RUMMAGE SALE. 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Congregation Sha'are Shalom, 19357 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg. All items will be marked down to half-price after 1 p.m. Call Congregation Sha'are Shalom at 703-737-6500 visit www.shaareshalom.org/.

TRAVEL THROUGH TIME. 1-4 p.m., Morven Park, 17263 Southern Planter Lane, Leesburg. Take a guided tour through a collection of 19th century horse-drawn vehicles, including coaches, sleighs, carts, buggies and a hearse from the 1800s. Cost: adults \$5, children \$1. Meet at Coach House Visitor Center. Call 703-777-6034.

SUNDAY NATURE WALK. 1-2:30 p.m., Rust Nature Sanctuary, 802 Childrens Center Road, Leesburg. Look for signs of spring. For adults and children over 10. Free. Visit www.audubonnaturalist.org.

MONDAY/AUG. 4

MYSTERIOUS REPTILES ALIVE! 11 a.m., Loudoun County Extension Office Program Room, 30B Catocin Circle (for Rust Library); 2:30 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030, Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls; 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Discover the mysteries of reptiles in this live animal presentation. All ages. Limited, free tickets will be available starting half an hour before the performance. Extension Office, 703-777-0690; Cascades, 703-444-3228; Ashburn, 703-737-8100.

FROM SWANN'S CASTLE TO GOVERNOR'S MANSION: EXPLORING AN OLD SOUTHERN ESTATE. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Morven Park, 17263 Southern Planter Lane, Leesburg. See Aug. 1 item for details.

TUESDAY/AUG. 5

RIBBITING TALES and Facts about Slimy Frogs! 2 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Alonso Abuggatas, a naturalist with Arlington County will share facts and stories about frogs includes live frogs to see and touch. All ages. Limited, free tickets are available at the library starting half an hour before the program. 703-444-3228.

MOVIE AT THE LIBRARY. 2 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Watch "National Treasure 2: Book of Secrets" on the library's big screen. For teens. Limited, free tickets available at the library starting half an hour before the program. 703-430-9500.

ESL CONVERSATION GROUP. ESL Conversation Group. 7-9 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. The English Conversation Group is an informal conversation circle for non-native speakers to practice speaking English. This is not a class, but an opportunity to meet new people, share your culture and have fun. Only English will be spoken and all levels are welcome. Recommended for adults. Visit <http://library.loudoun.gov>.

KEEPIN' COOL. 9:30-11 a.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. How do furry foxes and feathered cardinals stay cool under the blazing sun? Discover what they do and try their cool ways yourself. Cost: \$10.50. Call 571-258-3700.

BEACH JEWELRY MAKING. 2-4 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Make jewelry items out of



shells and found objects. All supplies provided. No previous jewelry making experience necessary. Ages 12-18. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-737-8100, Ext. 4.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 6

MYSTERIOUS REPTILES ALIVE! 4 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Discover the mysteries of reptiles in this live animal presentation. All ages. Limited, free tickets will be available starting half an hour before the performance. 703-430-9500.

1960s FILMS. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Watch "Rosemary's Baby," just one of several films from the 1960s that the Ashburn Library will be showing on Wednesdays throughout the summer. Recommended for adults; admission is free. Visit www.lclpl.lib.va.us for a complete listing of future movie showings.

MYSTERIOUS REPTILES. 4 p.m., Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. An educational show featuring a giant python, alligator, African tortoise, monitor lizard and other reptiles. Free. Call 703-430-9480.

THURSDAY/AUG. 7

MISTER DON. 2 p.m., Loudoun County

RIDING



Riders at last year's event.

Two by Two

FROM PAGE II

get into the rides. I think it's a lot more fun when you have more people out there to watch," Adriane Alvoud, 14, who will be competing in the pas de deux with a friend and also riding in a quadrille event, which is four horses performing instead of just two, said.

Aside from that, riders like the pas de deux because it is fun to ride with someone else in what is usually a solo sport. But the event isn't just exciting for the riders. Both Alvouds said that the horses really get into it, too.

"The music really helps and I think the horses get a bit more show offish and it's just beautiful. It has a nice harmony. I think they usually like moving so in sync. They look forward to it," Stephanie Alvoud said.

"These horses are finally tuned and they're waiting for a signal from the riders," Muldoon said. "The riders and the horses are on the same wave length mentally and physically and keeping them correctly together is what the rider does. They're so precise and you're down to a foot apart and the horse doesn't make a move until the rider says to make a certain move."

While this kind of precision riding takes an expert to accomplish, one does not need to be one to watch it. Much like figure skating, the movements and actions of the horses can be appreciated by anyone said Stephanie Alvoud.

"It's just very interesting to be able to see the movements and the horses and see how well everything fits together," Adriane Alvoud said.

Extension Office, 30B Catocin Circle (for Rust @ Catocin Library). Join Mr. Don for an interactive children's music program, includes sing alongs, motion songs, marching and dancing. Ages 4 and up. Limited, free tickets are available half an hour before the performance. 703-777-0690.

SECRET CODES AND CIPHERS. 2 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Learn about some famous codes, how to write and decipher codes, make invisible ink and more. Ages 8-12. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-430-9500.

FRIDAY/AUG. 8

TODDLER ONE & TWO. 11 a.m., Rust @ Catocin Library, 34D Catocin Circle, Leesburg. Includes stories, rhymes and movement; parachute play for toddlers. Recommended for ages 12-24 months with parent or caregiver. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-777-0690.

JAZZ ON THE POTOMAC. 5:30-10 p.m., Lansdowne Resort, 44050 Woodbridge Parkway, Lansdowne. Features Double Digit. Includes summer foods prepared by the

culinary team. Call 703-729-8400 or visit <http://www.lansdowneresort.com>.

INSECTS FOR EVERYBODY. 10-11 a.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Join an insect scientist and park volunteer to explore the beetles, butterflies, dragonflies, etc. that live in the park. Call 571-258-3700 to register. An adult must accompany children.

DETECTIVE DICTIONARY. 10:30 a.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls and 2 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. A blend of storytelling, acting and inventive theatrics, this original play explores the language arts including spelling, reading and much more. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

OPEN SKATE NIGHT. 5-7 p.m., Douglass Community Center hockey rink, 405 E. Market St., Leesburg. Bring skates or Rollerblades for a night of skating on the outdoor rink. Cost: \$1. Call 703-771-5913.

SATURDAY/AUG. 9

BOOK SWAP. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling. Call 571-258-3500.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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 loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call 703-917-6454.

Help eradicate hunger by visiting **St. Gabriel's Saturday Night Life** service, **Aug. 2**, at 5:30 p.m. Enjoy the music of super group U2 and lively worship. The offering will be given to Bread for the World to fund its fight against hunger.

Nonperishable food donations are being collected for Interfaith Relief. The church is located at 14 Cornwall St., N.W., Leesburg. Call 703-779-3616.

Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation, 21740 Beaumeade Circle, Suite 100, Ashburn, will have an erev Shabbat family service and one for prospective members Friday, **Aug. 8**, at 7 p.m. Welcome the Sabbath Bride with Rabbi Gallop.

Families with young children are invited and encouraged to attend. E-mail worshipvp@brcrva.org or call 703-729-1659.

Galilee United Methodist Church, 45425 Winding Road, Sterling, invites the community to its evening contemporary worship service at 6 p.m., **every Sunday**, featuring the Winding Road praise band. Sunday school is available for children in kindergarten through third grade, and child

care is available for the younger children. Visit www.GalileeUMC.org or contact the church office at 703-430-2203.

The **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** meet on Sunday mornings, at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 21355 Davis Drive near Route 28 and Church Road. Call 703-406-3068 or visit uusterling.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 Gledsville Road in Leesburg. UUCL is a welcoming congregation and invites everyone to attend Sunday services. Call the church at 703-737-7644.

COMMUNITY NOTES

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 loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call 703-917-6454; for additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

The Loudoun County Department of Family Services is accepting **cooling assistance applications** through Friday, **Aug. 15**, as part of the Virginia Department of Social Services' (VDSS) Energy Assistance Program. Applications may be picked up at the Department of Family Services, located at 102 Heritage Way, N.E., Suite 103, Leesburg. Call 703-777-0353 to have an application mailed. Applications also

may be downloaded from the state government Web site at www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/ea/.

The **Giving Circle of HOPE**, which helps needy people in Northern Virginia by awarding grants and conducting service programs, has opened its 2008 grant cycle. Grants of \$1,000-\$5,000 are awarded to nonprofit organizations in December through a competitive process. Grant guidelines and applications are due by **Sept. 1** and may be accessed at www.givingcircleofHOPE.org or requested by e-mail at givingcircle@hotmail.com.

The Loudoun County Department of Building and Development has launched an **awards program** to identify and recognize development projects in Loudoun County for their efforts to pre-

serve the county's natural resources through erosion and sediment control.

The program encourages nominations from individuals, industry representatives and county staff to identify those projects that have demonstrated sensitivity to environmental protection issues and continued attention to these issues throughout the duration of construction.

The award categories are single-family residential; multi-family residential community; commercial/recreational/public projects; linear or atypical projects and tree preservation.

More information, including a link to the online nomination form, can be found at www.loudoun.gov/bd-environmental-awards or by calling the Department of Building & Development, 703-777-0397.

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21598 Goodwin Ct.	\$674,900	Sun 1-5	Sarah Armstrong	Weichert	703-298-0686
19973 Hazeltine Pl.	\$794,900	Sun 1-5	Sarah Armstrong	Weichert	703-298-0686
22050 Hyde Park Dr.	\$749,000	Sun 1-4	Lisa Thurston	RE/MAX	703-652-5773
43183 Riders Sq.	\$399,500	Sun 1-5	Sarah Armstrong	Weichert	703-298-0686
43316 Lochdon Ln.	\$685,000	Sun 1-4	Kathy Worek	RE/MAX	703-401-4376

Hamilton

17391 Madison Ave.	\$434,900	Sun 1-4	Sherry Wilson	RE/MAX	540-338-6300
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Leesburg

412 Blue Ridge Ave., NE	\$359,500	Sun 1-4	Christopher Antonelli	Long & Foster	703-904-3700
138 Burnell Pl., SE	\$549,000	Sat 1-4	Lisa Thurston	RE/MAX	703-652-5773
18756 Harmony Church Rd.	\$425,000	Sun 1-4	Hunter deButts	Keller Williams	571-258-1515
812 Vanderbilt Ter., SE	\$299,900	Sun 1-4	John McCambridge	Samson	703-430-4234

Waterford

15426 Loyalty Rd.	\$589,900	Sat 12-2	Kristin Pangle	Long & Foster	703-779-2900
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Fairfax County

Herndon

12915 Alton Sq #205	\$247,000	Sun 1-4	Christopher Pezzana	Weichert	703-264-0000
2408 Hay Rake Ct	\$379,900	Sun 1-4	Sheryl Lambson	Keller Williams	703-535-3610
13451 Lake Shore Dr	\$499,999	Sun 1-4	Lorraine Arora	Coldwell Banker	571-435-8021

Reston

11208 Beaver Trail Ct	\$199,900	Sat 1-4	Carolyn Capalbo	Keller Williams	571-248-4999
2230 Cedar Cove Ct	\$478,314	Sun 1-4	William McKaig	Weichert	703-698-1399
1504 Church Hill Pl #1504	\$329,000	Sun 1-3	Sheri Daniel	Long & Foster	703-759-9190
1369 Garden Wall Cir #714	\$359,000	Sun 3-5	Sheri Daniel	Long & Foster	703-759-9190
1401 Newport Spring Ct	\$450,000	Sun 1-4	Kathleen Shipley	Long & Foster	703-437-3800
11408 Running Cedar Rd	\$529,000	Sun 1-4	David Young	Keller Williams	703-636-7300
11776 Stratford House Pl #808	\$579,900	Sun 1-4	Rula Mufti	Remax	703-648-1870
2032 Upper Lakes Dr	\$1,099,000	Sun 1-4	Debbie McGuire	Weichert	703-406-9009

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Lauri Swift or Winslow Wacker

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Swimming Celebration at CountrySide

Colonial Swim League's gold division concludes season in grand fashion.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

There was an electric, celebratory feel at last Saturday's Colonial Swim League (CSL) Gold Division postseason championships event.

The six-team meet, a qualifier for the upcoming CSL All-Stars, took place at CountrySide in Sterling, home of the CSL's CountrySide Waves.

The meet was the culmination of what has been another successful Gold Division season. Youngsters from all six of the division's teams were spirited and enthusiastic throughout the morning's 50 events. Although it was mostly an overcast day, the sun did sneak out from time to time and a nice breeze made the conditions comfortable for the viewing fans on hand at the community pool.

There were breaks throughout the morning races, giving swimmers a chance to socialize with teammates and, perhaps, visit friends from other teams. The aroma of cooked hamburgers and hot dogs in the air added to the festive feel.

Several of Saturday's top finishers were scheduled to compete at this Saturday's (Aug. 2) league All-Stars meet at Burke Centre pool from 8 a.m. to noon. The top swimmers from the CSL's Gold, Red, Blue and White Divisions will be on-hand to participate at that showcase event.



Swimmers from opposing teams got a chance to compete and make friends at Saturday's meet.

AT SATURDAY'S Gold Division championships, meet announcer Gary Mears kept fans on top of the action as he announced upcoming events and place finishers throughout the morning. Mears, like the kids competing in the pool, appeared to be enjoying the day.

"Summer swimming is fun," said Mears, during a break in the action. "Some of the kids are real accomplished swimmers who swim year round on their club teams."

Mears' son, Andy Mears, was part of the day's goings-on as an assistant coach for the host CountrySide club. Andy recently completed his freshmen year at the University of Maryland.

Gary said announcing such a big event

was not stressful, but fun.

"It's pretty smooth," he said. "I have the meet sheets, so I can keep track of the events."

Participating swimmers ranged in age from eight to 18.

Many of the youngsters and/or teenagers wore decorative artwork painted on their arms, legs, faces, stomachs or backs. One younger boy had a huge letter 'I' on the top of his back and a large 'M' underneath it, indicating he was particularly focused for his individual medley event.

One of the t-shirts worn by a member of the Arlington Knights of Columbus Holy Mackerels team summed up the day's priorities. It read, 'Swim Fast, Have a Blast.'

Winning and losing was secondary, as it has been throughout the Gold Division season, to having fun in the sport and spending quality time with teammates and friends.

It should be noted, however, that CountrySide carried a perfect 5-0 regular season record this summer to finish first overall in the Gold Division.

The Waves' coaches, Katie Endres and Reina Mason were both proud of their team's hard work ethic and accomplishments over the course of the season. A year ago, CountrySide experienced a winless summer of 2007, so the dramatic turnaround was quite impressive.

"We didn't have as many year round swimmers last year," said Endres, who said the '07 club had maybe four such athletes. "This year we have over 20."

Endres, a recent graduate of William & Mary, said her CountrySide squad worked hard in both practices and at meets.

"All of our kids worked real hard and were dedicated," she said. "They came to practice and were a great team this year."

Mason said one of the summer highlights

came in the Waves' final regular season meet at Arlington. Going into that meet, CountrySide was determined to win and finish the summer at a perfect 5-0. And they did just that.

"They were revved up," said Mason. "I never saw a team that wanted it so much. They worked hard at all their meets this season."

The participating teams at the Gold Division championships were: CountrySide Waves, Arlington Knights of Columbus, Chinquapin Wahoos, Glen Cove Pirates, Saratoga Stingrays, and the Sugarland Run Dolphins.

Gold Division Event Winners

Boys 8-under 25-free: Daniel Mullen
Girls 8-under 25-free: Madeline Macphail
Boys 9-10 50-free: Bryce Hartzel
Girls 9-10 50-free: Lauren Peterson
Boys 11-12 50-free: Ian Shackley
Girls 11-12 50-free: Kathleen Butler
Boys 13-14 50-free: Riley Jamison
Girls 13-14 50-free: Gloria Mavrova
Boys 15-18 50-free: Cole Jamison
Girls 15-18 50-free: Hilary Stetekluh
Boys 8-under 25-back: Jonathan Priest
Girls 8-under 25-back: Madeline Macphail
Boys 9-10 50-back: Nicolas Reeves
Girls 9-10 50-back: India Seldin
Boys 11-12 50-back: Javier Mery
Girls 11-12 50-back: Hannah Thomas
Boys 13-14 50-back: Riley Jamison
Girls 13-14 50-back: Carson Newton
Boys 15-18 50-back: Cole Jamison
Girls 15-18 50-back: Hilary Stetekluh
Boys 8-under 25-breast: Cole Riggins
Girls 8-under 25-breast: Elizabeth Moran
Boys 9-10 50-breast: Ben Ortt
Girls 9-10 50-breast: Bailey Hartzel
Boys 11-12 50-breast: Christopher Hann
Girls 11-12 50-breast: Kayla Shoemaker
Boys 13-14 50-breast: Grant Deker
Girls 13-14 50-breast: Ariana Staffen
Boys 15-18 50-breast: Travis Clawson
Girls 15-18 50-breast: Megan Basel
Boys 8-under 25 fly: Jonathan Priest
Girls 8-under 25-fly: Ava Hanson
Boys 9-10 25-fly: Nicolas Reeves
Girls 9-10 25-fly: India Seldin
Boys 11-12 50-fly: Ian Shackley
Girls 11-12 50-fly: Emma Sweeney
Boys 13-14 50-fly: Riley Jamison
Girls 13-14 50-fly: Jalyne Marks
Boys 15-18 50-fly: Cole Jamison
Girls 15-18 50-fly: Hilary Stetekluh
Boys 8-under 100-IM: Daniel Mullen
Girls 8-under 100-IM: Elizabeth Moran
Boys 9-10 100-IM: Nicolas Reeves
Girls 9-10 100-IM: Lauren Peterson
Boys 11-12 100-IM: Christopher Hann
Girls 11-12 100-IM: Kathleen Butler
Boys 13-14 100-IM: Grant Deker
Girls 13-14 100-IM: Ariana Staffen
Boys 15-18 100-IM: James McKissick
Girls 15-18 100-IM: Alexandra Endres



At Divisionals, swimmers took part in various events, including backstroke.

SPORTS

Ending the Season with a Splash

Colonial Swim League Divisionals brings out the best in competition, fun.

BY MICHAEL GARCIA
SPECIAL TO THE CONNECTION

At the Colonial Swim League (CSL) Blue Division Championships last Saturday, Ellyn Baumgardner of the Chase Club Sharks broke her own record in the 50-meters breaststroke event. Her winning mark was 33.07. Earlier this summer, Baumgardner had set the division record in the event with a time of 33.01.

The Blue Divisionals were a qualifier for this Saturday morning's CSL All-Stars meet that will take place at Burke Centre.

At Divisionals, teams wanted to conclude their division seasons on a high note. Unlike the regular season dual team meets, swimmers were going up against top competitors from all across the division.

"It's crowded and tiring," said 18-year old Tommy Prioletti of Chase Club, of Divisionals. "It's so much longer than a normal meet."

Prioletti has been competing within the CSL since he was a seven-year-old.

Chase Club coach Sandy Veatch said their is nothing quite like season-ending divisionals.

"The Divisional meets are exciting," said Veatch, the second year Chase Club coach.

"It's a lot of work, but it's great when all the parents come together and can set the whole place up [for the showcase event]. We have great parents. It's nice for the community."

BEN SHIRLEY, 12, of the Chantilly National Golf and Country Club, said he enjoys going up against some of the league's top swimmers.

"I've been [to divisionals] before," said

Shirley. "It's just really fun to see the best of the best in the division."

Shirley was a first place finisher in the boys' 11-12 breaststroke finals.

"It feels really good [to win]," said Shirley. "I'm really proud of myself. I didn't expect to do this good."

A.J. Dunn, 18, a member of the Fort Meyer's squad, competed at divisionals for the final time.

"It's my last year, so I'm just trying to go out with a bang," said Dunn. "I've been swimming competitively since I was eight. With Fort Meyer, this is my fourth year."

Dunn said the Fort Meyer team faced some stiffer competition this summer.

"We just moved up a division," he said. "We were in the bottom division before this year, and we didn't have the same kind of competition. You move up, and there are faster teams and a lot faster people. It's really good though. I really like the competition. It really pushes me to go fast."

ONE OF THE GREAT aspects of Divisionals is that the annual postseason event is an individual event as opposed to a team event.

Laura Chapman, who has been coaching at Sequoia Farms the past seven years, said Divisionals often brings out the best in swimmers.

"I think these events are awesome, Divisionals especially, because it's more about the individuals than it is the whole team," said Chapman. "It really gives the kids personally a chance to get their own times rather than having to worry about scoring for everybody."

Swimmers are able to challenge themselves to come up with their best times of the season at Divisionals.

"Absolutely, that's one of the most rewarding things," said Chapman. "Seeing all the kids improve on their times, from the beginning of the season to the end."

Armfield Farm was the Blue Division regular season champion this summer. Phil Caslavka coached the team.

"It was a good season," said Caslavka, in his second summer at the helm of the



Chase Club was the place to be for last Saturday's Blue Division Championships.

Armfield Farm program. "It feels pretty good. It was unexpected."

Of Saturday's Divisionals, Caslavka said, "It's really exciting. Everyone gets to do their best and make the All-Star cut."

The Divisionals are an all around fun event because they bring together all of the teams for one huge morning of swimming. But kids want to perform well against their peers.

"It's a really intense time for the kids to get their individual best times," said Manorgate coach Steve Thorne. "It's a really great time for the kids to be put against swimmers of their [similar] ability, you know. They just push each other."

"It's a great celebration of the team's achievements throughout the year," said Thorne, completing his fifth season as coach at Manorgate. "But this meet focuses on each individual's achievements as well, more so than the other meets do."

Manorgate is completing its third season as a member of the renowned CSL.

"One of the reasons we joined this league is because of the level of competitiveness

and sportsmanship and everything like that," said Thorne. "It's a great experience for the kids to be involved with. And it's [also] good because the eight-year olds get to see the 18-year olds compete, and in no other sport do you get that."

AT THE CSL RED DIVISIONALS, Robert Grimmitt-Norris of the Chantilly Highlands Dolphins set three league marks in the boys' 15-18 age group.

Grimmett-Norris' time of 1:01.38 in the 100-IM broke his own league record from last year's league All-Stars event.

Also, in the 50-butterfly, he broke an 11-year league record with a time of 26.37.

And in the 50-backstroke, Grimmitt-Norris timed at 27.44, breaking his own record in the event from last year when he timed at 28.22. Incredibly, over the past two years, he has lowered the backstroke record by a total of 1.5 seconds. Prior to Grimmitt-Norris' emergence in the event in recent years, the CSL 50-back mark had stood for 18 years.

SUMMER SPORTS ROUNDUP

The Leesburg Post 181 Knights' American Legion baseball team finished their inaugural season with a 17-2 regular season record. They captured first place in the District 16 standings. As a result, the Knights entered the District 16 postseason tournament as the No. 1-seed.

More information on the Post 181 team can be obtained on the Virginia American Legion Baseball website at: scorebook.com/dvalb.

The Knights were coached by Tom Whipple.

The Loudoun South Eagles Baseball Club is seeking players for 13U travel team. Tryouts will be Aug. 17, 23 and 24 for Fall/Spring teams. Please contact Sam Harbin at

703-468-1122 or at Smharbin@Verizon.net

Registration for the 2008 **Loudoun County Fall Flag Football Classic** has

Begun. The Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services is pleased to announce that registration for the Football Classic is underway. The tournament will include Men's 'A' and 'B' divisions, as well as Women's and Coed divisions. Tournament games will be played on Sunday mornings starting Sept. 6 using modified USFFA league rules. The team format will be 8-on-8. The registration deadline is 5:30 p.m. on

Aug. 15. The entry fee is \$675 per team. There is an additional \$29 fee for each non-county resident player. Teams must provide

flag-a-tag sonic boom flag belts. For entry details and information, please contact Tim Lander at 703-737-8450 or tim.lander@loudoun.gov.

Loudoun Youth Volleyball (LYV) is now accepting registrations for the Fall 2008 girls' middle volleyball season. The league is open to all girls in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades. The season begins Sept. 5. For more information and to register on-line go to www.loudounyouthvolleyball.com. LYV is also seeking adult volunteers to coach. Training is provided.

Loudoun Youth Volleyball is also accepting registrations for its **Fall 2008 Boys Youth League**. Boys of all skill levels from grades four through eight are invited to play.

All boys should attend a skills assessment at Harper Park Middle School in Leesburg on Saturday, Sept. 6 at 2 p.m. For more information and to register on-line, go to www.loudounyouthvolleyball.com.

Sterling Youth Soccer Association (SYSA) will hold a 'Walk-In Registration' for the upcoming fall season at NOVA Community College (located off Route 7 in Sterling, Waddell Building, room LW221) this Saturday (July 26) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Players and coaches may also register online at: www.sysa.net

Regular registration ends on July 27. SYSA is also seeking volunteer coaches. Free coaching materials and training will be provided.

PEOPLE



Christine Parfitt, vice chairman of the Spay Today and Briggs Animal Adoption Center community development board, Investigator Bud Herndon and his partner, Jimmy, a female canine accelerant officer, and Anne Small, chairman of the Spay Today and Briggs Animal Adoption Center community development board.

Providing Lifetime Care

Loudoun County Fire Investigator William "Bud" Herndon and his partner, Jimmy, a female canine accelerant officer, were presented with a lifetime care certificate from the Briggs Animal Adoption Center (BAAC), meaning Jimmy will be provided with a lifetime supply of food and veterinary care.

The BAAC is a program of The National Humane Education Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, with a mission to foster a sentiment of kindness towards animals.

PEOPLE NOTES

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 loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com.

The following local students graduated from the **University of Mary Washington** Saturday, May 10, from a class of 1,217 students: Mary Ellis, Feld Giesy, Evan Henry, Monyet Hill, Andrew King, Ashley Kline, Sommer Long, Richard Pannel, Eric Pearson, Andrew Pelletz, Stephen Premo, Christopher Siepman, Jacqueline Slebrch, Kerri Spaulding, Peter Sturke, Anna Sullivan and Joann Tong.

The **Loudoun Volunteer Services** board of directors has selected its 2008 Student Volunteer Scholarship recipients including Seungman Williams, Megan Wollett, Dominion High School; Allison Light, Park View High School and John Marin, Christina Tulloch, Potomac Falls High. Each was awarded \$500.

This year's \$1,000 scholarship has been awarded to Sarasi Jayaratne, of Potomac Falls High School, who founded the "Keep Reading Foundation" because of an intense desire to do something positive for people who have been affected by natural disasters.

Through the scholarship program, graduating seniors in each Loudoun County public school and the C.S. Monroe Technology Center, as well as private school and home-schooled seniors, are eligible for at least a \$500 scholarship. The program is funded each year by donations from Loudoun

County businesses, civic groups and individuals.

The 2008 recipients of Joshua's Hands Awards are from varied backgrounds with diverse interests and include **Susan Gretzkowski**, Potomac Falls High School, who will attend the College of William and Mary in the fall. Her essay spoke of the things she has learned through service: "... control, discipline and commitment not through selfish and direct conquest but through the often silent and meek means of servant leadership."

Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) announces the 10th District's appointments to the nation's service academies.

United States Naval Academy, **Nicholas Galvan** of Potomac Falls, Potomac Falls High School.

United States Merchant Marine Academy, **Renee Elizabeth Hogan** of Sterling, Potomac Falls High School; **Adam Roland Wise** of Sterling, Potomac Falls High School.

The appointees were nominated by Wolf's 10th District service academy advisory board, which interviews candidates and recommends nominees.

Eileen Nguyen and **Lynn Ruths**, with the Loudoun County Department of Management and Financial Services, have completed the Virginia Government Finance Officers' Association (VGFOA) Certificate Program. The program requires individuals to complete and pass exams in Virginia law and other related topics pertinent to state and local governments.

CRIME

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

ARMED ROBBERY

Saffron Court, Sterling. July 25, 12:45 a.m. A deputy was called to residence around 3:30 a.m. for a report of robbery that occurred nearly three hours earlier. The victims told the deputy they were in the area of the listed location sitting in a vehicle when two unknown suspects approached them. One of the suspects assaulted the driver and a second suspect entered the car and struck another victim. One of the suspects then brandished a possible firearm. The suspects are described as black males.

One suspect was described as being 6 feet tall and wearing an orange shirt and a dark baseball hat. The second suspect was said to be wearing all black. The Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division is investigating the incident.

LARCENY

20900 block Duryea Terrace, Ashburn. July 23, 6 p.m.-July 24, 6:30 a.m. Unknown subject(s) entered an unlocked vehicle and removed change and a cell phone headset.

20 block Brookfield Circle, Sterling. July 23, 11 p.m.-July 24, 6:46 a.m. Unknown subject(s) entered a vehicle and removed a makeup kit and a compact-disc case containing miscellaneous CDs.

ASSAULT/ATTEMPTED ROBBERY

West Maple Avenue, Sterling. July 23, 11:39 p.m. Deputies responded to the emergency room of Inova Hospital at Lansdowne for a reported victim of an assault and attempted robbery. The 19-year-old victim reported walking in the area of West Maple Avenue near Guilford Elementary School when an unknown subject approached him from behind. Several more subjects then assaulted him. The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division is investigating the case.

TRAFFIC STOP

46800 block Ducksprings Way, Sterling. July 22, 6:27 p.m. A 21-year-old male of Ashburn was charged with assault and battery, destruction of property, trespassing, obstruction of justice, driving without a license. A deputy initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle. The driver fled on foot and damaged a wooden fence as he attempted to run. A citizen attempted to help restrain the suspect who then struck the citizen to break free. A second deputy assisted in the chase and the suspect was apprehended. He was being held at the Loudoun County Adult Detention Center without bond.

REPORT GANG ACTIVITY

Call the Sheriff's Office's nonemergency number, 703-777-1031 or if it is an emergency dial 911. To report gang trends, call 1-866-NO-GANGS or the Gang Response Intervention Team (GRIT), 703-777-0303.

FOOD & DRINK

Brewery Event, Wednesday, July 30, 7 p.m., Tuscarora Mill Restaurant, 203 Harrison St., Leesburg. Includes Petaluma's food and Tuskie's beer. Rob Lindenbusch will be a special guest. Cost: \$75 per person. Call 703-771-9300.

Enjoy five courses of Chef Aaron McCloud's gourmet food paired with Russian vodkas at **"The Perfect Martini" Dinner** held at Vintage 50 Restaurant, 50 Catocin Circle, Leesburg. Cocktails at 7 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m., **July 31.** Cost: \$70 per person. Call 703-777-2169 or visit www.vintage50.com.

Food Mysteries. Solve mysteries regarding

food at Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling, **July 31,** at 2 p.m. Learn about different foods and perhaps have a snack, too. Ages 6-10. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-430-9500.

Saturday, **Aug. 2,** 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, **Aug. 3,** 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Tarara Vineyard and Winery, 13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg. Celebrate the 8th **Annual Blackberry Days Wine Festival** with wine, live bands and blackberry picking. Children will enjoy the Kid's Grape Escape. Cost: \$10 per person in advance, \$15 at gate, \$8 for those under 21, free for children under 6. Call 703-771-7100 or visit www.tarara.com for tickets.

HEALTH NOTES

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 loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call 703-917-6454; for additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Inova HealthSource will conduct glucose testing and cholesterol checks the **second Tuesday** of each month, from 9:30-11:30 a.m., at the Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. Call 703-430-2397.

The **Man-to-Man Prostate Cancer** support group meets on the **second Tuesday** of each month, from 6:30-8 p.m., at the Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. Call 703-430-2397.

Diabetes support group meets the **second Tuesday** of each month at Leesburg Senior Activity Center, 215 Depot Court, Leesburg, 11 a.m. Free. Call 703-737-8039.

Loudoun Healthcare's **mobile health van** will be providing health screenings, check-ups and referrals the **first Wednesday** of each month, at Leesburg Senior Activity Center, 215 Depot Court, Leesburg, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Free. Call 703-737-8039.

Ashburn Bipolar Support Group. A free, peer-led support group for those with bipolar disorder. Meets every other Saturday, at 5:30 p.m., at Ashburn Psychological Services, second floor, 44110 Ashburn Shopping Plaza, Ashburn. Contact Angela at ashburn@dsbanova.org or 703-282-0262.

Loudoun Dads is a Northern Virginia support group for new fathers and for expectant fathers.

The group meets **every Tuesday,** 8 p.m., at Inova Loudoun Hospital's Lansdowne Campus, 44045 Riverside Parkway, Leesburg, family education classroom on the second floor. The group's facilitator is Dr. Damon Moore of Pediatric Healthcare, P.C. Participants can call 703-858-6360 or visit the Web site at www.thebirthinginn.org.

Breast cancer information and support available on the 24-hour Y-ME National Breast Cancer Hotline. Calls answered by trained peer counselors who are all breast cancer survivors. 1-800-221-2141 with interpreters in 150 languages.

The staff from Lenscrafters at Dulles Town Center will provide **eyeglass care** the **second Wednesday** each month, from 1-2 p.m., at the Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. Call 703-430-2397.

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Alex. Dept. of Social Services, Attn: DHS Personnel, 2525 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, Va. 22301. Call (703) 838-0810 or https://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov

Deadline for submitting applications is Friday, August 15th, at 12:00 noon.

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

A large property management firm in the Fair Lakes area is seeking candidates for a wide variety of full-time administrative positions. Some of the current openings include: Book-keepers, AP Administrator and Re-sale Administrator. Excellent organizational & administrative skills are required. Good benefits package including 2 p.m. office closing on Fridays. Please fax resumes/cover letters to 703-631-9596 or email to nmurphy@cmcmangement.com and reference ADMIN in the subject line.

Director Special Education School (Springfield)

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Puzzle by Chuck Deodene

ACROSS

1 Best-selling novel set in ancient Rome
9 Like salon customers
15 Rigor
16 When surfing is possible?
17 Béarnaise ingredient
18 Computing timesavers
19 Germs might grow in it
20 Catchall reason for failure
22 Quartermaster's post
23 Overhaul
25 Ward heelers
27 — Pitch
28 Cat's covering
31 Sequel tag
32 Leaner
35 The Osmonds' birthplace
37 Philosopher
38 Gary's "Desire" co-star
40 Scouting outing
41 David and others
43 Telegraph ender
44 Word after family or detail

46 Subject of psych. experiments
47 Uses a shuttle
48 Homme — (French V.I.P.)
52 Letters for nine-to-fivers
54 The "Little Ol' Band From Texas"
57 Quince, e.g.
58 Pied
60 Heathen of sorts
62 Key of Beethoven's Seventh
63 Gay old time
64 Accouters anew
65 1945 Cahn/Styne tune

DOWN

6 Pad
7 Pour —
8 Neurotransmission site
9 Some clouds
10 W.W. II agcy.
11 It's a sensation
12 Chat sites
13 11-Down application
14 "State Fair" setting
21 Kind of bobsled
24 Option for the present
26 Charged
29 Inseparable

30 German battleship sunk in 1944
32 Source of much bell-ringing
33 Kings' milieu
34 Alternative to a baked potato
36 Aircraft's approach
39 Aircraft abbr.
42 39-line verse
45 They may be straight
49 Fields of comedy
50 Bahraini bigwig: Var.
51 Not windy
53 Land in which men wear skirts called sulus
55 One-eyed overlord
56 Pay (up)
59 Rollaway relative
61 1950's All-Star Burdette

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

B	U	T	L	E	R	Y	E	A	T	S					
U	N	R	U	L	E	D	T	E	R	R	I	E	R		
L	E	U	C	I	N	E	E	L	E	C	T	R	A		
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U	T	E	R	A	J	I	V	S	T	A	T	E			
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S	T	A	R	S				A	T	E	S	T	S		

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The winner of puzzle #0319-1 is:

Shirley Carpenter

Note: Due to space limitations, the crossword may not appear from time to time. In that case, you may look on our Web site: www.connectionnewspapers.com and click on the "Print Editions" button. It should appear in a newspaper from a different Classifieds zone.

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