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Howard Dean, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, is greeted by supporters while making an appearance at the fifth annual DemocracyFest in Sterling Aug. 16.



Putting Children First

NEWS, PAGE 2

Eye on Crime

NEWS, PAGE 2

Education in Efficiency

SCHOOLS, PAGE 4

inside



Democracy Takes Center Stage

NEWS, PAGE 2

PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER / THE CONNECTION
FAITH, PAGE 13 ❖ E SECTION, PAGE 10 ❖ REAL ESTATE, PAGE 14 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 15 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 16

Democrats Celebrate Democracy

Howard Dean comes to Sterling for fifth annual DemocracyFest.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

As she introduced keynote speaker former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, Marcia Moody of the New Hampshire House of Representatives praised the former governor for his record but said Dean's greatest achievement was building a sense of community through the Internet.

"It turns out that you really do have the power."

— Howard Dean

Moody was introducing Dean, the chair of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), to the crowd at the fifth annual DemocracyFest, which was held this year at the Dulles Holiday Inn in Sterling last Saturday and Sunday. The event is staged by Democracy for America, which was started by Dean, and its offshoot, the DemocracyFest organization. Aimed at active Democrats, the event is intended to train members of the public to campaign locally for candidates and causes.

Previous DemocracyFests, such as the ones held in Austin and San Diego, have drawn as many as 2,000 people. This year, 300 people regis-

tered, according to organizers, and about 80 were present to hear Dean speak.

Dean's 2004 bid for the Democratic presidential nomination was famous for its bottom-up model and unprecedented use of the Internet for fund raising. "He trusted us and empowered us as no one has before or since," Moody told the crowd before Dean's speech Saturday night.

AFTER CONGRATULATING Virginia on turning "blue," Dean talked about his own current campaign work, touring swing states to register voters on the Register for Change bus tour. Elections, he said, are not always won by the nicest candidates or the ones who are right, but by the ones who work the hardest. "Look, we're going to win this election by two or three points," he said of the presidential race. "Registering people to vote is the key."

He reported that about 10 percent of the population of Crawford, Texas, where President George W. Bush makes his home and where the Register for Change tour began, came out to hear him speak, proving that rural populations may be "more traditionalist" but not necessarily more politically conservative, particularly when politics affect their livelihood.

As further evidence of shifting demographics, Dean pointed out that "far more" people at the Norfolk Naval Base, where he said the presidential election would be won in Virginia, were donating to the campaign

SEE RALLYING, PAGE 6



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Chairman of the Democratic National Committee Howard Dean talks campaign tactics with the crowd at Saturday's DemocracyFest at the Dulles Holiday Inn.

Focusing on the Positive

New Rolling Ridge principal wants to point out the good, bridge differences.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Andrew Davis, the new principal at Rolling Ridge Elementary School, is no stranger to the Sterling Park community. For the last four years, he has been the assistant principal at nearby Sterling Elementary. He also began his career as a third-grade teacher not far off at Lowes Island Elementary in 1997.

Davis said he had found Rolling Ridge to be much like Sterling Elementary, from a "very similar population with very similar needs" to the "great people who choose to work in Sterling Park because they love making a difference." He said he enjoyed working with the area's diverse population and hoped to

bridge the achievement gap between different populations and connect Hispanic families with resources in the community.

His experience with Hispanic culture also extends to the Dominican Republic, where he did mission work with his church during three summers. "Understanding where people come from, that not everyone in the world lives the way we live, gives you a much more worldly perspective," he said, adding that the experience also gave him a taste of what it was like to be in an unfamiliar culture.

He said his biggest priority would be building relationships with faculty, students and parents. "I want every child to feel that they matter. That's the big thing for me," Davis said. "I think that if they are

SEE BRIDGING, PAGE 5

"He always puts the children first."

— Teri Finn, SES principal

Partnership Aids Police

Sheriff's Office teams with Web site to involve citizens.

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office announced recently that it has partnered with crimereports.com to make crime statistics accessible to all citizens. The service, which costs \$199 per month, allows residents of the jurisdiction to see exactly where, when and what type of crime was committed in their neighborhoods.

The Web site operates by using data from the Sheriff's Office's Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD). This system, according to the Sheriff's Office, is a highly specialized application that allows it to coordinate communication and assign and track law enforcement resources in response to citizen and Sheriff's Office generated calls for ser-

vice. Using data obtained from the CAD, crimereports.com, using Google Maps, marks the exact location of the crime and details when, where and what happened.

View Crime Data for Your Neighborhood

Visit www.crimereports.com to find out what types of crimes are occurring in your area. At the site, visitors can also sign up to receive free e-mail alerts based on user-defined parameters such as location and crime type.

At that point, residents can visit the Web site, type an address in the entry field and they will be provided with a map of the area, with colored markers indicating the types of crime committed.

"We had been looking for ways to disseminate information to the community

SEE NEWS, PAGE 6

POLITICS



Howard Dean, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, is greeted by supporters while making an appearance at the 5th Annual DemocracyFest in Sterling Aug. 16.

Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Howard Dean, was the special speaker at the 5th Annual DemocracyFest held at the Dulles Holiday Inn in Sterling Saturday evening.



Supporters of Howard Dean, the current chairman of the Democratic National Committee, get their pictures during a special appearance by Dean in Sterling Aug. 16 while speaking at the annual DemocracyFest.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Howard Dean made a special appearance during the recently held DemocracyFest held in Sterling Aug. 16.

Temperatry Closings

❖ Claude Moore Recreation Center, located in Claude Moore Park, Sterling, will be closed for annual maintenance Aug. 25-Sept. 1. The pools will be closed Aug. 25-Sept. 7. All areas of the facility, other than pools, will resume normal hours of operation Tuesday, Sept. 2. The pools will resume normal operating hours Monday, Sept. 8. For more information, call 571-258-3600.

❖ The Smithsonian Institution's Naturalist Center, 741 Miller Drive, S.E., Leesburg, will be closed Aug. 30-Sept. 15 for its annual clean up and collections care. For more information, call 703-779-9712.

❖ The Loudoun County Surplus Store will be closed Saturday, Aug. 30 and Monday, Sept. 1, in observance of the Labor Day holiday weekend.

The Surplus Store is normally open, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., on the first, second and third Friday of the month, and the last Saturday of the month. The store is located at 14 Cardinal Park Drive, Suite 106, in Leesburg. More information is available online, www.loudoun.gov/surplus.

Deliveryman Robbery

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office is investigating the reported robbery of a Panda West restaurant deliveryman Friday, Aug. 15.

The victim was delivering more than \$50 worth of food around 10 p.m. to a residence located in the 100 block of North Cottage Road in Sterling. A white female answered the door and asked the victim to come inside so she could pay the bill. Inside the victim observed a black male who was wearing a possible bandana to cover his face and a white baseball cap. The subject was brandishing a firearm and told the victim to come inside.

The victim fled the scene and later waived down a deputy. Members of the Sheriff's Office responded to the residence and found the home was a vacant house. A rear, sliding glass door was found open. The house was checked and no one was located inside.

Anyone with information about this case is asked to contact Investigator J. Russ of the Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division at 703-777-0475. If the caller wishes to remain anonymous, contact Loudoun Crime Solvers at 703-777-1919. If the information leads to an arrest and indictment, the caller could be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

ICE Raids Dulles Airport

Wendenssday, Aug. 13, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrested 42 men illegally present in the country at Dulles International Airport as part of a critical infrastructure protection operation. ICE agents, with support of airport security agencies, arrested the illegal aliens just inside the airport grounds at a checkpoint established to verify the identity and immigration status of workers entering a service gate.

ICE agents interviewed more than 200 individuals to verify their identities, immigration status and eligibility for lawful employment in the U.S. Most of the individuals encountered worked on construction projects at the airport. Those detained were being interviewed, fingerprinted, photographed and entered into Department of Homeland Security databases at a local ICE office. Relatives and friends wishing to check on the custody status and detention location of those detained may call 1-866-341-3858, ICE's toll-free, 24-hour hotline.

Transportation Security Administration and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority supported this operation.

Prowler on Loose

A reported prowler Thursday, Aug. 14, in Ashburn Farm has the Sheriff's Office asking residents to be on the lookout for suspicious activity. The agency is also reminding residents to lock all doors and windows.

The alert comes after deputies responded to the 43400 block of Edgecliff Terrace around 1:30 a.m., Thursday, for a report of a prowler. A 36-year-old woman reported awaking to find an unknown subject touching her. The subject apparently gained entry through a first-floor bedroom window that was left open.

SCHOOLS

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL SAVINGS (COSTS)

CATEGORY	YEARS					TOTAL FIVE-YEAR SAVINGS
	08-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	
TOTAL SAVINGS	\$1,042,815	\$1,179,615	\$1,179,615	\$1,179,615	\$1,179,615	\$5,761,275
TOTAL (COSTS)	(\$441,453)	(\$784,733)	(\$784,733)	(\$784,733)	(\$784,733)	(\$3,580,385)
TOTAL NET SAVINGS (COSTS)	\$601,362	\$394,882	\$394,882	\$394,882	\$394,882	\$2,180,890
ONE-TIME SAVINGS(COSTS)						\$57,500
TOTAL FIVE-YEAR NET SAVINGS (COSTS) INCLUDING ONE-TIME SAVINGS (COSTS)						\$2,238,390

Room for Improvement

An independent review finds areas the school system can save money.

BY JENNIFER LESINSKI
THE CONNECTION

An audit of Loudoun County Public Schools noninstructional areas reveals the potential for a \$2 million savings over the next five years, said Kathy Brooks, a principal with MGT of America.

The review was undertaken as part of the commonwealth's Education for a Lifetime Initiative, which in part, allows school systems to volunteer to undergo an efficiency audit by an independent contractor at a reduced cost.

At the Aug. 12 School Board meeting, Brooks said the recommendations were suggestions, however, state officials will check back with the school system to get a status update as far as implementation of the recommendations and any savings achieved as a result, John Ringer, associate director of the best management practices division of Department of Planning and Budget, said.

LCPS paid 25 percent of the review's total cost, or \$28,562, the state paid the remainder. The school system will have to pay another 25 percent if half the recommendations are not implemented or half the savings is not achieved.

"This will take some time to go through. This is not going to be an instant reaction," Robert DuPree Jr. (Dulles), School Board chairman, said. "I would caution people about rushing to judgement about any of the components."

BESIDES MAKING 32 key recommendations for savings, MGT also pointed out 23 areas where the school system should be commended. Brooks said that once the report was posted on the state's Web site, school officials should expect phone calls from other jurisdictions looking for advice.

School Board members, who still need to review the entire 300-plus page report, seemed eager to highlight the commendations.

"I hope someone is able to listen to the tape and send her comments to the Board of Supervisors," School Board member J. Warren Geurin (Sterling), said. "The commendations are things not everyone would recognize unless they are doing the work they did. The lady's remarks this evening really deserve to be spread far and wide."

Among the commendations Brooks highlighted were the schools system's commitment to placing the first priority for funding and staffing within the schools; for proactively creating the Minority Stu-

dent Achievement Advisory Board; for the financial support given to teachers obtaining certification in instructional technology integration; providing comprehensive training to new teachers; effectively using technology to study the effects of boundary attendance changes; and the development of a "best practice" system for calculating the capacities of schools.

"You have a good system for calculating the capacities of schools. That's something that gets away from school systems," Brooks said.

MGT OFFICIALS, however, did find room for improvement. Among some of the recommendations were restructuring the board's committees and establishing a well-defined purpose for the committees; develop and implement an annual School Board self-assessment system; create an energy coordinator position to oversee all energy management programs; and create a comprehensive long-term technology plan.

Brooks also said the school system needs to gather more accurate information as to why personnel leave the school system and make necessary changes based on that information. She said more than 25 percent of employees are selecting "other" as a reason for leaving.

Also along the lines of staffing, Brooks said there needs to be comprehensive succession plan.

"A lot of your staff are eligible or near eligible to retire in the next three years," Brooks said. "They're just seasoned."

"This is not going to be an instant reaction."

— Robert DuPree Jr., School Board chairman

The process of selecting school sites also drew criticism from Brooks.

"You need to lobby the county to simplify the school site acquisition process. It's rather lengthy and it takes a lot of your staff's time to do this," Brooks said. "We think this needs to change and let your staff do what it needs to do to get it done."

School officials gave no indication as to when, if ever, the board will discuss the recommendations, but felt the decision to have the review was a positive one.

"We didn't agree with everything and there is probably still things in here I could argue, but it was a good process," School Superintendent Edgar Hatrick said.

For More

The complete efficient report by MGT of America is available on the school system's Web site, www.loudoun.k12.va.us.

SCHOOLS

Bridging the Differences

FROM PAGE 2

happy with themselves, they have self-confidence and that will translate into learning." He said it was important for the teachers, as well, "to know they're valued and appreciated." He said this could be accomplished by "keeping a positive, optimistic point of view, but not being afraid to address the negative and not being afraid to ask the tough questions."

SINCE ARRIVING at the school July 1, Davis has spent most of his time meeting and calling teachers and families and "getting a feeling for them and the school," he said. With the remainder of his time he has been looking at SOL data, working on the master schedule and otherwise preparing for opening.

He said he was especially pleased to have recently received unofficial news that Rolling Ridge had met its annual yearly progress (AYP) benchmarks in all areas. "It's exciting for a new principal to step into a situation that's so positive," he said.

In addition to a new principal, the school will also begin what Davis called a new "schoolwide expectations plan," the Positive Behavior Support (PBS) program, which recognizes students for positive behavior and establishes a consistent set of expectations.

Over the summer, a team of staff members got two days of training in the pro-

gram and then developed a set of expectations, beginning with three basics — "Respect yourself, respect others and respect property." Adults from administrators to cafeteria staff will hold students to sets of expectations tailored to each school environment, said Davis.

Positive reinforcement will include "Rockin' Roadrunner Tickets" that will be awarded to students and put in a box in the office. During the afternoon announcements, three names will be pulled from the box and announced. On the other hand, when students make poor choices, adults' reactions will be consistent throughout the school, Davis said. "Consistency is what makes the program effective, I think."

Davis said he decided as an undergraduate that he wanted to go into elementary-school education. "I always had a knack for working with kids," he said, noting that he had enjoyed coaching soccer and working as a ski instructor. He said working with young children at school was a pleasure because they like to learn. "They enjoy being here. It makes me enjoy being here as well. And they're just such sponges. They soak up everything."

HE SAID HE went into administration because he also liked working with adults and because it afforded him the opportunity to build relationships with more people



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Andrew Davis, Rolling Ridge Elementary School's new principal, poses with Assistant Principal Jeanie Showalter.

and make an impact on more families.

"He's very energetic," said Assistant Principal Jeanie Showalter. In addition to Davis' knowledge of the community, she said she had also found him to be caring and "very open and friendly and wanting to get to know [the students]."

"He is a wonderful person to work with. He always puts the children first," said Teri Finn, principal of Sterling Elementary, add-

ing that Davis had "a great rapport with the faculty, parents and students." She also revealed that Davis had a talent for playing the guitar and singing, which he frequently shared at the school.

Finn said she thought it had been time for Davis to move on to the next level. "I think his ability to lead and bring people together is really going to be successful for him," she said.

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Rallying the Political Troops

FROM PAGE 2

of Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama than to Republican John McCain.

Dean recalled campaigning for Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine, in part because the DNC wanted to learn how to win in Virginia. Campaigners experimented by dividing their target audience into groups, with one group receiving “robo-calls,” another getting mailers, one being visited by college students and others being targeted by radio and television spots. Support from each of those groups rose by 1 to 2.5 percent, said Dean. However, within the group that was visited three times by the same campaigners, support went up by 12 percent. “It turns out that you really do have the power,” he said.

“The training they do is very good in terms of learning how to do field work.”

— Rich Kolker, Ashburn

IN ADDITION to issues such as the economy, health care and the war in Iraq, Dean said the next president would have two other jobs to tackle — restoring the United States’ moral authority in the world and bridging the partisan divide. To begin accomplishing the latter, he said, Obama was reaching out to young Evangelical Christians, traditionally a Republican demographic. Evangelicals aged 18 to 35, he said, list as their top-three priorities poverty, climate change and the killing in Darfur. “That’s a Democratic platform,” Dean said. “Whether they vote for us is not what’s most important,” he said. “What’s important is to bring them into the family.”

Like much of the crowd, Carol Haas of Kent, Ohio, had worked for the Dean cam-

paigned in 2004. “He means what he says. He’s inspiring,” Haas said. “The last person who inspired me this much was John F. Kennedy when I was 12 years old.” While she said Dean’s appearance was the biggest reason she had come to the event, she said she planned to use what she learned there to campaign for Obama.

The trip to DemocracyFest was shorter for Ashburn resident Rich Kolker, who said he had attended the event every year but one. When Dean was running for president, Kolker had been the chair of the Loudoun County Democratic Committee, and he had headed the Dean campaign in the 10th Congressional District, as well as working for Dean in Iowa and New Hampshire.

“The training they do is very good in terms of learning how to do field work,” he said of DemocracyFest. “The work you do in meeting people one-on-one is the best indicator of how your candidate’s going to do.” He said the event was also a face-to-face meeting of an existing online community.

CHARLIE GRAPSKI SAID it was that online community that was the most important result of the Dean campaign and a model for future politics. Grapski, the only speaker other than Dean who has participated in every DemocracyFest, had come to speak about the corruption he had run up against while running for the State House in Florida.

“It’s a community and community is the foundation of Democracy,” Grapski said of



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Howard Dean mingles with supporters after his speech at DemocracyFest in Sterling

the online network created by the Dean campaign and ensuing DemocracyFests. He said an online community was empowering because it allowed people across the country to assist each other. The training — in use of the Internet and other tactics — that is offered at the event can help participants to change the face of politics, said Grapski. “Teach them how to teach others to be citizens. That’s how you rebuild America,” he said.

Tom and Mary Ellen Janowski attended the event as members of the Democracy for

America branch in Rochester, N.Y., and to keep up on training, help get Democratic candidates elected and re-energize themselves, said Tom Janowski.

“And it’s another opportunity to see Howard Dean,” said his wife, although she said Dean’s appearance was only “the icing on the cake.”

She said Dean’s presidential campaign had inspired at least four of his Rochester campaigners, including herself, to run for office. She ran for the county legislature and now sits on the zoning board.

New Partnership Aids Sheriff’s Office

FROM PAGE 2

so they can have information about crime in their neighborhood,” Kraig Troxell, Sheriff’s Office spokesman, said. “We looked at several options, but chose crimereports.com.”

ACCORDING TO Troxell, this particular Web site was chosen from a group of competitors who provide similar services because of the site’s platform. He said that it is very easy for not only the residents to use, but that it also provides the most efficient means of communication between the Sheriff’s Office and the Web site to ensure that data is updated promptly and accurately. He said that residents will like it because it displays crime information clearly and is easily accessible to anyone with Internet access. It aids the Sheriff’s Office because it allows for the easy transmission of data and crime reports to the site, which will help avoid misinformation or inaccuracies.

racies.

Troxell pointed out that while the Sheriff’s Office has a good relationship with the media, has created an alert system for residents and has deputies attend monthly homeowners’ association meetings, this new system will enhance local policing. He said that this system will particularly appeal to those residents who are interested in crime data and prevention but cannot attend meetings.

“Say there were a large number of larcenies in a neighborhood that people did not know about,” Troxell said. “Next time they see a suspicious person or a crime in progress, they may report it to the police. If you are more aware of things going on in the neighborhood, you are more likely to call.”

“The more information the public has about crime, the safer the community will be,” Troxell said.

— JUSTIN FANIZZI

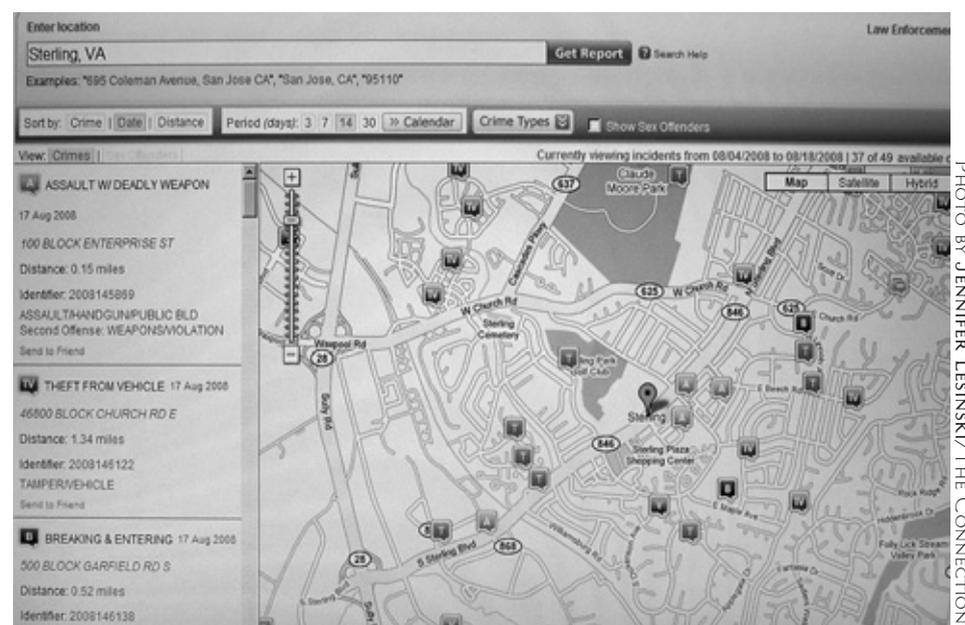


PHOTO BY JENNIFER LESINSKI/THE CONNECTION

Visitors to crimereports.com can track incidents reported in their neighborhood.

POLITICS

Demanding Clean Energy

Group presents petition to Congressman Frank Wolf.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC
THE CONNECTION

Nikki Jean, an 18-year-old college student from Sterling, is tired of talking about solutions for a cleaner environment, so she is taking action. The environment, she said, is a top-priority issue facing Americans and the world.

“You have to have a comprehensive plan that looks at everything so we become less dependent on foreign oil.”

— Daniel Scandling,
Frank Wolf’s Chief of Staff

“A lot of my friends talk to me about these issues, but not a lot of people do something about it,” Jean said. She joined a handful of advocates from

MoveOn, a liberal political action committee, on Thursday afternoon, Aug. 7, to present a petition on energy policy to U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf’s (R-10) office in Herndon. As she stood in front of the congressman’s Herndon office, Jean carried a sign that read, “GOP: Grand Oil Party.”

“I think it’s really important for young people to get involved,” said Jean, a student at Christopher Newport University. “We need to look towards cleaner energy.” Jean added that wind and solar energy should be encouraged and developed and water energy further studied.

Herndon resident David McCracken presented the petition, which he said was signed by more than 730 10th District constituents, to staff at Wolf’s Herndon office. The group delivering the petition called on Republican congressmen, including Wolf, to support energy solutions that will benefit American citizens, not oil company executives. Their demand includes criticism of the plan to drill for oil offshore, which Wolf supports.

“Everything has to be on the table,” said Daniel Scandling, Wolf’s chief of staff. “We have to look at every option.” Scandling added that Wolf’s energy plan includes leg-

islation that emphasizes clean energy and alternative sources and offshore drilling is a component of the comprehensive plan that would decrease the nation’s dependence on foreign oil. “That’s the key here, you have to have a comprehensive plan that looks at everything so we become less dependent on foreign oil,” Scandling said.

“WE GET NOTHING out of the plan to drill offshore,” McCracken said. “Seven hundred thirty of his constituents have signed a petition that we need to get away from using oil. We gotta do something better than the same old stuff.”

The petition, a part of a nationwide MoveOn campaign, calls for a commitment to produce 100 percent of America’s electricity from “cheap, clean renewable energy sources, like solar and wind, within 10 years.”

Mike Honig, another member of the group presenting the petition, said he supported the 10-year plan, which he attributed to former vice president and onetime



PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC/THE CONNECTION

Herndon resident David McCracken and Nikki Jean of Sterling join a handful of other MoveOn advocates to present a petition on energy policy to U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) at the congressman’s Herndon office Thursday, Aug. 7.

Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore. “It’s a difficult, but achievable, goal,” said Honig, a business development executive at Herndon-based Results Software. He said the plan would address problems associated

SEE ENERGY, PAGE 19

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BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHTS

THURSDAY/AUG. 28

ALGONKIAN ES, 6-6:45 p.m., 20196 Carter Court, grades kindergarten-second; 7:15-8 p.m., grades third-fifth. 703-444-7410.

COUNTRYSIDE ES, 6-7:15 p.m., 20624 Countryside Blvd., grades kindergarten-second; 7:30-8:45 p.m., grades third-fifth. 571-433-3250.

LOWES ISLAND ES, 6:30-7:30 p.m., 20755 Whitewater Drive, grades morning kindergarten-second; 7:45-8:45 p.m., grades afternoon kindergarten, third-fifth. 571-434-4450.

POTOWMACK ES, 6:30-7:15 p.m., 46465 Esterbrook Circle, grades morning kindergarten, third-fifth; 7:30-8:15 p.m., grades afternoon kindergarten, first-second. 571-434-3270.

STERLING ES, 6:30 p.m., 200 W. Church Road, grades kindergarten-fifth.

FRIDAY/AUG. 29

LOWES ISLAND ES, 8:30-10 a.m., 20755 Whitewater Drive, open house. 571-434-4450.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

GUILFORD ES, 7 p.m., 600 W. Poplar Road, grades kindergarten-fifth. 571-434-4550.

HORIZON ES, 6:30-8 p.m., 46665 Broadmore Drive, grades prekindergarten-second. 571-434-3260.

SULLY ES, 6:30 p.m., 300 Circle Drive, grades kindergarten-fifth. 703-444-7470.

MONDAY/SEPT. 8

PARK VIEW HS, 6:45 p.m., 400 W. Laurel Ave., grades ninth-12th. 571-434-4500.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 9

HORIZON ES, 6:30-8 p.m., 46665 Broadmore Drive, grades third-fifth. 571-434-3260.

ROLLING RIDGE ES, 6:30 p.m.,

500 E. Frederick Drive, grades third-fifth. 571-434-4540.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 11

MEADOWLAND ES, 6:30 p.m., 729 S. Sugarland Run Drive, grades kindergarten-fifth. 703-444-7430.

SUGARLAND ES, 6 p.m., 65 Sugarland Run Drive, grades kindergarten-fifth. 571-434-4460.

MONDAY/SEPT. 15

POTOMAC FALLS HS, 7-9 p.m., 46400 Algonkian Parkway, grades ninth-12th. 571-434-3200.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 17

RIVER BEND MS, 7 p.m., 46240 Algonkian Parkway, grade six. 571-434-3220.

SENECA RIDGE MS, 6 p.m., 98 Seneca Ridge Drive, spectrum; 6:30 p.m., grades sixth-eighth. 571-434-4420.

STERLING MS, 7 p.m., 201 W. Holly Ave., grade six. 571-434-4520.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

FOREST GROVE ES, 6:30 p.m., 46245 Forest Ridge Drive, grades kindergarten-fifth. 571-434-4560.

MONDAY/SEPT. 22

DOMINION HS, 6:30 p.m., 21326 Augusta Drive, grades ninth-12th. 571-434-4400.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

RIVER BEND MS, 7 p.m., 46240 Algonkian Parkway, grades seventh-eighth. 571-434-3220.

STERLING MS, 7 p.m., 201 W. Holly Ave., grades seventh-eighth. 571-434-4520.

MONDAY/OCT. 6

ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, 6:30 p.m., 21326 Augusta Drive, all grades. 571-434-4470.

COMMUNITY NOTES

Send announcements or events, 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.

The Salvation Army of Loudoun County is collecting school supplies through its **Tools For School program** at the main entrance to Dulles Town Center and the customer service areas of the Leesburg and Sterling Walmart stores **in August**.

The program, formerly called Apple Tree, allows shoppers to choose a child's name from the familiar tree and purchase a new outfit including shoes, plus notebooks, calculators, pens, backpacks and other items for that child, then return the items to the tree. The names are provided by the children's families, who must qualify for the program through The Salvation Army office at 12 Cardinal Park Drive. Beginning Aug. 27, Salvation Army volunteers and staff will distribute the supplies to the children.

The "Tools For School" locations are open during the following hours: Dulles Town Center, 10-8 p.m., Mondays-Saturdays; and both Walmart stores, are open store hours. Call 703-771-3371.

Area stores, in cooperation with the Loudoun County Department of Family Services and local nonprofit human service agencies, are holding a drive **in August** to collect **school supplies** for

children who cannot afford them. Shoppers can donate needed supplies at local Giant stores, the Leesburg Pharmacy, Cascades Library, Curves in Purcellville and all Loudoun County community centers.

Look for a donation box or shopping cart with the School Supplies posters and fliers in participating stores and community centers.

Loudoun nonprofits, government agencies and elementary schools, working with low-income families, will distribute the supplies in time for school in September. Participating agencies include YMCA-Big Friends, Northeast Coalition, Loudoun County Department of Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Substance Abuse Services, the Loudoun County Youth Shelter, Young Adults Project, Transitional Housing and Emergency Shelter Programs, Loudoun County Department of Family Services, MotherNet Healthy Families Loudoun and several area elementary schools.

Call the Department of Family Services at 703-771-5375.

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 20

LOUDOUN COUNTY DEMOCRATS, 7-9 p.m., at the John Tolbert Elementary School, 691 Potomac Station Drive, Leesburg. Monthly meeting. Call 703-771-3366.

OPINION

In Praise of Local Olympians

Kudos to them, every one, for being there.

Lost somewhere in the quest for gold and medal counts and world records of the Olympics is appreciation for the effort and talent it takes to qualify, to go, to be an Olympian, whether or not an athlete comes home with a medal of any color.

Last week, we celebrated Justin Spring of Burke who contributed to U.S. winning bronze in men's team gymnastics.

We're proud of Kate Ziegler of Great Falls, who showed wisdom beyond her years in interviews after she failed to make the finals of either of her two events. The 20-year-old George Mason University student was disappointed, but smiled and said: "Even though I had disappointing swims, I still am an Olympian. ... I went to the Olympics. I'm going to enjoy my experience. This is ... the end of this four-year chapter, but I feel like I'm just ... beginning on my way."

Ziegler's best event actually isn't even an Olympic sanctioned race. The four-time world-record holder shattered Janet Evans' 18-year

world record time by 10 seconds in the 1,500 in October 2007. (The 1,500 is only for men in the Olympics.)

TWO MCLEAN HIGH graduates, Giuseppe Lanzone and Sam Stitt, are both members of the U.S. Rowing Team and are rowing in the Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

The two were McLean Highlander rowing team members during the spring of 2000. The Highlanders finished undefeated that season and earned several medals in several major regattas.

Lanzone, an All-Met rower that season, went on to row collegiately at the University of Washington. Stitt, meanwhile, competed in the sport at Rutgers University. Lanzone came to the United States from Peru and eventually became a U.S. citizen.

These two young men spent 10 years of hard work in hopes of making the 2008 Olympics' Team.

KARA LAWSON, who enjoyed a standout career at West Springfield and who was named among the Connection's Top-100 Athletes of all time, is on U.S. Women's Olympic basket-

ball team.

Lawson, a 5-foot-10 guard for the WNBA's Sacramento Monarchs, will make her first Olympic appearance. She is a Tennessee graduate.

At West Springfield, she led the Spartans to the 1997 and 1998 Virginia Class AAA state crowns and perfect 30-0 seasons. In college, she led the Lady Vols to a 126-17 (.881) record, four Southeastern Conference (SEC) regular season titles, the 2000 SEC Tournament crown, and four NCAA Tournaments where UT advanced to the 2001 Sweet 16, 2002 Final Four and 2000 and 2003 championship games.

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

If you know of local Olympic athletes we've failed to mention (and we're sure there are), please let me know.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM, 703-917-6416

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need Further Analysis

To the Editor:

Your editorial ["Seeking More Diversity at TJ," Connection, July 31-Aug. 6, 2008] demonstrates a lack of understanding of the key difference between TJ and the base high schools.

All Fairfax County high schools offer advanced (AP or IB) math and science classes. All Fairfax County high schools provide students with opportunities to participate in science fairs. However, only TJ offers a multitude of post-AP math and science classes and related co-curricular activities for students who want to go far beyond the normal high-school math and science programs.

It makes no sense to reserve seats at TJ for students whose needs can be met at their local high schools just because they live in certain neighborhoods or belong to certain racial groups. Under the admissions process proposed in the editorial, more students who would take advantage of unusually advanced TJ math and science options would be denied that opportunity because they are from "overrepresented" groups.

As a long-time TJ parent and volunteer, I have seen first-hand how TJ students who excel in math are far more likely to take

advantage of TJ's most advanced offerings in math and science. TJ students with weaker math skills often seek out the easiest ways to satisfy TJ's math and science requirements, and gravitate towards activities available in all high schools, such as the yearbook, student paper, student government and sports.

The Connection's editorial assumes that students who enjoy

science in elementary school will become "leaders in math or science" even if they don't have good test scores. There is no proof for that assumption. In fact, research suggests the opposite is true.

Before Fairfax County revamps the TJ admissions process yet again in search of diversity, Fairfax County should gather, analyze and publish data — including middle- and high-school math test scores

— regarding TJ graduates who majored in math, science or engineering, versus TJ graduates who majored in non-STEM subjects such as journalism, business or history. The results of that analysis should be more important than the percentage of TJ students from "underrepresented" groups.

Louise Epstein
McLean



Snapshot 10:25 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 19, Pidgeon Hill Drive, Sterling.

THE CONNECTION

Newspaper of
Cascades

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

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ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

ONGOING EVENTS

Send ongoing events, 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.

The Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St., offers **falls concerts** the first and third Fridays and second and fourth Saturdays of **each month**. No concert Oct. 11. All ages. Call 703-430-9480 for schedule.

Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn, continuing children's story times. 703-737-8100.

- ♦ Baby Lapsit, 0-18 months, Mondays, 10 a.m. and Saturdays, 11 a.m.
- ♦ Mother Goose Nursery Time, 18-24 months, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.
- ♦ Terrific 2s, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:45 a.m.
- ♦ Preschool Story Time, 3-5 years, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Wonderful Wednesday Stories, 3-5 years, Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m.
- ♦ Pajama Story Time, 3-5 years, Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
- ♦ Saturday Family Story Time, 2-5 years, Saturdays, 10 a.m.

Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Sterling, continuing children's story times. 703-444-3228.

- ♦ Lapsits for 2s, Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m.
- ♦ Baby Lapsit, 0-18 months, Tuesdays and Saturdays, 11:15 a.m.
- ♦ Pajama Story Time, 2-5 years, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
- ♦ Story Time for 3s, 4s and 5s, Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
- ♦ Mother Goose Nursery Time, 18-24 months, Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
- ♦ Terrific 3s, Thursdays, 11:15 a.m.
- ♦ Saturday Family Story Time, 2-6 years, Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.



From left, Emma, Mya and Aaron Scott sift through dirt.

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

Searching for Lost Treasures

Claude Moore Park hosts Archeology Day.

The Loudoun Archeology Foundation (LAF) held the last of its summer Archeology Days at Claude Moore Park last Thursday. Tom Hyland, member of the board of directors of the LAF said that more than 140 children and 30 adults turned out for the event in just the first two and a half hours. Hyland and fellow LAF member Nick Chandler had a nice set up with various things for the children to see and do. They put a sifting station up where children could bring piles of dirt in the hopes of finding an artifact, laid out artifacts found from previous digs for the children to wash and examine and gave history lessons on the area and on archeology itself.

"It was a lot of fun," said Thomas Lowery of Ashburn. "It's really cool because I've been doing it for a couple years. My dad and I found a bunch of cool stuff like old quarters from 40 years ago at my grandma's house and I found a lot of glass and even a nail today."

Hyland displayed a bag of the day's findings, which included a sandwich bag full of special stones, a dime dated 1911 and even a large wooden piece with ducks carved into it, which Hyland and Chandler felt was a decorative piece from a household item like a table or desk.

"It was a lot of fun ... I found a lot of glass and even a nail today."

— Thomas Lowery, Ashburn

Explore Loudoun with the Archeological Foundation

Visit www.loudounarchaeologicalfoundation.org for a schedule of upcoming events, pictures from previous digs and other information on archeology.

The LAF, though it is only 2 years old, has held 35 events since its inception, with 16 excavations last year at the park, and 15 this year. Hyland said that the digs provide a great chance for children to get a good look at archeology and artifacts and the children surely seemed to be enjoying learning about the trade.

"I think it's pretty nice for digging," Aaron Scott, one of the most avid excavators of the day, said. "It's a pretty good idea."

— JUSTIN FANIZZI



Artifacts on display from previous digs.



A test site next to Lanesville Ordinary inside the park.



Rachel and Thomas Lowery of Ashburn wash artifacts with a toothbrush.



Alexandra Krens and her mother, Brenda, try to find artifacts.



Loudoun Archeology Foundation member Nick Chandler teaches children about artifacts.



Aaron, Emma and Mya Scott find a stone inside the sifter.

THE ARTS



Send announcements or events, 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.

2nd Flight Theatre Company presents "Bare: A Pop Opera," weekends Aug. 22-Sept. 6, at the Waddell Theater, Loudoun campus of Northern Virginia Community College.

2nd Flight Theatre Company presents **"Bare: A Pop Opera,"** weekends **Aug. 22-Sept. 6,** at the Waddell Theater, Loudoun campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 1000 Harry Byrd Highway, Sterling. Directed by Debbie Niezgoda and based on the book by Jon Hartmere and Damon Intrabartolo with music by Intrabartolo and lyrics by Hartmere. Show times are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, at 7 p.m. Cost: \$15 general admission, \$10 students with valid ID. Visit www.CCT2FT.com.

The **Loudoun Chorale** invites prospective new members to attend the first rehearsal of the 2008-09 season **Aug. 24,** from 5:30-8 p.m., at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 605 W. Market St.,

Leesburg. Dues are \$50 for individuals and \$75 for couples and a music cost of \$21. Call 703-722-4055 or visit www.loudounchorale.org to sign up.

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.

Leesburg Crossroads' **Fall into the Arts** committee invites all artists, in any

art medium, to submit work for a juried art exhibit at Leesburg's sixth annual 2008 Fall into the Arts Festival by **Aug. 30.** This year's festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 27, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., in historic downtown Leesburg and will include live music as well as special exhibits on the Town Green and throughout the downtown shops.

Artists may submit photos or jpegs on a compact disc of up to three original works along with a \$25 entry fee to "Fall into the Arts," c/o Loudoun Academy of the Arts, 222 South King St., Leesburg, VA 20175. Entry forms and instructions are available online at www.fallintothearts.org. E-mail Jim Sisley at jsisley@verizon.net.

Art exhibitions at local libraries

throughout September and October include at Ashburn Library, world photography by Dean Villanueva and at Cascades Library, photography by Mary Kaye Mason.

The Artists' Undertaking Gallery in Historic Ocoquan 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 **through 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 Ocoquan. Contact the gallery at 703-494-0584 or at www.theartistsundertaking.com.

Get Real!, a show of realism featur-

ing original paintings and drawings by Loudoun artists opens Friday, **Sept. 5,** at Gallery 222, 222 South King St., Leesburg, during Leesburg's First Friday Gallery Walk, from 6-9 p.m. The exhibit continues **through Sept. 27.**

Get Real! showcases artwork by Conor Backman, Tim Chambers, Michael Davis, Jonathan Linton, Sarita Moffat, Ann Noel, Sherry Sanabria Kurt Schwarz, Libby Stevens, Jeffery Stockberger, Dana Thompson and Dan Williams. Gallery 222 is open Mondays-Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and by appointment. The gallery is a component of the Loudoun Academy of the Arts Foundation, a 501(c)3 visual arts center offering fine art instruction, gallery exhibitions and studio space for working artists. Visit www.gallery222.com or call

703-777-5498.

Gallery Two at 222 will host a special exhibit of paintings by artist Helen Wiegand titled **Spiritual Relatives.** An opening reception will be held Friday, **Sept. 5,** during Leesburg's First Friday Gallery Walk, from 6-9 p.m. Wiegand's work focuses on figurative forms and their relationships to one another.

Gallery two is co-located with Gallery 222 at 222 South King St., Leesburg. Both galleries are components of the Loudoun Academy of the Arts Foundation, a 501(c)3 Visual Arts Center which offers fine art instruction, gallery exhibitions and studio space for working artists. The galleries are open Mondays-Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and by

appointment. Visit www.gallery222.com or call 703-777-5498.

The **Loudoun Symphony Youth Orchestra** is holding auditions for the 2008-2009 season. The youth orchestra is open to young musicians age 10-18 years who have had a minimum of three years of private instruction or who have participated in a school band or orchestra program for three years. The orchestra meets weekly in Leesburg and performs two-three times per year. Auditions will be **Sept. 6** and **Sept. 7.** Call 703-779-9925.



George Marshall Chair by Sherry Zvares Sanabria is featured in **Get Real!**, an exhibit at Gallery 222, Sept. 5-27.

CALENDAR

Send events, 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/AUG. 20

BINGO TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to Bingo World, Baltimore, Md. Purchase own bingo cards at the door; purchase lunch or bring own. Cost: \$10 for members, \$12 for nonmembers, includes transportation. Minimum walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

SENIOR MOVIE. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place. Watch "The Other Boleyn Girl," starring Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson and Eric Bana and based on the book by Philippa Gregory. Rated PG-13, 115 minutes. Cost: \$2, includes popcorn and soda.

THURSDAY/AUG. 21

SIZZLIN' SUMMER CONCERT. 7-9 p.m., Brambleton Town Center Plaza. Features Gonzo's Nose, covers from the '80s and '90s. Visit www.brambletonhoa.com.

ANIMAL CONSTRUCTION

COMPANY. 9:30-11 a.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-6. Beavers make dams and birds build nests. Hike and discover different animal homes and then build one. Cost: \$10.50. Call 571-258-3700.

FRIDAY/AUG. 22

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

JAZZ ON THE POTOMAC. 5:30-10 p.m., Lansdowne Resort, 44050 Woodbridge Parkway, Lansdowne. Features Tyrus. Enjoy 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. 23

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

MUSIC FESTIVAL. 2-10 p.m., Esoterica, 25 South King St., Leesburg. The whole family is invited to attend the annual Lillypalooza Music Festival. Cost: \$5; free refreshments will be provided. Visit www.esotericaofleesburg.com, e-mail store@esotericaofleesburg.com or call 703-777-4642.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES. 6-9:30 p.m., Tarara Vineyard and Winery,

13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg. Tarara's Sounds of Summer Series presents The Reflex. Cost: \$15 per person, free for children 6 and under. Advance discounted tickets available online. Call 703-771-7100, Ext. 233 or visit www.tarara.com.

LUCKETTS FAIR. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Lucketts Community Center, 42361 Lucketts Road, Leesburg. An old-fashioned country fair. Demonstrations, live music, petting zoo and more. Cost: \$8 for adults and free for children under 6. Contact 703-771-5281 or www.Luckettsfair.com.

WALK WITH A NATURALIST. 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. All ages. Join a park naturalist to search out the secrets of the animals and plants that live in the park. Call 571-258-3700 to register. An adult must accompany children. Cost: \$4.

1918: A LIVING HISTORY Program on World War I and the Home Front. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Morven Park, 17263 Southern Planter Lane, Leesburg. Join Virginia Gov. and Mrs. Westmoreland Davis and learn of their efforts to lead the county and Virginia through the Great War. Includes Morven Park farm workers and Leesburg citizens of the time to tell the story of life on the home front. Cost: adults \$5, children \$1. Meet at Coach House Visitor Center. Call 703-777-6034 or visit www.morvenpark.org.

SUNDAY/AUG. 24

BLUEMONT CONCERT SERIES. 7 p.m., lawn of the Loudoun County Courthouse, Leesburg. Features The Taters: new old-time honky-tonk. 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.

LUCKETTS FAIR. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Lucketts Community Center, 42361 Lucketts Road, Leesburg. See Aug. 23 listing for details.

MONDAY/AUG. 25

SCHOOL BUS. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. All kindergartners are invited to take a tour of a county school bus and to learn about safety rules. Call 703-



Jennifer Daniels performs Aug. 23, at the Acoustic on the Green series.



Country-rock group, The Taters, perform at the Bluemont Concert Series, Aug. 24.

737-8655 or e-mail beth.wiseman@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. 22 item for more details.

TUESDAY/AUG. 26

SCHOOL BUS. 2-3 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. See Aug. 25 listing for details.

BASEBALL TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to see the Baltimore Orioles play the Chicago White Sox in Baltimore, Md. Reserve seats above the press box at home plate; dinner on own at the ballpark. Cost: \$19 for members, \$20 for nonmembers, includes transportation and admission. Moderate walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 27

CASINO TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to Charles Town, W.Va. Includes slots

and simulcast horse racing; lunch on own. Cost: \$7 for members, \$9 for nonmembers, includes transportation and \$5 cash back, subject to change. Minimum walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

HANDS-ON DISCOVERY ROOM. 1-3 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. All ages. Explore the displays, meet the turtles and make a craft in the Visitor Center Discovery Room. An adult must accompany children. Free. Call 571-258-3700.

THURSDAY/AUG. 28

FILM VIEWING. 7 p.m., Rust @ Catocin Library, 34D Catocin Circle, Leesburg. Join director Debra Sugerman for a viewing and discussion of the award-winning documentary "Dear Mr. President" about five Palestinian and Israeli teens and their attempt to break down cultural barriers and to meet President Bush. Recommended for ages 12 and up. Sponsored by North Spring Behavioral Healthcare and Rust Library Advisory Board.

FRIDAY/AUG. 29

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.

JAZZ ON THE POTOMAC. 5:30-10 p.m., Lansdowne Resort, 44050 Woodbridge Parkway, Lansdowne. Features Nick Colionne. Enjoy 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. 30

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 Friday, Aug. 29 item for details.

SUNDAY/AUG. 31

TWILIGHT TOUR. 6-8 p.m., Balls Bluff Battlefield Regional Park, Balls Bluff Road, Leesburg. A twilight tour of Balls Bluff Battlefield. Free. Call 703-737-7800 or visit <http://www.nvrpa.org>.

TRAVEL THROUGH TIME in the Winmill Carriage Collection. 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. Visit www.morvenpark.org or call 703-777-6034.

MONDAY/SEPT. 1

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 Friday, Aug. 29 item for details.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 3

CANAL BOAT TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to Washington, D.C., for a C&O Canal boat cruise and tour of the Tudor Place and Gardens; lunch on own in Georgetown. Cost: \$17 for members, \$19 for nonmembers, includes transportation, boat ride and admission. Extensive walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 5

SENIOR COOKOUT. 4-6:30 p.m., The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place. "Goin' to the Drive-In," end-of-summer celebration; includes burgers, malts and shakes and "white bucks," as well as classic cars show and disc jockey Sky Dantine; wear high-school colors. Cost: \$5 for members in advance, \$7 for nonmembers and at door. Call 703-430-2397.

MUSEUM RECEPTION. 6-8 p.m., Loudoun Museum, 16 Loudoun St., S.W., Leesburg. 703-777-7427.

FAITH

Send announcements or events, 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.

Galilee United Methodist Church invites the community to attend a service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness, Friday, **Aug. 22**, at 7:30 p.m. Call 703-430-2203 or e-mail GalileeUMC@GalileeUMC.net. The church is located at 45425 Winding Road, intersection of routes 7 and 28 at Broad Run Farms. Visit www.GalileeUMC.org.

Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation, 21740 Beaumeade Circle, Suite 100, Ashburn, will have a bagels brunch and information session for prospective members Sunday, **Aug. 24**, from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Meet Rabbi Gallop and members of the congregation. Families with young children are invited and encouraged to attend. E-mail worshipvp@bcrcva.org or call 703-729-1659.

Galilee United Methodist Church, 45425 Winding Road, Sterling, will hold its blessing of the backpacks, Sunday, **Aug. 24**. All children in preschool through high school are invited to bring their book bags to either the 9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. worship service for a special blessing. Area school teachers and administrators are also invited to come for recognition, appreciation and a blessing as well. Call 703-430-2203 or visit www.GalileeUMC.org.

Congregation Sha'are Shalom will hold its annual picnic Sunday, **Aug. 24**, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at 19357 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg. Enjoy kosher food and fun and games. There is no cost for prospective members. Call Congregation 703-737-6500 or visit www.sha-areshalom.org.

On Sunday, **Aug. 31**, **St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church** will have a special blessing of backpacks and briefcases during its 10 a.m. service, worshipping at Belmont Ridge Middle School, 19045 Upper Belmont Place, Leesburg. Students of all ages bring backpacks and grown-ups bring briefcases or other symbol of your job. Visit www.SaintGabriels.net for more information.

Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation, 21740 Beaumeade Circle, Suite 100, Ashburn, will have a lunch and learn session with Rabbi Gallop for pro-

spective members Wednesday, **Sept. 3**, from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Families with young children are invited and encouraged to attend. E-mail membershipvp@bcrcva.org or call 703-729-1659.

The **Community Church** will hold its annual Friend's Day event **Sept. 7**, at 19790 Ashburn Road, Ashburn. Services will be held at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. followed by a free catered tailgate picnic and party from 12-3 p.m. Includes a live band, horse shoes, football, basketball, soccer and volleyball games, hay rides, pony rides, face painting, moon bounces, inflatable rides, obstacle course, petting zoo and much more. Visit www.thecommunitychurch.org for more information or call 571-209-5000.

Sterling United Methodist Church, 304 East Church Road in Sterling, will hold its annual Rally Day and Ministry Fair between morning worship services Sunday, **Sept. 7**. The community invited to browse tables and exhibits spotlighting the various ministries and volunteer opportunities. A church wide picnic will follow at noon.

Sterling United Methodist Church holds traditional Sunday worship services, at 8:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., and a contemporary praise service at 11 a.m. Sunday school is available for all ages during the 9:30 a.m. service time. Nursery is available during all services times. Call the church office at 703-430-6455 or visit www.sterlingumc.org.

Congregation Sha'are Shalom, Loudoun County's Conservative synagogue, has announced its schedule for High Holy Day services for the Jewish year 5769. The High Holy Days mark the beginning of the Jewish New Year for 5769 and start with Rosh Hashanah (the beginning of the year) at 7:30 p.m., Monday, **Sept. 29**. Services will be held the first and second days of the holiday Tuesday, **Sept. 30** and Wednesday, **Oct. 1**. Services each day begin at 9 a.m. Yom Kippur (day of atonement) services begins with Kol Nidrei (all vows) at 6:15 p.m., Wednesday, **Oct. 8**, and resume at 9 a.m., Thursday, **Oct. 9**. A break-the-fast will be held after the conclusion of Yom Kippur services around 7:20 p.m., Thursday.

All services and events are held at Congregation Sha'are Shalom, 19357 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg. Non-members can reserve tickets by calling the synagogue at 703-737-6500 or by downloading the reservation forms at www.sha-areshalom.org.

CONNECT, the young adult group at **Sterling United Methodist Church**, 304 East Church Road, Sterling, is seeking new members. **CONNECT** focuses on

bringing people together in a social setting as they commonly search for Christ's direction in their lives. The group is open to all men and women in their 20s and 30s, married or single, with or without children. There is no cost for membership, although activity participation fees may apply. Call 703-430-6455 or visit www.sterlingumc.org.

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.

St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church of Lansdowne is extending an invitation to families that have children with autism spectrum, ADHD, bipolar disorder and similar conditions. St. Gabriel's has developed several programs to reach out to the community.

* The **"Chrysalis" Room** is a safe space for children with autism spectrum, ADHD, bipolar disorder and similar conditions. Includes a trained professional staff that provides appropriate activities and lessons. It is available **every Sunday** during the regular 10 a.m. worship and for special events.

* **Spiritual Support Group** for families with special needs, on the **first and third Thursdays** of each month, from 7-8:30 p.m. This group is completely "drop-in."

All programs held Belmont Ridge Middle School, 19045 Upper Belmont Place in Lansdowne. Visit www.saintgabriels.net or call 703-779-3616.

Gateway Community Church's "Celebrate Recovery" is meeting at Arcola Community Center located at 24328 Goshen Road. Celebrate Recovery is a biblically based 12-step program for addressing addiction, co-dependency, anger and other self-destructive behaviors. It meets every Tuesday night from 7-9 p.m. E-mail cr@www.gatewaychurch.org or call 703-327-2700.

Riverside Presbyterian Church's Kenya Café will be open, from 9:15-10:30 a.m., Sundays, at Potomac Falls High School. It offers a friendly, comfortable spot to grab a cup of coffee, chat with others or just relax and read the paper while the children are in small group. The café is also designed to raise awareness of Riverside's partnerships in Kenya and other parts of the world.

Feel free to join the church for worship at 10:35 a.m. Contact 703-444-3528 or www.riversidechurch.com.

Hollmann, Lisa Kaiser, Taylor Lugar, Erik Reeves, Morgan Rezac, Katherine Runco, Nicole Shaffer, Christopher Jones and Emily Williams.

Army Reserve Capt. **RC Chao**, Sterling High School class of 1993, has been mobilized and activated for an overseas deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Chao, who graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1997, will be aiding in the security, stabilization and rebuilding of Iraq and its infrastructure.

The Loudoun affiliate of Habitat International recently elected its new board members, increasing the board from 18 to 20 members, and electing a new executive board. The newly elected president, **Alta Jones**, previously served as board's vice president

and also currently heads the finance committee. Jones has held executive positions in the financial services industry and is currently a business consultant partner with Hilltop Advisors. She also serves on the Virginia state Habitat board.

Joining Jones on the executive committee are **Tom Grannas**, vice president and a partner with Charron Consulting; **George Rose**, treasurer and founder of Land Design Financials; **Dave Boyd**, secretary, member of the Loudoun's Housing Advisory Board and director of BNI Northern Virginia; **Pamela McGraw**, family selection chair, nonprofit representative for Loudoun's Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board and employed by IDI Group Companies and **Bud Green**, head of construction and past LHFH president.

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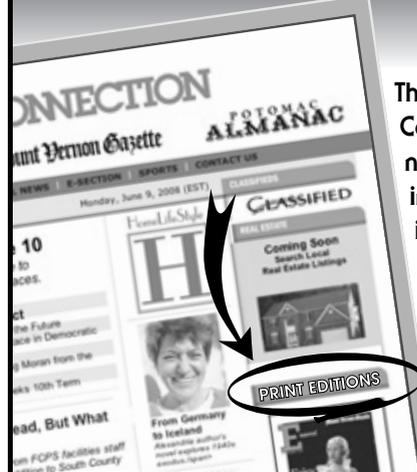
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Viewing / Inspection: Thursday August 7th + 14th: LAND: 1-2PM, OFFICE 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Final Inspection & Registration: Thursday August 21st: 10 AM

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Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Date Sold
47806 BRAWNER PL	5	4	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$875,000	Detached	0.280005	07/11/08
23277 MEADOWVALE GLEN CT	5	4	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$735,000	Detached	0.460009	07/15/08
23261 MEADOWVALE GLEN CT	5	6	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$730,000	Detached	0.460009	07/02/08
47008 KENTWELL PL	4	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$679,000	Detached	0.169995	07/15/08
20584 MARSH CT	5	4	1	POTOMAC FALLS	POTOMAC FALLS	\$667,000	Detached	0.280005	07/15/08
43596 WARDEN DR	4	4	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$645,000	Detached	0.519995	07/16/08
46445 MONTGOMERY PL	5	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$640,000	Detached	0.319995	07/08/08
20528 GRANT CT	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$640,000	Detached	0.230005	07/17/08
46793 BACKWATER DR	4	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$574,900	Detached	0.2	07/08/08
20764 BANK WAY	4	3	1	POTOMAC FALLS	POTOMAC FALLS	\$568,000	Detached	0.119995	07/15/08
20760 WINDEMERE CT	4	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$539,000	Detached	0.289991	07/01/08
46728 HOLLOW MOUNTAIN PL	5	4	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$530,000	Detached	0.219995	07/16/08
46834 WILLOWOOD PL	5	3	1	POTOMAC FALLS	POTOMAC FALLS	\$520,000	Detached	0.139991	07/09/08
21 WESTMORELAND DR	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$500,000	Detached	0.210009	07/01/08
47702 BOWLINE TER	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$404,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/14/08
105 REGINA DR	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$395,000	Detached	0.269995	07/08/08
20878 DERRYDALE SQ	3	2	2	STERLING	STERLING	\$392,500	Townhouse	0.039991	07/09/08
7 BRINKS CT	4	3	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$390,000	Detached	0.119995	07/11/08
1 OAKDALE CT	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$375,000	Detached	0.169995	07/01/08
20949 CHEROKEE TER	3	2	2	STERLING	STERLING	\$360,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/15/08
206 AUTUMN OLIVE WAY	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$349,100	Detached	0.469995	07/15/08
45602 IRON HORSE TER	3	2	2	STERLING	STERLING	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/10/08
104 ASPEN AVE	4	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$316,500	Detached	0.239991	07/16/08
1113 DICKENSON AVE S	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$310,000	Detached	0.239991	07/11/08
21960 BOX CAR SQ	3	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$305,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/09/08
45548 LAKE HAVEN TER	3	2	2	STERLING	STERLING	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/10/08
21903 GOLDEN SPIKE TER	3	2	2	STERLING	STERLING	\$297,950	Townhouse	0.039991	07/10/08
130 HARVEST LN	4	3	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$295,000	Detached	0.169995	07/11/08
45576 TRESTLE TER	4	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$291,000	Townhouse	0.030005	07/15/08
675 AVONDALE DR	4	3	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$280,000	Detached	0.180005	07/09/08
723 WATFORD CT N	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$277,940	Detached	0.260009	07/11/08
1004 MAPLE AVE	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$275,000	Detached	0.260009	07/11/08
22 BRINKS CT	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$271,000	Detached	0.15	07/14/08
503 BEACON DR	3	2	2	STERLING	STERLING	\$270,000	Townhouse	0.089991	07/11/08
21948 THOMPSON SQ	3	2	2	STERLING	STERLING	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.030005	07/11/08
1401 IBERIA RD	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$260,000	Detached	0.219995	07/02/08
510 NETTLE TREE RD	4	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$259,990	Detached	0.189991	07/11/08
302 MAPLE AVE	4	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$257,500	Detached	0.210009	07/02/08
1115 WILLIAMSBURG CT	4	3	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$255,499	Detached	0.189991	07/09/08
707 GREENTHORN AVE S	3	1	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$250,000	Detached	0.189991	07/11/08
21156 DOMAIN TER #14	2	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.071008	07/10/08
46811 WOODSTONE TER	3	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/11/08
45285 GABLE SQ	3	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$238,000	Detached	0.039991	07/15/08
1023 HOGA RD	4	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$235,000	Detached	0.2	07/11/08
623 POPLAR RD	4	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$230,014	Detached	0.189991	07/03/08
22955 OAKGROVE RD	4	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/09/08
719 AMELIA ST	3	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$220,000	Detached	0.239991	07/11/08
505 HARRISON RD	4	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$219,000	Detached	0.189991	07/01/08
32 BENTON CT	4	3	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$218,000	Townhouse	0.05	07/16/08
25 LUDWELL CT	3	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$215,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/11/08
603 FILLMORE AVE	5	3	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$213,000	Duplex	0.119995	07/02/08
20388 RIVER BANK ST	3	1	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$213,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/14/08
137 SUGARLAND RD	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$212,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/02/08
21793 LEATHERLEAF CIR	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$208,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/11/08
607 MAPLE AVE	4	1	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$207,000	Detached	0.189991	07/07/08
106 CYPRESS RD	4	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$200,000	Detached	0.230005	07/14/08
302 BEECH RD W	3	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$198,000	Detached	0.230005	07/07/08
46930 COURTYARD SQ #100	2	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$194,310	Townhouse	0.071808	07/18/08
1020 IRONWOOD RD	3	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$175,000	Detached	0.189991	07/15/08
1008 MARSDEN CT #202	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$172,900	Townhouse	0.070908	07/09/08
114 HATENBACK CT #244	3	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$172,500	Townhouse	0.070608	07/06/08
767 SUGARLAND RUN DR	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$172,500	Townhouse	0.039991	07/14/08
115 CYPRESS RD	3	1	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$171,000	Detached	0.239991	07/08/08
45768 MAYFIELD CIR #49	3	1	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$166,500	Townhouse	0.071008	07/10/08
509 POPLAR RD	3	1	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$160,000	Detached	0.189991	07/02/08
785 SUGARLAND RUN DR	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$160,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/15/08
128 COTTAGE RD N	5	3	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$160,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/15/08
24 MONARCH DR	4	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$155,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/10/08
146 COTTAGE RD	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$146,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/03/08
110 WESTWICK CT #3	2	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$146,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.070708	07/07/08
506 MAPLE AVE	4	3	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$145,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/01/08
102 DRURY CIR	3	2	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$143,550	Townhouse	0.039991	07/11/08
53 SUGARLAND SQUARE CT	2	1	1	STERLING	STERLING	\$138,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/08/08
106 HAYLOFT CT	3	2	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$125,500	Townhouse	0.039991	07/01/08
313 DARTMOUTH DR #195	2	1	0	STERLING	STERLING	\$120,000	Townhouse	0.071508	07/15/08

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24106 Mercers Crossing Ct.	\$864,900	Sun 1-4	Lori Hall	Long & Foster	703-968-7000

Ashburn

19919 Alexandras Grove Dr.	\$565,000	Sun 1-4	Melissa Dabney	Long & Foster	703-938-4200
23077 Oglethorpe Ct.	\$1,180,000	Sun 1-4	Thomas Reidy	Long & Foster	703-631-3200
21510 Tithables Cir.	\$649,000	Sun 1-4	Barbara Dugger	Weichert	703-980-9024

Broadlands

21388 Shady Woods Ter.	\$359,900	Sun 1-4	Steve Grimes	Realty 2000	703-772-2270
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Hamilton

16629 Swanbourne Dr.	\$849,900	Sat & Sun 11-4	Joan DeSantis	Sampson	800-323-9267
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Leesburg

42041 Brightwood Ln.	\$660,000	Sun 1-3	Bridget Allen	Weichert	540-454-0943
20400 Crimson Pl.	\$899,900	Sun 1-4	Julie Hertel	Long & Foster	571-243-5952
1154 Keokuk Ter., #28	\$424,000	Sun 1-4	J. Jordan	Weichert	703-655-6665
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Local Players Littering College, Pro Rosters

Stone Bridge has five Bowl Subdivision players, four committed for next season.

Especially after a recent scrimmage with Broad Run, it's evident that Stone Bridge are the consensus favorites to repeat as the Group AAA Division 5 champions. That's mostly in part to four Bulldogs who have verbally committed to top-25 ACC schools. It might also have something to do with the pedigree developing in Northern Virginia.

There are almost 50 graduates from Northern Region schools, in addition to a couple of players from the Dulles District and private schools.

Those names include Jeron Gouveia-Winslow, a freshman rover back at Virginia Tech, who helped Stone Bridge to a 2007 state championship. Devon Brown is a 6-foot-5 offensive tackle at Wake Forest, while Ed Wang is a massive 6-foot-5, 310-pound offensive tackle at Virginia Tech.

Wang's younger brother, David Wang, a senior defensive tackle at Stone Bridge is one of the Bulldog quartet to already verbally pledge his collegiate allegiances. Wang will follow his brother, and 11 current Northern Region alums to Virginia Tech next season.

Even the Dulles District is spitting out solid athletes, with U-Va.'s 6-foot-7, 270 defensive end Alex Field, who is replacing the second overall 2008 NFL draft pick in Chris Long.

Field, the former Spartan was selected as the Dulles District's 2003 Defensive Player of the Year. He also earned all-district honors during his junior and senior seasons before heading to Charlottesville. Last season, he played all 13 games, tallying 11

tackles. In less than two weeks, the Cavaliers open the season hosting second-ranked USC.

FOUR YEARS AGO, Kevin Grant was preparing for Herndon's football season, trying to terrorize Chantilly's offense. Now, he's being named to preseason award lists and preparing for his senior season at the University of Akron.

Grant, a starting senior linebacker has 234 tackles in three seasons — best among the returning Zips. He's yet another recruit from Northern Virginia that has gone on to excel on the College Bowl Subdivision level.

Grant used to tackle Westfield's Sean Glennon and Eddie Royal, who led their Bulldogs to the 2004 Virginia Group AAA state championship. Now Glennon, older brother of N.C. State potential starter Mike Glennon, is slated to again share the quarterbacking duties at Virginia Tech after starting for much of the last two years.

Royal, on the other hand, is impressing scouts and coaches in the Denver Broncos training camp and has potential to be the No. 1 starter while Brandon Marshall is suspended for the season's first two games.

Considered too short by some, the 5-foot-10 wide Royal was selected in the second round of the 2008 NFL draft after a four-year career at Virginia Tech. And in a short time, he's already making an impression in the NFL, earning 35 and 32-yard catches against the Dallas Cowboys secondary during Denver's second preseason game.

—ERIC J. GILMORE



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Last season, Jeron Gouveia-Winslow was running away from tacklers in the Northern Region. This year, the former Northern Region Defensive Player of the Year is battling for the rover slot at Virginia Tech.

Area Bowl Subdivision Players

Name	High School	College	Position	Height	Weight	Classification
Liberty District						
Andrew Holoman	Stone Bridge	Duke	LB	6-4	240	Sophomore
Ed Wang	Stone Bridge	V-Tech	OT	6-5	310	Junior
Devon Brown	Stone Bridge	Wake Forest	WR	5-9	185	Freshman
Andrew Nuss	Stone Bridge	Notre Dame	DE	6-5	292	Sophomore
Jeron Gouveia-Winslow	Stone Bridge	V-Tech	S	6-2	180	Freshman
Jeff Beyer	V-Tech	W.T. Woodson	QB	6-4	221	Junior
Gregg Pugnetti	West Virginia	W.T. Woodson	P	6-2	228	Sophomore
Andrew Gully	Madison	U-Ga.	DE	6-4	250	Junior
Jonny Harrison	Madison	U-Tenn.	DT	6-2	235	Junior
Daniel Cunningham	South Lakes	Army	OG	6-2	286	Sophomore
Austin Walker	Langley	U-Md.	DB	6-0	185	Freshman

Dulles District

John Maghamez	Briar Woods	U-Va.	OLB	6-3	285	Freshman
Alex Field	Broad Run	U-Va.	DE	6-7	270	Senior

Seniors Verbal Commitments

Bryn Renner	W. Springfield	UNC	QB	6-3	190
Brian Slay	Stone Bridge	N.C. State	DE	6-2	240
Zach Thompson	Stone Bridge	Wake Forest	DE	6-5	240
David Wang	Stone Bridge	V-Tech	DT	6-2	310
Mike Olson	Stone Bridge	Wake Forest	OLB	6-3	200
Luke Buwanko	Centreville	U-Va.	OT	6-6	260
Frank Figueroa	Edison	Penn St.	OG	6-4	275



Jeron Gouveia-Winslow ran for more than 900 yards and scored 22 touchdowns en route to being named the Liberty District Offensive and Defensive Player of the Year last season.



Just a fourth-year school, Briar Woods is already looking for its second college signee. Outside linebacker John Maghamez is a freshman at the University of Virginia.

Well Done



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not that anybody in a position of decision-making or public relating is listening to me, lowly middle class consumer that I am, but I think I owe the oil companies an apology. As much as I have complained about and criticized their grotesque profits in print (occasionally) and in conversation (frequently), their most recent record-setting quarterly profits have turned me completely around. With the numbers, and variety, of businesses reeling from the high cost of oil (up 72 percent in the last year, as of Aug. 8), and with bankruptcies, foreclosures, store closings, unemployment and inflation all increasing, and with even the possibility of some governments going to a four-day work week to reduce the financial pressures on their thousands of employees, dominating the headlines, a direct result of increased energy costs (as well as all the other collateral costs on down and across the food chain, metaphorically speaking), why is it that the companies who actually import the oil, who themselves have to absorb this unprecedented increase in the cost of their doing business, and who, I would imagine, spend more money on energy costs than most other companies do, are the ones least effected by the escalating costs of these goods and their related services? It has to be management and their business acumen.

When all/everybody else is failing and you are not, it must be a direct result of your brains and perhaps a little brawn. Running a multi-billion dollar company with hundreds of thousands employees spread across nearly the entire universe (that we know of), with offices, platforms, drills, rigging, vehicles, equipment, hardware, software, etc., everywhere, and it all needing to be integrated into some kind of organized business plan that allows for everyone to be paid: management, employees, contractors, sub-contractors, vendors, insurers, attorneys, accountants, public relations and advertising people, researchers and developers and of course, stockholders and bond holders; and have products brought to market in a timely and efficient manner, and still make a profit, even after the main component of their business — oil, has increased by an amount totally out of their control — a 100 percent increase in one year until this most recent fall back, is nothing short of miraculous and worthy of, at the very least, a PBS-type documentary explaining how a company/industry could thrive under such extraordinary and excruciatingly difficult — and challenging — circumstances. Circumstances that have cut so many of their fellow business owners down to the quick.

A quick that has seen many blue chip, blue bloods; some of the best and the brightest, in America and abroad, devastated, suffering indignities and financial losses never before imagined, not just millions or even hundreds of millions, but in some board rooms, losses calculated to be in the billions. That's the real "b" word in today's economy.

But somehow the oil companies muster on, encountering the same fossil fuel-related increases as everyone else, yet still posting record profits. We shouldn't be questioning their success; we should be celebrating it. If only the rest of us could learn, even just a little bit, from the oil companies' success, I'm sure the world would be a much better place, what's left of it anyway.

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

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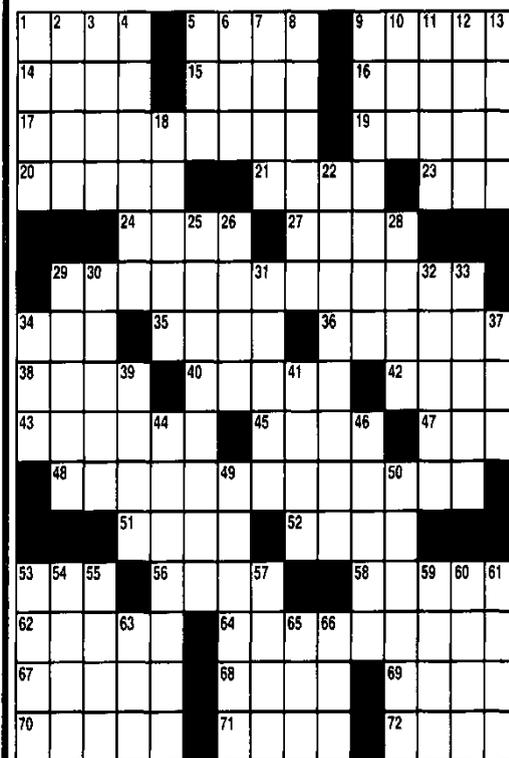


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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0324-1



Puzzle by Nancy Salomon

ACROSS

- London Fog, e.g.
- Multigenerational story
- Betray, in a way
- Up to the task
- Zippo
- Play hard to get
- Sage lands?
- Torments
- Barfly's roost, perhaps
- "... blackbirds, baked in —"
- Professional suffix
- Do a post-laundry job
- Poet — St. Vincent Millay
- Joe's lands?
- de mots (pun)
- Feds
- Looked with desire
- Makes a scene?
- Largest Cornhusker city
- Have on
- Hotel Bible
- Peewee people
- One of the "Little Women"

- Dieters' lands?
- Last name in cruelty
- Took note of
- Pal, rapper-style
- Spot in the Senate
- Arab emirate
- Sly character
- Bad lands?
- Slicker in the winter
- Superior's inferior
- Gold medalist Lipinski
- Insinuate
- Dummy
- Command to a boxer

- Words from Wordsworth
- Catbird seat?
- On high
- Star worship
- Stand buy
- Consider
- Once again
- Mr. Rhodes of Rhodes scholarships
- Better
- Bites
- Hate the thought of
- Tailor's joints
- Bender

- Like some humor
- Uses a Singer
- Crossed fingers symbolize it
- Somewhat
- Like rye, usually
- Kidded around
- Full-price payers
- Sailor's stir
- Gallop
- Forget about
- Dangerous charger
- Go sailing
- Gillette product
- Brit's interjection
- Emmy winner Arthur
- Free
- Speedwagon

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	H	A	H	S	D	R	A	W	G	O	S	H		
C	O	B	R	A	I	A	G	O	O	N	T	O		
A	K	L	E	P	T	O	M	A	N	I	A	C	I	S
T	E	E	P	O	N	D	S	T	E	R	E			
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C	A	N	T	H	E	L	P	H	I	M	S	E	L	F
A	L	E	C	S	U	E	T	O	U	T	O	F		
M	E	S	H		E	R	R	S		R	E	A	D	Y

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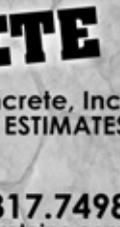
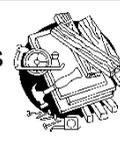
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POLITICS

Group Seeks Clean Energy

FROM PAGE 7

with using fossil fuels while also creating jobs and encouraging innovation. "It's important to me because the state of economy, as well as national security, hinge on these very issues," he said of his support for the energy plan.

Wolf's Web site holds more information

VOLUNTEERING

Send announcements or events, 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.

Loudoun Volunteer Services will present a **Volunteer Management Training Series**, designed for volunteer managers of community organizations. The six-week series will begin Friday, **Sept. 12**, and will continue for five consecutive Fridays. Each of the six courses, lasting four hours, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., will be held at the Loudoun County Volunteer Rescue Squad, 143 Catocin Circle, S.E., Leesburg.

The cost for each course is \$25 or \$100 for all six. To register for one or more courses, visit www.loudoun.gov/volunteer and click on "Volunteer Management Training Series" or call 703-737-8424 for an application. The deadline to register is **Aug. 29**.

There are opportunities for people to serve on various county and regional **advisory boards, commissions and committees**. For information about specific vacancies, contact Rosey Rai, county administration, 703-771-5034 or by e-mail at Rosey.Rai@loudoun.gov. Information about each board, committee and commission is available on the Loudoun County Government Web site at www.loudoun.gov/advisory.

Loudoun **Habitat for Humanity** is hosting a volunteer orientation Saturday, **Sept. 6**, at 11 a.m., at the Ashburn Library, located at 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Contact Tony McGraw at volunteers@loudounhabitat.org.

BUSINESS NOTES

Send announcements or events, 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.

More than a year ago, 180 National Guardsmen from Charlie Company/23rd BN assigned to the Leesburg Armory left to serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom. To welcome home the Guardsmen, and to thank them and their families for their service, the **Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce** and **Loudoun Cares** led a campaign to raise funds and gift certificates to area restaurants and shops. The result, more than \$112,500 in financial contributions and more than \$84,000 in gifts certificates to area restaurants, hotels, golf courses, shops and concert tickets.

Sunrise Lawn/Landscaping Services Inc., 43813 Beaver Meadow Road, Suite 100, Sterling, a member of the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET), participated in "Renewal & Remembrance" at Arlington National Cemetery and Historic Congressional Cemetery Monday, July 21.

The Care of Trees of Dulles, a member of the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET), participated in "Renewal & Remembrance" at Arlington National Cemetery and Historic Congressional Cemetery Monday, July 21.

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on his stance regarding energy issues. The energy legislation he co-sponsored in the Congress includes the American Energy Act, which seeks to increase energy supply, improve conservation and efficiency and promote alternative and renewable energy technologies. For more information visit <http://wolf.house.gov/?sectionid=205§iontree=7,205>.

The Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, is looking for teens who love to read for its **Teen Reading Buddies** program Mondays, **Sept. 8, 22, 29, Oct. 6, 20 and 27**, at 4:30 p.m. Call 703-777-0368.

The Northern Virginia **Long-Term Care Ombudsman** Program is looking for volunteer advocates, who are assigned to a specific local nursing home or assisted-living facility in Loudoun County and make weekly visits, meeting one-on-one with residents. Applicants must be available to volunteer four hours per week, primarily during regular business hours. Also, volunteer ombudsmen must not be employed by a long-term care facility. Interviews of applicants will be held this summer in preparation for the next annual training, scheduled for **Sept. 15, 16 and 26**, from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., each day. Call 703-324-5422, TTY: 703-449-1186 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/LTCOmbudsman.

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 June.

The Heritage Farm Museum located in Claude Moore Park in Sterling seeks volunteers to serve as program assistants and instructors programs in their new interactive exhibit hall. Ask about internships for college and graduate school students; paid positions also available for qualified applicants. Call curator Katie Jones at 571-258-3800.

solutions, announces that it has appointed **Gary Hobbs** as chief operating officer. Hobbs will lead the company's global teams for sales, professional services, engineering and manufacturing and will be responsible for developing and executing growth initiatives in these areas.

He joins Cryptek from Unisys Corporation where he served as vice president and chief operating officer of federal systems.

Froots, a gourmet smoothie chain, has opened a Sterling location, 46950 Community Plaza, Suite 120. The store is owned by Sean Lee. Visit www.froots.com.

Jim Speros, owner of **Velocity Five Sports Restaurant and Bar**, announces the opening of his second location in Sterling. Speros, former owner of the CFL's Baltimore Stallions and Montreal Alouettes, as well as a former NFL coach with the Washington Redskins and Buffalo Bills, plans to transform the 6,000-square-foot facility, located in the Great Falls Plaza Shopping Center across from Lowes Island, into an upscale sports restaurant and bar.

The restaurant and bar features cherry wood walls, private booths, wall-to-wall hardwood floors, wireless Internet and more than 25 large, flat-screen televisions that use high definition satellite Direct TV.

Velocity Five provides non-stop televised sports, as well as special appearances by athletes and celebrities, and live radio and television broadcasts.

JetBlue Airways announces plans to launch daily nonstop from Washington Dulles International Airport to Cancun, Mexico, beginning Dec. 20.

NEWS



PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC/THE CONNECTION

From left around the table, Anna McCormally, Melanie Stanley, Izzy Simpkins and Kristin Yost prepare lunches for clients of the Embry Rucker Community Shelter at the Herndon Friends Meeting as part of Works Sunday.

Projects Help Less Fortunate

Works Sunday volunteers discuss importance of community service day.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC
THE CONNECTION

Izzy Simpkins stood over the table making sandwiches and packing lunches with three other women. She would not have stood out within the group except for one obvious thing, she was younger than the others gathered around the table.

The 11-year-old Ashburn Village resident joined some 25 volunteers at the Herndon Friends Meeting on Spring Street Sunday, Aug. 17, to help pack 140 lunches for the clients of Reston's Embry Rucker Community Shelter. "I wanted to help homeless people," said Izzy of her decision to dedicate some of her Sunday afternoon to help make and pack the lunches. "We are so fortunate and it would be good of us to give back," she said of joining her family and others in helping with the project. It was Izzy's first time participating and she said she would definitely be back again. "I liked it. People here were nice," she said.

Izzy was not the only child participating in the project. Her brother and a handful of other children assisted in making and packing lunches, sorting through the food and cleaning up after it was over. "I think it's great for kids to do this project," said Susan Huebsch, a Reston resident who is a member of the Herndon Friends Meeting and the co-chair of Sunday's project. "They get to see hands-on that a simple project makes a difference," said Huebsch, who participated in the project for the fourth time. "They understand people get hungry and need to eat."

THE PROJECT at Friends Meeting in Herndon was one of many in the Reston and Herndon community that took place as part of Works Sunday, a series of community service projects that serve the underprivileged in the area. It is an effort conceived from area faith communities that come together to better the general community through the projects.

"One thing I like about Works Sunday is how people from all different faiths come together," Huebsch said. She said the projects are very local and their impact is immediate. It took 45 minutes to pack 140 lunches for the Embry Rucker Shelter. Reston Interfaith, the shelter's operator, hands out about 60 lunches per day, rendering Sunday's project as about two days worth of lunches for the shelter.

Nearby, at Herndon's First Baptist Church on Elden Street, volunteers conducted free health screenings from 1 to 4 p.m. Jim Ryan, Herndon resident and president of the Reston Lions Club, managed the tests at the club's van that held three to four sight and hearing checking units in it. "It's just community service," said Ryan. "There's a lot of people who need glasses or hearing aids and they don't even know they need them," he said.

Linda Soller, a member of the First Baptist congregation, said the church is located centrally, which made it a great location for the screenings. She said the congregation felt very strongly that it is important to provide community service and to help other churches provide the same service. "We are very excited to be doing this," she said.

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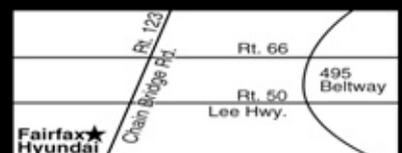
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