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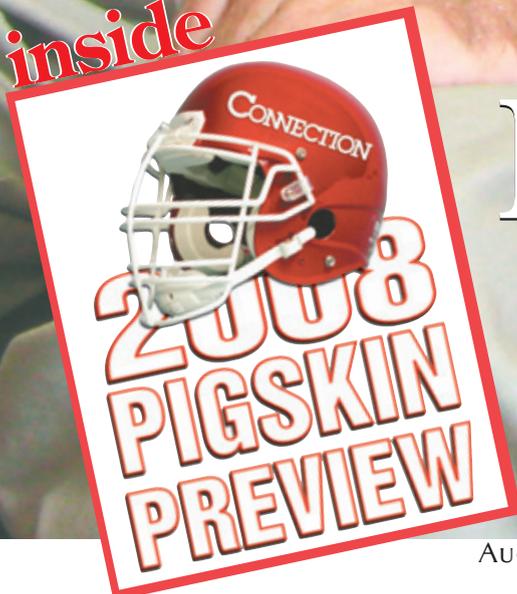
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David Burds and Cascades resident Elise Graves are working to expand the Loudoun ENDependence Center's presence in the county and help the elderly and disabled remain independent.

PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO / THE CONNECTION

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AUGUST 27-SEPTEMBER 2, 2008 ❖ VOLUME V, NUMBER 35

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NEWS

Trying to Work for Diddy

Former Park View teachers' terror first turns life around, now earns spot on reality show.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

During his first few years at Park View High School, many of Boris Kuperman's teachers thought he would be in jail by now. Instead, three years after his graduation, he is not only studying criminal justice at George Mason University and working as an intern to the attorney who once defended him but is also on television as a cast member in the current VH1 reality series "I Want to Work for Diddy."

On the show, 13 contestants compete to become a personal assistant to rapper, record producer, fashion designer and entrepreneur Sean "Diddy" Combs, formerly P. Diddy, formerly Puff Daddy. Kuperman said he had been told that about 1 million people either tried out at auditions across the country or sent in applications to be on the show. He did the latter and was one of the 30 candidates selected by a casting agency. Diddy himself chose the final 13 contestants.

In preparation for the show's selection process, Kuperman branded himself with the nickname "Can Do," he said, "because I have a get-it-done mentality. I can do anything and I never take no for an answer."

Check It Out

"I Want to Work for Diddy" airs at 9 p.m., Mondays on VH1, with reruns throughout the week. The show's Web site is www.workfordiddy.vh1.com. Find Boris "Can Do" Kuperman merchandise at www.cafepress.com/boriscando.

BY THE TIME he arrived at Park View, Kuperman already had a long history of conflicts with authority. He had been expelled from both Lake Anne Elementary School and Langston Hughes Middle School in Reston. He was suspended three times within his first few months of high school and his parents sent him to Massanutten Military Academy. But he was sent home from the military boarding school and returned to Park View.

When he showed up for Mark Lynch's leadership class in 11th grade, he had just been released from the juvenile detention center again and his teachers were required to evaluate his performance each class period, Lynch said. At the second session of the year, "he showed up and he started acting like a jerk," Lynch recalled. This earned him a low evaluation, so Kuperman dropped the class for advanced PE.

A year later, he enrolled in Lynch's business law class and his attitude was different. By then, many teachers in the school had written him off, Lynch said. However, realizing that Kuperman was "very bright and very tenacious," Lynch raised his expectations. At the end of the year, Kuperman was his business law student of the year,

SEE CAN, PAGE 7



Boris "Can Do" Kuperman holds a replica of Diddy's star from the Walk of Fame.

CONTRIBUTED

Ending Dependence

ENDependence Center sets up in county, aims to help with independent living.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Mary Lou Werner said the budding Loudoun ENDependence Center has been "a lifesaver" for her and her son, Taylor, since the center opened up a temporary office in Leesburg in January.

ENDependence is a nonprofit network of centers manned largely by people with disabilities that works to "end dependence" among the elderly and disabled by helping them to live on their own. For 26 years, Loudoun has been served by the Northern Virginia ENDependence Center, based many miles away in Arlington, said its executive director, David Burds. However, about two years ago, two part-time

Learn More

To learn more, call the Loudoun ENDependence Center toll-free at 703-342-7651 (voice/relay) or 703-485-7381 (voice/SMS), e-mail lend@ecnv.org or visit www.ecnv.org/LEND.html.

employees, Elisa Graves of Cascades and Bill Ward of Manassas began working to establish a presence in the county, and Burds said the organization has found a location in Countryside that he hopes will be a permanent office and active sometime next month.

"We're out here in Loudoun County and there just aren't many support services for someone Taylor's age," said Mary Lou Werner. Taylor Werner, 17, suffered a brain aneurysm in his sleep when he was 11. He had just finished the fifth grade with straight

As and played on a championship football team. He still has straight As — now at Stone Bridge High School where he is a rising senior — but the only football he's playing is the "Madden NFL" video game, which

SEE LIVING, PAGE 5

On Equal Financial Ground

Challenger pulls from donors outside Virginia.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) and Democrat Judy Feder's political campaigns had approximately the same amount of cash available at the end of June, in spite of the fund-raising advantages incumbents typically enjoy over a challenger.

Wolf, who was first elected in 1980, has raised approximately \$1.4 million. With \$1.2 million in donations, Feder had collected slightly less but she also spent less, according to the Federal Election Commission.

In terms of "cash on hand" — money that the campaign has not spent yet — the two candidates were locked in a vir-

tual tie at the end of June. Wolf had \$849,391 available and Feder \$812,122, according to the Federal Election Commission.

"We are way ahead of schedule and way ahead of where we were in 2006. We have been doing extremely well and we are going to have the budget it takes to win," Luke McFarland, Feder's campaign manager, said.

An independent candidate, Neeraj Nigam, is also running for office in the Virginia's 10th Congressional District. Nigam has raised between \$5,000 and \$6,000 for his campaign and intends to contribute some personal money to his election efforts.

"It is harder to raise money as an independent candidate. I don't have a ready-made group that is going to support me," Nigam said.

FEDER'S ability to raise money may be getting her campaign some attention.

SEE EQUAL, PAGE 4

Library Closings

All Loudoun County Public libraries will be closed Monday, Sept. 1 for Labor Day and Monday, Sept. 15 for staff development day.

New Bus Service

On Tuesday, Sept. 2, Loudoun County Transit begins shuttle service from the Ashburn Farm community to the Dulles North Transit Center. This shuttle will connect riders to the LC Transit commuter bus that goes into the Washington Metropolitan Region. The new shuttle bus is called LINK.

The LINK shuttle bus will make three stops along the Ashburn Farm Parkway: adjacent to Parkhurst Plaza, adjacent to the Crossroads United Methodist Church and on Claiborne Parkway at Belgreen. Residents can park at the gravel satellite lot at the Methodist church or at the designated parking spaces at Parkhurst Plaza.

LINK service will operate weekdays, from 5-9 a.m., with buses traveling in a continuous loop along Ashburn Farm Parkway every 15 minutes. In the evening, these same shuttle buses will pick up passengers beginning at 4 p.m. and looping every 15 minutes at Dulles North and return to the lots/stops on Ashburn Farm Parkway. Fare for this service is \$1 exact cash per trip.

Visit www.loudoun.gov/bus or by calling the Office of Transportation Services at 703-771-5665.

Coffee Hour

Residents are invited to join Potomac District Supervisor Andrea McGimsey, Saturday, Sept. 6, at the Starbucks in Countryside, 3 Pidgeon Hill Drive, from 10 a.m.-noon. This informal gathering is a chance to share ideas and concerns.

Ban Extended

The Loudoun County Fire Marshal's Office has extended the countywide prohibition on open burning indefinitely beginning Sept. 1. The current ban on open burning, which went into effect June 1, was scheduled to expire at midnight Aug. 31. However, due to the current dry conditions, with no long-term forecast for measurable rainfall, the ban is continued until outside conditions improve.

The only exceptions provided for under this ban are for campfires or grills used for cooking. This ban applies to all areas of Loudoun County, including the seven incorporated towns. Violations of the open burning ban could result in a penalty of up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,500. Any questions should be directed to the Fire Marshal's Office at 703-737-8600. Persons may also obtain more detailed information by visiting the Fire Marshal page of the Loudoun County Web site, www.loudoun.gov.

Dentention Center Honored

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Adult Detention Center has received an unconditional certification from the Virginia Department of Corrections' during a recent audit.

The onsite review of all operations at the Loudoun Adult Detention Center was conducted in June by the certification team from the Virginia Department of Corrections. The facility and its employees achieved 100 percent compliance with board standards during the audit and were approved for unconditional certification. The review ensures compliance with the numerous life, health and safety standards necessary for certification. Due to the 100 percent compliance, the facility was granted a suspension of the 2008 Annual Inspection.

Employees Charged

Fairfax County detectives, in cooperation with officials from the Fairfax County Park Authority, began an investigation into allegations of embezzlement involving park authority employees in July. Information received by the park authority indicated employees at the Water Mine Facility at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive in Reston, were allegedly taking money from the daily proceeds brought in by park activities. The subsequent investigation has resulted in the arrest of two county employees. A 23-year-old male of 47565 Griffith Place and a 21-year-old male of 20854 Butterwood Falls Terrace, both in Sterling, were charged this past week with one count of embezzlement.

POLITICS

Equal Financial Footing

FROM PAGE 3

At the beginning of the month, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee added Virginia's 10th Congressional District to its competitive "Red to Blue" program — which highlights the Democrat's most promising challengers and candidates — in part because of Feder's ability to collect cash.

"Red to Blue" candidates are those who "are putting together significant resources and have political support in the district," Kyra Jennings, a spokesperson for the campaign, said. She added that recent polling data and the number of issues on which a Republican opponent like Wolf is considered "out of touch," are also factors in the committee's picks for the "Red to Blue" program.

Local Democrats, like Tim Buchholz, said they find



Frank Wolf (R)



Judy Feder (D)

Virginia, though Feder's campaign updated numbers show that Democrat collected at least 41 percent of her donations from the commonwealth, McFarland said.

The bulk of Feder's most lucrative fund raising before the end of June also appears to be done outside the district. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, seven of Feder's top 10 fund-raising ZIP codes were outside Virginia's 10th Congressional District. By contrast, only three of Wolf's top fund-raising ZIP codes were outside his district.

Keyserling said Feder's out-of-state fund raising is not necessarily a good sign for the campaign.

"It is not the most encouraging sign in the world that she gets more money from outside the state than inside," he said.

Still, Democrats defended Feder, saying it is not unusual for a challenger to find financial support outside of the congressional district in which they are running.

Larger donors, such as local business interests, often back the incumbent because they are more likely to get elected again. Challengers typically have to rely on other networks to be able to compete, they said.

In the case of Feder, she appears to have relied heavily on her colleagues in higher education. The Democrat is the former dean of the Georgetown University Public Policy Institute and has received several donations from people connected to Georgetown, The George Washington, Columbia and Harvard universities, according to the Center for Responsive Politics.

McFarland also said that when Wolf first took on a incumbent for the seat in 1980, he raised most of his money from outside Virginia.

"I have the Washington Post articles. His opponent in 1980 complained about Frank Wolf's money coming from outside the district," McFarland said.

REGARDLESS of the fund-raising numbers put up by either candidate, Loudoun County Republican Committee chairman Glen Caroline said he is confident Wolf will win the election.

Both Feder and Wolf faced primary opponents June 10 and almost twice as many people turned out to vote for Wolf — who earned 16,726 votes — as Feder and her Democratic opponent Mike Turner combined, Caroline said. Wolf also beat Feder by approximately 16 percentage points in the 2006 general election, according to the Virginia State Board of Elections.

"At the end of the day, dollar bills don't vote. Loudoun Republicans vote and they are going to vote for Frank Wolf," Caroline said.

Top Contributors

The financial information accounts for fund raising from January 2007 through June 2008. The organizations themselves do not donate. Rather, the donations are a compilation of money given through a group's political action committee, members, employees, owners and the immediate family of those who are members, employees and owners. Information provided by the Center for Responsive Politics at www.opensecrets.org.

Organizations	Industry	Contribution
FRANK WOLF (R)*:		
NVR Inc. (Reston)	Homebuilders/Banking	\$18,650
Orbital Sciences Corp. (Dulles)	Satellites/Technology	\$17,800
Peterson Companies (Fairfax)	Real Estate Development	\$16,300
SAIC Inc. (San Diego)	Technology/Government Contractor	\$11,750
Wiley, Rein & Fielding	Law Firm	\$10,400
JUDY FEDER (D):		
Georgetown University**	Higher Education	\$37,035
ActBlue	Democratic PAC	\$20,999
George Washington University	Higher Education	\$13,350
Columbia University	Higher Education	\$11,050
Harvard University	Higher Education	\$10,600

* incumbent

** candidate's former employer

Feder's fund raising and her status as a "Red to Blue" candidate encouraging.

"That shows that people feel she has the ability to win and that they can invest money into the race," Buchholz, who is chairman of the Loudoun County Democratic Committee, said.

Yet experts warn against placing too much emphasis on fund raising.

"I think it would be short sighted to equate the amount of money someone raises with their chances of winning a seat. There are too many other factors for a single measure to be that influential," Dan Keyserling, deputy communications director of the University of Virginia's Center for Politics, said.

THE WOLF CAMPAIGN has also criticized Feder for raising most of her money outside the state of Virginia. They argue that Feder's prolific fund raising is not a reflection of support inside Virginia 10th Congressional District because most of the money is coming from somewhere else.

"Her campaign is being financed by people who don't live here and can't vote here," Dan Scandling, Wolf's campaign manager, said.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Wolf collected 74 percent of his donations over \$200 inside the state of Virginia. Only 38 percent of Feder's donations over \$200 come from inside the state of

Living Independently

FROM PAGE 3

is one of his favorite pastimes. He has difficulty with speech and lost a lot of his eyesight and mobility.

GRAVES SAID disability services are uneven in Loudoun, which she said has superior services for substance abuse and intellectual disability, "but you can't go into Loudoun County and say, 'I have CP [cerebral palsy],' and get services."

Mary Lou Werner said the Loudoun ENDependence Center (LEND) was a source for information about all manner of resources available to the disabled, including a list of recommended caregivers she can hire through the Medicaid consumer-directed services program that is available to her son. "Whatever the need might be, I think she'd be able to point us in the right direction," she said of Graves, noting that this might mean questions about college services, doctors, independent living and others. "What do you do if you don't have somebody like that?"

However, what Taylor Werner said he wanted most was some companionship. "I'd like to have people my age or around my age, to come over here and help me work out or take me to the gym or just take me out to hang out somewhere, or just hang out here," he said. He added that he would also appreciate a sports club of peers with disabilities, perhaps with able-bodied young people to help them play.

"As parents, we'd like to meet other parents who've experienced something similar," his mother added. She said she had spoken with Graves about this, and one of the ideas they had come up with was to try to siphon students who need to fulfill community service hours toward disability services.

While ENDependence's primary goal is advocacy for services and accessibility for the disabled, Burds said, its next priority is peer counseling — "people with disabilities working with others with disabilities." However, the counseling has tended to focus more on teaching independent living skills like cooking or using the Metrorail, or helping each other find services, rather than socialization.

SINCE THE BEGINNING of the year, the organization has held community activities like a seniors fair, a transportation workshop and a "barriers awareness" event, in which participants found out what life was like in a wheelchair.

Burds said ENDependence has a particular focus on trying to get the elderly and disabled out of nursing homes and on their own in the community. "Many people are there because they don't have any money," he said. "Medicaid tells them, 'We'll take care of you in a nursing home.' Why not in the community, where it's cheaper?" While the average cost of nursing home care is \$60,000 to \$75,000, he said, the average cost of home care through the state is about \$23,000. However, nursing homes have a powerful lobby, Burds said.

FAITH 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.

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. Stu-

dents 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 prospective 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.

PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION



Ashburn resident Taylor Werner and his mother, Mary Lou, have come to regard the Loudoun ENDependence Center (LEND) as a valuable resource.

He said LEND currently had about 30 consumers on record and many more people who call wanting information. For those who sign on with the program, he said, Graves or Ward meet with those people, find out what they need and develop a set of goals.

"We don't just go out and do it for them," Graves said. "They do it with us." She said three new consumers had signed on last week alone and calls had been picking up over the last month or two.

Burds said he would like to have a full-time staff member working on affordable housing, the lack of which is a major impediment to independent living. However, he said, funding is a constant problem.

ENDependence Center of Northern Virginia, and therefore also its offshoot, LEND, receive some money from the state and federal governments, as well as Loudoun, the City of Alexandria and Arlington, but not Fairfax County, which the organization also serves. However, much of that funding must be renewed yearly, and Burds said he hoped to increase funding enough to make the Loudoun branch a fully staffed, independent center.

"We need community help, especially for fund raising," said Graves.

LEND MEETS TWICE a month at the Cascades Library and twice a month at the workforce center in Leesburg. It also has an advisory board of seven people with varying disabilities. "So you face everything and you have people exploring different options," Graves said.

Unlike many workers at ENDependence, Graves' disabilities of dyslexia and, possibly, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) have not threatened her independence. But she previously worked for the county, caring for people with disabilities living in the community, and prior to that, she worked at a regional center for the disabled in California. "It's just so rewarding and so humbling, because so much of my life I've taken for granted," she said. "I can go home and say I did something today to make somebody's life better."

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Prepare to Vote in November

Make plans now for Tuesday, Nov. 4.

You will want to vote Tuesday, Nov. 4. You'll want to be part of choosing the next president. In Virginia, you'll also choose a new U.S. senator to replace retiring John Warner (R), and you'll also vote in a contest for the U.S. House of Representatives.

To vote, you'll need to be registered. The deadline to register to vote or update your address for the Nov. 4 election is Monday, Oct. 6.

Your vote has never counted as much as it could this fall. While Virginia has voted reliably for the Republican candidate for president for more than a generation, with hundreds of thousands of new voters, many in Northern Virginia, and Democrats winning recent statewide elections, both political parties are actively working in Virginia right now.

You'll also need to plan to spend some time at your polling place, because there is likely to be record turnout for this hotly contested election. When you go to vote, allow enough time to wait in line. Come prepared with identification and know your rights.

Virginia voters are asked to show some form of identification when they go to the polls to vote—voter registration card; Virginia driver's license; social security card; any identification card issued by a federal, state or local government agency; or any employer identification card with a photograph.

But if you arrive at the polls without identification, you can still vote by signing a statement affirming your identity. Exception: If this is the first time you vote since registering to vote by mail and if you did not include a copy of your ID with your application and do not bring ID with you to vote, you cannot sign the

affirmation statement; you can still vote, ask for and fill out a provisional ballot.

EXCERPTS from the State Board of Elections: As a Virginia voter, you have the following rights:

- ❖ To be treated with courtesy and respect by the election officials.

- ❖ To vote if you have registered at your current address at least 29 days before Election Day.

- ❖ To seek help from the election officials if you are unsure about anything relating to the voting process.

- ❖ To be given a demonstration of how the voting equipment works.

- ❖ To enter the full name of a write-in candidate if the candidate of your choice is not on the ballot (except in party primaries).

- ❖ To have a ballot brought to your vehicle instead of entering the polling place if you are 65 years of age or older or if you are disabled.

- ❖ To have an officer of election or other person help you vote if you are physically disabled or unable to read or write. Blind voters may have any person assist them. Other voters may have anyone who is not their employer or union representative assist them.

- ❖ To vote even if you have no identification with you at the polling place. You must sign the "Affirmation of Identity" statement before voting if you have no ID.

- ❖ To vote a Provisional Ballot if your status as a qualified voter is in question and to be present when the Electoral Board meets to determine if your ballot will be counted. See "Provisional Ballots" below.

- ❖ To bring your minor child (age 15 or younger) into the voting booth with you to observe you vote.

- ❖ To vote if you are in line by 7 p.m. when the polls close.

- ❖ To cast an absentee ballot if you are qualified to vote absentee.

EDITORIAL

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Who Does Our Congress Represent?

To the Editor:

Americans are suffering from a financial crisis brought about by the mortgage fiasco and oil prices. More than ever before, they need their money to help them overcome this crisis.

How does our Congress respond? By ignoring their constituents, and handing their hard-earned money to bad corporations. Corporations that duped innocent people into giving up their hard-earned savings for homes that they could not afford. Only when bad companies die, can good companies come in to fill the need. But our Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, got together, to give billions of our hard-earned money to these companies

that have already taken the life savings of millions of Americans and destroyed their credit rating. Many Americans have been fooled once and now our Congress is forcing us to be fooled again.

As for the oil prices, our Democrat led Congress went on vacation without doing anything while many Americans had to cancel or curtail their vacation plans. Sure a few Republicans tried to show support of Americans by crying foul, but where were they when the problem first arose a few years ago, when they had full control. When they could have done something but they chose not to. On top of that, candidates for both parties are already committed to raising our taxes next year, taxes that will put an additional strain on our stretched resources.

Our Congress is not interested in representing us or protecting our

Snapshot

11:16 a.m., Monday, Aug. 25, Route 7 and Golf Club Road, Ashburn.



interests. They are just interested in grand standing and fighting for power between themselves. They would rather spend their time and energies in destroying each other rather than protecting our interests. It is said that we get the government that we deserve. Let us stand up together and show our government that we deserve better. Let our vote this November

Register, Vote

The deadline to register to vote or update your address for the Nov. 4 election is Monday, Oct. 6. To register to vote, download a form from:

http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Forms_Publications/Index.html

Fill it out and mail it to your local elections office. You can also register in person during business hours or pick up a form in a library or other public places.

After you register, you will receive confirmation and a voting card in the mail. You can call the elections office to verify that you are registered.

IN LOUDOUN COUNTY:

801 Sycolin Road, S.E., Suite 102
Leesburg, VA 20175-5686
Phone: 703-777-0380
Fax: 703-777-0622
e-mail: vote@loudoun.gov

To find your polling place, go to www.sbe.virginia.gov and click on "voter information."

Polling places will be open, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., on election day.

- ❖ To register to vote absentee in Virginia if you are a U.S. citizen overseas and your last residence in the U.S. was in Virginia or you are a Virginia resident away in the military.

IF YOU FEEL your voting rights have been violated or that you may have witnessed an election law being broken, it is important to report the incident before the polls have closed, preferably while you are still there. Contact the State Board of Elections at 1-800-552-9745 or via e-mail at info@sbe.virginia.gov.

The voter Registrar will investigate your case and may be able to resolve the problem immediately.

If you still believe your voting rights may have been violated or may be violated, you have 10 days to file a formal complaint with the State Board of Elections.

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
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Can Do Attitude

FROM PAGE 3

out of about 65 students. "He was an incredible presence at mock trials," Lynch said. He noted that Kuperman was his only student in four years to get a not-guilty verdict out of one particularly difficult case. "He may not have been as book-smart as some of the other students, but he's one of the best on-his-feet kids I've ever had."

"I think Diddy would be highly entertained with Boris," Lynch said. "If you tell Boris to do something, he'll do whatever it takes to do it and that's what Diddy's looking for."

NORA MAY failed Kuperman in 10th-grade English "because he was either cutting up or not doing the work," she said, so he was in her class again the next year. He worked harder that year, and, perhaps because he was taking two English classes at once, it was the first time he passed the Standards of Learning (SOL) test, May said. "I think that was the first time he felt that there was a light at the end of the tunnel."

She said Kuperman always came to class but had a hard time focusing, sitting still and not trying to take control of the class. "He could pull a student or teacher off topic very easily," she said, adding that he often did it in a way that was amusing. "It's almost like a gift he has. He kind of has the gift of gab."

Kuperman said Lynch and May were two teachers who had pushed and encouraged him to turn himself around. In the last quarter of his senior year, he got straight As.

HE HAS NOW worked as an intern at Pam Cave's law office for more than three years. Because it is her own small practice, she warned Kuperman that she could not pay him, so he first worked for free and now works for college credit. "When I met him, he had been in a lot of trouble," Cave said. "Nothing violent, the kind of doofy trouble kids get in when they lack direction."

She said Kuperman had shown himself to be "loyal to a fault" and that his performance with her office had exceeded anything she had expected. "Without him, I wouldn't have been able to keep my practice going since my daughter's car crash," she said. When her daughter was paralyzed in an accident in June of 2006, Kuperman drove back and forth each day between her office in Fairfax and the hospital in Winchester, bringing letters and faxes, and he appeared before judges to apprise them of the situation. He filled much the same role again later when Cave had a premature baby.

Cave said she felt Kuperman would lay down his life for her and her family. "You can't be grateful enough for somebody like that."

ADDITIONALLY, SHE said, he is driven and hard working, absorbs everything he sees in court and handles people well. For example, she said Kuperman had recently gone to a military base and got right up to the commander to get attention paid to the matter of a member of the military not paying child support, after all of her letters and faxes had been ignored. "There's something about the way he handles interaction," she said. "It often doesn't matter that I'm the one with the credentials."

Cave said she thought Kuperman would make an excellent assistant to anyone. "Some of the things he's able to accomplish, you can't pay money for," she said, although she added that she thought he had too much talent and potential to be an assistant to an entertainer.

During his last stay in the detention center, Kuperman said, he had given his life to Christ, as he put it, when visited by a member of Reston's Oakbrook Church. He said he had settled on law as an aspiration because it was familiar after he'd had so many brushes with it.

AFTER THE THIRD episode of "I Want to Work for Diddy" had aired Monday, Aug. 19, Kuperman said the arriving contestants had been divided into two competing teams, the Uptown and Downtown teams, and had challenges sprung on them by Diddy and his people. The challenges were tasks such as convincing a model to come along for a Diddy photo shoot, coming up with a tagline for his new line of sunglasses or multitasking, an exercise in which the teams were given 50 tasks, such as securing a clown for one of Diddy's children's birthday parties, washing his car or buying watches, within 24 hours. Each episode, a contestant is eliminated.

Kuperman said he had started out keeping quieter than usual while "trying to come up with a master plan," but had eventually become a better team player.

He came up against his biggest test when his team lost the third challenge and one of them had to be eliminated.

"Everybody on the team chose me to go home because they said I was lazy and they said I didn't do much on the challenge," he said.

He responded by pointing out that another of his group members continued to say the group's project was flawless and that the judges were wrong, showing that he hadn't learned from his group's defeat, while Kuperman had.

He also said this group member had hidden the fact that he had marketing and advertising experience, which could have been valuable to the team.

His teammate was voted off the program.

"I think Diddy would be highly entertained with Boris."

— **Mark Lynch, Park View High, teacher**

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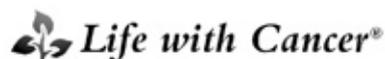
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Inova Cancer Services invites cancer survivors, patients, caregivers, healthcare professionals, and family members and friends of cancer patients and survivors to its annual survivorship conference.

Highlights include:

- Keynote address by actor and cancer survivor Richard Roundtree
- Presentation on survivorship and advocacy by national healthcare leader and cancer survivor Connie Curran
- "Healing with Humor," presented by Lyn Hester
- Sessions on current initiatives at Inova Cancer Services, employment and insurance issues, complementary and alternative therapies, and much more

To register, call 703-750-8812



HEALTH & FITNESS

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.

INMED Partnerships for Children (INMED) and Loudoun County **Department of Family Services (DFS)** will collaborate to provide intensive case management services to pregnant women and families with young children in Loudoun County's emergency homeless shelter and transitional housing programs, through a \$50,000 grant to INMED from The Freddie Mac Foundation.

During the first year of the grant, the program expects to serve 25 families

with the goal of attaining personal and financial stability.

DFS will provide preferential placement into transitional housing programs for families who agree to participate in the Open Door Program operated by INMED. DFS will also provide staff consultation and support as well as data collection.

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

BULLETIN BOARD

SATURDAY/AUG. 30

AWARENESS EVENT. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Trailside Park, 20375 Claiborne Parkway, Ashburn. This event is to help raise the awareness of the unsolved murder of Erica Heather Smith, daughter to Will and Pamela Smith, six years ago. Visit www.ericatheathersmith.com.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 2

ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road. Informal conversation circle for non-native speakers to practice speaking English. This is not a class, but an opportunity to meet new people. Only English will be spoken

and all levels are welcome. Recommended for adults.

ADULT BOOK CLUB. 7 p.m., at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. "Never Let Me Go" by Kazuo Ishiguro. Call 703-737-8100.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 3

STATE OF EDUCATION. 8-10 a.m., Loudoun County Public School Administration Building in Ashburn. Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce will host its annual State of Education presented by Dr. Ed Hatrick, Superintendent of Loudoun County Public Schools. RSVP to Ashlie Vickers, events coordinator, at 571-209-9036 or via e-mail avickers@loudounchamber.org.

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FOOD & DRINK

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Wine country bus tours to **Fabbioli Cellars and Lost Creek Winery**, Saturday, **Aug. 30**. The Washington Wine Academy, in conjunction with Reston Limousine, offers winery tours. There are three pick-up locations and gourmet boxed lunch options. Cost: \$35 per person, \$50 per person with lunch. Call 703-478-0500, Ext. 1 or visit <http://www.washingtonwineacademy.org/wine-tours.htm#Tour1>.

Wine country bus tours to **Bluemont Vineyards and Veramar Vineyards**, Sunday, **Aug. 31**. The Washington Wine Academy, in conjunction with Reston Limousine, offers winery tours. There are three pick-up locations and gourmet boxed lunch options. Cost: \$35 per person, \$50 per person with lunch. Call 703-478-0500, Ext. 1 or visit <http://www.washingtonwineacademy.org/wine-tours.htm#Tour1>.

End of Summer Backbarn BBQ at Willowcroft Farm Vineyards, Saturday, **Sept. 6**, from 12-4 p.m., Willowcroft Farm Vineyards, 38906 Mt. Gilead Road, Leesburg. Features a Willowcroft wine tasting and barbecue catered by Red, Hot & Blue. Cost: \$12 per person. Call 703-777-8161 or visit <http://www.willowcroftwine.com>.

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.

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

Teaching the Lost Art of Etiquette

National League of Junior Cotillions shows children proper manners and conversation.

By STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

With young people texting, e-mailing and talking on their computers more and more, Jean Ann Michie thinks face-to-face communicating has become a lost art. Michie runs the National League of Junior Cotillions in Loudoun County that teaches children how to converse. She also teaches proper manners, etiquette, patriotism and how to be comfortable in social situations.

"The main manners that we teach — how to introduce yourself, table manners, being polite and kind, being sincere — they don't change," Michie said.

STARTING IN September, she will be teaching etiquette classes that show children how to be kind, fair and gracious. Students will learn table manners, door and coat etiquette, how to make introductions, even how to get refreshments for young ladies. Ladies will learn white glove manners. Guys will learn how to walk in the escort position.

"You can make an impression on someone you don't even know and brighten someone's day just with a smile," she says.

"For me, the program has been invaluable in teaching a certain air of confidence, how to treat a young woman, how to dance ballroom dancing, which is something men don't know how to do anymore," Su Carlson of Hamilton said. Her son Zach has been through three years is now a cotillion teaching assistant.

After Zach, 14, went to a 7-Eleven and held the door for two women, "the look of surprise on their faces" sold her on the program, she said. He was also the only grand-



CONTRIBUTED

Fall Session

♦ **Virginia Academy**, 19790 Ashburn Road, Ashburn, VA 20147. **Thursdays, Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 6th and 20th**
Virginia Academy of Pre-Cotillion
Classes start: Year one, grades kindergarten and first, 4-5:15 p.m.
Year two, grades second and third, 4-5:15 p.m.
Year three, grades fourth and fifth, 5:30-7 p.m.
Cost: Year one is \$150.
Year two is \$175.
Year three is \$200.

♦ **Blue Ridge**, held at the Carver Center, 200 Willie Palmer Way, Purcellville, VA 20132. **Tuesday, Sept. 16; Tuesday, Oct. 14; Monday, Nov. 17 and Tuesday, Nov. 18.**
Blue Ridge Chapter of Pre-Cotillion
Classes start: Year one, grades kindergarten and first 3:15-4:30 p.m.
Year two, grades second and third, 4:45-6 p.m.
Year three, grades fourth and fifth, 6:15-7:45 p.m.
Cost: Year one is \$150.
Year two is \$175.
Year three is \$200.
E-mail: Jean.Michie@gmail.com or call 540-668-6844.

son willing to dance with grandma at her sister-in-law's wedding.

The Virginia Academy Pre-Cotillion is

Mothers and sons enjoy their new dance moves.

held in Leesburg, Ashburn and South Riding. There's also a Blue Ridge chapter. The classes can have 80 students with 15-20 teaching assistants.

When students come to the first class, they will receive a booklet that has all of the etiquette taught in class. "Our hope is the parents will practice it and that skills will be pretty set in their minds," Michie said. "One of my favorite quotes is repetition solidifies new behavior."

The Pre-Cotillion Program is for grades kindergarten-fifth. In addition to teaching the values of honor, respect, dignity, responsibility, it teaches proper manners at birthday parties, sporting events, restaurants — formal and fast food.

Children do role playing with Peanuts, the Polite Elephant. "We'll show how to do things the wrong way and the right way. We're going to pretend that they're arriving at a birthday party. We tell them what

SEE LOST, PAGE 11



Hundreds of people attend the Dulles Day Family Festival and the 15th Annual Plane Pull last year. All proceeds from the plane pull go to benefit the Virginia Special Olympics.

Ready, Set ... Pull That Plane

16th Annual Plane Pull benefiting Special Olympics Virginia.

The 16th Annual Dulles Day Family Festival and Plane Pull will be held Saturday, Sept. 6, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Dulles International Airport.

During the event, teams of 20 will play tug-of-war with a 157,000-pound cargo jet to see who can pull the aircraft 12 feet the fastest. The event is a fund-raiser for Special Olympics Virginia. Anyone can compete and teams of 20 are invited to register. Teams must raise a minimum of \$1,000 to participate — that's \$50 per person — and

an award will be given to the team who raises the most money.

If pulling a plane seems just a bit beyond your reach — how about a school bus? The Kids Bus Pull pits teams of children against a big yellow school bus; the team who pulls the bus 12 feet the fastest wins. Children are invited to register — each child must raise a minimum of \$10 to compete and will receive a bus pull T-shirt and participation ribbon.

The Dulles Day Family Festival and Plane Pull, presented by the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, also will feature live music, a 10th annual car show, military and civilian aircraft displays, business exhibits and children's games and entertain

SEE PLAYING, PAGE 11

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. 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.

EDIBLE, MEDICINAL & Folklore Plants. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 7 and up. Discover beautiful wildflowers along the park trails and explore how these plants have historically been used for food and medicine and about their amazing folklore. Cost: \$5. Call 571-258-3700.

LAST BLAST of Summer Campfire. 7:30-9 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. All ages. Celebrate summer

with the family, hear Native American stories, sing songs and enjoy fun around a campfire. Toast marshmallows, provided. Cost: \$4. Call 571-258-3700.

FALL HORSE TRIALS. Begins 8 a.m., Oatlands Plantation, 20850 Oatlands Plantation Lane, Leesburg. Loudoun Hunt Pony Club Fall Horse Trials where horses and riders compete in the equestrian sport known as eventing, which consists of dressage, cross-country and show jumping. Contact Margaret Good at 703-777-8776 or visit www.loudounhunt.ponyclub.org.

SOUNDS OF SUMMER. 6-9:30 p.m., gate opens at 5 p.m., Tarara Winery, 13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg. Features The Grandsons. Cost: \$15 at the gate, \$10 in advance, free for children 6 and under. Call 703-771-7100 or visit www.tarara.com.

BENEFIT RACE. Registration 7-8 a.m., race begins 8 a.m., Algonkian Regional Park soccer fields. Race for Refugee Youth, 5K to benefit the Catholic Diocese of Arlington refugee resettlement program. Cost: \$20 or \$15 with donation of a backpack. Visit <http://sites.google.com/site/raceforrefugeeyouth>.

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.

FALL HORSE TRIALS. Begins 8 a.m., Oatlands Plantation, 20850 Oatlands Plantation Lane, Leesburg. See Aug. 30 item for details.

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,

Cole Bros. Circus

Sept. 4-7, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m., at the Community Church, 19790 Ashburn Road, Ashburn. Includes acrobats, denizens of clown alley, daredevil aerial artists, educated animal performers. Visit the Web site, <http://www.colebroscircus.com>, for ticket information or call 386-736-0071.

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



CONTRIBUTED

Algonkian Regional Park in Sterling takes part in the Northern Virginia Park Authority's Dog Days, which opens selected water parks to dogs and their owners, Sunday, Sept. 7.

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.

TEEN CENTER. 7-10 p.m., After-Hours Teen Center, Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Features Restless Street Band. All teens attending the teen center must have a permission slip, signed by a parent or guardian, on file. Download the permission slip at <http://library.loudoun.gov> to Teen Scene, Events, Hanging Out Rocks. For high schoolers.

NEW EXHIBIT RECEPTION. 6-8 p.m., Loudoun Museum, 16 Loudoun St., S.W., Leesburg. The Loudoun Museum celebrates the 250th anniversary of the founding of Leesburg in 1758 with its new exhibition, Leesburg: Crossroads of Tradition and Transition. Explore the history of Leesburg through a selection of objects, photographs, postcards and maps. Call 703-777-7427.

LOUDOUN READS. 6-7 p.m., in the Leesburg Town Rose Garden. Published authors, as well as community leaders and educators, will read from some of their favorite literary selections. The event produced by the Loudoun Literacy Council and sponsored by Verizon Foundation, commemorates International Literacy Day. Contact Tanya Bosse, Loudoun Literacy Council, 703-777-2205, Ext. 103 or tbosse@loudounliteracy.org.

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/SEPT. 6

AIRPLANE PULL. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.,

Dulles International Airport. Join Special Olympics Virginia for the 16th Annual Dulles Day Family Festival and Plane Pull. Teams of 20 will play tug-of-war with a cargo jet to see who can pull the aircraft 12 feet the fastest. Includes Kids Bus Pull, live music, car show, military and civilian aircraft displays, business exhibits and children's games and entertainment. Teams must raise a minimum of \$1,000 to participate in the plane pull; cost for the children's bus pull is \$10. Visit www.planepull.com or call 703-359-4301.

LOUDOUNPALOOSA. Noon-11 p.m., Belmont Country Club, 43675 Russell Branch Parkway, Ashburn. Loudoun Summer Music Fest's end of summer barbecue. Featuring food from Original Steakhouse, Famous Dave's, Buffalo Wing Factory and Carolina Brothers BBQ and performances from Dreamscapes Project, Lloyd Dobbler Effect, No Second Troy, Lionize, Justin Trawick, Getaway Car, Kelly Bell Band, Blackjacks, The Speaks and "Best of" Tri-State All Stars. Cost: general admission advance \$15, at the door \$20. Visit liveatbelmont.com for tentative playing schedule.

CIVIL WAR SOLDIER'S LIFE. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. All ages. Civil War Re-enactors and archeological artifacts bring the soldier's war to life. "Enlist" at the muster station; explore weapons, military equipment, clothing, and more. Cost: \$5 supply fee for children 5 years and up for materials handed out at the stations. An adult must accompany children. No registration required. Free event. Call 571-258-3700.

STORY TIME MATINEE. 2 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Stories, songs, a video storybook and a craft. Ages 3-6. Call 703-737-8100.

PAINTING IN THE AFTERNOON. 2 p.m., Rust @ Catocin Library, 34D Catocin Circle, Leesburg. Local painter, Trisha Adams, will answer questions and explain her work while she paints a still life in the library. Recommended for adults.

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 Sept. 5

item for details.

SOUNDS OF SUMMER. 6-9:30 p.m., gate opens at 5 p.m., Tarara Winery, 13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg. Features The Jack Diamond and Jim Steed Band. Cost: \$15 at the gate, \$10 in advance, free for children 6 and under. Call 703-771-7100 or visit www.tarara.com.

BOOK SWAP. 10 a.m.-noon, Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling. All ages. Trade your books, books on tape or compact discs, music CDs and VHS or DVD movies. Books/magazines in large print needed. Call 571-258-3500.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

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

DOG DAYS. Noon-4 p.m., Algonkian Regional Park, Sterling. Dogs and their owners are invited to swim. Cost: \$5 per dog. Dog owners must fill out a liability waiver and the dog must have a current license and rabies vaccination. Visit 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. 8

GOLF CLASSIC. The 2008 National Capital Golf Classic, at the Golf Club at Lansdowne, 44050 Woodbridge Parkway, Lansdowne. Proceeds benefit American Cancer Society's to fight prostate cancer and supports research programs in the National Capital Region. Contact Beth Sartwelle at 202-483-2600 or beth.sartwelle@cancer.org.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Lost Art of Conversation

FROM PAGE 9

to say to Mr. Peanuts," Michie said. The Pre-Cotillion I class is for grades kindergarten-first and costs \$150. It will teach basic manners in the home like appearances, introductions, table manners and what Michie calls power words — "thank you," "you're welcome," "yes sir," and "please."

The Pre-Cotillion II is for grades second-third and costs \$175. This continues in the areas of introductions, sports manners and table manners. The emphasis is on making friends, keeping friends, writing correspondences and school manners. Children will learn about dining in a nice restaurant complete with reservations, menus and tipping.

The Pre-Cotillion III is for grades fourth-fifth and costs \$200. It reinforces lessons learned in prior classes with emphasis on building character. There's telephone etiquette, manners in public places. Dance instruction is also introduced.

"MY MAJOR concern is respect in their own families We're hopefully reinforcing what the parents are already teaching at home. It really does help to have someone outside the home to reinforce them."

She said the emphasis is on age-appropriate skills like birthday party etiquette,

skating rink etiquette and putt-putt golf etiquette.

The dancing classes teach fox trot, swing, cha cha and waltz. "By the time they do the third-year program, they should be able to make polite conversation with a member of the opposite sex," Michie said.

The sixth- and seventh-grade programs include rules of telephone courtesy, acknowledgement of gifts, introductions in receiving lines, polite conversation, paying and receiving compliments, sports etiquette, first impressions, dress codes for all occasions and more. Styles of dining include American, Asian and Continental, skills of being a host, a guest and other social behaviors.

"We have an Oriental Ball with Oriental food," Michie said. "They'll learn how to use chopsticks and where you place your chopsticks when you're eating."

"The main difference between the sixth and seventh grade is we have an instructional sit-down dinner," Michie said.

In the eighth-grade program, the Loudoun students will combine with the Fairfax students by having a dance and going to the theater as well as golf and tennis. A highlight of the year is a Grand Spring Ball where students get dressed up in formal attire and have a five-course dinner.

She says students will also learn the art

of finger foods and toasting. "Every student gets to make a toast at his table."

Briana Stiles, 17, a senior at Potomac Falls High School, said the most useful skill she learned at the Belmont Country Club Cotillion was how to walk into a room and introduce herself to people. "Manners are really important because people judge you right when you walk in the door I know that kids get judged a little bit harsh," she said.

A TEACHING assistant now, she said she's made a lot of friends. "Cotillion really teaches you to be mature. It's a lot of fun too, because everyone is your age."

Holly Wells, 17, of Purcellville, said the program taught her the proper way to handle certain social situations. "When you're introducing someone, when you're going to an interview, how you should look them in the eye," she said. "Good lessons that will help me later in life."

She said the best part was learning how to dance the waltz and cha cha.

Scott Miles, 17, of Ashburn, is a senior at Broad Run High School who's been with the program about seven years, starting in Louisiana. He was a student for two years and a teacher for five.

"After the first class, I fell in love with it," he said. "It teaches confidence, it teaches etiquette, it teaches ballroom dancing."

FRESH AIR

Playing Tug-of-War

FROM PAGE 9

ment.

Since the first Plane Pull was held in 1992 at Dulles International Airport, Special Olympics Virginia has raised nearly \$1.5 million for athletes with intellectual disabilities throughout the state and also started a worldwide plane-pulling phenomenon. Other sponsors of this year's Plane Pull include Cisco, Gordon Biersch, DMB Sports, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Symantec, NewsChannel 8, the Observer newspapers, Xerox, Jet Blue Airways, ManTech and Marriott. The festival also is a Law Enforcement Torch Run event. The Torch Run supports Special Olympics Virginia and is sponsored by Macy's and SunTrust.

For more information, to register a team, sign up to exhibit or volunteer or for sponsorship details, visit www.planepull.com or call 703-359-4301. For additional questions, contact Holly Clayton at 804-346-5544 or hclaytor@specialolympicsva.org, or Courtney Prebich at 703-417-8370 courtney.prebich@MWAA.com.

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20430 CLIFTONS POINT ST	5	5	1	STERLING	\$910,000	Detached	0.25	07/29/08	
46429 MONTGOMERY PL	4	4	1	STERLING	\$675,000	Detached	0.230005	07/23/08	
20889 PLANETREE FOREST CT	5	3	1	STERLING	\$660,000	Detached	0.260009	07/21/08	
20574 SHADOW WOODS CT	4	2	1	POTOMAC FALLS	\$630,000	Detached	0.269995	07/25/08	
47796 ALLEGHENY CIR	4	3	1	POTOMAC FALLS	\$564,000	Detached	0.160009	07/24/08	
47655 RHYOLITE PL	4	3	1	STERLING	\$545,000	Detached	0.130005	07/18/08	
47732 LEAGUE CT	4	3	1	POTOMAC FALLS	\$544,000	Detached	0.130005	07/25/08	
20422 ROSEMALLOW CT	4	2	1	POTOMAC FALLS	\$520,000	Detached	0.0	07/18/08	
46564 E. CHURCH RD	5	4	0	STERLING	\$500,000	Detached	1.889991	07/30/08	
21749 REGENTS PARK CIR	5	3	1	STERLING	\$495,000	Detached	0.210009	07/28/08	
20640 MINT SPRINGS CT	4	2	1	POTOMAC FALLS	\$490,000	Detached	0.180005	07/18/08	
20316 BROAD RUN DR	5	3	1	STERLING	\$435,000	Detached	0.380005	07/24/08	
46818 WILLOWOOD PL	4	2	1	STERLING	\$420,000	Detached	0.130005	07/30/08	
109 ALMEY CT	4	2	1	STERLING	\$419,000	Detached	0.230005	07/25/08	
129 APPLGATE DR	5	3	1	STERLING	\$415,000	Detached	0.289991	07/30/08	
631 CHURCH RD	6	5	1	STERLING	\$410,000	Detached	0.230005	07/31/08	
45612 LIVINGSTONE STATION ST	4	3	1	STERLING	\$400,000	Detached	0.089991	07/21/08	
20878 BUTTERWOOD FALLS TER	4	3	1	STERLING	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.030005	07/24/08	
20737 HOLLOW FALLS TER	3	2	1	STERLING	\$355,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/28/08	
20764 BREEZY POINT TER	3	2	1	STERLING	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/22/08	
20391 ASHCROFT TER	3	2	2	STERLING	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/24/08	
818 POTOMAC RIDGE CT	4	2	1	STERLING	\$345,000	Detached	0.230005	07/29/08	
119 KALE AVE	4	2	1	STERLING	\$345,000	Detached	0.2	07/30/08	
167 APPLGATE DR	4	3	1	STERLING	\$342,592	Detached	0.230005	07/23/08	
45691 PADDINGTON STATION TER	3	3	1	STERLING	\$342,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/21/08	
45533 CLEAR SPRING TER	3	2	1	STERLING	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/18/08	
10 DUDLEY CT	3	3	1	STERLING	\$340,000	Detached	0.130005	07/31/08	
225 MEADOWLAND LN W	3	2	0	STERLING	\$335,000	Detached	0.180005	07/18/08	
910 YORK RD	4	3	0	STERLING	\$332,000	Detached	0.269995	07/31/08	
36 MCPHERSON CIR	4	3	0	STERLING	\$330,000	Detached	0.139991	07/18/08	
114 RED OAK LN	5	3	0	STERLING	\$329,000	Detached	0.35	07/23/08	
22006 BOX CAR SQ	3	2	2	STERLING	\$329,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/31/08	
45520 GRAND CENTRAL SQ	4	3	1	STERLING	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/18/08	
112 TAMARACK CT	3	2	1	STERLING	\$320,000	Detached	0.230005	07/31/08	
20566 WILLOUGHBY SQ #70	3	3	1	STERLING	\$315,000	Townhouse		07/21/08	
20761 HOLLOW FALLS TER	3	3	0	STERLING	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/23/08	
45537 LAKE HAVEN TER	3	3	1	STERLING	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.298439	07/18/08	
52 MCPHERSON CIR	4	2	0	STERLING	\$310,000	Detached	0.230005	07/18/08	
47664 WOOLCOTT SQ #101	2	3	1	STERLING	\$310,000	Townhouse		07/24/08	
113 SENECA CHASE CT	3	2	0	STERLING	\$307,000	Detached	0.210009	07/22/08	
20552 BANBURY SQ	3	2	1	STERLING	\$305,500	Townhouse	0.039991	07/23/08	
128 HOPELAND LN	4	2	1	STERLING	\$305,000	Detached	0.269995	07/30/08	
22340 GREAT TRAIL TER	3	2	1	STERLING	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/25/08	
3 JEREMY CT	3	3	1	STERLING	\$300,000	Detached	0.139991	07/25/08	
219 MEADOWLAND LN	3	2	0	STERLING	\$300,000	Detached	0.160009	07/29/08	
800 DICKENSON AVE S	4	2	0	STERLING	\$299,500	Detached	0.189991	07/31/08	
21024 GLADSTONE DR	3	2	1	STERLING	\$288,400	Townhouse	0.039991	07/25/08	
1001 ARGONNE AVE	5	2	1	STERLING	\$285,000	Detached	0.330005	07/24/08	
21883 SHALLOW ROCK SQ	3	3	1	STERLING	\$283,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/21/08	
131 SULGRAVE CT	3	2	1	STERLING	\$283,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/25/08	
20864 COSWORTH TER	3	2	2	STERLING	\$279,900	Townhouse	0.030005	07/24/08	
103 S. LINCOLN AVE S	5	3	0	STERLING	\$275,000	Detached	0.180005	07/25/08	
46026 KNIGHT TER	3	4	0	STERLING	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.05	07/29/08	
1003 AMELIA ST	4	3	0	STERLING	\$275,000	Detached	0.210009	07/31/08	
45449 BAGGETT TER	3	2	2	STERLING	\$274,939	Townhouse	0.030005	07/30/08	
116 HARVEST LN	4	2	0	STERLING	\$274,000	Detached	0.210009	07/21/08	
1901 AMELIA ST	5	2	1	STERLING	\$270,000	Detached	0.210009	07/29/08	
116 CHURCH RD	5	3	0	STERLING	\$270,000	Detached	0.210009	07/31/08	
308 ARGONNE N AVE	3	2	0	STERLING	\$270,000	Detached	0.2	07/31/08	
60 SOUTHALL CT	3	2	0	STERLING	\$269,900	Townhouse	0.030005	07/18/08	
22019 MANNING SQ	4	3	1	STERLING	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.030005	07/25/08	
612 BEECH RD W	3	1	0	STERLING	\$264,900	Detached	0.239991	07/21/08	
21064 VIEW GLASS TER	4	3	1	STERLING	\$255,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/28/08	
46371 UTICA SQ #67	2	2	0	STERLING	\$250,000	Townhouse		07/18/08	
125 MEADOWLAND LN	5	3	1	STERLING	\$250,000	Detached	0.180005	07/25/08	
22157 STABLEHOUSE DR	5	3	0	STERLING	\$245,000	Detached	0.219995	07/18/08	
729 AMELIA ST	3	3	0	STERLING	\$245,000	Detached	0.239991	07/23/08	
22234 GREAT TRAIL TER	3	2	1	STERLING	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/23/08	
45550 MORGAN WAY	3	2	1	STERLING	\$240,000	Detached	0.219995	07/30/08	
412 HARDING CT	4	2	1	STERLING	\$239,900	Duplex	0.119995	07/28/08	
301 WILLIAMSBURG RD	3	2	0	STERLING	\$237,000	Detached	0.189991	07/31/08	
109 STERLING BLVD	4	2	0	STERLING	\$235,000	Detached	0.189991	07/18/08	
400 WILLIAMSBURG	3	2	0	STERLING	\$231,000	Detached	0.25	07/30/08	
21841 BRAMBLE CT	3	3	0	STERLING	\$225,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/25/08	
45 MILLARD CT	3	3	1	STERLING	\$225,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.039991	07/25/08	
14 REDLIN CT	2	2	1	STERLING	\$225,000	Townhouse	0.030005	07/31/08	
1402 KENNEDY RD	3	2	0	STERLING	\$220,000	Detached	0.239991	07/25/08	
302 AMHURST PL	4	3	0	STERLING	\$220,000	Detached	0.289991	07/25/08	
505 TAVENNER CT	3	2	0	STERLING	\$219,900	Duplex	0.119995	07/25/08	
301 POPLAR RD	3	1	1	STERLING	\$218,000	Detached	0.189991	07/23/08	
910 STERLING BLVD	3	2	0	STERLING	\$215,000	Detached	0.260009	07/23/08	
21852 ELKINS TER #31	2	2	1	STERLING	\$215,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		07/31/08	
107 PARKHILL LN	4	2	0	STERLING	\$213,500	Detached	0.160009	07/31/08	
2 HUNTLEY CT	3	2	0	STERLING	\$210,000	Townhouse	0.05	07/21/08	
1100 DICKENSON AVE	3	4	0	STERLING	\$201,900	Detached	0.189991	07/18/08	
41 MILLARD CT	3	3	1	STERLING	\$197,500	Townhouse	0.039991	07/29/08	
602 FILLMORE AVE S	4	2	0	STERLING	\$197,000	Detached	0.369995	07/25/08	
207 CHURCH RD W	4	1	0	STERLING	\$191,000	Detached	0.25	07/30/08	
704 BIRCH ST	3	2	0	STERLING	\$190,000	Detached	0.2	07/18/08	
27 LYNDHURST CT	3	2	1	STERLING	\$190,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/25/08	
191 SAINT JOHNS SQ #191	2	1	0	STERLING	\$184,900	Townhouse		07/31/08	
25 MILLARD CT	3	2	1	STERLING	\$175,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/18/08	
967 HOLBORN CT #44	3	2	1	STERLING	\$175,000	Townhouse		07/31/08	
187 COTTAGE RD	3	2	1	STERLING	\$158,900	Townhouse	0.039991	07/31/08	
46761 ASTER TER #155	2	2	0	STERLING	\$155,000	Townhouse		07/29/08	
42 ALDEN CT	2	2	0	STERLING	\$145,000	Townhouse	0.019995	07/30/08	
1035 WARWICK CT #11	3	2	0	STERLING	\$130,000	Townhouse		07/29/08	
240 COVENTRY SQ #240	3	1	1	STERLING	\$130,000	Townhouse		07/31/08	
224 STERLING BLVD #37	2	1	0	STERLING	\$128,000	Townhouse		07/30/08	
118 DRURY CIR	3	1	1	STERLING	\$125,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/22/08	
122 HAYLOFT CIR	4	2	1	STERLING	\$122,500	Townhouse	0.039991	07/28/08	
104 WESTWICK CT #4	2	1	0	STERLING	\$121,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		07/18/08	
609 CONCORD CT	3	2	1	STERLING	\$120,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/18/08	
25 HOWARD PL	3	2	1	STERLING	\$112,500	Townhouse	0.039991	07/25/08	

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Opens in Loudoun County

Ashburn

21510 Tithables Cir.	\$649,000	Sun 1-4	Barbara Dugger	Weichert	703-726-3909
42985 Ridgeway Dr.	\$699,000	Sat & Sun 1-4	Dorothea Whipp	Weichert	703-726-3909
43221 Whisperwood Ter.	\$419,900	Sat 1-4 & Sun 1-5	Tricia Sloan	Weichert	703-726-3909

Chantilly

42618 Harris St.	\$439,900	Sun 1-4	Lisa Lieu	Long & Foster	703-452-3989
25252 Riffleford Sq., #304	\$239,900	Sun 12:30-4	Angela Fadely	Arthur A. Hale	703-276-1165

Hamilton

38576 Ditchling Pl.	\$1,299,900	Sat & Sun 11-5	Michael Severin	Keller Williams	571-223-2236
16629 Swanbourne Dr.	\$849,900	Sat & Sun 11-5	Michael Severin	Keller Williams	571-223-2236
16580 Swanbourne Dr.	\$999,900	Sat & Sun 11-5	Michael Severin	Keller Williams	571-223-2236

Opens in Fairfax County

Herndon

13145B Rounding Run Cir	\$619,900	Sun 1-4	Xuri Wang	BMI	301-523-8008
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Reston

12512 Thunder Chase Dr.	\$500,000	Sun 1-4	Kathy Stark	Weichert	703-201-9656
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More Opens on September 6th & 7th

Loudoun County

Aldie

25241 Oribi Pl.	\$575,900	Sun 1-4	Linda McKee	Long & Foster	703-968-7000
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Round Hill

25 Jackson Ave.	\$375,000	Sat 12-3	Danielle Dojcsak	Century 21	540-955-2500
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Fairfax County

Herndon

401 Cavendish St	\$420,000	Sun 1-4	Donald Knoll	Remax	703-444-5917
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Local Teams Step Up Big Time in 2007

Can they do so again this football season?

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

It is hard to imagine that this upcoming football season in the Loudoun County area could possibly match the 2007 campaign as far as drama and overall success.

One team, Stone Bridge High of Ashburn, captured its first-ever Virginia State AAA championship. The Bulldogs, members of the Northern Region's Liberty District, finished with an overall record of 13-1 on way to district, region and state crowns.

FOOTBALL

Two other teams, Park View and Broad Run High Schools, put together outstanding seasons within the Region II's Dulles District. Broad Run of Ashburn went a perfect 10-0 during the regular season before falling to area rival Park View (Sterling) in a first round Region II playoff affair.

Park View, meanwhile, went 9-1 over the regular season with its lone setback coming in a week 10 showdown game against Broad Run for the district crown. But the Patriots avenged that loss with their playoff victory over the Spartans the following week before ultimately losing at Sherando High in the Region II title game.

Another local team, Briar Woods, did not reach the same heights as Stone Bridge, Park View or Broad Run, but still put together a historical season by just qualifying for the Region II playoffs. The Falcons, in just their third season as a program at the young Brambleton area school, competed in the tough Dulles District and finished with a more than respectable 7-3 overall record in the regular season. The Falcons experienced their first-ever-winning season. They lost to both Broad Run and Park View, but gave both foes tough games in the regular season setbacks.

Season to Remember in the Dulles

Indeed, 2007 was a season to remember for the local gridiron teams Broad Run and Park View.

Both squads won their first nine games of the regular season to set up a final week showdown game for the Dulles District title at Broad Run. There, the Spartans, behind junior running back Breon Earl, defeated the rival Patriots, 21-14, in front of a packed-out Friday night crowd. Earl finished the evening rushing with 113 yards and a touchdown run. He also tossed an option play touchdown pass to Kevin Sandersen.

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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Park View coach Andy Hill saw his Patriots make it all the way to the Region II finals in 2007.

Amazingly, the two teams met the following week as well in the Region II, Div. 4 playoff semifinals. This time, Park View, playing on Broad Run's field for the second straight week, came away with a 16-12 win in front of another huge, enthusiastic crowd.

The game's biggest play came when running back Eric Johnston connected with quarterback CJ Leizear on a 44-yard, trick play option touchdown pass in the final

minute of the game. The score gave Park View a 16-12 lead and the Patriots held on for the win.

Park View's season ended the following week with the loss to Sherando.

Meanwhile, Briar Woods, with its outstanding turnaround season, qualified for the Region II, Div. 3 playoffs in just the school's third year of existence. The Falcons, coached by Charlie Pierce, saw its season end with a high scoring, 27-24, playoff af-

fair loss at Millbrook High.

Stone Bridge Claims State Football Title

One year after suffering a disheartening loss to Edison High in the 2006 Northern Region Div. 5 title game, the Stone Bridge High football team came back in 2007 to avenge that setback and go on to garner its first-ever Virginia State playoff title.

The Bulldogs had it all, great coaching, outstanding skill position players, a team-first mentality and the motivation to erase the previous year's sour ending to the season.

Stone Bridge had lost to Edison in the 2006 region finals. But the Bulldogs got the better of the Eagles in last fall's '07 championship encounter as they defeated the Eagles, 27-14.

"I'm a little relieved," said Stone Bridge coach Mickey Thompson, following the win over Edison. "I really wanted to get a region title."

Then, at states, Stone Bridge scored the final 24 points in a come-from-behind 38-24 win over visiting Phoebus from Hampton. Running back Jeron Gouveia, who had made some tough turnovers earlier in the game, propelled his team's dominating second half with three scoring runs.

That win put Stone Bridge into the state



A year ago, Park View had a high-powered passing attack with QB CJ Leizear and such wideouts as Ryan Pick, pictured.

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FOOTBALL 2008

High School Football at a Glance

Patriot District

West Springfield

In 2007, the West Springfield Spartans made the Northern Region final for the first time in 14 seasons, eventually losing to Westfield. Coach Bill Renner's son, quarterback Bryn Renner — a UNC recruit — will command the offense (2,749 passing yards, 32 touchdowns) along with senior tailback Brandon Bailey (1,438 rushing yards, seven rushing touchdowns). The Spartans have to improve defensively (relinquished an average of 32.7 points per game over the past two seasons), but return the majority of their offensive line and are poised for a possible state championship run. But tilts against Stone Bridge and Edison in the first two weeks of the season will be brutal tests.

West Potomac

In 2007, the West Potomac Wolverines went 8-4 — their best season since 2000, the same year they last made the playoffs. The Wolverines reversed a 41-0 regular season loss to Lake Braddock into a narrow playoff win. West Potomac graduated 13 starters, including two Division I signees. But quarterback Cole Walter (2,195 passing yards, 26 touchdowns), running back Daniel Baker (542 rushing yards, five touchdowns) and speedy wide receiver Kristian Rodriguez (395 receiving yards, four touchdowns) return for an offense that averaged 39.5 points during a four-game stretch last year. The key will be avoiding injuries and maintaining momentum once the district season starts.

South County

The South County Stallions took another step in 2007, making the playoffs for the first time in school history. After starting the season 1-3, the Stallions won five of their last six regular season games to sneak into the eighth and final Division 6 spot. Coach Pete Bendorf will run a spread offense, going with either junior Aaron Andrews or sophomore Evan Beal at quarterback. All-district playmaker Titus Pennington graduated, so senior Eric Dorsey will step in at running back. The Stallions do return three offensive linemen and eight starters on defense. The experience — and youth at quarterback — will be tested when South County faces Westfield and Edison within the first three weeks.

Lake Braddock

It's hard to believe, but the Lake Braddock Bruins were winless four seasons ago. The 2007 season yielded an 8-3 record — their most wins this decade — and a Patriot District co-championship. More importantly, the Bruins made the Division 6 playoffs for the first time in eight years, losing at home to West Potomac. But things will be drastically different as Lake Braddock graduated two-way all-district standouts Shane Halley and Keon Robinson. Actually, of the 12 all-district selections, only junior linebacker Chris Lavery returns. The Bruins will again rely on defense, where they've yielded an impressive 14.5-point per game average over the past three seasons.

T.C. Williams

The T.C. Williams Titans grabbed momentum heading into the off-season with a come-from-behind 15-14 victory over West Potomac in the season finale. The win vindicated Dennis Randolph's first season, despite the school finishing 4-6 for the fourth straight season. The Titans have to replace Jamal Ford at quarterback and all-district selections Quintas McCorkle and Carlton Dotson on defense. Offensively, seniors Dominique Copeland, Marcus Via and 6-foot-4 Zach Goehler return, giving Randolph weapons to toy with. Over the past eight years, T.C. Williams is only averaging 13.6 points per game, which led Randolph to install the spread in the off-season. A possible play-off berth hinges on whether the Titans can conquer their non-district slate.

Annandale

The Annandale Atoms took a small step backwards last season, after winning the Patriot District

in consecutive years, going 4-6 — their fewest wins in six seasons. So longtime coach Dick Adams will turn to senior quarterback Cason Kynes, an all-district strong safety last season. Kynes accounted for more than 1,600 yards of total offense in 2007, powering the offense to four games over the 33-point mark. Defensive tackle Shane Doty, the only other 2007 all-district selection will anchor the defense. With depth being a potential problem, Annandale can't afford any injuries to its two-way players. It will also have to navigate Oakton and Chantilly in the first three weeks.

Robert E. Lee

The Robert E. Lee Lancers won two games in 2007, but still inched into the Division 5 playoffs on merit of its brutal schedule. The 2008 slate is just as tough, as the Lancers open with perennial powers Edison, Westfield and Centreville. It's hardly an ideal setting for third-year coach Rob Everett to unveil a new quarterback and backfield. Junior Greg Lopez takes over for Kelly Fitzgerald at quarterback, Jazmier Williams and Dante Taylor will step in at running back and potential Division I recruit Anthony Nsekela and Jabrill Mara will be their lead blockers. The Lancers return eight starters defensively, including all-district linebacker Kyle Addy. With the schedule, any win will be cherished.

Hayfield

The Hayfield Hawks may be looking forward to next season, when quarterback Anton McCallum will be a third-year starter and when the school transitions to the easier National District. Over the past two seasons, 10th-year coach Billy Pugh has gone 1-19 while getting outscored by a combined 522 points. In the season finale, Hayfield succumbed 63-14 to Lake Braddock, just a week after getting blasted by West Springfield, and much of it has to do with enrollment. Comparatively, the Division 5 school has 1,500 kids compared to five district schools with at least 2,000 kids. With Wakefield — its only win last season — much improved, wins will be scarce.

National District

Edison

The Edison Eagles are the back-to-back National District champs and veteran coach Vaughn Lewis looks to have another solid squad. Gone are 28 seniors, including free safety Drew Baldwin (Yale), quarterback Ben Barber (Virginia Tech) and defensive back Kevin Carter (Fordham), who helped to score a school-record 498 points last season, but junior Levi Barber and senior Corey Washington should shoulder the offensive load. Massive offensive lineman Frank Figueroa (verballed to Penn State) will led the offensive line, while seniors Josh Blair and Stephon Robertson will lead the defense. Edison — the Division 5 region champs in 2006 — will be tested early with three Patriot District teams to open the season.

Mount Vernon

The Mount Vernon Majors should give Edison a scare for the first time in four years with head coach Tom Glynn in his fourth season. The Majors, who run a lethal triple option, tasted the postseason last year, and should be one of the top teams in Division 5. Starting quarterback Brian Greene returns as do four massive offensive linemen, including 6-foot-6, 325-pound Zach Quigley. The Majors will have to replace its four all-district players, but with linebacker Kyle Ricks returning and one of the top junior varsity teams last year, Mount Vernon should prove that its 29-point blasting of Yorktown last year was no fluke.

Yorktown

The Yorktown Patriots had a rough 2007, especially on defense where they gave up 236 points — the highest this decade. The Patriots replace quarterback Tim Reynolds, but should be fine with shifty senior Kyle Toulouse manning the Wing-T. Senior running back Jared Smith provides speed in



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Potomac Falls football team will open up its new season this Friday night with a home game against Martinsburg of West Virginia. Kickoff time is set for 7:30 p.m.

the backfield, but with only two all-district players last year — both of who graduated — Yorktown will need to the younger players to mature quickly. The Patriots finished the regular season at 5-5 for the third time this decade. The previous two times — Yorktown rebounded with solid 7-3 (2001) and 10-2 (2003) records.

Washington-Lee

The Washington-Lee Generals took strides under coach Josh Shapiro, winning four games for first time in four years. Now, the Generals are eyeing the Division 5 playoffs for the first time since in two decades. Even sweeter would be a win against rival Yorktown, which hasn't happened since 1982. Washington-Lee replaces Alex Wicks (1,253 passing yards, seven touchdowns) with junior Karl Lendenmann. Senior running back Keith Johnson (five touchdowns) is the team's leading returning rusher, while rock-solid junior Rock Battle and senior Rob Hemstreet return defensively. With a weak non-district slate, the Generals could easily be 3-1 heading into a Sept. 26 showdown with Mount Vernon.

Wakefield

The Wakefield Warriors could be the most improved team throughout the region, though the final record may not indicate that. Last season, first-year Keith Powell struggled to change the losing culture — the team has gone 15-62 over the last eight seasons — while fighting injuries. The team improved, going 3-7 for the second straight year and scored 195 points — the highest this decade. Now, the Warriors will depend on rangy quarterbacks Andre Allen and Jonathan Ford, both of who stand over 6-foot-4. With senior Romeo Goffney in the backfield, Wakefield should have enough firepower to contend with fellow Arlington schools Yorktown and Washington-Lee.

Falls Church

The Falls Church Jaguars struggled again in 2007, going 3-7 for the third time in four seasons. The offense scored the fewest points since 2003

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FOOTBALL 2008

and the offensive gave up 352 — the most this decade. And losing likely Division I recruit Travis Garrett is a devastating loss. But seventh-year coach Anthony Parker is excited about returning 15 starters, eight on offense and seven on defense. An all-district receiver last season, Sam Gerima moves under center in the pass-happy offense. The Jaguars need to tally wins against non-district teams like Jefferson and Fairfax and also steal a couple in the district to finish with a solid record.

J.E.B. Stuart

The J.E.B. Stuart Raiders dipped into the past in re-hiring Ray Ferri, the same coach who was fired in 2000 for winning only seven games over four years. But the Raiders haven't fared much better currently riding the Northern Region's longest losing streak — 24 games — dating back to 2005. In fact, things have been so bad that Stuart is 12-107 since 1996. But insert Ferri and his single-wing offense, along with junior quarterback Jason Friday and senior tailbacks Anthony Champ and Terrill Hawkins, and the streak should stop. The Raiders will be gunning for Group A George Mason in the season opener.

Concorde District

Westfield

The Westfield Bulldogs used 60 seniors — 21 of who were starters — to earn its second Division 6 state title in four years by beating Woodbridge, 42-14, which completed a perfect 15-0 season. The Bulldogs were downright dominant, beating its opponents by an average of 29.4 points, while allowing only 8.8 points per game and recording five shutouts. Head coach Tom Verbanic, who is 69-6 over the past six years, will look to junior quarterback Danny Fenyak to replace N.C. State potential starter Mike Glennon.

The Bulldogs also have to replace receiver Johnny Pickett (Ball State), but with one of all-region linemen Tyler Barfield returning and one of the top junior varsity teams, Westfield should be poised for another solid season.

Chantilly

The Chantilly Chargers have something to provide this season after getting ousted by Robinson in the first round of the Division 6 playoffs just a year removed from a state championship appearance. The Chargers have to replace senior quarterback/safety Austin Decker and linebacker Mike Quigg, but have two solid Division I recruits in running back Torrian Pace and Issac Sine. Pace, clocked at 4.47 seconds in the 40-yard dash, averaged 10.9 yards per carry en route to 12 touchdowns while sharing with three other backs. This season, he and Sine, a 6-foot-3, 218-pound linebacker, will have to lead a young crop if the Chargers want to make a third consecutive playoff berth.

Oakton

The Oakton Cougars are now three years removed from the 2004 Division 6 state title, and frankly, there has been a two-year hangover. After having eight Division I players graduate in 2006, Oakton struggled to a 5-5 record in 2007, losing to Madison and Annandale to open the season. The offense should be strong with two Ryan Harris and Chris Coyer, both solid senior quarterbacks returning, along with all-district selection Trey Watts in the backfield. Senior Jack Tyler, a 6-foot-2, 215-pound linebacker who has 193 career tackles will help to anchor the defense, while 6-foot-5 all-region punter/tight end Wade Reynolds also returns. Oakton should be undefeated heading into a home game against Chantilly in week six.

James Robinson

The James Robinson Rams made five straight regional title game appearances, winning the state championship in 2001 and losing in 2004. But ever since joining the Concorde District four years ago, the Rams have lost 12 times compared to just five losses in the previous five years. Robinson still made the playoffs last season, their ninth time in the past 11 seasons, but squandered a late lead to West Springfield. Robinson is still hopeful with quarterback Timmy Meier and running back Alex Murray both returning after starting last season. The schedule is again brutal with Lake Braddock, West Springfield and Stone Bridge littering the non-district schedule.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERNITZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Dominion Titans, pictured, will host Washington-Lee High of Arlington in both teams' season opener this Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

Centreville

The Centreville Wildcats ended a two-year playoff drought, but squandered a 12-point lead over West Springfield with less in the region quarterfinal. It was only the second time the Wildcats relinquished 15-plus points all season. But 2008 will be different as defensive coordinator Mike Skinner went to Stone Bridge and assistant Roy Ferri was hired at Stuart. Second-year coach Gerry Pannoni has replace first-team all-region standouts Darryl Hamilton (Richmond) and Donnell Carpenter defensively, but senior defensive end Mike Upham is a nice start. Senior David Toth and junior Cam Walter are vying for the starting quarterback slot, while third-year starter Luke Bowanko, who has committed to the U-Va., will again anchor the offensive line. The biggest questions are at the skill positions, where Pannoni is considering playing freshmen.

Herndon

The Herndon Hornets were one of the hottest teams at the end of the 2007 season, winning four of five (the lone loss was against Westfield) after starting the season 1-4. The Hornets, who had their first non-winning season for the first time in five years, have not adjusted to second-year coach Joe Sheaffer's schemes and should again vie for a playoff slot. Junior Zach Ozycz will again command the offense, a job he won late last season. On the ground, junior tailback Devin Thompson replaces Desmond Seifu and Chris Winston, while junior fullbacks Austin Moore and Sam Grother will also be counted on.

Fairfax

To say the Fairfax Rebels have struggled of late would be an understatement. The Rebels haven't had a winning season in nine years, and since joining the Concorde District three years ago, Fairfax hasn't sniffed a victory. In fact, it's given up 30 points per game since 2005, and was outscored 218-28 within the district in 2007. A sliver of hope for second-year coach Chris Haddock is that he returns 13 starters, including senior quarterback Abdul Amin, running back Alex Price and 6-foot-4, 285-pound Josh Patterson. And the Rebels face Washington-Lee and Falls Church — the two teams they collected wins against last season — again this year.

Liberty District

Stone Bridge

The Stone Bridge Bulldogs might be better in 2008, one year after a 14-1 Division 5 state championship season in 2007. Jeron Gouveia (Virginia Tech) is gone, but the Bulldogs are reeling out Division prospects. Zach Thompson recently committed to Wake Forest, the same destination of linebacker Mike Olson. Defensive end Brian Slay (N.C. State) and tackle David Wang (Virginia Tech) have also committed. Quarterback Patrick Thompson, Zach's twin and son of head coach Mickey Thompson, will command the offense and will likely look to Daniel Allen to fill the void created by Goveia and Kareem Alexander at running back. Back-to-back home games against West Springfield and Robinson to open the season will be a quick litmus test on whether the Bulldogs can repeat.

James Madison

The James Madison Warhawks put together a solid 9-3 season in 2007 and qualified for the Northern Region Div. 5 playoffs where they defeated South Lakes in a quarterfinals round postseason affair before losing to Edison in a semi-finals contest. Over the course of the regular season in the Liberty District, only state champion Stone Bridge proved to be better than the Warhawks, who have been a perennial playoff team under head coach Gordon Leib.

Langley

The Langley Saxons had a winning season for the second time in the past six years, and sixth-year coach John Howerton is giddy about the prospects for 2008. Langley, who moves up to Division 6, returns seven starters offensively, including senior quarterback Danny Pritchett and running backs Derek Eklund and David Helmer. The line is anchored by mammoth offensive linemen Scott Jones and Garrett Moore, both who are being recruited by Division I schools. The defense returns four starters, but will be without four first-team all-district standouts from 2007. Non-district games against Chantilly and Oakton will provide whether the Saxons will be a playoff bound team for the first time since 2004.

George Marshall

The George Marshall Statesmen won eight games last season, making the playoffs for the first time since 1993. The Statesmen advanced to the Division 5 semifinal, before bowing out to eventual state champion Stone Bridge. It culminated a five-year pattern of Marshall improving after going winless in coach J.T. Biddison's first season. But the Statesmen are likely to take a step back, only returning five starters. Third-year quarterback Harold Sweet will be relied upon heavily, especially with its top two rushers from last season. Marshall will have to mature quickly if it wants to edge out Fairfax in week two.

W.T. Woodson

The W.T. Woodson Cavaliers finished last season on a sour note after losing a Week 10 game to powerhouse Stone Bridge, 45-7. Overall, the Cavaliers, under coach Trey Taylor, finished a respectable 5-5.

South Lakes

The South Lakes Seahawks had a superstar last season in A.J. Price (Penn State), a solid receiver in Thomas Mayo (Concorde University) and a dependable quarterback in Scott Reed. But all have graduated from the 3-7 Division 5 playoff team from 2007. So fifth-year coach John Ellenberger has to revamp his pass-happy offense with fresh faces, including junior quarterback Ray Howard, senior running backs Brandon Price and Justin Zeller and senior tight end Quintin Fortes. The Seahawks need to shore up their offense, which gave up 300-plus points for the fourth straight season.

McLean

The McLean Highlanders finished with two wins in 2007 for the second straight year, but have a reason to be hopeful in first-year coach Jim Patrick, son of former Mount Vernon coach Bruce Patrick. McLean will transform to a triple-option offense, likely to be keyed by either Riley Beiro or Will Hecht at quarterback and seniors Kyle McColgan and Michael Shipley in the backfield. The defense, which gave up 20 points in each of the eight losses last season, should be improved with five starters returning. As a Division 5 team, inching out early

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FOOTBALL 2008



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Potomac Falls coach Scott Woodlief instructs a Panther player during a recent pre-season workout.

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FROM PAGE 15

season non-district victories over J.E.B. Stuart and Washington-Lee are pivotal.

Thomas Jefferson

The Thomas Jefferson Colonials had another tough season in 2007, winning only one game. They were getting outscored by 260 points and lost seven games by at least three touchdowns, including an embarrassing 56-6 loss to W.T. Woodson. The prospects don't look good for third-year coach Tim Puvogel, who is 3-17 in two seasons and failed to get a first-team all-district representative last season. But Jefferson returns 11 starters, including seniors Evan Burch and Mike Howard, leaving enough experience to provide at least a couple of wins. A season-opening win at home against Falls Church is pivotal.

Private

The **Paul VI Panthers** took a large step back in 2007, winning only one game after back-to-back 5-5 seasons under coach Pat McGroarty. But Paul VI only had six seniors on the roster, leaving a wealth of experience returning this season. The Panthers return starting junior running back Idreis Augustus, as well as Dan McGroarty, the coach's son, back after earning all-league honors at tight end last season. Basketball standout Dominic Sanders, at 6-foot-4, will give either senior Matt Richards or

junior Trevon Bennett an athletic target at receiver. Both Richards and Bennett split time last season, and neither has locked up the starting slot.

The **Bishop O'Connell Knights** had a disappointing season in the uber-competitive Washington Catholic Athletic Conference, finishing 3-7 overall and 2-5 in the conference in 2007. O'Connell will have to replace West Point signee Matt Dillon on the offensive line, but only graduated three starters. The Knights had a bevy of underclassmen gain valuable experience, including first-team All-WCAC safety Justin Trimble, the coach's son, who has a brother already at West Point. Trimble, who will also be the feature back, and senior quarterback Sean Cabrera, a third-year starter, should anchor a strong senior class. The season opener at Ireton will provide a quick litmus test.

The **St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Saints** made it to the Virginia Independent School Athletic Association (VISAA) state semifinals last season, mostly behind 5-foot-6 first-team all-state running back Isaiah Carpenter, but leaders like offensive lineman James Williams, linebacker Briggs Davis and Carpenter graduated. The Saints rebuild around seniors Cameron Williams, Robert Asmar and Chazzo Habliston, all of who will be asked to play multiple positions. The offense is the catalyst — in the six 2007 wins, SSSAS averaged 28.5

points versus eight during the four losses. With their quarterback and enough experience returning, the Saints need another hot start with a midseason rivalry game at Bishop Ireton looming.

The **Bishop Ireton Cardinals** had a magical season in 2007, making it all the way to the VISAA state championship for the first time in school history. The Cardinals, ranked for three consecutive weeks atop the VISAA rankings, graduated 21 seniors, including West Point signee Anthony Rodriguez. Now coach Tony Verducci drops the interim tag and unveils a spread offense, where he will utilize junior speedster Doug Vines in space. Junior Mike Larrabee takes over at quarterback. Ireton will also have to win close games like it did in last season, when the Cardinals went 7-2 in games decided by a single digit.

The **Episcopal Maroon** had a 9-1 season in 2006, but struggled early in 2007, opening the season with six losses in the first seven games. But back-to-back wins over Bullis and hated rival Woodberry Forest gives the Maroon momentum heading into 2008. Episcopal has to replace three captains, but returns quarterback Alex Helm who will have speedsters in junior first-team all-state receiver Hunter de Butts and track star Allante' Keels. Senior Evan King steps in for Brett Johnson at running back. All should help the Maroon improve on their 12-point per game average from 2007.

Area Gridiron Teams Display Dominance in '07 Season

FROM PAGE 13

title game in Charlottesville against Potomac High. The Bulldogs, two years earlier, had lost in the state finals to Hampton. But this time around Stone Bridge dominated its opponent, winning handily 38-0. Quarterback Patrick Thompson threw four touchdowns in the game, three to receiver Ryan Moody.

"Everybody really felt this was our year," said coach Thompson.

Will teams like Stone Bridge, Broad Run and Park View be able to put together powerhouse seasons once again in 2008? Can Briar Woods, and other Dulles teams such as Potomac Falls and Dominion, be contenders for this year's district crown? The season ahead will provide those answers.

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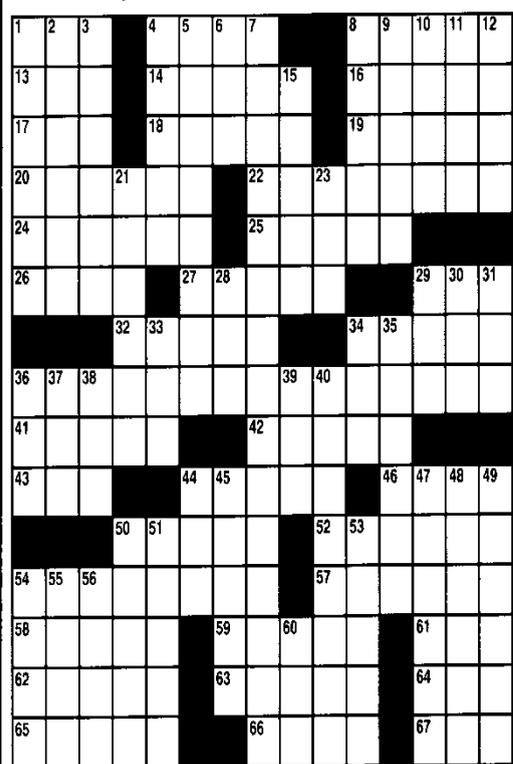
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD
 Edited by Will Shortz No. 0325-1



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"Oxymoronic"



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

I love products and services that are given names — and/or marketed as such — that are in reality antithetical to the very characteristics that their names imply or in fact, clearly state. My two favorites are "Smartwater," made by who I don't know and probably wouldn't mention if I did, and the "permanent," provided by salons and hair stylists everywhere and familiar to most women I'm sure. As a buyer of bottled water and a husband to a woman, I'm extremely familiar with the former product and the latter service. And in both instances, I can't get past the obvious — to me anyway — market manipulation.

If a product or service is continually called something that it's not (by hook or crook), will its continual usage become so much a part of the lexicon that the word/product/service will begin to take on a life and meaning of its own and one, quite frankly, unrelated to its actual benefit? One that is perfectly suited to its intended marketing effect, to motivate the consumer to buy it, repeatedly. Or will reality one day rear its ugly head?

Let's first discuss the "permanent," the rather expensive "process" where hair is chemically treated — at home or at the salon — to give hair more body, curl, oomph, zing, pizzazz, etc. The only problem, other than the price (from my perspective) and the hours spent completing the process is that the "process," the "permanent" is hardly permanent. In truth, having seen and spoken and heard from many women on the subject, the service should really be called a "temporary," because that's what it is, temporary. If one wants to maintain the "look," one has to return regularly to re-treat and "re-process." It's the return trips that become permanent because once you commit to your "permanent," its actual temporariness will become the main thing that's permanent about your "permanent."

But I have to admit, calling a product/service something that it is not, presumably as a reason for consumers to buy it/use it, is pure marketing genius. And with respect to the numbers of "permanent" sold, whoever thought of calling the "process" "permanent" deserves a plaque in the Hair Salon Hall of Fame, wherever it's located, and if it doesn't exist, it should be built in the "permanent" person's hometown.

No more genius, however, than the person — or persons — who convinced the worldwide, water-drinking public that buying water in a bottle, a natural resource and one that is readily available, AND FREE, from homes and businesses everywhere, was somehow beneficial and healthy as well for your overall fitness. And so here we are, swimming in bottled water. Available in all shapes and sizes, and packages/counts; available in supermarkets, drugstores, convenience stores, Box stores and at many food purveyors as well, and not always priced to move, either, often priced rather expensively at some locations. Many with names to conjure an image (and perhaps to justify a price); Deer Park, Poland Springs, Acadia Springs and Aquafina, to name a few first-quenching and naturally refreshing alternatives to the tap.

But never before had I seen, until recently, water that had an adjective in its proper name, "Smart." What makes it so smart anyway? Since it's called "Smart," does that mean that all other water is stupid by comparison, or is it simply an implication that the marketing department hoped to achieve as a means of separating its product from the herd of liquid wannabees? I doubt we'll ever know.

From what I see and hear, however, it appears to be a subliminal-type message hiding in plain sight masking its true intention in its perceived simplicity. As a consumer, I admit I'm inclined to respond to positive-sounding products. Who wants to reinforce a negative? I don't want to feel worse, I want to feel better. I want my purchase to makes me feel as if I'm doing the "right thing."

And I suppose I don't mind paying for it. But I do mind paying because of it.

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

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