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Seeking Closure

NEWS, PAGE 3

Energy Issues

NEWS, PAGE 3

More Options

NEWS, PAGE 3

PHOTO BY JENNIFER LESINSKI / THE CONNECTION HEALTH & FITNESS, PAGE 8 ❖ CAMPS & SCHOOLS, PAGE 9 ❖ E SECTION, PAGE 10 ❖ REAL ESTATE, PAGE 13 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 14 ❖ FAITH, PAGE 16 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 17

New Beginning

SCHOOLS, PAGE 5

Students file toward the entrance of Stuart Weller Elementary the first day of school Tuesday.

inside
E Cool Place for Teens
Cascades Library alternates between middle- and high-school activities.
After Hours Teen Center
Photo: Courtesy of Stuart Weller Elementary

Big Apple Circus Coming Sept. 25
The Big Apple Circus is set to arrive in Ashburn on Tuesday, Sept. 25. The circus will be performing at the Ashburn Community Center, 10000 Ashburn Lane, Ashburn, Va. The circus will be performing from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The circus will be performing a variety of acts, including acrobatics, juggling, and circus arts. The circus will be performing for free. Tickets are available for purchase. For more information, visit www.bigapplecircus.com.

Auction

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Where's the Public Support?

Slain girl's parents seek justice.

BY ANDREA ZENTZ
THE CONNECTION

Arally intended to draw attention to the six-year-old unsolved murder of Erica Smith, 14, of Ashburn, triggered hurt and angry feelings Saturday over what her parents described as a lack of public support.

Despite organizers printing 300 T-shirts and 1,200 fliers, only about two dozen relatives and co-workers turned out Saturday

Got a Tip?

Anyone with information about the crime should contact the Loudoun Crime Solvers at 703-777-1919 or 1-877-777-1931 or the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office at 703-777-0475.

to distribute the handbills. Erica's parents, William Smith and Pamela Dade, were seeking renewed interest from the public and law-enforcement authorities in hopes that someone would come forward with information leading to the arrest of the girls' killer or killers.

Erica's body was found Aug. 9, 2002, in a wooded area of Beaumeade Corporate Park in Ashburn. The parents had been searching for their daughter for 11 days while authorities treated her disappearance as a runaway.

Dade said she was "hurt" by the public's



PHOTO BY ANDREA ZENTZ/THE CONNECTION

William Smith hands out a flier to a motorist in Ashburn.

indifference Saturday. "Life goes on for everyone except those who are affected," she said. "You feel like you're fighting a battle by yourself."

What residents should remember is that the person or persons responsible for Erica's

murder are still at large in the community, she said. "If this person viciously murdered my daughter, what makes you think he won't do it again?"

Her sister, Wonza Bell of Lovettsville, said the proof is in the statistics. "If they did it

one time, they'll do it again."

SMITH SAID THE pain never goes away for the family. "You feel like you are still living with that first year when this all happens." SEE SEARCHING, PAGE 9

10th District Point of View: Energy

Wolf, Feder both promote "comprehensive" strategy for savings, conservation.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

This is the first in a four-part series about candidates' views and opinions on some of the issues facing the United States and federal government in the next term.

Langley resident Charlie Cuevas acknowledges that resolving the United States energy issues is not as easy some people may think.

"They could put up all the windmills they want in the Shenandoah Valley. But how are they going to get the energy here? Is anyone going to want a big power line running through their backyard? I don't think so," said Cuevas, as he pumped gas at the BP on corner of Old Dominion Drive and Old Chain Bridge Road in McLean.

Still, Cuevas would like to see the government promote more fuel-efficient vehicles and prohibit the building of "gas guzzlers." He drives a Honda Accord, a sedan, which Cuevas said gets excellent gas mileage.

He also added, "We have got to get alternative energy sources."

AS GASOLINE and heating prices climb, more residents have formed strong opinions on what should be done to combat the skyrocketing cost of energy. Almost everyone has felt the impact of rising gasoline prices, which has made everything from purchasing dinner to the daily commute more expensive.

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 4

Governor's Academy to Open

New academic model brings opportunity to LCPS students.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

The Virginia Board of Education approved a proposal to create a Governor's Career and Technical Academy in late July, opening the door for young county residents to receive a specialized education while preparing for the future.

The proposal, which is a partnership

between Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) and Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA), went before the board in Richmond July 19. It calls for the establishment of the academy at Monroe Technology Center in Leesburg, with a core program focusing on what is commonly referred to as a "STEM pathway" or program. A STEM pathway stresses education in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Specifically, in those areas, the academy at Monroe will offer classes on agriculture, automotive technology, radiograph and sonograph technology and pharmacy technology among others.

SEE ACADEMY, PAGE 9

"It is a win-win for our students and us. It raises the rigor and relevance of our programs."

— Shirley Bazdar, Loudoun County Public Schools, director of career and technical and adult education

McLean Man Charged

A McLean man was charged with reckless driving after a three-vehicle crash on Route 7 near Claiborne Parkway in Ashburn Sunday, Aug. 31.

The 25-year-old male driver was traveling east on Route 7 around 5 p.m. when he lost control of his 2005 Honda. The vehicle crossed over the median and was struck by a westbound 2004 Ford Expedition. The Honda spun around and struck a Loudoun County Sheriff's Office patrol car that was also traveling westbound.

According to a preliminary investigation, the driver was driving in excess of the posted 55 mph speed limit and was weaving through traffic prior to the crash.

The driver was airlifted to Inova Fairfax Hospital with serious but nonlife-threatening injuries. The driver and two passengers of the Ford did not require to be transported to a local hospital. One of the passengers was treated at the scene. The deputy was not injured.

The crash caused westbound traffic on Route 7 to be rerouted for approximately one hour.

Three Face Charges

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office has charged two Ashburn men and a 17-year-old in connection with a July 4 incident where a gunshot was fired into a home.

The 17-year-old male, who is also from Ashburn, was charged with reckless use of a firearm. The teenager's name cannot be released due to the fact he is a juvenile. The two adults, a 20-year-old male and a 22-year-old male, were both charged with hindering an investigation.

The victims in the case reported hearing fireworks between 10:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. near their home, located in the 20430 block of Needleleaf Way in Ashburn. During this time they heard a loud "pop." The homeowners noticed a bulge in a bedroom wall of the residence and a hole was located on the outside of the residence.

The residents contact the Loudoun Sheriff's Office to report the destruction of property. Deputies inspected the scene and discovered a bullet lodged in the wall.

The firearm used in the incident was recovered and was seized by the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office.

Seeking Suspect

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office is investigating a reported burglary and sexual assault in Sterling. The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division is working to determine if this case is related to a series of prowler and burglary cases in Ashburn and Leesburg.

Around midnight Friday, Aug. 29, the suspect entered a residence on Ironwood Road by forcing entry through a door. The suspect then confronted an elderly female resident. The suspect brandished a knife and sexually assaulted the victim. The suspect fled from the house.

The victim contacted authorities at approximately 12:27 a.m. Deputies quickly established a perimeter in the area. A K9 unit conducted a ground search and the Fairfax County Police helicopter conducted an aerial search. No suspect was located.

The victim was treated and released from Inova Fairfax Hospital for treatment for minor injuries. The suspect is described as a large male who spoke with an accent.

The agency is encouraging residents to report any suspicious activity or persons to the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office at 703-777-1021. The agency is also reminding residents to lock all doors and windows. Anyone with information on any of these cases is asked to contact the Loudoun Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division at 703-777-0475. If the caller wishes to remain anonymous, contact Loudoun County Crime Solvers. If the information leads to an arrest and indictment, the caller could be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

FOR MORE BRIEFS, VISIT

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM.

POLITICS

Candidates Discuss Energy Strategies

FROM PAGE 3

Some people are also concerned about the United States dependence on oil — a significant amount of which comes from other countries — and its implications on national security. Others said the United States needs to wean itself off of fossil fuels because of a connection to global warming.

Both U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) and his Democratic opponent Judy Feder said they have heard concerns about rising energy costs from residents of the 10th Congressional District. Wolf and Feder face each other in the general election Nov. 4.

"People are tremendously concerned about the rise in gas prices. The prices of gas and food are rising faster than their incomes," said Feder, the former dean of Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute who also ran against Wolf in 2006.

Both candidates said they support a "comprehensive" approach to energy policy that includes looking at the use of wind, solar, coal and nuclear energy as well as new drilling opportunities for the United States.

"We should no longer send \$700 billion [for oil] outside this country," Wolf said.

IN A RECENT interview, Wolf criticized both President George Bush (R) and the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), for not calling Congress back into session to deal with the energy issue. Congress adjourned in July and will not resume session until Sept. 5.

"Everything should have an up or down vote," Wolf said.

Wolf has been a co-sponsor of the "New Manhattan Project for Energy Independence" legislation. The original Manhattan Project was set up to recruit scientists to produce an atomic bomb during World War II. The "New Manhattan Project" would award competitive prizes to the first individual or group who reach the bill's seven energy goals.

The goals are doubling Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFÉ) standards to 70 miles per gallon while keeping vehicles affordable; cutting home and business energy usage in half; making solar power work at the same cost of coal; making the production of biofuels cost-competitive with gasoline; safely and cheaply storing carbon emissions from coal-powered plants; safely store or neutralize nuclear waste; produce useable electricity from nuclear fusion reaction.

The bill also sets aside funding for businesses, researchers and groups that want to work toward achieving the goals. In an interview, Wolf said he thought the bill would probably result in "job creation" for a region like Northern Virginia, which is a leader in innovative technology.

Wolf has supported the "Virginia Outer Continental Shelf Act," which would allow Virginia's governor to ask for waiver to drill to explore for natural gas and crude oil off the coast of the commonwealth.



Wolf



Feder

If successful, Wolf supports using money gained from drilling off the Virginia shore to help cover commonwealth's transportation costs.

The congressman has also supported drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. On a personal level, the congressman owns and drives a Ford Escape, a hybrid sports utility vehicle.

IF ELECTED, Feder said she would "put everything on the table," including investigating the development of "cleaner coal" and safer nuclear options. Like Wolf, the McLean resident would also consider drilling off the shore of the United States.

"Drilling is part of the strategy. We want to look at alternatives and weigh the cost and benefit of everything," Feder said.

The challenger disagrees with Wolf and opposes drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR.)

"ANWR poses all sorts of environmental concerns. I think John McCain has it right there. ... We should not impose that kind of environmental risk," Feder said.

Feder is in favor of ending what she calls "tax breaks" for oil companies and having the government reinvest that revenue in renewable energy sources, like wind and solar, and in tax credits for consumers choosing greener energy sources.

She said the government also has to provide oversight to make sure market speculation is not driving up the cost of gasoline for Americans.

FEDER, like Wolf, said a federal investment in renewable energy is likely to bring jobs and investment to the 10th Congressional District, given the large number of high-tech businesses in the area.

"What grows in Loudoun are businesses that are developing 21st century technologies. ... The Route 28 corridor has attracted that kind of industry. We should play a leadership role [in developing renewable energy resources] right here in the 10th District," said Feder.

As member of Congress, Feder said she would make sure the 10th Congressional District got a fair share of the federal government's investment in renewable energy.

"That would create jobs and promote our tech industry. It has not been adequately pursued," she said.

As the 10th District representative, Feder would also pursue mass transit funding, which is an important part of a sustainable development strategy.

"That there is no mass transit in the 10th District is really pretty astounding. It is the job of a member of Congress to make it clear that the 10th District needs a good part of [the transit funding]," Feder said.

Wolf, who has been in Congress since the early 1980s, has been the major congressional backer of the extension of Metrorail to Dulles Airport and beyond. But Feder frequently criticizes the congressman for not being able to get the project launched.

Day of Firsts

Two new Ashburn elementary schools open Tuesday.

The scene at Steuart Weller Elementary School, one of the county's three new elementary schools to open this year, was orderly Tuesday morning — just as Principal Janet Radcliffe had predicted.

In August, she said she wanted the school to open as if it had been open for 10 years.

“I think it went very well,” she said Tuesday as the first bell rang. “The children are excited. The parents are excited. All the planning paid off.”

Approximately 56,035 students reported for the first day at 75 schools across the county. Two of the new elementary schools — Weller and Creighton's Corner — are located in the Ashburn area.

Both schools held open houses Friday, Aug. 29, to give parents and students a chance to see their new schools, find their classrooms and meet teachers.

— JENNIFER LESINSKI



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER LESINSKI/THE CONNECTION

First-grade teacher Beth Whitworth talks to a parent at Creighton's Corner's open house and family picnic Friday, Aug. 29.



Creighton's Corner Elementary School students have fun in the moon bounce at the open house and family picnic, Friday, Aug. 29.



Julie Reiter, a counselor at Steuart Weller, directs a parent and student to the correct classroom the first day of classes.



Kindergarten students line up before going to class as a group during Steuart Weller Elementary's first day.

OPINION

Political Debates Are Good

Candidates should give voters a chance to see them in action.

Voters in Northern Virginia will soon be choosing their congressman, a U.S. Senator and a president.

Voters in Northern Virginia don't vote a standard party line, they vote for the candidate they like regardless of party. But how will they get to know which candidates they like?

With the presidential race taking up the attention of many, voters need more than cable

television commercials and glossy direct mailers to find out more about each candidate. One key tradition involves live candidate debates, which voters can attend in person or watch on television (or YouTube).

Because our three congressional districts are relatively compact, voters should be able to see the candidates debate in person, as well as having the option to watch on video. (Some of these debates amount to little more than joint appearances, but still the candidates answer questions, and voters can learn much from watching this process.)

For statewide races, like the race for governor, voters need access to televised debates.

It's fair to say that all the candidates who

will appear on the ballot in Northern Virginia are articulate and confident, and are best served by letting voters know what their positions are on the issues. So why would any of them duck a debate?

Of course no one admits to ducking a debate. There is always a specific reason why one or the other debate won't work.

We urge the candidates to appear in public in multiple venues, with candidates for the House of Representatives scheduling multiple debates so that at least one is accessible to each locality.

And let's admit that we're living in the YouTube era, and let's have every debate appear on television and with replays available.

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Generous Support

To the Editor:

Loudoun Interfaith Relief has just completed its business fiscal year and reports serving more than 40,000 men, women and children in the past year. This represents a 14 percent increase in clients served over the previous year. This dramatic increase can be tied directly to the present economy and downtrend in the real estate market and related construction trades.

We wanted to take the time to thank all residents of Loudoun County who have made it possible for us to provide emergency food supplies to everyone who has come through our doors. We are very fortunate to live in a community that gives so freely to people in need in these economic times.

Everywhere you turn you hear the stories and you see the signs of the dramatic effects of the current economy. Real estate market down and thus the construction trades are hand in hand. So many of our residents can't make ends meet and have to decide what bills

to pay first. That's where LIR can help with providing emergency food assistance and helping individuals and families to get back on their feet.

For the past 16 years, Loudoun Interfaith Relief has provided emergency supplies to thousands of families in our county. We are the only hunger relief agency that is open six days a week throughout the year and provides nutritious food to prepare breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Your generous support has helped us to continue our efforts to combat hunger in Loudoun

County. With your donations of food and money we will make sure that anyone who comes through our doors will receive food assistance. Our mission as always is: Food for Today and Hope for Tomorrow.

To learn more about Loudoun Interfaith Relief, please visit our Web site at www.interfaithrelief.org.

Bonnie Inman
Executive director

Bud Elliott
President, board of directors

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

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.

Rhythm, Rhyme & Tune Time, early language learning, Thursdays, **Sept. 4-Oct. 9**, at 10 a.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St. Sing, chant, play instruments and move creatively as a way to explore the sounds, rhythms and patterns that make up language. Each session lasts for six weeks. Recommended for ages infant-4 years with parent/caregiver. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-430-9500.

Every Child Ready to Read, early literacy workshop, Monday, **Sept. 8**, at 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Learn six important prereading skills to teach babies and toddlers. For parents or caregivers of infant to 2-year-olds. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-737-8100.

Drawing for Pleasure class, at Ida Lee Park Recreation Center, 60 Ida Lee Drive, N.W., Leesburg, starting Monday, **Sept. 8**, at 10 a.m. Learn the fundamentals of drawing, including learning about a number of drawing materials, line and shading. This activity is for ages 18 and over. Cost: \$120 and include all materials and supplies. Preregistration is

required, call 703-777-1368 or visit www.idalee.org. This class consists of six, two hour and 30 minute classes.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is offering a free, **English as a Second Language program** for non-English speaking adults. The LDS church holds classes three nights a week. The ESL program follows the pub-

lic school year and offers three beginner courses and one advanced class.

The schedule is every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening, from 7:30-9 p.m., at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 22066 Circle Drive, Sterling.

Enrollment takes place Tuesday, **Sept. 9**, at 7:30 p.m., classes to begin on Wednesday, Sept. 10.

Homework 101, Tuesday, **Sept. 9** and Wednesday, **Sept. 10**, 1:30 -4:30 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. A two-day workshop designed to show the home schooled and their parents what electronic resources the library has to offer, from language programs to a "self-test" database. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-430-9500.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER LESINSKI/THE CONNECTION

Snapshot 8:05 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 2, Loudoun County Parkway, Ashburn.

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BULLETIN BOARD

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.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

ASHBURN KIDS BOOK CLUB. 7 p.m., at the Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Includes book discussions, games and refreshments. Books will be available at the children's desk. Recommended for ages 8-11, grades third-fifth. Book selections: September, "My Name is Brain Brian" by Jeanne Betancourt. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-737-8100.

NEWBERRY OR NOT? 2:30 p.m., Rust @ Catoclin Library, 34D Catoclin Circle, Leesburg. Children's book club, a discussion about Newberry Medal Honor books. Call the library for the titles of the month. Recommended for ages 9-11. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-777-0323.

CAMERA CLUB. 1 p.m., 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. The Cascades Senior Center camera club will meet; bring a camera and hear a guest speaker. Call 730-430-2307.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

TAG DAY. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The Briar Woods High School Music Boosters Association will be conducting its fourth annual Tag Day. Students will be visiting the neighborhood to share their music programs and invite residents to see them perform this academic year. Rain date Sept. 7. Send questions to BWHSMBAA@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEERING

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

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

MONDAY/SEPT. 8

COLLEGE BOARD MEETING. 4-6 p.m., Room 144, at the Loudoun Campus, 1000 Harry Flood Byrd Highway, Sterling. The Northern Virginia Community College Board meeting. The complete agenda is available at <http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/board/>. Open to the public. Contact Corinne Hurst at 703-323-3101 or churst@nvcc.edu.

ADULT BOOK CLUB. 7 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. "Uncommon Reader" by Alan Bennett. Call 703-444-3228.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 10

LEAP MEETING. 7:30 p.m., Loudoun County Public School Administration Building, 12000 Education Court, Ashburn. Loudoun Education Alliance of Parents meeting topic: **After-School-An Enriching Experience**, hear from LCPS staff and other LEAP delegates about after-school program opportunities. Members of the community are also always welcome to attend. E-mail Leap.news@gmail.com or visit www.loudoun.k12.va.us, go to Parents section, then LEAP.

THURSDAY/ SEPT. 11

MIDDLE-SCHOOL BOOK GROUP. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Includes a book discussion and refreshments. September: "Nothing But the Truth" by Avi. Call 703-737-8100.

ADULT BOOK CLUB. 10 a.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St. "Pope Joan" by Donna Woolfolk Cross. Call 703-430-9500.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 12

COUNTRYSIDE WOMEN'S CLUB. 9:30 a.m., at the Parkside Pool Meeting Room, 46020 Algonkian Parkway. Vivienne Sivak will give an illustrated talk about her trip to South Africa and Zimbabwe. Call Allyson, 703-404-1083.

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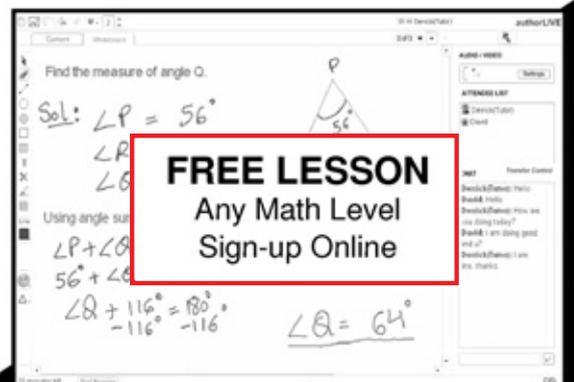
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PET OF THE WEEK

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

Ariel and Brett are 3-month-old, brother and sister domestic shorthairs. Ariel is the brown tabby and Brett is the black and white kitty.



CONTRIBUTED

HEALTH 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.

GriefShare is a support group which offers biblical, Christ-centered teaching focused on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one — either recent or in the past. This DVD-seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by a small group discussion. Find encouragement, comfort and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member or friend. GriefShare will be held Wednesdays, from 7-9 p.m., at Ashburn Presbyterian Church, 20962 Ashburn Road in Ashburn, beginning Oct. 1. There is a one-time cost of \$15. Call Mark Armstrong, associate pastor at 703-729-2012. To register, call the church office at 703-729-2012 by **Sept. 21**.

Celebrate Recovery, the Christian-based recovery program sponsored by Rick Warren's Saddleback Church, will meet Wednesdays, from 7-8 p.m., beginning **Oct. 1**, at Ashburn Presbyterian Church, 20962 Ashburn Road in Ashburn. This program includes support for "hurts, hang-ups and habits" such as chemical addiction, co-dependency, domestic violence, sexual addiction, gambling addiction, food addiction, divorce, and grief. Newcomers as well as those in traditional 12-step programs are welcomed. Anonymity and confidentiality will be respected. Call the church

office at 703-729-2012.

Flu shots will be available at the Senior Center at Cascade Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling, Tuesday, **Oct. 14**, 9 a.m.-noon and Tuesday, **Oct. 28**, 9 a.m.-noon. Free with Medicare Part B card or \$ 25 without card. Call 703-430-2397.

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

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

Loudoun Association for Children with Hearing Loss (LACHL) will be meeting the **second Friday of every month**, from September-May, at the Leesburg Executive Airport, third-floor conference room, beginning at 7 p.m. Parents, family members, educators and health-care professionals are all invited to attend. RSVP to Mary Photinakis, mphotinaksi@netzero.com. Visit the Web site, www.loudounhearing.org.

Representatives from Blue Ridge **Speech and Hearing** will be at the Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, the **third Tuesday** of each month, from 10:30-11:30 a.m., to clean, make adjustments and minor repairs to hearing aids and perform screenings.

Campaigning for Yourself

3rd Annual Coffelt Cancer Survivorship Conference

2008



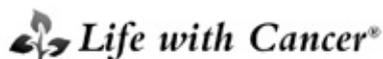
Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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Falls Church, VA 22042

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



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Academy Brings Opportunity

FROM PAGE 3

"Governor Kaine felt that this was significant because you can't help but read that scientists, engineers and mathematicians are retiring; that there is a tremendous shortage," Shirley Bazdar, the Loudoun County Public Schools director of career and technical and adult education, said. "This is a way to attract people, retain them and fills those identified gaps. It is a win-win for our students and us. It raises the rigor and relevance of our programs."

THERE WERE six governor's academies in the commonwealth — prior to the partnership in Loudoun — located in Halifax County, Newport News, Suffolk, Russell County, Stafford County and Arlington. Each of those academies received a \$20,000 planning grant followed by a \$100,000 implementation award when their proposals were accepted. Loudoun's agreement, however, is the first nongovernmentally funded academy.

When the county applied for grant money, its request was denied, yet Bazdar pushed forward and applied for academy status even though funding was not found at the time. According to Bazdar, the support they needed in order for the proposal to be accepted came from the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation. Bazdar said that the foundation gave a \$150,000 endowment for the start-up and development of the STEM programs, which ended up being a victory for the academy at Monroe, as the donation is more than the state-funded programs received.

Bazdar said the academy, or a plan similar, has been in the works for years, as early as 2001. Bazdar said that the LCPS organized a task-force study in that year to examine the system's programs and to determine what strategies it would adopt to strengthen the system. The study revealed that the county needed a renewed focus on the math and sciences,

and since then, the school system has been searching for a way to implement these changes until the governor's plan took form.

THE SITE OF the academy, Monroe Tech, has been slated for updates and renovations for some time, yet those have been pushed back continually, raising the question of the permanency of the Monroe site. According to Bazdar, the actual LCPS plan calls for the eventual construction of a brand new academy center, which will house all existing STEM programs and bring other programs at Monroe under the designation of the Governor's Academy. Bazdar said that the current plan calls for the construction of the new center to begin in fiscal year 2011 and to open in fiscal year 2013.

According to Bazdar, any student from the 10 high schools in the county can apply to attend the academy. Upon receipt of the application, it will be examined to confirm that the student has a solid core academic background. Once that is determined, the student must take and pass a COMPASS exam, which is a college placement test, but for the academy, serves as a preliminary test of math and science knowledge. If the student passes, their score on the COMPASS test is looked at closely and it is determined what specific classes to place the student in, whether it is remedial classes to strengthen their skills, or be immersed in a regular or advanced curriculum.

NOVA special assistant for career and technical education Milan Hayward said that the academy offers dual enrollment in NOVA and in the academy, offering the opportunity for students to earn college credit while still in high school. He further explained that since the students will be getting credit for college, they can have nine credits completed, and often times many more, before they attend college.

NEWS

Searching for New Clues to Homicide

FROM PAGE 3

pened. You still feel the devastation," he said. "You feel the emptiness from the lost, a huge hole in your heart.

"We think about what life would be like if she were still living. We are no longer able to hold her and hug her and to watch her blossom into a grown woman."

After waiting in vain for additional volunteers to show up at Trailside Park in Ashburn, the group drove to the Waxpool Road and Loudoun County Parkway intersection, less than a quarter of a mile from where Erica's body was found. They handed out yellow sheets of paper encouraging anyone with information about the crime to contact the Loudoun Crime Solvers at 703-777-1919 or 1-877-777-1931 or the sheriff's office at 703-777-0475.

Bell stood in the median and tried to give one to a state police officer who kept his cruiser window closed. "You're a cop. My niece was murdered and all I'm trying to do is pass out a flyer to you," she said before walking back to the sidewalk curb in tears. "That was disgusting. He never even opened the window. That hurt me more than anything."

The arrival of a county sheriff's deputy five min-



Erica Smith

utes later served to inflame emotions further. He told the group they were impeding traffic and must stop distributing flyers in the roadway. He advised them to stay on the sidewalk.

Smith, a soft-spoken man, confronted the law-enforcement officer. He said the volunteers had waited for the traffic lights to turn red before entering the road.

"I told him, 'What we were doing here today ... We're trying to help you solve our daughter's case. You didn't help us in the beginning. You would think you could

help us out now. We're trying to help you do your job.

"It was the aggressive way he pulled the vehicle up on the curb, the aggressive way he turned it into something ugly," Smith said. "I didn't appreciate it at all. At that moment, it was the way he insulted my family."

KRAIG TROXELL, Sheriff's Office spokesman, said he could not address the incident specifically, but some people have been ticketed for going into the traffic to hand out fliers, sell goods or collect donations. Supervisors, concerned with safety issues, are considering prohibiting the practice.

For More

- ◆ Erica Smith's Web site, www.ericatheathersmith.com.
- ◆ America's Most Wanted information about the Erica Smith homicide case is available at <http://www.amw.com/fugitives/brief.cfm?id=46879>.

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FOOD & DRINK

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.

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>.

Wine country bus tours to **Breaux Vineyards and Notaviva Vineyard**, Saturday, **Sept. 6**. 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 **Tarara Winery and Hidden Brook Winery**, Sunday, **Sept. 7**. 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>.

Tuscarora Mill, 203 Harrison St., Leesburg, is hosting the Stone Brewery Beer Dinner Wednesday, **Sept. 10**, 7 p.m. Includes an evening of Tuskie's cuisine paired with the beers of Stone Brewery. Admission fee TBA. Visit www.tuskies.com.

Cool Place for Teens To Meet

Cascades Library alternates between middle- and high-school activities.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Looking for a teen hang-out that's cool, fun and safe? Loudoun County Library has just the answer. It offers an "After Hours Teen Center" Friday nights at the Cascades Library, from 7-10 p.m. It's free to join and alternates weekly between high-school students — ninth- to 12th-graders, followed by middle-school students — sixth- to eighth-graders.

The center has planned activities like mystery nights, cooking classes, deejay nights, yoga nights and live teen bands like The Restless Street Band performing this Friday, Sept. 5, at 7:30 p.m. There's even free pizza and drinks.

"It's a place for the teens to socialize that's safe," Chrissie DeStefano, youth services programming specialist, said. "We try to be low key with the things we provide to them. They're just looking for some place to go to meet up with their friends."

A FREE-FORM ATMOSPHERE, the library caters to anywhere between 70 and 100 teens who may not be involved in sports activities. If they want to hang out or socialize, that's fine. Parents drop off their children at 7 p.m. There are two security guards who lock the doors at 7:30 p.m., and parents must pick up their children by 10 p.m. Teens are not allowed to leave the building unless they are signed out by their parents.

"Everybody is welcome," Beth Wiseman, public information specialist with the Loudoun County Library, said. "It just requires the authorization slip from their parent or caregiver."

With televisions and electronic games lining one dark room full of die-hard gamers, and another room divided into a Twister game space, art space and board games, Wiseman says it's "a fun environment where they can come and catch up with friends and always have something fun and interesting to do."

After Hours Teen Center

Fridays, 7-10 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. All teens must have a permission slip, signed by a parent or guardian, on file. Download the permission slip at <http://library.loudoun.gov>. Go to Teen Scene then Events then Hanging Out Rocks.

- ♦ Sept. 5: (HS) – Live! Restless Street Band
 - ♦ Sept. 12: (MS) – Gamer Night
 - ♦ Sept. 19: (HS) – Gamer Night
 - ♦ Sept. 26: (MS) – Hip Hop Groove
 - ♦ Oct. 3: (HS) – Hip Hop Groove
 - ♦ Oct. 10: (MS) – Art Night
 - ♦ Oct. 17: (HS) – Art Night
 - ♦ Oct. 24: (MS) – Halloween Dance Party
 - ♦ Oct. 31: (HS) – Halloween Dance Party
- (HS)-High-school students
(MS)-middle-school students

Of all the activities, the most popular are the electronic games. Gamers can play individually or in multiplayer formats. Some players are so serious that they bring their own memory cards. There's Guitar Hero, Rock Band, Medal of Honor, Dance Dance Revolution, Super Smash Brothers Brawl — on systems like Wii, PS2, Xbox 360, Game Cube and Play Station. "For the most part, a lot of the boys are gamers who like to compete on the video games," DeStefano said.

Connor Cucchiario said, "I like game night because they have more video games than I have at home." His mother Anita agreed, "I think everything the library offers is very generous and I'm very grateful."

Chris Jester, teen center assistant, calls the environment "definitely upbeat but controlled." He says the goal is to offer several different options to the teens — from dancing to a deejay and Hip Hop Groove exercise classes to swing dance instruction. There's open-mic night and karaoke singing as well as more relaxing activities like card games, board games and drawing. Occasionally, someone will bring in a guitar and the teens will surround him and talk about his or her music. "It's very low key," DeStefano said. "They're not looking for parental supervision when they come here. We're sort of nonintrusive."

AFTER THE LOUDOUN Youth Initiative



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Playing a game of Dance Dance Revolution are, from left, Lindsey Oteyza, 11, and Megan Woodmancy, 11.

did a survey several years ago, one of the complaints was teens didn't have a lot to do in the area. The pilot program took off in June 2005 and the center has been so successful that it won a national award — the John Cotton Dana Award for Best Teen Program through the American Libraries Association.

"We work really hard on making this something that comes from the teens themselves," DeStefano said. "It's [the teens'] suggestions and ideas."

The part that Brittany Peipert, 13, enjoys the most is socializing with her ninth-grade friends from Potomac Falls High School. "A lot of kids from my school hang out here," she said.

Lauren Nibert, 14, stopped playing Pick-Up Sticks to say "It's a good place for us to forget about what's happening in school and have fun."

Her friend Marguerite Benedict, 13, added, "It's a nice place to get away, and if you have problems at home, you can forget them. It's a good place to hang out with your friends."

Beth Oteyza, mother of Lindsey, 11, is happy with the program. "It gives the kids the chance to meet other kids not necessarily in their schools."

Big Apple Circus Coming to Town

The one-ring Big Apple Circus returns to Dulles Town Center Sept. 25 through Oct. 13 to launch its new tour — Play On! — a new music box of a show including a circus symphony of astonishing acts and laughter, propelled by a jazzy mix of classical, soul, and rock and roll from the best circus band in the land.

Kicking off an 11-month, 10-city tour, the

The LaSalle Brothers — identical juggling twins Jake, top, and Marty — make their debut in the Big Apple Circus, Sept. 25-Oct. 13, at Dulles Town Center.

world premiere of Play On! will be presented under the air-conditioned big top at Dulles Town Center in Sterling, at the intersection of routes 7 and 28.

There are acrobatic Chinese ballerinas, pirouetting on top of their partner; Brazilians on the flying trapeze; juggling twins from America; Russians springing skyward from their Russian barre; the world's fastest fashion show from Armenia; a talented troupe of Italian dogs; and the exploits of Big Apple Circus company members vaulting onto galloping horses.

Artistic and creative directors Paul Binder and Michael Christensen have gathered a cast of performers who bring thrills and de-

light from eight countries around the globe. No seat under the big top is more than 50 feet from the ring.

Tickets range from \$18 to \$52 and are available by calling 703-828-9014 or 888-541-3750 or online at bigapplecircus.org. For group ticket sales, call 877-407-8497. The circus box office, located in front of the big top at Dulles Town Center, will open Wednesday, Sept. 22. Hours of operation will be Saturday, Sunday and Monday, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Tuesday-Friday, from 10 a.m.-to 8 p.m. For wheelchair accessible seating or for information, call the ticket info line at 800-922-3772. Visit the Web site at www.bigapplecircus.org.



CONTRIBUTED

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.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 5

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

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> go 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.

Big Top

Cole Bros. Circus comes to town, Sept. 4-7, with performances at 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.

PAINTING IN THE AFTERNOON.

2 p.m., Rust @ Catoctin Library, 34D Catoctin 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

Anniversary Exhibition

The Loudoun Museum, 16 Loudoun St., S.W., Leesburg, 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. The exhibition will be on view from Sept. 5-May 2009. The museum is open Mondays and Wednesdays-Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays, from 1-5 p.m. Call 703-777-7427.



New Edition

Congratulations are due to zebras Dolly and Willie on the birth of their first offspring, newborn foal Waylon, above with mom, Saturday, Aug. 16, at the Leesburg Animal Park, 19270 James Monroe Highway, Leesburg. Visitors can view the new zebra family in their redesigned paddock. Hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admissions are \$7.95 for children and seniors, \$9.95 for adults, children under 2 are free. Visit www.LeesburgAnimalPark.com or call 703-433-0001.

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.

EXPLORE NATURE.

9-10:30 a.m., Rust Nature Sanctuary, 802 Children's Center Road, Leesburg. Adults and older children are invited to explore nature in late summer for free. Visit www.audubonnaturalist.org.

FLEA MARKET.

9 a.m.-2 p.m., Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling. Buy and sell at an outdoor flea market. Cost: \$10 per space to sell, preregistration required. 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. For tickets or corporate sponsorship opportunities, contact Beth Sartwelle at 202-483-2600 or beth.sartwelle@cancer.org. Single-player sponsorship begins at \$1,750. Visit www.NationalCapitalGolfClassic.com.

DAZZLING DRAGONFLIES.

9:30-11 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-6. Can you "fly" forwards, backwards and hover like dragonflies do? Look through a dragonfly's "eye" and make a dragonfly to take home. Cost: \$10.50 per child. Call 571-258-3700.

GOTTA CATCH 'EM ALL ...

Pokemon. 4 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Games and crafts. Bring Pokemon cards to trade. Ages 6-11 with adult. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-430-9500.

STORY TIME WITH JABBERU.

11 a.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Foreign language story time, expose children to other languages through interactive stories and songs. Ages 3 and up. Day's selection: Spanish language. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-737-8100.

FROM SWANN'S CASTLE

to Governor's Mansion: Exploring an Old Southern Estate. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Morven Park, 17263 Southern Planter Lane, Leesburg. See Sept. 5 item for details.

WOOLGATHERING.

6 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Bring own stitching project and gather to chat with friends. Ages 12 and up. Call 703-430-9500.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 9

MAD SCIENTISTS' CLUB.

7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Explore scientific topics through recreational and informational activities. Ages 8-11. September: Run for Your Lives.

Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-737-8100.

POTLUCK SOCIAL. 5 p.m., Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. Share favorite home-cooked meals, side dishes and deserts. All seniors invited. Bring a dish to share and a small gift bag to give away as a bingo prize. Call 703-430-2397.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 10

EXPLORE NATURE. 10-11:30 a.m., Rust Nature Sanctuary, 802 Children's Center Road, Leesburg. Adults and older children are invited to explore the sanctuary's meadows, forests and wetlands for free. Visit www.audubonnaturalist.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 11

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: \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers, includes transportation and \$5 cash back, subject to change.

Minimum walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

One Book-One Community

Loudoun County Public Library's One Book-One Community selection "Nothing But the Truth" by Newbery Medalist author, Avi, will be available beginning Thursday, Sept. 11, at all branches of the Loudoun County Public Library. The annual One Book-One Community program is funded by the Irwin Uran Gift Fund.

On Thursday, Sept. 25, at 7 p.m., the Loudoun County Public Library will host a public program featuring Avi at Park View High School, 400 West Laurel Ave., Sterling. Tickets are not required, although seating is limited.

During October, the Loudoun County Public Library will offer a series of book discussions on "Nothing But the Truth" at the library branches and a Reader's Theatre presentation at local branches throughout September and October. Visit <http://library.loudoun.gov> for dates, locations and times.

DAZZLING DRAGONFLIES.

9:30-11 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-6. Can you "fly" forwards, backwards and hover like dragonflies do? Look through a dragonfly's "eye" and make a dragonfly to take home. Cost: \$10.50 per child. Call 571-258-3700.

FROGSHACKLE OPEN HOUSE.

2:30-3:30 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. All ages. Discover a treasure trove of objects from nature. No registration is required. Free event. Call 571-258-3700.

9-11 OBSERVANCE.

7 p.m., Town Green, 25 West Market St., Leesburg. The ceremony includes messages from Kristen Umstatt, mayor of Leesburg, and Joseph Price, chief of police. In addition, the town's Freedom Memorial at Freedom Park, 101 Granada Circle, will be open, from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m., for those wishing to pay their respects.

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7:30 PM	4:30 PM 7:30 PM	1:30 PM 4:30 PM 7:30 PM	4:30 PM

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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.

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.

George Washington University Virginia Campus Gallery Lounge, 20101 Academic Way, Ashburn, will hold an artist reception for Michael Beckner, Sept. 4, 7 p.m. RSVP by Sept. 2 to reservations@va.gwu.edu or call 703-726-3650. Free and open to the public.

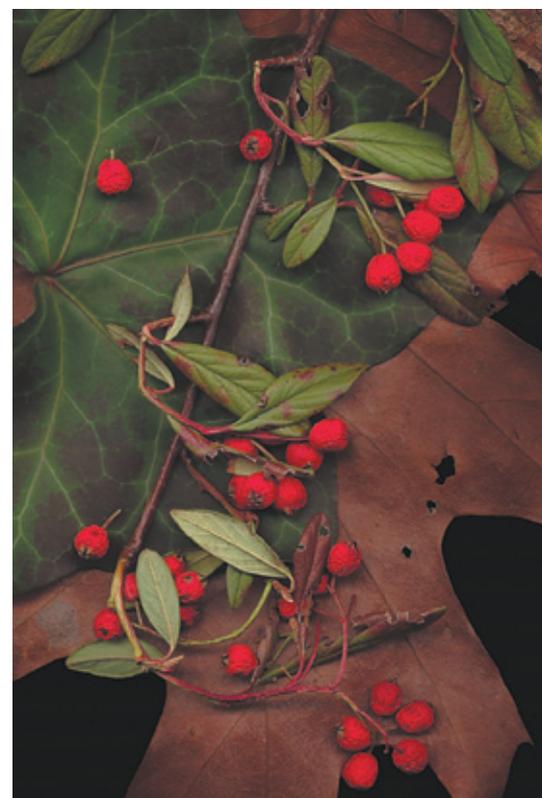
Bridges, roads, buildings, overpasses and construction sites are artist Michael Beckner's favorite subjects. Beckner's exhibit of acrylic paintings, titled Under Construction, is presented by The George Washington University Virginia Campus in partnership with Gallery 222/Loudoun Academy of the Arts. The exhibit is open to the public through Sept. 30. Visit <http://www.gwvirginia.gwu.edu/> or contact Gallery 222 at 703-777-5498.

The Sterling Playmakers is holding auditions for its season opener, "Flowers for Algernon," Friday, Sept. 5, 7-9 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 6, 1-4 p.m., at the Sterling Community Center, 22084 Shaw Road, Sterling. Roles for eight men and 17 women ages 17-65 are available. Visit www.sterlingplaymakers.com or e-mail terrypuppet@att.net.

Get Real!, a show of realism featuring original paintings and drawings by Loudoun artists opens Friday, Sept. 5, at Gallery 222, 222 South King St., Leesburg, during Leesburg's First Friday Gallery Walk, from 6-9 p.m. The exhibit continues through Sept. 27.

Get Real! showcases artwork by Conor Backman, Tim Chambers, Michael Davis, Jonathan Linton, Sarita Moffat, Ann Noel, Sherry Sanabria Kurt Schwarz, Libby Stevens, Jeffery Stockberger, Dana Thompson and Dan Williams.

Gallery 222 is open Mondays-Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and by appointment. The gallery is a component of the Loudoun Academy of the Arts Foundation, a 501(c)3 visual



CONTRIBUTED

Berries, a giclee digital print by Veronica Morrison, will be on exhibit at the Loudoun campus of Northern Virginia Community College through Sept. 12.

arts center offering fine art instruction, gallery exhibitions and studio space for working artists. Visit www.gallery222.com or call 703-777-5498.

Gallery Two at 222 will host an exhibit of paintings by Helen Wiegand titled **Spiritual Relatives**. An opening reception will be held Friday, Sept. 5, during Leesburg's First Friday Gallery Walk, from 6-9 p.m. The exhibit continues through Sept. 26. Visit www.gallery222.com.

FRIENDS' DAY

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Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Date Sold
42612 COCHRANS LOCK DR	7	7	1	ASHBURN	\$810,000	Detached	0.489991	07/29/08
43279 WARWICK HILLS CT	5	4	1	LEESBURG	\$755,000	Detached	0.239991	07/30/08
21445 GLEBE VIEW DR	4	4	1	BROADLANDS	\$725,000	Detached	0.239991	07/31/08
44291 SAINT GERMAIN CT	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$645,000	Detached	0.780005	07/31/08
42767 CHATELAIN CIR	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$617,630	Detached	0.0	07/31/08
43286 CANAL CREEK PL	4	4	1	LEESBURG	\$577,508	Detached	0.219995	07/30/08
20803 AMBERVIEW CT	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$569,900	Detached	0.25	07/30/08
20099 DESERT FOREST DR	4	2	1	ASHBURN	\$550,000	Detached	0.219995	07/30/08
752 HARDY CT NE	4	2	1	LEESBURG	\$550,000	Detached	0.210009	07/30/08
304 SHILOH SE	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$548,000	Detached	0.389991	07/31/08
43996 RIVERPOINT DR	4	2	1	LEESBURG	\$529,900	Detached	0.219995	07/29/08
915 SANTMYER DR SE	5	3	1	LEESBURG	\$520,000	Detached	0.219995	07/30/08
22903 NORTH BROWN SQ	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$514,750	Townhouse	0.130005	07/29/08
21328 MARSH CREEK DR	4	2	1	BROADLANDS	\$499,900	Detached	0.160009	07/30/08
19087 TOW PATH TER	5	3	1	LEESBURG	\$472,000	Townhouse	0.110009	07/31/08
207 COLLEEN CT NE	5	3	1	LEESBURG	\$445,000	Detached	0.260009	07/30/08
1606 WOODBRIDGE CT NE	4	2	1	LEESBURG	\$430,000	Detached	0.25	07/31/08
18718 TIMONEY CT	4	2	1	LEESBURG	\$419,900	Detached	0.160009	07/30/08
43134 ROYAL FERN TER	3	2	2	BROADLANDS	\$408,000	Townhouse	0.05	07/31/08
22548 SCATTERSVILLE GAP TER	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$380,000	Townhouse	0.060009	07/30/08
21501 WELBY TER	3	2	1	BROADLANDS	\$375,000	Townhouse	0.069995	07/29/08
43615 PICKETT CORNER TER	3	2	2	ASHBURN	\$375,000	Townhouse		07/29/08
415 FOX RIDGE DR SW	3	2	1	LEESBURG	\$340,000	Detached	0.130005	07/31/08
43223 BROXTON TER	3	3	1	BROADLANDS	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/31/08
330 BAISH DR SE	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$329,900	Townhouse	0.060009	07/30/08
20188 BROOKVIEW SQ	3	3	1	ASHBURN	\$312,500	Townhouse	0.05	07/31/08
44056 FERNCLIFF TER	3	2	2	ASHBURN	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/30/08
43691 FROGS LEAP TER	3	3	1	ASHBURN	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.039991	07/31/08
221 BELMONT DR SW	3	2	1	LEESBURG	\$305,000	Detached	0.280005	07/31/08
605 BURBERRY TER SE	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$299,000	Townhouse	0.05	07/31/08
170 CONNERY TER SW #34275	3	2	1	LEESBURG	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.05	07/31/08
44224 MOSSY BROOK SQ	2	2	1	ASHBURN	\$269,100	Townhouse	0.039991	07/30/08
20729 APOLLO TER	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$259,794	Townhouse	0.030005	07/30/08
20774 APOLLO TER	4	2	1	ASHBURN	\$245,000	Townhouse	0.030005	07/31/08
43940 BONLEE SQ	3	3	1	ASHBURN	\$236,500	Townhouse	0.030005	07/31/08
21839 JARVIS SQ #21839	2	2	0	ASHBURN	\$231,900	Townhouse		07/31/08
44485 CHAMBERLAIN TER #305	2	2	0	ASHBURN	\$230,500	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		07/29/08
42470 PENNYROYAL SQ #303	3	2	0	ASHBURN	\$220,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		07/30/08
42537 ROCKROSE SQ #203	2	2	0	ASHBURN	\$205,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		07/30/08
149 CEDARWALK CIR NE	4	2	1	LEESBURG	\$166,000	Duplex	0.139991	07/30/08
198 CEDARWALK CIR NE	3	2	1	LEESBURG	\$155,000	Semi-Detached	0.15	07/30/08
323 SHENANDOAH ST SE	3	1	1	LEESBURG	\$115,000	Townhouse	0.089991	07/31/08
224 ROANOKE DR SE	2	1	1	LEESBURG	\$106,900	Townhouse	0.05	07/31/08

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To search for a home online, visit www.HomesDatabase.com.

REAL ESTATE 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.

VHDA **first-time homebuyer's**

seminar by Mary Krueger, of SunTrust Mortgage and Gail Hayden of Long & Foster, Saturday, **Sept. 13**, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday, **Oct. 11**, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, **Oct. 21** and Thursday, **Oct. 23**, at 6:30 p.m., at Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls.

The homeownership education program is designed to take the mystery out

of the homebuying process. Topics to be covered: personal finances and credit reports, role of the lender, working with a Realtor, home inspections and what to expect at closing. Attendance at the entire class is required in order to become eligible for many loan programs. Three classes offered. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-444-3228.

BUSINESS NOTES

Sweet Success

Edibles Incredible Desserts, which recently opened in Brambleton Town Center, was launched by newlyweds Alan Furman and Robyn Hanna after Hanna baked her Lady Godiva Seduction cake — thought to draw one's soulmate into his or her life. Working for the federal government at the time, Hanna baked the cake, met Furman, a former insurance salesman, and shortly thereafter launched their business out of their common passion for cakes and other desserts. They are older newlyweds, married only a year ago. Wedding cakes and wedding favors are a specialty.

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.

Inova Loudoun Hospital, 44045 Riverside Parkway, Leesburg, is holding west wing grand opening event Wednesday, **Sept. 10**, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The new wing is a 65,000-square-foot, four-story facility that includes a 12-bed



Alan Furman and Robyn Hanna

Intensive Care Unit occupying 11,600 square feet and a 6,000-square-foot Respiratory Therapy Department.

Divafit Pole Dancing Studio, 20604 Gordon Park Square, Suite 110, Ashburn, is celebrating its two-year anniversary Saturday, **Sept. 13**, from 12-5 p.m., with a fund-raiser for The Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

Thirty-minute classes, appropriate for beginners as well as experienced pole dancers, will be free to the public. Donations are requested for class participation, with all proceeds going to The Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Last year, this event raised \$1,000 for the foundation. Includes raffle prizes, student and instructor performances, giveaways and refreshments.



Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Loudoun County

Aldie

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

20285 Beechwood Ter., #200	\$179,900	Sun 12-4	Linda Vane	REO	703-444-9268
43313 Dovetail Pl.	\$584,500	Sun 1-4	Jacqueline Lawlor	Jack Lawlor	703-726-9444
21497 Glebe View Dr.	\$729,900	Sun 1-4	Jean Woods	Weichert	703-726-3909

Chantilly

25252 Riffleford Sq., #304	\$239,900	Sun 12:30-4	Angela Fadely	Arthur A. Hale	703-276-1165
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Great Falls

10805 Monticello Dr.	\$550,000	Sun 12-4	Steven Zaret	Weichert	703-821-8300
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Leesburg

104 Alpine Dr., SE	\$499,900	Sun 1-4	Julie Hertel	Long & Foster	571-243-5952
43105 Binkley Cir.	\$439,972	Sun 12-4	Wendy Harris	Weichert	703-941-0100
609 Diskin Pl., SW	\$549,000	Sun 2-5	Robin Hill	Weichert	703-759-6300

Hamilton

16629 Swanbourne Dr.	\$849,900	Sat 11-5	Michael Severin	Keller Williams	571-223-2236
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Potomac Falls

46342 Sheel Ter.	\$389,999	Sun 1-5:00	Ann Hogan	Weichert	703-726-3909
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Round Hill

25 Jackson Ave.	\$375,000	Sat 12-3	Danielle Dojczak	Century 21	540-955-2500
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Sterling

204 Gordon St.	\$312,900	Sat 12-4	Linda Vane	REO	703-444-9268
20639 Lewins Ct.	\$559,999	Sun 1-4	Debbie Cohen	Long & Foster	202-288-9939

Fairfax County

Herndon/Oak Hill

401 Cavendish St.	\$420,000	Sun 1-4	Donald Noll	Remax	703-444-5917
2460 Cypress Green Ln.	\$649,900	Sun 1-4	Ronald Layton	Remax	703-421-1433
1309 Dulles Place	\$185,900	Sat 12-4	Phillip Chernitzer	REO	703-256-7648
13515 Huntsfield Ct.	\$469,900	Sun 2-5	David Lloyd	Weichert	703-593-3204
12300 Upper Wynnewood Ct	\$1,150,000	Sun 1-4	Janice Akridge	Long & Foster	703-938-4200

Reston

11125 Lakespray Way	\$510,000	Sun 1-4	Nancy Foltz	Long & Foster	703-430-1000
11990 Market St., #817	\$865,000	Sun 1-4	Anita Longosso	Remax	703-281-1000
11316 Woodbrook Ln.	\$924,900	Sun 1-4	Marnie Schaar	Long & Foster	703-435-4900
2047 Chadds Ford Dr.	\$399,999	Sun 1-4	Marian Williams	ERA	703-909-4462

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

703-821-5050 or E-Mail the info to

Lauri@connectionnewspapers.com

All listings due by Tues at 10 am.

It's a Bulldogs' Blowout in Season Kickoff

Prince leads defending state champion Stone Bridge with four TDs.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The West Springfield High football team learned firsthand last Friday night that defending state AAA champion Stone Bridge has hardly gotten content since last year's epic campaign. If anything, the Bulldogs appear to be as hungry as ever to build on last year's success, which resulted in the program's first-ever state crown.

"We sent a message that we are not rebuilding and that we're confident."

— Patrick Thompson, Stone Bridge quarterback

Any hopes of offensive-minded West Springfield had of posting an upset in last week's nondistrict season opener in Ashburn were pretty much dashed before the conclusion of the first quarter as the host Bulldogs, playing in front of a huge, enthusiastic home crowd, opened up a lightning-quick three-touchdown advantage on way to what would eventually become an impressive 42-28 triumph.

The week-one encounter was originally dubbed as an intriguing matchup



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Stone Bridge tight end Zach Thompson caught a 51-yard touchdown pass in his team's season opener home win over West Springfield last Friday night.

behind two talented teams and their two fine senior quarterbacks — Stone Bridge signal caller Patrick Thompson and heralded, University of North Carolina-bound standout Bryn Renner of West Springfield. But as a result of a preseason finger injury to Thompson, some of the luster of the opening week game was lost because it appeared the Bulldog leader would not be available to play. However, Thompson, during the days leading up to the contest, re-

ceived doctors' permission to play. And it turned out his role was a huge factor in his team's victory.

"I wasn't going to play," Thompson said moments after the game.

But Thompson, who at one time thought he might miss half the season as a result of the injury, eventually learned he was allowed to play against the Spartans as long as the injured ring finger was splinted and heavily taped. He also wore a glove to offer

him more protection.

"It felt different, splinted up, with the grip," he said.

The injured digit did not appear to be a hindrance to Thompson or his team as Stone Bridge, incredibly, scored touchdowns on its first three offensive plays to take a resounding 21-0 lead midway through the first quarter.

SEE DEFENDING, PAGE 15

Locals Win Football Openers

Spartans' QB Jessop passes and runs for scores.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Both the Broad Run and Briar Woods High football teams were victorious last Friday night in the new season's first week of play.

Broad Run, the defending Dulles District champion, was a 31-6 winner at Wakefield High in Arlington. Wakefield is a member of the National District within the Northern Region.

Meanwhile, Briar Woods, in its fourth year as a program and coming off a successful 2007 season in which it qualified for the Region II playoffs, was a 27-13 winner over visiting Millbrook High (Winchester).

Briar Woods, a member of the Dulles Dis-

trict, got two scoring runs from junior running back Billy McDonald. The Falcons' defense also accounted for two touchdowns as junior Jake Ashton and senior JT Bailey both intercepted balls and returned them for touchdowns. Junior quarterback Austin Frattali completed 6 of 9 passes for 42 yards.

Briar Woods, under Head Coach Charlie Pierce, has an early season bye on its schedule this week. Their next game will be Sept. 12 at Manassas Park.

Meanwhile, Broad Run, in its win over Wakefield, jumped out to a 22-0 halftime lead and a 31-0 advantage after three quarters.

Broad Run's defense forced a pair of two-point safeties. On offense quarterback Chris Jessop (10 of 19, 174 yards) threw a 38-yard touchdown pass to Andrew Flemming and also ran for a score. Also scoring touchdowns for Broad Run were T.J. Peeler and Breon Earl (87 yards rushing).

Broad Run, coached by Mike Burnett, will be at home this Friday night against Ballou High (Washington, D.C.).

Athlete of the Week

The Stone Bridge High cheer squad was in top form last Friday night at the Bulldogs' season opening football game against West Springfield. The cheerleaders helped spark the home-team crowd's enthusiasm that prevailed from well before the kick off until the final whistle had blown.

Bulldog faithful went home happy as the defending state champion Stone Bridge team handily defeated the Spartans, 42-28. Way to go Stone Bridge cheer.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Athlete of the Week Sponsored by
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SPORTS

Defending Champs Dominate Opener

FROM PAGE 14

"We came out and scored on our first three [offensive] plays," Thompson said. "We sent a message that we're not rebuilding and that we're confident. That really got us motivated."

WEST SPRINGFIELD took the opening kick off and was moving the ball successfully behind a short-passing attack in which Renner was hitting his receivers on timed out patterns. The Spartans had moved the football from their own 6-yard line to the Stone Bridge 48 over 10 plays before a turnover ended the march and set the tone of the game in Stone Bridge's favor.

The turnover was an interception by Bulldog senior linebacker

Andrew Ansell, who

FOR UNABRIDGED STORY GO TO
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

snatched Renner's

square-out pass to the

right side before bolting down the sideline on the return. He eventually fumbled the ball deep in Spartan territory, but alert teammate Mike Olson recovered it at the 5-yard line. One play later, on Stone Bridge's first offensive snap of the evening, Thompson ran the ball into the end zone off the right side. Following kicker Abdul Shaban's extra-point boot, his first of six on the game, the Bulldogs led 7-0.

A West Springfield punt minutes later pinned Stone Bridge back on its own 9. But on the Bulldogs' first down play, Thompson dropped back and tossed a short pass over the charging Spartan linemen. Senior receiver Mike Prince caught the ball and maneuvered his way to daylight down the left sideline and all the way down field for a 91-yard TD play. Just like that, it was 14-0.

"That play we put in just a week ago," Thompson said. "It was really new to me.

They were coming at me and [Prince] slipped behind them."

Then, after another West Springfield punt, Stone Bridge set up at its own 49. On the first down play, Thompson took a quick drop and connected on a short pass over the middle to sibling tight end Zach Thompson, who ran down the middle of the field before fending off a pursuing West Springfield player with an effective stiff-arm inside the 10-yard line before crossing the end zone.

The stunning 21-0 deficit was too much for the guests to overcome.

While West Springfield got on the scoreboard before the conclusion of the first quarter — the result of a 20-yard Renner to Fabrice Kambinga TD pass in the middle of

the end zone — the

Bulldogs blew the

game wide open in

the second quarter

with three touchdowns to open up an insurmountable 42-7 halftime advantage.

Prince scored two of those scores on runs of 22 and 45 yards out. And on Stone Bridge's final score of the second quarter, he caught a Thompson pass down the left sideline for a 30-yard strike.

For the game, Prince scored four touchdowns, three rushing.

STONE BRIDGE COACH Mickey Thompson's squad lost some key playmakers to graduation from last year's squad, standouts such as receiver Ryan Moody and running back Jeron Gouveia. But the veteran coach said this year's squad will prove to have plenty of firepower.

"I really feel we've got [as many] playmakers again," he said.

Of the fabulous game Prince had, Coach Thompson said, "It doesn't surprise me."



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

West Springfield quarterback Bryn Renner gets pressured by Stone Bridge's Andrew Ansell.

Stone Bridge did not score in the second half, but it didn't need to. The Spartans, despite the large deficit, played hard throughout the end and scored three fourth-quarter touchdowns, two of those coming on runs by senior Brandon Bailey (112 yards rushing on 13 carries). His first score came on a 49-yard run.

Renner, the tall right-handed quarterback who, earlier this year, earned a scholarship to play the sport at UNC, completed 23 of 35 passes for 242 yards with a touchdown and two interceptions. He put up the good numbers despite being under heavy pass rush pressure much of the game. Stone Bridge recorded two sacks (Brian Slay and Wesley Baker).

Renner said he was surprised when he saw Patrick Thompson, injured finger and

all, out on the field.

"I heard he had a little hand problem," Renner said. "I was shocked he was out there. He's a warrior. He's the difference in that team."

It has been a full offseason since Stone Bridge won the state title with a championship game rout over Potomac High (Woodbridge) in Charlottesville. The Bulldogs were ready to start up the new season. "They were waiting for the chance to play," Coach Thompson said. "I can see a complete difference in them from the scrimmages."

Patrick Thompson said he and his teammates do not feel extra pressure being the defending state champs.

"We definitely thrive on it," he said. "It's not a burden or anything."

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The SYA 13U Mets, out of Centreville, recently won both the USSSA Elite 8 Virginia State title and the USSSA World Series Major 60/90 championship. Two of the team members, **Jackson Rogers**, 14, and **Connor Sullivan**, 13, are Sterling residents. Rogers is a rising ninth-grader at Potomac Falls High School and Sullivan is a rising eighth-grader at Seneca Ridge Middle School. Both recently signed with the local Kansas City Royals Fall Scout Team.

Washington Redskins wide receiver James Thrash visited the Ashburn-based **NOVA "NFL" Youth Flag Football League** (www.novaflag.com) summer camp June 26 and spent two hours with the campers, running them through drills, signing autographs and speaking to the children, counselors and coaches about his life experiences. Thrash also talked to the group about playing for the Washington Redskins and his goals in life. He agreed to continue to be a positive role model to the young league members again during the fall season and future

summer camps.

Broad Run High School boy's lacrosse coach **Phil Truiett** recently announced his resignation. Coach Truiett had been the Spartans' head coach since 2001, the first year in which lacrosse was recognized in Loudoun County as a varsity sport. During his seven-year tenure as head coach, the Spartans won 82 games while losing 30. Broad Run won Dulles District titles in 2006, '07 and '08, and won the district tourney in '06 and '08. In 2006, the Spartans also captured the Region II title.

In addition to district and regional titles, the Spartans also qualified for the VHSL state tourney twice under Coach Truiett.

He was named Coach of the Year in the Dulles District in both 2004 and 2006. Also in '06, the US Lacrosse Association named Truiett Coach of the Year.

"Coach Truiett did an outstanding job of getting the program started at Broad Run," Jack Kirby, Broad Run athletic director, said. "He will be missed."

A replacement for Coach Truiett has not been named yet.



PHOTO BY KEN SULLIVAN

The SYA 13-under Mets is a happy group following its World Series win in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

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FAITH

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

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.

Congregation Sha'are Shalom, 19357 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg, will hold three free study sessions in preparation for Rosh HaShanah (the new year) and Yom Kippur (the day of atonement). The Jewish High Holy Days ("yamim noraim" or days of awe) start with Rosh Hashanah, Monday evening, Sept. 29, which marks the beginning of the year 5769, and end with Yom Kippur, a 25-hour fast, which will begin Oct. 8, Wednesday, at 6:15 p.m.

The sessions take place Thursday, **Sept. 4**, 7:30-9 p.m., Teshuvah: Returning to our Roots, a workshop on repentance and returning; Thursday, **Sept. 11**, 7:30-9 p.m., The Binding of Isaac, explore this challenging text through the lens of 2000 years of Jewish interpretation; and Saturday, **Sept. 27**, 8-9 p.m., Selichot: The Gates are Opening, an evening of prayer, study and spiritual preparation beginning with havdalah, continuing with selichot (prayers for forgiveness), and concluding with a brief study of the Rosh Hashanah liturgy.

Call Congregation Sha'are Shalom at 703-737-6500 or write to CSS at P.O. Box 4518, Leesburg, VA 20177-8577. Visit Congregation Sha'are Shalom on the Internet at www.sha-areshalom.org.

The **Community Church** will hold

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

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

Sterling United Methodist Church holds traditional Sunday worship services, at 8:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., and a contemporary praise service at 11 a.m. Sunday school is available for all ages during the 9:30 a.m. service time. Nursery is available during all services times.

Call the church office at 703-430-6455 or visit www.sterlingumc.org.

The **Unitarian Universalist Church of Loudoun (UUCL)** celebrates the beginning of fall with their annual "InGathering" multigenerational service ceremony Sunday, **Sept. 7**, at 10 a.m., 20460 Gleedsville Road, Leesburg. The service is a symbolic celebration and will be led by UUCL's new minister, the Rev. Elizabeth (Lisa) Kemper.

The InGathering service represents the important role water plays in the spiritual traditions of Unitarian Universalists, as it is part of all living things in the world and connects all human beings to each other in a vital way.

UUCL is a welcoming congregation and invites everyone to attend Sunday services. Visit the Web site, www.uuloudoun.org or call the church at 703-737-7644.

Our Savior's Way Lutheran

Church, located at the intersection of Waxpool Road and Claiborne Parkway, Ashburn, will hold the official dedication service Sunday, **Sept. 7**, for its new church building. The community is invited at 2:30 p.m. for a musical celebration including the Master Singers of Virginia. The official service will begin at 3 p.m. with a reception, following from 4-6:30 p.m. Light dinner fare will be served and children's activities, including a moon bounce and scavenger hunt, will be available during the reception. Visit http://www.oswlc.org.

The 10:30 a.m. service Sunday, **Sept. 7**, at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** is "Where the River Widens," an annual in-gathering service led by the Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael. This service marks the start of the regular church year in which each family, member, friend or visitor is invited to bring a small jar of water drawn literally or symbolically from a source visited over the summer. The waters will be commingled during a water communion. UUS meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 22135 Davis Drive. Visit uusterling.org or call 703-406-3068.

The 10:30 a.m. service Sunday, **Sept. 14**, at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** is "The Inherent Worth and Dignity of Difference," in which the Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael considers the ethics of diversity. UUS meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 22135 Davis Drive. Visit uusterling.org or call 703-406-3068.

The 10:30 a.m. service Sunday, **Sept. 21**, at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** is "What We Did Well." The Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael invites congregants to consider their mission, as individuals and as a congregation. What are we called to do? What are we prepared to accomplish? UUS meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 22135 Davis Drive. Visit uusterling.org or call 703-406-3068.

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

Calendar Listings

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

Name of Event:

Day of the Week, Date and Time:

Name of the Place Event will Be Held:

Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:

Name and Phone Number for More Information:

Three Sentences Describing the Event:

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

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BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHTS

THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

NEWTON-LEE ES, 7 p.m., 43335 Gloucester Parkway, grades third-fifth. 571-252-1535.
SANDERS CORNER ES, 7 p.m., 43100 Ashburn Farm Parkway, grades fourth-fifth. 571-252-2250.

MONDAY/SEPT. 8

BROAD RUN HS, 7 p.m., 21670 Ashburn Road, grades ninth-12th. 571-252-2300.

TUESDAY/ SEPT. 9

ASHBURN ES, 6:30 p.m., 44062 Fincastle Drive, grades kindergarten-second.
SELDENS LANDING ES, 6:30 p.m., 43345 Coton Commons Drive, morning and afternoon kindergartens. 571-252-2260.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 10

BELMONT RIDGE MS, 7 p.m., 19045 Upper Belmont Place, grade six.
EAGLE RIDGE MS, 6:30 p.m., 42901 Waxpool Road, grade six. 571-252-2140.
STONE HILL MS, 6:30 p.m., 23415 Evergreen Ridge Drive, grade six. 703-957-4420.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 11

ASHBURN ES, 6:30 p.m., 44062 Fincastle Drive, grades third-fifth.

NEWTON-LEE ES, 7 p.m., 43335 Gloucester Parkway, grades first-second. 571-252-1535.

SANDERS CORNER ES, 7 p.m., 43100 Ashburn Farm Parkway, grades first-third. 571-252-2250.

MONDAY/SEPT. 15

BRIAR WOODS HS, 7 p.m., 22525 Belmont Ridge Road, grades ninth-12th. 703-957-4400.
STONE BRIDGE HS, 6:30 p.m., 43100 Hay Road, general session; 7 p.m., grades ninth-12th. 571-252-2200.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 16

HILLSIDE ES, 6:30 p.m., 43000 Ellzey Drive, grades morning kindergarten-second. 571-252-2170.
SELDENS LANDING ES, 6:30 p.m., 43345 Coton Commons Drive, grades first-second. 571-252-2260.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 17

BELMONT RIDGE MS, 7 p.m., 19045 Upper Belmont Place, grade seven.
EAGLE RIDGE MS, 6:30 p.m., 42901 Waxpool Road, grades seventh-eighth. 571-252-2140.
FARMWELL STATION MS, 6:30 p.m., 44281 Gloucester Parkway, grade six. 571-252-2320.
STONE HILL MS, 6:30 p.m., 23415 Evergreen Ridge Drive, grades seventh-eighth. 703-957-4420.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

BELMONT STATION ES, 6 p.m., 20235 Nightwatch St., grades kindergarten-fifth; shuttle from Stone Bridge HS, 43100 Hay Road, at 5:30 p.m. 571-252-2240.

CREIGHTON'S CORNER ES, 6-6:45 p.m., 23171 Minerva Drive, grades prekindergarten-second. 703-957-4480.

DOMINION TRAIL ES, 7 p.m., 44045 Bruceton Mills Circle, grades kindergarten-fifth. 571-252-2340.

HILLSIDE ES, 6:30 p.m., 43000 Ellzey Drive, grades afternoon kindergarten and third-fifth. 571-252-2170.

STUART WELLER ES, 6-7:45 p.m., 20700 Marblehead Drive, grades kindergarten-fifth. 571-252-2360.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 23

SELDENS LANDING ES, 6:30 p.m., 43345 Coton Commons Drive, grades third-fifth. 571-252-2260.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

BELMONT RIDGE MS, 7 p.m., 19045 Upper Belmont Place, grade eight.
FARMWELL STATION MS, 6:30 p.m., 44281 Gloucester Parkway, grades seventh-eighth. 571-252-2320.

MONDAY/OCT. 6

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

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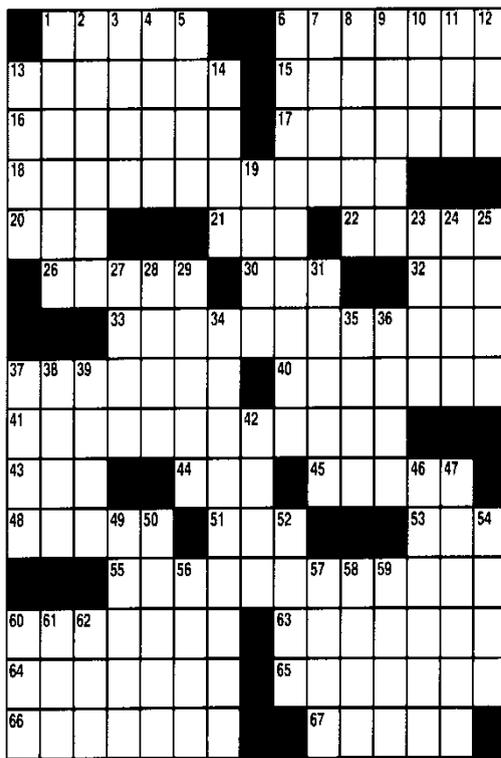
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0326-1



Puzzle by Brendan Emmett Quigley

ACROSS

- 1 Sat tight
- 6 Boaters' relatives
- 13 Excites
- 15 Gymnast's need
- 16 Matthew, for one
- 17 Disarmed
- 18 Nintendo arcade game of the 80's
- 20 Cold war proj.
- 21 Medevac destinations, briefly
- 22 Yoga posture
- 26 Token of victory
- 30 When doubled, a dance
- 32 Pro _____
- 33 Places where customs are important
- 37 Roosevelt Island's locale
- 40 Pennsylvania resort area
- 41 Photographic technique
- 43 Helm heading
- 44 Bow wood
- 45 Robust
- 48 Depicts unfairly
- 51 The Eagle, e.g.
- 53 Like a Burnian mouse

- 55 Poor Yorick was a fellow of this, said Hamlet
- 60 "The Thorn Birds" novelist McCullough
- 63 Flippant response to a rebuke
- 64 Not dead
- 65 Ballade's trio
- 66 New shoots
- 67 1967 Chemistry Nobel

DOWN

- 1 Rifle supports
- 2 Like some of Chekhov's writings
- 3 Study furniture
- 4 Tasso's patron
- 5 As is fitting
- 6 Loan sources
- 7 Enthralled
- 8 Kind of warrior
- 9 Then: Fr.
- 10 Year in Basil II's rule
- 11 Had a little lamb
- 12 Neighbor of Turk.
- 13 Passing things
- 14 Chow alternative
- 19 Tolkien creatures

- 23 Abbr. that often precedes a colon
- 24 Agrippina's slayer
- 25 Tan and others
- 27 Vaulted room
- 28 Word before face or heart
- 29 Head honcho
- 31 In conflict with, with "of"
- 34 Relatives of rulers
- 35 Almond
- 36 Denials
- 37 Triptik abbrs.

- 38 Berkshire response
- 39 Jolly Roger crewman
- 42 Meany of literature
- 46 Be plucky?
- 47 Hardly the assertive type
- 49 Buck Rogers's ladylove — Deering
- 50 Dishonest sort
- 52 Hit alternative
- 54 They end in Septembre
- 56 Bash
- 57 _____ bag
- 58 Lou's "La Bamba" co-star
- 59 Analytic psychology founder
- 60 Lincoln, e.g.
- 61 Day _____
- 62 Smashed

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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No Hard Feelings



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Though I've been out of college for more years than I care to remember, I still have feelings for the university. Unfortunately for the university, feelings are just about all I have. Money, in the form of contributions made — or solicitations e-mailed, phoned or snail mailed, to which I have not responded positively — I don't have. And not that the university seems to have any real cash shortage, anecdotally speaking, since so far as this outsider can see, life goes on at the university; nevertheless, I can appreciate the need, financial and otherwise, to reach out to the alumni; past, present and possibly even future. Higher education costs money, as does college athletics, especially the non-revenue generating sports, and research dollars and miscellaneous sponsorships and commercial applications can only fund so many projects. Moreover, given the ever-increasing demands on the state's tax revenue and the imbalance of the present budget, increases from the state to fund the university's evolving requirements, shall we say, are probably unrealistic. So what's a university to do?

Exactly what many of you and I are doing: make do with less; combine trips, consolidate, coordinate and commiserate, and of course, think positively. "Rome wasn't built in a day." ("Neither was Milwaukee.") So neither will it be destroyed in a day. Sure there's pain at the pump, but there's more than enough collateral and residual pain to go around, and around and around until it bites you in the rear.

Paying attention now — to life — is a lot more than looking both ways before you cross: simple, yes, but not that effective anymore. And not following down this path of least resistance may in fact lead you down another path, the garden path, metaphorically speaking, and lead you directly to the world of unintended consequences. And unintended consequences are all they're cracked up to be. Doing the things you normally do, in the fashion in which you're familiar doing them may suffice when the sun is shining but when the weather becomes stormy and the intermittent showers suddenly become downpours, with flood warnings to boot, it behooves one, heck, it behooves us all to buckle up, hunker down and act like you've been there before.

Life is very much like Forest Gump's mother said it was: "... a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get." And as a long-time eater of chocolate as well as a long-time selector of chocolate from many boxes of assorted chocolates, I have on many occasions ended up with an English toffee when what I wanted was a caramel or a soft center. At that point, my choice was either to finish what I started (after all, I had taken a bite), not eat what I had already partially eaten or find someone else who wanted to finish my half-eaten toffee.

Realistically speaking, it's rather difficult to change horses mid stream (and even more difficult to trade half eaten chocolates mid bite), so the remaining choice was to simply finish what I had started and chalk it up as experience. Because thinking there wouldn't be similar-type challenges and/or disappointments ahead would be unrealistic.

Granted, it's only chocolate, but not getting what you want or not getting what you anticipate, can have long term consequences. The trick is to shorten that interval and expect the unexpected, like the university attempting to solicit money from me. Talk about a fool's errand. Crazier things have happened, though. If you don't ask, I'll never be able to tell. However, since I'm unable to contribute right now, could I take a rain check?

I'm afraid the university will have to fend for itself this go-round, unless they're offering chocolate as an added inducement.

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

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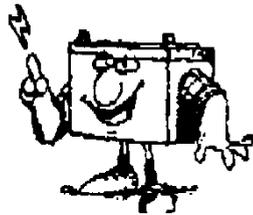
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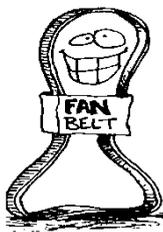


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