

Ashburn CONNECTION

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Sterling Volunteer Fire Company
President Ken Mikeman, left, and
Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio stand
in front of one of the fire
department's ladder trucks at a
Patriot Day event on Thursday,
Sept. 11 at the Sterling Chick-fil-A.

PEOPLE, PAGE 5 ❖ HEALTH & FITNESS, PAGE 8 ❖ E SECTION, PAGE 10 ❖ REAL ESTATE, PAGE 13 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 14 ❖ FAITH, PAGE 8 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 16
PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO / THE CONNECTION

Touring
Wine
Country

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10

Honoring Local Heroes

NEWS, PAGE 4

inside
E A Tour of Loudoun's Wineries
Washington Wine Academy and
Western Loudoun do all the
arranging and driving.

Backdoor's Returns

Team Options

Pickup Options

Go Go

And More

Backdoor's Returns

Team Options

Pickup Options

Go Go

And More

Falcons' Football
Handles Manassas
Park, 28-0

SPORTS, PAGE 14

One
More
Time

NEWS, PAGE 3

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

The **Mothers Circle** provides free education and support for women of other religious backgrounds who are raising Jewish children. Mothers Circle: The Course classes will meet approximately twice a month and will focus on Jewish rituals, ethics and the how-tos of creating a Jewish home. Mothers in all family constellations are welcome and participants do not have to be affiliated with a Jewish institution or have any prior knowledge.

Sessions will be held at an Ashburn Village community center starting in October. Free child care will be available.

The Mothers Circle is a program of the Jewish Outreach Institute and is made

possible locally by Congregation Sha'are Shalom in Leesburg. Contact Sheri at 703-737-0686 or at rujec@sha-areshalom.org.

Rhythm, Rhyme & Tune Time, early language learning, Fridays, **Sept. 19-Oct. 24**, at 10:30 a.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Pl, Potomac Falls. 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 703-444-3228.

The **Loudoun Amateur Radio Group (LARG)** is sponsoring a free two-day seminar preparing people of all ages to successfully complete the entrance level FCC amateur radio license exam. The training will be held Saturday and Sunday, **Sept. 20 and 21**, at the Leesburg VFW Hall at 401 Old Waterford Road, N.W., Leesburg. FCC exams will be administered one week later at the Leesburg Armory. There is no minimum age requirement.

Becoming an amateur radio operator or "Ham," requires students pass a 35-question multiple choice exam. There is no Morse Code requirement.

A demonstration of various modern radio communications techniques will be displayed during the two-day event including world-wide high frequency or "HF" communications, the Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS), local and regional repeater operations, and "EchoLink," a method of connecting radios to the Internet and talking to other hams throughout the world.

To sign up for the course, contact Steve Reed via e-mail at kw4h@arrl.net. For more information about the club and its training program, go to <http://www.k4lrg.org/Training/index.htm> or go to www.arrl.org.

SAT Prep: Everything You Need to Know About Getting Into College, a four-part workshop for high-school students and their parents, Saturdays, 2 p.m., **Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 11** and Sunday, **Oct. 5** at 2 p.m., at the Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Visit <http://library.loudoun.gov> or call 703-737-8100.

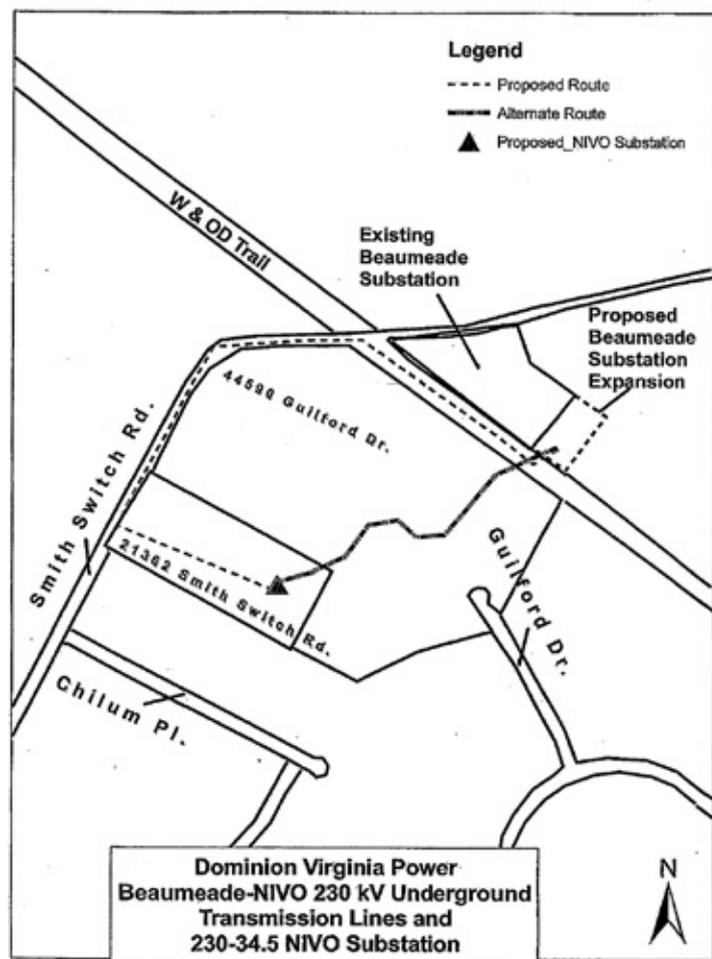
SAT Prep: Everything You Need to Know About Getting Into College, a four-part workshop for high-school students and their parents, Tuesdays, 7 p.m., **Sept. 23, Oct. 7, 21 and Nov. 4**, at the Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Visit <http://library.loudoun.gov> or call 703-444-3228.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A TRANSMISSION LINE AND SUBSTATION IN LOUDOUN COUNTY, VIRGINIA CASE NO. PUE-2008-00063

On July 21, 2008, Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Dominion Virginia Power" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate a double-circuit 230 kV underground transmission line and an associated substation in Loudoun County, Virginia. Prepared testimony, exhibits, copies of correspondence, and other material were attached to the application.

Dominion Virginia Power proposes to construct: (a) a double-circuit 230 kV underground transmission line approximately 0.71 mile long from a proposed expansion of the Company's existing Beaumeade Substation to (b) a new 230-34.5 kV substation ("NIVO Substation") constructed on land owned by DuPont Fabros Technology, Inc. ("DuPont Fabros") (collectively, the "Project"). The proposed transmission line will be built primarily on a combination of existing Company right-of-way within the Washington & Old Dominion Railroad Regional Park ("W&OD Trail") and existing Virginia Department of Transportation ("VDOT") right-of-way along Smith Switch Road, south of Beaumeade Substation.

According to the Company, the purpose of the project is to serve additional load at a data center owned by DuPont Fabros in Ashburn, Virginia.



A description of the route for the proposed transmission line follows:

The Proposed Route begins at a proposed expansion of Beaumeade Substation. The route heads south, enters the W&OD Trail property and continues for approximately 0.20 mile to the intersection of the W&OD Trail with Smith Switch Road. The route then follows within the right-of-way of Smith Switch Road southward for approximately 0.33 mile until it turns east and enters the property located at 21362 Smith Switch Road, Ashburn, VA 20147 and the proposed NIVO Substation.

The total length of the Proposed Route is approximately 0.71 mile.

The Alternate Route begins at a proposed expansion of the Beaumeade Substation. The Alternate Route crosses the W&OD Trail property and then enters the property located at 44590 Guilford Drive, Ashburn, VA 20147 and continues for approximately 0.24 mile. The Alternate Route then enters onto the property located at 21362 Smith Switch Road, Ashburn, VA 20147 and the proposed NIVO Substation.

The total length of the Alternate Route is approximately 0.33 mile.

All distances and directions are approximate. A sketch map of the proposed and alternate routes accompanies this notice. The Commission may consider a route not significantly different from the route described in this notice without additional notice to the public.

The Company's application, Commission Orders, and all documents filed in Case No. PUE-2008-00063 may be inspected in the Commission's Document Control Center, Office of the Clerk of the Commission, First Floor, Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, during Commission business hours. The application, unofficial text of the Commission's Orders, and other materials in Case No. PUE-2008-00063 may be viewed at the Commission's website: www.scc.virginia.gov/case.

Copies of the application and other supporting materials may also be inspected during regular business hours at the following locations:

Dominion Virginia Power
Riverside Building, 5th Floor
120 Tredegar Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Attn: Courtney R. Fisher

Loudoun County Government Building
1 Harrison Street, S.E. - 5th Floor
Leesburg, Virginia 20175
Attention: Mr. Kirby M. Bowers, County Administrator

Comments may be submitted in writing, on or before January 26, 2009, to the Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. Diskettes, compact disks, or any other form of electronic storage medium may not be filed with comments. All correspondence shall refer to Case No. PUE-2008-00063.

OR

Comments may be submitted electronically, on or before January 26, 2009, by following the instructions available at the Commission's website: www.scc.virginia.gov/case.

Persons commenting electronically need not file comments in writing with the Clerk.

A public hearing on the application shall be held at 10:00 a.m. on January 26, 2009, in the Commission's Courtroom, Second Floor, Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, to receive the testimony of public witnesses and the evidence of the Company, any respondents, and the Staff.

On or before October 24, 2008, any person or entity may file with the Commission Clerk, at the mailing address provided in Ordering Paragraph (4) A, an original and fifteen (15) copies of a notice of participation as a respondent as required by the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"), 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*. A copy shall simultaneously be served on counsel to the Company, Lisa S. Booth, Esquire, Dominion Resources Services, Inc., 120 Tredegar Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. The notice of participation shall be filed and served as required by the Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by the Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*.

On or before November 17, 2008, each respondent may file with the Commission Clerk an original and fifteen (15) copies of the testimony and exhibits by which it expects to establish its case and serve a copy of the testimony and exhibits on all other parties in this case. Respondents shall comply with the Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*.

The Commission's Rules of Practice, the unofficial version of the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other information may be viewed at www.scc.virginia.gov/case.

HEALTH

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**.

Falcons Landing Continuing Care Retirement Community in Potomac Falls will hold its annual **Health and Wellness Fair**, Tuesday, **Sept. 23**, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., in the Falcons Landing auditorium. Representatives from the local health and wellness community will participate in the event and provide health information, screenings and door prizes. Healthy refreshments will be offered throughout the event. Falcons Landing is located on Algonkian Parkway between Potomac View Road and Cascades Parkway. Free and open to the community. Contact Donna Cassani at 703-404-5120.

Celebrate Recovery, the Christian-based recovery program sponsored by Rick Warren's Saddleback Church, will meet Wednesdays, from 7-8:00 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 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. Call 703-430-2397.

Help for hearing loss, Joan Cassidy visits the Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling, the **third Thursday** each month, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., to provide assistance and answer questions about hearing loss. Call 703-430-2397.

The Loudoun HealthCare's Mobile **Health Van** visits the Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling, the **second and fourth Tuesdays** each month, from 9:30 a.m.-noon, to take blood pressure and glucose testing along with other medical needs. 703-430-2397.

NEWS

Public Gets to Speak on Application

The Planning Commission schedules a public hearing on BRMC.

BY JENNIFER LESINSKI
THE CONNECTION

A process that began more than six years ago could be reaching its conclusion as the proposed Broadlands Regional Medical Center goes before the county Planning Commission for a second “We are encouraged with the positive response with the planning staff and especially that they made a point that it was consistent with the CPAM.”

— Mark Foust of HCA's Capital Division

time since 2005. Once the commission issues its recommendation, the application goes to the Board of Supervisors, which ultimately decides the hospital's fate.

Bolstering the project's applicant Hospital Corporation of America's (HCA) chances this gets approved is the recent staff report that supports the application, four new members on the Board of Supervisors and what HCA officials say is growing support. “Our polling shows about a 4-to-1 ratio [in favor] in the Ashburn neighborhood,” Mark Foust, vice president of communications for HCA's Capital Division, said previously. The previous board denied the application, touching off a more than two-year court battle with the county.

Not everyone is in favor of the 164-bed hospital slated for the intersection of Belmont Ridge Road and the Dulles Greenway in Ashburn. Inova Health System,



The proposed Broadlands Regional Medical Center will feature a 164-bed hospital at the intersection of Belmont Ridge Road and the Dulles Greenway in Ashburn.

which owns Inova Loudoun Hospital in Lansdowne, located about five miles from the proposed Broadlands' site, has challenged HCA at both the state and local level and a community group, Concerned Citizens of Broadlands — which received \$20,000 from Inova this year — has also been opposed to the application from the beginning. As of Thursday, approximately 100 people had signed up to speak at the public hearing.

Even so, Foust said HCA is hopeful it will get the necessary approvals this time.

“We are encouraged with the positive response with the planning staff and especially that they

SEE HCA, PAGE 6

Where & When

A Planning Commission public hearing on the special exception and amendments application filed by Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) for the proposed Broadlands Regional Medical Center is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 25, 6 p.m., at Eagle Ridge Middle School, 42901 Waxpool Road, Ashburn.

Citizens are encouraged to call in advance to sign up to speak at the public hearing by contacting the Planning Department main number at 703-777-0246 before noon, Sept. 25. Speakers may also sign up at the hearing. Individual citizen comments will be limited to two minutes and organizations will be limited to five minutes. Written comments may be sent to the Planning Commission, 1 Harrison St., S.E., third floor, Leesburg, VA 20177, or by e-mail to loudounpc@loudoun.gov.

Walking for Peace

The 9/11 Unity Walk unites people from all faiths in the name of peace and understanding.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

Commitments to peace and unity are largely forgotten in these turbulent times. Divisions run deep especially during the cynical, often virulent election cycle where it seems as if people are forced to pick a side, left or right, and steadfastly defend it. Despite the obstacles to harmony that many people stumble over, there are still people who are devoted to breaking down the barriers that separate feelings, faiths and ideologies. To find these people, look no further than the members of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS).

Last Sunday, practitioners from ADAMS gathered along with hundreds of people from all different faiths in Washington, D.C., to par-

ticipate in the fourth annual 9/11 Unity Walk, which was held concurrently in New York City. Scheduled every September, the walk's goal is to promote understanding, tolerance and respect in a world that has been scarred by the terrible events of 9/11.

Along with the people in the towers, pentagon and Pennsylvania, the notion of peace across all cultures perished when those planes went down. Prejudice was the proverbial elephant in the room after that day, and the Unity Walkers are determined to eradicate these detriments.

“We believe in people walking together to create an environment of respect,” Rizwan Jaka, president of ADAMS, said. “Harmony and understanding are very important. I like to think of [the walk] as a spiri-

9/11 Unity Walk and the ADAMS Center

To learn more about the Unity Walk, visit www.911UnityWalk.org. For information on the ADAMS Center, including branch locations, future events and services, visit www.Adamscenter.org.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

The Unity Walkers embark on their mission, leaving the Washington Hebrew Congregation.

tual renewal.”

THIS YEAR'S UNITY WALK drew in excess of 500 people, including more than 70 from ADAMS, who came up together in a bus and several cars, to the Washington Hebrew Congregation, which served as the starting point for the walk. Before the walk started, the organizers of the event stressed the importance of not politicizing the event, forbidding any signs, banners or placards of any kind from being carried or displayed at any point in the walk. Politicizing the proceedings would have created divisions, con-

tradicting the main theme of the day, which Rabbi Bruce Lustig of the Hebrew Congregation reminded was to “help carry each other in unity, not in diversity.”

Prior to starting, the crowd gathered for several speeches by the different faith leaders in attendance, the Muslim call to prayer and a rendition of “Amazing Grace” by St. Augustine's Gospel Choir, which performed in the past for Pope John Paul II and President George W. Bush.

Shortly after the performance, all 500 unifiers marched out onto Macomb St. to begin the 2.5-mile

trek down Massachusetts Avenue, NW. Along the route, every single faith center, whether it was a Catholic Church, Sikh Temple or Russian Orthodox Cathedral, had its doors open to the walkers. Each congregation had its members outside in front of their buildings, greeting the walkers, who were braving 98 degree heat, with many fasting because of Ramadan, providing water for those that could drink and words of encouragement for every person.

There were two primary stops along the route where speeches

SEE UNITY, PAGE 13

Lansdowne Groundbreaking

On Saturday, Sept. 20, members of the Loudoun County Fire-Rescue System will break ground on a new public safety center in Lansdowne.

The planned facility will be located on approximately 2.36 acres and will include among other areas, apparatus bays, bunkroom facilities, training/break rooms and food preparation/dinning areas. The center will be a combined Fire and Rescue Station of about 13,000 square feet. The Sheriff's Office personnel will have office space and a roll call room as part of the proposed facility.

In July 31, the Board of Supervisors authorized the awarding of \$3.69 million contract to EE Reed Construction for the project. Construction of the facility is expected to be completed by June 2009.

The public is encouraged to attend this event, which will take place at the site of the proposed facility at the corner of Riverside Parkway and Sandridge Way in Lansdowne at 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 20.

Transit Plan Meeting

Loudoun County residents and business owners are invited to attend a public workshop on the Loudoun County Transit Plan, from 6-8 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 24. The workshop will be held in the Ida Lee Recreation Center Social Hall, 60 Ida Lee Drive in Leesburg.

The Transit Plan will shape public transportation infrastructure, investment and alternatives for the next 20 years. The plan will include proposed service alternatives, such as new routes, hours and facilities, to enhance transit services in Loudoun. County staff, the Transit Plan Advisory Committee and the transportation consultants working with the county to develop the plan will be available at the workshop to provide information on current transit services, share data about transit ridership and to seek comments on future service alternatives.

Visit www.loudouncountytransitplan.com. Those unable to attend the workshop can provide comments with the comment form located on the transit plan Web site. Call Sharon Affinito of the Office of Transportation Services at 703-771-5251.

Gang Awareness Meeting

Sugarland Run District Supervisor Susan Klimek Buckley, the Sugarland Run Home Owners Association and the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office are sponsoring a free gang awareness seminar for the Sugarland Run community. The seminar will be held Thursday, Sept. 25, from 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Seneca Ridge Middle School, 98 Seneca Ridge Drive in Sterling.

Members of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Gang Intelligence Unit (GUI) will be educating residents regarding gang activity in the county and the surrounding region and Members of the Gang Response Intervention Team (GRIT) will be present to talk about intervention and prevention programs. E-mail questions to sugarland.run.district@loudoun.gov.

Trail Closed

Evergreen Mills Equestrian and Hiking Trail, located at 21332 The Woods Road in Leesburg, is closed until further notice due to expansion construction at the county landfill. Parts of the trail are adjacent to the landfill. Contact Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services at 703-777-0343.

Outreach Project Meeting

A draft of the final report of Potomac/Sterling Community Outreach Project is expected for completion by the week of Sept. 22 and will be publicly accessible for review on the project Web page, www.loudoun.gov/potomac-sterling. A drop-in/open house is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 1, 6 p.m., at Cascades Senior Center, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. The drop-in gives citizens a chance to meet with staff to provide feedback on the draft recommendations. Citizens will also have an opportunity to submit written comments on the draft recommendations.

NEWS

Honoring Local Heroes

Sterling Chick-fil-A, local high schools mark 9-11, honor fire department.

For three hours on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 11, the Sterling Chick-fil-A was host to members of the Sterling Volunteer Fire Department and performances by the local high schools. The event was to mark the seventh anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and to honor members of the fire department, which also received a portion of the evening's proceeds.

Two of the department's trucks and 30 of its firefighters helped with fire suppression and rescue efforts at the Pentagon on 9-11, while additional members and two more trucks filled in at Arlington fire stations. The hazardous materials unit was on standby in Fairfax.

— BY MIKE DICICCO



CONTRIBUTED

From left, Dominion High School guitar teacher Natasha Klasinc Loncar and her classical guitar students Kyleigh Purks, Thy Mai, Ryan Stubbs, Dardan Hajrizi and John Isip prepare to play for the crowd at Chick-fil-A.



The Red Cross Club from Dominion High School raffled teddy bears wearing Sterling Volunteer Fire Department uniforms to raise money for the fire department. Left to right are Rafie Khoshbin, Jasmine Walton, Iman Berrached, Laily Nassiry, Kylie Zebina, Devon Taylor and Michelle Nguyen.



The Park View Color Guard performs in the parking lot.



Helen Taylor hangs out with Sterling volunteer firefighters Lano Avila Mora and Jennifer Morimoto.



From left, Sterling Volunteer Fire Company President Ken Mikeman, event organizers Ellie Kim and Lainyi Kniffin, and Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio pose for a picture.

PHOTOS BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

PEOPLE

Boy Scout Troop 1173 of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, held an Eagle Scout Court June 10, which honored seven young men who earned their Eagle rank. The Scouts are Stephen J. Allred, Stephen Bowers, Connor Calderwood, Kirby Calderwood, Nathaniel Keith Lewis, Cory Pearson and Scott Whitlock, all residents of Ashburn.

The Loudoun County Victim Witness Program honored Loudoun Sheriff's Office Investigators **Tim Ortwein** and **Dave Canham** at the 10th Annual Victim Services Awards. The awards ceremony is held each year during National Crime Victims' Rights Week and was established to honor and recognize those who have exhibited outstanding services on behalf of crime victims.

The following area **Virginia Tech students** were among those honored at the university's spring commencement ceremony held May 9: Trevor Anderson, Wesley Anderson, Tracey Ansell, Mary Arrowsmith, Drew Banko, Thomas Baranowski, Theodore Beck, Thomas Brown, Jon Brundage, Justin Chaney, Michael Choate, Brian Collieran, Joseph Kendall, Joseph Kendall, Andrew Landsberg, Matthew Martin, Nicholas Nelson, David Rariden, Ryan Rohr, Bryan Schamus, Marshall Sewell, Matthew Streeter, John Walker, Suzanne Watkins, Colleen Webster, Zhen Wei, Laura Wen, Syed Owais Younus, Nicholas DeRosa, Mary Le, Umar Aziz, Joseph Corcoran, Chelsea Feist, Jenna Griffin, Andrew Harclerode, Christopher Hutchens, Julia Kalriess, Rebecca Layman, Patrick Summers, Daniel Troha, Briana Valentino, Victoria Athey,

Stephanie DiPinto and Patrick Donohoe.

The Loudoun affiliate of Habitat International recently elected its new board members, increasing the board from 18 to 20 members, and electing a new executive board. The newly elected president, **Alta Jones**, previously served as board's vice president and also currently heads the finance committee. Jones has held executive positions in the financial services industry and is currently a business consultant partner with Hilltop Advisors. She also serves on the Virginia state Habitat board.

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

Virginia Tech's Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center has named **Kate Lee** as public relations coordinator.

In her new role, Lee will develop and implement strategies for increasing the center's visibility and enhancing its public image. As a member of the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine's public relations team, Lee will be responsible for leading external

and internal public relations efforts for the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center.

Lee joins the center with a background in communications; previously she served as public relations director at a hospital in Southern California, advertising manager at a helicopter manufacturer and most recently, she was the assistant editor of an international arts magazine. She moved to Virginia six years ago and lives with her family in Leesburg.

Air Force Airman **Bernard A. Moss** has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

Moss earned distinction as an honor graduate. He is the brother of Chana Johnson of Silverbell Terrace N.E., Leesburg, and Reva Flores of Raymond Ave., Pawtucket, R.I.

Gov. Timothy Kaine recently appointed three new members and reappointed one member to the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors for terms running through June 30, 2012. The new appointees, whose first board meetings were Aug. 24-25, were Frederick Cobb of Richmond, **Douglas Fahl** of Leesburg, and Calvin Jamison of Richardson, Texas.

Marybeth Mohr was elected president of the board of directors of the Loudoun Academy of the Arts Foundation [LAAF] in Leesburg, a nonprofit visual arts center that serves



Front row, from right, Jill Gruver of Philomont, Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation Inc. trustee; Stephanie Sweitzer of Leesburg; Eric Nguyen of Sterling; Caitrin Dwyer of Ashburn; Sanam Shahid of South Riding, and Will O'Keefe, UVA '70, executive director of Morven Park. Back row, Zhengyu "Brandon" Wang of Stone Ridge; Jeffrey Geiger of Sterling; and Elizabeth Stevens of Leesburg.

Westmoreland Scholars

Recipients of the 2008 Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation Scholarships to the University of Virginia and their parents attended a reception in their honor at Morven Park Aug. 19. Each student had been selected to receive a \$2,000 scholarship, provided by the Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation Inc. and administered by the University of Virginia Alumni Association. In keeping with its educational mission, the foundation has been awarding scholarships to incoming UVA students since the 1960s. Westmoreland Davis was governor of Virginia from 1918-1922 and a graduate of UVA.

Loudoun and surrounding areas. Mohr is an artist focused on oil painting, a student at the academy, Marketing Manager at Middleburg Bank and a native of Loudoun County. Other officers elected were **Larr Kelly** of

Leesburg, vice president; **Pam Lettie** of Berryville, secretary; and **William Ramsay** of Leesburg, treasurer. This executive committee's first step was to name **Gale Waldron** executive director of the foundation.



Kate Lee

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Report on Injurious Fire Released

With seven firefighters injured in May 25 blaze, independent team spent months on investigative report.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

The Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Department may soon have new training programs for personnel, such as self-survival lessons and instructions on how to locate a fire within a house and predict how it might spread by observing its smoke.

These and many other recommendations came out of an investigative report carried out over the last three and a half months, following the injury of seven Loudoun firefighters in a blaze on Meadowood Court in unincorporated Leesburg on May 25. The 210-page report, presented to department officials and the press Saturday morning, is the result of an extensive study by a seven-member team consisting largely of brass from Loudoun Fire and Rescue and three surrounding fire departments.

The team made 64 recommendations in all.

"This is a typical house fire," Loudoun's Chief Joseph Pozzo said at the Saturday press conference. However, he said, a number of fac-

tors had combined to create a domino effect that left four firefighters stranded on the upper level of the burning building. "It's not just the decisions that were made," he said. It was Pozzo who requested the report.

At least four of the firefighters injured were stationed with Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company 6, and at least one was a member of the Sterling Volunteer Fire Company. Two are still recovering, Pozzo said, one from burns and the other from a shoulder injury. Initially, six injuries were reported, but another came to light later.

It was a sunny, temperate Sunday afternoon with low humidity when the first call for the fire came in at 1:01, said Prince William County Battalion Chief Jennie Collins, one of the leaders for the investigative team. It was Memorial Day weekend. Firefighting units were already engaged in an incident at the Ross department store in Leesburg.

At 1:10, two units were on the scene, and firefighters entered the house within less than two minutes to search for possible victims.

Online

The complete Meadowood Fire Investigative Report is available online at www.loudoun.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=809.

"No one was there to say, 'Everyone's out of the house,'" Collins said. At the time, smoke and heat were moderate, she said. "Conditions changed very, very rapidly." Four minutes later, the entire ground floor was ablaze and the four firefighters trapped upstairs issued a mayday call, Collins said. Almost simultaneously, the commander watching the back of the house reported a partial structural collapse.

After six more minutes, the firefighters escaped through windows at the rear of the house, three onto ladders and one via the deck where the fire had started.

In addition to the burns sustained by the four firefighters in the house and the shoulder injury to another, one firefighter had a wrist injury and an EMS provider reported a respiratory complaint.

"We could very well have had the unfortunate circumstance of having to bury four firefighters," said Montgomery County Division Chief Richie Bowers, the other leader of the team conducting the study. He said training had paid off and enabled the firefighters to rescue themselves. However, he said the team was recommending that the fire department adopt a comprehensive, ongoing officer development program.

Bowers said some building components, such as the heavy-duty floor joists that kept the upstairs from collapsing, worked in firefighters' favor, while others, like the lightweight roof construction, did not. Among other methods, he said the team had kept the house as it was for several weeks in order to examine it and had employed fire modeling, as well as conducting interviews and examining equipment to investigate the incident.

Collins noted that the lightweight, combustible sheeting under the house's siding hadn't helped either, and she said the windows in the master bedroom

had proven unexpectedly difficult to break, prompting the investigative team to recommend that the department "keep up with what's going on in building and construction."

Pozzo said the report was organizationally based, and he stressed that it did not seek to affix blame to any members of the crews on the scene. Although he had not yet had a chance to read the full report, he said he had sat through two briefings and was "quite pleased" with the results of the investigation. He said he had asked for the study in order to learn from the incident and improve the fire department.

"We will learn from this incident, and we will continue to learn on a regular basis," Bowers said. He said fire departments from Maryland to California to Canada could learn from the report. The major-

ity of the recommendations, Bowers said, addressed staffing, training, procedures and communications and could be applied across the region.

Among them were suggestions for operational and procedural manuals, system-wide policies and procedures for emergency evacuation, and an increase of staffing levels to a minimum of four qualified firefighters on all firefighting

units. A recommendation to change the process by which firefighters receive information from 911 calls has already been put in place.

Pozzo said there was no schedule yet for implementing the recommendations, although many of the policy changes could be made in short order. Anything requiring funding, however, would have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. The report was presented to the board on Tuesday.

A separate investigation by the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Program is ongoing, although Collins said that report would focus on regulatory compliance and would be less detailed than the study released Saturday.

The full report by the internal investigation team is available on the Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management Web site and will be publicized in trade publications across the country, Pozzo said.

"Conditions changed very, very rapidly."

— Jennie Collins,
Prince William County
battalion chief

Public Gets to Speak on Application

FROM PAGE 3

made the point that it was consistent with the CPAM [comprehensive plan amendment]," Foust said.

THE STAFF REPORT issued early last week supported approval of the application "upon resolution of the outstanding issued" listed within the report. It also included 20 suggested conditions for approval covering topics such as stormwater management, bus shelters, landscaping, vehicle access, window treatment and lighting, among others.

The report concluded the application was consistent with land-use policies in the Revised General Plan and that it was consistent with the Countywide Health Care Facilities policies. It pointed out

that HCA has maintained a Virginia Certificate of Public Need, issued by the state health commissioner, permitting a 164-bed, 392,000-square-foot hospital.

"This will bring additional medical-care services and health-care choices to the citizens of Loudoun County in advance of locating a full-service medical-care facility along the Route 50 corridor," the report reads.

It also concluded the project would not generate more traffic beyond that of the already approved developments of Fallen Willow Farm and Broadlands Office Park, which are currently permitted on the property.

Foust said HCA's canvassing of the neighborhood shows support for the project and recently the

Broadlands Homeowners Association voted unanimously to support the applications.

Foust said he wasn't surprised by the HOA's actions. "What we've been hearing all along is that people want it to be built and see a need for the additional beds. People are also happy with the partnership with Children's National Medical Center."

NOT EVERYONE IS happy however. The Concerned Citizens of Broadlands issued a response to the staff report, through their attorney Rhonda Paice, saying "the planning staff has abandoned the interests of the citizens in favor of the developer. This application is one of the largest upzonings proposed by any applicant in the last

two years and it will have a huge negative impact on the county and the adjoining neighborhood."

The statement goes on to say the medical center will significantly increase traffic and that the report was "rushed through in record time and as a result, has short-changed Broadlands' citizens."

Inova officials did not return phone calls regarding the staff report or upcoming public hearing.

The application filed by HCA in March calls for the construction of a 392,000-square-foot facility with 164 beds. It will include a dedicated ambulance entrance from Belmont Ridge Road to keep emergency vehicles away from Broadlands Boulevard; \$11 million worth of improvements to Belmont Ridge Road; landscaped

buffer around the hospital; four acres reserved for community use under the direction of the Broadlands HOA; tails the link to the existing Broadlands trails system; and no helipad.

Foust said there has been some "tweaking" of the plan in discussions with planning staff, but no significant changes.

HCA has maintained the Ashburn area needs another hospital because that is where the population growth is and even with its additional 164 hospital beds, Loudoun County would have less than the Northern Virginia average of 1.34 beds per 1,000 residents.

Opponents maintain the best place for a new facility is along the Route 50 corridor in the Dulles South area.



Martin Jose Morales-Mancia

Man Turns Self Over to Authorities

The man wanted in connection with breaking into the home of a senior citizen and sexually assaulting her turned himself over to authorities Sunday night.

Martin Jose Morales-Mancia, 24, is charged with sexual assault by force and burglary with intent to commit a felony. Morales-Mancia allegedly entered a residence on Ironwood Road in Sterling, on Aug. 29. Inside he allegedly brandished a knife and sexually assaulted the vic-

tim.

After the suspect was identified last week the Loudoun Sheriff's Office conducted an intensive manhunt for the suspect. Sheriff's deputies and investigators conducted door-to-door checks and a canvass at numerous intersections Friday night in an attempt to find information regarding the suspect's whereabouts.

Morales-Mancia is being held at the Loudoun County Adult Detention Center without bond.

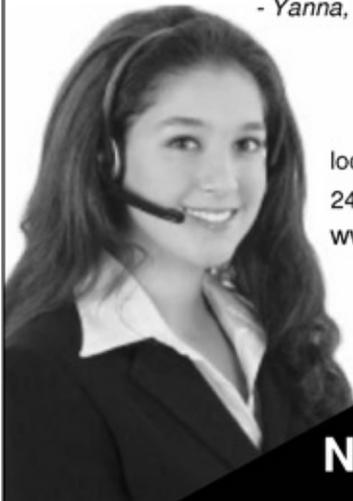
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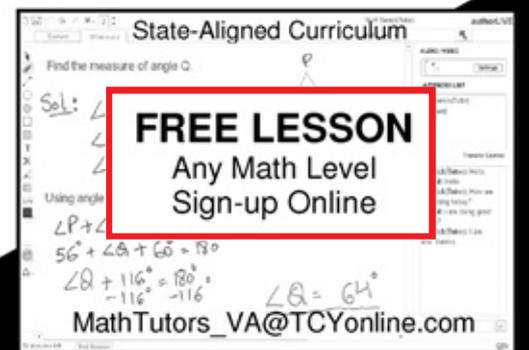
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FAITH

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.

Congregation Sha'are Shalom will be holding special kiddush luncheon following shabbat services, Saturday, **Sept. 20**, for all new and prospective members. The luncheon will begin about noon following services, which begin at 9:30 a.m. There is no charge, but guests are asked to RSVP to the synagogue by calling 703-737-6500 or sending an e-mail to membership@sha-areshalom.org.

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.

On Saturday, **Sept. 27**, at 4:30-8:30 p.m., **All Dulles Area Muslim Society** (ADAMS) will hold the 7th Annual Interfaith Peace Gathering at the ADAMS Center, 46903 Sugarland Road, Sterling, in remembrance of the victims of the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks. Interfaith groups will be represented and speaking at this event. ADAMS will also be honoring local police and fire departments for their continuous community service. Local government officials will also be speaking at this event. Visit www.adamscenter.org.

Congregation Sha'are Shalom, 19357 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg, will hold 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 final session takes place 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 10:30 a.m. service Sunday, **Sept. 28**, at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** will be led by seminarian and guest preacher, Shelly Paige. 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.

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

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

CONNECT, the young adult group at **Sterling United Methodist Church**, 304 East Church Road, Sterling, is seeking new members. **CONNECT** focuses on bringing people together in a social setting as they commonly search for Christ's direction in their lives. The group is open to all men and women in their 20s and 30s, married or single, with or without children. There is no cost for membership, although activity participation fees may apply. Call 703-430-6455 or visit www.sterlingumc.org.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

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

The **English Conversation Group** is an informal conversation circle for non-native speakers to practice speaking English. This is not a class, but an opportunity to meet new people, share your culture and have fun. Only English will be spoken and all levels are welcome. Recommended for adults. Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Wednesdays, **Sept. 24** and **Oct. 1** and **8**, at 7 p.m., and Tuesday, **Oct. 21**.

"**Watching your Wallet**" a financial support group meeting will be held Wednesday, **Sept. 24**, for people who make good money but never have any to spend. Subjects include spending personalities, teenage budgeting and money compromises. Watching your Wallet will meet, at 12:30 p.m., in Lansdowne Office Park at Centaurus, 19465 Deerfield Avenue, Suite 210, across from Inova Loudoun Hospital and 7:30 p.m., at Arcola United Methodist Church, White Chapel, 24757 Evergreen Mills Road, Arcola. RSVP Julie at 703-406-2727 or e-mail jacoper@ProfitProfiler.com.

The **Loudoun Photography Club** meets on the **second and fourth Thursdays** of each month, September-May; November and December we meet only on the second Thursday. Meetings start at 7 p.m., with social and setup at 6:30 p.m., at the George Washington University Virginia Campus, 20101 Academic Way, Ashburn. Everyone with a desire to learn and share photography with others is welcome. There is a small yearly membership to join. The second Thursday of each month

is a speaker meeting. The fourth Thursday of the month is a competition open to LPC paid members. Visit www.loudounphotoclub.com or call 703-435-8907.

Ashburn Kids book club at the Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn, Thursday, **Oct. 2**, 7 p.m. Explore one award-winning book each month with book discussions, games and refreshments. Books will be available at the children's desk. Recommended for ages 8-11, grades third-fifth. Book selection October, "Counting on Grace" by Elizabeth Winthrop. Register online at http://library.loudoun.gov or phone 703-737-8100.

Newbery or Not? **children's book club** at Rust @ Catoctin Library, 34D Catoctin Circle, Leesburg, Thursday, **Oct. 2**, 2:30 p.m. A discussion about Newbery Medal Honor books. Call the library for the title of the month. Recommended for ages 9-11. Register online at http://library.loudoun.gov or phone 703-777-0323.

Adult book club Rust @ Catoctin Library, 34D Catoctin Circle, Leesburg, Mondays, at 7 p.m. or Tuesdays, at 1:30 p.m. **Oct. 6** and **7**, "Nothing But the Truth" by Avi. Call 703-777-0323.

Book chat for busy parents, Tuesdays at 10 a.m., at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. **Oct. 21**, "The Zookeeper's Wife" by Diane Ackerman.

As well as an adult **book club**, Monday, **Oct. 6**, 7 p.m., "The Uncommon Reader" by Alan Bennett; Wednesday, **Oct. 29**, 7 p.m., "Nothing But the Truth" by Avi. Call 703-737-8100.

Middle-school book group, Thursday, **Oct. 9**, at 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Includes a book discussion and refreshments. October: "The Black Duck" by Janet Taylor Lisle. Call 703-737-8100.

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OPINION

Citizens Deserve Health Care

To the Editor:

Over the past several years I have been following with great interest the debate concerning Hospital Corporation of America's (HCA) proposal to provide a new hospital and medical offices adjacent to the Dulles Greenway in the heart of eastern Loudoun County known as the Broadlands Regional Medical Center (BRMC). Considering all of the facts, taking into account my own personal experiences and justifiably wading thru the myriad of hyperbole and innuendo, I have come to only one conclusion — the citizens of Loudoun County deserve additional and improved health-care services and they deserve them now.

Loudoun County's current population is approximately 280,000 people and unbelievably, we only have one hospital serving our needs. This represents a little over 1/2 hospital beds per 1,000 residents in comparison to national average of over three hospital beds per 1,000 people. Looking at Northern Virginia alone, there is 1 1/3 bed per 1,000 residents or over two times that of Loudoun County. Taking into account the county's explosive population growth over the next several years, the situation only gets worse without this hospital.

The Virginia Department of Health recognized this fact and issued HCA the requisite Certificate of Public Need (COPN) to allow the hospital to move forward in March of 2004, or over four years ago, and it has been extended every year since that time. The issuance of a COPN is not easily attainable unless the request and applicant meet a multitude of health oriented and rigorous standards. In issuing the COPN for HCA, the state health commissioner explicitly stated "Construction of BRMC would effectively [provide] a state-of-art hospital featuring the latest capabilities in providing health care, meeting surges in demand, protecting public health and providing a therapeutic environment conducive to child and adolescent psychiatric services" These are the professionals the public must rely on to make these vitally important health-care decisions. In all

reality, this hospital should already be operating as it was needed in 2004 and it is sorely needed now.

According to the American Medical Association, Loudoun County has less than 600 doctors, while neighboring Fairfax County has approximately 5,600. The fact is hospitals draw doctors and our community needs more doctors and health-care professionals. BRMC will bring over 600 high-quality jobs to its facility and create increased business opportunities for local companies. HCA has the ability to use their national recruiting reach to bring new physicians to Loudoun County. In addition, they are investing substantially into nursing and other medical programs to increase capacity of schools that produce high-quality health-care graduates. As an example, HCA has donated \$350,000 to Shenandoah University's School of Nursing over the past four years. Furthermore, BRMC is intent on developing a pediatric partnership with Children's National Medical Center for a superior pediatric emergency room with access to world-renowned specialties.

From my own personal experiences as both a business owner and Loudoun County resident for some 20 years, our sole county hospital is unable to adequately meet the health-care needs of this community. Twice I have had to try and use the services of the nearby emergency room and both experiences were distressing. In one instance, I ended up leaving the emergency room with my 10-year-old son and drove to another hospital located in Fairfax County where they were able to treat him in a timely and efficient manner. The other instance saw my 12-year-old daughter in need of emergency care "shelved" in an emergency-room hallway for several hours because of a lack of both emergency and hospital beds.

We live in America and this nation was built on the principles of free enterprise and competition, not monopolies. The fact that Inova, with very good hospitals and health-care facilities in its own right, will have competition

seems good for everyone and good for the overall health-care system — services will improve and you, the patient, will benefit. The argument that because HCA is a "for-profit" hospital and others are "not-for-profit" hospitals and that this is somehow detrimental to HCA, is simply nonsense. Anyone who thinks that non-profit hospitals don't make money, while paying their administrators handsomely and not paying taxes, is kidding themselves. For example, just last year alone, Inova Loudoun Hospital recorded a net profit of more than \$21 million. In addition, Inova Health Systems was extraordinarily profitable, netting \$153 million in profits last year from the operations of its five hospitals. And these profits do not include the millions in donations to their foundation and their numerous for profit ventures. Comparing the two, one can only summarize that both for-profit and not-for-profit hospitals can be very healthy financially and still meet the health-care needs of the communities, which they serve.

Finally, Broadlands is the right location for the next hospital for the county. It sits squarely in the center of the current and future population growth. It is situated on a major transportation corridor — the Dulles Greenway. The hospital will bring far less car and truck traffic than if the property was developed into the already approved industrial and office uses. Other important reasons, such as increased county fire and rescue call volumes, future demands from ongoing and planned developments such as Moorefield Station and One Loudoun and ease of access for potential regional disasters, make BRMC a win-win for this county, its residents and the region as a whole. And, when the demographics in other area of the county can support a full-service hospital, that requisite COPN will be issued and either Inova or HCA may provide that facility as well ... creating another win-win. BRMC is the right choice for more health-care for Loudoun County and it is needed now.

Steven J. DeLong
Ashburn

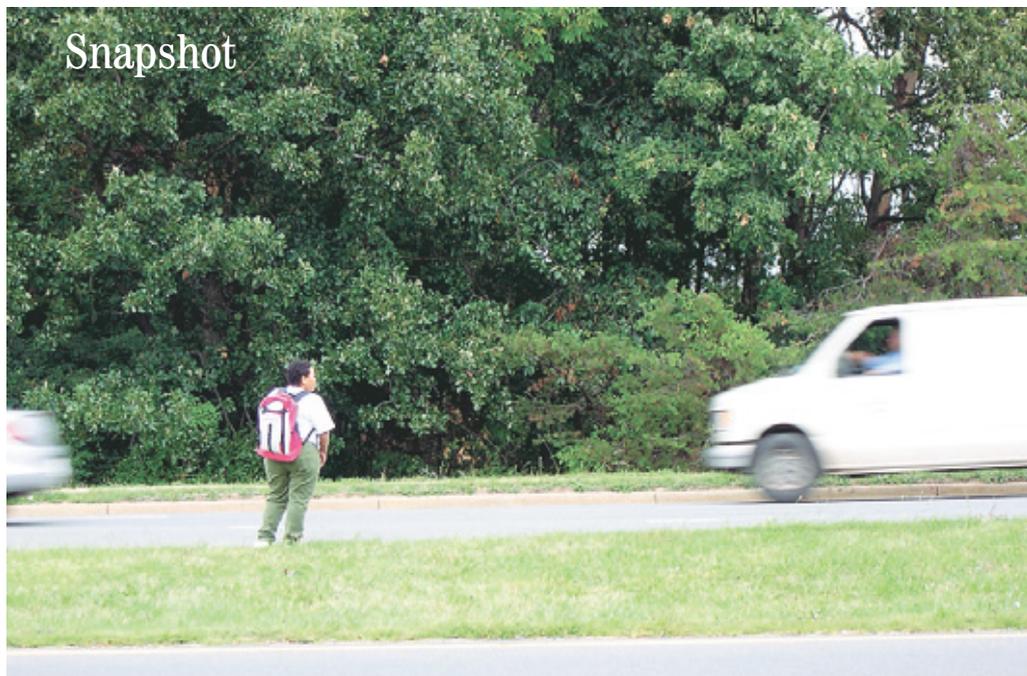


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11:44 a.m., Friday, Sept. 12, Sterling Boulevard, Sterling.

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FOOD & DRINK

Wine country bus tours to Chrysalis Vineyards and Piedmont Vineyards, Saturday, Sept. 20. 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.

The Lost Creek Winery, 43277 Spinks Ferry Road, Leesburg, is hosting a Tuscan cooking class taught by Chef Maria Canora, Saturday, Sept. 20, 6 p.m. Cost: \$90 per person, all materials provided; reservations required. Call 703-443-9836 or visit www.lostcreekwinery.com.

Wine country bus tours to Hillsborough Vineyards and Loudoun Valley Vineyards, Sunday, Sept. 21. 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 Restaurant, 203 Harrison St., Leesburg, is hosting a wine and cheese dinner, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m. Cost: \$95 per person. Call 703-771-9300 or visit www.tuskies.com.

Wine country bus tours to Fabbioni Cellars and Lost Creek Winery, Saturday, Sept. 27. 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.

A Tour of Loudoun's Wineries

Washington Wine Academy and Reston Limosine do all the arrangements and driving.

Take a weekend getaway through Loudoun County's wine country and let someone else do the driving. Reston Limosine offers two wine tours on the weekends to nine different "adventures."

WORKING WITH the Washington Wine Academy, for \$35, the limo will pick up passengers around 10 a.m. at Dulles Town Center near JC Penney's or at the West Falls Church Metro or Leesburg Premium Outlets. Two wineries are included in the tours that last about six hours on Saturdays and Sundays. The trips include transportation to and from the wineries, with stops lasting about 1 1/2 hours each. When finished, they drop off passengers where they started around 4 p.m.

To Go

Admission: \$35/person, \$50/person with lunch

Virginia Wine Academy & Reston Limousine
45685 Elmwood Court
Dulles, VA 20166
703-478-0500, ext. 1

http://www.washingtonwineacademy.org/wine-tours.htm

"It's extremely relaxing," said Kristin Tanzi, business development coordinator for Reston Limosine. And each winery has characteristics that make it unique.

"Bluemont Vineyards has a spectacular view," she said, while Notaviva ... "has a great concept. They do a pairings of wines with music and they have acoustic music in their three-tiered tasting room," she said.

Doug Fabbioni of Fabbioni Cellars is pretty down to earth "because he literally makes his wine in his garage. His Raspberry Merlot is great," said Tanzi. "He's very much into the process about what goes into it ... He's into the old-school wine-making."

Guests can order \$15 boxed lunches of ham and cheese sandwiches, turkey, chicken salad, and Caesar and garden salads. Included are pickles, chips, bottle of water and cookies. Guests are free to bring their own lunches and non-alcoholic beverages. Or purchase wines at the wineries and drink them on the bus.

"We have a strict policy on public intoxication," said Kristin Tanzi. "We are in the business of promoting the wineries and we want to make sure it's enjoyable for everyone."

The 475-acre Tarara Winery on the Potomac River is one of the "weekend wine stops," said Heather Akers, director of sales. With hiking trails and outdoor pavilions, there's lots to see and do. Because it's open every day, Akers says it's a good place to play hooky from work.

AKERS CALLS it more of a party zone in a lovely setting for larger groups — anything over 13 people. And although the winery can accommodate two full motor coaches, the experience is still very intimate, she said.

Tarara has wines for the novice as well as for more distinguished palates. The staff helps guests choose food pairings for a well-rounded experience.



The view in Bluemont Vineyards, part of the Reston Limo's wine tours.

Tour Options

- ♦ Saturday, Sept. 20 - Tour # 1: Chrysalis Vineyards & Piedmont Vineyards
- ♦ Sunday, Sept. 21 - Tour # 2: Hillsborough Vineyards & Loudoun Valley
- ♦ Saturday, Sept. 27 - Tour # 3: Fabbioni Cellars & Lost Creek Winery
- ♦ Sunday, Sept. 28 - Tour # 4: Three Fox Vineyards & Pearmund Cellars
- ♦ Saturday, Oct. 4 - Tour # 5: Veramar Vineyard & Bluemont Vineyard
- ♦ Sunday, Oct. 5 - Tour # 6: Breaux Vineyards & Notaviva Vineyards
- ♦ Saturday, Oct. 11 - Tour # 7: Hidden Brook Winery & Tarara Winery
- ♦ Sunday, Oct. 12 - Tour # 8: Corcoran Vineyards & Willowcroft Farm Vineyards

- ♦ Saturday, Oct. 18 - Tour # 9: Swedenburg Estate Vineyard & Winery at LaGrange
- ♦ Sunday, Oct. 19 - Tour # 1: Chrysalis Vineyards & Piedmont Vineyards

Pickup Options

- ♦ West Falls Church Metro - Kiss & Ride area, the Metro front entrance.
- ♦ Dulles Town Center Mall - Lower Level between Lord & Taylor and JCPenny's (across from the Red Lobster and Red Robin restaurants).
- ♦ Leesburg Premium Outlets - Bus will be in front of the Food Court (on the outside facing the parking lot, not on inside along the pedestrian mall part).

"We offer a combination of featured tasting and reserve wines; a combination of both of our flights," said Akers.

In addition to wine tours, Reston Limo does bachelor/bachelorette parties, corporate team building, family get-togethers, and anniversary parties. Tours can be for two people or 10, 20 or 30 people.

In business for 18 years, Reston Limo has been conducting the winery tours for about five years. The Sterling-based business is run by Christina Bouweiri and husband William. They have 140 vehicles ranging from sedans to limos to 57-passenger coach buses to SUVs.

For details, go to www.washingtonwineacademy.org/wine-tours.htm Or visit www.Restonlimo.com or go to the Loudoun County Web site: http://visitloudoun.org. See online guides at http://visitloudoun.org/getguide/.

— STEVE HIBBARD



A scene from last year's Barktoberfest.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 17

SENIOR MOVIES. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. See "Made of Honor," rated PG-13, running time 101 minutes. Cost: \$2 includes popcorn and soda. Call 703-430-2397.

NATURE WALK. 9 -11 a.m., Algonkian Park, Cascades Parkway, Sterling. Join the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy on a mid-week, general nature walk at the onset of fall migration. Free. Meet at the parking lot by the pool. Contact Mary Ann Good at 540-338-1901, evenings.

VIDEO & DISCUSSION. 7-9 p.m., the Unitarian Universalists of Sterling, 22135 Davis Drive, Sterling. Lecture given by Van Jones, an activist working to combine solutions to two of America's most pressing problems: social inequality and environmental destruction.

The lecture was delivered at the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association in June. There will be discussion and light refreshments after the screening of the video. Contact Shelley Tamres at 703-450-0218 or at shelleytam@aol.com.

WHAT EATS WHAT? 3:30-5 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 6-10. Ever wonder what wildlife eats exactly? Take a trail walk and find out how nature balances this extraordinary dinner table. Cost: \$10.50. 571-258-3700.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

ERAGON PARTY. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Celebrate Brisingr's publication with a party; test knowledge of Eragon's and Saphira's world and enter to win prizes. Recommended for teens. Sign up online at library.loudoun.gov or call 703-737-8100.

BILINGUAL STORY TIME. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. A Spanish and English story time presented by Barbara Davila. Recommended for ages 2-6. Check http://library.loudoun.gov.

BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT. 6:30 p.m., Presidential Golf Club, 45120 Waxpool Road, Dulles. DC101's Elliot in the Morning's "Big Bad Blackjack Tournament to Benefit ZERO" to end prostate cancer. Pretournament cocktails followed by tourney at 7:15 p.m. Includes prizes. To register, visit http://www.dc101.com/pages/bigbadblackjack.html.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 19

TEEN CENTER. 7-10 p.m., After-Hours Teen Center, Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Features gamer night. 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.

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.

DAY OF PEACE. 3:30 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Join children around the world preparing to celebrate the International Day of Peace. Ages 5-8. Register online at http://library.loudoun.gov or call 703-737-8100.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

SENIOR OLYMPICS TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to Arlington for the opening ceremony and track-and-field events of the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics; bring bag lunch. Cost:

\$6 for members, \$8 for nonmembers, includes transportation and free admission. Moderate walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

FIGHTING & FROLICKING: The Civil War Comes to Morven Park. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Morven Park, 17263 Southern Planter Lane, Leesburg. Confederate soldiers and local civilians bring the Civil War to life in a recreated encampment from 1861/62. Visit replica log huts and see authentic objects of the time period. Watch demonstrations of musket firing, troops drilling and campfire cooking at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Cost: \$5 per person, \$1 per child 6-12, free for children under 6. Call 703-777-6034 or visit http://www.morvenpark.org.

PLANT EXCHANGE. 1-1:30 p.m., Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling. Ages 16 and up. Bring extra perennial divisions, herbs, houseplants, shrubs, etc. to trade. Call 571-258-3500.

READER'S THEATRE. 2 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Sterling. A Reader's Theatre presentation of the Loudoun County Public Library One Book-One Community selection, "Nothing But the Truth" with professional actors Tim Jons, Stokes Tomlin and Carolyn Christensen. Call 703-444-3228.

PADDLE AND WINE TOUR. 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Tarara Winery, 13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg. Go on a guided 4.5- to 7-mile canoe trip on the Potomac or Shenandoah River followed by a private wine and cheese tasting with a tour of the wine making cave. Cost: \$95 per person, \$85 per person under 21. Visit www.tarara.com.

BIRD WALKS. 8-9 a.m., Rust Nature Sanctuary, 802 Children's Center Road, Leesburg. Adults and older children are invited to learn about bird watching for free. Visit www.audubonnaturalist.org.

BLACK TIE & TAILS BALL. Noon-midnight, 39820 Charles Town Pike, Waterford. Homeward Bound 2008, 12-hour adoption marathon. Includes sparkling cider, ice cream, gourmet goodies, free T-shirts for all adopters, giveaways and prizes every hour and all pets adopted will receive free spay/neuter surgery. Black tie for visitors is optional. Visit www.loudoun.gov/animals.

WINE FESTIVAL. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Tarara Winery, 13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg. 13th Annual Great Grape Wine Festival includes activities for all ages, live music, wine and food. Cost: \$10 per person advance, \$15 per person at the gate, \$8 for under 21, free for children under 6. Call 703-771-7100, Ext. 233 or visit www.tarara.com.

DOWNLOAD BOOKS. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. The library is hosting the Digital Bookmobile, a portable book downloading station housed inside an 18-wheel tractor trailer. Readers of all ages can download audiobooks, e-books and learn to use video download services. Visit www.library.loudoun.gov.

HOMELESS WALK. 8 a.m. check in, 9:30 a.m. walk begins the Douglass Community Center, 407 E. Market St., Leesburg. The Good Shepherd Alliance Inc. in cooperation with the Fannie Mae Foundation is sponsoring the 4th annual Walk for Shelter through the historic section of Leesburg. All proceeds benefit the Loudoun homeless at The



A crafter shows off her wares at last year's fair. This year's Bluemont Fair takes place Sept. 20-21.



Children can take a ride on the giant slide at Pumpkinville, Sept. 27-Nov. 2.

Daytripping

Celebrate fall at the annual Pumpkinville festival, Sept. 27-Nov. 2. New attractions include a 200-foot Kids Zip Line, scarecrow making, mega slides and moon bounces. Children can enjoy hay mazes, hill slides, straw tunnels, rope swings, and all-you-can-eat apples and fresh cider. Pick-your-own patch pumpkin and explore the 21-acre park with Fort Pumpkin and a Spooky Pirate Ship for all ages. Admission includes entry to the Leesburg Animal Park. Weekends include face painting, mini tractor rides and free live entertainment by comedians, magicians and puppeteers.

Pumpkinville is located at 19270 James Monroe Highway, Leesburg. Open daily from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., closing at 5 p.m. after daylight savings, through Nov. 2. Weekday admission is \$8 per person; weekends and holidays are \$12 per person, children under 2 are free. Visit www.LeesburgAnimalPark.com or call 703-433-0002.

Good Shepherd Alliance shelters for women, children and families. Cost: preregistration fee \$25 for adults, \$15 for youth, age 25 and younger; event day registration fee \$30 for adults, \$15 for youth, age 25 and younger. Visit www.loudounhomeless.org, under "The 4th Annual Walk" choose the "Leesburg Registration Page" link or call GSA at 703-724-1555.

BLUEMONT FAIR. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Route 734-Snickersville Turnpike, off Route 7. The 39th Annual Bluemont, a "green" country fair featuring traditional crafts, local art and authors, craft and

farming demonstrations, traditional, blues and country music, 10K race and fun-run, free children's fair, farm animals, food and more. No pets. Cost: \$5 adults, under 12 free. Call 540-554-2367 or www.bluemontfair.com.

MEADOW

MEANDER. 9:30 a.m.-noon, Rust Nature Sanctuary, 802 Children's Center Road, Leesburg. Experience the beauty and discover the ecology of our meadow at its late-summer peak. Adults and children over 10. Cost: \$5, RSVP 703-737-0021.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

READER'S THEATRE. 2:30 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. A Reader's Theatre presentation of the Loudoun County Public Library One Book-One Community selection, "Nothing But the Truth" with professional actors Tim Jons, Stokes Tomlin and Carolyn Christensen. Call 703-737-8100.

SUNDAY IN THE PRESERVE. 1 p.m., Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, located between The Woods Road and Goose Creek. Join the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy and the Friends of Banshee Reeks for a free informal, family walk around the preserve. Contact the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve at 703-669-0316.

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.

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.

2008

Fall/Winter Household Hazardous Waste Schedule

All Events are on Saturdays 8:30am-2:30pm Loudoun County Residents Only

Date	Location
Sept 27	Stone Bridge High School 43100 Hay Road Ashburn
Oct 18	Harmony Intermediate School 38174 W. Colonial Hwy. Hamilton
Nov 15	Heritage High School 520 Evergreen Mill Road, Leesburg

For more information call the Office of Solid Waste Management at 703-777-0187 or visit our webpage at www.loudoun.gov/hhw

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHTS

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 WELER 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.

BUSINESS

Geoff from **Body by Geoff Health & Fitness**, located at the Ashburn Technology Park, 21690 Red Rum Drive, Suite 187, will attempt to pull a 15-ton fire truck across the parking lot Sunday, **Sept. 21**, at 12-4 p.m., as a fund-raiser for the Ashburn Volunteer Fire & Rescue. Donations of \$1 per foot made by individuals and \$5 per foot by businesses or a flat donation of \$100, \$250 or \$500 are being accepted. Donate online at BodyByGeoff.com. Day also includes activities for all ages. The truck pull is scheduled for 2 p.m.

Ashburn, Sunday, **Sept. 21**, from 5:30-8 p.m. The vendors are small group of businesses that have created a small bridal co-op and includes a florist, a wedding planner, a photographer, a wedding videographer, a make-up artist, a travel specialist with a honeymoon registry and bridal and brides maids gowns and fashion show. Admission is free. Complimentary gift bags for all brides who preregister, visit <http://www.wahmfest.org/bridalshow>.

Leesburg's **Froost Smoothies** in Lansdowne Towne is now under the ownership of Tani Patel, who also owns

Bridal show event at **Annalee's** in

PET OF THE WEEK



CONTRIBUTED

Ace is a 1-year-old male Domestic Mediumhair. He's a laid back, loveable guy!

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>.

Virginia's other Froost store in Ashburn.

Loudoun County-based **Breaux Vineyards** came away with three distinctive awards and took the only Gold Medal in Virginia for its 2007 Viognier out of all the Virginia entries at the Riverside International Wine Competition.

JetBlue Airways announces plans to launch nonstop service from Dulles Airport to Fort Myers and West Palm Beach, Fla., beginning Dec. 18 and to San Juan, Puerto Rico, Dec. 20. **JetBlue Airways** will also launch daily nonstop from Washington Dulles International Airport to Cancun, Mexico, beginning Dec. 20.

COMPUTER & ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

Saturday, Sept 27th, 2008 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

TELOS XACTA Corporation
19886 Ashburn Road, Ashburn, VA 20147
(From Rt 7, use Claiborne Pkwy Belmont Exit, turn left onto Russell Branch Pkwy, turn left onto Ashburn Rd)

BRING FOR RECYCLING

Computers and monitors, laptops, circuit boards, disc drives, modems, computer speakers/ keyboard/mouse, TVs, VCRs, DVD players, stereos, video game consoles, digital cameras, camcorders, cell phones, pagers, microwave ovens, electronic typewriters, calculators, scanners, desk-top printers, desk-top copiers, fax machines, surge protectors, cables, power cords.

LIMIT 15 ITEMS PER VEHICLE

DO NOT BRING

Kitchen, laundry or bath appliances, stereo speakers, household batteries, computer software, printer cartridges, or packaging.

RECYCLING FEES

(Only cash will be accepted)
UPS BACKUPS: \$5 Each
MIRCOWAVE OVENS: \$5 Each
COMPUTER MONITORS: \$8 Each
TVs (without console): \$12 Each
TVs (with console): \$20 Each

ALL OTHER ITEMS ACCEPTED: FREE

CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE EVENT?

Visit www.loudoun.gov/electronics Or call (703) 771 - 5318 for other recycling options.

SPONSORED BY

Loudoun County



The Impact of Alzheimer's Disease— Safety Features Inside and Outside the Home

Free Dementia Caregiving Seminar

Featuring Guest Speaker Nancy Dezan

Are you worried that your loved one will hurt themselves in your own home? Would you like to learn simple home safety tips you can use to keep your loved one as independent as possible?

Nancy Dezan is the Executive Director at the Alzheimer's Family Adult Day Center and also a social worker with more than 25 years experience working directly with families and individuals living with Alzheimer's disease. She has created a nationally recognized social program for those in the early stages of the disease and works as a consultant and educator in dementia care. During this seminar, Nancy will offer simple safety precautions your can implement inside and outside your home to provide your loved one with the safest living environment possible.

Thursday, September 25, 2008 • 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Safety Features Inside and Outside the Home

Call 703-383-0060 or email fair Oaks@arden-courts.com for reservations.

Arden Courts Alzheimer's Assisted Living

12469 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Fairfax, VA 22033

Join us for this special seminar. Seating is limited, so make your reservation early. A complimentary lunch will be served.

Unity and Peace Rule the Day

FROM PAGE 3

were given and traditional practices from different faiths were performed while the crowd looked on. The first stop was at the Islamic Center, where Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi spoke and then led the group on the walk to the next stop. The final stop was at Gandhi Memorial Park, where prominent leaders of many different faith communities gave several more speeches from the area. The Walk then concluded, and all participants were shuttled back to the Hebrew Congregation.

"This is something great that came out of a terrible situation," Tejpal Singh Chawla of the National Gurdwara, a Sikh Temple, said. "It is spiritually important for not only the whole community, but the whole county."

THE ADAMS CENTER WAS AT THE FOREFRONT of the Unity Walk idea, being one of the founding members, main financial sponsor and chief organizers and planners. According to Jaka, the year before the inaugural walk, ADAMS was approached by a group of people asking ADAMS for its input on ideas for an event that will transcend differences and bring people together. After reviewing the ideas,

Jaka and others felt that the Unity Walk was a cause worth pursuing. Jaka went to a meeting that was essentially a pitch, liked what he heard and decided to start fund-raising immediately.

"We believed that having 11 faith communities coming together in unison for the purpose of peace was very important," Jaka said. "It was a natural thing for us to do."

INTERFAITH ACTIVITY has always been the "natural thing" for ADAMS to do, as the Society is heavily involved in joining other faiths to promote peace and harmony. Jaka estimates that ADAMS participates in more than 100 interfaith events every year, while being a member of several organizations whose purpose is to unite different faiths. ADAMS belongs to the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington, where Jaka is a member of the Board of Directors, the Fairfax County Faith Community in Action, where over 100 faith communities gather and which Mohammed Magid, Imam at ADAMS Center, is chairman and the Loudoun Interfaith B.R.I.D.G.E.S., an organization ADAMS founded.

"[Interfaith activities] fall right into our mission and vision," Jaka said. "We believe in interfaith cooperation and an interfaith dialogue.

It is very important."

Continuing their mission, the ADAMS Center already has several more interfaith activities planned before the end of the year. Perhaps the most important to the Center is their eighth annual Peace Gathering and Law Enforcement Appreciation. Held on Sept. 27, the event, according to Jaka, began as a local event to affirm their commitment to peace, but after 9/11, the event was altered to include a remembrance of 9/11, and to honor the first responders of the community. This year, ADAMS is honoring three partners who Jaka did not disclose, who have contributed to interfaith dialogue in the area, which will create what he calls "a historic cooperation between Muslims and Jews in Northern Virginia."

Though differences may carry the day now, Jaka, ADAMS and the leaders of myriad faith communities are determined to change that notion. Through future Unity Walks and other interfaith mixers, the goal is still well within reach.

"Such meetings are great," Dr. Abdullah Khouj, Imam of the Islamic Center in Washington D.C., said. "It shows the world that communication is important. God teaches us to communicate to bring understanding so that we can live happily together."



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Furnished model now open

Optional three and four car garages on some sites
A limited number of Water View Sites available
Call 703.327.4123 for details.

Gulick Group
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Welcome Home
Open Houses on Sept. 20th & 21st

*Pictorial feature of the week

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Loudoun County

20285 Beechwood Ter., #200	\$179,900	Sat 12-4	Linda Vane	REO	703-256-7648
609 Diskin Place Leesburg	\$549,000	Sun 1-4	Weichert Robin Hill		703-927-6667
105 Peyton Rd. Potomac Falls	\$499,900	Sun 1-4	Weichert Debbie McGuire		703-406-9009

Broadlands

42717 Ridgeway Dr.	\$849,888	Sat 1-4	Joseph Doman	Keller William	703-815-5700
Hamilton38068 Colonial Hwy	\$649,900	Sun 1-4	Margie Jensen	Long & Foster	703-431-7633
94 Adams Dr., NE #52	\$124,900	Sat 12-4	Mark Gaetjen	RE/MAX 703-255-9700	
43410 Cloister Pl.	\$1,749,000	Sun 1-4	Eileen Summers	Long & Foster	703-759-9190
529 Fortress Cir., SE	\$579,000	Sun 1-5	H. Cronin	Weichert	703-760-8880
40881 Spectacular Bid Pl.	\$999,900	Sun 1-4	JoWilla Beck	RE/MAX 703-771-2345	
23255 Watson Rd.	\$537,900	Sat 12-4	Mark Gaetjen	RE/MAX 703-255-9700	

Purcellville

20012 Unison Rd.	\$1,495,000	Sun 1-4	Mary Chatfield-Taylor	Thomas & Talbot	540-454-6500
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*Pictorial feature of the week

Sterling

204 Gordon St.	\$312,900	Sat 12-4	Linda Vane	REO	703-256-7648
100 Maple Ave.	\$133,900	Sat 12-4	Mark Gaetjen	RE/MAX 703-255-9700	
46342 Sheel Ter.	\$389,999	Sun 1-4	Heather Elias	Weichert	571-233-5491
207 St. Johns Sq., #207	\$157,900	Sat 12-4	Mark Gaetjen	RE/MAX 703-255-9700	

More OPEN HOUSES FOR 9-20 & 9-21

Herndon

1309 Dulles Pl	\$.185,900	Sat 1-4	Philip Chernitzer	REO	703-256-7648
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12100 Richland Ln.	\$979,000	Sun 1-4	Mary Ball	Prudential	703-272-2326
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12084 Kinsley Place	\$775,000	Sun 1-4	Ray Wedell	Weichert	703-855-7299
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1262 Wedgewood Manor Way	\$624,900	Sun 1-4	Doris Leadbetter	Remax	703-757-5760
1242 Vintage Place	\$439,900	Sun 1-4	Stephanie Czajkowski	Avery Hess	703-492-6500

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

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All listings due by Monday at 3 pm.

SPORTS

Falcons' Football Handles Manassas Park, 28-0

Next up for 2-0 Briar Woods is visiting Hedgesville of West Virginia.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The Falcons of Briar Woods High School are flying high on the gridiron early on this season.

Head coach Charlie Pierce's football team improved its record to 2-0 last Friday night with a 28-0 win at Manassas Park (Bull Run District). Two weeks earlier, Briar Woods defeated Millbrook High, 27-13, in its season opener at home in Brambleton. It was Millbrook (Winchester) who ended the Falcons' season a year ago at the Region II playoffs.

"MILLBROOK was a team that made it to the Region [II] championship. They knocked us out of the playoffs [in the semis]," said Pierce. "To start this season with a quality win against a quality opponent, you feel good about it. It was our first game of the schedule. We wanted to take care of unfinished business when we had a chance to get to the region championship last year. Now, we want to start the next chapter."

After beating Briar Woods in last year's region semifinals, Millbrook, a member of the Northwestern District, ultimately saw its 2007 season end with a loss to Monticello (Charlottesville) in the region

II title game.

Briar Woods, following the recent season opener win over Millbrook, had a bye on its schedule the following week before getting back in action on Friday night against Manassas Park. In the non-district win, the Falcons built a 14-0 halftime lead and scored two third quarter touchdowns to finish out the game's scoring.

Briar Woods junior quarterback Austin Frattali threw touchdown passes to senior wide receivers Jeff Simmons (first quarter, 31 yards) and Jeremy Gray (third quarter, 24-yard strike). For the game, the first year starting signal caller completed nine of 15 passes for 155 yards. Gray caught six balls for 109 yards on the night. The Falcons also had touchdown runs from Ray Taliaferro (17 carries,

70 yards) and Billy McDonald.

BRIAR WOODS has run the ball well over its first two games. In the season opener victory over Millbrook, four Falcon running backs rushed for 50-plus yards. Those players were Andrew Davidson and Taliaferro, who both averaged over eight yards per carry, as well as Matt Eisenman and McDonald (2 TDs). Taliaferro is a transfer student from DeMatha High in Hyattsville, Md.

"He's very physical and demanding of himself and the players around him. He makes the defensive calls and keeps guys in check."

— Head coach Charlie Pierce said of Ashton Davidson



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Briar Woods will begin its Dulles District schedule on Sept. 26 when they travel cross-town to meet Ashburn rival Broad Run.

Defensively against the Pioneers, Briar Woods had interception returns for touchdowns from seniors J.T. Bailey and Jake Ashton.

Four of Briar Woods' key leaders this season are senior captains. They are Bailey (linebacker/running back), Ashton, Davidson, an inside linebacker on defense and a running back out of the slot (spread) position on offense, and two-way tackle Aaron Kakol (6-4, 270 pounds), a fourth year starter in the four-year-old Briar Woods' football program.

Davidson calls the plays in the defensive huddle.

"HE'S ONE OF the most aggressive players on the team," said Pierce, of talented linebacker Davidson. "He's very physical and demanding of himself and the players around him. He makes the defensive calls and keeps guys in check."

Two other team leaders include Gray, a

receiver/defensive back who is coming off a junior season in which he caught 40 balls when then-senior Alex Munro was the starting QB, and Frattali, the JV team's starting quarterback and the varsity backup a year ago.

Coach Pierce said Frattali has shown good progression as the varsity starter this season.

"He's grasping the offense and getting better every week," said Pierce. "He has the ability to run the ball pretty good. He doesn't have breakaway speed, but has good quickness. He throws a good ball. [Against Millbrook] he did a great job in his first game as the starting quarterback."

Briar Woods will play a home game against non-district opponent Hedgesville, WV, this Friday night. Then, the following week, the Falcons will open up their Dulles District schedule with a road game at defending district champion Broad Run on Sept. 26.

Athletes of the Week



The Briar Woods High girls' volleyball team has gotten off to a solid 4-2 start this fall season. The Falcons, under coach Richard Bennett, are shown here in their recent three-game match win over visiting Freedom High School of South Riding. The Dulles District match took place on Sept. 9. On Thursday (Sept. 18), Briar Woods will meet district rival Park View in a key home match.

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SPORTS

Spartans Sharp Early on in Football Season

Following last week's bye, 2-0 Broad Run is set to host Brentsville District Friday night.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

With a pair of wins under its belt, the Broad Run High football team entered its early season bye week with a perfect 2-0 record.

The Spartans, last year's Dulles District champions, won their first two games over host Wakefield High of Arlington and at home against Ballou High (Washington, D.C.). The home victory came by a decisive score of 54-14.

"So far, we're very pleased with our defense," said Broad Run head coach Mike Burnett. "I think our defensive play has been consistent and good. [Offensively] we improved a lot from week one to week two. Against Wakefield, we thought we were a little bit sloppy."

The Spartans have received solid play thus far from senior quarterback Chris Jessop, who runs Broad Run's spread offense (one running back, four wideouts) attack. In the win over Ballou, Jessop, playing in just the first half because of the lopsided score, rushed for over 100 yards and two touchdowns, and also tossed a pair a touchdown passes.

"Chris has been terrific," said Burnett. "He's really a great all-around athlete, that's the biggest thing. He's a threat running the ball and he can throw the ball as well as

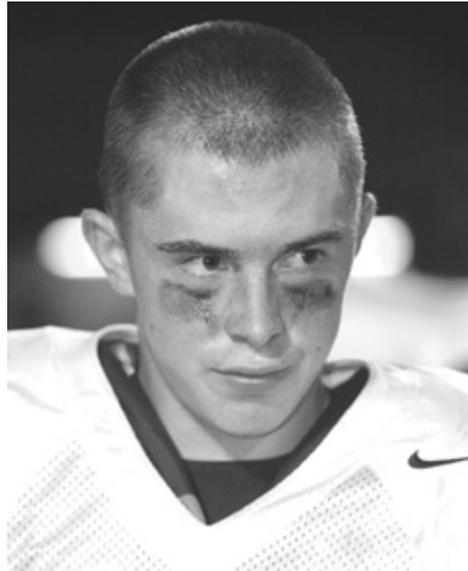


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION
Broad Run High quarterback Chris Jessop

anyone we've had."

Senior running back Breon Earl, one of the Dulles' District's top playmakers last year, has a little bit of a different role this season. As the Spartans' tailback a year ago out of the team's then-I formation scheme, Earl was more of a traditional runner. This year, Burnett, by using the spread offense, is utilizing Earl more as both a back and a pass receiver. He likely will not get as many

carries this season as he did a year ago. That will save him from the wear and tear and hopefully keep him fresh all season.

Through Broad Run's first two games, Earl carried the ball only 14 times for 150 yards total.

"He has been great," said Burnett. "He's really been a big player for us. He's such an explosive runner. This year, he's playing in the slot and able to get into pass routes. It's a much better situation."

THE COACH said the pre-district schedule has given the Spartans a chance to develop an identity as they get ready for the upcoming district schedule. The team, following last weekend's bye, was scheduled to play another non-district game against Brentsville District (Nokesville) this Friday night at home. Then, the following week, the Spartans will open up district play with a home game against Briar Woods. The Falcons, like Broad Run, are coming off a 2007 season in which they qualified for the Region II playoffs.

"At this stage of the season, the pre-district games are to kind of see where we're at," said Burnett. "Right now we're very happy. The kids are playing hard and aggressively and not taking any team lightly."

Broad Run's defense is led by senior middle linebacker Kenny McAdow, a Second Team All-State selection last year as a junior.

"So far, we're very pleased with our defense. I think our defensive play has been consistent and good. [Offensively] we improved a lot from week one to week two. Against Wakefield, we thought we were a little bit sloppy."

— Broad Run head coach Mike Burnett.

"In many ways, he's the heart of the team," said Burnett. "He's a tireless worker."

Another important leader on the Spartans' team is senior center/defensive end Sean Lewis. A year ago, Lewis was an All-District player at the center position. And he is spearheading the offensive line's charge again this

season.

Following a 2007 season in which Broad Run went a perfect 10-0 during the regular season, the Spartans are looking for another big time successful campaign in '08. And the Spartans are off to a nice start. They are a hungry team as a result of a season-ending, first round Region II playoff loss to area and district rival Park View last year.

"Their expectations are very high coming off of last year's success," said Burnett, of his squad. "We had a taste of winning and the playoffs. Their expectations are to go deeper in the playoffs."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Stone Bridge High School will be holding its first Spirit Bowl Invitational varsity cheer competition. Eleven teams from all over Virginia, including local teams such as Freedom High School and Broad Run High School, along with Stone Bridge will be hitting the mats to see which team can claim top honors. This new, but hopefully annual competition will be held Saturday, Sept. 20. For more information, contact Joe Dolansky at Joe.Dolansky@loudoun.k12.va.us

The annual Northern Virginia Senior Olympics will begin this Saturday (Sept. 20) at 10:30 a.m. at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center (3501 S. 2nd St., Arlington). Competition in track and field, softball hit and throw will take place. The Virginia Hospital Center is sponsoring a health fair at the Senior Olympics, which will continue through Oct. 2. The public is invited. No admission fee. For more information, call 703-228-4721.

The remaining Senior Olympics schedule includes: **Monday, Sept. 22**, backgammon, racquetball and basketball free throws at Lee District Park (6601 Telegraph Rd., Franconia), team line dance at the Lincolnia Senior Center (4710 Chambliss St., Alex.) and bowling at Bowl America Shirley (6450 Edsall Rd., Alex.); **Tuesday, Sept. 23**, women's 3x3 basketball, chess, bait casting, Frisbee throw, yo-yo at Lee District Park, eight ball pool at Lincolnia Senior Center, singles tennis at Wakefield Park (8100 Braddock Rd., Annandale); **Wednesday, Sept. 24**, golf at Penderbrook Golf Club (3700 Golf Trail La., Fairfax), shuffleboard, horseshoes and bunco, at Hollin Hall Senior Center (1500 Shenandoah Rd., Alex.), chess at Lee District Park, miniature golf at Cameron Run Regional Park (4001 Eisenhower Ave., Alex.), singles tennis at Wakefield Park; **Thursday, Sept. 25**, table tennis, scrabble and cribbage at Lee District Park, duplicate bridge at Lincolnia Senior Center



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION
Potomac Falls High girls' cross country runner Christina Lee (pictured) and her Panther teammates, both on the girls' and boys' side, will take part in the annual Oatlands Invitational this Saturday in Leesburg. The large, middle of the season meet will begin at 9 a.m.

and doubles tennis at Wakefield Park; **Friday, Sept. 26**, doubles tennis at Wakefield Park, swimming and diving at Lee District Park; **Monday, Sept. 29**, ice skating at Kettler Capitals Iceplex



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL
The Potomac Falls High cheerleaders were on hand to lead the Panthers' faithful at last Friday night's football game. There, the home team handled Jefferson High of West Virginia, 31-14. The Potomac Falls football team, with the win, improved to 3-0.

(Ballston Mall, Arl.); and **Tuesday, Sept. 30 through Oct. 2**, pickleball at Thomas Jefferson Community Center.

More than 500 seniors are expected to compete. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded after each event. The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics is sponsored by the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church and the counties of Arlington,

Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William. Additional sponsors are Goodwin House Inc., Greenspring Retirement Community, Sunrise Senior Living, BB&T, Humana, Verizon Wireless, Debbie Miller, McEneaney & Associates Realtors and Ruxton Health of Alexandria. Further information may be obtained by checking the Web site at www.novaseniolympics.com.

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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.

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

The Loudoun Cooperative Extension is seeking volunteers to **assist with financial education**. Free classes will be offered **Sept. 22, 29 and Oct. 6**, from 6-9 p.m. each evening, at the Loudoun Cooperative Extension Office. Attendance at all sessions is mandatory. Topics to be covered will include debt management, money management, reviewing credit reports, budgeting and bankruptcy. Contact Guy Johnson at Loudoun Cooperative Extension at 703-771-5419.

Loudoun Volunteer Services has changed its name to **Volunteer Loudoun** in an effort to better align itself with Leadership Loudoun, a partner organization that was founded by the former Vol-

unteer Loudoun Board.

The name change also stems from a desire of the organization to be consistent with other volunteer centers both in the D.C. region and within the affiliation of the recently merged Points of Light Institute and HandsOn Network. For more information about Volunteer Loudoun, call 703-737-8424 or e-mail pivs@loudoun.gov.

The Loudoun Museum is seeking a number of dedicated volunteers for this year's 17th annual **Hauntings** event. Each year, costumed guides lead visitors through downtown Leesburg's historic, and reportedly haunted, sites. This year's walking tours will be Friday, **Oct. 24** and Saturday, **Oct. 25**, from 6-10 p.m. The museum needs volunteers in all areas of the event including ticket sales, tour guides, storytellers and museum visitor services help. Call Beth Friedmann, museum administrator, at 703-777-7427 or e-mail bfriedmann@loudounmuseum.org.

Volunteer Loudoun announces a new board of directors to include a new slate of executive officers. New members Megan Descutner of HCA Capital Division; Bob Gleason of the Sterling community; Mike Kalasanckas of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority; Melanie Miles of the Miles LeHane Group Inc.; and Joan Ziemba of George Washington University's Virginia Campus

joined the board at its annual retreat, held at the Claude Moore Park Recreation Center in June.

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

The Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region of the **American Red Cross** is seeking volunteers to assist its blood collections staff at blood drives and blood donor centers. The volunteers will assist with customer service to donors and with caring for donors in the refreshment area after the donation process. This position is offered to people who are 14 years of age or older. Specific responsibilities include greeting donors and providing them with essential reading materials, serving refreshments and observing donors for post-donation reactions to giving blood. A free, brief training is provided.

Trainings are scheduled at Red Cross offices in throughout the various areas. To register for training or for more information, call the American Red Cross Volunteer Office at 1-800-272-0094, Ext. 1 or e-mail karlofft@usa.redcross.org.

Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. ages 6-8. The selection is "Go, Go America" by Dan Yaccarino. Call 703-444-3228.

ADVENTURES IN READING. 4 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Book club for 8- to 12-year-olds. September theme: lose the back to school blues. Registration begins two weeks before the program. Sign up online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or phone 703-430-9500.

MOMS CUB OF STERLING. 10:30 a.m., at the North Sterling Fire Station at 46700 Middlefield Drive, Cascades. Open house, which includes a tour. The club is a support group designed for at-home mothers including those who work out of their home or part time. No strollers. Visit www.geocities.com/sterlingmomsclub or e-mail sterlingmomsclub@yahoo.com to sign up for the club.

ORIGAMI BOOK CLUB. 4 p.m., at Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Ages 8 and up. The selection is "Sadako," by Eleanor Coerr. Call 703-444-3228.

COUNTRYSIDE WOMEN'S CLUB. at 10 a.m., at a private residence in CountrySide. Fall welcoming coffee. Contact Marla for directions and information at 571-434-0667. CountrySide Women's Club is open to women from CountrySide and all communities in the surrounding areas. Call Allyson at 703-404-1083.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

SHRED EVENT. 8 a.m.-noon, CountrySide parkway pool parking lot, 46020 Algonkian Parkway, Sterling. Recycle old paper documents and confidential files; remove staples and paperclips. No business documents. Criminal investigators and crime prevention specialists for the Sheriff's Office on-site to answer questions. Free, sponsored by the Sheriff's Office and CountrySide Proprietary. E-mail Lt. Eric Prugh, ericprugh@loudoun.gov or call 703-430-0715.

SCHOOL EVENT. Dominion High School, 21326 Augusta Drive, Sterling, is holding its Taste of Titan Territory VI. The all-day community event held by the Dominion high-school cluster of schools begins with a varsity volleyball tournament at 9 a.m., followed by a picnic at 4 p.m., pep rally at 6 p.m. and varsity football game at 7:30 p.m. Bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on and a dish to share for a potluck picnic.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

GIRL SCOUTS. 2-5 p.m., Cascades Library, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. Girls Scouts open house, learn about the Scouts program.

MONDAY/SEPT. 22

NON-FICTION BOOK CLUB. 4 p.m., at Cascades

St., offers **fall concerts** the first and third Fridays and second and fourth Saturdays of **each month**. No concert Oct. 11. All ages. Call 703-430-9480 for schedule.

Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. ages 6-8. The selection is "Go, Go America" by Dan Yaccarino. Call 703-444-3228.

Teen Reading Buddies Story Time, Mondays, **through Oct. 27**, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. One-on-one reading time for children as they buddy up with teen volunteers who will read picture books to them. Recommended for ages 3-6. Closed Sept. 15 and Oct. 13.

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 **through 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.

Leesburg Farmers Market, Saturdays, 8 a.m.-noon, at Virginia Village Shopping Center on Catocin Circle, S.E., Leesburg. Runs from **May 3-Oct. 25**. Visit www.loudounfarmersmarkets.org/Leesburg.

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ONGOING EVENTS

The September 2008 edition of **"Inside Loudoun County"** features segments on energy efficiency and volunteering.

The guests for the first segment of the television show are Loudoun County energy manager Najib Salehi and Diane O'Grady of the Office of the County Administrator. In the show's second segment features Lisa Rose and Karen Krei of Volunteer Loudoun, formerly Loudoun Volunteer Services.

"Inside Loudoun County" is a 30-minute cable television program airing Mondays-Fridays, at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., on Comcast Government Channel 23 and Verizon FiOS Channel 40. The show is hosted by Nancy McCormick of the Loudoun County Office of Public Information and is produced by Comcast.

The Northern Virginia **Senior Olympics**, the competition for senior adults 50 years of age and over, will be **Sept. 20-Oct. 2**. More than 20 events will take place during the 10-day competition at various venues. Visit www.novaseniorolympics.com for a complete schedule.

Temple Hall Farm Regional Park's **Corn MAiZE** and Barnyard Fun, **Sept. 26-Nov. 2**, at Temple Hall Farm Regional Park, 15789 Temple Hall Lane, Leesburg. Activities are family-fun oriented and in-

clude day and night "MAiZes," food, hayrides, moon bounces, pony rides, cow train, corn cannon, water wars and pick-your-own pumpkin patch. Hours are Fridays, 4-10 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Cost: \$10 per person 12 years old or older, \$8 per child 6-11, free for child under 5. Call 703-779-9372 or visit <http://www.nvrpa.org/parks/themeize>.

Pumpkinville Festival, Sept. 27-Nov. 2, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, Leesburg Animal Park, 19270 James Monroe Highway, Leesburg. Explore the park and enjoy unlimited hay and tractor rides, pumpkin painting and many other activities. Visit the farm market for exotic pumpkins. Cost: \$7 per person on weekdays, \$12 on weekends, free for children under 2. Visit www.LeesburgAnimalPark.com/pumpkinville.htm.

Teen Reading Buddies Story Time, Tuesdays, **Sept. 30 and October 7, 21**, 4:30 p.m., Rust Library at 34D Catocin Circle, Leesburg. One-on-one reading time for children as they buddy up with teen volunteers who will read picture books to them. Recommended for ages 3-6.

Barreling Through in Burtonsville



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Knowing as little as I do about the future price of a barrel of oil, and by association, the future price of a gallon of gasoline and home heating oil, commodities with which I am financially very familiar — and impacted, I can only guess as to their future level. As such, the present is what matters to me. And to that end, I am now reading financial news updates on the web, specifically as it relates to oil, trying to anticipate its price fluctuations. It's almost as if, not being able to beat them, perhaps I can join them, in some small way, at least as far as this Joe Schmoe is informed.

And so, I now pay attention to international — or national events — that might affect oil production and/or its transportation, gasoline stocks/supplies/inventory, monetary exchange rates, the weather and of course, the actual price at the pump. When the per gallon price is higher than it was previously, I try to buy less; when the price at the pump is lower, I try to buy more. I guess you could say it's my way of dollar cost averaging. And though I certainly realize, that in spite of my best intentions, buying less gas per trip because the price is high is only going to result in my returning sooner to those very same pumps rather than later, still it's mind over matter. If I think I'm spending less, maybe I actually am. (Any port in a storm, I suppose.)

Granted, it's all very delusional because gasoline, and to a lesser degree, home heating oil, is not exactly a voluntary purchase. In fact, it's practically mandatory. For without it, you're going nowhere — literally, and if you're at home, and it's winter, you're freezing too. Talk about adding insult to injury. So you have to buy it, or else; with cash, credit or debit, and let the other chips (bills) fall where they may. And though oil and other fossil fuel-type commodities may not be as crucial as food, water and clean air, try living without it. Not only will the effects not be pretty, they'll be downright painful, and not just at the pump, either.

And so this morning, I had my wife, Dina, call me as she drove by our local gas station to give me a price-per-gallon update. Yesterday (Aug. 30) the per gallon price for the mid-grade my car requires was \$3.43, a recent low. I knew I should have filled up then, what with Hurricane Gustav churning and strengthening in the Gulf, but since I had groceries — frozen food and ice cream, in particular, I couldn't risk the time it would have taken, sitting in line at the gas station with my perishables maybe perishing, so I drove on home, regretting my decision by not really second guessing it. And unfortunately for me and my flowing cash, I paid for it, eventually.

Dina called and told me the price was now \$3.57 per gallon, 14 cents higher. Certainly not Earth-shattering (or even mind-numbing), but 4.1 percent higher than it was the day before. And though I can absorb the increase, I'd rather not. I don't know if it's my advancing age but, the older I get, the more difficult it is to do with less. And with respect to the dollars on the barrel head, the less I have, the more careful I am spending it.

I realize it's only money, but the oil companies have plenty of it already. I'm just trying to find a way to keep more of it for myself, however pointless it sometimes seems.

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

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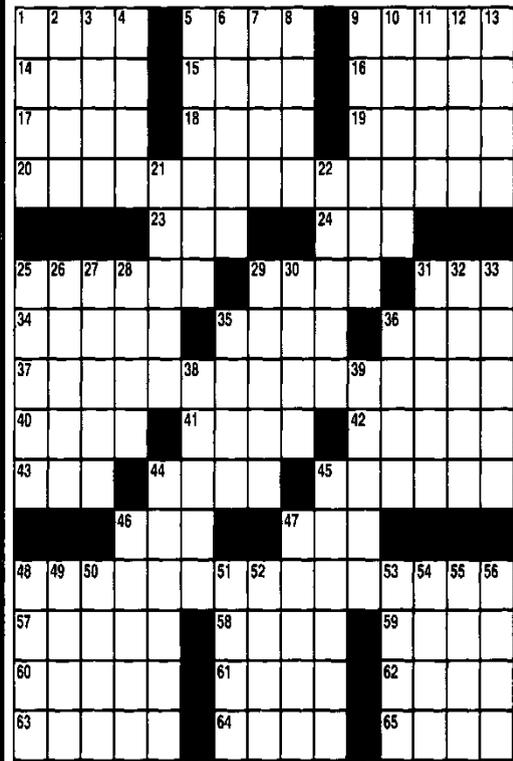
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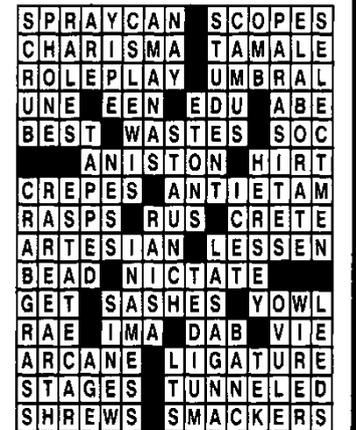
- Where Picassos hang in N.Y.C.
- Baby buggy
- Popular jeans
- During
- Four-star review
- Defendant's excuse
- Honored lady
- Portent
- St. Kitts and _____ (Caribbean nation)
- Fashion slogan in the business world
- Brooch
- What's left after deductions
- Palestinian chief Yasir
- Trot or canter
- Concert music blaster
- Childbirth
- "Schindler's _____"
- Asterisk
- Advice for the impulsive consumer

- Pianist Myra
- Bruins' sch.
- "_____ ho!"
- Surgery sites, for short
- Son of Seth
- Food wrappers and such on the street
- Slump
- Response to a bad call
- Catch phrase for the avid mailgoer
- Approvals
- Dinghy propellers
- College in New Rochelle
- Leader after Indian independence
- Soothing agent
- Runs (for)
- Carpenter's device
- Educator Horace
- Helper: Abbr.

- One who gives the silent treatment?
- Summer quaffs
- Loss's opposite
- _____ Novarro, 1926 Ben Hur
- Allege
- Kind of room
- Surgical instrument
- Vote into office
- On the qui _____
- Wading bird
- Snake sound
- The fifth tire
- Togetherness

- Notwithstanding, informally
- Pinker than pink
- Bottomless pit
- Watch chains
- Cyndi Lauper's "_____ Just Want to Have Fun"
- On a deck, perhaps
- No longer on deck?
- Purple shade
- Snoop
- Kooky
- It's for the birds
- Mushrooms, e.g.
- State sch. in Athens
- Completely consumes
- Start to untie
- _____ whale
- "Don Juan" poet
- In _____ (together)
- Toe's opposite
- Worker welfare org.
- Rich soil
- Kind of land
- Woman who can carry a tune
- French kings
- Handy bills
- History

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