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All Creatures . . .

COMMUNITY, PAGE 8

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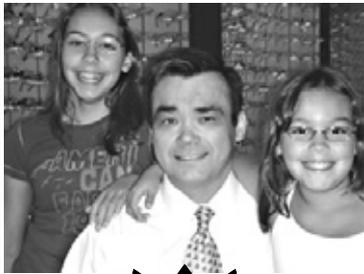
The Rev. Lisa Goforth of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Burke blesses Cooper, a lab mix, during a Blessing of the Animals ceremony in Burke on Saturday. Cooper is owned by Greg Singleton of West Springfield.

Connolly, Fimian
Vie in
11th District
NEWS, PAGE 3

Land Use
Made Easy
NEWS, PAGE 4

PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION SPORTS, PAGE 20 ♦ FAITH, PAGE 19 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 23

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Connolly Seeks Higher Office

Fairfax chairman runs for U.S. Congress.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

When Chantilly resident Joe Carney first met Gerry Connolly 41 years ago, the Fairfax Board of Supervisors chairman was just a teenager enrolled in Carney's American history class at a seminary.

Then a Maryknoll priest, Carney, was 13 years older than Connolly but was nevertheless impressed by his student's intellect.

"He was the best student in my class. ... I thought, at 15 years old, he was asking questions that a college senior or a graduate student would ask," he said.

CONNOLLY is the Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress in Virginia's 11th District and faces Republican Keith Fimian in the

election Nov. 4. The incumbent, U.S. Rep. Tom Davis (R), is stepping down from office.

Connolly has served a little less than five years as Fairfax County's chairman. He was also the Providence District representative to the Fairfax Board of Supervisors from 1995 to 2003.

The Democrat's experience in local government gives Connolly a good understanding of some of the 11th Congressional District's biggest issues, such as the local impact of the military's base realignment and closure plan, he said.

If elected, Connolly would also bring a back-

ground in international relations to Congress. He worked as a staff member for the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee from 1979 to 1989 and has traveled to 76 countries.

The chairman's experience on Capitol Hill means he can also identify with federal

"He was a real live wire."

— Mary Lee McIntyre,
McLean resident



PHOTO BY JULIE O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly (D) is running for U.S. Congress.

employees, with many living in the 11th Congressional District. Connolly also works part-time for a defense contractor, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), one of Northern Virginia's largest private employers.

"I have worked for very large federal contractors — that is the industry of Northern Virginia. That is what we do here. ... I can advocate for that sector and those federal

SEE CONNOLLY, PAGE 22

GOP Challenger a Political Newcomer

Keith Fimian, an Oakton businessman, wants to be hardest working man in politics.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Keith Fimian was a man with a single mission July 4 – to talk to as many people as possible.

The Republican is running to succeed Rep. Tom Davis (R-11) in Virginia's 11th Congressional District and faces a well-known opponent, Fairfax County Chairman Gerry Connolly (D). In order to compete with Connolly, Fimian knew he was going to have to reach as many voters as he could.

So he extended his hand to one person after another sitting on the curb watching the Orange Hunt parade. If a break appeared in the crowd of spectators,

Fimian would run ahead of his campaign workers walking in the parade to get a head start on greeting the next group of potential supporters, sweating through his green and white William and Mary football shirt.

Several hours later, Fimian was also one of the first people out on the synthetic turf field at Fairfax High School after a rainstorm cleared up. As people peeled off their plastic raincoats and smoothed out blankets to

recline on during the fireworks, the candidate pitched his candidacy and shared his concerns about the national debt.

"I am afraid of what the future brings if we don't get spending under control," said Fimian, crouched in front of a group of people in camping chairs.

"Whatever your party, help me control spending," he added.

Fimian's faith in his ability to outwork anybody to success is not surprising.

A Virginia Beach native, the Republican said his parents instilled the importance of working "very, very hard" in him and his three brothers at an early age. The candidate's work ethic has served him well over the years.

Fimian earned a four-year football scholarship to the College of William and Mary. Tall and athletic, he has the look of a television star, perhaps someone who would play a father figure on the defunct teen drama "The OC." But Fimian does not seem nearly big enough to have been a college football star.

Yet, when Fimian played, William and Mary beat the University of Virginia, Vir-

"My work ethic is second to none."

— Keith Fimian



PHOTO BY JULIE O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

Keith Fimian talks to Fairfax resident Mike Thieman at Labor Day celebration.

ginia Tech and the U.S. Naval Academy in one season. Out of college, he was invited to try out for a professional football team, the Cleveland Browns.

FIMIAN also took a start-up company from his old garage in Dunn Loring to the national stage. In 1986, the candidate founded U.S. Inspect, a multi-million dollar operation that he says is the nation's largest provider of commercial and residential real

estate property inspection services.

"My work ethic is second to none," he said.

Starting a business was not easy. In the beginning, Fimian said it felt like he was "sitting on a tree branch and sawing it off at the same time."

During the 18 months he was in business, Fimian didn't draw a salary and lived off

SEE KEITH FIMIAN, PAGE 22



Friends of the Orphans Second Annual Fiesta 5K Fun Run/Walk takes place Sunday, Oct. 5, at George Mason University's Patriot Circle.

Orphans 5K at GMU on Oct. 5

Friends of the Orphans is hosting the Second Annual Fiesta 5K Fun Run / Walk on Sunday, Oct. 5, at George Mason University's Patriot Circle in Fairfax.

Friends of the Orphans is the American fund-raising organization for Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos International (NPH), Spanish for Our Little Brothers & Sisters. Together they have opened orphanages in nine countries, as well as a free-of-cost hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Since the founding of NPH, hundreds of staff, volunteers and friends have helped provide stable homes to over 15,000 children. NPH outreach programs, including hospitals and clinics, serve over 30,000 adults and children each year.

To register for the Fun Run, call 703-848-2072 or visit www.friendsoftheorphans.org//ma-ne.

Recycling Event Oct. 11

On Saturday, Oct. 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program in conjunction with Covanta Energy will host a secure document shredding and fluorescent light recycling event. Scheduled to take place at the Braddock District Supervisor's Office at 9002 Burke Lake Road in Burke, the event is open to the public.

Residents may bring compact fluorescent light bulbs for proper disposal. Long fluorescent tubes should be taken to either Interstate 66 Solid Waste Complex in Fairfax or the Interstate 95 Solid Waste Complex in Lorton.

Residents may also bring up to five medium-sized boxes of secure documents to destroy, such as tax forms, medical records, credit information and other personal information. All documents are recycled and the shredding is free.

For cancellation and other information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling.

Board Still Seeks New Building

The Fairfax County School Board has decided to stay the course when it comes to purchasing a second central administration facility.

During the body's late-night meeting Oct. 2, School Board members voted unanimously to extend the deadline under which the desired facility — adjacent to the school system's current administration building in Merrifield — could be purchased.

Fairfax County and the building owners now have until Dec. 1 to reach an agreement about the sale. Under the current agreement, the school system would spend approximately \$110 million on the purchase and renovation of the building.

The School Board had initially endorsed the purchase of the building last month, saying that it would promote efficiency and pay for itself through cost savings. But the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors rejected the proposal, unsure that the current financial climate was the appropriate time to be pur-

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY DEREK B. JOHNSON/THE CONNECTION

Regina Coyle, director of the county Zoning and Evaluation Division explains the anatomy of the county land use process.

'FAR' from Experts

Workshop helps county residents looking to bone up on land use knowledge.

BY DEREK B. JOHNSON
THE CONNECTION

A question headlining the flyer advertising the joint Sierra Club-Audubon Society workshop did much to reveal the workshop's target audience. Those were "mystified by jargon like 'by-right development,' 'proffers' and 'Comprehensive Plan'" were urged to attend the Saturday, Oct. 4 event at the Braddock District office.

In her opening remarks, Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock) put it another way. She compared the reaction most constituents had dealing with land-use issues to trying to coax her daughter into trying something new on her plate for dinner when she was a child.

"She used to say 'What is that? I hate it,'" said Bulova, to laughs from the roughly two dozen residents in attendance.

As Fairfax County continues to develop its shrinking available space, a working knowledge of the ins and outs of land use has become important to residents who are looking to have a say in the way their neighborhoods, parks and towns are shaped. The four-hour workshop Saturday, featuring four speakers largely from within Fairfax County's land-use agencies, was designed primarily to educate and inform residents about how best to get involved early enough in the process to make an impact on those decisions.

Acronyms like "du/ac" (dwelling units per acre) and "FAR" (floor area ratio) were identified as among of the main causes of consternation for those unfamiliar with the complex language that regularly occurs between county officials during public hearings or meetings. Speakers at the event were encouraged to cast aside that language in order to give a crash course on land use to an audience that had come to the workshop with the attitudes of college freshmen on their first day of class, pens and pads in hand. Marianne Gardner of the county Planning and Zoning Department walked them through some of those phrases during her presentation on the basics of land use and the Comprehensive Plan.

"It does become second nature sometimes," she said.

Gardner outlined the hierarchical pecking order of civic and public bodies an amendment or nomination must go through before the Board of Supervisors votes on it. Approval from the county Planning Commission, citizen task forces and numerous staff reviews are all important in one way or another to a successful plan.

"One of the things people think about [the Comprehensive Plan] is that once you get it, that's the way it is, you can't change it. That is totally, completely not true," she said.

Regina Coyle, director of the county Zoning and Evaluation Division, offered opportunities for citizen involvement along that process. When one member of the audience asked how early they could give input to county staff regarding any proposed development or redevelopment, Coyle responded as soon as the county received the amendment or nomination. Residents can get a crack at influencing the status quo as they make their way up the ladder of the

SEE LAND-USE, PAGE 5

Land-Use Workshop

FROM PAGE 4

process, with the county publishing advertisements for public hearings a few weeks in advance.

"I know some people like to think that there is someone sitting in a cubicle, isolated, who is going to approve or disapprove your application," said Assad Ayoubi acting director, environment and facilities inspection division. "That's not true, it very rarely happens that a plan is perfect upon submission."

FOR THE organizations that sponsored the event, the introduction to land use was a necessary precursor to the final speaker, Melissa Bondi from the Coalition for Smarter Growth. Using their newfound knowledge, Bondi said each citizen could help shape development in the county in a way that is more efficient and better for the environment.

"You have to plan locally. You have to look at your corner of the world and try and see how to make it better," she said. "What's great about the smart growth movement is you don't have to have to choose [whether or not] to be an environmentalist.

Smart growth is a development concept that emphasizes compact, transit-oriented growth in towns

or cities as a way of dealing with urban sprawl. One of the problems plaguing the county is the placement of businesses and buildings that people need to get to in a regular day. Often, places like post offices, grocery stores or restaurants, are spaced out throughout the county. Combined with an inadequate system of pedestrian trails, the layout of a community has an impact on everything from traffic to storm water management to pollution concerns.

"Everything is spread out," said Bondi. "The things you need to do around town are not very close together and the only way you can get there is by driving."

Glenda Booth of the Audubon Society said the goal of the workshop was to empower the average citizen by educating them about the power they wield throughout a process that can be both confusing and dry at times.

"People need to be empowered. To be empowered they need more information," said Booth.

Mary Kadera from the Mount Vernon Group of the Sierra Club said her organization regularly receives calls for help from citizens angry or concerned over a piece of development that is already underway in their neighborhoods. If the trucks are coming tomorrow, she said, there is little her organization can do

"People need to be empowered. To be empowered they need more information."

— Glenda Booth, Audubon Society

SEE LAND USE, PAGE 7

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Saturday's events will include *OF THIS EARTH*, an Alexandra Bryant musical interpretation of the wonders of creation, featuring a dance piece and string quartet.

Time: Friday, October 24: 7:00 – 9:00 P.M. • Saturday, October 25: 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
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Admission: Friday, October 24: Free and open to the public • Saturday, October 25: \$40 Adults/\$20 Students
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PEOPLE

Sharing the Holidays

Jewish congregations welcome new members during High Holidays.

BY MARC GOLDMAN
THE CONNECTION

This week ends 10 days on the Jewish calendar considered the holiest of the year. The celebration of the Jewish New Year called Rosh Hashanah began on Monday night, Sept. 29. The annual period of spiritual renewal concludes on Oct. 9 with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

These days mark a new beginning for many members of the Fairfax Jewish community who have recently affiliated with a local temple. For others, the High Holidays reinforce a congregation's role as family away from family.

The community includes two congregations offering different approaches to worship — Adat Reyim in Springfield and Temple B'nai Shalom (TBS) in Fairfax Station. Adat Reyim is a Progressive Conservative congregation.

"Heavy emphasis on tradition, more Hebrew in our services while still addressing the challenges of modern society," said Rabbi Bruce Aft of Adat Reyim.

TBS is a Reform congregation that provides a variety of Jewish spiritual, social, and educational experiences for children and adults.

Membership is expected to reach approximately 500 families at TBS and 325 at Adat Reyim. "Most of our members are within five miles of temple," said Rabbi Amy Perlin, in her 21st year at TBS. "Still, the majority of the Jews in our area aren't affiliated, which is sad for me."

A seat at High Holy Days services combined with the start of religious school annually energizes new residents and previously unaffiliated families to pursue membership. In recent weeks, both congregations opened their sanctuaries to prospective new members offering building tours, time to meet the rabbis and even services "under the stars." In an effort to encourage young families to join and enjoy a savings on religious education, for the second year,

TBS offered pre-K and kindergarten classes for free. In 2007, this program doubled the size of the kindergarten class.

While much of the membership activity occurs at this time of year, new families are welcomed all year, according to Perlin, the senior member of world's first all female rabbi team. "Especially around here, where there are so many military families moving in and out of the area," said Aft.

"When families are relocating to Northern Virginia they are looking for an area supportive of Jews," said Perlin. "We want to make Burke and Fairfax Station Jewish-friendly." To that end, Perlin works to ensure Giant and Great Harvest Bread offer traditional recipes for challah (braided bread eaten on the Sabbath) and Hamentaschen (preserve-filled, three cornered cookies for the holiday of Purim in the spring).

"When considering membership, families look at their connection with the rabbi, the educational programs, the sense of community and the proximity to their home," said Aft. To extend the reach of his congregation, Aft is planning several "Rabbi on Wheels" programs this year and will conduct services in community centers in residential areas just beyond the traditional reach of his congregational boundaries.

"Many new members come with a consumer mentality and wonder, especially in this economy, what they are getting for their dollar," said Perlin. "The members most connected to the Temple are the ones that make the most of the experience — trying adult education, attending family programs, coming to services, getting to know the rabbis."

tion, attending family programs, coming to services, getting to know the rabbis."

ADDITIONALLY, Perlin points to the emotional needs served by a congregation. "For many members, there just isn't immediate family right here. The temple through outreach by the rabbis or caring committees of members can be at nursing homes, hospitals, a member's house or just by phone when needed in a crisis."

"We are building a community of friends," said Aft.

And while membership has its privileges, Perlin views belonging as a crucial element to supporting and growing the Jewish community. "At this time of year, especially, we must ask ourselves 'How we as individuals are keeping the Jewish community alive,'" said Perlin. "It is a mitzvah (blessing) to belong."

"The majority of the Jews in our area aren't affiliated, which is sad for me.."

— Rabbi Amy Perlin

VIEWPOINTS

What's the number one issue in the presidential race?



"The most important issues for me are the financial situation and foreign policy."

Daniel Noon, Arlington



"Right now, the economic issue."

Grace Linsangan, Reston



"The Iraq war."

Michael Paquette, Fairfax

— MICHAEL O'CONNELL



Catherine Kimberly Linberger married Aaron Carson Vaughn on May 3.

Linberger, Vaughn Wed

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Gamble Linberger of Burke announce the marriage of their daughter, Catherine Kimberly Linberger, to Aaron Carson Vaughn, son of Mr. And Mrs. Billy Vaughn of Stuart, Fla.

Linberger is a 1993 graduate of Robinson Secondary School, 1997 graduate of James Madison University, and a 2008 graduate of Bellevue University, Omaha, Neb., where she received her masters of science degree in organizational management. She is an eight-year NFL cheerleader for the Washington Redskins, captain and 2007 Pro Bowl Representative. She works for CACI as an IT program manager and is a director for St. Catherine's, a luxury handbag company.

Vaughn is a 1999 graduate of Obion High School, a 2001 graduate of Indian River Community College and is currently a student at Excelsior College obtaining his degree in homeland security. Vaughn is employed as a U.S. Navy Seal.

The wedding took place May 3, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Washington, D.C. The couple currently resides in San Diego, Calif.



Bouch, Good Engaged **Mr. and Mrs. Kevin S. Bouch of Burke announce the engagement of their daughter, Kerry Elizabeth, to Brian John Good of Laurel, Md., the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Good of Stafford and Ms. Carmen Martinez of Green Cove Springs, Fla. The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary and a 2000 graduate of George Mason University. The groom-to-be is a graduate of Laurel High School and the University of Salisbury. After an October wedding, the couple will reside in South Riding.**

Land Use for Beginners

FROM PAGE 5

to stop them at that point. The workshop was designed to help the community to get involved earlier “so people are less frustrated when they call us at the 11th hour and say ‘Please help me’ and we say ‘I’m sorry, it’s too late in the process.’”

For beginners, Saturday’s event provided a foundation of knowledge on which to build. Molly Dias said the featured speakers broke down the anatomy of the county’s development process to the average person.

“I’m a novice at [land use], so for some of the terms I needed more explanation,” said Dias, who attended the workshop. “They had to explain very complex processes to people who don’t know how to navigate the system.”

For others like Dan Hinman, who sits on the board of a homeowner association, the workshop provided solid complementary information to issues that he deals with every day. Calling himself “an advanced beginner” in land use, his association deals directly with some of the applications, amendments and nominations that were discussed.

NEWS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 4

chasing a new administrative building.

Several School Board members were upset that the supervisors had turned down their proposal. They said the new building would allow the school system to move staff from several smaller facilities and leased space into one place. It would also return money to the schools’ operating budget, said School Board members.

“We could be putting money into schools which is being spent on 12 different [administrative] facilities,” said School Board member Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence.)

The School Board plans to use the extended timeline to provide more information about the building purchase to the Board of Supervisors. The possibility exists that the school system could negotiate a

better deal for the building.

“We have an excellent opportunity to improve upon the business model,” said School Board chairman Dan Storck (Mount Vernon).

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chairman Gerry Connolly (D-At-large) said more information about the building purchase and certainly a better deal would be welcome.

“We were not overly convinced it was going to produce savings. The board wanted much more convincing evidence than what was presented,” said Connolly.

Even with a new deal, the supervisors might still be skeptical about the plan.

“We are trying to save money and cut spending and the question is does it make sense to even be looking at this issue?” said Connolly.

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Lets Go Rams!

COMMUNITY

Bless the Beasts

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church conducts animal blessing ceremony.



January Wood of Springfield hugs her cat, Horace, after being blessed.

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION



The Rev. Lisa Goforth recites the Sentence of Blessing for Horace, a cat, at a Blessing of the Animals Ceremony at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on St. Francis of Assisi Day, Oct. 4.



Liz McKenrick, Mariah McKenrick and Dodie Hruby, all of Burke, and Charlie, recite a prayer while participating in a community Blessing of the Animals ceremony on Oct. 4 in Burke.

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OPINION

Signs of Life

While the economic news is enough to ruin your breakfast (and lunch, and dinner), there are signs of life and resilience here in Northern Virginia.

While unemployment climbs in other parts of the country, employment is stronger here than almost anywhere. Proximity to the federal government in general, and to the Pentagon in particular, continues to boost our economy and employment.

We can look forward to new federal jobs created to support oversight of \$700 billion in federal investment in mortgage-related debt.

The Treasury, along with Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, should waste no time in fixing some of the problems at the root of the current housing and mortgage crisis. Adjustable rate mortgages should be rewritten or refinanced for a fixed rate of 6 percent for 30 years. Prepayment penalties should be abolished and banned. Every effort should be made to keep current homeowners in their current homes, and rescue them from the threat of foreclosure if they are able to make payments on the actual value of their homes at a reasonable and fixed interest rate. These steps will go a long way towards restoring a sense of confidence in the value of most families' primary investment. It's critical to let would-be homebuyers know that the end is in sight for prices dropping due to foreclosures.

On the home front, August home sales

showed signs of life here, even during a month notorious even in good times for low sales activity.

In communities that are served by the Connection Newspapers, in the month of August, more than 120 homes sold for more than \$1 million.

To give a sense of the variety of sales, the home that sold for the most money in the area in August was a four-bedroom, four-and-a-half bath condo in Arlington, which sold for \$5.3 million.

A three-bedroom, three-and-a-half bath home on an acre in Alexandria sold for \$3.875 million. Two homes in McLean and one in Great Falls each sold for more than \$3 million.

A dozen more condos and townhouses in Arlington and Alexandria sold for between \$1.09 million and \$2.325 million.

A four-bedroom home in Vienna sold for \$1.6 million on Aug. 27. A four-bedroom home in Oakton sold for \$1.45 million on Aug. 29. Ten more homes in Vienna and Oakton sold in August for more than \$1 million each.

A five-bedroom, six-bath home on more than five acres in Clifton sold on Aug. 1 for \$2.388 million. A seven-bedroom home on five acres in Fairfax Station sold on Aug. 25. Several homes with Lorton addresses topped \$1 mil-

Northern Virginia, it's time to count your blessings; real estate market alive at both ends of spectrum.

lion, along with at least one in Springfield and one in Centreville.

A home on a little less than an acre on Broad Creek Place in Herndon sold for \$1.275 million on Aug. 21.

A six-bedroom home on half an acre in Ashburn sold for \$1.845 million on Aug. 6.

At the other end of the spectrum is a glimpse of affordability that we haven't dreamed of in this area in nearly a decade.

Some examples:

In Arlington, 10 condos sold in August for less than \$200,000, six of those for under \$150,000.

In Reston, 14 homes — condos and townhouses — sold for under \$200,000, with another 16 selling between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

In Herndon, more than 40 homes, mostly townhouses, sold in August for less than \$200,000, 15 of those under \$150,000. More than 20 more sold for between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

Even in McLean, more than a dozen condos sold for less than \$300,000.

With homes at the top of the market selling, and new opportunities opening up at the affordable end of the market, our area's real estate market and home values should be reassuring.

EDITORIAL

Constitution Ignored?

To the Editor:

At the outset, I am not an attorney and do not pretend to be one. I am a patriotic Native American, and WW II veteran. I was taught to read and write English at a very early age. I do read a lot of law related documents, one of them being our own U.S. Constitution. It appears to me that the Constitution is being ignored in many ways by our politicians. This year's presidential election is important to all of us. There is an issue of eligibility of candidates that should be addressed and cleared up before any voting takes place.

From the time of his birth in 1936, John McCain has been wrapped in controversy. He was born on Aug. 29, 1936 in a military hospital in the Panama Canal Zone. The controversy is that the U.S. Constitution, at Article II, Section 1, reads in part, "No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States at the time of adoption of this Constitution ... shall be eligible to the Office of President" (The emphasis is the writer's) There is no exception made for persons born on a military base in a for-

ign country, even if one's father is an admiral, or other official.

The fact that he was not "born within the continental United States" as required by the U.S. Constitution for anyone wanting to run for the presidency, did not stop him from announcing his candidacy in 2004, and again in 2008.

In this sad period in history when our Congress and president is content to ignore constitutional requirements, this gave John McCain reason to claim he was not excluded from being president just because he was born in Panama. Article II, Section 1, of our Constitution is very clear about this issue. Granted, John McCain served honorably in the military and has been a government official for 26 years. He is to be commended for that, but that is not sufficient to make him eligible for the presidency.

So John McCain is not a natural born citizen. This bars him from the presidency. If the Constitution truly contains our country's guiding principles, shouldn't this apparent miscarriage of principle be settled before any precedent is made? This is, of course, a very important issue.

Every president is required to take an oath, on assuming the of-

office of President, that he/she will "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." If anyone believes in the sanctity of our Constitution, they must abide by it. I believe that it would take an amendment to the Constitution before anyone who is not a natural born citizen of this country should be allowed to be a candidate for the presidency. The law is the law, until changed in the prescribed manner.

Elmer M. Savilla
Burke

Right Choice

To the Editor:

I agree that candidate visits to schools can be educational, but I do not agree that large political rallies should be allowed on school property while classes are in session.

The School Board is correct to be concerned that such events during school time can be disruptive to the educational process. Plus, it may appear to some that FCPS is endorsing the featured candidate. Had the McCain event been scheduled for a time when school was not in session — as was the recent Obama event — then I would have had no problem with it being held

on school property.

It should also be noted, however, that the McCain event was a primarily a pep rally and the Obama event was a town hall session, during which the candidate responded to numerous audience questions. As far as I know, neither John McCain nor Sarah Palin took any questions from either students or the media during their rally.

The Obama event seemed to be more clearly educational and it was attended voluntarily by many local students. The McCain event in the park was also educational and was attended by many students from local schools. However, some did so only because they were promised extra credit in their government classes. I agree with the Fairfax County School Board policy. And, on this issue, I think the Connection got it wrong.

Austin Acocella
Burke

Miffed No More

To the Editor:

Following protests from some School Board members and parents that the McCain campaign

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

THE CONNECTION

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

rally, originally scheduled to be held at Fairfax High School, would violate school system policy and therefore need to be moved, I was initially concerned, disappointed and truth-be-told, miffed. Political leanings aside, what a great civics lesson it could have been for high school students to be able to encounter the national candidates from a party at their own school.

As a McCain supporter and conservative by nature, my disappointment was thankfully short lived. The change in venue for the rally from Fairfax High School to Van Dyck Park allowed more than 23,000 people to attend and show their support for the Republican ticket.

The originally planned site, the Fairfax High School field house would have limited attendance to about 6,500. The 23,000 in attendance helped make it the largest single event of Sen. McCain's campaign to date and served as one of Gov. Palin's first public events in front of suburban voters who could determine the race in Virginia, which is being described as a battle ground state.

It should be clearly noted that at nearly the same time on that day, Sen. Obama was conducting his own event at Granby High School in the Norfolk area of Virginia. Coincidentally, the much-dissected quote of Sen. Obama about "lipstick on a pig" was made at that Norfolk area rally.

For those who went so far as to express their concerns to county officials about possible use of a Fairfax County school venue for Sen. McCain's campaign rally, I trust such civic interest over the use of school facilities would have been similarly expressed had the "other" party sought to use them.

Chris J. Krisinger
Burke



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DINING

There's The Rub

Entrepreneur spreads message of dry rubs through barbecue competitions.

BY MICHAEL O'CONNELL
THE CONNECTION

After 20 years of being a graphic artist, Chris Capell was looking for a way to spice up his life through a career change.

"After 9/11, that was the point where it seemed to turn," said Capell, sitting at the counter of his partially renovated Fairfax home.

With a the glut of artists on the market and the advent of computer programs like Pagemaker and Photoshop making it easier for businesses to do their own design work, Capell knew it was time to change.

"I realized that if people didn't want to pay me to develop their image and develop their company, I'd do my own," he said. "I decided to pick my own favorite passion and kind of created the company around that."

Capell's passion was barbecue and the company that he helped to create was Dizzy Pig, which produces dry rubs for grilling meat, chicken and fish.

Dizzy Pig's 10 rubs boast enticing names like Tsunami Spin, Dizzy Dust and Jamaican Fire Walk and are sold through its Web site [www.dizzypigbbq.com] and select outlets across the country.

"We mix all of the seasonings here in our basement," said Capell, assuring that USDA makes regular visits to his production facility. "We're still a teeny company, but we have customers in every state and stores in almost every state are carrying our stuff."

As a small company, Dizzy Pig has relied on some word of mouth to slowly expand its reach. Capell said that often it's the customers who provide leads on possible retail outlets. "They'll send us the stores they'd like to see it in and we'll send them a kit."

Locally, Dizzy Pig is sold at Whole Foods Markets. Capell has even put on a grilling demonstration at the Whole Foods in Fair Lakes.

ANOTHER WAY that Capell

promotes his business is by entering barbecue competitions. The impetus for this strategy came from Dizzy Pig's need for a little self-affirmation.

"People say they like it, but we started doing competitions to see if people were lying to us," said Capell. "We wanted to find out how we did in a blind judging situation. Using all our rubs on the competition

food, turning it in, in a blind box, where the judges can't tell who it is.

That's how we'll really know. That's how we did the first competition."

Against 25 other teams at that first event, Dizzy Pig finished eighth overall, with two sixth-place calls. "We were hooked," Capell said. "I guess they're not lying."

Since then, the Dizzy Pig barbecue team has won 10 grand championships. Up to two years ago, the team was av-

eraging four or five wins per year. "Half of the contests we we're entering, we were winning," said Capell. "We had a pretty good stretch."

ON OCT. 24 and 25, the Dizzy Pig team will be in Lynchburg, Tenn., for the 20th Annual Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational Barbecue.

"It's really the big game as far as barbecue competitions go," said Elizabeth A. Lewis, judge and media relations representative for the event.

Each year, 20,000-25,000 barbecue enthusiasts descend on the small Tennessee town of 361, which is more famous for its whiskey than its barbecue.

This will be Dizzy Pig's fifth year in a row in Lynchburg, having earned an invitation with a victory at the New Jersey state championship.

"It's a very prestigious competition, with 60-65 domestic and 10-20 international entries each year," said Lewis. Over \$30,000 in cash and prizes will be presented. The top six finishers in each of the categories receive a jug.

"We have two jugs for sauce and we've got a sixth place in ribs and chicken," said Capell. "We've gotten an award every year, but as far as overall, we've usually been right in the middle of the pack. Hopefully, things will be a little better this year."

Aside from the competition, the Jack Daniel's World Championship includes performances by cloggers and musicians, artisans, games and activities for children.

"It's bigger than Christmas in Lynchburg," said Lewis.

When Capell is not competing or mixing dry rubs, he's strategizing on how to take his basement company to the next level.

"We've got a lot of interest internationally — Australia, Denmark, Germany," he said. "That's my next goal, to get some distributors set up overseas and start shipment out that way." In the meantime, he anticipates staying in the basement for another year.

"One thing I found out early is that you've got to sell a bunch of rub to make any money," said Capell.

"One thing I found out early is that you've got to sell a bunch of rub to make any money."

— Chris Capell, Dizzy Pig

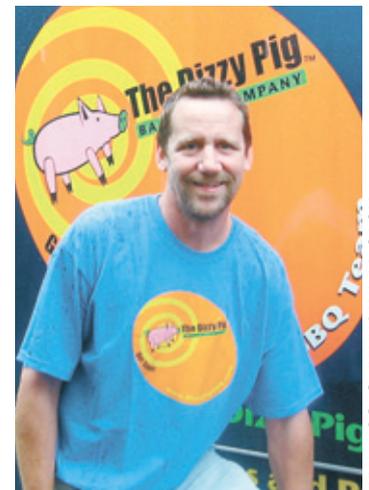


PHOTO BY MICHAEL O'CONNELL

Chris Capell of Dizzy Pig

Grilling Tips

Chris Capell of Dizzy Pig has conducted demonstrations of his company's dry rubs at Whole Foods Markets around the Fairfax area. He also hopes to begin offering grilling classes. Here are a few pointers that Capell offers the home griller.

❖ **Don't overcook.** "Most people are overcooking their meat. By the time they get the color they want, it's overcooked on the inside. They haven't developed a feel for it or they aren't checking their internal temperatures."

❖ **Grilling is not baking.** "The conditions are different every time and you've got to have a feel for how the meat's coloring up. Do you need more heat? Less heat? It's a little more of an art."

❖ **Get a feel for the food.** "Observe and see what's wrong. Was it dry and pale on the outside? Did it have good color? Was it burnt and raw inside? ... On the outside you want a crust for flavor and browning for flavor. On the inside, you want it moist and tender to be perfectly cooked. Finding that balance is the trick."

❖ **Know your meats.** "Like boneless, skinless [chicken] breasts, I'll cook in like seven or eight minutes, while thighs I'll cook for two hours [on a lower temperature]. It's all finding that balance and finding out which part of the fire to cook under. People on their gas grill should be cooking up on the warming rack if they have something that needs to cook a while, like thighs. Thighs take a while to get the meat done by the bone. If you're grilling on hot and it's charred in 10 minutes, you've got a problem."

❖ **Hot and fast are sometimes best.** "For chicken breasts or a lean pork chop, you want to get that thing seared on each side, hot, fast, because by the time you're done searing, it's going to be done. But if you're going cooking low, you're never going to get that color by the time the meat's overcooked."

❖ **Use a rub.** "It's about the flavor crust. It's an easy way, and I think the best way ... to get flavor. You're building a crust on the meat. That's your flavor. That's what a rub does."

CALENDAR

BURKE CONNECTION ASSISTANT EDITOR PAULA FRIEDRICH
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To have community events listed, email southcalendar@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6459 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

The Influence, Atomic Tom, The Wellingtons and Mitch Hood. Pop/rock. 7:30 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

George Mason University presents Bert V. Royal's "Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead." 8 p.m. An unauthorized parody of Charles Schultz's "Peanuts", "Dog Sees God ..." centers on the cruelties teens inflict upon each other. Tickets \$6 general admission, \$3 for students and seniors. George Mason University Black Box Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-993-8600.

FRIDAY/OCT. 10

Noel "Paul" Stookey of Peter, Paul and Mary. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFRAP.

Song and Dance Ensemble of West Africa brings an array of singers, dancers and musicians to the George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$23-\$46. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com. The Center for the Arts complex is located on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. Visit www.gmu.edu/cfa

Kate Campbell. Americana/acoustic. 7:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna.



Song and Dance Ensemble of West Africa brings an array of singers, dancers and musicians to the Concert Hall stage at George Mason University's Center for the Arts. On Saturday, Oct. 11.

Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

Juniper Lane and The Dance Party. Rock. 10 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

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The Providence Players in "Rough

Crossing" by Tom Stoppard. Adults \$15, students and seniors \$12. 7:30 p.m. at the James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. 703-425-6782 or www.providenceplayers.org.

Elena Ulyanova, classical pianist. 8 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-352-ARTS.

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

Fall Festival, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Old Town Fairfax. Hundreds of crafters with handmade wares, live music, children's activities, a car show, food and more. Admission is

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 13

free, though there are charges for some of the children's rides. Some streets will be closed, and traffic will be detoured during the event.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Out of the Darkness Community Walk at Burke Lake Park, as part of National Suicide Prevention Week. Funds will support suicide prevention research and education, as well as local programs. The public is encouraged to walk to bring suicide 'out of the darkness.'

www.outofthedarkness.org.

Children's Consignment Sale. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Children's clothing and furniture, baby equipment and more. Spring-Mar Cooperative Preschool, Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. 703-239-1213 ext. 5, or visit www.spring-mar.org.

The Iguanas. 7:30 p.m. Zydeco and Latin rock fusion at The Barns. Tickets \$20. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Song and Dance Ensemble of West Africa brings an array of singers, dancers and musicians to the Concert Hall stage at George Mason University's Center for the Arts. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$23-\$46. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com. The Center for the Arts complex is located on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. www.gmu.edu/cfa

The Cold War Museum Conference on the 40th Anniversary of the Prague Spring. Registration 8 a.m., program starts 9 a.m. Advance admission \$25, at the door \$30, students free. Lunch included. Collecting oral histories from Cold



The Third Annual Korean American Cultural Arts Festival, celebrating Korean traditional music and culture with the Nangye Gugak Orchestra and prominent representatives of Korea's traditional arts community known as Intangible Cultural Assets, will be at George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall on Sunday, Oct. 12.

War veterans, "Spy Craft" by Linda McCarthy, the history of the Lorton Nike Missile site, and more. South County Secondary School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. 703-273-2381 or museum@coldwar.org.

Ultimate Warrior Challenge — Confrontation. Professional mixed martial arts action. 6 p.m. Tickets \$28.50-\$128.50, (plus applicable service charges) available online at www.ticketmaster.com or via 703-573-SEAT. Visit www.uwmma.com or www.patriotcenter.com. The George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. 703-993-3000.

Cathy and Marcy's Second Family Jamboree. 5-7 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna.

Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

Deanna Bogart Band Dance Show. Blues/jazz/rock. 8:30 p.m. \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

George Mason University presents Bert V. Royal's "Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. An unauthorized parody of Charles Schultz's "Peanuts", "Dog Sees God ..." centers on the cruelties teens inflict upon each other. Tickets \$6 general admission, \$3 for students and seniors. George Mason University Black Box Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-993-8600.

The Providence Players Perform in

"Rough Crossing" by Tom Stoppard. Adults \$15, students and seniors \$12. 7:30 p.m. at the James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. 703-425-6782 or www.providenceplayers.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 12

Buttons to Bumper Stickers, a discussion and display of presidential campaign collectibles with Stephen J. Ackerman and Richard Rector, historians and collectors. 2 p.m. Free. Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. Call 703-385-8414 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov.
Saffire -The Uppity Blues Women. 7:30 p.m. Post feminist traditional

blues at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Dan Leonard Trio. Jazz/fusion/jam. 7:30 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

Third Annual Korean American Cultural Arts Festival. 6:30 p.m. Celebrating Korean traditional music and culture, with a performance by the "Nangye Gugak Orchestra", joined by prominent representatives of Korea's traditional arts community known as Intangible Cultural Assets. Tickets at www.tickets.com are \$40

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

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fridays
Fairfax

City of Fairfax

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

general admission, \$20 seniors and students. George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-507-4492.

George Mason University presents Bert V. Royal's "Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead." 2 p.m. An unauthorized parody of Charles Schultz's "Peanuts," "Dog Sees God ..." centers on the cruelties teens inflict upon each other. Tickets \$6 general admission, \$3 for students and seniors. George Mason University Black Box Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-993-8600.

The Providence Players in "Rough Crossing" by Tom Stoppard. Adults \$15, students and seniors \$12. 2 p.m. at the James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. 703-425-6782 or www.providenceplayers.org.

MONDAY/OCT. 13

Val Emmich and Adam Swink. Pop/rock. 7 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

Rose Breeding. Ben Williams will speak on new developments in the rose breeding industry. His company is known for creating new and unusual roses. Free. 7:30 p.m. at the Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. 703-860-0071.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

Daniel Silva, author, presents "The Undercover Life of an Espionage Writer". 7:30 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, Board Auditorium, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Books

available for sale and signing. 703-324-8428.

Laya Pesulima's Love Jukebox. Rock. 7 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

Mothers First Burke/Fairfax, dedicated to helping women who have chosen to alter their careers to raise children at home, meets 10 a.m. at Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-827-5922 or www.mothersfirst.org.

Awaken to your Psychic Gifts and Inner Guidance. 7-9 p.m., at the Comfort Inn University Center, 11180 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. New Zealander Melissa Kitto and American Clairaudient Richard Lassiter show practical ways to open to psychic awareness at a two-hour seminar. \$20. 540-854-4841 or www.ipmers.org/dc.html.

Run for Wounded Warriors. 7 a.m. Once around the lake at Burke Lake Park, 4.7 miles. Race fees support the Wounded Warrior Project. \$35 in advance, or \$40 day of event. Free race t-shirt with registration. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. www.jmwall.com.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

Riders in the Sky. 8 p.m. Retro 1950s Western swing at The Barns. Tickets \$30. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Bryan Greenberg. Acoustic. 7:30 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/OCT. 16

George Mason University Speaker
SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 16



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For tickets and information please call Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center 703-385-8414 or 800-545-7950.

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www.messiahumc.org 703.569.9862

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 15

Series: Jonathan D. Moreno, Ph.D., David and Lyn Silfen University Professor, Professor of Medical Ethics and of History and Sociology of Science University of Pennsylvania; Mind Wars: Brain Research and National Defense. 6 p.m.; free. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Mason Hall, Room D3AB, Fairfax. Call 703-993-1850 or visit <http://chpre.gmu.edu>.

Opening Night for Third Annual Washington D. C. International Horror Film Festival at Cinema Arts Theatre at Fair City Mall, at the corner of Main Street and Pickett Road in Fairfax, with host Count Gore de Vol. Doors open 7 p.m. Tickets \$8, age 17 and under admitted only with parent or guardian. Scheduled films are "Back to Life," "Foet," "The Sleuth Incident," "Snip" and "No Through Road". www.thespookymovie.com or www.cinemaartstheatre.com.

Tyrone Wells and Jason Reeves. Pop/rock. 8 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/OCT. 17

Virginia Opera's Verdi's Il Trovatore. 8 p.m. Staging by Lillian Groag, set by Michael Ganio and lighting by Richard Winkler. Soprano Eilana Lappalainen, tenor Gustavo López Manzitti and two-time Grammy Award-winning baritone Nmon Ford. Mezzo-soprano Jeniece Golbourne and bass-baritone Ashraf Sewailam. Conductor, Peter Mark. Tickets \$44-\$98, at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com. George Mason University Center for the Arts, on the Fairfax campus at the intersection of



The 41st Annual Clifton Day Celebration will be on Sunday, Oct. 12, featuring horseback rides, a craft fair with almost 180 vendors, Civil War reenactments by the 49th Virginia, live music, barbeques and historic displays.

Braddock Road and Route 123. www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Third Annual Washington D. C. International Horror Film Festival at Cinema Arts Theatre at Fair City Mall, at the corner of Main St. and Pickett Road in Fairfax. Doors open 9:45 p.m. Tickets \$12, age 17 and under admitted only with parent or guardian. Scheduled films are "Night of the Hell Hamsters," "Excision," "Crushed," "A Break in the Monotony," "Prombies!" and "Brain Dead." www.thespookymovie.com or www.cinemaartstheatre.com.

Eroica Trio. 8 p.m. Chamber music at The Barns. Tickets \$35. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Pierce Pettis. Acoustic. 7:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave.

N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

Breast Cancer Fund Raiser. The Paul VI Catholic High School Women's volleyball team will raise money for Breast Cancer research in a game against Bishop Ireton, in the Paul VI Activity Center. 'Dig Pink' begins at 5:30 p.m. Donations accepted at the door and T-shirts sales and raffle tickets will raise additional money. Paul VI Catholic High School, 10675, Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. Contact Coach Darcee Snider at dsnider@paulvi.net.

Aldersgate Church Community Theater presents "Dearly Departed," directed by C. Evans Kirk, at 8 p.m. in Wesley Hall, Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors. 703-660-2611.

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 Thurs, Dec 11, 8:45-10am
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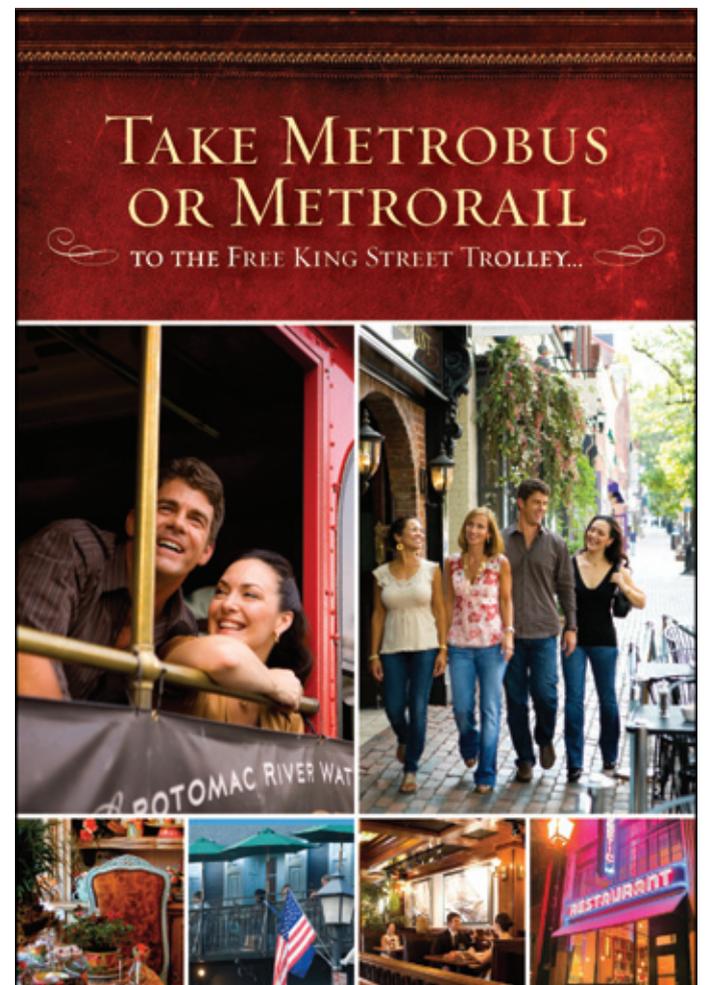


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CAMPS & SCHOOLS



The Robinson High School Dance teams attended a summer dance camp at the University of Maryland. Both varsity and junior varsity teams have won invitations to the UDA Nationals in Orlando, Fla. Varsity members Carolyn Heasley, Alison Malkowski and Jane Chappell as well as junior varsity members Lauren Duffy, Joy Chappell and Amina Siddiq earned individual all-star medals. Sophomore Arica Clark placed in the top three in the individual drill down competition. The varsity team won both the Team Drill Down trophy and the team leadership award.



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Who: Everyone—children, teens, adults, families, pets!

What: 5k non-competitive walk

When: Saturday, November 1, 2008 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston, VA

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7324 SPRING VIEW CT	\$349,900	Sat/Sun	Re/Max	Bruce & Tanya Tyburski	703-239-2525
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All listings due by Mon. at 3pm.

See www.ConnectionNewspapers.com on Saturday for open houses added after deadline.

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08/1/08 ~ 08/18/08

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6319 FALLING BROOK DR	5	3	1	BURKE	\$606,000	Detached	0.33	SUMMERDAY		
5600 KEMP LN	4	2	1	BURKE	\$595,000	Detached	0.21	SOUTHPORT		
5236 CAPON HILL PL	4	3	0	BURKE	\$550,000	Detached		CARRLEIGH		
10331 STEAMBOAT LNDNG LN	4	3	1	BURKE	\$550,000	Detached	0.23	BURKE CENTRE		
9702 SHIPWRIGHT DR	4	2	1	BURKE	\$534,000	Detached	0.19	LONGWOOD KNOLLS		
8900 KENILWORTH DR	4	2	2	BURKE	\$525,000	Detached	0.25	MEADOWS OF NARNIA		
9919 RAND DR	5	2	2	BURKE	\$519,000	Detached	0.19	BURKE CENTRE		
9623 TINSMITH LN	4	2	1	BURKE	\$510,000	Detached	0.25	CHERRY RUN		
9301 LUNDY CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$505,000	Detached	0.27	BENT TREE		
5303 RYMNEY LN	4	2	1	BURKE	\$459,000	Detached	0.20	LAKE BRADDOCK		
5512 BEACONSFIELD CT	4	2	1	BURKE	\$450,000	Townhouse	0.04	LAKE BRADDOCK		
6151 SHIPLETT BLVD	4	3	0	BURKE	\$432,500	Detached	0.21	BENT TREE		
6311 TISBURY DR	3	2	2	BURKE	\$425,000	Townhouse	0.04	BRITTFORD		
5503 LIGHHOUSE LN	3	1	2	BURKE	\$353,000	Duplex	0.05	LAKE BRADDOCK		
9915 LAKEPOINTE DR	3	3	1	BURKE	\$350,888	Townhouse	0.06	LAKEPOINTE		
9501 IRONMASTER DR	4	2	1	BURKE	\$350,000	Detached	0.30	ORANGE HUNT WEST		
9677 POINDEXTER CT	3	2	2	BURKE	\$345,000	Townhouse	0.03	HILLSDALE		
6215 GEMINI CT	3	2	0	BURKE	\$335,000	Detached	0.29	ROLLING VALLEY WEST		
5928 HERITAGE SQUARE DR	3	3	1	BURKE	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.04	HERITAGE SQUARE NORTH		
10210 FAIRE COMMONS CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$284,000	Townhouse	0.07	BURKE CENTRE		
10147 SASSAFRAS WOODS CT	3	2	2	BURKE	\$271,900	Townhouse	0.04	BURKE CENTRE		
5519 BEACONSFIELD CT	3	3	1	BURKE	\$266,900	Townhouse	0.04	LAKE BRADDOCK		
9321 HUMPHRIES DR	4	3	1	BURKE	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.03	LAKE BRADDOCK		
5874 BRIDGETOWN CT #49	2	2	1	BURKE	\$227,900	Townhouse		OAKWOOD CMMNS AT BURKE		
10340 LURIA CMMNS CT #2F	3	1	0	BURKE	\$169,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		BURKECENTRESINCOMMONS		

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VOLUNTEERS

Assistance League, a volunteer organization that runs two reading programs and provides support to women and children who have been sexually assaulted in Northern Virginia, is looking for new members. Call Beth at 703-648-1822 or email ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com. www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.com.

The Fairfax County Police Department is conducting its annual recruitment drive for the **Auxiliary Police Officer Program**. Duties include

assisting with sobriety checkpoints, supporting programs like the Sexual Assault Free and Empowered Class, conducting home security surveys and taking fingerprints at community events. Applicants must be in good health, without a criminal record or history of drug use and not be an applicant for police officer in any jurisdiction. 703-280-0701 or auxiliarypolice@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Mentor with Fairfax County's Department of Family Services' BeFriend-A-Child program. Enjoy

one-on-one activities, as well as varied and fun monthly group activities. A strong need exists for African Americans and Hispanics who can volunteer in Falls Church or Alexandria. Volunteers must be at least 21. Children referred to the program are between 5-12. Training provided, background checks required. Meet with mentee for eight hours a month for at least one year. Training for prospective mentors is Saturday, Oct. 18 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Falls Church. Contact Chuck Berlin at 703-324-7874 or chuck.berlin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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bar & gas frplc, hrdwd floors main lvl, fresh paint, dual zone HVAC, beautiful city views from top flr, 3BR, 2.5BA, spacious master suite, MBA w/ double sinks & sep tub & shower, comm pool & gym, walk to shops, restaurants & park.



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OPEN SUNDAY

Fairfax Sta/So. Run \$749,950
OPEN SUNDAY 10/12 1-4

This lovely Col sits on a picturesque cul-de-sac w/ 3/4 acre flat fenced yard, eat-in kit w/ granite & newer appl, finished bsmt w/ full bath & custom bar, 2 lvl deck, dramatic MBR w/ cathedral clngs & walk-in closet, MBA w/ skylt & granite, replaced roof, siding & HVAC, walk to Burke Lake & comm pool & more.

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FAITH

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6459. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

Springfield Harvest Festival and Chili cook-off, a family-oriented day of fun on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 1-4 p.m. on the grounds of Springfield United Methodist Church, 7047 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Activities include a maze, moonbounce, children's crafts and games. Music begins at 1:30 p.m. with professional square dance caller Hal Miller, leading all ages in a Hoe-Down. Chili Cook-off Competition participants may register entries by calling 703-451-2375. A \$10 entry fee will be collected at the festival. All festival participants can vote for the winners. Admission is free, and donations are always appreciated.

Singer-songwriter Bob Franke in concert on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. The concert is free but donations will be accepted to support Parents Circle-Families Forum, which promotes reconciliation between bereaved Palestinian and Israeli families. Visit www.burkepreschurch.org, www.bobfranke.com, or call 703-764-0456.

St. John's United Methodist Community Fun Festival. Saturday, Oct. 11 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Rides, games, craft and vendor booths, music and more. Children and youth receive twenty free tickets; additional tickets \$1 each. St. John's United Methodist Church is located at 5312 Backlick Road, Springfield. 703-256-6655 or www.saintjohnsumc.org/funfair.php.

Broadway and Opera Night, a free concert on Saturday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary of Fairfax United Methodist Church, 10300 Stratford Ave., Fairfax. Featuring voice students from George Mason University performing classics from opera and the Broadway stage. 703-591-1927 or www.fairfaxumc.org.

Burke Presbyterian Church will present a sermon series, Faith for Tough Times, based on stories from the book of Exodus. Through Oct. 12. Worship times, Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Burke Presbyterian, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. 703-764-0456 or www.BurkePresChurch.org.

Kol NoVa, The Jewish Youth Choir of Northern Virginia, begins its new season on Sunday, Oct. 12 at 4:30 p.m. Kol NoVa is a community choir for all interested singers in second through eighth grade. Rehearsals take place most Sundays at Congregation Olam Tikvah, 3800 Glenbrook Road, Fairfax and performances are at various community venues. 703-250-0554 or www.carolboydleon.com.

The Cranford United Methodist Women will host a Fall Ham and Oyster Dinner on Oct. 18, from 4-7 p.m., to benefit Women and Children Missions. Cranford United Methodist Church, 9912 Old Colchester Road, Lorton. 703-339-5382. Church hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Jewish Rock Artist Sheldon Low performs at a family concert at Temple B'nai Shalom on Saturday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. Temple B'nai Shalom is located at 7612 Old Ox Road, Fairfax Station. 703-

764-2901 or membership@tbs-online.org. Visit www.sheldonlow.com.

Applefest at Silverbrook United Methodist on Saturday, Oct. 18. Barbecue chicken lunch will be served, homemade baked goods and yard sales tables. All proceeds go to local missions. Silverbrook United Methodist Church is located at 8616 Silverbrook Road Lorton. 703-690-4159

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Parenting Seminar for parents with children in elementary school on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. The free session will discuss helping your child be more successful in school, and at home. Free childcare provided. St. Andrew's Episcopal, located at 6509 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-455-2500.

Solace for victims of abuse, as well as for those left behind after domestic homicide, plus an offering of options to prevent additional tragedies, on Tuesday, Oct. 28 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Truro Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. The Prayer and Awareness Day event speakers are Rev. Rose Robinson of First Baptist Church in Vienna and Rev. Coleman Tyler of Truro Church. Sponsors include NOVACO, Time to Fly and Bethany House of Northern Virginia, groups that offer shelter or services to help families escape abuse. www.novaco.org, www.timetofly.org.

Springfield Christian Church Bazaar, on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 5407 Backlick Road, Springfield. Bake sale, vendors, crafts, jewelry and more. Lunch will be available for purchase and a handmade quilt will be raffled. Proceeds go to support church missions. 703-354-4994.

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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

The Little River United Church of Christ, 8410 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, sponsors a Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Persons (PFLAG) support group on the third Sunday of each month, from 4:30-6 p.m. Contact vivien.lohmeyer@cox.net or call Little River at 703-978-3060.

The Springfield Art Guild (SAG) is open for new membership. SAG promotes an interest in arts and crafts through educational programs, juried shows and classes for adults and children. Monthly meetings are the second Wednesday of each month, Sept.-June, at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church, 7434 Bath St., Springfield. Call 703-569-5731 or visit www.springfieldartguild.com.

Fairfax Jugglers meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., in the cafeteria of Key Middle School, 6402 Franconia Road, Springfield. Learn how to juggle, practice and meet other jugglers. Free. Call Pete Walker at 703-250-3281.

New Neighbors League Club of DC Metro is a non-profit organization, is looking for those new to the area or newly retired and looking for new activities and friends. The club offers bridge, bunco, bowling, hiking, quilting, book clubs, an investment club, an antique group, a gourmet group, couples bridge and more. Monthly luncheons take place on the fourth Wednesday of each month. 703-476-9322.

Drinking Liberally in Lorton, a network of left-leaning progressives, meets the first Wednesday of the month for liberal fellowship at 7 p.m. at Glory Days Grill, 9459 Lorton Market St., Lorton. Lorton@drinkingliberally.org.

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Berman 'Buckles Down' at Robinson

Though off-season program was vital, Jared Berman credits mother for success.

By JASON MACKEY
THE CONNECTION

my opinion, that he's ever had," Workman said.

If asked, Robinson senior Jared Berman will answer that it's only a trend. The graduation of every high school senior enables the emergence of another younger, successful runner.

Pose the question to Rams cross-country coach Jeremy Workman and he'll attribute the newfound success to Berman's off-season running program.

Ask another runner from around the Northern Region and the response could be silence. Most are too out of breath from chasing Robinson's new leading runner to offer anything the least bit coherent.

"He's always trained over the summer, but he really buckled down and was very determined to make himself one of the top runners," Workman said. "He does have a lot of talent, and we knew that if he did the work there would be a big payoff there."

Workman and Co. must feel like they've hit the Powerball. After finishing 50th in the state, 15th in the Northern Region and seventh in the Concorde District last season, Berman has been winning at a slightly more frequent clip this fall.

At the Oatlands Invitational on Sept. 20, Berman finished sixth with a time of 16 minutes, 8 seconds. Then, at last Saturday's Octoberfest on the 5-kilometer course at Great Meadow in The Plains, Berman had perhaps his best showing yet, turning in a time of 15:43 to grab third place.

"Saturday was the best performance, in

THIS PAST SPRING, Berman started the madness. With a workout program that required around 35 miles a week to start, the Lynyrd Skynyrd-loving Berman didn't ask any questions and breezed through the workouts. By the end of the summer, that workload was increased to between 55 and 60 miles a week.

"It's crucial to get your base before you start your workouts," said Berman, who hopes to run at Virginia or Virginia Tech this fall. "You don't want to work on your base during the season when getting your speed is imperative."

A lap around Robinson Secondary School measures 1.3 miles and the Rams typically run what are called "mile repeats," in which each runner must hit a specific time and Berman's typically falls between 4:50 and 5:07. Four or five are typically done each day.

Berman credited this training exercise, along with Workman's twice weekly "track workouts," where the Rams rattle off different amounts of 400-, 800- and 1,000-meter runs, as two of the more beneficial off-season training tools.

However, as much fun as those 1,072 speed bumps around Robinson can be, mile repeats and track workouts weren't the only reasons for Berman's emergence this season.

From July 27-Aug. 1, Berman, along with

SEE BERMAN, PAGE 21

"That's when my head got a little big but not cocky or anything like that."

— Jared Berman



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Here at the Oatlands Invitational on Sept. 20, Robinson's Jared Berman finished sixth, emerging as a star on the Northern Virginia cross country scene.

WEEK IN SPORTS

Local Golfers Compete in Florida

Claire Malinowski, 24, of Fairfax finished first in her division with a three-day score of 140 (47, 44, 49) at the Ninth-Annual Special Olympics Golf National Invitational Tournament Individual Golf Skills Competition. The event took place Oct. 3-6, at PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

In the Individual Golf Skills portion of the tournament, a subset that includes a six-skill test, Fairfax native Daniel Hartle, 22, had a three-day total of 154, improving his score everyday and carding out with a final day 46. More than 200 golfers with intellectual disabilities from 24

U.S. Special Olympics programs competed in one of five levels of competition on the club's Ryder and Wanamaker Courses.

Bruins Field Hockey Stays Perfect

After her team relinquished a two-goal lead, Lake Braddock field hockey coach Diane Miller wasn't as enamored with how well her team played in the first half of Tuesday night's Patriot District showdown at South County.

"Being up 2-0 and then having them score two goals, I could tell my team was really down," Miller said. "So I had to do a little yelling."

The increased volume must've helped, as senior Annie Stephens powered a shot past

— and over — South County's goalkeeper with 2 minutes, 36 seconds left in the second half to seal the win. With a shot from the top of the circle, Stephens watched the ball deflect off of a defender's stick and sail over the keeper and into the goal.

With the win, the Bruins improved to 15-0 overall, 5-0 in district play. Lake Braddock will travel to West Potomac on Friday.

"Our first half ... that was probably the best half I've seen my team play in a long time," said Miller, whose team will travel to West Potomac Friday. "We let down a little bit in the second half, but we didn't give up and that's all you can ask."

Sophomore Brittany Hopkins scored unassisted with less than three minutes left in the first half, and Stephens scored her first goal of the game 35 seconds before half-

time to put the Bruins ahead, 2-0. South County's Megan Wears scored twice in the second half to pull the Stallions (12-3, 5-1 Patriot) even.

Paul VI Roundup

The Paul VI Panthers competed at the Octoberfest Invitational, which took place this past weekend at Great Meadows. Many individual runners set new season-best marks, most notably two new cross country runners in Blaize Johnson, who ran the 5-kilometer course in 17 minutes, 33 seconds, and Kathleen McLane, who set a new per

SEE WEEK IN SPORTS, PAGE 21

Woodson Women's Winning Words

Despite loss of three Division I-A athletes, Cavaliers continue winning tradition.

BY JASON MACKAY
THE CONNECTION

Screams and giggles suggested that Woodson field hockey coach Becky Preston wasn't around. After all, how could she have been? In the moments before a pivotal Liberty District showdown against rival Langley, the Woodson sideline was more pep rally than pregame focus.

As the laughter grew louder, Preston just stood and watched. It's a familiar routine for the second-year coach. Before every game, the team's senior captains prepare a rhyming poem, trumping the hackneyed "Let's go get 'em" speech delivered by many.

"It's kind of a tradition," said one of the authors, midfielder Becca Geist. "They've probably gotten worse through the years because we're not really good at rhyming."

Luckily for Geist and Co., the Cavaliers proved more capable of scoring than rhyming on Monday. With three first-half goals, Woodson earned a 3-0 win and moved to 14-2 overall, 5-0 in district play.

That Geist and classmates Mary Beth Barham and Jennifer Mikell struggled with those rhyming lines shouldn't come as a total shock. With nine seniors on last year's team, rarely, if ever, were they counted upon to be a vocal part of the pregame huddle.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

A pregame tradition carried on by Woodson's senior captains, the Cavalier players gather around and listen to a humorous poem written by Barham, Becca Geist and Jennifer Mikell.

The rhyming was done by now-departed Meg Thaxton, Lyndsey Butler and Sarah Vinall. With Thaxton and Butler on the Virginia Commonwealth field hockey team and Vinall playing lacrosse at Richmond, all three of last year's leaders are now playing Division I-A sports.

But even after that group won Liberty District and Northern Region titles, a class of 13 seniors has filled in behind, and, somehow, Woodson has improved. At this point last season, the Cavaliers were 10-4.

"We have a strong senior class, especially in our midfield with Mary Beth, Becca and

Jen," Preston said. "They've really stepped it up, picked it up and they've done a great job."

If the year-to-year rotation of seniors has bolstered Woodson's lineup, so too has the Cavaliers' habit of besting the Saxons. With 14 seconds left in the second overtime of last year's Liberty District title game, Shelly Montgomery, now a junior, scored the game-winning goal to avenge a regular season loss to Langley. Montgomery's goal also erased a sour taste from Langley's 3-2 win in the 2006 district tournament.

Still, those two losses aside, Woodson has

"Each year you have to reload, and I think we've done a really good job."

— Mary Beth Barham

won five of the past six Liberty crowns.

"Woodson's a very talented team," said Langley coach Jennifer Robb. "They obviously lost some talented players from last year, but they have a whole lot of players that are capable of playing hockey."

On Monday, Preston twice yelled "Cavalier Two" as her team lined up to execute two of eight first-half penalty corners. Preston's team has had trouble finishing its offensive chances and the coach's primary goal has been to simplify what the Cavaliers are trying to do.

Twice the Cavaliers were simple and successful. On the first corner play, senior Liesa Brauch finished a feed from Geist before junior Regan McLaughlin scored unassisted on the second corner.

"This year, we're trying to keep it simple on corners, and like it's just a matter of putting it in and overcoming what appears to be a mental battle," said Preston, whose team topped Marshall, 3-1, on Tuesday night. "[On Monday] we got over that battle and I feel like we've been passing well and moving to the ball well this year."

"Each year, you have to reload, and I think we've done a really good job," said Barham, who scored the Cavaliers' first goal off of an assist from Brauch. "We've brought in some new players, and they've definitely filled their roles. And we've really started to jell."

WEEK IN SPORTS

FROM PAGE 20

sonal-best mark with her time of 25:57. In addition, the boys team finished seventh in the Varsity B Race, with times in the 16-minute range for Ian McGinn (fourth, 16:32) and Charles Horne (eighth, 16:52). Lizzie Greene met the cross-country national silver standard for high school girls with a new personal best of 19:34.

On Friday, Oct. 3, the Paul VI Panthers fought a hard battle against Bishop McNamara, but it came down to the last two seconds and two points. In the last 2 seconds of the game, McNamara passed for a touchdown and defeated the Panthers, 20-18. Three touchdowns were scored by the Panthers, one by senior Dan McGroarty and two by junior Idreis Augustus (22 carries, 136 yards, two touchdowns). Junior Eric Wright had 14 tackles and one sack. Juniors Stephen Muskett (six tackles), Chuck Carlton (three tackles), Sammy Ojeh and senior Harry Britton also put up strong performances.

Jefferson Roundup

Burke Lake was the site of an Oct. 1 Liberty District League cross-country meet among Thomas Jefferson, Langley, Madison and Stone Bridge high schools. The boys squad, paced by Will Manaker of Alexandria (17, minutes, 9 seconds) easily won its quad meet as the Colonials captured the top six spots. Manaker was followed by Dave Warrington (Centreville) at 17:23, Scott Skirlo (Fairfax) at 17:35, as well as Karl Sofinowski (Burke), Ian Rappaport (Vienna) and Sam Brinton of Fairfax in fourth, fifth and sixth places, respectively.

Berman Improves as Runner

FROM PAGE 20

several other members of Robinson's team, attended Blue Ridge Running Camp, which takes place annually at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg. There, Berman's typical day featured morning and afternoon runs, several instructional sessions and an obvious narrowed scope on all things running.

"He was already in good shape, and he wanted to make sure that he went to camp and got something out of that as well," said Workman, whose boys team won the Octoberfest team title. "I think he had a little bit of confidence from that as well."

UPON HIS return to Fairfax, Berman ran throughout August, increasing his mileage every week. Then, later in the month, he clicked on milestat.com, a popular Web site devoted to sports that, well, are measured in miles.

There it was, an article about Berman's performance at a scrimmage on Aug. 27. On the 2.98-

mile course at Burke Lake Park, Berman had held off Leoule and Tihut Degfae from Edison, twin runners from Ethiopia, who, with the departure of Joe LoRusso (Oakton), Brad Kenimer (T.C. Williams) and Bryan Landry (Jefferson), are favored to compete for the region title.

"That's when my head got a little big ... but not cocky or anything like that," Berman joked.

At that point, Berman knew he had arrived. An increased dosage of mileage and a five-day commitment to running in the Shenandoah Valley had propelled last year's 50th-best runner in the state of Virginia to the front page of milestat.com.

And, as it turns out, neither Berman's original reasoning nor his coach's truly explained his ascent to the top.

"My summer training was important, but there's one thing that helped me get where I am right now and that's my mom," Berman said. "She's always giving me that push to be better than I was in the past, and she always makes me go on my runs."

Keith Fimian Touts Strong Work Ethic

FROM PAGE 3

the investments he made with money earned through the Cleveland Browns try-out. He knew if he failed, he could lose his house and said "my wife would have killed me."

Fimian's wife, his high school sweetheart, also made it clear he had to be home for dinner with his family every night. So he started waking up at 3:45 a.m. to fit exercise and a 12-hour work day before he had sit down with his family in the evening.

IN SPITE of his ambition, Fimian has always put family first, a quality that has carried over into his company's culture.

"The message from Keith was always put your family first. Get you job done but family comes first," said Faith Greenwell, national sales director for U.S. Inspect.

In previous jobs, Greenwell had been encountered hostility when she had to leave work to take care of a sick child or other family member. U.S. Inspect was different. Greenwell started working for the company when her husband was dying from emphysema and said Fimian was always supportive.

"He created an environment at U.S. Inspect that is accommodating of women in the workplace, a quality I really appreciate,"

said Greenwell.

Questions remain about whether Fimian's experience in business has prepared him for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Along with 10 years of experience working for the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations committee, Connolly knows the issues facing Fairfax County, which makes up two-thirds of the congressional district. He is serving his fourth term on the county Board of Supervisors. Connolly's trajectory is similar to that of Davis, who was also Fairfax County's sitting chairman when he was elected to Congress in 1994.

"This is someone who has never been involved in the community ... has never testified before the board on anything even though hundreds of people sign up to testify every year," said Connolly of Fimian.

Even though he was not in the public eye, Fimian has been active in local Republican politics.

"I had known him for a year or two before he decided to run because he was active on our county committee," said Jim Hyland, head of the Fairfax County Republican Committee.

THAT HE has not served in elected office before also doesn't phase Fimian. To the contrary, the Republican sees his newcomer status as an asset.

Keith Fimian

Age: 52

Hometown: Virginia Beach, Va.

City: Oakton

Family: Wife Cathy of 26 years and three adult daughters

Education: College of William and Mary, Bachelors of Business Administration, Accounting concentration - 1979

Relevant Experience: founder and chairman of U.S. Inspect, a large provider of property inspection services

Web site: www.keithfimian.com

Fimian, who is a certified public accountant, wants to bring a businessman's sense to Capitol Hill. He has criticized Connolly for being a "tax and spend" political leader who did not have the fiscal discipline to prevent the projected \$430 million shortfall in the county's budget.

"We need fewer career politicians and more civilians in government. ... I believe if people like me who could do this don't do this, we are in trouble," said Fimian.

Fimian's status as a green politician could also be a campaign advantage in 2008, said Davis.

In a year where people are heaping rewards on presidential and vice-presidential candidates with little Washington experi-

ence, Fimian's inexperience with public office could be a benefit, said the congressman.

"People have to understand, Gerry Connolly has been around politics a long time and this is a year for political outsiders," said Davis.

Davis and other Republicans said the 11th Congressional District also favors moderate Republicans, like the current congressman, who focus on quality-of-life issues.

"People are looking for solutions. They want to get to work faster and get their kids into a decent college and they don't want to pay more taxes than they have to," said Del. Dave Albo (R-42), whose state seat is located inside the 11th Congressional District.

"People write this district off but it has always been very good to me and plays well to more moderate Republicans, of which Keith is one," said Davis.

THE DEMOCRATS have tried to paint Fimian as anything but a moderate.

"His campaign is staffed by Ken Cuccinelli Republicans. They are hardly Tom Davis Republicans," said Connolly, referring to state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37), who supports limiting abortion access and opposes

SEE NEWCOMER, PAGE 26

Connolly Points to Experience, Intellect

FROM PAGE 3

employees that live here," said Connolly.

REGARDLESS of his qualifications, several people said Connolly's mind would be his single greatest asset in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Many, including those who sometimes butt heads with Connolly, immediately used words like "articulate" and "highly intelligent" when asked to describe the Fairfax County chairman.

Connolly makes an effort to be well informed. He reads, on average, one book per week in spite of his two jobs and a busy political schedule that has him out at public meetings at least six out of every seven nights.

"Gerry is extraordinarily bright and has a tremendous grasp of issues. He is extremely insightful about what is happening and what direction should be taken to resolve conflicts," said Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock), the Fairfax board's vice chairman.

Some who know Connolly from his work on Capitol Hill made similar comments.

McLean resident Mary Lee McIntyre first met Connolly in the 1980s when she and her husband, an employee with the U.S. Agency for International Development, lived in Lebanon.

"He was a real live wire, but he was able to see all the complexities that Lebanon

presented," said McIntyre of Connolly. "I think he will be a great asset in Congress."

Arlington County resident and Republican Charlie Flickner worked on congressional foreign relations matters with Connolly and described him as smart, competent and politically savvy.

Connolly has done such an excellent job as Fairfax County's chairman that Flickner sometimes wished "Fairfax would just annex Arlington," he said.

MANY of Connolly's colleagues on the Board of Supervisors consider Connolly to be exceptionally effective leader.

"I think he does an outstanding job of keeping the board focused and helping us get our work accomplished," said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville.)

At the beginning of his first term in 2004, Connolly called the board together to stake out specific and measurable goals for the county and the board. Under his guidance, Fairfax has achieved or made significant strides toward meeting those goals set five years ago.

For example, the supervisors surpassed their goal of preserving 1,000 units of affordable housing, in part by dedicating a penny of the county's real estate tax rate — which totals a little over \$20 million annually — to assist with purchase and rehabilitation of lower-income units.

By setting measurable objectives, Connolly said government could judge its

Gerry Connolly

Age: 57

Born in: Boston, Mass.

City/Community: Mantua

Family: Wife Cathy, teenage daughter Caitlin

Education: Maryknoll College, B.A. in literature; Harvard University; M.A. in public administration

Relevant Experience: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors: chairman (2004 - present), Providence District supervisors (1995-2003); U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff member, 1979 -1989

Web site: www.gerryconnolly.com

progress and make itself accountable to residents. Other initiatives under Connolly's watch included environmental benchmarks, with goals for stormwater management, tree preservation and acquisition of parkland and open space, and transportation improvements.

"I have an abstract belief that there is a bottom line that needs to be measurable. Rhetoric is fine. But are you providing measurable results that say you are effective in serving the citizens of the community?" said Connolly.

THE CHAIRMAN learned the importance of having a responsive and results-oriented government 18 years ago, when Connolly, as president of the Mantua Citizens Asso-

ciation, had to deal with an oil spill in his community.

Connolly found Fairfax County to be the only level of government that was responsive to the citizens' concerns at the time. Local elected officials put pressure on the federal Environmental Protection Agency to clean up the site and arranged for a survey to investigate whether there had been an increase in certain types of medical illnesses as a result of the spill, said Connolly.

"I have never thought about running for local elected office prior to that ever. ... But it seared in my mind how important this level of government was and is to the community. It taught me a lesson about how important it is to focus on results and actually deliver," said Connolly.

Some say Connolly's focus on delivering results and achieving the county's goals has led to a "bull-in-a-china-shop" approach to governing.

There is typically a lot of agreement among Fairfax County's supervisors and it is not unusual for the group to pass a resolution unanimously. But Connolly can be hostile toward people, including county staff, who disagree with him, said critics.

"When you are in agreement with him, he can be very easy and very good to work with. The problem I have always found with Gerry is when you don't agree with him, he doesn't show the proper amount of respect.

SEE CHAIRMAN, PAGE 26

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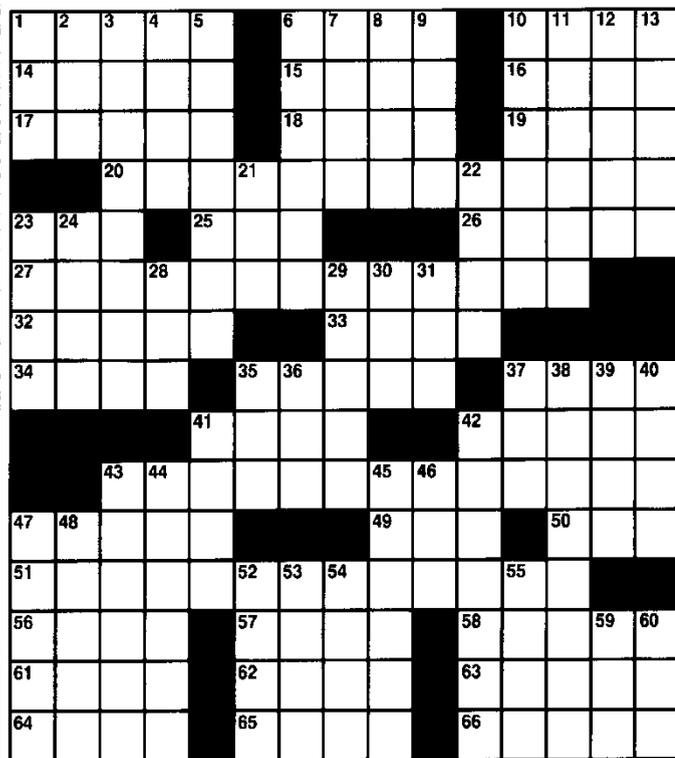
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0401-2



Puzzle by Kelly Clark

ACROSS

- 1 Cutoffs, maybe, before they were cutoffs
- 6 Sound of breaking up?
- 10 Masterpieces
- 14 Sylvia Plath book
- 15 Religious image
- 16 Baker's need
- 17 Oft-quoted Yogi
- 18 Old Spanish kingdom
- 19 Coin no longer being minted
- 20 What happens when Kansas City wins a World Series?
- 23 Sea's partner
- 25 Draw
- 26 Boston team, in brief
- 27 Why is the milk production survey so screwy?
- 32 Kind of wrench
- 33 Like a Burns acquaintance
- 34 Sharp
- 35 Detroit's county
- 37 Item in which to do a plié
- 41 Resistance units
- 42 Not just a franchisee

- 43 Why is the drought-plagued swim club bankrupt?
- 47 Film maker Frank
- 49 Playboy head, to friends
- 50 Lake Okeechobee's state: Abbr.
- 51 What's the anagrammatic reason for these odd questions?
- 56 Kind of gin
- 57 Food for Fido
- 58 Songs "di sentimento"
- 61 High scores
- 62 1963 Liz Taylor role
- 63 Busybody
- 64 New England's locale
- 65 Fish locale
- 66 "Broca's Brain" author

DOWN

- 1 Elbows do it
- 2 Before
- 3 BB gun, e.g.
- 4 Peter Lorre's role in "The Story of Mankind"

- 28 Compose
- 29 Authority
- 30 Press for payment
- 31 Ginger —
- 35 "— me?"
- 36 Band aid?
- 37 Air letters?
- 38 Making whole
- 39 Make known
- 40 Bear with us at night

- 5 Mercury astronaut Deke
- 6 Noted Talmudic sage
- 7 Ones that may be high?
- 8 Tough
- 9 — Domini
- 10 Green party?
- 11 In a bad way
- 12 Excellence
- 13 Says quickly
- 21 Be in a bad way
- 22 Kind of wit or test
- 23 Saturate
- 24 Curly cabbage
- 41 Voiced
- 42 Times when you're not at your peak
- 43 Pinafores
- 44 Thirstiest
- 45 "Hey, check that out!"
- 46 Guitarist Paul
- 47 Class
- 48 Cop —
- 52 It's the truth
- 53 Spanish pot
- 54 Available
- 55 Vicinity
- 59 — standstill
- 60 Mateo or Miguel, e.g.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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The winner of puzzle #0331-2 is:

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

POLITICS

Newcomer Seeks 11th Congressional Seat

FROM PAGE 22

embryonic stem cell research. "There are far fewer differences between Tom [Davis] and me and Keith Fimian and me," added Connolly. Fimian describes himself as pro-life and said he is anti-death penalty as well as anti-abortion. He also opposes embryonic stem cell research, which uses cells derived from a fertilized egg in an in vitro fertilization clinic, but supports other types of stem cell research, which he said are more promising.

Fimian said contraception is a private

matter that should not be legislated. On the topic of the environment, Fimian said serious questions remain about whether global warming is the result of human activity.

"I have always seen myself as a moderate that leans conservative."

— Keith Fimian

But the Republican does not consider himself conservative.

"I have always seen myself as a moderate that leans conservative," said Fimian.

He said he is in favor "government being there for people who cannot take care of themselves."

As a congressman, Fimian would focus on issues like the economy, energy crisis and Northern Virginia's transportation deficit, not a social agenda.

Chairman Hopes To Follow Davis, Who Is Retiring

FROM PAGE 22

Gerry doesn't argue the facts. He attacks your motives," said Supervisor Michael Frey (R-Sully.)

He added: "The disagreements aren't always pleasant. ... Gerry's style tends to be one of intimidation, whether it is directed toward staff, me, Richmond or anyone else."

BUT SEVERAL of Connolly's other colleagues said he lets people voice their opinions, even when they disagree with him.

"Most of the time there is very little dissent and more of a discussion. ... When there have been differences on policy, I never felt like I have been denied my opportunity to speak," said Foust.

Though the incumbent, Davis has endorsed Republican Fimian over Connolly in the race for fill his seat, Connolly supporters said the incumbent has more in common with their candidate than the Republican running.

Both Connolly and Davis spent several years representing their magisterial district on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Davis was also Fairfax's sitting county chairman when he was first elected to Congress in 1994.

"The similarities between Gerry and Tom are very strong. They are both very bright and real policy wonks. They are issue-oriented people who get a charge out of politics and they both have wonderful senses of humor," Bulova said.

BULLETIN BOARD

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Park and Recreation Advisory Board meeting. 7 p.m., Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/ParksRec/PeetingPostings.asp.

Del. David Bulova (D-37) will conduct informal office hours from 9-11 a.m. at Main Street Bagel, 10268 Main St., Fairfax. Constituents are invited to talk about issues of interest and to ask questions about legislation affecting our community. The format is casual and no appointment is needed.

League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, discussing Barriers to Voting. 9:15 a.m., Fairfax City Days Inn, 3133 Singleton Circle, Fairfax. Call Jeanne 703-591-4580. www.lwv-fairfax.org.

Financial Planning for Separation and Divorce. 7-10 p.m. Investment & Resource Planning Associates, 10600 Arrowhead Drive, Suite 310, Fairfax. \$55 non-members, \$45 members. All financial components of the property settlement

agreement from preparing documents to signing the agreement. For more, call 703-281-2657.

FRIDAY/OCT. 10

Bonita Lestina Performance Series, 8 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Call 703-352-ARTS or visit www.fairfaxarts.org.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

City Council meeting and work session. 7 p.m. City Hall Annex, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Call 703-385-7835 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/cityclerk/CouncilDocs.asp.

Fairfax County Government and Fairfax County Public Schools community dialogue sessions. 7-9:30 p.m. Register to participate in shaping the FY 2010 Budget. Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. 703-324-9400 or 703-324-2391, TTY 711.

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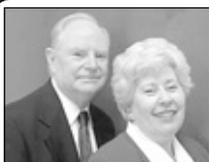


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