



Jim MacLean was the baby-stroller-division winner in Sunday's Goblin Gallop 5K Race. He is shown here with, center, wife Carin and Fairfax's Andrea Vincent. In stroller are Zana Vincent, 4, and Mia

CLASSIFIED, PAGE 15

Blenheim
Center
Opens
Sunday
NEWS, PAGE 3

Rebels
Fall Short
SPORTS, PAGE 12

Goblin Winner

NEWS, PAGE 4

PLUMBING PROBLEMS?



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Saturday, November 1
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6507 Columbia Pike
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from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

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WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV/RECYCLING

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A Fairfax County, Va.,
publication.

Diaries of the Common Soldier

New Civil War interpretive center will showcase city's once hidden jewel.

BY DEREK B. JOHNSON
THE CONNECTION

When Blenheim house tenant William Scott died in 1997, it ended five generations of his family's ownership of the Fairfax City home on Old Lee Highway.

At the time of Scott's death, David Meyer lived four houses down from the Blenheim home.

Meyer had heard rumors that the house's history stretched back to before the Civil War and had served as a makeshift hospital during the conflict. He had also heard through his neighbor, Hildie Carney, that soldiers had left writings and drawings on the walls of the house.

"The general public didn't have a lot of access to the house at the time," said Meyer.

Eleven years later, Meyer is a Fairfax City Council member. On Saturday, Nov. 1, the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim will open to the public. Meyer will be there to help cut the ribbon. The Blenheim house, purchased by the City of Fairfax in 1999 for \$2.1 million, sits up on a hill a few hundred feet away from the center.

Chris Martin, historic resources director for the city,

calls Blenheim's over 110 writings and signings "a diary on walls."

"They reveal the psyche and psychology of the typical soldier," said Martin.

Barbara Scott, who died in 1987, was the last remaining descendent of Albert Wilcoxon, who owned the home in 1861. Wilcoxon, who owned six slaves, was a proud Confederate and voted along with 77 percent of Fairfax County to secede from the Union. When Union forces widen the defensive perimeter of Washington, D.C. in 1862, the Blenheim home fell under their control. Used as a hospital for illnesses and ailments like typhoid, the property in and around the house became a way station for hundreds, maybe thousands of soldiers from 22 different regiments throughout the Union Army.

"This was a blank canvas for the soldiers."

— Andrea Loewenwarter

Andrea Loewenwarter, historic resources specialist for the city, has spent two years studying the house, analyzing the historic graffiti that lines the walls of the home. Most of the markings on the first floor walls are indecipherable, lost after generations of painting and plastering done by its tenants. However, the second floor and attic, mostly untouched by renovations, remain in pristine condition.

"This was a blank canvas for the soldiers," said Loewenwarter.

BY MATCHING the names and signatures on the walls with service and pension records at the National Archives in Maryland, specialists like Loewenwarter have been able to identify many of

SEE CIVIL WAR CENTER, PAGE 8



PHOTO BY DEREK JOHNSON/THE CONNECTION

Andrea Loewenwarter, historic resources specialist for the city, gives a tour of the second floor of Blenheim, the site of a hospital during the Civil War. Union soldiers scrawled everything from poems to games to pictures of cannons, ships and the occasional naked woman.

Community Center Decision Deferred

City Council takes second look at community center designs, mulls backup line of credit.

BY DEREK B. JOHNSON
THE CONNECTION

At its Tuesday, Oct. 28 meeting, the Fairfax City Council reviewed a second iteration of plans for the construction of a community center Van Dyck Park. The council had previously asked the Sterling-based architectural firm Hughes Group for flexibility in the floor plan and answers to their questions about its approach to stormwater management.

Wayne Hughes, owner and founder of Hughes Group, presented a plan expanding the performance capacity to 6,000. Given a budget of \$5 million for construction, Hughes said his company had come up with some creative ways to add more space, using false wall partitions to expand or contract space when needed. Because of spending restraints, any addition would be a tradeoff.

In the case of the floor plan, the position-

ing of bathrooms and electrical equipment had to be moved to the front of the center.

Council Member Jeff Greenfield asked whether a basic basement for the equipment could be built.

"That's what should happen in the best of all worlds, but we are right at the absolute maximum budget limitation," said Hughes.

Council member Gary Rasmussen acknowledged that the city could not allocate additional money given its budget constraints.

"I realize we have given you a really horrendous task," said Rasmussen.

Hughes said his company would continue exploring space saving measures within the funds given and that additional details could be prepared before the council's next meeting Nov. 11.

COUNCIL MEMBER David Meyer took issue with the loss of two small meeting

rooms from the original plan in order to expand the floor plan for event space. Many local groups and clubs would use those rooms to engage the community.

"I don't want to lose sight in this discussion that this is a community center, not primarily an event center," said Meyer.

Council member Joan Cross expressed concern that the progress on the center was becoming bogged down.

"I think that I'm as interested as anyone

else in making a good decision here, but I think we're continuing to kick the can down the road," said Cross. "We need to come up with a decision so that [Hughes] can go forward with [his] work."

The council also discussed the option of adding bio-retention basins to the center's stormwater management plan and whether current designs allowed for the future ad-

dition of a second floor. The council ultimately decided to hold off on any decision to green-light construction until more specific plans were presented on both those aspects at its Nov. 11 meeting.

The council also discussed whether to add a backup line of credit with SunTrust Bank. Stephen Moloney, city treasurer said the measure was a contingency for expected revenue shortfalls in the wake of a stumbling economy.

"The line of credit would only be utilized if we need it. One year with a 10 percent debt limit based on future real estate revenues," said Moloney. "[The line] is renewable every year by the council."

Council member Stephen Stombres said he understood the need for line of credit,

SEE LINE OF CREDIT, PAGE 13

Former City Schools Chief Dies at 89

Merrill Joseph Whitman led board after desegregation.

Merrill Joseph Whitman, 89, formerly of Old Lee Highway in Fairfax, died in his sleep in the early hours of Oct. 16, at Glacier Hills in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Whitman was born July 8, 1919, to Walter John Whitman and Faith H. LaBarge, on the family farm in Delano Township outside of Au Gres, Mich. He was an advocate for nuclear power and the civilian fast-breeder reactor program.

After graduating from Fordson High School in Dearborn, Whitman entered the Engineering College of the University of Michigan. At the start of World War II, he volunteered for the U.S. Army Air Corps, becoming an officer and serving as a flight engineer in B-17 and B-29 bombers.



Merrill Joseph Whitman

FAMILY PHOTO

In November 1943, Whitman married the late Patricia Jean Walter, R.N. Returning to the university, he graduated in metallurgical engineering, B.S.E. (1946) and M.S.E. (1947). Whitman worked for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and Argonne National Laboratory until 1952. He was recalled to active duty in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and worked in the U.S.A.F.'s aircraft nuclear propulsion effort.

WHITMAN MOVED to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to work on civilian nuclear power and related materials research. At the AEC, now a civilian, he served in various research, development and administrative roles, retiring in 1975 as the deputy director of the Civilian Nuclear Reactor Program. He served as technical director of Americans for Energy Independence. A long-time member of the American Nuclear Society, Whitman served as chairman of its Materials Science & Technology Division.

A Boy Scout leader, Whitman was a Scout Master, district chairman and recipient of the Silver Beaver. He served as chairman of the Fairfax City School Board dealing both with population growth and the end of segregation. He was a vestryman of Truro Episcopal Church and, in later years, president of the Tibetan Meditation Center.

An inveterate runner, Whitman also practiced yoga and was a University of Michigan sports fan.

Whitman is survived by his younger sisters, Betty Whitman Pierson and Walda (Audie) Whitman Hura. He was the father of Merrill Jay Whitman of Ann Arbor, Mich.; Walter Jon Whitman of Culpeper; and the late Patricia Jeanne Whitman Saunders. He was the grandfather of Claire, Emma, Katherine, Jon, Joseph, Joshua, Mary and Steven; great-grandfather of Garrett, Tyler, Caleb, Walter and Charles; and uncle to many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will take place on Saturday, Nov. 8, 1 p.m. at St. James Episcopal Church, 25150 East River Road, Grosse Isle, Mich. Memorial donations may be made to the College of Engineering, University of Michigan.

NEWS



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Runners line up Sunday, Oct. 26 for the 5K Race of the 15th annual Goblin Gallop in Fairfax Corner.

Goblin Gallop Raises \$40,000

More than 1,800 runners, walkers take part in 15th annual event.

On Sunday, Oct. 26, the 15th annual Goblin Gallop proved to be a success. The day was crisp and sunny, and the 5K Race and 1K Fun Run raised \$40,000 for the John Quadrino Foundation to Benefit Children with Cancer.

"It's wonderful," said event organizer George Quadrino. "It keeps growing each year, and it was our biggest turnout ever."

The race attracted 1,825 participants, about 1,325

runners and nearly 500 walkers. Since the race is run shortly before Halloween, many of the runners and spectators came in costume.

Ezkyas Sisay, 19, of Flagstaff, Ariz., won the 5K with a time of 15:05. He trains as a runner all year and runs 90-150 miles per week. Elena Orlova, 38, of Russia, was the first-place female finisher, in 18:20. Both won for the second year in a row. Nicolas Estrada, 10, of Fairfax, won the fun run. The son of Roxana and Ron Estrada, he's a fifth-grader at Eagle View Elementary.

Jim MacLean, 39, of Fairfax Station, took top honors in the baby-stroller division – pushing two, little girls in a double stroller. He said the hardest part was maneuvering it around the other competitors and, he added, the girls were "heavy to push uphill."

— BONNIE HOBBS



From Little Rocky Run are, from left, Tyler Schroder, 6, racecar driver; Zachary Bowers, 6, Darth Maul; Sammie Bowers, 4, Tinkerbell; Teddy Schroder, 3, racecar driver; and Casey Bowers, 2, froggie.



The Birge siblings of Bristow are, from left, Tyler, 7; Ryan, 3; and Madison, 5, as Pikachu, Obi-Wan-Kenobi and Wall-E. Parents are Kirsten and Morgan Birge.

CAMPS & SCHOOLS

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.

Batul Alzubeidy of Fairfax has been named to the spring 2008 dean's list at American University. Alzubeidy is majoring in chemistry.

Nabila Chami of Fairfax has been admitted as a first year student at American University.

Lakeithia D. Wilkes of Fairfax has been awarded a bachelor of science degree in nursing from William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo.

Elizabeth Mandler of Fairfax has been named to the summer 2008 dean's list at Old Dominion University. Mandler is the daughter of Wes and Linda Mandler of Fairfax.

Webelo cub scouts and older boys interested in joining Boy Scouts are invited to Troop 1849's Webelos Day for a morning of scouting fun, Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Refreshments served. Burke Lake Park, 7513 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Angie Pilcher, apilcher@cox.net.

Emily M. Ferrell and David S. Levonian, both of James W. Robinson Secondary, have been named as 2009 National Merit scholarship semifinalists.

Isaiah Day, Jiho Kim, Kevin D. Kuchler, Hannah K. Martins, Adam Nguyen, Christina I. Stewart, Victoria L. Waltrip and Alexander J. Yohai, all of W.T. Woodson High School, have been named as 2009 National Merit scholarship semifinalists.

Michael D. Baker, Esther F. Jackson and Scott W. Renner, all of Trinity Christian School, have been named as 2009 National Merit scholarship semifinalists.

Pang Brian of Dunn Loring, Thomas Jefferson School for Science and Technology, has been named a 2009 National Merit semifinalist.

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You could be one of the 10 million Americans who is affected by essential tremor.

The IETF invites you to attend a **FREE**, one-time community education event Thursday, November 6, 2008 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Inova HealthSource, Classroom 7, 2700 Prosperity Avenue, Fairfax, VA. Check-in starts at 6:00 pm.

Register online or by calling the IETF:
www.essentialtremor.org
888-387-3667

Although the fundraiser has ended, you can still learn about essential tremor by visiting the IETF website or calling the IETF toll-free.

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Paid Advertisement

Northern Virginia- Dr. Steven Johnson and Dr. Soudabeh Dehghani are offering sweet rewards to area youngsters this Halloween.

Given the amazing amount of candy given out on Halloween, dentists have nightmares this time of year. A dentist friend started a Candy Buy Back and Dr. Johnson and Dr. Dehghani decided to participate.

The plan is fairly simple, on November 1st from 11am to 1pm, Dr. Johnson and Dr. Dehghani will pay children \$1 for every pound of candy they bring into their office. The office is located at 4322 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Once all the cash is paid out, the mounds of sweets they collect will be shipped out and distributed to American military personnel serving in Iraq in co-ordination with Operation Gratitude.

For further information, call Drs. Johnson and Dehghani's office at 703.256.5870.

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PEOPLE

Getting To Know ...

Richard J. Frisch, Fairfax County Chamber's new chief operating officer.

On Oct. 14, Richard J. Frisch joined the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce as the organization's new chief operating officer. Frisch has 25 years of experience in the hotel management industry, serving most recently as the general manager of the Hilton McLean.

PROFILE

Number of years in the community.

Seventeen years in the Greater Metropolitan Washington area. Last 10 years as general manager of Hilton McLean in Tysons Corner.

Family.

Frisch is a resident of Bethesda, Md., with his wife Alison, a meeting and events executive for Courtesy Associates, Washington, D.C.

Education.

Frisch has spent his last 25 years in hotel management with Hilton Hotels.

Your first job.

Air Traffic Controller, United States Air Force.

Activities/interest/hobbies.

Enjoys a daily 2-mile walk, landscaping and he is an active book club member for the past five years.

Favorite local restaurants.

Meiwah Restaurant, J R's Stockyard Inn for BBQ.

Community concerns.

Labor and transportation.

Personal goals.

Continue to be a solid manager to achieve financial benchmarks. Grow revenue and continue to develop new business relationships.

What's the biggest challenge facing Fairfax County businesses right now?

What impact will the difficult global financial picture have on state and local government?

What role can the Chamber play in meeting that challenge?

Develop education programs to assist business leaders in managing through the volatile markets.



Richard J. Frisch

DONATED PHOTO

— MICHAEL O'CONNELL



Robert C. Jones, past president of the Rotary Club of Fairfax, hands a dictionary to a third-grader at last year's Eagle View Elementary School's dictionary distribution ceremony, while Fairfax High School Principal Scott S. Brabrand looks on.

Rotary Club Hands Out Dictionaries

The Rotary Club of Fairfax is distributing approximately 800 free dictionaries to every third grader in six elementary schools in the Fairfax High School footprint, including Daniels Run Elementary School, Providence Elementary School, St. Leo's Catholic School, Eagle View Elementary School, Fairfax Villa Elementary School and Willow Springs Elementary School. This is the third consecutive year that the club has run the Dictionary Literacy Program, which was started at the suggestion of Rotary member and Fairfax High School principal Scott S. Brabrand.

The Dictionary Distribution Program is funded 100 percent by the Rotary Club of Fairfax Educational Foundation, which organizes a number of fund raisers and seeks donations throughout the year. The Rotary Club of Fairfax Educational Foundation also sponsors and funds additional programs that include scholarships to Fairfax High School students attending Virginia state universities, community service awards to Fairfax High School students, Teacher of the Year awards to educators in any of the schools located in the City of Fairfax, Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarships and many other local and community projects.

VIEWPOINTS

What's your impression of current presidential campaign advertising?



"I think they're terrible. I hate every one of them. You'd think that presidential candidates would be above such things."

Linda Redonbo, Stanton, Va.



"Most of it is negative advertising by both of them. It really doesn't help me understand much about them."

Tip Kehoe, Burke

— MICHAEL O'CONNELL

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Church Recalls Beckwith

Memorial service honors founding pastor, civil rights advocate.

An Oct. 20 memorial service took place at the Little River United Church of Christ in Annandale for founding pastor and civil rights activist, the Rev. Hubert S. Beckwith. Beckwith died Oct. 12, at his residence in Greenspring Village, Springfield.

In January 1955, a small group of members from the Congregational denomination living in the Annandale area wanted to form a church in Northern Virginia where persons of all races could worship together. They called Beckwith, then serving as minister at Rocky Hill Congregational Church, Rocky Hill, Conn., to be their founding pastor. He accepted, and the group formed the Congregational Christian Church of Fairfax County, now Little River United Church of Christ, meeting in an Annandale school.

From its beginning, the Annandale church took an active part in the struggle against racial segregation. It ran into trouble with the Commonwealth of Virginia, which then disapproved of allowing mixed races to sit and worship together in a public building. Not yet having funds for its own church building, the group reluctantly attempted compliance by designating "seats of honor" at the front for its African-American members.

However, the group desired a church of its own,

where it would not be subject to the Commonwealth segregation laws. Many prospective sellers refused to sell property to them, when they learned of the mixed racial composition of the congregation. Finally, the group was able to purchase a wooded parcel of land, off Little River Turnpike, across from Northern Virginia Community College. Beckwith, known as "Beck," served as its pastor until his retirement in 1987, when he was named Pastor Emeritus.

The Annandale group called Beckwith as its pastor because of his prior position from 1945 and 1949 as assistant minister of the First Congregational Church in Washington, D.C. During this period, he was an advisor for the Congregational Citywide Pilgrim Fellowship—the only racially integrated denominational youth organization in the greater Washington area.

Beckwith was also an early civil rights leader in Fairfax County. In 1958, he was instrumental in founding the Fairfax County Council on Human Relations, the first such broad-based citizens' group in the state. Beckwith was its first president, as well as second president of the statewide Council and a member of its umbrella organization, the Southern Regional Council in Atlanta, Ga. For his commitment to religious leadership and to civil rights and human relations, he received in 2003 the James Floyd Jenkins Pillar of Faith Award at Howard University School of Divinity.

Beckwith's wife of almost 59 years, Elizabeth, predeceased him in May 2008. He is survived by two sons and four grandchildren.

OBITUARY

CRIME

ARSON

4000 Block of Roberts Road. On Oct. 22, at 8:52 p.m., the victim reported that at 8:48 p.m., unknown person set two political signs on fire that were in his front yard. The suspect(s) fled the scene in a black compact car.

HIT AND RUN

Lee Highway / Jermantown Road. On Oct. 21, at 6:23 p.m., the victim reported that while he was entering the intersection his vehicle was struck by another vehicle. The driver of the striking vehicle left the scene without stopping. The Patrol Division is investigating the case.

LARCENY

3204 Old Pickett Road / Kama Wedding Concepts. On Oct. 17, the victim reported that on Oct. 11 between 9 a.m.-4 p.m., unknown person(s) stole a white binder containing customer contracts.

11015 Lee Highway / AT&T Store. On Oct. 17, at 11:30 a.m., employees of the store reported that three males entered the business, distracted the clerk and stole a Sony-Ericson

SEE CRIME, PAGE 9

Home Care NEWS

Presented by
Laura & Michael
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DIABETES AND LIVING ALONE

People with diabetes and chronic hyperglycemia face greater risks of cognitive decline and physical disability than those without diabetes. In addition, hyperglycemia in the elderly can cause poor sleep, nocturnal falls, incontinence, dehydration, and impaired mobility. Visual disturbances that interfere with self administration of insulin pose a major risk to the elderly. Medical nutrition therapy is a vital component of nutritional management of diabetes in home healthcare. Home healthcare agencies have dietitians on staff for nutrition assessment, counseling, and development of individual patient care plans. Benefits of home healthcare include regular and proper assessment of the patient's medical condition and follow up care, such as nutrition visits, which can bring about lasting, permanent change.

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Civil War Center Opens Nov. 1

FROM PAGE 3

the soldiers who had stayed there. They've also been able to trace what happened to the soldiers before they arrived at the hospital and what their fate was after they left.

Few places interpret the Civil War from the perspective of a community over the course of the war, Meyer said.

Though the center has received just under \$2 million in city funding over the past 10 years, it is currently being built in phases until additional money can be secured. The centerpiece of the site will be a re-creation of the attic, giving the public its first glimpse at some of the most vivid markings of the house.

Using graphite, charcoal or wax, soldiers played games, drew pictures, wrote poems and spilled their inner consciousness onto

the walls. A soldier from the 4th New York Cavalry scrawled out his moods over the course of his stay.

"First month's hard bread, hard on stomach," reads the first box.

"Second month, pay day. Patriot-hic Ale. How we suffer for lager," reads the second, with a drawing of a soldier washing down mug of ale.

By the soldier's fourth month, his morale is considerably lower.

"Fourth month: no money, no whiskey, no friends, no rations, no peas, no beans, no pants, no patriotism," he wrote.

"We have an interesting slice of life from the soldiers here," said Loewenwarter.

THE BLENHEIM property and the writings inside were almost lost to the city forever. After Scott died, several developers lined up to buy the property and build new residential housing in its place. Meyer and Carney had gotten a better look at the inside of the home after it went up for sale. They helped form Historic Fairfax City Inc. and partnered with other members of the community wary of more development to lobby the city to preserve the house. Though the property was purchased in 1999, Meyer said it took several years to accumulate enough funding to get the project off the ground.

"We never let up, we lobbied pretty consistently over the years to see this site made accessible to the citizens of the city," said Meyer.

Historic Blenheim

The grand opening of the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim is Saturday, Nov. 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 11 a.m., at 3610 Old Lee Highway in Fairfax. From 4-7 p.m., a \$100 per person benefit will take place for the center. Dr. James Robertson Jr., executive director of for the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, will speak and guided site tours will be given. All money will go toward unfunded additions to the center. 703-691-8294.



PHOTO BY DEREK B. JOHNSON/THE CONNECTION

This drawing, retraced by former tenant Barbara Scott, depicts what could be 'Gray Ghost' John Singleton Mosby, a confederate battalion commander famous for his quick raids and nearly invisible movement.

Now Meyer is in a position to attend the unveiling of the project he and others had worked more than a decade to realize: An onsite resource to interpret and analyze what he described as primary source material. Interest will only grow in the build up to the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War in 2011. With that heightened awareness,

Meyer said he believes the site will attract some national exposure.

"We have for the first time a recorded history of a conflict from the perspective of the common people. So the signatures and poems and drawings on the wall, it's really primary source material. That's a significant perspective to keep in mind," he said.

Drunk Driving Devastates Three Families

'Awesome night' involving alcohol, marijuana, loud music, reckless driving, ends in tragedy.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Three families were devastated by a drunk driving accident caused by a close friend of the two victims last Nov. 28, 2007 on Wolf Run Shoals Road in Fairfax Station.

Christopher Plaisier, 22 of Fairfax, was sentenced Friday, Oct. 24 in Fairfax County Circuit Court to three years in prison for DUI involuntary manslaughter.

Plaisier's 18-year-old friend, Morgan E. Cooke, suffered five days with massive injuries before dying on Dec. 3, 2007.

"The darkest days of my life," Morgan's father, Fred Cooke, said in the courtroom Friday. "She was my only daughter, my youngest child, and she truly was a Daddy's girl," he told Circuit Court Judge Jane Marum Roush.

"After grieving now for 10 months, I know I will grieve forever," he said. "We are sentenced to a life of perpetual sadness."

Morgan's brother Sean Cooke traveled

immediately from Denver after his mother called to tell him about the crash.

"My mother could barely muster the strength to tell me," he said. When he arrived at Inova Fairfax Hospital, "the expression on my parents face is one I've never seen before."

"We all hoped for good news, but Morgan was so broken, they couldn't piece her back together," said Morgan's oldest brother, Kevin Cooke, 31.

On Dec. 3, Morgan's kidneys started shutting down. Kay Cooke, Morgan's mother, asked nurses to dim the lights in the hospital room as her daughter's breathing became more labored.

"I rubbed her back and told her I loved her," Sean Cooke said. "And then she was gone."

"Oh, God, our baby is gone, Oh, God, our baby is gone," said Morgan's mother.

Kay Cooke remembered thinking it was her daughter checking in when the phone rang as police initially called to tell them about the accident.

"Chris, you stole the most precious gift we ever had. Morgan trusted you to drive responsibly and you failed her," Morgan's mother said to her daughter's friend, the defendant.

To Judge Roush, Kay Cooke said, "It's madness that these children are dying on the roads."

THE FAMILY of Daniel Fath, of Fairfax, suffers a different tragedy.

Since the crash last November, Brenda Fath testified that her son, 23 at the time of the accident, has had seven different surgeries but remains in a "vegetative state" after enduring the most traumatic brain injury one could survive.

"His eyes are open, he can move a bit, but technically he is non-responsive," she said.

He remains in a long-term nursing home in Alexandria and his weight has dropped to 70 pounds. Her son's friends have stopped visiting, she said.

"My heart absolutely goes out to the Cooke family, but we lost a son, too," she testified.

From the witness stand, Brenda Fath turned to her son's friend. "My heart breaks for you, too. There were three families devastated that night. It was a horrible, horrible tragedy."

Plaisier cried both from his seat at the defendant's table when he listened to fam-

ily members of both of his friends and when he took the witness stand to tell his friend's families about the night.

"I wish with everything I have I could switch positions with

Morgan and Daniel, and they could be here with you all talking and laughing. I can't say how sorry I am for taking them from you," he said.

He told the families how much he loved both his friends.

"I can't say how sorry I am for what I've caused the Cooke family, for what I've

"After grieving now for 10 months, I know I will grieve forever."

— Fred Cooke, victim's father

SEE DRUNK DRIVING, PAGE 16

CRIME

FROM PAGE 7

cellular phone that was on display. The men are described only as black males between 18 and 25. All three men spoke Somali.

4100 Block of Locust Lane. The victim reported that sometime between Oct. 17, at 4 p.m. and Oct. 18, at 11 a.m., unknown person(s) stole seven pieces of cage belonging to an exotic birdcage that was left unattended on the deck of his residence.

9602 Main St. / Lifetime Fitness. Sometime on Oct. 19, between 7:30-10 p.m., unknown person(s) gained entry into a secured locker and stole a wallet.

NOISE VIOLATION

4000 Block of Roberts Road. On Oct. 24, at 12:45 a.m., an officer responded to a report of a loud party and heard loud music outside the residence. Having been warned about loud parties on previous occasions, the leaseholders were issued summonses for noise violation. They are Andrew Stager Maryan, 22, of North Quarter Drive, Williamsburg, Va., and Matthew David Ozenbaugh, 21, of Schottie Road, Littlestown, Pa.

ROBBERY

3560 Chain Bridge Road / Shell Gas Station. On Oct. 20, at 1:29 a.m., the store clerk reported that a man entered the business, produced a handgun and demanded money. The clerk refused to give the suspect money. The suspect then grabbed two packs of cigarettes and left the store on foot. The suspect is described only as a white male, 20-25 years of age, and was wearing a black jacket, black pants and a black hat. The Criminal Investigations Division is investigating the case.

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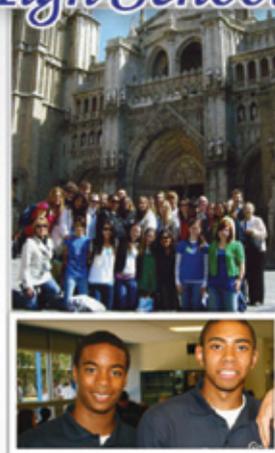
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CALENDAR

FAIRFAX CONNECTION ASSISTANT EDITOR PAULA FRIEDRICH
703-917-6459 OR FAIRFAX@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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. 30

Braddigan. Acoustic/rock/reggae. 7:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Ken Ludwig's "Shakespeare in Hollywood," 8 p.m. at TheaterSpace on George Mason University's Fairfax campus. Tickets \$12, \$8 for students and seniors. 703-993-8888 or www.gmu.edu.cfa.

FRIDAY/OCT. 31

Ballet Flamenco José Porcel. 8 p.m. Tickets \$22-\$44. Children 12 and under half price. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com. The Center for the Arts complex, on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Panic At The Disco and Dashboard Confessional, with Plain White T's and The Cab. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$29.95-\$39.95, at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. The George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Call 703-993-3000 or visit www.patriotcenter.com or www.rockbandlivetour.com.

Chris Smither. 8 p.m. Vocals and blues at The Barns. Tickets \$22. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Halloween Party, 8 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Tickets \$12. Halloween Happy Hour from 8-9 p.m., followed by costumed performances from DJ Nasa, Jon Braman, Flex Mathews, Future, and Mambo Sauce. The bands will vote on who in the audience has the best costume. www.jamminjava.com.

21th Annual Mall-O-Ween at Fair Oaks Mall. Children are invited to dress in costume and trick-or-treat from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Fountain Court will be stocked with dry ice to add an eerie atmosphere. Costumed characters will greet children. Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Free. 703-359-8302 or www.ShopFairOaksMall.com.

Ken Ludwig's "Shakespeare in Hollywood," 8 p.m. at TheaterSpace on George Mason University's Fairfax campus. Tickets \$12, \$8 for students and seniors. 703-993-8888 or www.gmu.edu.cfa.

Freaky Friday Fun, from 2-8 p.m. at the Audrey Moore RECenter, 8100 Braddock Road in Annandale. Games,

prizes, costume contest, candy, face painting, maze, pool fun and more. \$5 per child. 703-321-7081 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

SATURDAY/NOV. 1

Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children's Third Annual Star Kid 8K Run/Walk, with separate Family Fun Run. Proceeds benefit the hospital's pediatric heart programs. Prizes, a visit from Ronald McDonald and children's activities. 8 a.m. at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Adult registration \$20, children \$10. Register online at www.runwashington.com.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department Smoke Alarm Initiative, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Firefighters will canvas homes in neighborhoods throughout Fairfax County checking for working smoke alarms. Firefighters are taking a proactive approach to fire safety by raising awareness, and helping to ensure residents have working smoke alarms in their homes. Contact Lt. Willie Bailey or Renee Stilwell at 703-246-3801.

Christine Lavin. 7:30 p.m. Observations on love and relationships at The Barns. Tickets \$20. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Pro Boxing featuring Jimmy Lange. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$30-\$500. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle. 703-993-3000 or www.patriotcenter.com.

4Paws Rescue Team Cat Adoptions. 12-4 p.m. Fairfax Petco at 10708 Lee Highway, Fairfax.

Ballet Flamenco José Porcel. 8 p.m. Tickets \$22-\$44. Children 12 and under half price. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com. The Center for the Arts complex, on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Aldersgate Church Community Theater presents "Dearly Departed," 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 or www.presaleticketing.com.

Ken Ludwig's "Shakespeare in Hollywood," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at TheaterSpace on George Mason University's Fairfax campus. Tickets \$12, \$8 for students and seniors. 703-993-8888 or www.gmu.edu.cfa.

SUNDAY/NOV. 2

Ten Shekel Shirt with Seabird.



Ballet Flamenco José Porcel appears Oct. 31-Nov. 1 at the Center for the Arts complex, on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123.

Rock. 7 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Pianist Jeffrey Siegel, 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts, at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. Tickets \$19-\$38. Children 12 and under half price. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com. www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Ken Ludwig's "Shakespeare in Hollywood," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at TheaterSpace on George Mason University's Fairfax campus. Tickets \$12, \$8 for students and seniors. 703-993-8888 or www.gmu.edu.cfa.

MONDAY/NOV. 3

Calling All Guys. 7 p.m. Book discussion group for boys. Call for title. Age 6-12 with adult. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

TUESDAY/NOV. 4

Elisa. 8 p.m. Italian pop at The Barns. Tickets \$20. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

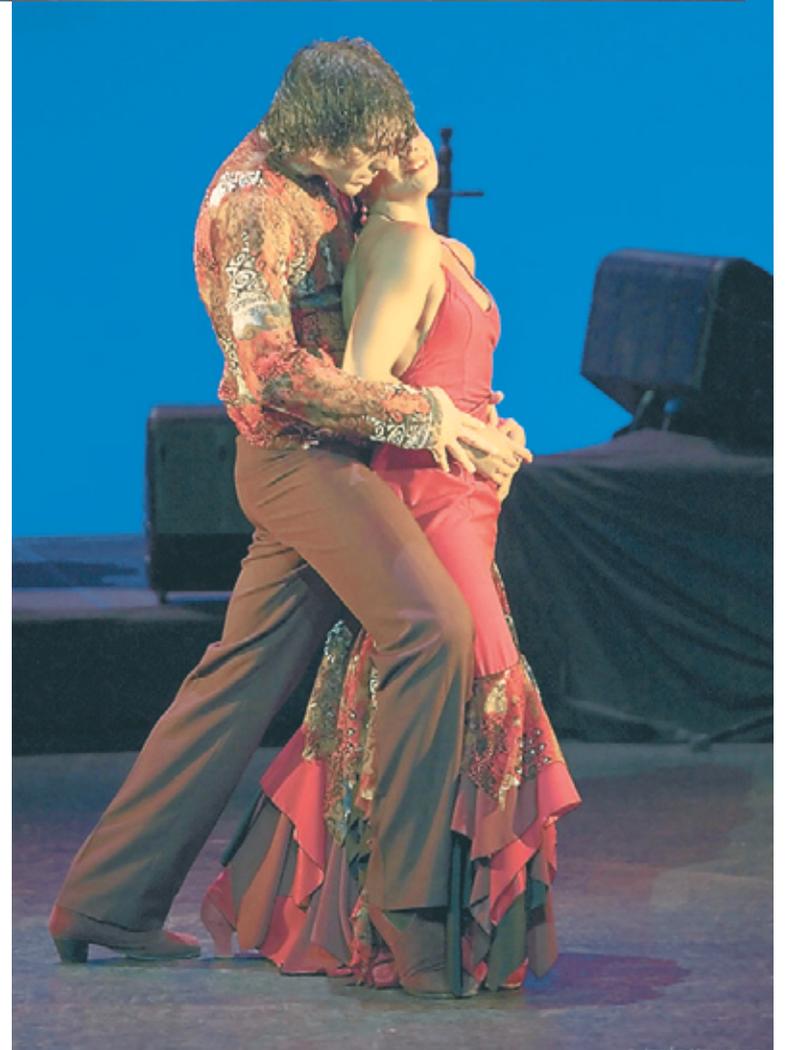
Teen Book Club: "The Partly Cloudy Patriot" by Sarah Vowell. 7 p.m. Age 12-18. Snacks provided. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

Election Night Party, 7 p.m. at Jammin' Java Music Club and Café, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Free. Watch the returns on the big screen. Drink specials for everyone who can prove that they voted. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Fairfax High School Theatre Drama Camp, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, for grades 1-8. \$40. 703-818-0926 or www.fxplayers.org.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 5

Battlefield Band. 8 p.m. Celtic folk at The Barns. Tickets \$22. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.



THURSDAY/NOV. 6

James Cotton. 8 p.m. Grammy-winning blues at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

David Mead and The Grey Race. Pop/acoustic. 8 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Turkey Tales. 10:30 a.m. Age 13-23 months with adult. Stories and activities about turkeys. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

Friends of the Kings Park Library Book Sale. 1-8 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

Learning About Essential Tremor:

Diagnosis and Treatment Options Educational Seminar, with Drs. Ted Rothstein, neurologist and James Leiphart, neurosurgeon. Registration open at 6 p.m., seminar from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Inova HealthSource, Classroom 1, 2700 Prosperity Ave., Suite 100, Fairfax. 888-387-3667 or www.essentialtremor.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 7

Jeremy Denk. 8 p.m. Piano at The Barns. Tickets \$35. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

An Evening with The Nighthawks. Rock/blues. 7 p.m. \$20. Jammin'

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Panic At The Disco and Dashboard Confessional, with Plain White T's and The Cab, perform on Friday, Oct. 31 at the George Mason University Patriot Center.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Dare to Share's "Invincible Event" at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$49, at www.dare2share.org. George Mason Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. www.patriotcenter.com.

Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors," 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts, on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. Tickets are \$17-\$34. Children 12 and under half price. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com. Visit www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Friends of the Kings Park Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

Friends of the Pohick Library Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

"Footloose," 7:30 p.m. at the W.T. Woodson Performing Arts Department, 9525 Main St., Fairfax. 703-503-4600 or wtwdrama.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 8

Veterans Day Community Fair, from 12-4 p.m. at Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. Sponsored by American Legion Post 177 and VFW Post 8469.

Friends of the Kings Park Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

Friends of the Pohick Library Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

The Northern Virginia Brain Injury Association Fall Fest,

from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Free. This event is to reach out to survivors of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and their family and friends. Games, food, entertainment and more. Call 703-324-5545 to say how many people will be attending

Melissa Manchester. 7:30 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$35. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Matt Wigler. Blues/jazz. 7 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Wicked Jezabel and Jamie Anderson and the Broad Street Band. All Girl Rock. 10 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Dare to Share's "Invincible Event" at 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets \$49, available at www.dare2share.org. George Mason Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. www.patriotcenter.com.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts, on the Fairfax campus at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. Pre-performance discussion begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets are \$22-\$44. Children 12 and under half price. Charge tickets at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

"Footloose," 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the W.T. Woodson High School, 9525 Main St., Fairfax. 703-503-4600 or wtwdrama.org.

W.T. Woodson High School PTSA Craft Fair, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Frost Middle School, 4101 Pickett Road, Fairfax. Free. 703-321-8373.

Percussion Ensemble Recital, 7 p.m. in the Harris Theater, George

Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-993-8794.

MONDAY/NOV. 10

Fairfax Civil Air Patrol Open House and Demonstration of Emergency Services Capabilities. 7 p.m. at American Legion Post #177, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. See cadets in action, and the gear ground teams use to find missing aircraft and people. Help send radio communications. Learn about Emergency Services, Aerospace Education and Cadet programs, and how to become a member of the Civil Air Patrol. The squadron meets 7-9 p.m. every Monday at Post #177. www.fairfaxcap.org or 703-200-9725.

Teen Book Chat: Mother-Daughter Book Discussion Group. Call for title. Age 12-16 with adult. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

The Arlington Rose Foundation Annual Rose Bush Auction, at 7:30 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Free admission, refreshments will be served. 703 860 0071.

TUESDAY/NOV.11

GMU Symphonic Band Concert, 8 p.m. in the Concert Hall, George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$15 adults, \$10 students and seniors. 703-993-8794.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 12

Duncan Sheik with Lauren Pritchard. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$30. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap

Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.
Science and Stories. 4 p.m. Age 4-6 with adult. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

"A Few Seconds of Panic" book signing with author Stefan Fatsis. 7:30 p.m. Age 13 and up. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227.

Tiny tots. 10:15 a.m. Very short stories and fingerplays. Age 13-17 months with adult. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Small Wonders. Shorts stories and activities. Age 18-23 months with adult. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Book Discussion Group: "The Namesake" by Jhumpa Lahiri. 1 p.m. Adults. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Faculty Artist Series: Stanley Curtis on Trumpet, 8 p.m. in the Harris Theater, George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-993-8794.

THURSDAY/NOV. 13

Lloyd Dobler Effect and Willie Strings and the Players. Rock. 8:30 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Welcome Winter! 4 p.m. Age 6-9. Stories and a craft. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

"Midsummer Night's Dream," 7 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-426-1070.

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Despite Loss, Rebels Leave Mark

Fairfax's senior stars feel effects of two early tournament losses.

BY JASON MACKEY
THE CONNECTION

Tucked between two pieces of pink paper and bound together with a staple, the evidence was there. It stated that the Fairfax field hockey team had all of the necessary pieces to become an elite, unbeatable machine.

With four first-team, All-District performers, as well as the Concorde District's Coach (Amber Beaudoin) and Player (Lisa Charney) of the Year, the Northern Region tournament program was loaded with evidence of the respect that Fairfax has gained this season.

But after a 2-1 overtime loss to Annandale on Tuesday in the first round of the region tournament, those previous accomplishments have been forgotten and replaced with tears and sunken shoulders.

"They tried to leave it all on the field, but we had our chances and we just didn't put them in," said Beaudoin, whose team wrapped up this year with a 16-4 record. "It's a lesson, a hard lesson ... but a lesson."

By winning all six games against Concorde District competition during the regular season, Fairfax earned the top seed for the postseason tournament. Though Beaudoin and Co. would eventually suffer a 2-1 overtime loss to Chantilly in the semi-final round, the statement was already: Fairfax, finally, is for real.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax forward Bailey McDade fights for a ball during a loss to Annandale Tuesday in the first round of the Northern Region tournament. McDade, a junior, was a first-team, All-District pick this fall.

As Beaudoin's only four-year letter-winner, senior midfielder Shelby Storosh was one of those tabbed as a first team, All-District pick. Storosh had witnessed opposing teams not taking her team seriously enough, and, with a nine-goal, seven-assist performance this season, she did something about it.

"To say we went 6-0 in our district and that we made it all the way to regionals, it's great being able to say that," said Storosh, who'll play field hockey at American University next fall. "It's great to wear our jerseys proud."

AGAINST ANNANDALE, Fairfax was able

to answer an early Atom goal when, only 55 seconds later, Charney's back-hand shot found the rear of the cage with 15 minutes 21 seconds remaining in the opening half.

In the second half, Fairfax senior goalkeeper Kathleen So made several spectacular saves to keep the Rebels' hopes alive,

SEE REBEL SENIORS, PAGE 15

First for Robinson — Twice

With a pair individual titles, Robinson Runners steal spotlight at Concorde finals.

BY JASON MACKEY
THE CONNECTION

Concorde District's championship meet on Oct. 22 offered an afternoon full of first-time occurrences.

For the first time during Robinson cross-country coach Jeremy Workman's 14-year tenure, senior Jared Berman won an individual district title. Also for the first time during Workman's tenure, senior Stephanie Bray won her first individual district title.

Although official statistics aren't kept on this one, for the first time during Workman's tenure a giant, fuzzy Ram mascot accompanied Robinson's runners at Burke Lake

Park.

"We were ready," said Berman, who along with Bray grabbed his first-ever first-place finish Wednesday, Oct. 22. "We're extremely excited. This is something we've been waiting for."

While Berman and Bray won their respective races in different fashions, both runners represent a reason for optimism at Robinson, as Bray led her girls team to a first-place finish, holding off Herndon, 40-52.

WHEN BRAY MADE her first pass through the crowd, she trailed Herndon's Hiruni Wijayarathne by nearly 10 seconds. After

Bray and Wijayarathne wound around the amphitheater and ran parallel with a set of train tracks, Bray faced the same challenge.

Wijayarathne, who finished third in last year's district meet and second in last year's region meet, doesn't relinquish leads easily. Bray, who finished 10th and 32nd in those races, respectively, wasn't used to taking them away from her.

Still, with the word "believe" scrawled on her hand in black magic marker, Bray believed enough to make a push at Wijayarathne with about 90 seconds left.

"I had no idea I was going to be back that far, and then I was running and I thought, 'I think I can do it. I think I can do it,'" said Bray, who eventually passed Wijayarathne to take first place with a time of 18:22.

Bray moved to Fairfax County from Nease High School in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. prior

to her sophomore season and was able to fly under the radar for part of that year. But after running a sub-18-minute time on the same course at Burke Lake Park, word got out about Bray's abilities.

IN ADDITION to growing three inches prior to her junior season, Bray not only had to adjust physically, but she also had to deal with the mental strain that comes with battling someone like Wijayarathne race in and race out.

"I think she worked the hardest on coming back this year and really getting the confidence back mentally," Workman said of Bray's up-and-down junior season. "When you talk about her and Jared, they've really put in some very impressive

SEE RAMS, PAGE 15

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Line of Credit for City?

FROM PAGE 3

but that he was concerned that it could be used for additional expenses outside the city's approved budget.

"I'm willing to support this, but I'm very opposed to using this for additional spending," said Stombres, asking if a way existed to ensure the credit would only be used to pay for budgeted items. "I think we need to live within our means and this should not in any way be something to allow us to create additional spending that we're not ready for."

Cross agreed, adding that use of the credit should be tightly restricted.

"I believe principally, almost exclusively, that availability of this money should be used for payroll and that other uses for the funds would have to be brought to council," she said.

Moloney assured the council that language in the ordinance specified its use for budgeted expenses.

"I do have some concerns about restricting it just to payroll, if we need to pay vendors," said Moloney.

Greenfield said the council was capable of deciding when it was appropriate to use the line of credit.

"We can institute our own policies to make sure we aren't spending beyond our needs or using this money for things they were never meant for in the first place," he said.

Rasmussen attempted to strike a balance between the two competing views saying that "council policies don't mean a whole lot" and could be changed on a whim.

"I'm really concerned that just limiting it to payroll might not be the best idea [though]," said Rasmussen. "I'm really concerned that we have tight control over this."

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10110 DANIELS RUN WAY	5	4	1	FAIRFAX	\$1,100,000	Detached	0.20	FARRCROFT
12651 DUSTY WHEEL LN	4	3	1	FAIRFAX	\$730,000	Detached	0.19	CENTURY OAK
12008 SETTLE CT	5	4	1	FAIRFAX	\$700,000	Detached	0.11	PENDERBROOK
3961 HIGHLAND OAKS DR	4	4	1	FAIRFAX	\$650,200	Detached	0.24	HIGHLAND OAKS
4172 GOV YEARDLEY LN	3	3	1	FAIRFAX	\$599,900	Townhouse	0.05	CHANCERY SQUARE
10827-A SECOND ST	4	3	1	FAIRFAX	\$578,900	Detached	0.17	FAIRFAX HEIGHTS
4013 LOCUST ST	3	3	1	FAIRFAX	\$575,000	Detached	0.34	SINGING PINES
10446 BRECKINRIDGE LN	3	2	2	FAIRFAX	\$549,900	Townhouse	0.05	COURTHOUSE SQUARE
4724 WARM HEARTH CIR	3	2	1	FAIRFAX	\$510,000	Townhouse	0.07	GREENS AT FAIR LAKES
10104 CAPEWAY CT	4	2	0	FAIRFAX	\$505,000	Detached	0.41	COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
10810 SCOTT DR	4	3	0	FAIRFAX	\$490,444	Detached	0.21	FAIRFAX WOODS
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11703 AMKIN DR	\$769,900	SUN 1-4	Long & Foster	Ann Grainger	703-503-1870
12207 CLIFFWOOD CT	\$949,999	SUN 1-4	Long & Foster	Julia Martin	703-683-0400

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Vote: It's Never Mattered So Much

With presidential contenders paying weekly visits, potential value of single vote in Virginia has never been so clear.

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It isn't going to be easy. Your polling place will likely be jammed. There will be long lines.

If you don't leave enough time, you could be late for work. If you leave voting for the end of the day, you'll be allowed to vote as long as you were in line before 7 p.m. But if you get stuck in traffic, on your way home, you could miss your chance.

Make allowances, make room in your schedule to vote. If you are an employer or a super-

Battle for Virginia

To see all Connection election coverage, see www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, or <http://connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=321241&paper=71&cat=109>

visor, allow your employees time to vote if you possibly can.

Try to make the experience as easy as possible on everyone. Bring your identification. Be courteous. Insist on your right to vote.

Which presidential candidate garners Virginia's 13 electoral votes could come down to a very slim margin. Be sure your vote counts.

Walk Like MADD

Last week, a young Fairfax man was sentenced to three years in jail for involuntary manslaughter, in a drunk-driving accident that resulted in unspeakable tragedy for three families. Reporter Ken Moore tells the story in this week's Fairfax Connection: one family lost a beloved daughter after five brutal days clinging to life; one family has seen their active son reduced to 70 pounds and "un-

responsive" and living in a nursing home; the family of the defendant has also seen life as they knew it change. (Read the story, "Three Families Devastated by Drunk Driving," at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

In coming weeks, Moore will tell the stories of other local families touched by the tragedy of drunk driving.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving Northern Virginia, whose mission is "to stop drunk driv-

ing, support the victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking," will hold a walk, "Walk Like MADD" this weekend in Lake Fairfax Park in Reston to raise awareness and funding.

The walk is Saturday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., open to children, teens, adults, families and pets. To register as a walker or as a "virtual walker," visit www.WalkLikeMadd.org and select "Fairfax, VA," e-mail karen.horowitz@madd.org or call 703-379-1135.

Promote Green Economics

To the Editor:

While gas prices have come down off of their devastating peaks of a few months ago, there is no question that secure energy is one of the biggest challenges facing America today and one that promises to be an important election issue this fall. As long as we are dependent on fossil fuels supplied almost exclusively by foreign powers at odds with our national interests, the stability of America's economy will always be in jeopardy.

That's why it is so important to understand that in order to have a strong economy we must turn to renewable energy sources. What we need now is for Congress to stop wasting taxpayer money subsidizing dirty and dangerous oil, coal and gas and invest in clean renewable solutions like wind, solar and geothermal energy. We have the tools we need to transition our economy to these American-produced energy sources and secure a stable and prosperous future for our children. But that won't be possible without leaders with the foresight and courage to make the commitment. This election year, Judy Feder and Frank Wolf need to start

talking about how green energy and economic security go hand in hand.

Andrew J. Moore
Fairfax

We've Sacrificed

To the Editor:

Surprise! The government has been listening in on X-rated phone calls between Americans.

Justifying outrage after outrage with national security, the GOP has had its way with us for a long time. It questioned the patriotism of anyone objecting to the Iraq war, foreign prisons, rendition, torture and warrantless wiretapping. Protesters were followed, filmed and herded into "free-speech zones." Now we learn that any American communicating adult feelings to a loved one is publishing salacious material to be replayed ad nauseum by those monitoring the phone and Internet lines.

It isn't true that Americans haven't been asked to make sacrifices. We've sacrificed our blood, our treasure, the integrity of our Justice Department and our national honor as those in power broke law after law. Is this finally

enough? Do we get it now?

Dianne Thomas
Fairfax

Support Park Bond

To the Editor:

I am writing in support of the proposed bond to invest additional funds in Fairfax County parks. Given the rapidly diminishing green space in the county, securing additional funding to obtain land for new parks and to renovate existing park facilities is critical to ensure that parks are available to current and future residents of Fairfax County. Park funds support community gardens, nature and exercise trails, historical sites, public recreation centers, camp grounds and athletic fields. These resources play a vital role in maintaining community and social networks, physical fitness and sportsmanship. Parks are a place where residents can gather to pursue shared interest like gardening and horticulture, nature, art, history and athletics. They are a place where families and children can gather to learn and play. Parks represent a critical link to Fairfax's agrarian past.

It makes sense to invest in parks

now, so that they are available to everyone in the future.

Steven Jones
Fairfax

Connolly Backer

To the Editor:

As a supporter of U.S. Rep. Tom Davis (R-11), I offer my support for Gerry Connolly (D). At a time when we are faced with the consequences of a weakened reputation in the international community, we need to elect members of Congress who have the knowledge and experience to lead us in the right direction. Gerry Connolly's experience as a public servant with the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee and wrote several published reports on U.S. foreign policy. Now is the time for pragmatic leadership and someone who can work in a bipartisan fashion.

I support Gerry Connolly for Congress because I believe he will work to improve relations between the U.S. and the international community, a critical step in the process of improving our weakened economy and providing future stability and security.

Taiji Suzuki
Burke



PHOTO BY PATRICK TITANO/THE CONNECTION

Robinson senior Jared Berman won the boys individual Concorde District cross-country title last Wednesday afternoon at Burke Lake Park, finishing with a time of 15 minutes 22 seconds.

Rams Find Success Times Two

FROM PAGE 12

workouts, and I think that builds confidence that you know you can do that in a meet.”

Like Bray, Berman benefited from that newfound confidence, holding off good friend and training partner Chris Foley of Chantilly to win the boys individual title with a time of 15:22.

“The whole week, we were concentrated only on the race,” Berman said. “Every 10 seconds I was thinking about districts. I was visualizing the race in my head and everyone has to make a move. I thought about it every day.”

So how does the emergence of Bray and Berman

“Our teams are going in the right direction at the right time.”

— Jeremy Workman

affect Robinson’s program as a whole?

“We’ve had a good program for quite a while and it kind of re-emphasizes that with our team,” Workman said. “Right now, our teams are going in the right direction at the right time. That’s all, as a coach, you can ask for.

“You want your team to be as confident as it can be, running its best at the end of the season if you have hopes of doing anything special during the next couple of weeks.”

Both Berman and Bray will take part in Thursday’s Northern Region championships, which will be held on the same course. Start time is 3:15 p.m.

Rebel Seniors Leave Mark

FROM PAGE 12

but perhaps the best came when the teams entered overtime.

As Annandale’s Tanya Bellingham carried a pass into the offensive zone, So was left with little defensive help. Still, she was able to get her left pad in front of the shot.

Annandale’s Maggie Bermingham scored the game-winning goal at 9:51 of overtime on a shot that popped up and over So.

Though Fairfax forced 10 penalty corners compared with only five for Annandale, the Atoms outshot the Rebels, 10-5.

“We played really great hockey all year, and we have, I think, the best two players in the region [Charney and Storosh], but we didn’t really play the best team hockey and that’s what it comes down to,” said Beaudoin, who’s been the head coach at

“It’s great to wear our jerseys proud.”

— Shelby Storosh

Fairfax since 2001. “It’s a team game. It’s not an individual game.”

With the district semifinal loss to Chantilly, Fairfax was forced to wait seven days before its next game, which was yet another contributing factor to Tuesday’s uneven performance, according to Beaudoin.

But a heartbreaking loss will soon be forgotten, tossed aside with the tournament program and all of the individual accolades inside. Thanks to Charney (team-high 16 goals this season), Storosh and the rest of the Rebels’ senior class, the Fairfax field hockey program should be well positioned for years to come.

“At the beginning of the season, no one respected us,” Storosh said. “But after winning six straight games in our district, and with us putting up a battle and coming as far as we’ve come, we’ve made a name for ourselves.”

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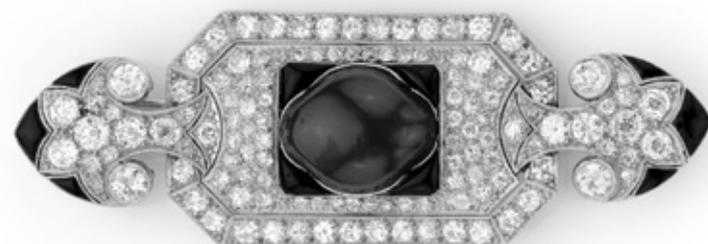
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Drunk Driving

FROM PAGE 8

caused the Fath family," he said. "I hung out with Daniel every day. I can't say how truly sorry I am for what I caused, for what I have done."

THE EVENING started out an "awesome night," Plaisier said.

Plaisier wanted to drive because he had the "nicest" car, his parents' 2003 black BMW 540i.

He and his friends — some legal, some underage — started out at a couple of bars where he knew waitresses he thought would serve them.

Later, after buying some liquor as well as some soda from 7-Eleven, they ended up southbound on Wolf Run Shoals Road.

"The whole ride from 7-Eleven, the windows were down, the music was blaring," Plaisier said. "I just wish I was paying attention to how fast I was going. I just got so caught up in the moment of the night."

Wolf Run Shoals road is notorious for kids flying down and trying to "catch air," Kevin Cooke said. Cooke said he learned from police detectives that Plaisier's car struck the tree seven feet off the ground. Another back-seat passenger told Cooke's family that Plaisier drove 75 miles per hour on the road, and that he asked Plaisier to slow down.

"Morgan and Daniel had no chance of making it through the crash," said Kevin Cooke.

Plaisier's blood alcohol content was tested at .08, said Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Kelly Pearson, and he was also tested positive for marijuana.

"I felt 100-percent confident that I was able to drive," Plaisier said.

The last thing he remembers, Plaisier said, is waking up to his friend, a back-seat passenger with Fath, yelling.

At the hospital, Plaisier "asked the nurses constantly how everyone was. I didn't realize the severity of the situation," he said.

THE PROSECUTOR called the crash "avoidable," especially since Plaisier already had a "a wakeup call" when he spent two days in jail in 2005 for driving a motorcycle 97 miles per hour in a 65 speed limit zone.

Plaisier's defense attorney Ted Sibert said he and his client never disputed that Plaisier drank, that he sped, that he made reckless decisions.

"This is an individual who hurt people who were very close to him," said Sibert.

"Morgan meant so much to Christopher and Daniel meant so much to Christopher," said Melinda Plaisier, Christopher's mother, to the two families. "I just beg you to know you have been in our thoughts and prayers since the accident and you will continue to be."

Friends of the Plaisier, Fath and Cooke families filled the courtroom Friday.

Judge Roush sentenced Plaisier to 10 years in prison, and suspended 7 years. She also ordered that he remain on probation five years after his release, perform 100 hours of community service, and surrender his license.

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF Horry)
CASE NO.: 2008-DR-26-2386
Mary Roe, Plaintiff,)
SUMMONS
vs)
John Doe,)
Defendant,)
In Re: Ryan Grant Spriet Morgan
(DOB: 9/22/03), and Emma Danyelle Spriet Morgan (DOB: 9/22/03), minors
under the age of fourteen (14) years.
TO: the Defendant above named:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to Answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer to the Complaint on the attorney for the Plaintiff at 1500 U. S. Highway 17 North, The Courtyard, Suite 301, P. O. Drawer 14950, Surfside Beach, South Carolina 29587, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to Answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for judgment by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Anne E. Janes
Attorney for Plaintiff
SHERRILL & JANES, PA
Post Office Drawer 14950
Surfside Beach, SC 29587
(843) 238-8836 (v)
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Surfside Beach, SC
September 16, 2008

NOTICE OF ADOPTION
In the Family Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit
Case No. 2008-DR-26-2386
MARY ROE, Plaintiff,
vs.
John Doe, Defendant.
TO: JOHN DOE, AN UNKNOWN FATHER:
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED pursuant to the provisions of South Carolina Code, Ann., Section 20-7-1734 (1987), that the minor children, Ryan Grant Spriet Morgan and Emma Danyelle Spriet Morgan, reside with the Plaintiff who desires to adopt them. The Plaintiff has filed an adoption action in the above Family Court. The Plaintiff is herein referred to by a fictitious name. The natural mother of the minor children is Amy Danyelle Spriet, and the children were born on September 22, 2003 at Georgetown Memorial Hospital in Georgetown, South Carolina.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that within thirty (30) days of receiving Notice, you shall respond in writing by filing, with the Court in which the adoption is pending, notice and reasons to contest, intervene, or otherwise respond;
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court must be informed of your current address and any changes in address during the adoption proceeding; and
Your failure to file a response within thirty (30) days of receiving Notice constitutes your consent to adoption of the children and forfeiture of all rights and obligations you may have with respect to the children.
When Notice of Intent to contest, intervene, or otherwise respond is filed with the Court within the required time period, you will be given an opportunity to appear and to be heard before the Final Hearing on the merits of the adoption. To file notice to contest, intervene, or otherwise respond in this action, you must notify the above-named Court and the Plaintiff's attorney, Anne E. Janes, Sherrill & Janes, PA, P.O. Drawer 14950, Surfside Beach, SC 29587 in writing of your intention to contest, intervene, or otherwise respond. The above-named Court must be informed of your current address or any change of your address during the adoption proceedings.

BE SO NOTIFIED.
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Anne E. Janes
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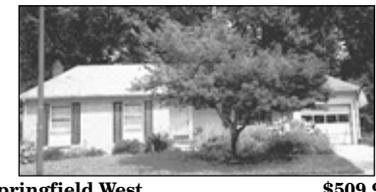


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