

Third
Boundary
Option
NEWS, PAGE 3

Bank Robbery
In Herndon Area
NEWS, PAGE 10

In Search Of Miracle

NEWS, PAGE 4

From left: 10-year-old Christopher Cox, who co-stars as Joe Connelly, Madison Sprague, who co-stars as Rosie Connelly, and Connie Lamothe, producer and director, of "Rosie's Miracles." The short film premiered Sunday, Dec. 7 at the Tally Ho Theatre in Leesburg. The cast and crew met with viewers after the first screening.

PHOTO BY JANELLE L. PLUMMER/THE CONNEC- OPINION, PAGE 6 ❖ CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13 ❖ FAITH, PAGE 11



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Third Boundary Option

New school would open with high percentage of “at-risk” students.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Sema Chugh's son used to attend her community's base school, McNair Elementary, but the Herndon resident started sending him and his sister to Aldrin Elementary School in Reston a few years ago.

Under the federal No Child Left Behind law, McNair is technically considered a “failing” school since it has not met state standardized testing targets over at least two years. McNair is also a “Title I” school. A large enough percentage of the McNair's population qualifies for English-as-a-Second Language services and free or reduced priced lunches that it receives extra federal money, called “Title I” funding.

Due to McNair's testing shortfalls, Fairfax County Public Schools is required to give families like Chugh's, who live in the school's boundary, an option of attending a higher performing school. The federal law also requires the school system to provide transportation to this other school.

Chugh and several of her neighbors have opted to send their children to schools farther away rather than McNair for several years. According to school officials, 139 students placed out of McNair this year under the “failing” school provision of No Child Left Behind.

“My son went to McNair but we switched him because his behavior and performance level dropped,” Chugh said.

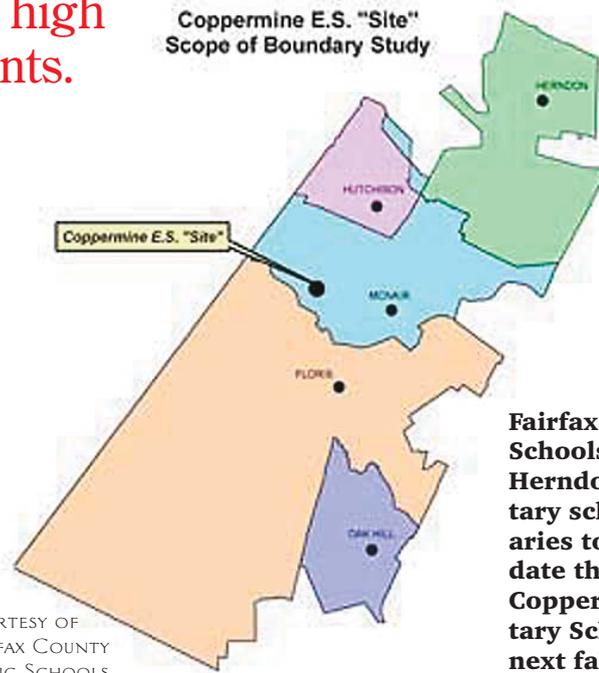
STARTING NEXT YEAR however, some of these families may have to return to a “Title I” base school.

The school system is adjusting elementary school boundaries in Herndon to accommodate the new Coppermine Elementary School opening on River Birch Drive next fall. In at least two of the three redistricting options proposed so far, Coppermine would open as a “Title I” school with student demographics similar to those currently at McNair.

Under the school redistricting alternatives, Chugh and others who place out of McNair would move into Coppermine's boundary. Since Coppermine has not “failed” to meet any testing standards, they would not have the option of leaving the school under No Child Left Behind, though some might be able to find other avenues to transfer out.

Several people, particularly those who currently transfer out of McNair, said it is unfair to open a new school with such high percentages of students who need assistance and that the school system is setting Coppermine up for failure.

“It is basically starting as a new McNair.



Fairfax County Public Schools is redrawing Herndon's elementary school boundaries to accommodate the new Coppermine Elementary School opening next fall.

VIEWPOINTS

“A little bit of tweaking and this is the best option overall.”



— Paula Crosby,
Floris Elementary School parent

“They need to create fewer Title I schools.”



— Sundar Rajhavan,
possible Coppermine Elementary School parent

How Boundary Changes Would Impact Demographics/School Capacity:

Fairfax County Public Schools has proposed three options for Herndon elementary schools redistricting. Here is the impact on demographics and schools capacity of each one. ESOL stands for the percentage of students who need English-as-a-Second-Language services. F&R stands for the percentage of students who qualify for free or reduced priced lunches. The capacity number indicates how many spaces will still be available at the school (plus sign) or how many spaces the school is missing (minus sign) after the boundary change.

	Current	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
SCHOOL				
Coppermine				
ESOL	—	29.2	23.1	27.9
F&R	—	46	38.7	43.9
Capacity	—	+386	+425	+343
Floris				
ESOL	5.7	6.9	5.9	4.6
F&R	3.5	6.3	4.6	3.4
Capacity	-94	+281	+12	+81
Herndon				
ESOL	23.8	25.9	25.9	25.9
F&R	34.2	36.7	36.7	36.7
Capacity	+148	+68	+68	+68
Hutchinson				
ESOL	36.5	37.8	37.7	37.8
F&R	54.9	56.4	56.5	56.4
Capacity	+228	+150	+89	+150
McNair				
ESOL	28.9	16.5	20.6	20.2
F&R	47.3	24.4	35.4	36.0
Capacity	-190	+9	+328	+145
Oak Hill				
ESOL	4.6	3.8	4.6	3.9
F&R	4.4	3.4	4.4	4.1
Capacity	-124	-93	-124	+10

We would like to bring our kids back to Coppermine. ... But you can't start a new school as a Title I school,” Chugh said.

In response to complaints, school officials said the make up of a new school's population is not the primary focus or goal of a boundary study. The school system does try to create balanced populations readjusting boundaries but demographics are not the “driving factor” behind a school redistricting.

“We are not striving to create or not create the Title I status of a school,” Denise James, who heads up boundary studies for the school system, said.

SOME MEMBERS of the Herndon community are in favor of one alternative, called “option three,” that would make Coppermine into a Title I school. School officials presented this option, the most recent to be released, at a town hall meeting Dec. 10.

Several Floris Elementary School parents favor option three because people living the northeastern part of the Floris boundary would not have to move schools.

Many residents from the northeastern Floris boundary said their community has been moved far too many times over the past decade as a result of school boundary studies. Several were particularly upset when the Fairfax County School Board transferred the area from Westfield High School to South Lakes High School last spring.

“Option three provides the most efficient and effective way to balance enrollment. It would move less students from their current school,” Bin Zhang, who lives in the northeastern Floris boundary, said.

SEE OPTION, PAGE 10

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PEOPLE

In Search of Miracle

Eight-year-old girl from
Herndon debuts in film.

BY JANELLE L. PLUMMER
THE CONNECTION

Last year 8-year-old Madison Sprague of Herndon was preparing for Christmas like many children. But this December it's quite different for her.

Madison co-stars as Rosie Connelly in "Rosie's Miracle."

In the short film, 6-year-old Rosie is on a quest to find a miracle to cure her terminally ill brother. While the Connelly family's faith in God is pushed to the extremes, it is up to Rosie to seek out a miracle.

Madison said the best part about working on the film was the cast.

"I like the family members," she said. "It was fun to be with them."

Madison said getting into Rosie's character was hard.

"It's complicated sometimes," she said, "not all the time."

CONNIE LAMOTHE, the director and producer of the film, said more than 70 children auditioned for the lead roles. Ten-year-old Christopher Cox of Columbia, Md. also co-stars as Joe Connelly, the sick brother. Lamothe said the children who auditioned were not just from the Washington metropolitan area. She said they traveled from North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and other surrounding states.

"There were so many talented kids," she said. "The two I chose were phenomenal."

Originally, Lamothe said, the Connelly family in the film was supposed to represent a Hispanic family. Madison is Asian American. Her mother is Japanese.

"It was not our original intention," Lamothe said. "Then, we said it doesn't matter, that is America."

Lamothe, a resident of Stephens City, Va., enjoys working with children. She is the artistic director at The Growing Stage Theatre in Leesburg.

"It was beyond my wildest dreams," she said, about directing Madison in the film. "She was tireless. She was great and a good little worker."

Lamothe said she wanted to do a film that was inspirational and Christian-based.

"The films we see today have so much violence," she said, "and they're negative. It's been an exciting project."

MADISON'S MOTHER, Mitsuyo Sprague, is grateful that her daughter co-starred in the film.

"You never know what kids get into," Mitsuyo said. "[Rosie's Miracle] has no violence. It is pure. It's a perfect film for my daughter to be in."

In the spring, Madison's acting dream came true.

Since May, she has been taking classes at John Robert Powers Adult, Teen and Child Modeling School in Rockville, Md.

"When I saw a commercial for John Roberts," Madi-



PHOTOS BY JANELLE L. PLUMMER/THE CONNECTION

Before the first screening, the Connelly family in "Rosie's Miracle" gathers for the premiere at Tally Ho Theatre in Leesburg on Sunday night. From left: Seth Kozak, Christopher Cox, Madison Sprague, and Kendra North.

son said, "I wrote down the number, and I called. I went for an audition and got in the school."

Nevertheless, Mitsuyo Sprague said her daughter's acting career has its ups and downs. She said it was challenging at times to balance family life.

"[Our family] needed to cut back," Mitsuyo Sprague said. "Many weekends I was gone with [Madison] ... Saturdays all day. At the same time I made great friends with the moms [at John Roberts]."

Mitsuyo Sprague said her daughter has always wanted to act.

"We didn't take it seriously," she said, "until she saw the ad on TV. She really wanted to do it, and we said give it a try. She's building more confidence."

In the end, Mitsuyo Sprague said Madison is doing great at Fox Mill Elementary School in Herndon and she hopes her daughter keeps a child-like heart.

In the midst of her acting career, Madison still finds time to spend with her friends. Before the cast party and the first screening of the film at the Tally Ho Theatre in Leesburg on Sunday night, Madison attended a birthday party and two other parties over the weekend.

"It doesn't take time away," she said, referring to her acting. "It goes with your school schedule."



Before the first screening Seth Kozak and Madison Sprague.

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NEWS

Campaign to Educate on Day Labor

Town launches campaign to inform laborers, employers on rules.

Last week, new road signs appeared around the intersection of Elden Street and Alabama Drive and they are not traffic related. The signs inform day laborers that it is against the town zoning ordinance to solicit work on private property and they let employers know that it is against federal law to hire workers without an employment eligibility check, usually conducted with an I-9 form. The signs are part of an educational campaign launched by the town.

On Nov. 11, the Town Council directed Town Manager Art Anselene to start the campaign, which also includes advertising in local newspapers and placing information on the town Web site.

"At this point, it's primarily educational," Anne Curtis, town spokeswoman, said. She said Anselene would present the council with the results of the campaign, as well as options for a next step, in June. One possibility, she said, was to hire an independent contractor to determine whether the laws were being broken.

A 2007 ruling determined that the First Amendment allowed day laborers to solicit work on public property, although they are not allowed to impede the public right of way.

I-9 forms are now available around the intersection of Elden and Alabama, where day laborers often wait for work, as well as at the Herndon Municipal Center and the Neighborhood Resource Center.

— MIKE DICICCO



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO / THE CONNECTION
The town recently placed this sign next to the 7-Eleven near the intersection of Elden Street and Alabama Drive, where day laborers often wait for work.

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When To Chase? How to judge when benefits outweigh risks to police, public?

In the past week, there were two instances of police chasing perpetrators through multiple jurisdictions that raise some questions.

In one case, a tractor trailer driven by a man fleeing police in Montgomery County crossed the American Legion Bridge on the Capital Beltway into Fairfax County and then exited in Tysons Corner before crashing down the block from this newspaper's offices on Westpark Drive. Dozens of police cars from Maryland and Virginia participated in the chase, broadcast live on some channels via helicopter.

The chase ended with a few fender benders and the suspect being tasered. No one else was hurt.

EDITORIALS But we wonder what kind of damage could have occurred.

When does it make sense to chase a suspect driving a vehicle with contents unknown into the center of one of the largest shopping districts in the United States during the holiday shopping season? With helicopters in pursuit perhaps this is a case where tracking the truck until it ran out of gas was a possibility.

Last week, a 19-year-old bank robbery sus-

pect from McLean was shot dead by police within sight of a middle school after a foot chase led them to an Arlington neighborhood.

Last February, a Fairfax County Police Officer drove her police cruiser through a red traffic signal on Richmond Highway on the way to answer a call, striking the car of 33 year-old Ashley McIntosh and killing her. The officer was cleared of charges of reckless driving.

We don't pretend to understand all of the factors that come into play in making such decisions in general or these decisions in particular. We do know that we would like police to be open with the public about their policies.

More on Poor Students

Several thoughtful emails were sent responding to our editorial, "Don't Lump Poor Students Together." (Dec. 3, 2008, www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=322904)

Some writers pointed to many factors besides concentration of student poverty that affect the quality of a school.

For example, Graham Road Elementary, with a high percent poverty rate, performs comparably to many schools with wealthy student populations. Graham Road, at least one writer

said, is a good school because of great principal, great resources and parents who care.

The way the editorial was written does present too simplistic a picture.

While concentration of poverty in schools creates significant and often unnecessary challenges, and decreasing the concentration has benefits, this is far from the only factor involved in creating a successful school and student achievement.

Absolutely a great principal can inspire staff and parents; teachers and parents who care

can make an incredible difference. And it is also quite possible for a school populated by affluent families to be mediocre.

Any yet, as the school system draws new boundaries, it is a mistake to create this additional challenge of concentrating poor students in one school.

But there is much more work than that involved in creating great schools.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

COMMENTARY

Navigating Budget Challenge

Make your voices heard on hard choices ahead.

By CATHERINE M. HUDGINS (D)
SUPERVISOR, HUNTER MILL DISTRICT

Just as many of you are facing tough decisions with your household budgets, the county is facing difficult decisions with its current FY 2009 budget. You may be cutting back on dining out or travel, or you may be struggling to pay your mortgage or your prescriptions. Fairfax County faces similar challenges and consequently, has instituted measures to reduce expenses, including limiting overtime and travel and furloughing all non-essential county employees for one day in January. We are all trying to figure out how to pay for the things we deem are essential.

With each passing budget presentation, I am made more aware of what an arduous task balancing the next budget will be for me and my fellow board colleagues. We know that we will not be able to provide the same level of services that residents are used to. From my perspective, how we make our decisions depends largely on the answer to this question — when all is said and done,

what kind of county do we want to be?

The core purpose of Fairfax County government is to protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County. As a resident and public servant, I take that seriously. I take pride in how the county government conducts itself and that we repeatedly earn recognition as one of the best managed counties in the nation and as one of the best places to live. Despite our successes, we cannot ignore the reality of the current economic situation: less revenue for the county means less available funding for the services we value. The challenge is that citizens of Fairfax County are diverse and place different values on these services. The board has a responsibility to consider those opinions and weigh them against its legal obligations and the best interests of everyone in order to reach a balanced and equitable budget.

So, where do we go from here? We know today that we face a \$500 million shortfall for the budget year that begins July 1, 2009.



That number may very well grow. The good news is we have already instituted measures to mitigate the projected shortfalls, including adjustments to the current budget. Unlike many other jurisdictions, we began this discussion months, if

not years, ago and have already implemented measures to address it. So, while there are hard decisions being made and even more to make in the weeks and months ahead, we are in a better position than many other jurisdictions. I would caution that panic will not get us through the challenges we face. What is needed is thoughtful consideration of the services and programs we value and an honest discussion about the things we will have to live without.

I have learned that in times of difficulty, communities respond and people and organizations find ways to help each other. There will be reductions and no matter how they are achieved, programs and people across the county will feel the effects. I encourage you to be actively engaged in this process by ensuring your voice is heard, either by visiting the county's Web

site and submitting your budget ideas online or contacting my office. Ask yourself, what kind of county do I want to live in? Your answer to that question is vital if we are to maintain the quality of life we all value

To stay informed on the latest Hunter Mill District and Board of Supervisors news, subscribe to the Hunter Mill District e-blast, visit my Web site at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/> and select the appropriate link. As always, call or e-mail my office at 703-478-0283 with any thoughts, concerns or questions.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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WEEK IN HERNDON

DWI Checkpoint Scheduled

Herndon police officers will conduct a DWI/Driver's License Checkpoint Dec. 19, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dec. 20, to deter and apprehend intoxicated drivers. Motorists stopped for suspicion of driving while intoxicated will be checked to assure that their abilities to drive has not been impaired by drugs or alcohol.

Herndon ES Honors Reflections Participants

Congratulations to all of the 2008-09 Herndon Elementary School Reflections participants. Seventeen students of Herndon Elementary School submitted their works for the Reflections competition in the categories of literature, visual arts, photography, film production, dance choreography and music composition. A ceremony was held Dec. 2 to recognize all participants and present the awards.

Challenger Dance for Youth with Special Needs

More than 100 Herndon-Reston area children and their families twisted, grinded and bopped to today's music hits Nov. 21, at the Challenger Dance at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. This biannual event provides area children with special needs, their families and other members of the community the opportunity to strut their stuff in a relaxed, open and friendly environment.

"The dance is our way of networking with children and families across the region," John Lerch, one of the event organizers, said.

Twice a year, the St. Timothy's Access Ministry and Youth Group team up with the Challenger Division of Reston Little League (RLL) to sponsor this activity.

The church Youth Group together with members of Venture Crew 3171 and Boy Scout Troop 12 provided support from setup to cleanup.

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CALENDAR

Send announcements to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6437. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

THURSDAY/DEC. 18

Community Performances. The Fox Mill Elementary Treble Choir will perform, at 7 p.m., in the Reston Town Center.

TUESDAY/DEC. 23

Blood Drive. Inova Blood Drive, from 12-7:30 p.m., beside the Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St. Schedule appointments at 1-866-256-6372 or inova.org/donateblood.

FRIDAY/DEC. 26

Day After Sale. Save 26 percent on all in-store items and 50 percent off all holiday items at the Dandelion Patch in Reston Town Center. Call 703-689-2240 or visit thedandelionpatch.com.

SATURDAY/DEC. 27

Jazz. The Potomac Jazz Project plays 7:30-11:30 p.m. at the Ice House Café, 760 Elden St., Herndon. Visit www.potomacjazz.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 3

Bird Count. Join Reston Association for a half-day annual bird count at RA's Central Services Facility, 12250 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, 7 a.m.-12 p.m. Meet local bird experts, learn tips on identification, and help us obtain important information to help our feathered friends. Bring a pair of binoculars if you have them. Contact Ha Brock, Volunteer Coordinator, at 703-435-7986 or habrock@reston.org.



JunkFood will celebrate the release of their third full-length album "Mighty" with a concert at Ned Devine's, 2465 Centreville Road, Herndon, Saturday, Dec. 20, 10 p.m.

ONGOING EVENTS

Holiday Book Drive. Barnes & Noble, Spectrum Center, 1851 Fountain Drive, Reston, is supporting The Embry Rucker Community Shelter with a display and suggestions for those wanting to make a purchase and add to the boxes of gifts. The shelter asks that all gifts be new and unwrapped to make it easier for them to match the gift and recipient.

Holiday Performances. Community groups will present music and dance performances at Fountain Square, Reston Town Center. Schedule on www.restontowncenter.com.

The **Bargain Loft Holiday Shop**, 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, is open for business **through Dec. 24**. Store open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. All proceeds go to Herndon-Reston FISH Inc. to help people with emergency needs. Visit www.herndonrestonfish.org.

Visit Santa. Visit Santa and take photos with him next to M&S Grill on Democracy Street at the Reston Town Center, **through 24**, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.



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The Elden Street Players Theater for Young Audiences' holiday production of "Anne of Green Gables" plays Friday, Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 20 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 21 at 2:30 p.m. All performances are at the Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Tickets: \$10/adults; \$7/ages 10 and under. Call 481-5930, option 3 or visit www.eldenstreetplayers.org to purchase tickets.

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HOLIDAY EVENTS

Horse-drawn carriage rides, Saturday, Dec. 20, at Reston Town Center, from 12-4 p.m., to benefit local charities.

Caroling Dinner. The annual VOCE Caroling Dinner will be held at Jasmine Café in Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston, Dec. 17, 7 p.m. Call 703-471-9114.

A **Holiday Mixer** presented by the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce will be held Thursday, Dec. 18, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2200 Centreville Road, Herndon. \$15/members; \$20/non-

members; \$10/person for member parties of five or more. Reservations can be made at www.dullesregionalchamber.org/events.

Breakfast with Santa. Have breakfast with Santa at McCormick and Schmick's in Reston Town Center, Dec. 20-21, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Tickets: \$22/adults, \$6.95 children, includes breakfast buffet and photo with Santa. Call 703-481-6600 for reservations.

Christmas Eve Supper. Enjoy a Christmas Eve supper, Dec. 24, with live guitar music at Jasmine Café in Lake Anne Village Center, 1609

Washington Plaza, Reston. Call 703-471-9114.

New Year's Evening Celebration. Enjoy festive French fare, party favors and a champagne toast at Mon Ami Gabi in Reston Town Center, Dec. 31, from 5-10 p.m. Call 703-707-0233 or visit www.monamigabi.com/reston for reservations.

New Year's Eve Special. Enjoy a New Year's celebration, Dec. 31, with live music at Jasmine Café at Lake Anne Village Center, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Call 703-471-9114.

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Detectives have linked this suspect with the bank robbery that occurred at the BB&T Bank located at 2513 Fox Mill Road in Reston on Dec. 1.

Bank Robbery in the Herndon Area

A 23-year-old woman, employed as a teller at the BB&T Bank located at 13360 Franklin Farm Road was robbed at gunpoint, according to police. On Wednesday, Dec. 10, at around 5 p.m., a man vaulted the counter displaying a handgun. He confronted the teller and announced a robbery. An undisclosed amount of money was handed over and the suspect fled. There were no injuries.

The suspect was described as having light skin, possibly black or Hispanic. He was about 5 feet 7 inches tall, with a stocky build. He

was wearing a blue, hooded sweatshirt, khaki pants, white shoes and a black mask.

Detectives have linked this suspect with the bank robbery that occurred at the BB&T Bank located at 2513 Fox Mill Road in Reston on Dec. 1.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Option Three Receives Mixed Reviews

FROM PAGE 3

MANY IN the Floris community were also supportive of a programmatic change that would take place as a result of option three. In order to eliminate overcrowding at Oak Hill Elementary School, school officials have proposed moving half of the area's Gifted and Talented Center — including those Gifted and Talented students from Floris, McNair and Coppermine — to McNair.

Several parents said this is a much-needed change since the Gifted and Talented Center at Oak Hill was serving six schools and had boosted Oak Hill to over its building capacity.

"I was excited to see option three because it offers a much needed GT Center for cluster eight," Paula Crosby, a parent from northeastern Floris, said.

Ideally the Floris community would like to see a few tweaks to the third option though. The alternative still moves a few students, about 72, from Floris to Oak Hill and parents would prefer if the school system found another way to increase enrollment at Oak Hill, Crosby said.

Some Floris parents suggested that the school system reduce the school's overcrowding by eliminating "day-care placements," wherein parents whose children are enrolled at the day care across from Floris are allowed to attend the school.

They also suggested the school system redraw school boundaries so that future students from areas where new construction is supposed to take place would go to Oak Hill instead of Floris. If this happened, the current Floris students who were supposed to move to Oak Hill would not have to transfer schools, said the parents.

BUT THOSE upset about Coppermine's Title I status under option three said the school system has already made enough concessions to the Floris community.

McNair Farms resident Sundar Rajhavan's neighborhood has also had to change schools several times in the past decade. When he bought his house nine years ago, it was inside Floris' boundary, he said.

"Floris and Oak Hill have not been touched at all. ... I have also had to change schools three times in seven years," said Rajhavan, whose child is too young to attend school currently.

Rajhavan said the school system should strive not to create new Title I schools because they make it more difficult for the school and the children attending the school to succeed.

"Why start a school as Title I? It will be a Title I school until my grandchild has graduated from high school," he said.

"I was excited to see option three because it offers a much needed GT Center for cluster eight."

Paula Crosby, a parent from northeastern Floris

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FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6437. Deadline is Thursday.

Congregation Beth Emeth Hazak Chapter, 12523 Lawyers Road, Herndon, hosts prominent speakers and entertainers on the **third Tuesday of each month**, at 1 p.m. Free light refreshments are served. Call 703-860-4515, Ext. 127. The guest list is as follows:

Dec. 16: Laura Shulman, Religious Diversity in the US

Jan. 27: Rabbi Leonard Cahan, Jewish Marriage Customs

Feb. 17: Rabbi David Kalendar, The Jews of Uganda

March 17: Dr. Louis Blumen, Jewish Medieval Medicine

April 21: Steven Gross, The Holocaust in Hungary

May 19: Speaker from Embassy of Israel

June 16: Year-end Luncheon

Every Wednesday, at 12:15 p.m., **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon, offers a lunch-time Healing and Holy Communion service. This half-hour service is offered to all and allows people an opportunity to worship during the work week when they may be away from their regular church. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Sacrament and all who have not been baptized may receive a blessing at the Altar rail. Call the church Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at 703-437-3790 or visit www.saint-timothys.org.

SEE FAITH, PAGE 15

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SPORTS

Seahawks Sweep Herndon in Basketball

South Lakes girls overcome 22-1 deficit. Williams, meanwhile, leads boys to victory.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

A near-capacity crowd of local high-school basketball fans were on hand at the spacious South Lakes High gymnasium last Friday night to take in a girls-boys double-header between local rivals Herndon and host school South Lakes.

It was South Lakes' night as both the Seahawk teams won the early season contests. The South Lakes girls, in the evening's first contest, overcame an early 21-point deficit to defeat Herndon, 47-44. Then, in the nightcap boys game, South Lakes senior point guard Travis Williams kept the Hornets at bay with terrific outside shooting to lead the Seahawks to a 73-68 victory.

Williams, South Lakes' outstanding 5-foot-10-inch point guard, nailed five 3-pointers on way to a game-high 21 points.

South Lakes trailed 39-36 early in the third quarter before Williams scored eight points during a 12-3 South Lakes tear that put the Seahawks ahead to stay at 48-42. Williams scored 11 points, including three 3-pointers during the decisive third quarter. Teammate Brandon Price (15 points), a senior guard, added 10 points in the same quarter.

South Lakes (2-1), which outscored the Hornets 23-11 in the quarter, led 59-48 going into the fourth. Herndon (3-2) did cut the Seahawks' lead to 66-62 on a three-point shot by sophomore guard Austin Hamilton (16 points) from the left corner with two minutes, 35 seconds left in the fourth; but South Lakes' Ramin Shaheedian answered with a pair of free throws moments later and Herndon never got within striking distance again.

"They came out hard and we came out



Herndon High's Carlon Chambers, who scored five points with 12 rebounds, goes up strong for a shot as South Lakes players Lachelle Wallace (22) and Olivia Neuman (33) defend. The local rival teams met last Friday night as part of a girls-boys hoops double-header at South Lakes. The home team Seahawks were victorious in both games.

hard," Williams said of the game. "We just kept our intensity high. We've got a lot of team chemistry and the guys trust each other."

Williams, who was red-hot shooting the ball, loved the electric atmosphere throughout the game.

"It was a rival game with the big crowd and my shots were falling," he said. "We talked about this game all week."

South Lakes coach Darryl Branch was proud of his team's showing in its first home game of the winter.

"It was big to have a strong showing and to win," Branch said. "It was good for the community. It was pretty loud and good to



Herndon's Austin Hamilton (10) defends as South Lakes' Steve Kerr tries to convert a reverse layup during last Friday night's basketball action at South Lakes.

see so many South Lakes students tonight."

He marveled at Williams' play.

"He's tough," Branch said. "Last year, I thought he was the little engine that could. He's going to have a very good senior year. He's a little guy, but he can play. He's one of the better guards in the region. Last year he didn't get as much attention because we had seniors like [since-graduated team leaders] Curtis Keys and Thomas Mayo."

Herndon senior Darian Ison led the Hornets with 18 points, including three treys.

IN THE GIRLS GAME earlier in the evening, Herndon jumped out to what appeared to be an insurmountable 22-1 lead less than 10 minutes into the game. Herndon junior guard Phyllis Martin (15 points) scored 11 points during the early game stretch.

South Lakes, which trailed 16-0 after one quarter, did not score its first field goal of

the game until senior Olivia Neuman converted a basket off a drive with 5:29 remaining in the second quarter to get the Seahawks within 22-5.

From then on, South Lakes (5-0) seemed to find a comfort level and began playing better. By halftime, the Seahawks still trailed 28-11, but were playing with more confidence.

South Lakes' Kacey Liscomb scored 10 points in the third quarter to help South Lakes get within 37-30 going into the fourth. The Seahawks' charge continued and they finally tied the game, 42-42, on a three-point shot off the left wing from senior guard Kelcyn Manurs (13 points) with 2:08 remaining. Following a timeout, Herndon regained the lead on a layup by Jasmine Johnson (12 points), but Manurs answered with another trey to give South Lakes its first lead of the night at 45-44 with 58 seconds left. The game's only points thereafter came on free throws by Manurs, who scored 10 fourth-quarter points.

"Coach yelled at us at halftime, we were doing so horrible," Manurs said.

Of the excitement of the second half, Manurs said, "I was shaking, I had the chills. It was wonderful."

South Lakes coach Christy Winters Scott expressed surprise that her team, with six seniors, started so poorly.

"I wanted them to work through it and that's what we did," said the coach.

At halftime, Winters Scott told her team they were not playing Seahawks' basketball and expressed disappointment that they were playing so poorly in front of a lot of area youth players who were in attendance.

But Winters Scott was thrilled with her team's second-half play.

"To get this win is sweet for our six seniors," she said.

Herndon coach Reggie Barnes said his team played with patience and defended well in the first half. But the tide turned dramatically thereafter.

"The bottom line is we're young and have got to learn how to close out games," Barnes said. "You can't take anything away from South Lakes. We didn't match their intensity in the second half."

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The **Thomas Jefferson High** gymnastics' team, coached by Pete Novgrod, has team members from throughout the local area. The Colonials opened the new season with a first-place finish at their own six-team meet held Dec. 6. Jefferson won the team competition with 136.7 points, finishing ahead of second-place Edison (121.925) and third-place Fairfax (105.7). Rounding out the field were fourth-place Oakton (101.075), fifth-place West Potomac (69.8) and sixth-place T.C. Williams (35.575). Jefferson's Ariel Coronel, an Oakton resident, took part in the competition.

The **Langley High** swim and dive teams defeated Jefferson in a recent season-opening Liberty Dis-

trict competition. The Saxon boys defeated the Colonials, 190-125, and the Langley girls also were victorious, 172-143.

The Jefferson girls winning 200-freestyle relay team included Leah Gonzalez (McLean resident) and Jae Sim (Reston). McLean resident Kelsey Rainey, a member of the Jefferson team, was a top-three finisher in both the 200- and 500-freestyle events, while Sim was a place finisher in both the 50- and 100-freestyle races. A Northern Region championship qualifying times was achieved by the Jefferson boys medley relay team that included Steven Howard (Oakton).

At the recent **Northern Region Wrestling Classic** event, held at Fairfax High School Dec. 5-6, Jefferson

wrestler Matt Becker (Herndon resident) was a third-place finisher in his respective weight class, helping the Colonials to finish eighth overall at the 32-team event.

The **Herndon ice hockey** team remains unbeaten following a recent 5-3 win over Madison. After cruising to victories in the high-school preseason jamboree and their first league game against Oakton, the Herndon team most recently was victorious over the tough Madison outfit.

Herndon struggled in the opening period against Madison. From the first drop of the puck, it was clear that the Hornets' offensive rhythm was out of synch. Despite out shooting Madison in the first period, Herndon was unable to put a puck past the opposing netminder.

The Hornets' stellar defensive play, however, was able to keep the game scoreless through the first period.

But early in the second period, Madison took the lead after jamming a puck past Herndon junior goalie Bryan Kadlec. The Hornets evened the score late in the second period on a goal by assistant team captain senior Chris O'Brien off a pass from freshman winger Michael Horn. For the remainder of the period, goalie Kadlec stood solid against a flurry of Madison shots, keeping the score tied.

Herndon's offense finally began to click two minutes into the third period when a goal by junior Ville Rutanen gave the Hornets the lead. But Madison quickly evened the score with a power-play goal less than three minutes later. Rutanen gave Herndon the lead back, 3-2, with nearly seven minutes left in the

game when he scored off of a combination of passes from juniors Sam Stone and Max Kortegast. One minute later, a goal by Chris O'Brien off a rebounding puck from an Andrew Norman slap shot made the score 4-2. Herndon, with the score, looked to be in control of the game. But late in the period, Madison got back in the game on another power-play goal to get within 4-3.

Penalties continued to plague the Hornets and they faced heavy pressure during the final minute and a half of the game when Madison pulled its goalie and forced a six-on-four situation in the Hornets' end of the ice. Herndon regained possession of the puck in the final seconds and Stone scored the game clincher on a breakaway empty net goal.

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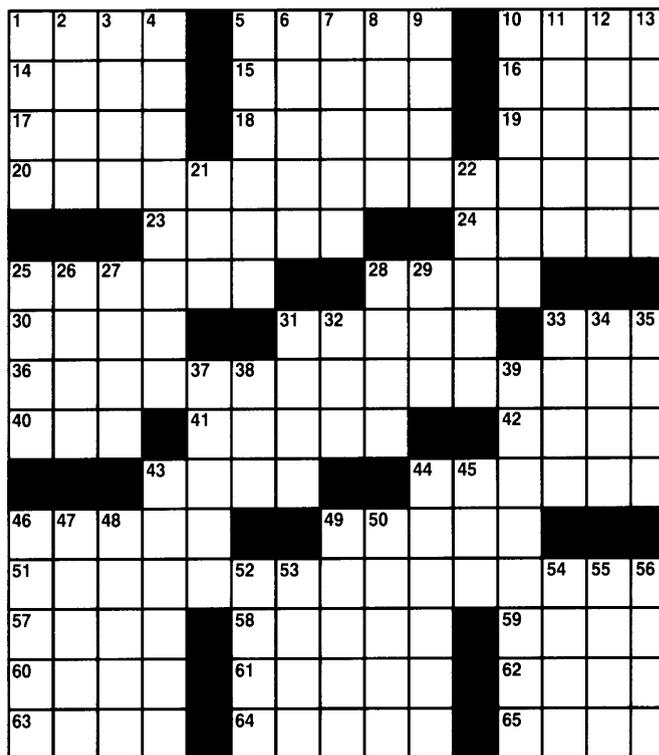
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0412-1



Puzzle by Diane C. Baldwin

ACROSS

- 1 St. Bernard's bark
- 5 Loud kiss
- 10 Air pollution
- 14 Victor who wrote "Les Misérables"
- 15 California border lake
- 16 TV drama length, usually
- 17 Stocking shade
- 18 Cell terminal
- 19 Old-fashioned letter
- 20 Saint-Exupéry lad
- 23 Implore
- 24 Done
- 25 Moves furtively
- 28 Gun's recoil
- 30 Money in 31-Across
- 31 Province in Tuscany
- 33 Indignation
- 36 Arachnid of song
- 40 Vegetable that's hard to eat with a knife
- 41 Rich soils
- 42 Close
- 43 Engagement token
- 44 Olympic prizes
- 46 Football Hall-of-Famer Merlin
- 49 Unbroken
- 51 Nursery rhyme fellow
- 57 Etna output
- 58 Grocery section
- 59 Singer Turner
- 60 In any way
- 61 Look of disdain
- 62 The "E" of B.P.O.E.
- 63 Take care of
- 64 Shorebirds
- 65 Medicinal amount

DOWN

- 10 Psychiatrist
- 11 Pitcher's place
- 12 Cup fraction
- 13 Avarice
- 21 Sort
- 22 Sum up
- 25 Boo-boo
- 26 Paper-and-string flier
- 27 Celestial bear
- 28 Ivories
- 29 Election winners
- 31 For men only
- 32 Doctrine
- 33 Concept
- 34 Authentic
- 35 Goofs up
- 37 Pancakes served with sour cream
- 38 Charged particle
- 39 Like most paragraphs
- 43 First word on a "lost dog" sign
- 44 Lawn tools
- 45 Samuel's teacher
- 46 Young hooter
- 47 Sailor's time off
- 48 Deadly sins number
- 49 Not so dumb
- 50 Actress Hunt
- 52 Endure
- 53 Unemployment office sight
- 54 Metric weight
- 55 Signs, as a contract
- 56 Repose

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT!

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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.

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I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.
-Arthur Wing Pinero

21 Announcements

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Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality to limit air pollution emitted by a facility in Reston, Fairfax County, Virginia.

Public comment period: December 18, 2008 to January 20th, 2009

Permit name: State Operating Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the Air Pollution Control Board

APPLICANT Name, address and registration number: Verizon Business; 2400 North Glenville Drive, Richardson, Texas 75082; Registration Number: 73729.

Project description: Verizon Business has applied for a new permit to operate fuel burning equipment at Verizon Business located at 12369 East Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20191. The permit would allow the source to operate one diesel fired engine-generator set.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. DEQ may hold a public hearing, including another comment period, if public response is significant and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

Contact for public comments, document requests and additional information: Elizabeth Aiken; Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193; Phone: 703-583-3890; E-mail: ehaiken@deq.virginia.gov ; Fax: 703-583-3821. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above.

FAITH

FROM PAGE 11

Dec. 24 at 5:30 p.m.

The Dranesville Church of the Brethren, 11500 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, is **gathering to remember the Battle of Dranesville** and to pray for peace Sunday, **Dec. 21**, at 7 p.m. The service begins with a candle lit for each man killed in the battle. As each name is read, one candle is extinguished to symbolize the terrible human cost of war. Contact John Waggoner at jwaggoner@usatoday.com or 703-854-3490 (W) or 703-216-7036 (cell).

Cedar Run Community Church, 13560 McLearn Road, Oak Hill, will hold their Family Candlelight Christmas Eve Service Wednesday,

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon, will hold a Devotional Service for families with young children at 5 p.m., Service of Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m. and a Candlelight Service with Holy Communion at 10 p.m. on Wednesday, **Dec. 24**. Call 703-437-5020.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon, will hold a mid-day Healing and Holy Communion Service at 12:15 p.m., Children's Service and Holy Eucharist at 5 p.m., Holy Eucharist at 7 p.m. and anthems, carols and the Holy Eucharist at 10 p.m. on Wednesday, **Dec. 24**. The Holy Eucharist will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, **Dec. 25**.

FOOD & DRINK

Jasmine Café, 1633A Washington Plaza, Reston, is celebrating its 20th anniversary by giving customers gift certificates for prizes including appetizers and complimentary dinners through the end of the year. The café is open daily for lunch, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and dinner, 5-10 p.m. Call 703-471-9114 or visit www.jasminecafe.com for reservations.

Special events at the café include: Wednesday, **Dec. 17**, annual VOCE Caroling dinner, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, **Dec. 24**, Christmas supper, 7 p.m., and Wednesday, **Dec. 31**, New Year's Eve Special, 7 p.m.

Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon, is hosting a **Holiday Party Thursday, Dec. 18**, 7 p.m.-2 a.m. There will be Craps, Poker and Blackjack for charity, photos with Santa, a DJ and dancing. Spend casino winnings on a variety of prizes or buy or bid on "Big Ticket" items, including

Wizards and Caps tickets and a signed copy of Bobby Orr's "The Dive" photo. Casino proceeds will benefit Operation Homefront.

Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon, is hosting their 12th annual **"Christmas Party for Kids"** Saturday, **Dec. 20**, 12:30-3:30 p.m. There will be souvenir photos, coloring, crafts, dance party, Christmas carol singing and choice of Kids' Meals and beverages. \$11.95/child; reservations encouraged. Call 703-435-JIMS.

Vinifera Wine Bar & Bistro, 11750 Sunrise Valley Drive, hosts the upscale "Unwind Hour" every weekday evening from 5-7 p.m. Guests can enjoy a glass or bottle from the restaurant's extensive wine selection and a sampling of Executive Chef Seth Eldridge's complimentary tapas. Each week, Vinifera will feature three highly rated wines for special "tasting" at bargain prices. Visit www.viniferabistro.com or call 703-234-3550.

Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it.

—Henry David Thoreau

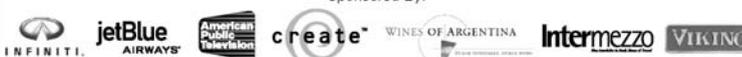
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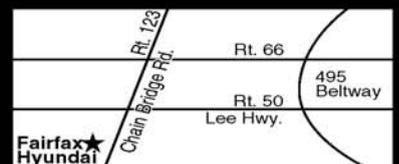
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