



'Kitten' Mom Honored

NEWS, PAGE 3

New Year's In Fairfax

NEWS, PAGE 3

While decorating a gingerbread house at the Inova Fairfax Hospital on Wednesday night, Hinna Wazir, 8, of Ashburn, takes a taste of some of the decorative materials.

Happy Holidays

NEWS, PAGE 3

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Visions of Sugar Plums

Long-term patients at Inova Fairfax Children's Hospital celebrate holidays with a party.



Charlie DeLoatche, 5, has his picture taken with Santa and his private duty nurse, Amanda Filtrin, during a holiday party at the Inova Fairfax Hospital on Wednesday evening.



Haley Hutchison, 6, of Springfield, decorates a gingerbread house while attending a holiday party at the Inova Fairfax Hospital on Wednesday evening for former long-term and current patients and their families.



Maya Adabad, 6, of Alexandria, has her likeness drawn during the holiday party.

PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

She Fosters Kittens with Love

Cat rescue groups recognize Susan Spaulding for work fostering kittens.

BY LINDSAY GSELL
THE CONNECTION

Known throughout the rescue community as the "Kitten Mom," Susan Spaulding has devoted 20 years caring and fostering prenatal kittens. She works with over 30 rescue groups and a dozen shelter and interim fosters 300-400 kittens a year.

"She is one of the most knowledgeable persons in the country on kittens."

— Chris Haslam



Known as the 'Kitten Mom,' Susan Spaulding has devoted 20 years caring and fostering prenatal kittens.

Spaulding began rescuing kittens 20 years ago while living in South Texas. When she moved to Centerville with her husband Norm in 2000, she began visiting places and leaving her name as a potential foster for

kittens.

"It was one of those snowball things," said Spaulding. "Once people found out what I

SEE 'KITTEN MOM,' PAGE 18

First Night

New Year's party returns to city.

BY DEREK B. JOHNSON
THE CONNECTION

Local businesses and the City of Fairfax are teaming up to host Fairfax First Night Dec. 31 in Old Town Fairfax. The yearly event to celebrate the New Year, which began in 2005, did not take place last year due to city budgetary concerns, according to Mayor Robert Lederer and members of the City Council. Lederer said that this year local business owners have stepped in to fill that void, agreeing to pay for all entertainment and services related to the event.

"We're going through budget cuts

SEE FIRST NIGHT, PAGE 4

Rams Reunite At RFK Stadium

When Wake Forest and Navy met for the EagleBank Bowl at RFK Stadium last Saturday morning, Robinson football coach Mark Bendorf enjoyed a rare treat: watching a few of his former players compete live.

Bendorf's fall weekends generally consist of film study, meetings and the occasional game on TV. But on Saturday morning, he was able to watch Chip Vaughn (Wake Forest), Kevin Campbell (Navy) and Craig Schaefer (Navy) duke it out.

"With the demands of our season, I don't get out to see many games unless guys make it to bowl games," Bendorf said.

Vaughn, who graduated from Robinson in 2004, had 83 tackles his senior year. Schaefer graduated in 2005 and later switched to linebacker at Navy, while Campbell, who graduated a year later, totaled 462 rushing yards and 23 touchdowns at Robinson.

"We're fortunate here at Robinson that most of our players have excelled at the next level," Bendorf said. "That's a real source of pride because it's not an easy transition."

Fairfax Girls Start Season Strong

It took one game to surpass the Fairfax girls basketball team's win total from all of last season and only one more to double it.

The Rebels finished 1-22 last season and haven't won a district game in more than three years, but, so far this winter, they've posted a 3-3 record.

"We definitely are a lot more confident," said Fairfax coach Marcus Konde.

A big reason for the turnaround has been junior guard Lauren Burford, who transferred from St. John's College High School this summer. In a 43-40 loss to Concorde District power Chantilly on Tuesday night, Burford led the Rebels with 25 points.

"She makes every single player better," Konde said. "I've never seen a player as good as she is as unselfish as she is on the court."

Connolly Hosts Open House

U.S. Rep.-elect. Gerry Connolly (D-11) will have an open house on Tuesday, Jan. 6, from 2-6 p.m. at his new congressional office following his swearing in to the U.S. House of Representatives. The event will take place in room 327 of the Canon House Office building on Capitol Hill and is open to friends and Connolly supporters.

NEWS

Go-Go Goes into Business

Fairfax resident's latest career venture leads to opening art studio in city.

BY DEREK B. JOHNSON
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax resident Arla Albers has lived a lifetime of careers, and she's only in her 50s. She has worked as a cake decorator for 30 years, served 21 years in the military before retiring at the rank of Navy commander and for the last 20 years, performed as Go-Go the party clown.

In fact, at her new business, ArlaStudio on Silver King Court in Fairfax, Albers still answers the phone as "Go-Go."

"Because I go all the time," she said.

The art studio, which opened Sunday, Dec. 14, offers regularly-scheduled painting sessions, directed by Albers. Albers has also been painting for over 20 years, and was initially attracted to the craft by the face-painting she did for children as a clown.

Customers can browse the company's Web site, www.arlastudio.com to sign up for three-four hour sessions focused on specific paintings, changed daily. Albers pointed to her painting experience and a master's degree in organization development as qualifications, and said she specialized in abstract and modern painting.

"She changes and is a very creative and outgoing person."

— Howard Albers

She explained the structure of the sessions as teaching how to compartmentalize the painting into sections for the artists, who can choose to strictly follow her direction or add their own stamp to it.

"I'm not teaching them necessarily red and blue make purple. I'm just painting and telling them where to put what paint," she said.

Debbie Finch, a friend of Albers who has attended her sessions, said she liked the overall idea.

"I told my daughter that statement is true for a lot of things in life, when you break it down into pieces it's easier," said Finch.

Helping Albers to run the business is her husband, Howard Albers. With a background in accounting, he described his role as

"behind the scenes" and listed answering the phone, keeping the studio clean and helping to balance the books as his duties. He attributed his wife's career twists to her professional drive and adventurous personality.

"I think she's been successful in all of them," said Howard. "She changes and is a very creative and outgoing person."

"My professional opinion is if you're going to do something do it well or don't do it at all," said Arla Albers.



Arla Albers, owner of ArlaStudio, has had many careers in her life. Formerly a cake decorator, Navy commander and full-time clown, she now seeks to make a business out of painting, a decades long hobby of hers.

Opening an art studio stemmed both from her passion for the art and a car crash she suffered in 2000, injuring her knees. Keeping up with the schedule of a working clown is becoming increasingly difficult, and Arla Albers admitted that her career as Go-Go the Clown is winding down. "It's gotten to the point where I need to slow down and do something where I can both stand and sit," she said. "I'm hoping to have a 20-year career with this as well."

First Night Returns to Fairfax

FROM PAGE 3

[right now]. I went to the council two months ago and got their support to do this as long there wasn't an impact on our budget," said Lederer. "We sat down with the business community and they immediately stepped up to the plate."

City Council member Steve Stombres, who was involved in discussions to provide support for the event, expressed relief that First Night would continue this year without city funding.

"We felt that it brought a lot of people in the city, but it was one of those things where with the budget it kind of fell by the wayside," said Stombres. "There wasn't a lot of interest on the council to spend taxpayer money on the event [this year]."

That won't be an issue according to Lederer, who said that the city's only formal involvement with the event would be to close off the streets downtown and provide a police presence. In a time of recession, both business owners and city officials expressed hope that the event would serve as a city-wide open house for many of the

new retail stores and restaurants that have popped up in the city over the last year.

"First a foremost, we're very excited to bring attention and highlight our downtown redevelopment," said Lederer. "The second issue is this is geared as a family oriented opportunity to celebrate. We all need that opportunity, certainly with the economic crisis and bad news every time you turn on the TV"

"I think it will cause people to take notice," said Stombres. "We want them coming for the Chocolate Lover's Festival in February. We want them to come and shop, spend time and go to dinner in City of Fairfax."

The night will showcase a host of events, activities and refreshments spread out across the downtown area. Starting at 6 p.m., Lederer and the City Council will light the Fairfax Bonfire and welcome those in attendance. Old Town Hall will feature children's entertainment, music and a swing dance band from 6-11:30 p.m. Similar forms of entertainment will be set up all along the streets of Old Town, including carriage rides, moon bounces and live

bands. All events will stop shortly before midnight to ring in 2009 at the intersection of University Drive and North Street.

Pacers Running and Walking Stores on North Street will be hosting the Fairfax 4 Miler, a 4-mile run at 7 p.m. Ryan Murphy, assistant manager of the store said they had received over 500 registrants for the run so far, and that those interested in running could sign up as late as the day of the race. Murphy said the store was looking forward to introducing themselves to the city's running population.

"We're definitely hoping it's going to be big and bring lots of people in," he said.

Right now a lot of people in the area are still getting used to us being here, so we want them to come out, get to know us and see what the businesses had to offer."

Stombres said the event was a great way for the city to market itself.

"We've got this great asset [downtown], so how do we really kick start that into what we all know Old Town can be?" asked Stombres. "This is one of the things that's a highlight, a showcase event for not our city and businesses."

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PEOPLE



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION



Fill Up, Blow Up

Jermantown Shell gas station creates village of inflatable Christmas decorations.

It used to be “Deck the halls,” now it’s “Inflate the Inflatables.” For about 10 years, Charles “Chick” Beaulieu, 48, of the City of Fairfax has been adding to the inflatables that decorate his Jermantown Shell station on Route 50 near the Interstate 66 ramp.

With a week to go before Christmas, he has a complete village of Santas, Grinches, Pandas, Snowmen and trains — all powered by air and motors.

Every year, Beaulieu does something different. This year, he hung red lights in the trees.

“There’s so many Shell stations in the area that we do it to set ourselves apart,” Beaulieu said. Because all the wind and rain wreaks havoc on the plastic critters, it’s a lot of work. Beaulieu has one employee who spends 80 percent of his time inflating and deflating them, tethering them, sand-bagging them, straightening and checking for rips and tears and replacing burned-out motors.

But the payoff is worth it, especially when children stop by to admire them. “I started out doing it for all the kids in the neighborhood,” Beaulieu said. “When you see kids out there it’s kind of neat. We have a lot of people who come up here and take pictures of their kids with them.”

Beaulieu said 60 inflatables inhabit his

“When you see kids out there it’s kind of neat.”

— Charles ‘Chick’ Beaulieu



Jermantown Shell and another 18 decorate his Sugarland Shell. Each year, he adds more and extends the decorations beyond the Christmas season. He has bears and hearts for Valentine’s Day, and turkeys for Thanksgiving. They cost anywhere between \$9 and \$180, and he’ll travel as far as Winchester to find a bargain. Now he says people actually call him to say they found such and such at Home Depot, Wal-Mart, Sears or Price Club, but he waits until they go on sale.

Beaulieu been in business for 29 years and once had four gas stations but sold two.

— STEVE HIBBARD



FAITH

Fairfax Presbyterian Church will have three Christmas Eve Services on Wednesday, Dec. 24, 4:30 p.m. Worship for Children and Families, 7:30 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols and 10 p.m. Communion Service. The church is located at 10723 Main St., Fairfax. 703-273-5300 or fpc@fairfaxpresby.com.

Jubilee Christian Center Christmas Eve Service on Dec. 24, 8 p.m. at 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Free refreshments at 7:30 p.m. 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

Chabad of Reston-Herndon is having several Chanukah events. Contact www.chabadva.org or 703 426 1980 for tickets and information.

❖ **December 25th, What's a Jew to Do?** Thursday, Dec. 25 from 5:30 p.m., at 3939 Prince William Drive, Fairfax. \$20 per person all-you-can-eat Chinese buffet, a Jewish movie, Menorah lighting, latkes, Dreidels, and chocolate "gelt."

❖ **Chanukah on Ice**, on Sunday, Dec. 28 from 5:45-7:15 p.m. at the Fairfax Ice Arena, 3779 Pickett Road, Fairfax. Menorah lighting, ice-skating to Chanukah music, hot latkes and donuts. Chanukah Crafts, \$12 per person.

Chanukah, Oh Chanukah! at the JCC of Northern Virginia on Thursday, Dec. 25 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Dreidel contests, crafts, games, cards, pool, Israeli scavenger hunt, drumming circle and mini golf. Make a family menorah at home to enter in the "Menorah Madness" contest. Prizes will be awarded. Food available for purchase. Bring non-perishable groceries, children's books

SEE FAITH, PAGE 9



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PEOPLE

Gift of Reading Arrives

FCPS administrators read books and donate stuffed animals to Mosby Woods Elementary students

On Friday, Dec. 19, administrators of the Fairfax County Public Schools visited Mosby Woods Elementary in Fairfax to share the Gift of Reading with students.

Administrators came in to spend some time with Mosby Woods students and read them some stories and reward them with stuffed animals from the books they read. The Gift of Reading program is something new to Mosby Woods Elementary this year.

While out looking for donations for bingo, parent and PTA member Colleen Al Mukhtar, stopped by Khol's asking for a cash donation. Khol's couldn't provide cash, but they said they could give her some stuffed animals for the students, and an idea was born.

"Khol's donated stuffed animals from five different books, for all of our students in our Head Start, kindergarten and first grade," said Patti Pecoraro, a reading resource teacher at Mosby Woods. "It was amazing."

Some of the notable books included "Hop on Pop," "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do You See?" and "You're all my Favorites."

"Kids enjoy reading a book, especially with stuffed animals," says Assistant Principal Jay Alocco. He acknowledged that bringing in members from the Fairfax County administration was a faculty idea. "We wanted the leadership team to come in and see the

kids, let them meet the students they're working for."

Some notable readers included Richard Moniuszko, deputy division superintendent and Dean Tistadt, chief operating officer of Fairfax County Public Schools.

"It's a great thing" said Moniuszko. "We go to the schools quite a bit, it keeps me in touch with the schools and talk with the kids."

Moniuszko believes that interaction between FCPS students and faculty is important. "It's great for the kids to see adults reading, as role models. Storytelling is fun, it's engaging, it's more than just the story. It's a great opportunity for us to get involved. I think it engages them [students] more to see someone different."

Alocco believes that reading to students in a gift in and of itself. "Forty percent of our base school falls on or below the poverty line, and these kids are asking for PS3s ... this holiday season," he said. "It's just something nice that we can be doing for them, and it reinforces to parents that maybe just spending time reading and interacting with your kids is enough. It's a treat for these kids to have the FCPS leadership board members come in, and the stuffed animals are just icing on the cake."

Moniuszko was enthused about being invited to come and do this for the students. "I think it's fun. I enjoy being invited."

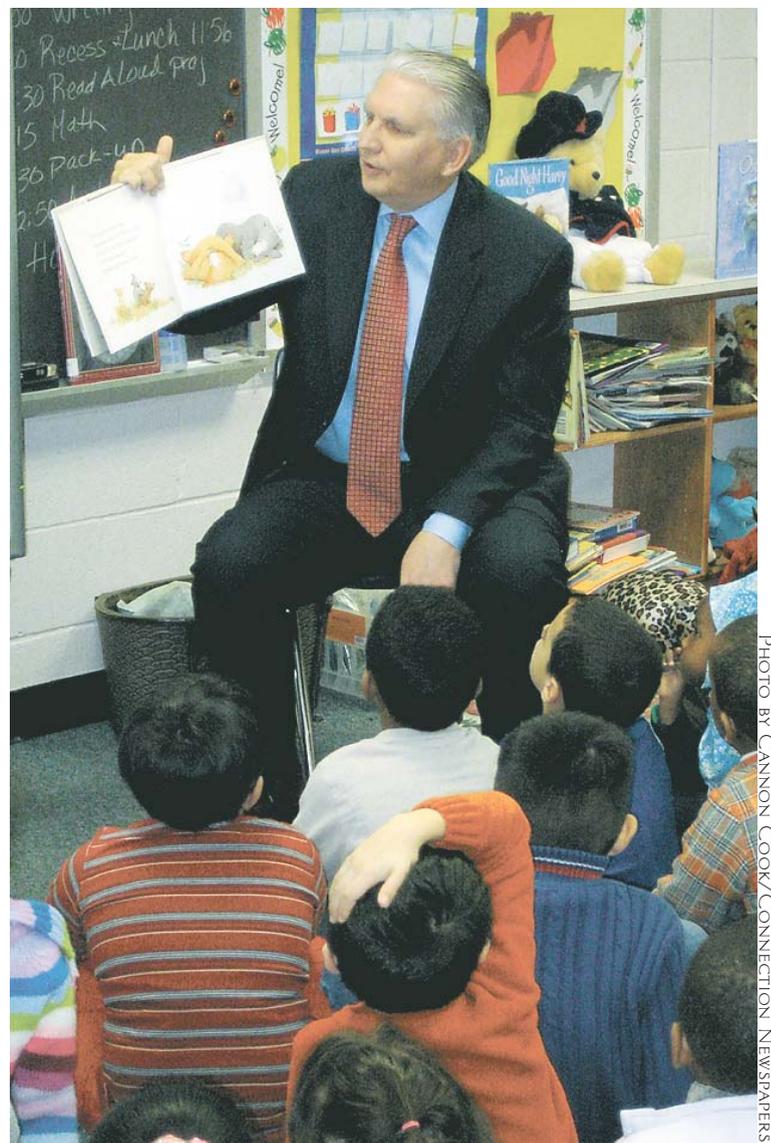


PHOTO BY CANNON COOK/CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

Richard Moniuszko, deputy division superintendent, reads 'You're all my Favorites' Friday at Mosby Woods.

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FAITH

FROM PAGE 7

and gloves or a scarf to be donated to food banks and area shelters. JCCNV members free, non-members \$10 per family. 703-537-3064 or LaurieA@jccnv.org.

Gan Israel Academy is a Montessori-influenced kindergarten and first grade that emphasizes Jewish elementary learning, located at Chabad of Fairfax, 3939 Prince William Drive, Fairfax. 703-426-1980 or ganisraelpreschool@gmail.com.

❖ **Gan Israel Preschool Open House**, Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m.

❖ **Jewish Kindergarten Open House** on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m.

The Jewish Social Services Agency, 3018 Javier Road, Fairfax, offers a variety of family programs. Call 703-204-9100 for details or to register.

Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia, located on 10383 Democracy Lane, Fairfax, presents worship services on Sundays at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. and choir practice (open to all) on Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m. www.mccnova.com or 703-691-0930.

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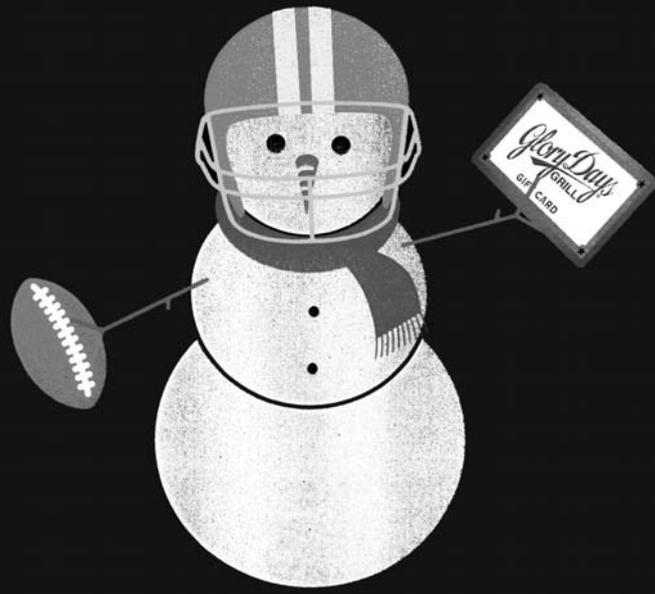
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Home Care NEWS

Presented by
Laura & Michael
Pierce, CSA

PHYSICAL, OCCUPATIONAL, AND/OR SPEECH THERAPY

Sometimes patients need help relearning how to perform daily duties or improve their speech after an illness or injury. As part of home healthcare services, a physical therapist can put together a plan of care to help a patient regain or strengthen use of muscles and joints. An occupational therapist can help a patient with physical, developmental, social, or emotional disabilities. These professionals can help a patient relearn how to perform daily functions such as eating, bathing, and dressing. A speech therapist can help a patient with impaired speech regain the ability to communicate clearly. The increasing elderly population means future growth in the demand for therapeutic services, as the elderly are particularly vulnerable to chronic and debilitating conditions.

This information column is presented by **Comfort Keepers**, 10721 Main St., Ste. 100, Fairfax. We can provide a full array of home care and personal care to assist our clients consultation, please call 703.591.7117. Office hours: M-F 9-5 and our care services are available 24/7. *Comforting Solutions for In-Home Care.* Each of our caregivers is thoroughly screened, bonded and insured for your peace of mind. *We are the perfect solution for seniors and others who require caring support at home.*

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First Fairfax ...A Night to Remember!

December 31st, 2008

Old Town Plaza SHOPS & DINING

Lighting of the Fairfax Bonfire
6:00 pm

The Fairfax 4 Miler Road Race
7:00 pm www.fairfaxfour.com

Old Town Hall
Children performances, Swing Dance

Kitty Pozer Garden
Hot cider, marshmallows, Balloon modelers
Community Stage & Bands

Streets of Old Town Fairfax
Carriage Rides, Moon Bounces.

Old Town Village
Plaza Performances, Irish Festival, Theatre

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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.

FRIDAY/DEC. 26

The Bigger Lights, The Friday Night Boys and Mercy Mercedes. 5 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/DEC. 27

Virginia Ballet Company's 59th "Nutcracker," 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Cultural Center Theater, Annandale Campus. Tickets \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. 703 249-8227 or www.virginiaballetcompany.org.
Polar Science. 2:30 p.m. Explore polar animals with simple science experiments. Age 6-12. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

SUNDAY/DEC. 28

Tom O'Connor and Brent Shuttleworth. Pop/rock. 2 p.m. \$8. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.
Jonasay Reunion Show and Trustfall. Pop/rock. 7:30 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Virginia Ballet Company's 59th "Nutcracker," 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Cultural Center Theater, Annandale Campus. Tickets \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. 703 249-8227 or www.virginiaballetcompany.org.

MONDAY/DEC. 29

Open Mic Hosted by David Cotton.

7 p.m. Free. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Virginia Ballet Company's 59th "Nutcracker," 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Cultural Center Theater, Annandale Campus. Tickets \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. 703 249-8227 or www.virginiaballetcompany.org.

INOVA Blood Drive. 1 p.m. Photo ID required. Appointments preferred, call 1-866-256-6372. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227.

Monday Movies. 3:30 p.m. See a movie based on a book, discuss which was better. Age 6-18. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

Fairfax High School Theatre Department Winter Break Drama Camp for grades 1-8, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. \$75 for three half-day sessions or \$165 for the full three-day camp.*Activities include musical theatre and puppetry. 703/818-0926 or www.fxplayers.org.

TUESDAY/DEC. 30

INOVA Blood Drive. 1 p.m. Photo ID required. Appointments preferred, call 1-866-256-6372. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Fairfax, in Old Town Fairfax. 703-352-ARTS or www.fairfaxva.gov.
"Robbie-noceros" New Years Eve Party for Kids: Robbie Schaefer and Rocknoceros ring in the New Year. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.
Virginia Coalition New Years Eve

Celebration. 8 p.m. \$75 plus \$25 optional bar package. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 2

Jeff Dunham 'Spark of Insanity' tour. 8 p.m. Ventriloquism with his featured character puppets. Tickets \$49.50, at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. Visit www.jeffdunham.com. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. 703-993-3000.

Melodime and Louis Fabrizi.

Rock/blues/country. 7:30 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

PJtheVIKING, Young Enough, The Grenade and more. 10 p.m. \$5. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 3

Ammar Malik, The OK Corral and Pretzlocoat. Pop/acoustic. 7:30 p.m. \$8 advance, \$10 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/JAN. 4

Ghosts of Pluto, Priceless Enuendo, McTwist, Merredith and Orange Marmalade. Rock. 6 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/JAN. 5

Old Town Hall Children's Series: 'Mad for the Road' music and laughter. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-352-ARTS or www.fairfaxarts.org.

Calling All Guys, 7 p.m. Book discussion group for boys. The Dark Hills Divide: The Land of Elyon, Book 1, by Patrick Carman. Age 9-12 with adult. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.
Open Mic Night with Ron Goad. 7-10 p.m. \$2. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566.

TUESDAY/JAN. 6

Computer Tutoring, 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.
Teen Book Club, 7 p.m. Fun, food and great book discussions! Age 12-18. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

Let's Go Sledding, 10:15 a.m. Stories, fingerplays and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

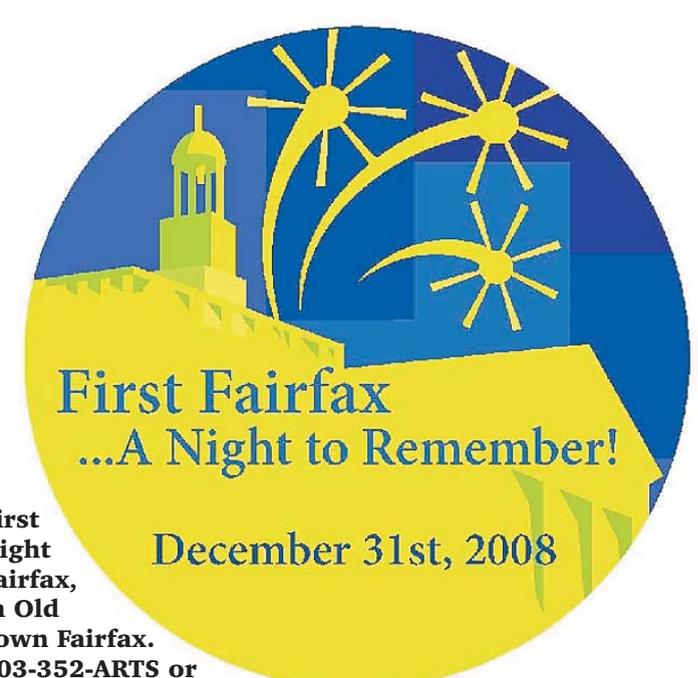
Bibliomaniacs Book Discussion Group, 7 p.m. Family book discussion of "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle. Age 8-12 with adult. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 7

Edwin McCain. 8 p.m. Soulful acoustics at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.
Your Health, 11 a.m. Learn how to manage your medications and prepare for doctor's visits. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

THURSDAY/JAN. 8

JP McDermott, 8 p.m. at The Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Free swing lesson at 7:30 p.m. Admission \$10. 703-424-1745 or www.headoverheelsdance.com.



**First Fairfax
...A Night to Remember!**

December 31st, 2008

First Night Fairfax, in Old Town Fairfax.
703-352-ARTS or www.fairfaxva.gov.

- ❖ Bonfire at the Kitty Pozer Garden, 6 p.m.
- ❖ Magic, Music and Mayhem children's entertainment at the Old Town Hall, 6-8 p.m.
- ❖ Irish Festival at Old Town Village Plaza Marketplace, 6-9 p.m.
- ❖ Carriage Rides on North Street, 6-11 p.m.
- ❖ Live performances at the Kitty Pozer Garden, Old Town Village Plaza Marketplace, Wind House Terrace Theater, Potbelly Sandwich Works and the Fairfax Railway Museum, 6 p.m.-12 a.m.
- ❖ Fairfax Four-Miler, 7 p.m.
- ❖ Head Over Heels Swing Dance and Fairfax Swing Band at the Old Town Hall, 8-11:30 p.m.

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

Teen Book Chat, 7:30 p.m. Mother-daughter book discussion group. Pride and Prejudice (DK Illustrated Classics edition) by Jane Austen. Call branch to register. Age 12-16 with adult. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

Independent Living Exercise Class, 12 p.m. Build strength, improve balance and reduce falls. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Altan. Irish jigs and ballads. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$24. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

FRIDAY/JAN. 9

Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers. 8 p.m. Swing dance of the 1940s and '50s at The Barns. Tickets \$22. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

U. S. Navy Sea Chanters classical chorus. 8 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-352-ARTS.

USN Sea Chanters, 9 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-352-ARTS or www.fairfaxarts.org.

Lunch Bunnies, 12 p.m. Bring lunch and listen to stories. Birth-5 with adult. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

Eric Scott, The Method and Marie Miller. Pop/funk. 9:30 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/JAN. 10

Cathy and Marcy's Family

Jamboree with Special Guests: music for families. 5-7 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

John Eddie. Rock. 9:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Microsoft Excel, 2:30 p.m. Introduction to creating spreadsheets with Microsoft Excel. Age 13 and up. Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227.

SUNDAY/JAN. 11

Dr. Lauranett Lee, curator of African American History, at Virginia Historical Society, followed by a gallery tour of "Sites and Stories: African American History in Virginia," 2 p.m., Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street, Fairfax. Free. 703-385-8414.
25th Annual Mid Atlantic Song Contest Awards Gala and Concert. 4 p.m. \$7 in advance and for SAW members, \$10 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/JAN. 12

Crafty Kids, 3:30 p.m. Age 6-12. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

It's Snow Much Fun, 10:15 a.m. Stories and activities about snow. Age 3-5 with adult. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

The War. 7 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566.

TUESDAY/JAN. 13

Computer Tutoring, 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Jeff Dunham brings the 'Spark of Insanity' tour with ventriloquism and character puppets to the George Mason University Patriot Center, Friday, Jan. 2.

COMMUNITY

Holiday Decorating at the Virginian

Rehab workers decorate walkers at retirement community.

To celebrate the holiday season, members of The Virginian rehabilitation staff put a little twist on the holidays — they threw a walker decorating contest.

“There were strict rules,” says Lisa Rabinowitz, staff member at the Virginian Continuing Care Retirement Community. “The walkers had to be able to fold up, and you couldn’t use walkers with baskets or seats, and whatever creative idea you have.”

The holiday walkers were something new for the staff.

“We had judges from other parts of the faculty, outside of the rehabilitation center,” said Rabinowitz. “People were bringing in their walkers covered in paper bags, not to reveal too much.”

Residents of the Virginian enjoyed the holiday entertainment put on by the staff members. “The sprit of the whole team of therapists working together was amazing,” said Karie Dewalt, independent resident.

Toni Drees, staff member and contest winner, was happy with the contest. “It was enjoyable for the residents. A lot of them aren’t at home for the holiday season, so we try to make things enjoyable and make them feel at home.” After gauging the reactions to this year’s contest, Drees hopes for more titles in the future, “I have my mind on next year’s contest already.”

— CANNON COOK



PHOTOS BY CANNON COOK/THE CONNECTION

From left, Patricia Wood, Shirley Salzman, Heidi Feilhardt, Toni Drees, Karie Dewalt and Lisa Rabinowitz in front of the holiday walkers made by staff members of the Virginian.

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CON

Athletic Cuts Get Poor Reception

With indoor track and girls gymnastics on chopping block, FCPS could save \$471K.

BY JASON MACKEY
THE CONNECTION

Dan Hayden knows that he's the exception, not the rule. With a daughter that's an accomplished club gymnast who also competes at Herndon High School, Hayden spends between \$400 and \$500 every month and shells out as much as \$5,000 for a five-week camp over the summer for her to compete at a local gymnastics club.

The money is worth it to Hayden because gymnastics has become something Maria Hayden, a junior at Herndon, enjoys. She'd have to. She spends 17 to 18 hours a week doing it.

And then there's her high-school career. "High-school gymnastics allows girls that don't compete in club to compete," Dan Hayden said. "High-school gymnastics gives them the opportunity to stay in gymnastics, but not commit their whole life to it."

At a Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting midway through November, Schools Superintendent Jack D. Dale unveiled three proposals that included cuts to sports as part of closing a \$180 million budget shortfall for the school district.

In all three options, girls gymnastics would be cut from the 2010 budget, while indoor track and field was nixed in the most severe case.

"Systemwide we have to make significant cuts," said Bill Curran, Fairfax County director of student activities. "It's one of those situations where you hope for the best and prepare for the worst."

Curran cited the availability of gymnastics at the club level and its declining level of participation as a high-school sport as the two overriding factors. Girls gymnastics is currently the county's smallest sport, with approximately 125 female-athletes total.

But parents and coaches say the sport is growing and it has many benefits for the girls who participate.

"Lake Braddock had the most girls try out this year in 10 years and had cuts for the very first time," said Janelyn Price, whose daughter is a freshman on the girls gymnastics team at Lake Braddock. "I'm very disappointed that Fairfax County is considering something like this."

"Being a gymnast, you learn a lot about hard work, dedication and there's a little bit of perfectionist that's thrown in there," said Angela Peterson, Oakton girls gymnastics coach. "You really understand the work that it takes to achieve at a certain level."

But the hottest point of contention among parents and those associated with the sport is that club gymnastics is very different than high-school gymnastics.

The cost is one difference, with the cost of club competition soaring beyond what many or most families can pay. At the club level, the emphasis is on the individual, too.

"On a club team you're more competing for yourself," said Olympian Justin Spring, who graduated from Lake Braddock and won the all-around national championship as a senior. Boys gymnastics was eliminated as a sport the following year.

"When you're competing for your school against other schools, you start to build that team identity," said Spring, who was a member of the U.S. men's gymnastics team that won a bronze medal in the Beijing Olympics this past summer. "I think that's really crucial because gymnastics is a team sport, despite how a lot of people see it."

It's not realistic to think that club competition will be a viable alternative if girls gymnastics is eliminated as a high-school sport, coaches point out.

"I've got 16 girls and not one of them competes at the club level," said Becky Slaight, South Lakes coach. "It's hard because they can't just walk into a club at their age and compete. They can play around and take a class, but they can't compete."

Indoor track and field is the only sport that is offered multiple seasons, with cross country in the fall and an outdoor season in the spring.

"The reason that the athletic department came up with indoor track [as a proposed cut] is because the school system will continue to support outdoor track in the spring," said Dale, the schools superintendent. "So the opportunity to support the sport will still be available."

But more than 2,700 students participated in indoor track and field last winter, which is the third highest number among sports in Fairfax County. Some participants might want to keep occupied between cross country season and outdoor track and field and others might want to improve their quickness for football or lacrosse.

For some students who play other sports in the spring and fall, indoor track and field provides a shot at trying something new that would not have been possible if not for the winter indoor season.

As a freshman at Westfield High School, Karen Woolley couldn't wait for the spring soccer season to start.

But after a meeting with Westfield's girls

less frequently.

Shortly after the cuts were proposed, Chantilly cross country and track and field coach Matt Gilchrist joined five others in starting a Facebook group to rally support.

As of Wednesday evening, 3,033 members had joined the group titled "Save Fairfax Indoor Track" and 1,978 had signed a petition addressed to Curran, Dale and



A pack of runners takes off during the Northern Region indoor track and field championships at the George Mason Field House last winter.

FILE PHOTO

soccer coach, who convinced Woolley that she should run indoor track and field to improve her conditioning, soccer lasted only one more season. Woolley was hooked.

Now, she's a heptathlete at Dartmouth.

"We know that Fairfax County needs to tighten its budget. That's a foregone conclusion," said Dan Woolley, Karen's father and President of Friends of Indoor Track (FIT). "The reality is that the wholesale elimination of a sport is not a viable alternative, nor do we think it's a well thought-out decision."

Others, like Edison parent Julie Homes, said that indoor track and field gave her son, Teddy, who's a sophomore at the school, a sense of confidence and a narrowed focus.

For West Springfield parent Debbie Tobin, indoor track and field gave her son, Steven, something to do between cross country and outdoor track and field.

Steven Tobin has Attention Deficit Disorder and chronic migraines. When he began running track and field, the ADD became easier to control and the migraines occurred

the Board of Supervisors.

"We've got a grassroots campaign that's building and we know that we don't have a lot of time, but I feel like we're started in the right direction," Gilchrist said.

But is it enough?

County officials originally projected the county budget shortfall for the next fiscal year at \$450 million, but it has now ballooned to more than \$600 million and could continue to grow. The proposed cuts in these two sports are merely a drop in the bucket, saving only 2.6 percent of the school district's shortfall.

The School Board will have a budget hearing Thursday, Jan. 21, at 6 p.m., at Jackson Middle School. School Board

members are also invited to the FIT (Friends of Indoor Track) Invitational at the Prince George's Sports and Learning Center Dec. 29.

Connection staff writers Julia O'Donoghue and Mark Giannotto contributed to this report.

By the Numbers

Girls Gymnastics:
\$221,000

Indoor Track and Field:
\$250,000

Total Saved, if cut:
\$471,000

FCPS' estimated shortfall:
\$180 million

COMMUNITY



DONATED PHOTOS

The Rotary Club of Fairfax hosted a Christmas party on Dec. 15 for homeless families. Here, one of the youngest guests received a gift from Santa and his helper.

Rotarians Share Holiday Gifts

Rotary provide \$1,150 in gifts to homeless families.

Santa and the Rotary Club of Fairfax brought holiday cheer to homeless families on Dec. 15, 2008 at the club's eighth annual Christmas Party for Homeless Kids. Verne Tuininga, the Rotary club's community service director, served again this year as the chair of the popular event, which took place at American Legion Post 177 in Fairfax.

According to Tuininga, members of the Rotary Club of Fairfax have been donating gifts and funds for the event for weeks. Club members donated \$1,150 to buy gifts for the children and gift cards from Target for the parent of each homeless family. Fairfax City area Girl Scouts supported the program again this year by providing reading books for the children wrapped in holiday paper.

The honored guests at the event were families with children that are temporarily housed in motels along Fairfax Boulevard from Fairfax Circle to Chain Bridge Road. The guest list was developed with the help of the staff of FACETS (Fairfax Area Christian Emer-



Santa brought holiday joy and presents on Dec. 15 to the Rotary Club of Fairfax's Christmas party for homeless families. Here, one of the guests shares a moment with Santa Claus.

gency & Transitional Services, Inc.). Fairfax City CUE busses provided free transportation to and from the American Legion facility for the homeless families. In all, 58 guests were invited to the event. Twenty-two Rotarians, several of their spouses and children, and members of the staff of FACETS also took part in the festivities, rounding out the total number of participants to more than 80.

BULLETIN BOARD

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.

MONDAY/JAN. 5

School Board Meeting and Work Session, 7:30 p.m. at the City Hall Annex, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. 703-385-7935.

Fairfax City Democratic Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the City Hall Annex, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. 703-385-8500.

TUESDAY/JAN. 6

City Council Work Session, 7 p.m.

www.connectionnewspapers.com

at the City Hall Annex, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. 703-385-7935.

Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7 p.m. at the City Hall Annex, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. 703-385-7820.

Entrepreneurship 101: Starting a Business in Fairfax County, presented by the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Business Assistance and the U.S. Small Business Administration. 8 p.m. at FCEDA headquarters, 8300 Boone Blvd., Suite 450, Vienna. An overview of start-up basics such as county licenses and permits, state workforce service and training programs and federal financing and certification

resources. Register at www.FairfaxCountyEDA.org/sb_seminar.htm.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 7

Community Revitalization and Reinvestment Advisory Group, 3 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, Board Conference Room, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. 703-246-6504.

Board of Architectural Review, 7:30 p.m. at the City Hall Annex, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. 703-385-7820.

InterService Club Council Meeting, 12 p.m. at the Red Lobster, 10325 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. 703-503-9418.

GEORGE MASON VS. UNC WILMINGTON

Saturday, Jan. 3 at 7 pm

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Monday, Jan. 5 at 5 pm

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New Year's Eve Fun Starts at 4 o'clock
14th annual

MADD 5k Red Ribbon Run

Benefiting Mothers Against Drunk Driving Northern Virginia

Put on your running shoes before putting on your party shoes

A Great New Year's Eve Family Event

When: Wednesday, December 31, 2008 at 4:00 PM
Where: George Mason University - Fairfax Campus (Concert Hall) - 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030
Park in the Visitor Parking Deck by the pond. Check-in will be in front of the Concern Hall (Bldg. 60 on Mason Pond Drive). Further details will be posted at www.racepacket.com.
What: USATF certified 5k race - course is two clock-wise loops around the Patriot Center
Registration: \$20 on or before Wednesday, December 17th, 2008; \$25 after December 17th and on race day
Packet Pick-up: Tuesday, December 30, 2008 at Metro Run & Walk from 6:00-8:00 PM (7516 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA)
Race Day Registration: GMU Concert Hall, Wednesday, December 31st from 2:30 to 3:30 PM (& Packet Pick-up)

Register online at www.racepacket.com

For info, see www.maddnova.org
or 703-379-1135

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Happy Holidays

Much cause for optimism, but also many reasons to help others.

We wish our readers a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukah, and an exciting New Year. There is much to fuel optimism here, despite the drumbeat of dismal economic news.

While Northern Virginia is certainly feeling some of the effects of the economic crisis, this is probably the best place in the nation to weather the storm. Employment is strong here, with unemployment still below 4 percent.

This region's economy will get a boost from the January change in administration. Events and visitors for the inauguration itself will bring an infusion, the movement of officials in and out of the region will create economic activity.

And the sheer optimism and enthusiasm for change, and for this particular change, will lift spirits and boats.

Close-in real estate, inside the Beltway, is holding its value. At the bottom end of the real estate spectrum, some condos, townhouses and even some single family detached homes have reached levels of affordability not seen in many moons, and that should bring out first-time home buyers. When first time homebuyers enter the market, this can kick off a kind of

domino effect, allowing owners of the houses they buy to move up.

At the same time, we'll all feel the effects of budget cuts in local government, from reduced library hours and other services to the possibility of larger class sizes. There are many more families in Northern Virginia feeling the pain of the recession, with thousands of foreclosures and, while unemployment is low, the loss of some jobs.

This has dramatically increased demand on groups that provide emergency help for food, housing, utilities and more.

EDITORIALS

EVEN GROUPS that help animals are seeing a huge surge in trouble. Some owners are giving up beloved pets when they face foreclosure, while others say they can no longer afford to feed their pets. The Humane Society of Fairfax County, for example, has started a PET food pantry to help people keep their pets.

Enjoy the holidays, and remember to give locally.

For a list of local charities in need, see "Give Locally," <http://connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=322554&paper=68&cat=110>

January = Fun

This is the last "regular" edition of the Connection for 2008. The edition that will be delivered after Christmas is our annual Children's Connection, featuring the writing and art of area students.

Our first publication date in January will appear on Jan. 7, kicking off a four-part series on fun, with more than 100 ideas for fun local activities in each of our 17 weekly papers. This will no doubt add up to more than 1,101 ways to have fun near home. We'll include tips on free fun, outdoor fun, indoor fun, arts, music, theater, fun at home, food fun and more.

If you have an idea that you think we should include, please let us know.

The Jan. 7 issue will also be our chance to catch up on news and events that happen between Dec. 18 and the beginning of the New Year.

In the meantime, we encourage you to check our Web site to read hundreds of stories from Northern Virginia. See www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

What Follows the Applause

Governor's budget plan signals tough choices for Virginians in the new year.

BY SEN. CHAP PETERSEN
D-34

"You can applaud now. You might not when I'm finished."

Those were the opening words of Gov. Kaine when he addressed the General Assembly today with his plan to balance Virginia's budget during our worst recession since World War II.

Under our State Constitution, the Virginia legislature can only operate using current funds. Borrowing is strictly limited to capital projects. Therefore, even during a recession, the legislature must still balance the budget.

Here are the highlights of the governor's plan which is now public:

Revenue Projections: The governor is currently projecting nearly a \$3 billion deficit which is approximately 10 percent of our General Fund budget through 2010. That is what we have to find to balance our books. Some of that can be done by drawing down our "rainy day" fund or shifting projects to bond financing. However, even those options leave a \$2 billion hole. Under the governor's plan, about 75 percent of that is made up with cuts as follows:

K-12 Education: Historically, primary education has been saved from state budget cuts. No longer. The governor's plan saves about \$400 million in costs by capping the state's

funding for K-12 support personnel, i.e. school employees such as counselors or custodians that work outside the classroom. While localities can still fund these positions, the state will focus primarily on instructional personnel and reduce all other support. This is a major change which will save money but also is a significant reduction which could have a long-term impact on school services.

Higher Education: The governor previously told colleges and universities to prepare for 15 percent cuts. That is adopted into the plan. The only exception will be for community colleges, only reduced by 10 percent. The governor is proposing an increase in need-based scholarships to cushion the expected tuition hikes, which will be significant. These cuts have been long expected. It is incumbent on the presidents of our universities to take the lead in cutting costs in a way that spreads the pain. Freezing their compensation is the first place to start.

Health Care: Virginia currently ranks 48th nationally in our Medicaid funding per capita. Despite that lowly status, we are still increasing costs in the face of a higher caseload. The governor's plan saves \$418 million by cutting Medicaid reimbursement rates for hospitals and doctors and limiting eligibility for new applicants. There is some discussion in the halls

COMMENTARY

of the State Capitol that President-Elect Obama's future stimulus package will cover this gap with increased Federal support. Otherwise, this is going to be a very, very tough hit on our most vulnerable citizens.

Public Safety: We have too many prisons in Virginia, which is a major cost with minimal return. The governor agrees and has halted expansion of new facilities. In his budget plan, he goes further by allowing the Department of Corrections the discretion to release non-violent state offenders for the last 90 days of a long-term sentence (current law is 30 days). With our large incarcerated population, that one small change will save well over \$10 million. From my conversations, this particular initiative is supported by the Sheriffs Association.

Those are some highlighted cuts. There are many others, including elimination of the 2009 state employee salary increase and over 1,000 layoffs at state agencies. Those details are still being developed. Meanwhile, here are some proposed revenue increases from the governor:

Cigarettes: The governor's plan proposes a new 30-cent per pack cigarette tax (for 60 cent total which is still below the national average). This will raise \$148 million to counterbalance some (not all) of the Medicaid cuts. It will also bring Virginia closer to matching our Medicaid cost from smoking-related illnesses with revenues from sale of tobacco. I support this.

Conservation Tax Credit: The governor will cap at \$50,000 the amount available per

SEE GOVERNOR, PAGE 15

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COMMENTARY

Governor Kaine's Plan

FROM PAGE 6

year as an income tax credit under this program which gives a tax break to those who limit development on their property. That change will save the state \$50 million and should not stop preservation efforts which depend on these donations of conservation easements. I support this policy change also.

"Dealer Discount": Historically, Virginia's retailers have retained a small portion for remitting state sales tax. The governor's budget ends this practice thus saving the state \$64 million in retained funds. Sounds logical, but as the representative of several thousand retail merchants, I need to hear a lot more before I agree to discard this program which we've had for many years. I'm sure I will.

All in all, the governor's plan is comprehensive and well-thought out. Of course, I don't agree with all the steps. I think the governor's team may actually underestimate the shortfall and is not aggressive enough in addressing preferential tax breaks given to the well-connected over the past few years. However, the plan is not random. These are real cutbacks which reflect articulated priorities.

Beginning in January, the General Assembly will put its own imprimatur on this plan. These concepts will be reviewed, debated and either approved or rejected. I look forward to joining in this discussion and invite my constituents to contact me at P.O. Box 1066, Fairfax, VA 22038 or www.fairfaxsenator.com with their views.

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the City of Fairfax police department through Dec. 17.

ASSAULT /ARREST

10560 Main St./ Bridges Billiards and Grill. On Dec. 11 at 2:15 a.m., officers were called to the business for an assault in progress. Officers investigated the incident and arrested Lisa R. Wallace, 27, of the 11300 block of Stoney Cove Drive, Maryland, and charged her with public intoxication and assault and battery. She was

transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

BURGLARY

10027 Mosby Woods Drive / Mosby Woods Apartments. Sometime between Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 11 at 6 p.m., unknown person(s) broke into an apartment causing damage to the door. The Criminal Investigations Division is investigating the case.

LARCENY

3937 University Drive / Office

Building. On Dec. 9, at 4:22 p.m. the victim reported that sometime between 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m., unknown person(s) stole two packages that were placed on a table, awaiting pick up from the U.S. Postal Service and FedEx.

9453 Fairfax Blvd. / Foxcroft Condominiums. On Dec. 14, at 4:40 p.m., the victim reported that sometime between Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. and Dec. 14, at 4:30 p.m., unknown person(s) stole a license plate from his vehicle that was parked on the lot.

HOME SALES

11/01/08 ~ 11/30/08

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision
3621 OX RIDGE CT	5	4	1	22030	FAIRFAX	\$800,000	Detached	0.21	WEST GROVE ESTATES
12740 ALDER WOODS DR	5	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$730,000	Detached	0.26	FAIR OAKS GLEN
4102 ORCHARD DR	5	4	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$700,000	Detached	0.15	HALEMHURST
3821 HIGHLAND OAKS DR	5	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$660,000	Detached	0.24	HIGHLAND OAKS
4235 CHAIN BRIDGE RD	6	2	2	22031	FAIRFAX	\$620,000	Detached	0.36	FAIRFAX STATION RD
4157 LEGATO RD	3	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$596,273	Other	0.00	CROSSPOINTE
12500 CHARLES STEWART CT	4	2	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$525,000	Detached	0.25	FAIR OAKS ESTATES
3510 COBB DR	4	2	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$515,000	Detached	0.75	COBBDALE
3965 ROYAL LYTHAM DR	3	2	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$510,000	Townhouse	0.05	HIGHLAND OAKS
3534 CORNELL RD	4	2	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$485,000	Detached	0.24	FAIRFAX CNTRY CLUB ESTS
9911 COLONY RD	5	3	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$480,000	Detached	0.25	FAIRMONT ESTATES
4527 FAIR VALLEY DR. DR	3	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$450,000	Townhouse	0.04	FAIR LAKES
13109 SUMMER RAIN TER	3	2	2	22031	FAIRFAX	\$425,000	Townhouse	0.08	GREENS AT FAIR LAKES
12672 MARCUM CT	4	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.06	FAIR WOODS
4001 DOGBERRY LN	3	2	2	22031	FAIRFAX	\$411,500	Townhouse	0.08	BIRCH POND
10391 STRATFORD AVE	4	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$409,900	Detached	0.32	SHARPE PROPERTY
10202 ADDISON CT	3	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$390,000	Detached	0.34	MAPLE HILL
4338 THOMAS BRIGADE LN	4	3	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$390,000	Townhouse	0.03	CARR AT CEDAR LAKES
13203 POPLAR TREE RD	3	2	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$385,000	Detached	0.22	GREENBRIAR
12474 SWEET LEAF TER	3	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$385,000	Townhouse	0.06	FAIR WOODS
MARKET COMMONS DR #409	2	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$381,500	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		ELAN
12434B LIBERTY BRIDGE RD#306B	3	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$380,000	Townhouse		E MARKET AT FAIR LAKES
4310R CANNON RIDGE CT #90	2	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$345,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		CHRISTOPHER AT CEDAR LKS
13147 QUAIL CREEK LN	4	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.04	FAIR LAKES LAND BAY 4D
12217 APPLE ORCHARD CT	3	2	2	22031	FAIRFAX	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.04	FAIR RIDGE
3843 FOXFIELD LN	4	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$333,000	Townhouse	0.06	FOXFIELD
3910 FAIRVIEW DR	4	2	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$330,000	Detached	0.20	FAIRVIEW
4505 SUPERIOR SQ #4505	3	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$315,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		GATES OF FAIR LAKES
12128 WEDGEWAY CT	2	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$310,100	Townhouse	0.03	PENDERBROOK
10212 RODGERS RD	5	3	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$310,000	Detached	0.22	MAPLE HILL
10921 PARK RD	2	1	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$299,000	Townhouse	0.11	WESTMORE
10612 CENTER ST	3	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$294,000	Detached	0.00	ELAINE ACRES
12849 POINT PLEASANT DR	4	3	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$290,000	Detached	0.24	GREENBRIAR
12657 FAIR CREST CT	2	2	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$289,900	Townhouse		FAIR LAKES
4480 MARKET COMMONS DR#212	1	1	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$280,131	Other		ELAN AT EAST MARKET
4256 WHEELED CAISSON SQ	3	3	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$279,000	Townhouse	0.02	CEDAR LAKES
12491 HAYES CT #202	2	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$255,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		CEDAR LAKES A
12108 GREEN LEDGE CT #301	3	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$240,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		PENDERBROOK
3801 RIDGE KNOLL CT #204A	2	2	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$237,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		OXFORD HOUSE
4490 MARKET COMMONS DR#406	1	1	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$230,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		ELAN AT EAST MARKET
10139 MOSBY WOODS DR	3	1	1	22031	FAIRFAX	\$190,000	Townhouse		MOSBY WOODS TH CONDOS
3931 LYNHURST DR #304	2	1	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$189,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		LYNHURST CONDOS
12916C GRAYS POINTE RD	1	1	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$175,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		GRAYS POINTE
10570 MAIN ST #409	1	1	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$154,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		MAIN STREET GREEN
12151 PENDERVIEW LN #2007	1	1	0	22031	FAIRFAX	\$141,750	Garden 1-4 Floors		PENDERBROOK SQUARE

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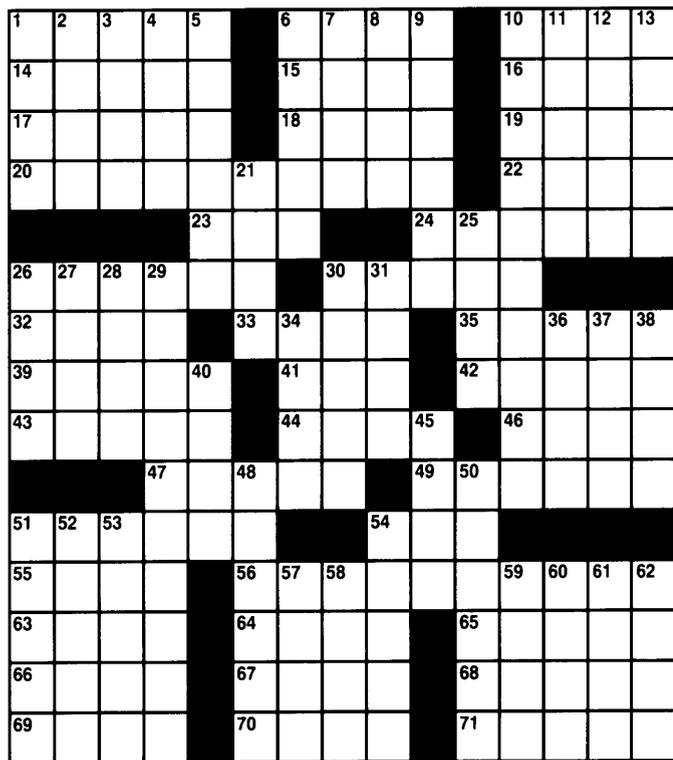
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0413-2



Puzzle by Fred Piscop

ACROSS

- 1 False witnesses
- 6 Vocalizes like the Beastie Boys
- 10 Parks in 1955 news
- 14 Venezuela's Falls
- 15 Clairvoyant's start
- 16 Has a tab
- 17 Suffix with sea or moon
- 18 Grocery vehicle
- 19 College course division
- 20 Production in a given period
- 22 Trait determinant
- 23 Pirouette point
- 24 MacNeil's longtime partner
- 26 Sombrero accompanier
- 30 Transparent
- 32 "___'Clock Jump"
- 33 Classic soft drink
- 35 Italian tourist center
- 39 Third-stringer

- 41 Sharpshooter's gift
- 42 Beat by a whisker
- 43 Use weasel words
- 44 Meat loaf serving
- 46 "Holy moly!"
- 47 Papa Doc ruled it
- 49 Stats for a porous defense
- 51 Battle site of 1916
- 54 Gulped down
- 55 Mideast bigwig
- 56 Pro-slavery Northerners, before the Civil War
- 63 Mission cancellation
- 64 Folklore fiend
- 65 Speechify
- 66 Lone Star State sch.
- 67 Chemicals giant
- 68 Hertz ___ Car
- 69 Slippery critters
- 70 Sit a spell
- 71 Alma ___

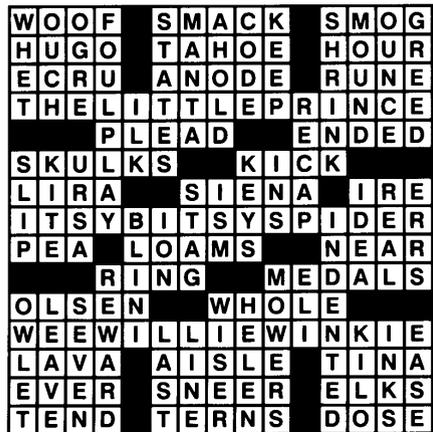
DOWN

- 1 In the cellar

- 26 Swanky
- 27 Years ago
- 28 Uncool sort
- 29 Cold comfort?
- 30 Burger or dog topper
- 31 Vegetable soup bean
- 34 All-star game side, often
- 36 Waffle brand
- 37 Warm, so to speak
- 38 States further
- 40 Belle's man
- 45 One of Alcott's "Little Women"

- 2 Rainfall measurement
- 3 Lab gel
- 4 Bank takeback
- 5 Mr. Moto, e.g.
- 6 Nouveau ___
- 7 "Hurry, please!"
- 8 Pizarro conquest
- 9 Avoid a trial
- 10 Hero of 1898
- 11 Dog tag datum
- 12 Left Bank river
- 13 Autumn bloomer
- 21 Hoodlum
- 25 Move carefully (into)
- 48 Like some pools or paint
- 50 ___ Judaism
- 51 Stage or stadium, say
- 52 Ham it up
- 53 Star in Orion
- 54 Insurance seller
- 57 Look lustfully
- 58 "QB VII" author
- 59 Field of study
- 60 Defeatist's word
- 61 Politically incorrect suffix
- 62 Mark with a branding iron

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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COMMUNITY

'Kitten Mom' Honored

FROM PAGE 3

did, it just sort of spread."

Spaulding volunteers as an interim foster for kittens, specializing in neonatal kitten care, which is usually for kittens under four weeks old. Animal shelters and rescue groups will contact Spaulding when kittens are dropped off at their facilities. She fosters the kittens until they are healthy and grown enough to be relocated to foster homes until adoption. She also consults with local veterinarians and teaches kitten husbandry classes as the Fairfax County Animal Shelter on Ox Road.

She has a lot of equipment to aid her efforts, including incubators and intensive care units. She is responsible for feeding, cleaning, medicating and providing the animals with the attention they'd be receiving from a mother cat.

"She is one of the most knowledgeable persons in the country on kittens," said Chris Haslam of Commonwealth Cat Rescue, Inc. "It is often said that if Susan cannot save them, no one can."

One of Spaulding's main goals is to share her kitten knowledge with others. In the past few years, she has teamed up with RoseMarie Crawford, and together the two teach classes about neonatal care. They've also created two videos available through Alley Cat Allies, a non-profit focusing on cat rescue, that educate people on the basics of kitten care, including general and medical aspects of the process.

"With kittens, the more you know about them the better you'll be able to deal with emergencies," said Spaulding. "The more you educate the better care these animals will get."

The class focuses largely on what to do with immediate neonatal care, and how rescue groups can work with veterinarians and keep their costs down by being trained to do some simple veterinary work outside the office.

"Her knowledge is being share with the community at large," said Cindy Mellott, a friend of Spaulding's and a member of the rescue community in Loudoun County.

While Spaulding and the rescue

community's first priority are the animals, she said it's always wonderful to hear from the families who have adopted kittens. "We tend to think of what we do in terms of kittens and cats, but once these kittens go on through the adoption process, they make a huge difference in people's lives. Every family that takes of these guys in, it makes a difference in their family, so we're making a difference in people's lives as well," said Spaulding.

When Spaulding feels frustrated or loses a kitten, she finds that looking through thank you cards and notes from families keeps her going.

"She picks herself up and has tenacity and compassion and a love of what she does," said Mellott. "When she gets down, she knows there's another one out there that needs her and she goes forward and gives."

"Her happiest day is when a kitten leaves her care plump and happy and healthy and heads off to its new life. It doesn't matter to her how that kitten came in, it only matters when it leaves it's in the best shape it can be in," said Haslam.

Recently, more than 30 people gathered for a surprise dinner at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Fair Lakes to celebrate Spaulding's efforts and love for kittens.

"Susan is so valuable to us in the rescue community," said Haslam. "I wanted to do something for her because she's really the keystone of our community. We've all grown to respect her so much."

"I still don't believe they did that," said Spaulding. "It's something I'll remember for the rest of my life. It was a great compliment that all of those people that I think so much of cared enough to say thank you to me. Every single one of them is someone that I admire for what they do. The rescue community has wonderful, wonderful people, everybody has a niche and every single one of them deserves the same recognition. It would work without everybody doing exactly what they're doing."

"She has dedicated a chunk of her life to small, defenseless creatures, and there are thousands of kittens that are alive and well because she was in their life. What more can you say about somebody?" said Haslam.

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the City of Fairfax police department through Dec. 17.

The Criminal Investigations Division is investigating the case.

ASSAULT / ARREST

10560 Main St./ Bridges Billiards and Grill. On Dec. 11 at 2:15 a.m., officers were called to the business for an assault in progress. Officers investigated the incident and arrested Lisa R. Wallace, 27, of the 11300 block of Stoney Cove Drive, Maryland, and charged her with public intoxication and assault and battery. She was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

BURGLARY

10027 Mosby Woods Drive / Mosby Woods Apartments. Sometime between Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 11 at 6 p.m., unknown person(s) broke into an apartment causing damage to the door.

LARCENY

3937 University Drive / Office Building. On Dec. 9, at 4:22 p.m. the victim reported that sometime between 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m., unknown person(s) stole two packages that were placed on a table, awaiting pick up from the U.S. Postal Service and FedEx.

9453 Fairfax Blvd. / Foxcroft Condominiums. On Dec. 14, at 4:40 p.m., the victim reported that sometime between Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. and Dec. 14, at 4:30 p.m., unknown person(s) stole a license plate from his vehicle that was parked on the lot.

9445 Fairfax Blvd. / Foxcroft Condominiums. On Dec. 15, at 10 a.m., the victim reported that sometime between Nov. 30, at 3 p.m. and Dec. 6, at 10 a.m., unknown person(s) stole two cameras.

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