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## Clowning Around

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## Demand Up for Non-Profits

Non-profits say calls for assistance are at unprecedented levels.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

For more than 20 years, Judy Duncan has been answering the phone at Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc. an all-volunteer organization that provides emergency assistance to local families. In all that time, Duncan has never seen a situation like the current one.

In the past, most of the calls Duncan fielded were "repeat" requests, in which the person asking for food, clothes or help paying their bills had called FISH before. These days, the people phoning in are predominantly first-time callers, people who have never asked the organization for assistance, she said.

"This month is 20 years for me. I answer the line every day and in that entire period of time there has never been a time where there has been such a need. ... There is just a huge increase. It is overwhelming to the organization and to the volunteers. These are just very, very sad calls," said Duncan.

**DUNCAN'S EXPERIENCE** reflects what other local non-profit organizations providing emergency assistance to Fairfax County residents have seen recently. Government officials labeled the locality's unprecedented surge in requests for urgent help a "crisis" and called a press conference to address the situation Dec. 12.

Since January 2006, Fairfax County has seen a 69 percent increase in requests for food stamps, a 46 percent increase in requests for emergency housing assistance and a 60 percent increase in requests for subsidized housing.

During this same period of time, the county population has only grown by 1 percent, said county spokesperson Merni Fitzgerald.

"With the worsening economy, middle class folks are now in need of help. Some of the same people who used to give their time and money to these organizations are now coming to them for help," said Fitzgerald.

The situation only appears to be growing worse. In 2007, approximately 9,900 people contacted the county for help seeking a job. In 2008, Fairfax fielded 22,000 of the same calls, even though the end of the year hasn't finished yet, said Fitzgerald.

"They exhaust every other option before turning to a non-profit for help."

— Judy Duncan



Ann Harahan sorts coats for ECHO, Inc., a non-profit organization in Springfield.

Fairfax County's latest unemployment rate grew from 2.3 percent in June 2007 to 3.1 percent in June 2008. This rise equates to 4,671 more residents going without a job in June 2008 than a year earlier.

Fairfax County Public Schools has also seen a 40 percent increase in the number of homeless students, up to 1,270 now from 900 at the same time in 2007.

"This is the highest I have ever seen at this point in the school year and I have been doing this job for eight years," said Kathy Sheffel, the school system's homeless liaison.

**MANY LOCAL** non-profit organizations said they are seeing a particularly acute need in the areas of emergency food and housing assistance.

"We have just about doubled the amount of food we were giving out a year ago. We started out the fiscal year, which starts July 1, thinking we would probably feed about 4,500 people. We have since revised that estimate to about 8,500," said Cynthia Hull, executive director of United Community Ministries, the largest provider of emergency services in southern Fairfax County.

In the three months, the number of people asking United Community Ministries for help with job training employment has grown 139 percent, with about 50 percent of people using those programs for the first time, said Hull.

"I can't get into my office because there are too many people parked out front and I can't get into the parking lot. It is kind of

### To Help

- ◆ United Community Ministries, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106
- ◆ FACETS, 703-352-5090
- ◆ Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), 7205 Old Keene Mill Road in Springfield, 703-569-9160
- ◆ Good Shepherd in the Route 1 area, 703-768-9404
- ◆ Capital Area Food Bank, Lorton, 703-541-3063
- ◆ The Koinonia Foundation, 6037 Franconia Road, Franconia, 703-971-1991.
- ◆ The Lamb Center, 3220 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax
- ◆ Lorton Community Action Center, 9518 Richmond Highway, Lorton, 703-339-5161
- ◆ Our Daily Bread, Inc., 10777 Main St., #320, Fairfax, www.our-daily-bread.org. 703-273-8829.

scary," she said.

ECHO Inc., another county non-profit that specializes in emergency services, said their rate of increased requests for services are very similar to the countywide statistics provided by Fairfax officials.

"There is a tremendous increase in demands for food and financial assistance to help pay rent and utilities. ... We helped about 4,000 family members last year and this year we are definitely going to be up. We are going to way up," said executive director Pat Gauthier, whose organization serves people in Springfield, Burke, Fairfax Station and parts of Lorton.

**THE DECLINING ECONOMY** has become a hot topic recently, but several of the non-profits that provide emergency assistance said they have seen the need for those types of service rise steadily over the past

SEE NON-PROFITS. PAGE 6

## Target: Teen Drivers

County initiative aims at educating, enforcing laws that govern teens.

BY DEREK B. JOHNSON  
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Police are teaming up with six high schools in the West Springfield District throughout December and January to educate and enforce a set of underage driving laws. Fairfax County Police spokeswoman Lucy Caldwell said the initiative was part of an outreach attempt to better inform teens of the laws that apply to them when they hit the road.

"We're trying to do a good job of targeting the information to the people who need it," she said.

Assigned resource officers will be visiting class rooms at Woodson, South County, West Springfield, Lake Braddock, Robinson and Annandale high schools to outline three area laws concerning teenage drivers.

A series of state laws passed over the last decade have targeted teen drivers, statistically the highest at-risk group for road fatalities. County police are focusing on three laws that mandate a curfew from the hours of midnight to 4 a.m., prohibit cell phone use and limit the number of passengers in the car. According to Officer J.T. Frey with the department's crime prevention unit, the idea was developed because the county felt many young drivers weren't aware of the laws that applied to them. Issuing tickets and summonses is only part of the solution, he said.

"We want to take away as many distractions as we can for them. [The laws] are out there and we do try to enforce them, but there are too many teens on the road," said Frey.

**THROUGH CLASS** visits, pamphlets and PA announcements in December, police officials hope to spread awareness about the laws to newly licensed drivers, before shifting the program to warning and enforcement of them.

SEE TEEN DRIVING. PAGE 6

## Lee's Harris Gets 300th Win

With a 79-73 home victory over South County on Tuesday night, Lee boys basketball coach Mike Harris picked up the 300th win of his career. Harris, who's in his 15th season of work on the Lancers' bench, has his team off to a 3-1 start overall, 1-0 in Patriot District play. Lee has scored an average of 78.3 points per game. Against the Stallions, senior forward Frank Holloway Jr. led the Lancers with 21 points and a season-high 25 rebounds. Junior forward Walter Griffin added 17 points, junior guard Deonta Gatlin finished with 16 and junior forward Fenan Woldu added 13. Lee traveled to Lake Braddock on Friday, which ended after The Connection went to press.

## Little League Registration

Registration for the 2009 Central Springfield Little League baseball season will Jan. 10 and 17, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Franconia Moose Family Center at 7701 Beulah St. All boys and girls ages 5-16 are eligible to sign up. Parents must bring proof of age (e.g., birth certificate) and three proofs of residency. Visit [www.csl.org](http://www.csl.org) for registration forms and required information.

## Volunteer Sport Officials Wanted

The Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services' Teen Services Division needs volunteer sports officials to work the annual Friday Night Lights event and intramural sports programs (flag football, basketball and soccer). Volunteers must be 21 or older; know the rules of the selected sports and have past experience participating in the sport you choose to officiate. Call 703-324-5679 (TTY 711), or send an e-mail to [paulette.armstrong@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:paulette.armstrong@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## 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.

Connolly, who is currently chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, intends to resign from his local government position Jan. 2.

## NEWS

# Dorson Awards Presented

## Kauffman recognized for people skills as former supervisor.

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
THE CONNECTION

**M**ore than 120 leaders and volunteers of local organizations from throughout Lee District filled the ballroom of the Springfield Hilton Tuesday night, Dec. 16, to participate in the 53rd Annual Lee District Association of Civic Organizations (LDACO) Banquet and Holiday Celebration. It is also the occasion of the presentation of the Les Dorson Awards for outstanding achievement and service.

Prior to recognizing the award recipients, the audience heard an appraisal of the economy and its impact on Fairfax County by the evening's guest speaker, Gerald L. Gordon, president and CEO, Fairfax County Economic Development Authority. His ultimate conclusion was: "This part of the county will continue to grow."

As noted in his introduction by Supervisor Jeffrey McKay (D-Lee), Gordon has been with the county's EDA since 1983. "Since that time, the county has evolved from a bedroom suburb of Washington, D.C., to an economic powerhouse in its own right," McKay said.

The author of nine books and numerous articles on strategic planning, economic development, leadership styles and other management topics, Gordon, in 2006, became the first American to address the All-Parliamentary Exports Group in the British House of Commons.



**Former Supervisor Dana Kauffman (D-Lee), displaying the plaque presented to him as the recipient of the Les Dorson Award for Distinguished Public Service Leadership during the annual Lee District Association of Civic Organizations' banquet, is joined on stage by, from left, his successor, Supervisor Jeffrey McKay (D-Lee), LDACO Chairman Paul Gagnon and U.S. Rep.-elect Gerry Connolly (D-11).**



**Harry Zimmerman, holding the plaque he received as the recipient of the Les Dorson Citizenship Award during the Lee District Association of Civic Organizations' annual banquet, is joined by, from left, Supervisor Jeffrey McKay (D-Lee), LDACO Chairman Paul Gagnon, U.S. Rep.-elect Gerry Connolly (D-11), and Master of Ceremonies Rodney Lusk.**

"Fairfax County has been one of the leading economic powerhouses in the nation and the leading economic engine in Northern Virginia," Gordon said.

"We now have more jobs than Washington and 24.4 percent of all state income tax revenue comes from Fairfax County. For every dollar we send to Richmond we get 19 cents back in programs and services," he said.

Gordon also emphasized that one of the primary reasons the county Board of Supervisors is facing such a critical budget shortfall is because "we cannot tax our own wealth." He pointed out that Fairfax County

is the wealthiest in the state but has to rely primarily on real estate taxes to generate revenue rather than a personal income tax.

He cited Lee District, and most particularly the Springfield area, as an area of the county with the potential to grow and prosper in the years ahead.

**FOLLOWING GORDON'S** presentation, the Les Dorson Awards for public service and citizenship were given to "outstanding members of the county staff, key county leaders and dedicated citizens who have served Fairfax County and Lee District." These awards are made in memory of the late Les Dorson, former vice chairman of LDACO.

Jim Getts, senior engineering inspector, Land Development Services, Environmental and Facilities Inspection Division, Fairfax County, was presented with the Les Dorson Distinguished Public Service Professional Award. "Jim is a public servant who daily goes far above and beyond his job description," said Paul Gagnon, chairman, LDACO, in making the award.

"He makes sure that construction projects meet county regulations and educates contractors on their responsibilities to the community. It is not a coincidence that he is known as 'Jim Getts It Done,'" Gagnon said.

Harry H. Zimmerman Jr., a registered engineer and former Navy civilian career executive, was named this year's recipient of the Dorson Citizenship Award. Lee District's representative to the Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission, Zimmerman is a long-time resident of Lee District who has been involved in a number of transportation issues ranging from alleviating neighborhood cut-through traffic to highway concerns related to the

SEE BANQUET, PAGE 5

# Banquet

FROM PAGE 4

Fairfax County Parkway and BRAC transportation concerns.

As noted in the award presentation, "Harry currently serves on the Lee District Supervisor's Budget Advisory Committee where he balances the need for fiscal responsibility with the transportation needs and issues of the entire community."

**FORMER LEE DISTRICT** Supervisor Dana Kauffman received the Dorson Award for Distinguished Public Service Leadership. For 12 years, Kauffman served as Lee District supervisor "with common sense, a sense of humor, and a vision that united what was best for the common good," Gagnon said. Gagnon also presented his Chairman's Awards to volunteers who have made special contribution to LDACO. Serving as the evening's master of ceremonies was Rodney Lusk, Lee District's representative on the county Planning Commission. The invocation was given by the Rev. Grant McIntosh, chaplain, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department.

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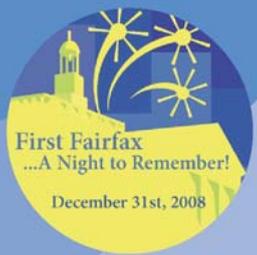
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# Season for Giving

**Non-profits host holiday party for local children at Franconia firehouse.**

**F**ive area non-profits coordinated a holiday party for children with cancer and their families on Sunday, Dec. 14 at the Franconia Firehouse. The event was sponsored by Special Love, Inc., a local organization that also sponsors Camp Fantastic and other camp-based events, as well as offering financial support to families who have a child in cancer treatment. Joining Special Love and the Franconia Volunteer Fire Department were the Abel Morais Foundation of Manassas, the National Capitol Optimists Club, and Dominion Power.

The party included crafts, food, entertainment and a visit with Santa, plus a slideshow and the distribution of Special Love's annual scrapbook depicting the youngsters at its camp.

Special Love sponsors two week-long camps, Camp Fantastic for 7-17 year-old cancer patients, and BRASS Camp for 7-16 year-old siblings. It also hosts more than a dozen weekend camps for families, teens, and young adults, as well as day trips to the circus and local sporting events. Special Love also provides financial assistance in the form of emergency grants and college scholarships. For more information, visit [www.speciallove.org](http://www.speciallove.org).



**On Sunday, Dec. 14, Kayla Sorto of Arlington and her siblings, Makaya and David, entertain the crowd at the Franconia firehouse as part of a holiday party put on by five area non-profit organizations.**

## Teen Driving

FROM PAGE 3

Frey said many students were not up-to-date on the rules that apply to them.

"Lots of people have to know them to take their test, but lots of teens don't know those laws exist after they get their license," he said.

Throughout the month of January, the department plans to test out the results of the education program at each of the six participating schools.

"Officers will be positioned at different spots around the schools to look for these or other violations," said Frey. "We're going to initiate a stop and give [students] a warning. Eventually, we're going to start issuing traffic summonses."

According to the U.S. Center for Disease Control, car crashes are the leading cause of death for teenagers in the United States, responsible for 36 percent of fatalities within the 16-19 age group. According to Partners for Safe Free Driving, an advocacy group for safer teenage driving, incidents of teen distraction were responsible for 15 percent of teen driving fatalities in 2003.

Caldwell said police were hopeful that the timing of the initiative, before and after the winter holiday season, would cast a wider net than usual.

**"We're trying to do a good job of targeting the information to the people who need it."**

**— Lucy Caldwell, FCPD**

# Non-Profits See Increased Demand for Services

FROM PAGE 3

few years.

"I know the economic downturn has broken into the headlines in the past six months. But over the past several years, we have been seeing an increase in need. ... We have been noticing trend in that direction for quite some time," said Amy McDowell, events and communications manager for Reston Interfaith, a non-profit social services organization mostly serving northern Fairfax County.

McDowell and others did acknowledge that a sharp increase occurred in requests for emergency services over the past six months to two years. Some said that over the past three months, the situation appeared to have gotten significantly worse.

"[The upturn in emergency services] has been going on a good 18 months to two years but there has probably been an increase since mid-summer," said Gauthier.

**LIKE RESTON-HERNDON FISH**, many non-profits said most of the surge in demand for assistance is coming from new people who have not needed help in the past.

"We are seeing people we have never seen before. There is a group of people coming that have lived independently always. People who were always able to make ends meet. Barely perhaps, but they did. Now, those people are losing employment or can't do it anymore because their expenses are

higher," said Hull.

"There is a definite increase in people seeking services due to unemployment and several instances of people who used to donate to us now coming to us to seek emergency services, which is alarming," said McDowell.

For people who have never had to turn to a non-profit organization for help, making that first call for assistance can be difficult, said Duncan.

"It is agonizing for many of callers that ask for help. Generally, what brings them to the organization is their children. They have no light, no heat and absolutely nothing for Thanksgiving or Christmas. Many mothers are crying. They wait until the very end. They exhaust every other option before turning to a non-profit for help," she said.

**THE TIMES** could prove to be financially difficult for non-profits as well as their clients. Most of the organizations see a boost in individual giving during the holidays but many are worried what will happen in the new year and how they are going to meet increased demands on a limited budget.

"At this point, it is difficult to say what the future impact is going to be. Clearly, we are looking at a long economic downturn and we will need to work much harder to meet the increasing needs of the commu-

nity. The concern is that if we see a drop off in our financial resources, we will need to scale back our programming," said McDowell.

Several local social service agencies, including United Community Ministries and Reston Interfaith, are already facing a financial hit due to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae's recent troubles. It is unclear what will happen to the two mortgage companies foundations and charitable giving now that they have been taken over by the federal government.

"We are really affected by the fact that Freddie Mac is not giving out its grants. Everyone is kind of waiting with bated breath to see what Freddie is going to do.

They just don't know what to tell us, but I have to be skeptical at this point," said Hull, who said her organization received a \$50,000 grant directly from Freddie Mac in 2008 and had initially hoped to get more money for programs related to housing in 2009.

"I have a feeling that the funding will be worse next year than it is this year. A lot of foundations have their money in the stock market and who knows what is going to happen with that," she added.

Freddie Mac is one of a handful of Reston Interfaith's "strategic partners" and the non-profit received at least \$600,000 from the company this year. Fannie Mae contributed

at least \$70,000 through a single event called "Hoops for the Homeless," said McDowell.

"At this point, we are in a bit of a holding pattern. We are on what [Freddie and Fannie's] role are going to be in the future and how the government take over is going to affect their charitable giving," she said.

**IN ADDITION** to seeing major drops in their private funding, many local social service organizations might be subjected to cuts in state and local government aid next year.

Virginia is facing a \$2.9 billion shortfall in the second of its two-year budget cycle and Fairfax County has a projected deficit of \$600 million in 2010.

United Community Ministries has already been informed that the commonwealth intends to pull the non-profit's funding for its employment center. The county — which supplies about 15 percent of the organization's budget — will make no decisions about what it will do until the spring.

"We don't get a lot of funding from the county but every bit helps," said Hull.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), who chairs the county board's human services committee, said she hopes the county is able to retain funding for some of the "prevention" programs, like affordable housing preservation, it currently supports.

"We want to reduce the number of people who need to call on services," said Hudgins.

**"It is agonizing for many of callers that ask for help."**

**— Judy Duncan**

# OPINION

## Happy Holidays

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

**W**e 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](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM

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## Resolve To Be a Better Consumer

Use common sense in the new year to save and protect your money.

BY EDWARD JOHNSON  
BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

**T**he celebration is over and the confetti has been cleared. It is time to make good on those resolutions you made to bring in the New Year. Chances are your resolve is to eat better, exercise more, lose weight and cut back on unhealthy habits. Chances are that some of your new resolutions are the same old ones from last year. Indeed, promises are little more than wishful thinking if you do not act on your good intentions.

Whatever your personal goals are for the New Year, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) encourages you to add one more resolution to your list: Be a better consumer. In light of the tough economic times we are in, it is all the more important that consumers seek ways to eliminate risk in their life and make sound buying decisions. In doing so, be alert to scam artists. They will try to tap into your desire to improve your lot in life. The BBB anticipates an increase in fraudulent loan offers, work-at-home promotions, "miracle" weight loss schemes, false lottery notices and other tempting solicitations.

One of the most important New Year's resolutions consumers can make would be to contact the BBB before responding to any enticing, too-good-to-be-true promotion and before

making a major purchasing or investment decision. The BBB system serves markets throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada, and is the marketplace leader in advancing trust between businesses and consumers. The Web site ([www.mybbb.org](http://www.mybbb.org)) offers a world of information.

### COMMENTARY

You can obtain objective reports on more than two million businesses, consumer scam alerts, complaint filing services and tips on a wide variety of topics that help consumers make wise purchasing decisions.

In addition to checking with the BBB, consumers are advised to keep the following **NEW YEAR** resolutions in mind for 2009:

**Never** succumb to the hard sell, "one day only" offer. Resolve to avoid sales or investment pitches demanding you "act now" or lose the opportunity forever — think things through, talk to family and friends and check with the BBB for information.

**Everything** should be in writing. Always make sure contract provisions match what the salesperson or advertisement said. Before you sign, read and understand every provision in the contract.

**With** a plan, comes action. If your household operates without a budget, you may be just one paycheck away from a financial crisis.

Resolve to establish and adhere to a budget that provides the means to deal with unexpected expenses, while enabling you to decrease debt and increase savings.

**You** haven't won anything. Sweepstakes and lottery scams abound. Resolve to never send money to collect prizes — legitimate sweepstakes and lotteries do not require winners to pay money to claim awards. Be leery if you receive a check, are told to deposit the "winnings" and instructed to forward money to pay taxes or other fees. It's pie in the sky, don't bite.

**Easy** money is never easy. Resolve to resist work-at-home promotions from unknown companies promising big bucks. Be similarly suspicious of ads from lenders "guaranteeing" a loan regardless of your income, credit history or financial situation. Advance fee loan and work-at-home offers invariably ask for money "up front" and deliver little, if any, value in return.

**Always** deal with reliable merchants. Resolve to always ensure a business has a permanent address and phone number, check customer references and contact the BBB about the company's marketplace record.

**Resolve** to safeguard your personal information. Don't give out your credit card, bank account, driver's license or Social Security numbers to anyone you don't know, no matter how tempting the offer.

*Edward Johnson is president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau serving the metro Washington, D.C. region.*

## THE CONNECTION

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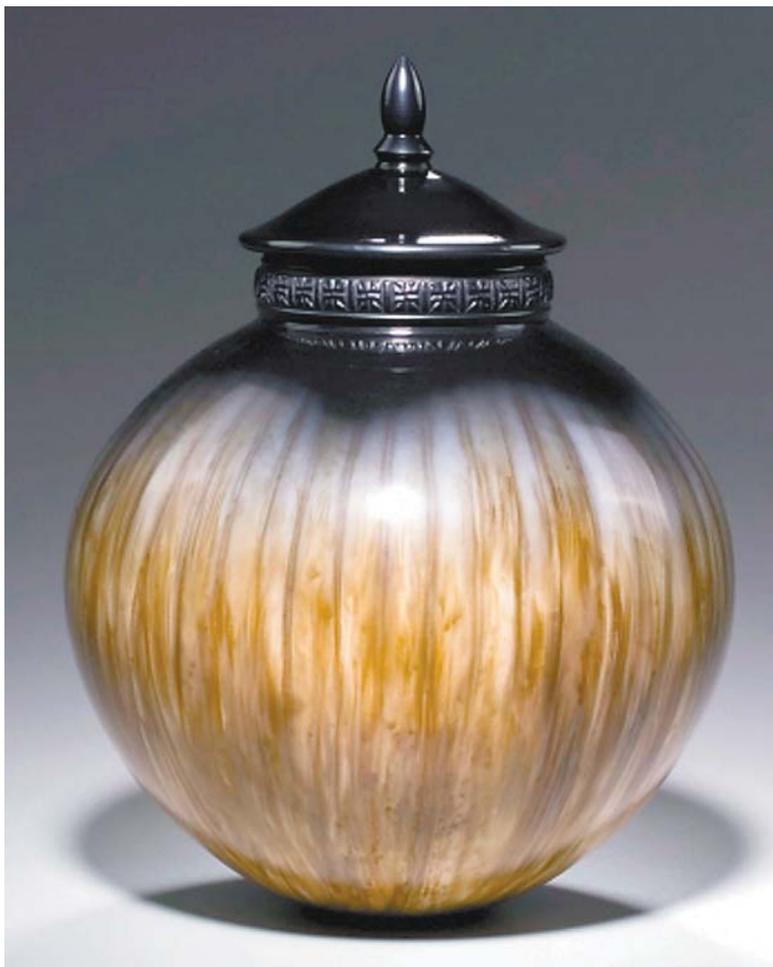
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# CALENDAR



'Shared Spaces' with artists Joann Wells Greenbaum and David Greenbaum, will be on display at the Bodzin Art Gallery, JCC of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, through Feb. 10. Free. 703-537-3026.

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.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 26

**Don Cobert.** 8:30 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.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.

**Don Cobert.** 8:30 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 28

**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.

**Karaoke.** 8 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

## MONDAY/DEC. 29

**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 theater and puppetry. 703-

818-0926 or www.fxplayers.org.

**Open Mic.** 8 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.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.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

**Exercise Classes at the Workhouse Arts Center,** 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Pilates at 9 a.m. and Yoga at 9:45 a.m. Free. Lesley Spalding, Mind & Body Program Director, 703-584-2965 or lesleyspalding@lortonarts.org.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 1

**Exercise Classes at the Workhouse Arts Center,** 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Balletone at 10:30 a.m. and Yoga at 11:15 a.m. Free. Lesley Spalding, 703-584-2965 or lesleyspalding@lortonarts.org.

## 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. The George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. 703-993-3000 or www.patriotcenter.com. Visit www.jeffdunham.com.

**Johnny 3 Legs, Frayz, John Cerda, BLVD and more.** 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 day of show. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. jaxxroxx.com.

**Terry Lee Ryan.** 8:30 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

**Exercise Class at the Workhouse Arts Center,** 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Yoga at 9 a.m. Free. 703-584-2965 or lesleyspalding@lortonarts.org.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 3

**Concert for Cancer Awareness,** hosted by D-Rock with Members of the Monster Madness TV Show. Roadducks, Not-Liable, Sordid, Bitter, Dirtydaws, Punk Rodgers, GI9, Unskilled Professionals, Engulfed in Flames, Bucket and Undisputed. 2 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. jaxxroxx.com.

**Terry Lee Ryan.** 8:30 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

**Exercise Classes at the Workhouse Arts Center,** 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Pilates at 9 a.m. and Yoga at 9:45 a.m. Free. 703-584-2965 or lesleyspalding@lortonarts.org.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 4

**Karaoke.** 8 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

## MONDAY/JAN. 5

**Open Mic Night.** 8 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

**Pohick Rangers Jr.,** 3-5 p.m. For 6-8 year olds at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8510 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. \$75 for six sessions. 703-451-9588.

## 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. Enjoy fun,

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food and great book discussions. Age 12-18. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

**Snowflakes 10:30 a.m.** Stories, activities and a craft. Age 2-3 with adult. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. 703-339-7385.

**WEDNESDAY/JAN. 7**

**Rotting Christ with Mantic Ritual, Epicurean, Apothys, The Red Horse of War and more.** 7 p.m. \$22 in advance, \$25 at the door. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. jaxxroxx.com.

**Practice Your English**

**Conversation Group,** 10:15 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Adults. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

**Girls Night Out book group,** 7 p.m. Call for title. Age 12-15 with adult. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. 703-971-0010.

**Lunch Bunnies,** 12 p.m. Bring lunch, listen to stories. Age 1-5 with adult. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

**THURSDAY/JAN. 8**

**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.

**Daytime Book Discussion Group,** 12:15 p.m. "Babbitt" by Sinclair Lewis. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610. Adults.

**Don Cobert.** 8 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

**FRIDAY/JAN. 9**

**Lunch Bunch,** 12 p.m. Bring lunch and join us for stories. Birth-5 with adult. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. 703-971-0010.

**Localpalooza, Violet Says 5, Noo Shots for Ben, Pain! and more.** 6:15 p.m. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 day of show Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

**Don Cobert.** 8:30 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

**SATURDAY/JAN. 10**

**Friends Book Sale,** 10 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

**Flu Vaccinations,** 12 p.m. Shots \$25 or Medicare Part B; must be 18 or older. Call Inova for details at 703-698-2424. Adults. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. 703-339-7385.

**Tales To Take Hold Of,** 2 p.m. Juggling and folk tales from around the world with juggling storyteller Renee Brachfeld. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. 703-971-0010.

**Don Cobert.** 8:30 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

**Birding for Beginners,** 8-10:30 a.m. at Huntley Meadows Park & Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Reservations required. \$6 per person. 703-768-2525.

**Landscape Design for Homeowners,** 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. \$160 workshop fee includes three lectures and workshops. 703-642-5173.

**SUNDAY/JAN. 11**

**Karaoke.** 8 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131

Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

**Vegan Cooking Class: Soups and Stews.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at 9302 Hallston Court, Fairfax Station. \$50 per person. Includes food samples and recipes. Pre-registration required. 703-643-2713 or www.localdc.com/cooking.

**Livable Landscapes,** 1:30-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. \$20. Strategies for creating gardens and landscapes. Book signing with Rick Darke, author of "The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes" follows. 703-642-5173.

**MONDAY/JAN. 12**

**Happy Birthday, Princess Priscilla,** 10:30 a.m. Celebrate the branch teddy bear's birthday. Age 24-35 months with adult. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

**Winter Crafts,** 3:30 p.m. It's time to make a winter craft. Age 6-12. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. 703-971-0010.

**Open Mic Night.** 8 p.m. Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road Springfield. 703-866-0860 or katesirishpub.com.

**Pohick Rangers,** 3-5 p.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8510 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. Seven sessions for age 9-12 on animal evidence, freshwater ecosystems, nocturnal wildlife, geology and more. Reservations required. \$90 per child. 703-451-9588.

**TUESDAY/JAN. 13**

**Penguin Parade,** 11:15 a.m. Stories, activities and a craft about penguins. Age 2-3 with adult. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. 703-971-0010.



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

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# Athletic Cuts Get Poor Reception

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

BY JASON MACKEY  
THE CONNECTION

**D**an 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**

# HOME SALES

11/01/08 ~ 11/28/08

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
5306 TRUMPINGTON CT	5	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$720,000	Detached	0.21		KINGSTOWNE
6331 BROCKETTS XING	5	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$667,000	Detached	0.19		CRESTLEIGH
7233 DEVEREUX CT	6	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$653,000	Detached	0.24		LAKE D EVEREUX
7281 JOHN RYLANDS WAY	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$525,000	Townhouse	0.07		TOWNES OF MANCHESTER WDS
7727 RACHAEL WHITNEY LN	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$497,000	Townhouse	0.05		KINGSTOWNE
6401 CASTLEFIN WAY	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Townhouse	0.06		KINGSTOWNE
7068 ELTON WAY	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$477,000	Townhouse	0.04		KINGSTOWNE
7905 HARWOOD PL	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$464,000	Detached	0.29		KEENE MILL MANOR
6215 LITTLETHORPE LN	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$459,000	Townhouse	0.04		KINGSTOWNE
8034 GALLA KNOLL CIR	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$450,000	Townhouse	0.07		SOMERSET AT SOUTH RUN
8519 PARLIAMENT DR	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$440,000	Detached	0.28		KINGS PARK
5805 FLANDERS ST	5	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$440,000	Detached	0.23		LYNBROOK
8201 SMITHFIELD AVE	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$440,000	Detached	0.26		WEST SPRINGFIELD
7594 RUXTON DR	4	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$429,000	Detached	0.20		TERRA GRANDE
7180 LAKE COVE DR	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$424,900	Townhouse	0.07		LAKE D EVEREUX
7714 GREEN GARLAND DR	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$417,000	Detached	0.23		AFTON GLEN
7419 DIGBY GRN	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$415,000	Townhouse	0.04		KINGSTOWNE
5739 HEMING AVE	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$409,900	Detached	0.23		NORTH SPRINGFIELD PARK
6539 ASHLAWN CT	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$405,000	Detached	0.27		MONTICELLO WOODS
6131 ROXBURY AVE	4	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$398,000	Detached	0.27		CARDINAL FOREST
8125 TRURO CT	4	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$390,000	Detached	0.26		WEST SPRINGFIELD VILLAGE
6609 THURLTON DR	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$384,900	Townhouse	0.04		KINGSTOWNE
9210 SETTER PL	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$382,500	Detached	0.24		ORANGE HUNT ESTATES
5305 JUXON PL	5	4	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$380,000	Detached	0.38		RAVENSWORTH
6262 WALKERS CROFT WAY	2	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$379,950	Townhouse	0.04		KINGSTOWNE
6961 CROMARTY DR	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$379,000	Townhouse	0.03		KINGSTOWNE
5214 QUEENSBERRY AVE	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$378,000	Detached	0.32		RAVENSWORTH
8007 LAKE PLEASANT DR	4	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$375,000	Detached	0.19		SARATOGA
7309 WESTMORE DR	3	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.04		WESTHAVEN
6019 KEBLE DR	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.04		KINGSTOWNE
6539 ASHLAWN CT	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$370,000	Detached	0.27		MONTICELLO WOODS
7100 GALGATE DR	6	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$370,000	Detached	0.30		ROLLING VALLEY
6605 ROCKLEIGH WAY	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$365,000	Townhouse	0.03		AMBERLEIGH
7328 CHARLOTTE ST	3	1	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$360,000	Detached	0.27		SPRINGFIELD
6209 HANOVER AVE	5	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$360,000	Detached	0.19		SPRINGFIELD
5957 HALL ST	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$356,500	Detached	0.30		SOUTHERN GROVE
6309 ALBERTA ST	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$355,000	Detached	0.38		KEENE MILL MANOR
8104 AINSWORTH AVE	5	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$352,000	Detached	0.49		WEST SPRINGFIELD
6605 STAGECOACH ST	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$349,900	Detached	0.28		SPRINGFIELD ESTATES
6845 DINA LEIGH CT	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$345,000	Townhouse	0.07		TOWNES OF ORANGE HUNT
7219 WICKFORD DR	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$342,000	Detached	0.30		WICKFORD
5410 DUBLIN AVE	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$341,000	Detached	0.26		EDSALL PARK
8467 GREAT LAKE LN	4	1	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$339,000	Detached	0.20		NEWINGTON FOREST
6906 INVERNESS DR	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$335,000	Detached	0.21		LYNBROOK
6605 BRIARLEIGH WAY	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$330,000	Townhouse	0.03		AMBERLEIGH
7309 FOXE PL	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$325,000	Detached	0.25		NORTH SPRINGFIELD
8115 CARRICK LN	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$325,000	Detached	0.25		RAVENSWORTH
7501 AXTON ST	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$323,000	Detached	0.26		NORTH SPRINGFIELD
8615 KENTFORD DR	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$321,000	Detached	0.25		ROLLING VALLEY
6372 ANDREW MATTHEW TER	2	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$319,900	Townhouse	0.02		JAPONICA
8901 GUTMAN CT	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.06		GLENWOOD MANOR
6376 ANDREW MATTHEW TER	2	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.02		JAPONICA
5401 DUBLIN AVE	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$310,000	Detached	0.33		EDSALL PARK
7109 VILLA PARK RD	4	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$310,000	Detached	0.16		BEN FRANKLIN PARK
6840 HEATHERWAY CT	2	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$305,000	Townhouse	0.03		TARTAN VILLAGE
8142 HALLECK PL	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$304,900	Detached	0.38		RAVENSWORTH
6568 OVERLEIGH LN	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$304,500	Townhouse	0.05		AMBERLEIGH
6601 THACKWELL WAY #A	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$304,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			CARRDINAL PLACE
7212 BELINGER CT	4	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$300,000	Detached	0.07		BEVERLY PARK
8557 GROVELAND DR	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$299,900	Detached	0.07		BURGOYNE FOREST WEST
7218 WILLOW OAK PL	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$299,900	Detached	0.20		BRAMBLEWOOD
6823 FLOYD AVE	5	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$296,000	Detached	0.24		LYNBROOK
6020 BACKLICK RD	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$290,000	Detached	0.21		SPRINGFIELD
5518 SOUTHAMPTON DR	4	4	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$290,000	Detached	0.26		KINGS PARK
6906 EDGEBROOK DR	5	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$290,000	Detached	0.27		LYNBROOK
6627 BRADDOCK RD	4	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$289,900	Detached	0.25		EDSALL PARK
5918 KINGSFORD RD #356	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$285,000	Townhouse			CARDINAL FOREST
8011 EDINBURGH DR	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$282,000	Townhouse	0.06		SARATOGA TOWNHOUSES
6322 HIBBLING AVE	3	1	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$280,000	Detached	0.27		MONTICELLO FOREST
6719 ANDERS TER	3	1	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$279,000	Detached	0.24		EDSALL PARK
5220 DALTON RD	3	1	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$275,000	Detached	0.24		EDSALL PARK
7103 LEESVILLE BLVD	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$275,000	Detached	0.26		NORTH SPRINGFIELD
5907 CRAIG ST	5	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$274,900	Other	0.19		SPRINGFIELD
6401 PIONEER DR	6	3	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$270,200	Detached	0.24		SPRINGFIELD ESTATES
6024 SELWOOD PL	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$270,000	Townhouse	0.03		THE TALLWOODS
6212 HILLSIDE RD	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$270,000	Townhouse	0.03		HILLSIDE LDNG
7420 DUNSTON ST	5	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$270,000	Detached	0.25		NORTH SPRINGFIELD
7608 JERVIS ST	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$268,000	Detached	0.27		NORTH SPRINGFIELD
7312 EGGAR WOODS LN	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.04		BETHELEN WOODS
6438 FRANCONIA CT	3	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$263,000	Townhouse	0.03		SPRINGFIELD SQUARE
8856 SURVEYORS PL	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$260,000	Townhouse	0.03		HILLSIDE COMMONS
6603 BUCKSKIN ST	5	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$259,900	Detached	0.19		SPRINGFIELD ESTATES
6938 VILLA DEL REY	3	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$255,000	Townhouse	0.05		VILLA DEL REY
8913 SHAMROCK CT	3	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$250,000	Townhouse	0.05		SHANNON STATION
7396 STREAM WAY	2	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$250,000	Townhouse	0.04		ROLLING FOREST
5905 FLANDERS ST	3	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$249,000	Detached	0.28		LYNBROOK
6100 ASHLEY PL	4	2	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$245,000	Detached	0.26		SPRINGFIELD
6426 BLARNEY STONE CT	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.05		SHANNON STATION
7252 EVANSTON RD	3	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.12		SPRINGFIELD VILLAGE
7303 BYEFORDE CT	5	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.09		SPRINGFIELD VILLAGE
5931 BAYSHIRE RD #117	3	1	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$235,000	Townhouse			CARDINAL FOREST
8380 FERN LEAF CT	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.06		NEWINGTON FOREST
7902 FOREST PATH WAY	2	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.04		WOODSTREAM
6409 INWOOD DR	3	3	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$225,000	Detached	0.40		SPRINGFIELD FOREST
7771 DURER CT	3	2	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$218,744	Townhouse	0.05		NEWINGTON STATION
7217 CALAMO ST	4	4	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$210,526	Detached	0.51		SPRINGVALE
8306 WIND FALL RD	2	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$210,000	Townhouse	0.02		NEWINGTON FOREST
8168 DARK DEN CIR	3	2	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$202,900	Townhouse	0.06		NEWINGTON FOREST
7709 BRANDEIS WAY	3	1	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$200,000	Townhouse	0.04		NEWINGTON STATION
7217 GILES PL	3	1	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$195,000	Detached	0.30		SPRINGFIELD
8415 LAZY CREEK CT	2	1	2		SPRINGFIELD	\$178,000	Townhouse	0.02		NEWINGTON FOREST
6111 HANOVER AVE	3	1	0		SPRINGFIELD	\$169,050	Detached	0.23		SPRINGFIELD
8202 MAPLE RIDGE AVE	3	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$164,000	Townhouse	0.04		FOREST VIEW

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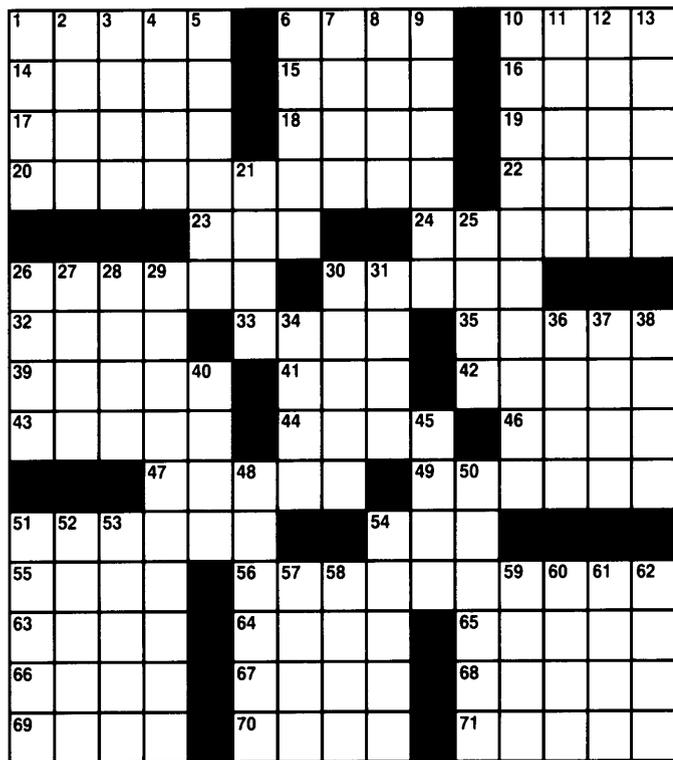
Click on "Photo Gallery"



# 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

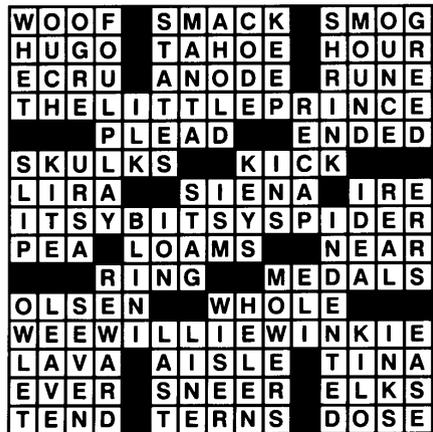
- 41 Sharpshooter's gift
- 42 Beat by a whisker
- 43 Use weasel words
- 44 Meat loaf serving
- 46 "Holy moly!"
- 47 Papa Doc ruled it
- 49 Stats for a porous defense
- 51 Battle site of 1916
- 54 Gulped down
- 55 Mideast bigwig
- 56 Pro-slavery Northerners, before the Civil War
- 63 Mission cancellation
- 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

- 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)
- 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"
- 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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-Werner Heisenberg



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**Heidi Greene, the office assistant at Newington Forest Elementary, competed in the Marine Corps Marathon on Oct. 25.**

## Getting To Know ...

**Heidi Greene, FCPS employee, marathon runner.**

**W**hen Heidi Greene of Springfield crossed the finish line of the 2008 Marine Corps Marathon on Oct. 25, she clocked a time of 4 hours 2 minutes and 43 seconds. This was the fifth marathon that the 41-year-old office assistant at Newington Forest has run.

**Number of years in the community.**

I have been living in Springfield for a year and a half now since my move from Canada. It feels like home to me already.

**Family.**

Husband Mike with FCPS as well and Baby Cheeba our French Bulldog and Newington Forest has welcomed me into their family as well.

**Education.**

I completed my travel and tourism degree in Ontario as well as veterinary management.

**Your first job.**

When I was 14-years old, I got my first job in Fish and Chip shop in St. Catharines Ontario. My boss became one of my best friends and I still communicate with him to this day.

**Activities/interest/hobbies.**

Running, I love to travel and enjoy photography, boating, golfing and cycling.

**Favorite local restaurants.**

Mike's American Grill, Delia Pizza and Saratoga Pizza.

**Community concerns.**

I haven't been involved long enough to voice anything major, but I do hate the traffic lights at Bonnie Mill and the parkway.

**When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

I was always the class clown and naturally wanted to be an actress, but the last five or six years my ideal dream job would

have to be a travel photographer. **Community "hidden treasure" you think more people should know about.**

I finally found the trail behind South Run Rec Center to Burke Lake Trail and boating on Pohick Bay and Mattawoman Creek.

**Personal goals.**

The plan is to Stay at Newington Forest until I retire and either semi retire and get a rental property back in northern Ontario and spend the winter in the Keys or fully retire and sail off on our boat down the Intracoastal Waterway with Mike and Cheeba to explore tropical islands

**How did you get interested in running?**

I used to work at White Oaks Fitness & Hotel in Niagara-on-the-Lake from 1987-91 and hung out with a lot of the members who were runners and they got me hooked on racing. I took a few years off from 2000-03 due to a hectic work schedule, but I couldn't stay away from that "runners' high."

**Was this your first marathon?**

Actually, it was my fifth. I still can't believe it.

**How many have you run and how do you train for them?**

My first, I went on a bus trip with a group from Toronto and ran it in 3:58. I was so proud to be under 4 hours. Then I did two in Niagara Falls, the Casino International marathon, the Reggae Marathon in Negril, where I met my hubby, n December 2006 and then Marine Corps this year. Mileage, mileage and stubbornness to finish them all.

**What did you take away from the experience of running in the Marine Corps Marathon?**

That it is possible to get better with age. The three marathons in between I ran in 4:12, 4:20 and 4:32 and came back this year to run a 4:02. Next goal is back under 4 hours and maybe another exotic destination. And it really helps to have your hubby there cheering you on.

— MICHAEL O'CONNELL

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