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Oakton coach Fred Priester and his squad have a perfect record at 15-0, but the coach said there is still room for improvement for his team over the second half of the district schedule.



## Cougars Gearing For 'Second Half'

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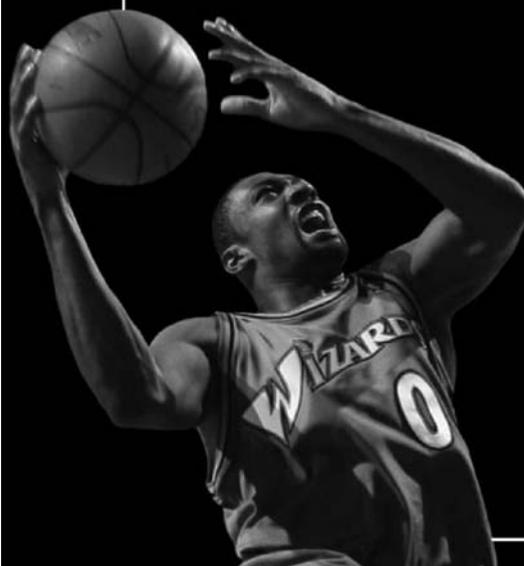
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# NEWS

## Of Spies and Their Craft

Patrick Henry Library hosts "Spycraft" author's presentation.

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

Patrick Henry Library had a record turnout — 87 people — for the book presentation given by the former director of the CIA's Office of Technical Service, Robert Wallace of Reston.

Frigid temperatures in the evening of Jan. 15 were no deterrent as guests, from as far as Gainesville, listened to Wallace describe both the tech gadgets used by U.S. spies from the Cold War to the present, and the agents who relied on the copy and communication devices developed under CIA supervision.

"Spycraft," written by Wallace and H. Keith Melton, is a spy museum on paper. Former director of Central Intelligence, George J. Tenet, wrote the forward to the 530-page history, illustrated with 125 photographs and illustrations of devices ranging from a chamber of silence — remember Get Smart's "cone of silence?," a dead rat flavored with Tabasco, inflatable torsos, a fountain pen enveloping a miniature camera and "life-support containers" to transport humans across borders. Oh, and then, there's the live cat with a listening device surgically implanted in his ear canal.

A Power Point slide show, incorporating images of spy gadgets, as well as a video of spy gear as used by super agents Maxwell Smart and James Bond, brought espionage resources to life. Co-author Melton possesses the world's largest collection of spy gear.

"Spycraft" is the story of America's 'Q,'" said Wallace alluding to Ian Fleming's character in the James Bond series. The book traces the development and deployment of spy gear from secret writing and bugging devices to subminiature cameras and covert Internet communications.

**THE MOST PRESSING** question in espionage, Wallace said, is how do we conduct and protect security communication. Ideas and concepts come forth readily, but execution is the issue."

He cited an example of a precursor to the high-occupancy vehicle dummy. An agent in Moscow insisted on meeting face-to-face with his handler. As the vehicle, with agent and handler sped around a corner, followed by a Soviet tail, the agent rolled out of the car unseen by the surveillance vehicle. How, though, to explain the loss of passenger?

The CIA developed an inflatable person to appear as the agent rolled out and away. There were, however, some problems with inflation and deflation, until a technical



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Robert Wallace, former director of the CIA's Office of Technical Service and author of "Spycraft," speaks to a packed room at Patrick Henry Library Jan. 15.**

**"The most pressing question in espionage ... is how do we conduct and protect security communication."**

— Robert Wallace, author, "Spycraft"

staffer came upon the idea of a "jack-in-the-box" torso. It worked.

During the Cold War, the Soviets used intelligence devices superior to those of the fledgling U.S. espionage community. By 1970, the balance of advantage had shifted to the U.S. The CIA handled more than a dozen agents in Moscow by the 1980s, Wallace said, a technical feat. After the presentation, Wallace fielded questions from the audience, many of whom were retired or active CIA. One guest asked Wallace if it were true that the CIA knows where Bin Laden really is, but if Bin Laden is of more use out there than captured. "I don't know anything about that," Wallace said. "Is it possible that Bin Laden is dead and a look-

### About the book

"Spycraft: The Secret History of the CIA's Spytechs from Communism to Al-Qaeda," by Robert Wallace and H. Keith Melton <http://ciaSpycraft.com>

alike has replaced him? That would be the most difficult thing to achieve," Wallace said. Another guest pointed out that voice recognition would betray a look-alike.

**WALLACE RETIRED** from the CIA Office of Technical Service in 2003.

"If there's one thing I learned in 32 years with the CIA, it's that it's not career enhancing to see one's name in print." It took three submissions to the CIA Publications Review Board before final approval of the book.

Wallace stays busy in "retirement." He contributed a chapter on counterespionage to "Vaults, Mirrors and Masks," edited by Jennifer Sims and Burton Gerber, which will be released by Georgetown Press within the next couple of weeks. "There are half a dozen other ideas floating around so maybe something else in the next couple of years," said Wallace.

He spends some time each year fishing. "My goal is to fish on every continent. That's one good reason to go to Australia since I haven't been there before." He said he usually spends a week in Minnesota fishing walleyes and another week in Montana after trout.

Wallace maintains his interest in public affairs, both local and international, and he said he tries to keep current on the intelligence profession, especially agents and their devices, an interest that inspired "Spycraft."

**THE RECIPIENT** of the Intelligence Medal of Merit, he is the founder of a private national security firm and is a contributor to the CIA's Center for the Study of Intelligence.

Wallace lives in Reston with his wife of 39 years, a retired South Lakes High School librarian. The couple has three grown children, a son and two daughters and three grandchildren all under 2 years old. They are involved in a variety of church activities and with their children, their families and the grandchildren.

"Our pets are the wild birds in the backyard that I try to keep well fed, especially the cardinals, yellow finches and humming birds," Wallace said. "The gray squirrels are pests."

### BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

#### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 3

**University of Virginia Education Programs Information Night**, 5-7:30 pm at 7054 Haycock Rd., Falls Church. Graduate degree and endorsement programs in reading, special education, school library media, ESL and more. 703-536-1105 or

[www.scps.virginia.edu/northern/infonight](http://www.scps.virginia.edu/northern/infonight). **Planning Commission Land Use Process Review Committee**, 7:15 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, Board Conference Room, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. 703-324-2865, TTY 703-324-7951.

**Tree Commission Meetings**, 7:15 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center Room 8, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. 703-324-1770.

### VIEWPOINTS

## Residents Reflect on Dr. Martin Luther King's Dream, Obama Inauguration

— DONNA MANZ



**Leeann McGonagle, Vienna**

"I believe we're closer [to fulfilling the dream] .... At the time of King's assassination, he could not have

envisioned an African-American president elected in what would have been his natural lifetime."



**Sandra Uthus, Vienna**

"From the way I understand Dr. King's definition of the dream, I'd say so. I pray so."



**Joe Canale, Centreville**

"I think the election of Barack Obama does tend to move African-Americans closer to the dream. I wish we were not so

focused on the race issue, though. You're either a good person or you're not, talented or not."



**John Tredwell, McLean**

"Of course. I think it's self-evident."



**Tamiko Youngblood, Chicago/Vienna**

"Absolutely, by all means. I think Dr. King envisioned that, someday, he would see a black president."



**Kindergartners dressed as doctors, teachers, policemen, chefs, football and hockey players pay tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.**

## Dream Is Alive at St. Mark School

St. Mark Catholic School kindergartners paid tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a special "I Have a Dream" presentation for the school community. This tribute to King was held Friday, Jan. 9. Kindergarten students sang "Stand Up for Dr. King" and read about his contributions to our country. To honor him, they each dressed in costume as what they would like to be when they grow up and stated that individually for the audience. Students dressed as doctors, teachers, policemen, chefs, football and hockey players, just to name a few. To end the presentation, the kindergarten students asked the audience to continue King's dream of peace for all and to help them live out their dreams.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Channel 7 Storm Chaser, Adam Caskey, visited fourth- and sixth-grade students at Louise Archer Elementary in Vienna. He is pictured here with sixth-grade students.**

## TV Storm Chaser Visits Louise Archer Elementary



**Louise Archer principal, Michelle Makrigiorgos, welcomes Storm Chaser 7, Adam Caskey.**



CONTRIBUTED

**With 24 Scouts attending, the largest program was the traffic safety merit badge taught by Officer Bill Murray of the Vienna Police Department.**

## Vienna Scouts Attend Merit Badge Day

More than 170 Vienna area Boy Scouts and 30 adult leaders attended the annual Vienna Merit Badge Day at St. Mark's Church on Vale Road. Boys progress through the Scout program hoping to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout by developing skills, building moral character and engaging in community service. Merit badges play a key role in exposing the Scouts to a variety of life skills and character development, which are often underemphasized in school or family life.

The Scouts had asked the Town of Vienna Police for assistance with the community event and Chief Robert Carlisle, who is a supporter of community-based policing, was happy to assist.

The Scout program, which includes a combination of academic and practical training in topics such as emergency preparedness, fire safety, traffic safety, nuclear science, oceanography, first aid

and others were offered. With 24 Scouts attending, the largest program was the traffic safety merit badge, which was taught by Officer Bill Murray of the Vienna Police Department.

Murray, who had been the D.A.R.E. officer for a number of the Scouts attending, provided a detailed discussion of traffic-related issues, including criminal standards and penalties for drunk driving and racing. Although few boys attending even had learner's permits yet, all are thinking about the day when they can drive, and the Scouts were pretty interested to hear that their vehicles could be seized if they were found to be racing on a public street.

The lesson driven home: cars on public streets are not toys.

On the academic side, Murray ran the boys through the physics equations for vehicle speed verses stopping distance and coefficient of friction impacts of variable road conditions. Lastly, the boys marked

out the stopping distance of vehicles traveling at speeds of 30, 50 and 70 mph on the pavement, demonstrating that stopping distance increases with the square of the initial velocity.

Volunteer professional fire fighters and members of the Fairfax Community Emergency Response Team taught classes in emergency preparedness and fire safety. Citizenship merit badges required the Scouts to attend Vienna Town Council meetings, write letters to elected senators and congressmen and interview elected officials.

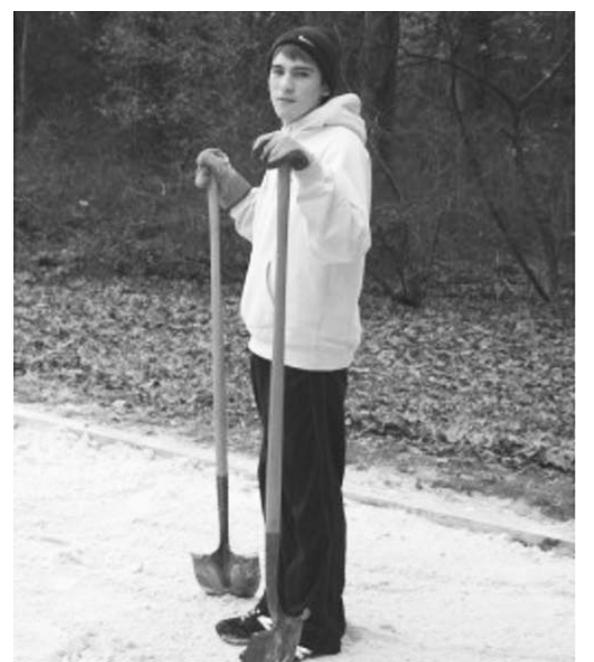
The program was hosted by St. Mark's Church for the fourth year in a row. St. Mark's sponsors Vienna Troop 1978, led by the Scoutmaster Al Fox with more than 70 boys. Annie Peterson, a volunteer from Troop 1887 and a district commissioner was the main program coordinator. Besides St. Mark's Troop 1978, other troops attending included Vienna Troops 4, 13, 152, 427, 976, 979, 987, 1143 and 1887.

## Boy Scouts Refurbish Volleyball Court

The volleyball court at Southside Park in Vienna was refurbished recently by Boy Scouts from Troop 872 and their leaders as well as family and friends who volunteered. Led by Eagle Scout candidate, Dillon Franks, the group spread new sand and repaired the siding of the overgrown court. Franks, 17, who is a 13-year resident of the Town of Vienna, wanted to complete a project in the Town Boundaries.

"I've spent a lot of time in the parks of Vienna and I am glad to be able to give something back", said Franks, a Madison High School student. "My friends and I also got interested in outdoor volleyball this past summer, so I'm sure we'll get good use out of this court that we have improved together".

The Town of Vienna supplied the sand and timbers for the project.



**Dillon Franks**

## COMMENTARY

# First Week in Richmond

### State senator files 18 bills in General Assembly.

SEN. CHAP PETERSEN (D-34)  
D-34

**R**ight now the eyes of the world are focused on Washington, D.C. It's a comparatively quiet time in Richmond, so it's a good time to get things done.

Our first week of session is the opportunity to build consensus with senators on issues I've been studying for months. As others are attending the Inaugural, I'm working the halls of the State Capitol — looking for opportunities to move Virginia forward.

On Jan. 14, I filed 18 bills. These bills reflect the priorities that I have in 2009. I trust that you will agree with these goals:

1. **Jobs, jobs, jobs:** Our first priority in Richmond is creating new jobs to jump-start our economy. Every job and every business has value, but some sectors are critical due to recent events. We must position Virginia to maximize federal grants from the new Obama administration in the energy and environment sectors, as well as nurture "next generation" industries, which will support long-term jobs. Therefore, I am sponsoring SB 1124 and SB 1125 which establish income tax credits for clean energy production and creation of "green jobs" in Virginia. Passage of these bills will cost us very little money now but will show that Virginia is open for business in the 21st century.

2. **Efficiency:** No amount of investment will succeed if our state continues its wasteful ways, particularly in energy usage. This is not just an environmental issue; it also causes higher taxes and electric bills for working people. To curb this trend, I have three specific proposals. SB 1126 sets a target for our utilities to reduce per capita energy consumption for all Virginians to 90 percent of current usage by 2022. SB1127 requires the state to (i) construct new buildings according to LEED standards, and (ii) purchase 20 percent of their energy from renewable sources. It also streamlines our procurement by permitting the governor to contract directly with energy-saving auditors to save us money. SB 1128 enables geothermal technology to come to market so homeowners have a lower-cost heating option. All these bills will save us resources and government spending in the long run.

3. **Transparency:** There is not enough public knowledge about



the state budget. We need to treat our citizens like shareholders who are due an annual report of their investment. Therefore, I am co-sponsoring

with Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) a bipartisan bill, SB 936, to put all state expenditures on-line for easy viewing and research. I am also sponsoring a companion bill SB 1129 to permit local governments to do the same. The more information to voters, the better.

4. **Elder Care:** The governor has proposed a drastic cut in Medicaid assistance which is a life-line for frail and elderly Virginians that cannot afford private nursing care. That's one way to balance the budget. Here's another way: my SB 1133 takes the estate tax, which is on a hiatus until 2011 in Virginia, and brings it back for estates over \$5 million, exempting farms and small businesses. The resulting revenue is nearly \$100 million,

which can be doubled with federal matching funds. That money can restore these programs and ensure that our parents and grandparents live the last years in the dignity they deserve. Having seen my grandmother's last years and the struggle we've had with my mother-in-law since her stroke, I feel strongly about these programs and our duty to restore them.

5. **Sentencing Reform:** Gov. Kaine has accurately focused on the long-term cost of incarceration in Virginia. Criminals need to be punished, but the punishment should be proportional. Right now, our prison costs are too high — among the highest in the U.S. — and our budget can't sustain it. My SB 1136 seeks to update our sentencing laws to reclassify minor property crimes as misdemeanors, while my SB 1135 requires our Parole Board to actually read the record before they continue to incarcerate pre-1994 felons now eligible for parole. Again, I'm not advocating anyone's release. But

SEE TOWN HALL, PAGE 15

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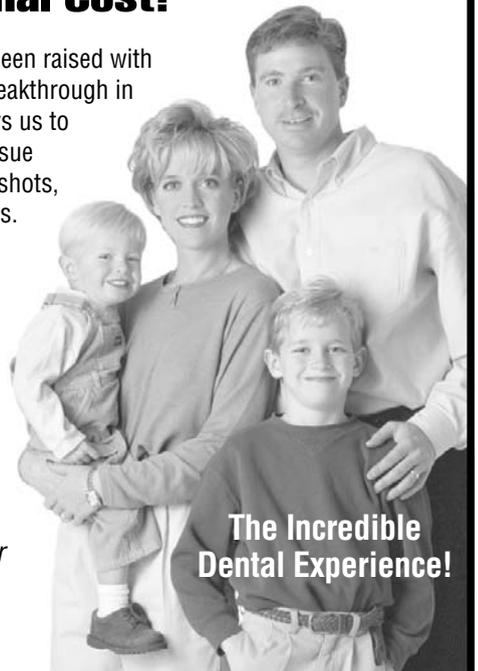
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## PEOPLE

# Vienna Writer Scripts 'Criminal Minds' Episode

Mark Bruner's "Bloodline" broadcast on Jan. 21 on CBS.

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

**M**ark Bruner grew up in exotic countries of the world and in Vienna, graduated from Langley High School and the University of Virginia and, after graduation, moved to Los Angeles to work in the television industry. On Jan. 21, Bruner's debut screenplay will air on CBS' "Criminal Minds."

**AT LANGLEY** High School, Bruner played soccer, wrote "a lot of personal writing," and watched movies often. "I was just your average nerdy kid," Bruner said.

Bruner's father was a career State Department employee and the Bruner family moved around North Africa and Israel when Bruner was growing up. Bruner, now 23, said he "wrote a lot and watched a lot of movies" during those years he spent overseas. When he was "just a kid," he wanted to make short movies with his camcorder.

"Growing up overseas, my family was so important to me. They were always there for me. Family closeness was sort of an inspiration for my story."

"Bloodline" is Bruner's first produced script, the story of a reclusive, serial-killing family. "We had never done a family of serial killers before," Bruner said. "Basically, the plot is that the team is called into an Alabama town where young girls are being abducted."

Through a contact of Bruner's father, the writer got an internship with "Criminal Minds" in the summer of 2005, between his sophomore and junior years at UVA. Upon graduation, a bachelor of arts in media studies in hand, Bruner took on a full-time position with the program and moved to Los Angeles.

"Now that I'm getting paid to write and watch movies, it's kind of cool."

**BRUNER BEGAN HIS JOB** at "Criminal Minds" as a personal assistant in the writers department. He pitched his story idea shortly after coming to the program, and in August of 2007, he got approval for its production.

Writing, said Bruner, is very much a collaborative field in television. The "writers room" is just that, a room where the program's writers sit around and brainstorm. They critique one another and throw out ideas and concepts. It was at a writers' brainstorming session that Bruner's story line took shape.

"I wrote out about 10 pages in story form and then verbally explained the story idea in a 20-minute oral presentation to



**Mark Bruner of Vienna scripted the Jan. 21 episode of "Criminal Minds," titled "Bloodline." The program is broadcast on CBS at 9 p.m.**

"Now that I'm getting paid to write and watch movies, it's kind of cool."

— Mark Bruner, scriptwriter, "Criminal Minds"

the producer."

Bruner credits Ed Benero, the show runner, the man in charge of the whole production, for taking him under his wing.

"Mark has worked extremely hard for everything he has accomplished," Kyle Rudzinski of Great Falls, Bruner's UVA roommate and Langley soccer teammate, said. "He's not the type to go out and seek recognition for himself. Mark's as humble as you'll ever meet."

Rudzinski said that it is through Bruner's hard work, creativity and innate talent as a writer that enabled his former teammate to achieve so much so early in his career. "Who knows what he'll accomplish by age 30?"

**BRUNER IS WORKING** on a television pilot now. He's trying to get an agent and to do so, he needs a broadcast script and an original one. "Bloodline" fulfills the first requirement.

"Most of the high-school programs are set in California," said Bruner. "I'm setting mine in a high school in Northern Virginia. It's a fictitious version of myself growing up."

Bruner's parents live in the same house off Hunter Mill Road that they have lived in since Mark was in the sixth grade.

"My parents kept me very humble. I'm not into the Hollywood scene, not into Hollywood glitz," Bruner said. "I still watch movies back to back. I'm more into developing friendships and getting to know people."

"I guess you would say I'm still nerdy." "Bloodline" reairs on June 24 on CBS.



CONTRIBUTED

**MPO Melissa Borja finished first in her class for women and well ahead of over half the males participating in the event.**

## Vienna Police Bicycle Officer Wins Competition

MPO Melissa Borja of the Town of Vienna Police Department recently competed in the 2008 International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA) Competition. The competition was the highlight of the 2008 IPMBA Conference held in Indianapolis, Ind.

Officers from all around the nation gather each year to learn about new policing strategies and techniques, and to share ideas relative to policing on a bicycle. MPO Borja serves as the lead officer for the Vienna Police Bicycle Unit. She ensures the bicycles are adequately maintained and also instructs new riders from area departments

during a rigorous two week training course.

The competition consisted of riding down a flight of stairs, up another set of stairs, making a tight left turn, a U-turn through a cone course, and then a sprint into a tight S-turn. From there she had to serpentine through another cone course, hop up on to a platform, negotiate a third very tight cone course, ride her bike over three railroad ties and perform another sprint to the finish.

Of the 75 riders participating in the event, MPO Borja finished first in her class for women and well ahead of over half the males participating in the event.

## Peace Corps Volunteer Marches in Inaugural Parade

Elizabeth Doughty Kane, 29, is one of 200 marchers who has been selected by the National Peace Corps Association and the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Washington, D.C., to represent Peace Corps volunteers around the world in the Presidential Inaugural Parade in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 20, 2009.

A Vienna native, Kane graduated from James Madison High School in 1997 before attending the University of Virginia and majoring in Foreign Affairs. She served in Malehice, Mozambique as a Teacher of English as a Second Language volunteer from 2001 to 2003. Kane is a second-generation volunteer. Her parents, Vienna residents Roger and Gail Doughty, were also Peace Corps volunteers, serving in Iran as a City Planner and a Teacher of English as a Second Language Volunteer, respectively.

"I am thrilled to march in the inaugural parade, not only because of the historic nature of this election, but also to be representing the Peace Corps community."

In announcing the participation of the Peace Corps Community and the AmeriCorps Alums in the parade, President-elect Obama said, "These organizations embody the best of our nation's history, diversity and commitment to service. Vice President-elect Biden and I are proud to



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Elizabeth Kane in her Mozambican outfit and her husband, Ross Kane who also volunteered in Africa, with the Episcopal Church in Sudan and Kenya.**

have them join us in the parade."

Representatives of the Peace Corps Community have applied for each Inaugural Parade in recent history and last participated in 1997.

The marchers—who served in 93 countries—represented every decade of Peace Corps service and included original Peace Corps staff; former volunteers and staff; and currently serving volunteers.

# CRIME

Activities reported by the Vienna police department through Jan. 9.

## ARREST

**1100 Block Maple Ave. East.** Jan. 10, 2:28 a.m. Officer Finelli conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for a traffic violation. As he approached the vehicle, he observed the driver and front seat passenger trying to switch places. After interacting with the parties, Officer Finelli detected signs of possible impairment. Officer Finelli had the original driver perform field sobriety tests and subsequently placed him under arrest for Driving While Intoxicated. He was transported to Vienna Police Headquarters for analysis of his breath to determine blood alcohol content. After testing, the driver, 25-year-old male of Beltsville, Md., was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and formally charged.

**Maple Ave. at Pleasant St. N.W.** Jan. 10, 12 p.m. Officer Myers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle as a result of a lookout following a suspicious event. After observing a traffic violation, Officer Myers stopped the vehicle and identified all parties inside the car. It was learned that one of the individuals was wanted on an outstanding warrant for Failure to Appear at Jail on a Driving on a Suspended Operators License charge. The warrant was from Culpeper, Virginia. The individual, a 48-year-old male of Jeffersonton was arrested and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he is being held without bond.

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# Watch Them Live

## Two steps for more openness in General Assembly.

**T**his year for the first time, Virginians can check in on what their state representatives are up to without a trip to Richmond.

The House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia will offer live streaming video of the 2009 Legislative Session, broadcasting from each chamber every day of the session.

The daily broadcasts will begin when each body convenes.

The 2009 legislative session Virginia General Assembly convened on Jan. 14, and will run 45 days.

Go to <http://legis.state.va.us/>. Links for streaming video and also an audio only option, are appropriately front and center.

### EDITORIAL

More than one-third of all legislation proposed in the Virginia General Assembly dies in subcommittee. And in previous years, the votes of the subcommittee members were not recorded. There was no accountability for legislators who "tabled" proposals that were important to Virginians.

This year, subcommittee votes will be recorded and available on the General Assembly's Web site. It's an important step.

### TIME FOR SMOKING RESTRICTIONS

Gov. Tim Kaine (D) is promoting legislation that would ban smoking in restaurants in Virginia. We support his efforts.

Secondhand smoke kills 1,700 Virginians per year, according to the Virginia Department of Health. Levels of secondhand smoke are up to five times higher in restaurants than in homes with smokers, according to the American Lung Association.

If the General Assembly doesn't pass legislation banning smoking in restaurants, it should at least allow localities the power to restrict smoking within their borders.

### CONSTITUENT VIEWPOINTS

The House of Delegates and Senate of Virginia operate a toll-free message center to accept calls from citizens who want to express an opinion on legislation. The messages are relayed to the members' offices as requested. Call the Constituent Viewpoint line at 800-889-0229.

### RICHMOND REPORT

## Budget Dominates Assembly Agenda

BY STEVE SHANNON  
STATE DELEGATE (D-35)



**B**eginning in 2004, the editors of the Connection Newspapers have allowed me to write a regular column during the General Assembly session. This has been an excellent opportunity to communicate with my constituents and also to receive regular feedback. I appreciate that the editors are allowing me the same opportunity this year.

The General Assembly convened Jan. 14 and it will stay in session through February. During the first week, legislators submitted their bills, which will be considered by various committees in the coming weeks. This year, members of the House of Delegates are only allowed to introduce 15 bills, which is a departure from past practice. As such, the total number of bills considered likely will be lower than in recent sessions.

**AS TRADITION DICTATES,** Governor Kaine spoke to members of the House of Delegates and the state Senate in a joint legislative session. His remarks primarily focused on the effect of Virginia's sluggish economy on the state budget. Because Virginia's Constitution requires the state to operate with a balanced budget, he is proposing

targeted cuts in every categorical area of state's general fund.

Over the coming weeks, both the House of Delegates and the state Senate will have the opportunity to propose alternatives to the governor's plan for balancing the second year of the biennial budget. The governor pledged cooperation in an effort to meet our constitutional responsibility to balance the budget while trying to minimize the impact on core government services.

**IN ADDITION,** the governor spoke of targeted efforts to stimulate the economy through investments. Finally, the governor discussed how a key focus of his final year in office will highlight energy conservation efforts, renewable energy initiatives and the creation of green jobs in Virginia.

During the session, I would appreciate your input. We can be reached at 804-698-1035 or by e-mail at [delsshannon@house.state.va.us](mailto:delsshannon@house.state.va.us). Moreover, if I can assist on the constituent services front, please do not hesitate to contact my office as well.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Change Antiquated Grading System

To Members of the Fairfax County School Board:

I witnessed via television the meeting last week where citizens spoke on behalf of "Fair Grade." I am a taxpayer whose children are now in the business world. Two of the four are graduates of Fairfax County schools. Now my grandchildren are in the same school system.

I have yet to understand why our students are treated unfairly in the current grading system. At the time our children attended Fairfax County schools maybe there were universities who knew about Fairfax County schools. Not so anymore. Colleges are interested in the test scores and GPA. Fairfax County grades are not considered any differently than those coming from Union County, Ill. How long must our students suffer before you get this bit of rocket science. Can any one of you on the board give a justifiable reason why

this antiquated system is still being used? Other than Mr. Gibson's appeal to tradition.

Now to a slightly different subject. Have you ever watched yourselves on television? At this meeting you appeared like kings looking down on their subjects — those parents and children dressed in white. Was it really necessary to go on and on complimenting each other on your outstanding service while hundreds of parents and children were held as a captive audience? I understand the necessity of electing the chairman and co-chairman, but the endless kudos were embarrassing. Your attitudes seemed to suggest the people in the audience were interfering with your important agenda. Am I wrong? Don't you work for the citizens of the county?

**Lois Scholz**  
Vienna

## Write

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

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
7913 Westpark Drive  
McLean, Va. 22102  
Call: 703-917-6444.  
By fax: 703-917-0991.

By e-mail: [info@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:info@connectionnewspapers.com)

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

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**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ♦ 703-917-6428  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Donna Manz**  
Contributing Writer  
[dmanz@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dmanz@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Julia O'Donoghue**  
Education & Politics  
703-917-6433  
[jodonoghue@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jodonoghue@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Courts & Projects  
703-917-6417  
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**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
703-917-6416  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Managing Editors**  
Steve Hibbard, Michael O'Connell,  
Kemal Kurspahic  
**Photography:**  
Robbie Hammer, Louise Krafft,  
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Jean Card

**CIRCULATION: 703-917-6480**  
**Circulation Manager:**  
Linda Pecquex  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

**CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS,  
L.L.C.**  
**Peter Labovitz**  
President/CEO

**Mary Kimm**  
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer  
703-917-6416  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jerry Vernon**  
Executive Vice President  
703-917-6404  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

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# CALENDAR

Send announcements to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com)

## THURSDAY/JAN. 22

**Celtic Crossroads.** 8 p.m. Traditional bluegrass, gypsy, and jazz at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Jim's Big Ego and Hamell on Trial.** Rock. 8 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## FRIDAY/JAN. 23

**Chicago City Limits: Myspace or Yours?** Comedy. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$22. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**"An Empty Plate in Café du Grand Boeuf"** at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E. Vienna. 8 p.m. \$10 adults, \$9 for students and seniors. 703-255-6360 or [viennava.gov](http://viennava.gov).

**Chris Pureka and Nicole Reynolds.** Acoustic. 7 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**The Chuck Shaffer Picture Show, Irresponsible, The Secret Cool and RedShift.** 10 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Brown Bag University Seminar,** 12-1 p.m., Fairfax County Economic Development Authority offices, 8300 Boone Blvd., Suite 450, Vienna. Learn how leading-edge architect/builder solutions can dramatically improve the functioning, aesthetics and operational efficiency of your home or business

## SATURDAY/JAN. 24

**"An Empty Plate in Café du Grand Boeuf"** at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E. Vienna. 8 p.m. \$10 adults, \$9 for students and seniors. 703-255-6360 or [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

**Justin Roberts: Music for Kids.** 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Chicago City Limits: Myspace or Yours?** Comedy. 7:30 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$22. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Fiction Family featuring Jon Foreman of Switchfoot and Sean Watkins of Nickel Creek.** 10 p.m. \$20. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**One-Act Festival.** 10 a.m., George C. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. The entire Liberty District, comprised of eight high schools, will compete for the title at the Theater One-Act Festival with the two top schools advancing to the Regional Tournament to be held at Lake Braddock High School Jan. 31. Free.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 25

**International Guitar Night,** featuring Pierre Bensusan, Benjamin Verdery, Cecilia Zabala, and Brian

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

## In Memory of Tiny Tim



Tiny Tim's brief presence on earth enriched the lives of so many volunteers, from South Carolina to Vienna and Centreville, who struggled to save the kitten's life. Tiny Tim arrived at Dulles on Christmas Eve; he died in the arms of his foster 'mom' en route to Hope Center the night of Jan. 14.

Animal rescue organizations depend on the contributions of public supporters to attend to the needs of homeless and ill animals. Contribute to Commonwealth Cat Rescue (contact [Chris.Haslam@cox.net](mailto:Chris.Haslam@cox.net)) or any other 501 C3 animal rescue organization to help the helpless. Please adopt your next best friend from an animal shelter. Donna, one of Tiny Tim's many new friends.

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# More Ways to Have Fun

Part three of January series.

By DONNA MANZ  
 THE CONNECTION

Fun things to do in Vienna continues with part three of the January series of 101 Things to Do in Vienna, 2009. From outdoor movies to indoor roller skating, frozen custard to ethnic cuisine, wine to chili dogs, there's something for everyone.



The loose caboose, shiny red, is a Vienna landmark positioned near Vienna's original train station.

**MAKE FAMILY TIME**  
**Watch the stars.** One night a month in the summer, the Town of Vienna presents a family film, outdoors, on the grounds of Glyndon Park at Glyndon and Ayrhill roads. Bring a blanket and watch the stars on-screen and in the sky. Free. [http://www.viennava.gov/Town\\_Departments/parks.htm](http://www.viennava.gov/Town_Departments/parks.htm).

**Book'em.** People of all ages make a beeline to the twice-yearly book sales at Patrick Henry and Oakton libraries, and Historic Vienna Inc.'s [HVI] annual summer megatent book sale on the grounds of Freeman House. Get there early on opening day at HVI's book sale. Book dealers from as far away as Baltimore scope out the books for sale there. Behind Freeman House is a minishop dedicated to children's books where parents may be spotted reading aloud to little ones. [www.historicviennainc.org](http://www.historicviennainc.org).

**Bond.** For young mothers, [www.viennamoms.org](http://www.viennamoms.org) presents a community Web site where members share news and information on child care, maintain a social network and offer used baby stuff. Members make friends with each other, as do the babies.

**Be a cheap skate.** Family Skate Night is held each Friday beginning Jan. 16 through March 27, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., no skating Jan. 23 or Feb. 27. Admission is \$1 per skater. Bring your own roller skates or in-line skates and safety equipment. Children must be supervised by parent and parents are welcomed to participate.

**Follow the train track.** Owned and maintained by the Northern Virginia Park Authority, the Washington and Old Dominion (W&OD) bike trail owes its birth to the railroad tracks that ran from Arlington westward. On weekends, particularly, families take to the path, adults towing young children behind them and children on two-wheelers riding side by side with parents. Roller skaters take to the pavement, as well.

**The caboose that got loose.** Hugging the W&OD bike trail on Dominion Road, the shiny red caboose stands alone, but regally. For children and for the children in adult clothes.

**MANGIA!**  
**"Washingtonian" readers voted Bazin's on Church a Top-50 metro-area restaurant.** It's packed at lunch, packed on weekends ... the food, ambiance and service have made Bazin's a local favorite since it opened five years ago.  
**In the mood for ethnic cuisine or niche food?** There's also Italian, pizza, French, nouveau American, Brazilian, Thai, Turkish, Indian, Afghan, Mexican, New Mexican, Salvadoran, Chinese, Japanese, sushi, Greek, steakhouses, barbecue, ice cream — Nielsen's and Baskin-Robbins, pastry shops, pie shops, vegetarian — Amma Indian and Sunflower, coffee houses, comfort food, deli food and fast food. Johnny's Pizza on Park Street has long been a Vienna pizza hangout.

**LATE-NIGHT SNACKING**  
 Anita's has been serving New Mexico-style tacos, burritos, enchiladas and more to families, teens and office workers for more

than 30 years. Like the Vienna Inn, Anita's is a Vienna institution. Take-out is popular and the food is substantial, hearty and spicy. 703-255-1001; 521 East Maple Ave. <http://www.anitascorp.com/>.

**The Amphora** has been Vienna's "go to" spot for wee-hour nosing for more than 30 years. College students and high-schoolers hit Amphora when the rest of Vienna shuts down and in the morning, seniors make it to Amphora for plentiful breakfasts. The restaurant's baked goods come from its own nearby bakery. Amphora is open 24-hours every day of the year. 703-938-7877 377 Maple Ave. W. <http://www.amphoragroup.com/Restaurant/tabid/792/Default.aspx>.

**The Vienna Inn** is more than chili dogs, chili mac, chili cheese fries, beer and an entry in food guides. It's blackened tuna and bratwurst and Gardenburgers and more. It's for adults and teens after hours. Owner Marty Volk is a big community supporter, too. A Vienna staple for more than 45 years, the VI is open until midnight every night but Sunday. 123 Maple Ave. E. <http://www.viennainn.com/>.

**DRINK IT**  
 There's nothing else like **Church Street Cellars** in Vienna. A hybrid of wine store, wine bar and café, Church Street Cellars features wine sold by the glass, tapped off from a high-tech state-of-the-art wine dispenser that prevents oxidation. Appetizer platters add gusto to wine sampling. The shop's occasional wine dinners pair wines with a gourmet menu. 703-255-0550; 111 Church St., Suite 103; [www.churchstreetcellars.com](http://www.churchstreetcellars.com).

**STEP BACK IN TIME**  
**Vienna has maintained some of its historical character** through preservation. Historic Vienna Inc. operates Freeman Store and Museum and the Little Library, Vienna's original library. [www.historicviennainc.org](http://www.historicviennainc.org).

**The Freeman Store and Museum** has regular store and museum hours Wednesday through Saturday, noon-4 p.m., and Sunday 1-5 p.m. Freeman Store: Old-time favorites and Virginia's Finest. Where else can you find Virginia peanuts, Virginia candles, Vienna Christmas cards and cast-iron mechanical banks? There are Virginia puzzles, linens, books by local authors. A pot-bellied stove lends nostalgic ambience.

Freeman Museum: Features exhibits focusing on Vienna's past, its people and passages. Throughout 2009, Freeman Museum recognizes Vienna's World War II veterans,

with photos, artifacts and memorabilia.

**The Little Library** is Vienna's original library, moved to Mill Street between Maple Avenue and Church Street, and maintained by Historic Vienna Inc. HVI hosts story time and play activities for the littlest Vienna-ites. "Stories and Sprinklers" is a summer hit. The Little Library is open on the first Sunday of each month, from 1-4 p.m. The Vienna Library is the oldest building of its kind in Fairfax County.

**Nielsen's Frozen Custard** is not really a turn-of-the-century ice cream parlor. The silky, creamy frozen custard just tastes like it is. The shop is owned by a long-time Vienna family, the Nielsens. The custardy-ice cream has loyal devotees and features seasonal flavors and ingredients, such as pumpkin and eggnog. Nielsen's makes fat sandwiches, but it's the frozen custard that draws in families and business people, locals and visitors. The Church Street shop has been nominated in AOL's city guide three years running since 2006, as one of Washington, D.C.'s best dessert places. 144 Church St. N.W. 703-255-5553.

**Vale Schoolhouse** was built in 1888. Friends of Vale Schoolhouse Inc., founded in 1934, is dedicated to the preservation of the old schoolhouse and its grounds. The friends community organizes special events, community events, educational programming and social activities, including gourmet groups and bridge. 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton, corner of Vale and Fox Mill roads. To become a "friend" of Vale Schoolhouse, go to [www.valeschoolhouse.org/](http://www.valeschoolhouse.org/) for information and membership application.

**Oakton Schoolhouse**, one of the first public schools in Fairfax County, opened in 1897. In the mid-20th century, the little building became a hardware store, then home to Appalachian Outfitters. It was an icon of sorts, sitting on the corner near a shopping center. As the new year began in 2007, Chevy Chase Bank relocated the historic building to its new home at the Oakton Community Park on Hunter Mill Road, less than a half mile away. Fairfax County plans on building a soccer field on the park grounds.

# 101 WAYS TO HAVE FUN



Fans have voted Bazin's on Church a Washingtonian magazine "Top 50" Washington-area restaurant. Owner and executive chef, Patrick Bazin, stops by a table full of retired Navy personnel.



Church Street Cellars boasts wine by the glass, wine by the bottle and bountiful grazing platters. Church Street Cellars owner, Mark Heider, explains the theory behind the high-tech wine dispensing machines.

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## SCHOOLS

Channel 7 Storm Chaser, Adam Caskey, visited fourth- and sixth-grade students at Louise Archer Elementary in Vienna. He is pictured here with sixth-grade students.



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TV Storm Chaser Visits Louise Archer Elementary

Louise Archer principal, Michelle Makrigiorgos, welcomes Storm Chaser 7, Adam Caskey.



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# HOME SALES

12/01/08 ~ 12/20/08

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
2546 DONNS WAY	5	5	2	OAKTON	\$1,760,000	Detached	1.80	BRIDGES OF OAKTON	THE	
608 SPRING ST SE	4	3	2	VIENNA	\$1,701,437	Detached	0.50	KING CREST		
2726 WILLOW DR	6	5	1	VIENNA	\$1,487,500	Detached	0.72	OAKCREST		
9612 ATWOOD RD	5	4	2	VIENNA	\$1,362,000	Detached	0.86	BEAU RIDGE		
11309 WALNUT CREEK CT	5	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,300,000	Detached	0.83	WAPLES MILL MANOR		
10007 WOODROW ST	5	5	2	VIENNA	\$1,178,750	Detached	0.50	LITTLE VIENNA ESTATES		
302 PARK ST NE	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$1,081,880	Detached	0.29	AYR HILL		
10315 LYNNHAVEN PL	4	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,020,000	Detached	0.13	HEARTHSTONE VILLAGE		
2734 VALESTRA CIR	4	3	1	OAKTON	\$875,000	Detached	0.76	BERRYLAND FARM		
8017 RESERVE WAY #35	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$852,251	Townhouse	0.04	THE RESERVE@TYSONS CORNER		
8019 RESERVE WAY #36	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$822,043	Townhouse	0.04	THE RESERVE@TYSONS CORNER		
8025 RESERVE WAY #39	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$806,956	Townhouse	0.04	THE RESERVE@TYSONS CORNER		
9805 SPRING RIDGE LN	4	3	2	VIENNA	\$775,000	Detached	0.53	SPRING RIDGE		
11741 FLEMISH MILL CT	6	4	1	OAKTON	\$750,000	Detached	0.61	WAPLES MILL ESTATES		
9123 CRICKLEWOOD CT	5	3	0	VIENNA	\$740,000	Detached	0.35	WOLF TRAP WOODS		
2523 MEREDITH DR E	5	3	0	VIENNA	\$712,000	Detached	0.36	LAKEVALE ESTATES		
3102 MILLER HEIGHTS RD	4	2	1	OAKTON	\$700,000	Detached	0.48	CINNAMON RIDGE		
9104 QUARTER CT	5	3	1	VIENNA	\$670,000	Detached	0.57	THE TRAILS		
3200 LATIGO CT	4	3	1	OAKTON	\$665,000	Detached	0.64	VALE PARK WEST		
10185 CASTLEWOOD LN	3	3	1	OAKTON	\$650,000	Townhouse	0.05	ENGLISH OAKS/WYANT PTY		
2227 MCCHESENEY CT	5	2	1	VIENNA	\$650,000	Detached	0.52	GLENCANNON		
11954 HAWKSBEARD CT	4	3	0	OAKTON	\$633,000	Detached	0.78	VALEWOOD MANOR		
407 HOLLOWAY CT NE	4	3	0	VIENNA	\$620,000	Detached	0.37	GLYNHILL		
2209 CEDAR MILL CT	5	3	1	VIENNA	\$617,000	Detached	0.17	CEDAR MILL		
8433 HUNT VALLEY DR	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$615,000	Detached	0.21	WESTWOOD ESTATES		
427 CENTER ST NE	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$589,000	Detached	0.23	SOMERSET		
401 COLIN LN NW	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$575,000	Detached	0.37	BLAINE		
602 JERRY LN NW	4	3	0	VIENNA	\$569,000	Detached	0.31	TOWN AND COUNTRY GARDENS		
8421 COTTAGE ST	3	4	0	VIENNA	\$563,920	Detached	0.54	DUNN LORING WOODS		
2124 SILENTREE DR	3	3	1	VIENNA	\$560,000	Detached	0.16	SILENTREE OF TYSONS		
202 SCOTT CIR SW	3	2	0	VIENNA	\$495,000	Detached	0.31	VIENNA WOODS		
206 YEONAS DR SW	4	2	0	VIENNA	\$475,000	Detached	0.25	VIENNA WOODS		
9813 BRIGHTLEA DR	3	2	1	VIENNA	\$475,000	Detached	0.21	EDGELEA WOODS		
102 ELM ST SW	3	2	0	VIENNA	\$475,000	Detached	0.29	WEST VIENNA WOODS		
2513 EASIE ST	3	3	0	OAKTON	\$439,990	Detached	0.51	PERZEL MARIE PROP		
2440 ROCKBRIDGE ST	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$425,000	Detached	0.26	STONEWALL MANOR		
10040 BLAKE LN	3	2	0	OAKTON	\$360,000	Detached	0.54	GRAYS OAKTON		
2791 CENTERBORO DR #472	2	2	0	VIENNA	\$357,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		MARQUIS AT VIENNA STATN		
3062 SUGAR LN	4	2	2	VIENNA	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.03	CYRANDALL VALLEY NORTH		
9869 SWEET MINT DR	4	2	2	VIENNA	\$324,000	Townhouse	0.03	CYRANDALL VALLEY NORTH		
8033 TYSON OAKS CIR	3	2	2	VIENNA	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.03	COURTS OF TYSONS		
200 LOCUST ST SE #301	3	2	0	VIENNA	\$260,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		VIENNA VILLAGER APTS		
2720 BELLFOREST CT #101	1	1	1	VIENNA	\$250,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		WESTBRIAR		
2720 BELLFOREST CT #109	1	1	1	VIENNA	\$223,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		WESTBRIAR		

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**CALENDAR**

FROM PAGE 9

Gore Sunday. 7:30 p.m. A celebration of acoustic guitar at The Barns. Tickets \$24. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**"O Brother Brunch" featuring Dead Men's Hollow.** Roots. 2 p.m. \$8. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**MONDAY/JAN. 26**

**Ladysmith Black Mambazo.** Traditional South African music. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$35. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Open Mic Night with Ron Goad.** 7-10 p.m. \$2. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**WEDNESDAY/JAN. 28**

**Story time at the Patrick Henry Library,** 11 a.m. Author Susan Crites reading 'I Love You More Than Rainbows,' for ages 1-5 with adults. 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. 703-938-0405.

**THURSDAY/JAN. 29**

**Sonny Landreth,** slide guitarist. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$24. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

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## THE COUNTY LINE

# Candidates Look at Raising Tax Rate

Bulova, Herrity take different approaches on other budget issues.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**B**oth major political party candidates for Fairfax County chairman agree the Board of Supervisors will have to at least consider raising homeowners real estate tax rate to address the locality's looming budget crisis next year.

"When we adopt a budget, there will be a reconciliation to close the projected shortfall and it will include a discussion of a tax rate adjustment," said Braddock District Supervisor Sharon Bulova, the Democratic nominee for the position.

The Republican nominee, Springfield District Supervisor Patrick Herrity, said it is likely the county will have to raise the tax rate. But Herrity also committed to lowering the actual amount of taxes most residents pay, a promise Bulova did not make.

This year, real estate assessments will have dropped significantly for many households, enough that the county could raise the real estate tax rate but not the actual amount of taxes paid by citizens, according to Herrity.

"Due to the extent of the shortfall, it is likely the tax rate (but not the actual taxes paid by homeowners) will need to be increased this year," he said on his Web site.

**THE TWO** major political party candidates will face Independent Green Party candidate Carey Campbell and Fairfax business owner Christopher DeCarlo in a special election for county chairman Feb. 3.

The previous chairman, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), vacated the position earlier this month to join the U.S. Congress.

Fairfax County government's leadership has to close the \$650 million funding gap in Fairfax's \$3.3 billion budget for fiscal year 2010, which starts July 1. The financial hole is larger than the combined budgets of the police, fire and rescue, sheriff, library, parks and recreation and health departments.

"This is the most serious downturn I have experienced since I have been on the board," said Bulova, who was first elected in 1987.

The circumstances surrounding the county chairman's special election are similar to 14 years ago when, in 1995, the sitting county chairman, Tom Davis (R), left the Fairfax board to join the U.S. Congress, triggering a February special election to replace him.

Just like the Democrats in 2008, the Republican Party had made significant gains at the national and local level in 1995 and appeared to have the advantage in chairman's race. Fairfax County's budget and economic situation, like today, was also tough and residents had just endured a round of cuts to county services.

"I cut everything except [information

### PATRICK HERRITY (R)

**Age:** 48  
**Current Home:** Clifton/Centreville  
**Hometown/Grew Up In:** Springfield, Va.  
**Education:** Virginia Tech., B.S. in Accounting (1982)  
**Family:** Wife Nancy and two high school children  
**Professional experience:** chief financial officer at Arrowhead Global Solutions, government contractor (2005- present)  
**Political experience:** Springfield District Supervisor (2008-present)  
**Civic experience:** former executive committee of Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, former board member of Northern Virginia Technology Council, youth athletics coach



### CAREY CAMPBELL (I)

**Age:** 52  
**Current Home:** North Springfield  
**Hometown:** North Springfield  
**Education:** University of Maryland, B.A. (European Division) University of Freiburg, Germany University of Kentucky – business and accounting  
**Professional experience:** Accountant  
**Political Experience:** State Chairman, Independent Greens of Virginia; National Chairman, Draft Michael Bloomberg  
**Civic Experience:** North Springfield Civic Association Board Member, North Springfield PTA member, past vice president of the Fairfax County Federation of Civic Associations



technology] and economic development," said Davis, about the 1994-1995 county budget.

With a voter turn out of 17.8 percent, the Democrat, Providence District Supervisor Kate Hanley, beat the Republican, Springfield District Supervisor Elaine McConnell, to become county chairman that year.

Davis said this year's special election for chairman could be a referendum on the supervisors' approach to the budget, especially since Bulova has been intimately involved with the county finances as the board's budget committee chair for more than a decade.

"When it comes to the budget, voters will get a say very early on because of the election," he said.

The two major political party candidates, Bulova and Herrity, agreed that the integrity of Fairfax

County Public Schools, which normally receives more than half of Fairfax's annual budget, should be a top priority.

**BULOVA** said human services would also be another budget priority if she were to become county chairman.

Fairfax has seen a greater demand and need for human services programs, especially since the region started to face a financial downturn. With the faltering economy, it is likely people will need even more from those programs than they have



### SHARON BULOVA (D)

**Age:** 60  
**Current Home:** The Cloisters of Fairfax  
**Hometown/Grew Up In:** Pikesville, Md.  
**Education:** University of Virginia (classes via Fort Belvoir extension campus), Northern Virginia Community College, business management (1977)  
**Family:** husband Lou DeFalaise, two adult children, three grandchildren  
**Professional experience:** book keeper, sales and office manager  
**Political experience:** Braddock District Supervisor (1987-present), former aide to Annandale District Supervisor Audrey Moore (1984-1987)  
**Civic experience:** founding member of Virginia Railway Express Operations Board (1989 – present), Governors Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (2004 – present)

### CHRISTOPHER DECARLO (I)

**Age:** 50  
**Current Home:** Fairfax  
**Hometown:** Greenwich, Ct.  
**Education:** Georgia Institute of Technology, coursework toward electrical engineering degree; George Mason University coursework toward business administration degree; North Virginia Community College  
**Family:** wife Kathleen and five children, ages 2 years old to 10 years old  
**Professional Experience:** president of DeCarlo Enterprises Inc., which sells propane gas to over 1,000 customers in Fairfax County.



in the past, said Bulova. "The increase in demand and spending in these areas has nothing to do with inflation," she said.

In terms of cuts, Bulova said she hopes to take actions similar to the 1990s when there was a major downturn in revenue and board members eliminated services like satellite tax offices and small "storefront" library kiosks, she said.

Without seeing county executive Tony Griffin's budget proposal, the supervisor could not point to specific cuts she would support at this time.

"It's still a little bit early. We need to give the county executive his opportunity to put something on the table first," she said.

Bulova is pleased with the way county officials and the board addressed the county budget crisis so far. Fairfax started hosting community meetings about the budget in the early fall and has engaged residents earlier than the county usually does, she said.

The supervisors recently implemented more programs focused on preventing home foreclosure and purchased 10 foreclosed properties, with the intention of fixing the

houses up and selling them.

The foreclosure crisis has a direct impact on the county budget since Fairfax County acquires the bulk of its revenue through residential real estate taxes and those collections are linked to home value and assessment.

**HERRITY**, who is one of just two Republicans on the Board of Supervisors, is more critical of the way Fairfax has handled its budget crisis.

The county should have been more willing to make cuts in its current budget cycle as soon as next year's financial picture began to look so dire. Instead, Bulova and other supervisors opted to wait until the situation got worse, he said.

Herrity has called for more budget transparency. He proposed a county "blue ribbon" budget commission, where a group of citizens would provide advice on how to adjust Fairfax's budget. Herrity also wants to put details of county expenses online for residents to peruse, he said.

When it comes to budget cuts, Herrity has proposed scaling back Fairfax County's affordable housing program – which has received over \$20 million annually in recent years. He wants to limit the scope of Fairfax County's housing program to focus only on people "really in need," such as those with mental disabilities or development challenges that would make it difficult for them to take care of themselves.

The county currently offers housing to some people near or below the county's median household income. The Springfield supervisor also voted against the board's decision to purchase foreclosed homes.

"We are competing with the private sector. ... We need to focus on the people that truly need help," said Herrity.

Over the long term, Herrity hopes to help the county budget by increasing Fairfax's commercial tax base. Commercial property owners tend to contribute more money in real estate taxes than they use in county services, he said. Currently, only 17 percent of Fairfax's tax base is commercial. Herrity would like to increase that number to 25 percent, he said.

In addition to education, Herrity said he is most concerned about cuts to the public safety budget.

**AS FOR** the two independent candidates, Campbell said keeping Fairfax County Public Schools "strong" would be his number one priority. He would also focus on

trying to build one lane of light rail on the Capital Beltway.

DeCarlo, who announced his candidacy Jan. 10, said the county's main problems were "outrageous taxes" and over-regulation. He also said elected officials had ceded control of the government to special interest groups.

**"We need to focus on the people that truly need help."**

— Pat Herrity

**"This is the most serious downturn I have experienced since I have been on the board."**

— Sharon Bulova, elected in 1987

# FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

**Torture and the New Administration**, Jan. 15, 2009, 10 a.m. at the Northern Virginia Ethical Society, 225 Nutley St., NW, Vienna. Linda Gustitus will speak about ending torture and brutal prisoner treatment. Gustitus is president of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. [www.esnv.org](http://www.esnv.org), or 703-437-3161.

**The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax**, at 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton chorale, a 60-voice adult choir, welcomes new members any time and meets Thursdays, 7:15 p.m. The Circle of Music Makers meets the first Monday of the month, for those

who can share a vocal or instrumental solo. Contact Judy Harrison at 703-281-4230, ext. 26, or [jharrison@uucf.org](mailto:jharrison@uucf.org). Joint Activities in Music at Sunrise is for preschoolers, kindergarteners, parents and residents of Hunter Mill Sunrise Assisted Living Center, on Wednesdays, 1-1:30 p.m. Contact Marsha Giusti at 703-425-1902 or [giustim@juno.com](mailto:giustim@juno.com).

**Vajrayogini Buddhist Center** offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or [www.meditation-dc.org](http://www.meditation-dc.org).

**Vienna Assembly of God** has a ministry to children on Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. at the corner of Center N and Ayr Hill Avenue, N.E. Children's Church on Sundays also available. 703-938-7736

or [www.ViennaAG.com](http://www.ViennaAG.com).

**Vienna Christian Healing Rooms**, every Saturday, 1-5 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or [www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com](http://www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com).

**McLean Women's Bible Study Thursday Bible Study**, at 9:15 a.m. The Book of Proverbs will be the focus for the next 12 weeks. All are welcome. Contact Martha Wiles at 703-448-2020 or [MarthaWiles@msn.com](mailto:MarthaWiles@msn.com).

**The "Third Wednesday at One" recital series with organist Charles Miller**, on Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 1 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Free admission. 703-356-0670 or [www.musicinmclean.org](http://www.musicinmclean.org).

## Town Hall Meetings on Saturday

FROM PAGE 5

Let's give the system some flexibility and thus save taxpayer money.

6. Transportation: Transportation remains the paramount issue north of the Rappahannock River. With the economy lagging and our Transportation Trust Fund depleted, it is harder to achieve a consensus on new state projects. That may change rapidly depending on a federal stimulus package. Regardless, I am cosponsoring multiple bills, which shift funds for new state projects in Northern Virginia and also adjust our gas tax collection to create more revenue, without actually raising taxes. I am also sponsoring SB 1137, which clarifies which

Northern Virginia localities can supplement their own transportation budget with taxes collected locally.

On Saturday, Jan. 24, I will have two town halls: at Fairfax City Hall (10 a.m.) with Del. David Bulova (D-37) and at Vienna Town Hall (1 p.m.) with Del. Steve Shannon (D-35). Please come and share your comments and questions. All are welcome.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact us in Richmond at 804-698-7534 or by e-mail at [kathy@fairfaxsenator.com](mailto:kathy@fairfaxsenator.com). You can also check my Web site [www.fairfaxsenator.com](http://www.fairfaxsenator.com) or make comments on my Assembly blog [www.oxroadsouth.com](http://www.oxroadsouth.com).

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# SPORTS

## Oakton Girls Enjoying a Few Stress Free Moments

Cougars gearing for second half of Concorde schedule.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

Oakton High girls basketball coach Fred Priester has been mixing things up a bit — in a good way — for his team of late. The Cougars, with the holidays behind them and the second half of the Concorde District schedule still ahead, are going through what a lot of teams experience at this time of the season when they hit a wall of physical and mental exhaustion.

So earlier this week, Priester had his team lighten things up a bit with a game of wiffle ball, which is kind-of a children's version of baseball. Instead of practicing basketball, the Cougars, on their own basketball floor last Monday, were swinging for the invisible fences.

"It's just to keep things fresh and loose, along with [maybe] adding a new inbounds play," said Priester, who at least once a year has his team play a fun-filled wiffle ball, volleyball or kickball game in the gym while also perhaps taking time to teach a brief basketball lesson or two as well.

Priester said his players, who naturally feel the pressure over the course of a season of living up to the high expectations that come with being part of a renowned program that has experienced vast success over the years, had a blast on Monday.

"There were a lot of people laughing and having a good time," Priester said. "We probably let them do this once a year — let them go out and have fun. Some people might look at it as lost moments in practice. I don't.

"There's enough pressure on them," he said. "People are used to a pretty high level of accomplishments [with Oakton basketball]. That's pressure they put on themselves."

**CERTAINLY THE COUGARS** will be all business, while still enjoying competitive basketball, as the season's second half of Concorde District play continues over the next several weeks. Oakton (15-0) was scheduled to



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

**Oakton coach Fred Priester and his squad have a perfect record at 15-0, but the coach said there is still room for improvement for his team over the second half of the district schedule.**

conclude the first half of the district schedule with a game at Centreville Wednesday, Jan. 21, of this week. The second round through the schedule begins this Friday night when Oakton travels to Robinson.

The challenge for Priester and his coaching staff is to keep his team fresh and excited for each game, which is not always easy when your team is winning handily almost every game it plays. But the coach said he tries to keep things interesting for his team by introducing new offensive plays or defensive schemes and maybe even an occasional game of wiffle ball.

He also stresses that Oakton has not reached its peak as a team. The Cougars, he believes, can still get better in preparation for the upcoming postseason. They should have plenty of motivation after a disappointing finish to last year when Oakton, after winning its fourth consecutive district tournament crown, lost to Annandale in the first round of regionals.

"One thing we're emphasizing is that we're still figuring things out," Priester said in regards to his team continuing to grow in knowledge and strategy. "We're not finished [learning]. We're still discovering things we can do and we're still evolving as a team. Roles change from game to game, but our overall notion is if [opponents] take one thing away, there are still other things we can do."

That is certainly the case. Oakton, which has exceptional speed, is hardly a one-dimensional team. They have impressive talent across the board, but play together

as a team. If teams focus on stopping one or two players, two others can easily step up and have big nights.

**SENIOR FORWARD** Erin Mcgartland, the team's leader, is averaging 12 points and 10 rebounds a game. She is one of three team captains, along with senior guard Sasha Borojen (eight points per game) and senior forward Brianna Johnson (eight).

"Erin is without a question our best leader," Priester said. "Brianna and Sasha back her up."

"Erin knows everyone's job, including mine," said Priester, with a chuckle.

Some other of the team's key players include sophomore guard Zora Stephenson, the team's leading scorer at 13 points per game, and freshman twin sister guards Caroline Coyer (11) and Katherine Coyer (eight).

Priester said his team has a healthy determination to improve as a team and stay focused.

"We're playing well and have been winning by big scores, but we have to assume it's going to get harder," Priester said. "They have their eyes firmly on the game ahead, but everyone [still] looks forward to [the postseason] tournament. We just have to continue to do what we can each game."

Oakton's top-district competition in the weeks ahead are likely to be Centreville, a physically big and strong team, as well as Robinson and Westfield.

Oakton's next home game is scheduled for next Tuesday, Jan. 27, against Westfield.

### SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The **Madison High** boys swim and dive team recently defeated Liberty District rival Langley in a close meet, 158-156. Double-event winners for Madison were Adam Pennington and Robbie Parker. Finishing first in diving was Ryan Fox.

On the girls side, Madison defeated Langley, 180-134. Single-event winners for the Warhawks included Bev Dobrenz and Lindsay Mottola. Madison's winning 200-free relay team was made up of Dani Humphreys, Liz Zolper, Bev Dobrenz and Katarina O'Reilly. Kelly Corish won in diving.

In another recent meet, the Madison boys defeated Jefferson, 165.5-149.5. Double-event winners for Madison were Sean Fletcher and Robbie Parker.

The Madison girls, meanwhile, were winners over the Colonials as well, 166.5-148.5. Madison's Lindsay Mottola won two events. Sami Fletcher and Dani Humphrey both won events as well, and Kelly Corish won in diving.

For Jefferson, Jae Sim, Reston resident, and Brenna Ferris, Herndon resident, were both members of the Colonial girls winning 200 and 400 free relay teams. Ferris won both the 200 and 500 freestyle individual events, and Sim won the 100 freestyle.

For the Jefferson boys, Wade Gong, Herndon resident, won the backstroke, and Matt Callahan, Vienna, won the breaststroke. The two were also a part of Jefferson's winning medley relay team, along with Zachary Batts, Reston.

Jefferson's Stephen Seliskar, McLean resident, was a top-three finisher in the 200 and 100 freestyles.

**Oakton High School** needs boys and girls head tennis coaches. Contact Pete Duperrouzel at 703-319-2763 or at peter.duperrouzel@fcps.edu.

Local residents **James MacCarthy** and **Mark Williamson** are current members of the Wheaton College (Mass.) track and field team. MacCarthy, a junior, is from Oakton and is a Madison High graduate. Williamson, from Vienna, is also a Madison graduate. He is a sophomore at Wheaton.

The Wheaton track and field squads recently opened the indoor season at the Dartmouth Relays. In the men's 4x200-meter relay, a Wheaton quartet, including Williamson, broke an eight-year-old school record by clocking in at 1:30.33.

Jefferson High boys basketball player **Mike Ross**, a Vienna resident, scored 18 points in the Colonials' recent Liberty District boys' basketball win over Marshall. The contest took place on Jan. 6 at Jefferson.

Registration for the **Vienna Girls Softball League** spring season is now open at [www.VGSL.org](http://www.VGSL.org). Girls ages 5-18 in Northern Virginia are invited to play on softball and T-ball teams that will be formed in February. Indoor clinics teaching softball fundamentals are now being held. Practices will begin in March and league play will run mid-April through mid-June. More than 400 girls at all levels from beginner to travel play on VGSL house and select teams.

Madison High junior **Joe Moloney** is competing in junior golf tournaments in Virginia through the Virginia Junior Golf Alliance. Moloney, a member of the Madison golf team in the fall, had a good December as he tied for second at the Kingsmill College Rankings Open before winning the Suffolk Junior Open by eight strokes. He will continue to play in Virginia tournaments throughout the winter as well as next spring and summer.

Virginia Preps.com recently named its All-Virginia high-school football teams. Its state AAA team consisted of Stone Bridge High defensive end Zach Thompson and Oakton High linebacker **Jack Tyler**. Madison High punter **James Devens** was named All-State as a special teams player.

The **Premier AC 93 Ice** is holding tryouts for boys born between Aug. 1, 1993-July 31, 1994. The Ice is a U15 travel soccer team set to compete in NCSL this spring. They practice in Falls Church and Tysons Corner. For more information about the team and tryouts, go to [www.mcleanice.com](http://www.mcleanice.com).

The **Golden Girls Senior Softball Association** is looking for female slow-pitch softball players for league and travel tournament teams. All skill levels welcome. For more information and forms, visit [www.goldengirls.org](http://www.goldengirls.org) or call Donna 703-938-0387.

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## Nothing Ventured, Nothing Gained



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Due to the debilitating emotional effect of my mother's two-month decline into pain-ending death on Dec. 6, 2008, combined with the official announcement made by my wife, Dina's, long time employer, Tivoli's, in Rosslyn (nearly 25 years employed) that they were closing their restaurant and lounge on Dec. 20 after 27 years (thus unemploying Dina), neither Dina or I were in the mood this past Christmas to do unto others (heck, we were barely able to do unto ourselves). In fact, the first — and only — time we went shopping was Sat. night, Dec. 27th — after Christmas. And that trip was not to bargain hunt, it was to buy a 2009 golden retriever calendar for Bailey (our second golden) and of course for ourselves, so that we could hang it in its usual place of honor in our kitchen (time marches on, however slowly).

And so for us, 2008 was the year that Christmas came and went, and never really was (Thanksgiving wasn't a whole lot better, either). Oh, we saw it on the calendar and heard about it as usual and Dina even decorated the lounge at Tivoli, but in a year in which two extremely significant things were taken from us, we just couldn't muster the spirit to give. Perhaps, had we given, it would have lightened our load somehow and balanced our respective burdens. But finding the energy and the intestinal fortitude to fight the fight was simply too much for us. I just figured that it was a losing battle, emotionally, and in a way, almost disrespectful to my mother's memory and to the importance of Tivoli's in Dina's life that we go on about our regular, albeit seasonally-motivated business.

New Year's Eve (and the actual new year on the calendar) didn't come soon enough for us. 2008 is over, thank God! Whether we will both be able to return to a reasonably normal and familiar routine, I can't know for sure. Dina needs to find a new job and my brother and I need to settle my mother's estate.

It's hard to imagine, and even harder to say, but perhaps the change will do us both some good. Stranger things have happened, I suppose.

On the face of it, "losing" your mother and in effect becoming an "orphan," for me, and Dina being out of work for the first time in more than 30 years (although for Dina, the work at Tivoli's was the least of it; the most of it was the friendships and social activities that it spawned), hardly seem like the kind of occurrences to jump-start your life in a new and positive direction, however. Maybe the arrival of a new year will help to spin us both forward a little bit. Who knows? Certainly not me.

Hopefully, 2009 will be a year worth remembering, not one, like 2008, that on two very key levels we'd both like to forget. Eventually I'm sure, we'll get to the point where remembering 2008 will bring smiles and fond memories. At present, it's still a bit early for either one of us to feel those kinds of feelings. We're still not quite adjusted to our new lives and still hurting and still mourning. Perhaps hanging that 2009 golden retriever calendar on our kitchen wall, a tradition going back nearly 30 years (Brandy, our last golden lived to age 15; Bailey, our current golden is 13 1/2) will begin our emotional rescue. Pets are good that way. They help with the healing.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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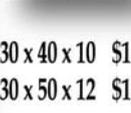
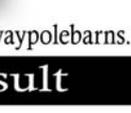
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**Public Notice – Environmental Permit**

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: January 22, 2009 to February 20, 2009

PERMIT NAME: State Operating Permit to Operate Issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Air Pollution Control Board

NAME, ADDRESS AND REGISTRATION NUMBER OF PROPOSED PERMIT HOLDER: Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) 7990 Science Applications Court, Vienna, Virginia 22182; Registration Number: 71804

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: SAIC has applied for a State Operating Permit for their Vienna, Virginia facility. The facility is an information services company and the emission units are comprised of eight emergency generators that are also used for peak shaving with Dominion-Virginia Power. The facility is classified as a synthetic minor source of air pollution. The proposed permit would allow the facility to rebuild and operate one diesel driven electric generator, and operate the other seven as previously permitted. The pollutant of concern is Nitrogen Oxides (NOx). The facility has a permitted limit of 24.4 tons per year of NOx.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by the DEQ within the comment period. The public may request a public hearing. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named below. The draft permit is also available on the DEQ web site at [www.deq.virginia.gov](http://www.deq.virginia.gov). To request a public hearing, written comments must include: 1) the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the requester and of all people represented by the requester. 2) The reason a hearing is requested, including associated air quality concerns. 3) A brief, informational statement regarding the extent of the interest of the requester, including how the operation of the facility affects the requester.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENTS, REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Thomas M. Valentour, Environmental Engineer, Sr. Northern Regional Office, Department of Environmental Quality, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193, phone: 703-583-3800, email: [tmvalentour@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:tmvalentour@deq.virginia.gov)

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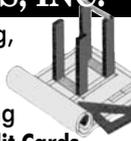
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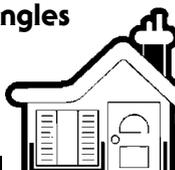
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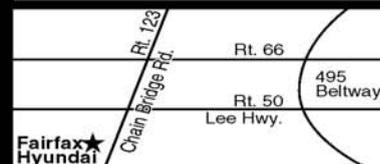
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