

Cascades CONNECTION

Countryside ❖ Potomac Falls ❖ Lowes Island ❖ Sterling

Pushing Forward

NEWS, PAGE 3

**A sign displays
a continuing
problem for
Belfort Park:
No Route 28
direct access.**



DEAD
END

Combating
Foreclosure

NEWS, PAGE 3

Acting Up

E, PAGE 8

Vapor
Intrusion?

NEWS, PAGE 3

FAITH, PAGE 7 ❖ E, PAGE 8 ❖ REAL ESTATE, PAGE 11 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 12 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13

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Health Assessment Seeks Tests

Recommends EPA to investigate possible toxic vapors in air inside and outside homes.

BY ANDREA ZENTZ
THE CONNECTION

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has recommended that the EPA test Broad Run Farms properties and homes for “vapor intrusion” to determine if the groundwater is emitting volatile organic compounds such as trichloroethylene vapors into the air. Trichloroethylene (TCE) is an industrial cleaner and probable human carcinogen found four years ago in 26 residents’ wells.

The Loudoun County Health Department waited 16 years to do widespread testing of Broad Run Farms’ wells after discovering two wells with TCE in 1989 and another six wells over the ensuing 15 years.

In a draft report assessing potential risks to human health, the ATSDR called for groundwater and soil gas sampling to determine if vapor intrusion exists and for the EPA to take action as necessary.

Volatile organic compounds, which evaporate easily into the air, can move



PHOTO BY ANDREA ZENTZ/THE CONNECTION

A cable serves as a gate to prevent trespassers from entering the Hidden Lane Landfill.

through the soil above the water table to reach the air if the levels are high enough in the groundwater and if the groundwater is close enough to the surface, the report said.

In some cases, the compounds encounter cracks or lines that bring the contaminants into home interiors, such as basements, and the vapors can build up inside. This is known as vapor intrusion, and in some

cases, those vapors can reach levels that pose a health hazard, the report said.

Lenny Siegel, executive director of the

SEE REPORT, PAGE 4

Stay Informed

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) draft health assessment report of Hidden Lane Landfill Superfund site.

HOW to obtain report: E-mail Jill J. Dyken, ATSDR environmental health scientist, at azd9@cdc.gov.

DEADLINE: Community and stakeholders send comments by Feb. 27.

WHERE to send comments to: Records Center, ATSDR

ATTN: Hidden Lane Landfill NPL Site
1600 Clifton Road N.E. (MS F-09)
Atlanta, GA 30333

Pushing Forward

Supervisors vote unanimously to forward Task Force’s recommendations to Planning Commission.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

The Board of Supervisors voted 8-0-1 to forward the Belfort Park Area Task Force’s countywide transportation recommendations to the Planning Commission for further consideration at its Jan. 21 meeting.

The recommendations were the result of a year of work for the task force, which is co-chaired by Supervisor Andrea McGimsey (D-Potomac) and Michael Huber, chief executive officer of Belfort

“It would really revitalize this area and has the potential to be a project that could get national recognition.”

— Michael Huber, co-chair of task force

Furniture. Created Jan. 15, 2008, the task force was formed to solve transportation and land-use issues for the area that is bordered by S. Sterling Boulevard, W. Church Road, the W&OD Trail and Route 28.

“This is a great opportunity for this area,” Huber said. “It would really revitalize this area and has the potential to be a project that could get national recognition. Like Supervisor McGimsey said, ‘Let’s see if we can make lemons into lemonade.’”

THE PROBLEMS in the area arose with the construction of

SEE MOVING,
PAGE 13

County Seeks Funds

A new program may provide relief to the Sterling Park area.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

The Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve a resolution to apply for state funding to help revitalize three neighborhoods in the Sterling area at its Jan. 21 meeting.

The funding would give the county \$2 million as part of the \$20 million dollar Neighborhood Stabilization Program signed into effect by former President George W. Bush last July. The money, if given to the county, would be used to purchase or renovate foreclosed homes in the Sterling Park South town houses, a Sterling Park single-family neighborhood off Maple Avenue and the Sugarland Run town houses near Mead-

owland Elementary.

The three neighborhoods were chosen because they met the criteria outlined by the state. The requirements stated that the localities must have 10 percent of its housing vacant for at least 90 days due to foreclosure and must have the greatest percentage of foreclosures in relation to the rest of the county with the highest percentage of homes financed by a subprime mortgage related loan. According to data collected by project manager Kelly Marrocco of the Department of Family Services, 29 percent of Sterling Park’s and 28.6 percent of Sugarland Run’s mortgages are subprime loans.

Though several neighborhoods may have similar foreclosure statistics, to be approved, the applications must show an extreme urgency for the funds and must show that the locality chosen will be one that will have an impact on surrounding areas as well, not just its own.

“Sterling Park is the hardest hit; every

SEE COUNTY, PAGE 5

Jury Sentences Repeat Felon

Linwood Grant, a 45-year-old Leesburg man, was sentenced to five years in prison for attempted unlawful wounding. On May 11, 2008, Grant swiped at his 21-year-old victim with a knife during a confrontation over allegedly disparaging remarks exchanged concerning interfamily difficulties. All parties were "listening to music" during the early morning hours when Grant lunged at the victim with a knife without connecting. Grant then allegedly held a knife to the victim's throat, a fact that Grant denied.

In a sentencing phase, a jury heard evidence concerning a portion of Grant's career in crime. Three separate convictions for cocaine possession coupled with two felonious theft convictions and a prior conviction for malicious wounding were used by Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Robert Vernail to illustrate Grant's menacing past. The jury was quick to fix a sentence of five years in prison after the day-long trial, the maximum sentence allowed for the offense.

Circuit Judge Burke F. McCahill will conduct a final sentencing hearing April 27. Under Virginia law a judge may reduce a jury sentence providing written reasons therefore, but may not increase a jury sentence.

Real Property Assessments

The 2009 real property assessment notices being mailed Friday, Jan. 23, will reflect the current state of Loudoun County's real estate market, according to Todd Kaufman, Loudoun County Assessor.

Sale prices of existing area homes in Loudoun County saw a decline, consistent with trends in similar Northern Virginia localities. Assessment trends are based on a study comparing the 2007 sales inventory to the 2008 sales inventory. The 2008 sales activity is the basis for the 2009 real property assessment. Based on an analysis of this data, the county's real estate portfolio was adjusted accordingly. Overall residential values declined while commercial values accelerated slightly due to new construction and growth in that sector. The 2009 Assessment Summary, which defines the portfolio, will be available on the Loudoun County Web site at www.loudoun.gov/assessor. Property owners are encouraged to check the Assessment and Parcel Database located at <http://inter1.loudoun.gov/webpds/> for information pertaining to their individual property.

The 2009 assessment notices being mailed include a pamphlet about the assessment and taxation processes. Information regarding the review and appeal process is also included. The notice also provides information on programs such as Land Use and Tax Relief for the Elderly and Disabled.

A message from the Loudoun County Assessor explaining the assessment process, the 2009 Automated Application for Review form, answers to frequently asked questions and other important information related to the assessment process is available at www.loudoun.gov/assessor. The assessor also has a satellite office at 45201 Research Place, Suite 130, in Ashburn, which is open to the public Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Loudoun Water Banks on Potomac

The board of directors for Loudoun Water unanimously agreed at its December meeting to implement a Potomac River Water Supply and Raw Water Storage Plan, effectively securing the water supply for Loudoun Water's suburban customers for the next 30 years. The plan includes the formation of a key partnership with Luck Stone, whereby raw, untreated Potomac River water will be "banked" in retired quarries.

Loudoun Water's Potomac River Plan entails putting its own intake in the Potomac River on riverfront property in Leesburg that Loudoun Water acquired in 1993 and pumping it to several of Luck Stone's retired quarries for storage and to a new treatment plant to be constructed near the Dulles Toll Road. The first quarry to become available will provide up to one billion gallons of storage. Ultimately, over many years, several of Luck's quarries will provide the region with 8 billion gallons of raw water storage.

Report Provides Health Assessment

FROM PAGE 3

California-based Center for Public Environmental Oversight (CPEO), elaborated. "A typical home has a lower pressure in the air than the air pressure in the soil. If there is a crack, then the home sucks up the vapors. It's like a vacuum cleaner, but not as strong," he said.

THE INOPERATIVE Hidden Lane Landfill, which abuts Broad Run Farms, has been identified as the source of the wells' toxins. In March 2008, the EPA added the landfill to the Superfund National Priorities list, qualifying it for a federally-funded cleanup program of the nation's uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Another community, Countryside, lies adjacent to the landfill, but its public water supply has not been compromised.

The ATSDR, which released the report to the public Thursday, will accept written public comments on the assessment until Feb. 27.

Eric DeJonghe, president of the Broad Run Farms Civic Association, said Monday that the community's stakeholders support an investigation of vapor intrusion. "I think it is a positive thing that the people are getting the information and the EPA is going to follow through on it just as we are going to follow through."

Resident Sandy Parke, however, said this was the first time she had heard of the possibility of vapor intrusion. "I wasn't even aware there were additional things to worry about," she said. "I definitely want to get more information."

Parke, who lives on Young's Cliff Road, owns one of the contaminated wells and installed a charcoal filtration system to separate out the TCE and other volatile compounds so she can drink and bathe without risk of contamination.

Denise Mazzan, another Young's Cliff Road resident who had installed a filtration system after learning her well was contaminated, said she completely supports the agency recommendation. "To be honest with you, I think they should be going in and checking all of the properties with TCE, whether the people agree to it or not."

SIEGEL SAID THE EPA has found specific cases of vapor intrusion at Superfund sites across the country. The Center for Public Environmental Oversight (CPEO) promotes and facilitates public participation in the oversight of environmental activities at federal facilities, private "Superfund" sites, and Brownfields, which are abandoned or underused industrial and commercial land or buildings that may be contaminated, but have the potential for reuse.

Jill J. Dyken, an engineer and an agency environmental health scientist, explained one of the tests for vapor intrusion. "Soil gas sampling is taking a measure of the chemicals in the air present in the pore spaces in the soil, above the groundwater level. It can give an indication if volatile compounds are coming out of the groundwater," she said.

If vapor intrusion exists, the EPA could address the problem in a number of ways, ranging from installing a simple ventilation system, such as one used

for radon, to removing the source material, she said.

Efforts to reach Larry Johnson, EPA Region 3 community involvement coordinator, and Fred Mac Milan, remedial project manager, for comment were unsuccessful.

Siegel said the EPA started to recognize vapor intrusion in 2002, but his group and others now dispute how high the density levels should be to warrant action. In 2003, the EPA initially set that level at a vapor density measurement of .017 micrograms per cubic meter, he said. But the federal agency withdrew the assessment and it now uses an action level of 1.0.

The ATSDR, based in Atlanta, Ga., is a federal public health agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The health assessment said that no adverse health effects are expected from consumption and household use of the contaminated well water if it is properly treated with the filtration system.

"However, if people are drinking untreated well water containing the highest levels of TCE, they may have an increased risk of adverse health effects that could include skin problems, liver or kidney damage, impaired immune system function,

impaired fetal development in pregnant women, or cancer," the report said. "We recommend all potentially affected wells be identified and treated with carbon filtration systems if necessary."

The report said that TCE is classified as a probable human carcinogen. ATSDR recommended that residents not drink TCE-contaminated water due to an increased risk of cancer, adding that the risk is small.

THE ATSDR decided not to perform a review of health outcome, which can include the number of people dying or who have died from a certain disease or the number who had contracted a disease or illness, the report said. The reasons given were: it

had no information regarding exposures that occurred between 1971, when the landfill started operating, and now, and even if that information was available, the number

of potentially exposed people would be too small to allow the agency to detect statistical differences in disease rates, the report said.

DeJonghe, however, said the health outcome data should be addressed. "If they are going to do an investigation, it should be a full one," he said. "I'm not a doctor, but if people have gotten sick or are sick, I think there should be an investigation so people now and in the future ... will be able to track it."

Mazzan said the decision was "pathetic, that they wouldn't put the time and effort into finding out, getting that data."

"I think it would be very important to get that information from people who lived here 30 years ago, to know how many people were exposed to it and whether they have been affected or not."

It might be impossible to know definitively whether a person's disease or condition was connected to the toxic water, she said. "At least they would know possibly it was from TCE or whatever garbage they have in the landfill."

THE HEALTH ASSESSMENT said the landfill may be the source of more contaminants than those found in the well water. Insufficient data exists to provide a full assessment of the health impacts.

"At least they would know possibly it was from TCE or whatever garbage they have in the landfill."

— Denise Mazzan, whose well was contaminated

For the unabridged version, and archived articles on the Broad Run Farms wells, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

County Seeks Forclosure Relief

FROM PAGE 3

one has to concede that," Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio (R-Sterling). "These are neighborhoods with teachers, law enforcement officials, hospital workers and government officials and they have been wading in foreclosures for some time."

IF AWARDED THE grant through a competitive process, the county must use a minimum of 25 percent of the money to assist households with incomes at or below 50 percent of the annual median income of the area. According to Delgaudio, 50 percent of the median income for the area in 2008 was \$49,200, meaning that \$500,000 must be used on households that earn in that range.

Also, the county must use the funds to either do one or a combination of the following: acquire foreclosed abandoned properties, rehabilitate them and sell them to persons at or below 120 percent of the median income; demolish blighted structures; assist home buyers with down payment and mortgage assistance to buy a foreclosed property; establish land banks; redevelop demolished or blighted structures.

According to Delgaudio, the plan for the county is not to simply hand out the money to the

localities, but to potentially have nonprofits come in to help with the program. One group he mentioned was Habitat for Humanity, which he said would take the \$500,000 allocated to the homes at or below 50 percent of the median income and rehabilitate them. He said that using Habitat for Humanity would allow the county to get more for its dollar because the organization has a massive volunteer corps that can work on several projects simultaneously.

Thought the resolution passed unanimously, it was not met without debate among the supervisors. Sally Kurtz (D-Catoctin) and Kelly Burk (D-Leesburg) were concerned that their districts, the Catoctin and Leesburg areas respectively, were left out of the plan, saying their districts were dealing with foreclosures and the subprime market fallout just like the three neighborhoods in the Sterling area. Jim Burton (I-Blue Ridge) voiced concern because he felt that the board was not given enough time to vet the entire program, which was first made public by state last Nov. 10.

JUST BEFORE THE vote, Andrea McGimsey (D-Potomac Falls) attempted to curb dissent from the districts that were not included in the plan, saying that any competition between the districts for the resources is unfortunate.

"These are neighborhoods ... and they have been wading in foreclosures for some time."
— Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio (R-Sterling)



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OPINION

Why Virginia Should Help

BY DEL. ROBERT G. MARSHALL (R-13) AND DEL. DAVID E. POISSON (D-32)

VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Why should insurers cover the cost of treating children with autism?

First, there is real hope. The U.S. Surgeon General has reported that early treatment can spare an autistic child from lifelong dependency as wards of the state.

Second, a recent study in Pediatrics, published by the American Academy of Pediatrics, found that children with autism are significantly more likely to have problems accessing health care. These children are more likely to live in families that report financial problems, need additional income for the child's medical care and pay more out-of-pocket for the child's care. Parents of more than half of children with autism reduce or stop work altogether to care for their child.

Roughly one of every 150 Virginia children has autism. Studies suggest that boys are more likely than girls to develop autism and receive the diagnosis three to five

times more frequently. Current estimates are that one out of 94 boys is diagnosed with autism.

As the surgeon general notes, with early intervention, a sizable minority of children diagnosed with autism are able to achieve normal social and intellectual functioning. These children can be mainstreamed into regular classrooms and may be indistinguishable from peers. Even children who make less dramatic progress benefit from early intervention, showing gains in language, fewer inappropriate behaviors and less overall costs to taxpayers.

Under Virginia law, public schools must provide a free appropriate education to children with disabling conditions. However, that mandate is complicated by the absence of private health insurance to treat the core symptoms of autism. The school system, charged principally with the education of children with and without disabilities, cannot bear the full burden of attending to the health needs of children with autism. Unless private insurers do their fair share, the needs of these children will not be met and the stresses on their families will not diminish.

To help children and families and the communities in which they live, we have introduced H.B. 1588 to require insurance coverage for the treatment of autism. The bill covers proven, evidence-based, medically necessary care prescribed, provided or ordered by a physician or psychologist for a child under the age of 21. Coverage is subject to an inflation-adjusted annual maximum benefit of \$36,000 and will complement rather than supplant school services.

H.B. 1588 is similar to laws enacted in Louisiana and Pennsylvania, two of the eight states that have enacted legislation ensuring coverage of children with autism. The Louisiana Legislative Fiscal Office estimated the total premium cost of autism coverage in that state as ranging from \$1.12 to \$3.87 per policy per month, while an independent panel report in Pennsylvania found a marginal premium increase cost of approximately \$1 per insurance plan member per month attributable to the autism benefit. H.B. 1588 will likewise have a similarly modest impact on premiums. The General Assembly's Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission con-

cluded that the financial impact of covering autism treatment is within the range of existing Virginia health insurance mandates.

While the cost of autism treatment may be calculated with reasonable accuracy, no calculus fully measures the toll autism takes on children and families. Balancing medical, social and financial considerations, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission concluded that health insurance coverage of autism treatment is necessary. Even in these difficult economic times, the pertinent question to ask is not whether we can afford to provide appropriate interventions to Virginia children with autism, but is instead whether we can afford not to.

The lives and futures of affected Virginia families depend upon passage of H.B. 1588.

Delegate Marshall was first elected to the Virginia House in 1992. He serves on the House Finance, Science and Technology, and Counties, Cities and Towns Committees. Delegate Poisson was first elected to the Virginia House in 2005. He serves on the House Counties, Cities and Towns and Militia, Police and Public Safety Committees. Their bill, H.B. 1588, is scheduled to be heard in a House Commerce and Labor Subcommittee Feb. 3.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Express Your Views

The following is an open letter and invitation to the teachers and staff of the LCPS.

Dear LCPS Teachers and Staff:

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I have always valued the thoughts, opinions and helpful information that my constituents have shared with me. In my 13 years on the Board of Supervisors, I cannot remember a more economically depressed time and it presents many challenges to us as a board as we formulate the operating budget for the county. An average of 70 percent of the annual budget is allocated to the Loudoun County Public Schools. State law prohibits the Board of Supervisors from dictating any cuts in the school budget. Our role in the process is to allocate an amount. The School Board ultimately is the ones that decide on what is cut or diminished. Information is such a key element in the process and we have many sources that we pull from when formulating a budget amount. We have heard from the administra-

tor, Dr. Hatrick, and I personally have more than 400 e-mails from concerned parents. Now I want to hear from you, the educator and support staff, as to the things that you feel are essential and what are expendable. There are many opinions out there and many, many emotions. I want to give you the opportunity to let me hear from you, anonymously if you wish, what you, the teacher, administrative staff, teachers aide, cafeteria and/or custodial staff feel are the important things in this budget. You certainly are welcome to email me at Scott.York@loudoun.gov or if you want to remain nameless, you may call 703-777-0115 and leave a recorded message. I would ask for two informational items in addition to your thoughts when you leave your message.

I would like to know what your position is — simple say teacher, secretary, cafeteria worker and then also tell me what cluster you are located in. As I have in the past, I remain committed to the children and their education. I deeply appreciate the time you will take to respond to me and express your views. Citizen par-

ticipation is an essential ingredient in good government. I have heard from Dr. Hatrick, I am hearing from parents. Now let me hear from you, the staff of Loudoun County Public Schools.

Scott K. York
Chairman
Board of Supervisors



Snapshot Snow cakes on small trees Tuesday on Persimmon Lane in Broad Runs Farms.

THE CONNECTION

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FAITH

Send announcements or events, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation, 21740 Beaumeade Circle, Suite 100, Ashburn, invites the public for a weekend celebration of the Installation of its spiritual leader, Rabbi Jesse Gallop. Friday, **Jan. 30**, 7:30 p.m., Sabbath service and the formal installation ceremony. Rabbi Scott Sperling, director, Union Reform Judaism, Mid-Atlantic Region, and Dr. Alyssa Gray, associate professor Codes and Respona, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion will conduct the installation. Sabbath services will be followed by an Oneg Sabbath social. Saturday, **Jan. 31**, 5:30 p.m., Havdalah Service led by Gray will be followed by a wine and cheese reception. Sunday, **Feb. 1**, 9:15 a.m., Sunday school children will make a presentation to Rabbi Gallop and perform a short program. E-mail membershipvp@brcva.org or call 703-729-1659.

Each 10:30 a.m. Sunday service at **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling**, 22135 Davis Drive, Sterling, has a different topic. The **Feb. 1** service is "Outsiders, Heretics, Rebels" questioning the assumption that Unitarian Universalism is an "outsider religion." The **Feb. 8** service is "Your One Wild and Precious Life." The **Feb. 15** service is "Ambiguity-The Challenge and the Responsibility." The **Feb. 22** service is "Agape, on the Rocks." Call 703-406-3068.

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 28

LOUDOUN COUNTY Democratic Party will hold its monthly meeting 6:30 p.m., at John W. Tolbert Jr. Elementary School, 691 Potomac Station Drive, Leesburg.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of University Women's Ashburn-Leesburg branch will meet 7 p.m., in the Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls.

SATURDAY/JAN. 31

LA LECHE LEAGUE of Ashburn will hold an open house 10 a.m., at the Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Pregnant and nursing women and their children can attend. Free. Call a La Leche League Leader at 703-729-1205.

MONDAY/FEB. 2

NONFICTION BOOK CLUB will meet 4 p.m., at the Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Children ages 6-8 can discuss the book of the month and do a fun activity. February's is "Anansi and the Talking Melon" by Eric A. Kimmel. Registration required; visit library.loudoun.gov or call 703-444-3228.

TUESDAY/FEB. 3

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD. Teens are wanted to join the Teen Advisory Board to discuss ideas and make suggestions for library services at its meeting 7 p.m., at the Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Register at library.loudoun.gov or 703-444-3228.

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Broad Run Stages Winter One Acts

Student-directed plays will debut on Jan. 29-31.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Get ready for some Broadway-quality acting coming to Broad Run High School. The school will be putting on nine student-directed, one-act plays during its Winter One-Act Festival Jan. 29, 30 and 31, at 7:30 p.m., at the school. Tickets are \$3.

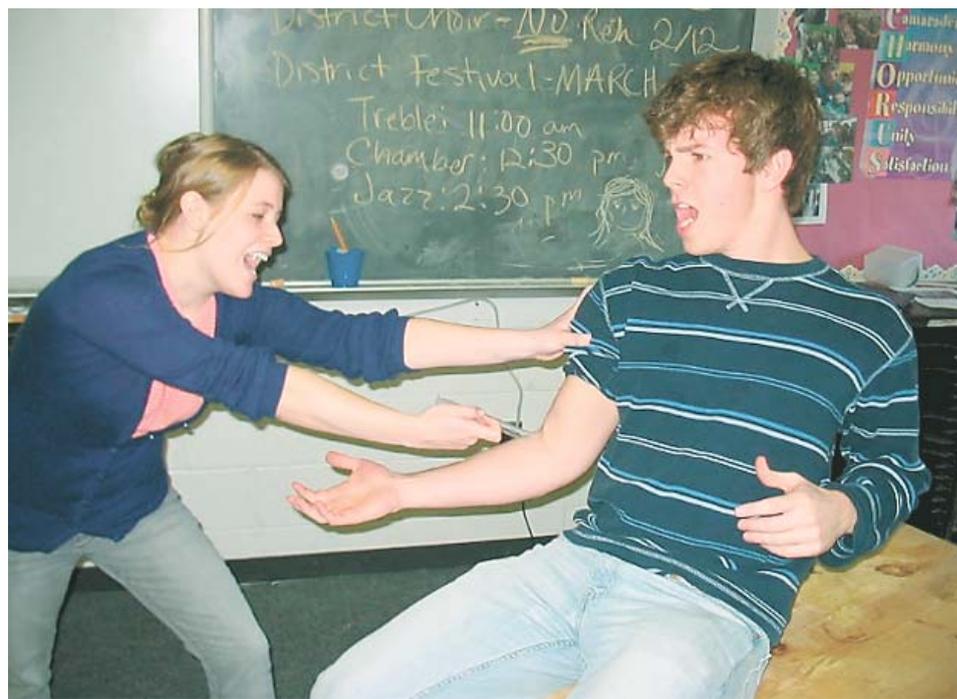
"It's their chance to put everything that they have ever learned under my tutelage to good use," Timothy Willmot, theater director, said. "They choose the show, cast it, schedule it, do directing and this year, direction of peers is the challenge," he said. The students have to publicize it, put together a program, greet people and bring in the masses "and watch their babies get performed." He added, "It's as close to the overall process of production that I can give to them."

THE EXPERIENCE is invaluable, said Willmot, because "in the end, when you see your work, when you see your vision, that's really valuable and educative."

Senior Danielle McLean of Ashburn Village is student-directing "God" with James Bates. "It's a comedy by Woody Allen and it's about these two Greeks — Hepatitis and Diabetes. They're trying to come up with a play and they realize they're in a play," said McLean. She decided on this play because she likes Woody Allen. What's challenging about the task, she said, is directing the other students. "I guess it's hard to direct your peers." But she likes the end product, when everything comes together. "It's definitely cool to see it all come together from beginning to end," added McLean, who wants to study aeronautics in college.

Christine Jordan of Ashburn Village is student-directing "Tell Dorrie Not to Cry" with Amanda Stacey. She said it's about two sisters on the morning of Pearl Harbor. One of them is getting married to Cliff, a Navy man who ends up dying in the attack.

"At first it's a little weird trying to give directions to your peers," said Jordan, a senior. It's an awkward situation because "some of them are your friends." But she enjoys watching the project evolve. In the



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Becky Himler and Mike Pokrass rehearse a scene from "The Spotted Man."

past, she choreographed some of the musical, "Fiddler on the Roof," so directing wasn't that much of a surprise, she said. In the future, she hopes to study dance and education.

Becky Himler is student-directing "The Spotted Man." While she's rehearsing in a scene with Mike Pokrass, she stops in mid-dialogue to give direction and advice. She said it's about a man who is sick and a hospital administration that plays with his mind. She actually plays three different characters, one of whom is a nurse that makes him feel that he's really not sick. "For me, it's really hard to differentiate between the three characters," Himler said. "I learned that directing is really hard. You have to work with other people's schedules and you have to work through them and create something really cool." In the future, she says she'd like to become a real nurse.

Amanda Kohr wanted to direct a light-hearted comedy so she chose "Courting 101." "I thought it was relatable because it's about dating," she said. It revolves around a new couple who are developing their relationship. "It brings in the crazy ex-girlfriend, the best guy friend whose in love with the girl and the awkward silences and first kisses," she said. Because it's a comedy and she's friends with all the actors in her play, the rehearsals are relaxed. "We get

to have a lot of fun being creative and play off of each other," she added. And now that she's directing, she said she's learned to look at things from a director's point of view.

Lauren Davis, a member of the cast, added, "She always has some other character to reference to use, whether it be from 'Friends' or 'Gilmore Girls.'"

Added Morgan Seckinger, another cast member, "She's not afraid to tell us what she wants."

Broad Run student Brian Croarkin actually wrote his own play, "America," about two newlyweds who find their marriage is falling apart when the wife admits she's a Republican. He calls the directing process "unpredictable." And his biggest challenge is getting his cast to rehearsals on time. "Some actors should come with leashes," he said jokingly. The most fun he said is working with his actors who he says have "chutzpa."

Added actress Mariel Sierra, "I think Brian is very articulate and definitely has a set of ideas about what he wants." Sam Smedley, another actress, said, "He has everything planned. He's very professional as a student director."

The Winter One-Acts are scheduled for Jan. 29-31, at 7:30 p.m., at the school, located at 21670 Ashburn Road, Ashburn. Call 571-252-2305.

THE ARTS

Send announcements or events, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

The **Sterling Playmakers** are holding open auditions for "The End of Roads" by Glen Bartram Thursday, **Jan. 29**, 6:30-9 p.m., at the Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Auditions will also be held for John Bishop's "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940" Friday, **Feb. 6**, 7-9 p.m., and Saturday, **Feb. 7**, 1-4 p.m., at Sterling Middle School, 201 W. Holly Ave., Sterling. Auditionees should be at least age 18-years-old. Visit www.sterlingplaymakers.com or e-mail mcm1940@sterlingplaymakers.com.

The **Pickwick Players** will hold auditions for "Crazy For You" Friday, **Jan. 30**, 7-9:30 p.m., at St. James Episcopal Church, 14 Cornwall St. N.W., Leesburg and Saturday, Jan. 31, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at Dulles South Multipurpose Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding. Come prepared with a memorized one-minute monologue and 16 bars of an upbeat song and be prepared to tap dance. E-mail pickwickplayers@mail.com.

FOOD & DRINK

Send announcements or events, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Tuscarora Mill Restaurant, 203 Harrison St. S.E., Leesburg, will pair wine and air-shipped seafood from Hawaii Wednesday, **Jan. 28**, 7 p.m. Cost: \$85 per person. Call 703-771-9300.

Tarara Vineyard and Winery, 13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg, is hosting a Super Bowl party Sunday, **Feb. 1**, 11 a.m. Tasting fees apply. They will also be hosting a "Time to Wine Anti-Valentine's Day Affair" Saturday, **Feb. 7**, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Wine and cheese tasting for singles. Fees apply. Call 703-771-7100.

Tuscarora Mill Restaurant, 203 Harrison St. S.E., Leesburg, is hosting a Victory Brewery dinner Wednesday, **Feb. 4**, 7 p.m. Five courses of Tuskie's food and five beers will be served. The restaurant will also host their annual sparkling wine dinner Saturday, **Feb. 7**, 7 p.m. Sample champagne from France as well as sparkling wines from California and Australia, all matched with food. Cost: \$110 per person. Call 703-771-9300 or visit www.tuskies.com.

Demystify decanters, glassware and the gamut of wine accessories at an **oenology seminar** Sunday, **Feb. 8**, 1-3 p.m., at Tarara Winery, 13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg. \$15 per person; fee for Wine Club members. Tarara will also host a **Valentine's wine dinner** Saturday, **Feb. 14**, 6:30 p.m., fee TBD. Tarara will also host a **day of wine sampling** and live jazz Saturday, **Feb. 28**, 11 a.m. Tasting fees apply. Call 703-771-7100.



One-Act Plays

"Prep" by Kelly Marshall;
"Post Its" by Myles Lawlor;
"The Spotted Man" by Becky Himler;
"Courting 101" by Amanda Kohr;
"God" by James Bates and Danielle McLean;
"Wanda's Visit" by Alex Rubio;
"America" by Brian Croarkin;
"Tell Dorrie Not to Cry" by Christine Jordan and Amanda Stacey;
"Mistakes R Us" by Alec Tebbenhoff

Broad Run High School seniors who are student-directing in the Winter One-Act Festival.

Rolling the Dice for a Cause

Father of eight children is fighting colon cancer.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Jeff Kraus, 45, and his wife, Cheryl, of Ashburn Village have eight children ages 4 to 20 in the public schools. Active on the Dulles Little League board of directors, Kraus coaches his son Bryan's baseball teams as well as his daughters Mary's and Bridget's rookie baseball teams. He's also head of the ushers at Saint Anthonis Catholic Church in Vienna where his wife is the choir director. The family has been going there since 1996.

He says that people ask him all the time where he finds the time to be involved in so many activities. "I tell people it's not so much a matter of having the time as it is making the time to be involved," he said. "We feel it's important to be involved in our children's activities, not just because they are our children, but because we know how difficult it is to run a volunteer organization. If people don't get involved, the organization suffers and that takes away from the children's experience."

Last Spring, Jeff started having bad abdominal pains, which he thought was an ulcer. After his third visit, his doctor convinced him to have a colonoscopy. That's when he discovered he had colon cancer. In September, as a precaution he had surgery to remove all but 10 inches of his colon and now wears a colostomy bag. When he came out of surgery he discovered some of the polyps had spread to his abdomen and liver.

He takes a pragmatic view of the situation.

"I'm just kind of rolling with it because it's totally out of my control," Kraus said.

CALENDAR

Send events, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 28

CASINO TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to Charles Town, W.Va. Includes slots and simulcast horse racing; lunch on own. Cost: \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers, includes transportation and \$5 cash back, subject to change. Minimum walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

BRILLIANT BRAILLE. 4 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Learn about Braille with a speaker from the Maryland School for the Blind. Recommended for ages 7-11. Registration required; register at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or 703-737-8100.

THURSDAY/JAN. 29

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Bring the family to watch "Wall-E," rated G, on the big screen at the library. Visit library.loudoun.gov.
PIRATE STORY TIME. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Children ages 4-7 can listen to pirate stories and then have swashbuckling fun with foam swords. Register at library.loudoun.gov or 703-444-3228.



The Kraus family of Ashburn Village, from left, Devon, 16, a sophomore at Broad Run High School; Matt, 20; Bridget, in front, 8, a fourth-grader at Ashburn Elementary; dad Jeff; Mary Grace, 6; a first-grader at Ashburn Elementary; mom Cheryl; Erin, 18, a senior at Broad Run; Andrew, on Erin's lap, 3; Bryan, 14, a freshman at Broad Run; and Maureen, 10, a fifth-grader at Ashburn Elementary.

"... So all you can do is adapt and have faith that everything will take care of itself."

He is now on number seven of 12 chemotherapy treatments. He said he's lucky that he hasn't missed much work as a software engineer for Riskmetrics Group in Rockville, where he telecommutes from his home. "So far I have been very fortunate," he said.

For now, he's focusing on getting enough rest and making sure he gets enough good

"I'm just kind of rolling with it because it's totally out of my control."

— Jeff Kraus

nutrition. After the fourth chemo treatment, the doctors did another scan and said it is improving. He said the chemo treatments will be finished in March and at that time they'll re-evaluate him after another scan. "So far, the progress has been positive," he said.

Kraus adds he grew up in Middlesex, N.J., which has a big construction industry, known for having high cancer rates.

To help Jeff and his family, the Dulles

Little League is holding a Casino Night fundraiser, "Take a Chance on Love" on Saturday, Feb. 14, from 8-11 p.m., at the Embassy Suites Dulles North. Tickets are \$100 per couple and \$75 per single.

The Embassy Suites is at 44610 Waxpool Road, Ashburn. Make checks payable to DLL-Jeff Kraus Benefit Fund, and mail to DLL c/o Jim Klock, 43861 Cowgill Court, Ashburn, VA 20147.

Regarding the fund-raiser, Kraus is slightly uncomfortable about being in the spotlight, but appreciates the sentiment. "Obviously, we appreciate everything [organizer Jim Klock] trying to do for us."

children ages 3 and up to the Spanish language through stories and songs. Registration required; visit library.loudoun.gov or call 703-737-8100.

TUESDAY/FEB. 3

FILM FESTIVAL. 7 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. "To Sir, With Love" will be shown in the first installment of the Sidney Poitier film festival. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 4

BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION. 10:45 a.m.-3 p.m., Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. Travel to the Thomas Balch Library for a tour of the facility, discussion about black history and lunch at a local restaurant. Registration required, call Erik Onate, 703-430-2397.

THURSDAY/FEB. 5

CRIME CAPER MYSTERY. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Children, ages 8-11, can help solve the mystery of a missing item. Registration begins two weeks before the program online at library.loudoun.gov or by phone at 703-444-3228.

PAJAMA TIME. 7:30 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Children ages 3-8 can wear their pajamas and bring a teddy bear to this story time featuring the books of author Sandra Boynton. Registration required; visit library.loudoun.gov or call 703-430-9500.

KIDS IN SPACE. 9:30-11 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Play among the stars and make your own comet. Cost: \$10.50 per child. Call 571-258-3700.

FRIDAY/JAN. 30

PINK FLOYD. 7 p.m., Ned Devine's Irish Village, 21800 Town Center Plaza, Sterling. The Paul Green School of Rock Music presents a live performance of the Pink Floyd's "The Wall." Cost: \$10. Call 703-444-7873 or visit www.irishvillage.neddevines.com.

SENIOR PAGEANT. 12:30 p.m., Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, Sterling. The center is holding a Miss Cascades Pageant. Contact Erik Onate, 703-430-2397.

SATURDAY/JAN. 31

PINK FLOYD. 7 p.m., Ned Devine's Irish Village, 21800 Town Center Plaza, Sterling. The Paul Green School of Rock Music presents a live performance of the Pink Floyd's "The Wall." Cost: \$10. Call 703-444-7873 or visit www.irishvillage.neddevines.com.

SOLAR ENERGY. 4:30-6:30 p.m., George Washington University Loudoun Campus, Building 1, 20101 Academic Way, Ashburn. Learn about energy conservation and home solar energy systems in this free presentation by the Potomac Region Solar Energy Association. Mitch King will discuss how solar energy systems can reduce the need for new power transmission

lines and new power generation plants. Call 540-822-5145 or visit www.prsea.org or www.lccss.org.

CHORUS OF THE OLD DOMINION. 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Leesburg Winter Farmers Market, 32 Catocin Circle S.E., Leesburg. The Chorus of the Old Dominion, an a cappella chorus for men, will perform a selection of barbershop, doo-wop, gospel, pop and show tunes. Visit www.odchorus.org or call Judy Stroske, LVHMA market coordinator at 540-454-8089.

ARCHEOLOGY WORKSHOP. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Discover artifacts found in the summer of 2008 during archaeology digs conducted behind the Lanesville House in the Claude Moore Park's historic area. Help the archaeologists clean, classify and record these pieces of history. Free. Adult must accompany children. Call 571-258-3700.

MONDAY/FEB. 2

BUDDY STORY TIME. 4:30 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Encourage a child's love of books by pairing him with a teen reading buddy for one-on-one reading time. Recommended for ages 3-6. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

WOOLGATHERING. 6 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Recommended for ages 12 and up. All knitting levels are welcome. Bring needles and yarn. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

SPANISH STORY TIME. 10:45 a.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Introduce

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101 WAYS

Having Fun at Any Age

Community offers plenty of activities for any age.

Throughout the month of January, The Connection will be highlighting 101 ways residents can have fun in and around their community. Mike DiCicco, Justin Fanizzi, Jennifer Lesinski and Rich Sanders worked on this project. This is part four of four. For the unabridged version, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Become a Bookworm

Ashburn Library
 43316 Hay Road
 Ashburn, VA 20147
 703-737-8100
<http://www.loudoun.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=1297>

Many of us have not been in a public library since we were students meeting up with friends to study for the next day's big test. But the library is for anyone, not just students. The Ashburn Library is a wonderful venue for people to learn more about their interests through books and the Internet, a reliable place for students to get

in a last-chance cram session or simply a getaway for someone who wants to find a quiet atmosphere to read a novel.

Many people like to read books relating to subjects in regards to current national happenings such as the election of a new president, or to read about the history of a particular holiday or perhaps a favorite sports hero.

At Ashburn Library, there are all kinds of book club group discussions, parent readings and volunteer teenager readings. There are all kinds of positive things going on at the library and volunteers are always willing to help you get started or pointed in the right direction. It is open Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Fridays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays, from 1-5 p.m.

Root for the Home Team

High-School Sports
 Are you tired of professional sports and the escalating player

salaries, irksome behavior on and off the field of play of some of the game's biggest stars, and out of control ticket prices? Why not take a simpler, scaled down approach to sports and attend one of your communities' high-school sporting events.

No, high-school sports is not perfect, it's not an athletic fans' utopian. After all, these are teenagers we are talking about who are balancing class work, relationships, peer pressure and growing pains. But there is something a little more innocent and pure in high-school athletics, where the first and foremost motivations revolve around pride of school, team work and enjoyment of the game.

Yes, most schools still don't understand that maddeningly loud, recorded, pregame music that makes it nearly impossible to carry on a conversation with the person sitting next to you is a distraction and a turnoff. But once the game itself gets started, it's a lot of fun watching high-school athletes compete.

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47368 STERDLEY FALLS TER	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$385,000		Townhouse	0.05		GREAT FALLS CHASE		
20865 DERRYDALE SQ	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$375,000		Townhouse	0.04		POTOMAC LAKES		
47339 MOUNTAIN FALLS TER	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$374,000		Townhouse	0.06		GREAT FALLS CHASE		
20693 LONGBANK CT	4	3	1	1	STERLING		\$370,000		Detached	0.31		CASCADES		
47302 STERDLEY FALLS TER	3	3	1	1	STERLING		\$360,000		Townhouse	0.05		GREAT FALLS CHASE		
20927 STANMOOR TER	3	3	1	1	STERLING		\$360,000		Townhouse	0.07		POTOMAC TERRACE		
190 HEATHER GLEN RD	5	3	0	0	STERLING		\$350,000		Detached	0.20		ENVIRONS		
109 RED OAK LN	4	2	1	1	STERLING		\$340,000		Detached	0.23		FOREST RIDGE		
47857 SCOTSBOROUGH SQ#134	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$334,500		Townhouse			MEDINAH HOMES		
317 SAMANTHA DR	3	2	0	0	STERLING		\$331,000		Detached	0.24		SENECA CHASE		
47767 SCOTSBOROUGH SQ#109	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$320,000		Townhouse			MEDINAH HOMES		
47375 DARKHOLLOW FALLS TER	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$318,000		Townhouse	0.04		GREAT FALLS CHASE		
118 ELM TREE LN	4	2	1	1	STERLING		\$295,000		Detached	0.20		OAK TREE		
20853 COLLINGWOOD TER	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$290,000		Townhouse	0.03		CASCADES		
108 GOLD THORN WAY	4	2	1	1	STERLING		\$290,000		Detached	0.34		FOREST RIDGE		
21045 MARKBOROUGH TER	4	3	1	1	STERLING		\$285,000		Townhouse	0.05		COLONNADE AT DULLES TECH		
21500 RUSTY BLACKHAW SQ	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$285,000		Townhouse	0.04		WESTERLEY		
204 GORDON ST	5	3	0	0	STERLING		\$282,000		Detached	0.28		STERLING PARK		
46230 MILTHORN TER	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$280,000		Townhouse	0.03		POTOMAC LAKES		
1116 WILLIAMSBURG CT	5	3	0	0	STERLING		\$280,000		Detached	0.26		STERLING PARK		
150 MAGNOLIA RD	5	2	0	0	STERLING		\$280,000		Detached	0.23		FOXLEE		
45622 GRAND CENTRAL SQ	4	3	1	1	STERLING		\$279,900		Townhouse	0.04		DOMINION STATION		
21062 ETHAN CT	4	2	1	1	STERLING		\$278,500		Detached	0.09		WOODLAND VILLAGE		
402 POPLAR RD E	4	2	1	1	STERLING		\$270,000		Detached	0.22		STERLING PARK		
21099 CHANDLER CT	4	2	1	1	STERLING		\$268,500		Townhouse	0.05		MIRROR RIDGE		
46181 CECIL TER	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$265,000		Townhouse	0.03		POTOMAC LAKES		
4 WHALEY CT	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$265,000		Detached	0.14		COUNTRYSIDE		
617 POPLAR RD	4	2	0	0	STERLING		\$252,600		Detached	0.19		STERLING PARK		
46021 CARAWAY TER	3	3	1	1	STERLING		\$250,000		Townhouse			PARKSIDE AT DULLES		
46828 TRUMPET CIR	4	3	1	1	STERLING		\$243,000		Townhouse	0.06		FOX CREEK		
109 SEXTON CT	3	3	1	1	STERLING		\$237,900		Detached	0.12		STERLING PARK		
309 STAUNTON AVE	4	3	0	0	STERLING		\$236,200		Detached	0.19		STERLING PARK		
22988 FONTWELL SQ #408	3	3	0	0	STERLING		\$230,000		Townhouse			PARKSIDE AT DULLES		
21804 LEATHERLEAF CIR	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$230,000		Townhouse	0.04		FOX CREEK		
318 AMHURST ST	5	3	0	0	STERLING		\$227,900		Detached	0.21		STERLING PARK		
45377 GABLE SQ	3	3	1	1	STERLING		\$225,500		Townhouse	0.04		OLD STERL GABLE		
904 REDWOOD RD	4	2	0	0	STERLING		\$225,000		Detached	0.19		STERLING PARK		
22971 FLEET TER	3	3	0	0	STERLING		\$222,999		Townhouse	0.04		GROVEWOOD		
209 HARRISON RD S	3	2	0	0	STERLING		\$220,000		Detached	0.24		STERLING PARK		
802 CYPRESS CT	3	2	0	0	STERLING		\$215,000		Detached	0.24		STERLING PARK		
1603 BRANDON AVE	4	3	0	0	STERLING		\$215,000		Detached	0.29		STERLING PARK		
21874 MAYWOOD TER	4	3	0	0	STERLING		\$215,000		Townhouse	0.06		WOODSTONE		
34 ALDRIDGE CT	3	3	1	1	STERLING		\$215,000		Townhouse	0.06		COUNTRYSIDE		
704 DICKENSON AVE	4	3	0	0	STERLING		\$205,000		Detached	0.19		STERLING PARK		
46883 TRUMPET CIR	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$200,000		Townhouse	0.04		FOX CREEK		
503 BEECH RD	4	2	0	0	STERLING		\$195,000		Detached	0.24		STERLING PARK		
7 PALMER CT	2	3	0	0	STERLING		\$185,100		Townhouse	0.03		COUNTRYSIDE		
712 CONCORD CT N	3	1	1	1	STERLING		\$185,000		Townhouse	0.04		STERLING PK SO TH		
4 ALDEN CT	3	2	0	0	STERLING		\$180,888		Townhouse	0.03		COUNTRYSIDE		
10 HARBERT CT	3	3	1	1	STERLING		\$180,000		Townhouse	0.04		COUNTRYSIDE		
103 SHERWOOD CT #4	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$180,000		Townhouse			SEC NEWBERRY		
18 HUNTLEY CT	3	1	1	1	STERLING		\$180,000		Townhouse	0.05		COUNTRYSIDE		
45629 IRON HORSE TER	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$178,252		Townhouse	0.04		DOMINION STATION		
21827 BALDWIN SQ #21827	2	2	1	1	STERLING		\$175,000		Garden 1-4 Floors			CHATHAM GREEN		
1006 SALISBURY CT #179	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$174,000		Townhouse			NEWBERRY		
237 COTTAGE RD N	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$174,000		Townhouse	0.04		SUGARLAND RUN		
15 FAIRMONT PL	3	2	0	0	STERLING		\$170,000		Townhouse	0.03		COUNTRYSIDE		
22303 MAYFIELD SQ #42	3	1	1	1	STERLING		\$167,000		Townhouse			SEC NEWBERRY		
22358 STABLEHOUSE DR	3	1	1	1	STERLING		\$160,000		Townhouse	0.05		DOMINION VIEW		
27 ALDEN CT	3	2	0	0	STERLING		\$160,000		Townhouse	0.05		COUNTRYSIDE		
27 WEDGEDALE DR	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$160,000		Townhouse	0.04		SUGARLAND RUN		
220 WILLOW TER	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$156,000		Townhouse	0.04		SUGARLAND RUN		
711 CONCORD CT	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$138,000		Townhouse	0.04		STERLING PK SO TH		
27 SUGARLAND SQUARE CT	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$135,100		Townhouse	0.10		SUGARLAND SQ		
118 HAYLOFT CIR	4	2	1	1	STERLING		\$131,000		Townhouse	0.04		SUGARLAND RUN		
102 SEQUOIA CT	3	1	0	0	STERLING		\$130,000		Detached	0.23		STERLING PARK		
26 REGIS CIR	4	2	1	1	STERLING		\$130,000		Townhouse	0.04		SUGARLAND RUN		
152 COTTAGE RD	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$129,000		Townhouse	0.04		SUGARLAND RUN		
1012 SALISBURY CT #176	3	2	2	2	STERLING		\$127,000		Townhouse			NEWBERRY		
313 ARGUS PL #168	3	1	1	1	STERLING		\$123,000		Townhouse	0.00		HUNINGTON RIDGE		
6 SIMON LN	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$122,000		Townhouse	0.04		SUGARLAND RUN		
310 SANDERSON DR #235	3	1	1	1	STERLING		\$120,700		Townhouse	0.00		HUNINGTON RIDGE		
160N COTTAGE RD N	3	2	0	0	STERLING		\$119,000		Townhouse	0.06		SUGARLAND RUN		
601 CONCORD CT	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$115,000		Townhouse	0.11		STERLING PK SO TH		
406 FURMAN DR #280	2	1	0	0	STERLING		\$115,000		Townhouse			PEMBROOKE OF LOUDOUN		
220 CHARING CT #44	2	1	1	1	STERLING		\$110,000		Townhouse			HUNINGTON RIDGE 3		
713 CONCORD CT	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$100,000		Townhouse	0.04		STERLING PK SO TH		
1050B MARGATE CT #1050B	3	2	1	1	STERLING		\$90,000		Townhouse			NEWBERRY		
202 STERLING BLVD #26	2	1	0	0	STERLING		\$82,000		Townhouse			PEMBROOKE OF LOUDOUN		

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REAL ESTATE NOTES

Send announcements or events, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

The Loudoun County Department of Family Services is taking

applications for use of the county's consolidated housing funds. Up to \$3 million in proffer and Affordable Dwelling Unit program-generated funds is available to help finance the construction of affordable housing. Visit www.loudoun.gov/housing-funds for application materials.

The Virginia Housing Development Authority is offering a free

homeownership education class Tuesday, Feb. 24 and Thursday, Feb. 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Leesburg Safety Center, 65 Plaza St., Leesburg. Topics include credit issues, personal finances, home inspections and the role of lenders and real estate agents. Call Chris Vogel at 703-777-0353 in advance to ensure homeownership classes have not been cancelled.

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Broadlands

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19213 Sweig Ter...\$395,000...Sun 1-4...Stephen Adamson...Weichert...703-470-8356

Leesburg

508 Beauregard Dr., SE...\$549,000...Sun 1-4...Dawn Perusse...Long & Foster...703-669-6715
42220 Big Springs Ct...\$649,000...Sat & Sun 1-4...Patsy Jean Harrington...Fairfax Realty...703-963-8515
18721 Potomac Station Dr...\$455,000...Sun 1-4...Betty Dajani...Weichert...202-841-8747
556 Tuliptree Sq., NE...\$282,500...Sat 1-4...Debra Saunders...Weichert...703-777-3977

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21223 Edgewood Ct...\$784,000...Sun 12-4...Deborah Gorham...Long & Foster...703-581-9005

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18125 Silcott Springs Rd...\$610,000...Sun 1-4...Marcia Faircloth...Prudential Carruthers...540-338-4171

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46705 Corkwing Sq...\$254,900...Sat 12-4...Aziz Nawabi...Coldwell Banker...703 771-8888
47304 Middle Bluff Pl...\$645,000...Sun 1-3...Carole Jones...Weichert...703-759-6300
21083 Rotunda Ter...\$385,000...Sun 1-4...Stephen Adamson...Weichert...703-470-8356

Herndon

1364 Dominion Ridge Ln...\$749,000...Sun 1-6...Nancy Marino...HIS

Late Game Struggles Hurt Potomac Falls

But the Panthers, behind Hibson, have been competitive in the Dulles District.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The Potomac Falls High girls basketball team does not have much to show for its effort this season record wise. At 3-11, the team's overall record going into this week, the Panthers have just one Dulles District victory to this point. But in many of its games this season, Potomac Falls has been anything but an easy victory for opponents.

"It's been up and down," said Potomac Falls coach Lynn Ewald, in regard to his team's overall play this season. "Sometimes we're doing a good job and sometimes we're making too many mental errors. Overall though, the girls are playing hard."

FIVE OF POTOMAC FALLS' losses have come by 10 points or less, indicating the Panthers have been in several games. And against the district's elite teams — Freedom and Loudoun County — the Panthers have held their own. In a 74-41 loss at County Jan. 5, Potomac Falls trailed by only 12 points late in the third quarter before the Raiders dominated the fourth on way to a decisive win. In a 64-39 loss at Freedom the next day, Potomac Falls fell behind by 12 points early in the game before playing the talented Eagles fairly even through three quarters. But again, the Panthers struggled in the fourth quarter on way to the lopsided loss.

So, for stretches of games, the Panthers have proven they can play with just about anyone.

"I think the girls realize we have some talent on the team," Ewald said. "It's a real competitive district outside of [Freedom

and County]. Our spirits are up. [The losing] is difficult sometimes, but the girls are still working hard."

Some of the team's closer losses include a 41-35 home setback to district opponent Heritage Dec. 12; a 47-44 loss to Stone Ridge School (Bethesda) in a game at the Oakton Christmas tournament Dec. 27; a 42-37 district home defeat to Broad Run Jan. 12; and a 53-48 district loss at Briar Woods two days later. And on Jan. 17, in the Panthers' final game before the school's recent exam week, they gave Heritage a respectable game in a 50-41 loss.

"You look at our record and think we're not that competitive," said Ewald, whose team is 1-7 in district play. "But if things go a little different, we could be [around .500 in the district]. It's a thin line between wins and losses."

Ewald said his team has struggled down the stretch in games. He believes the Panthers can play better in close games over the final few weeks of the regular season and perhaps earn a few district wins.

"I think it comes down to execution," said the coach, of his team's inability to make the big plays or get the vital baskets late in close games. "At the end of a game we've got to continue to play hard and together."

POTOMAC FALLS' lone district win came in a 50-18 home victory over struggling Dominion Jan. 9. It's two other wins came out of the district prior to Christmas — a 47-33 home win over Stone Bridge Dec. 6, and a 75-37 home win over Wakefield (Arlington) on Dec. 26 at the Oakton holiday tourney.

Potomac Falls is led by senior team captain Sara Hibson, an undersized center at 5 foot 5 inches who more than holds her own inside the paint against bigger players. At the Oakton tournament, Hibson became the program's all-time leading rebounder. She is averaging nine points and nine rebounds a game this winter.

"A good word to describe her is 'tena

SEE REMAINING, PAGE 15

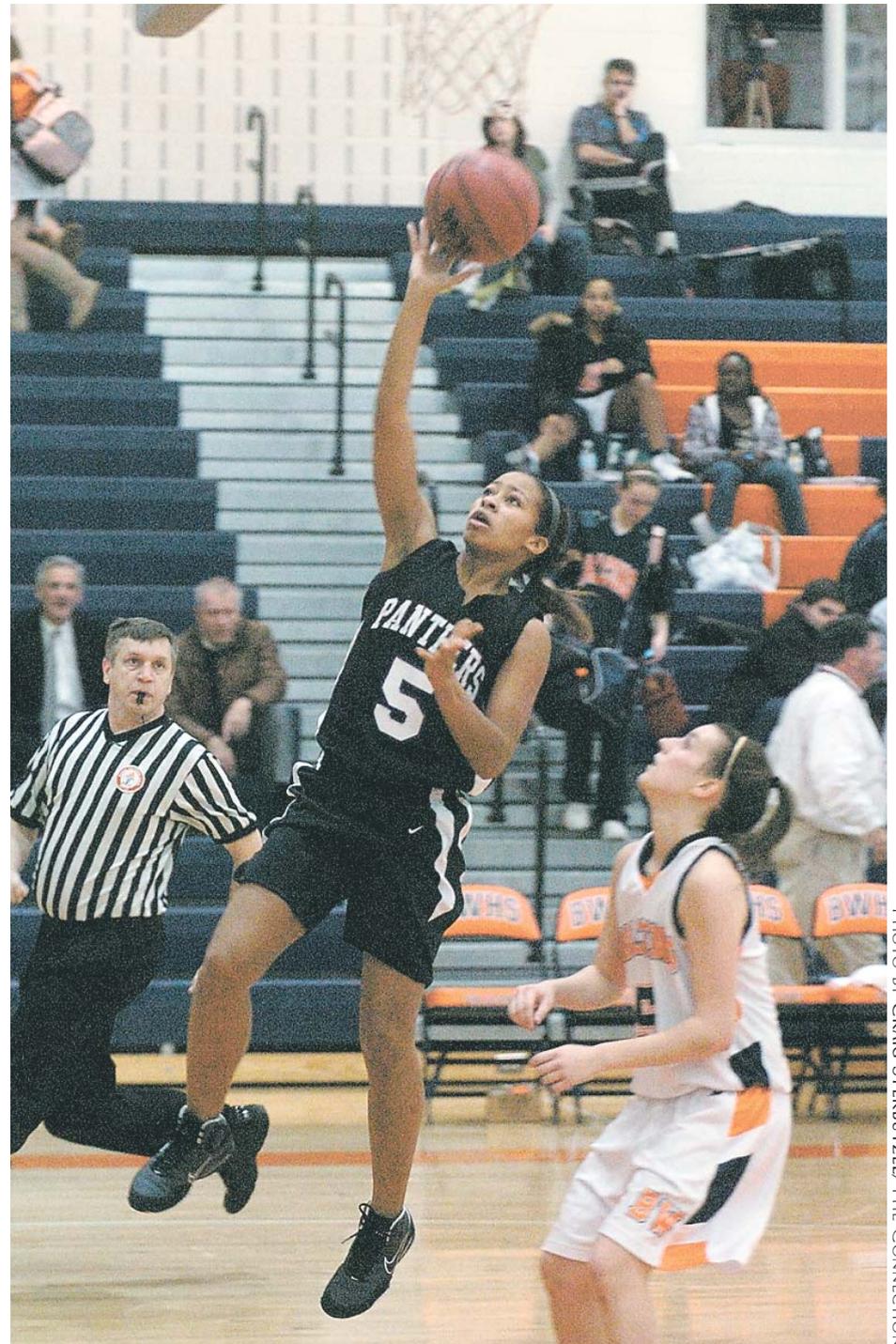


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Potomac Falls girls team will play at Park View this Friday night.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

The Fairfax County **Football Hall of Fame** will hold its 18th Annual Banquet Sunday, March 1, at the McLean Hilton Hotel, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, located near the Tysons II Mall. Festivities will begin with a social gathering at 2:30 p.m. and dinner at 4 p.m. An awards ceremony will follow, honoring local youth and high-school players, coaches, officials and cheerleaders, along with other guests and the new Hall of Fame inductees. For general information, call Mark Meana at 703-281-0153 or go to Santrak@aol.com.

For ticket information, contact Betty Powell at bpowe1@AOL.com or 703-273-3216.

This year's Class of 2009 Hall of Fame Inductees includes Eddie Royal, former

Westfield High and Virginia Tech star, and current member of the Denver Broncos; Mike Skinner, former Marshall and Centerville High football coach; and John Schaffstall of the Braddock Road Youth Club.

The following high-school football individuals will be among those recognized at the awards banquet Mike Olsen of Stone Bridge High (Liberty District Player of the Year); Jack Tyler of Oakton High (Concorde District Player of the Year); Jovan Smith of Flint Hill (Private School Player of the Year); Mickey Thompson of Stone Bridge High (Division 5 Coach of the Year); and Joe Thompson of Oakton (Division VI Coach of the Year).

The following will be among those rec-

ognized as "Youth Football Players of the Year": Ashton Nyanteh (75-pound American Division) of McLean Youth Incorporated; Donny Sanders (85 National) of McLean Youth; Patrick McMahon (110 American) of Vienna Youth Incorporated; and Kyle Savage (125 Central) of Reston Youth Football.

Youth Football Coaches of the Year will include Brian Monticue (Central Division) of Vienna Youth; and Doug Kleinsmith (National Division) of Dulles South Youth Sports. Youth Cheerleaders of the Year will include Kyannah Calhoun (Herndon Optimist Club) and Kaylyn Macaluso (Reston Youth Football).

The **Loudoun Freedom** basketball or-

ganization has announced spring tryouts for girls AAU teams. The following teams will be formed: U9/U10, U11, U12, U13, U14 and high school. The tryout dates are Feb. 21, Feb. 22 and Feb. 28. Visit www.loudounfreedom.com for specific dates and times for each age group. All tryouts will be held at the Hoops Magic facility.

In addition, skills clinics will be offered through the Loudoun County Department of Parks and Recreation. For more information, contact Michael Turner at michaelturner@aol.com or at 703-303-0808.

The **Potomac Falls High wrestling** team competed in the Viking Dual Tourna
SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 15

Moving Ahead

FROM PAGE 3

an interchange at the intersection of Route 28 and Church Road/Waxpool Road in 2005. This interchange cut off direct access to Belfort Park from Church Road, which local business owners claim is having a negative impact on them. Then, the Virginia Department of Transportation made a part of Cedar Green Road one way, leaving the road with an entrance from Route 28, but no way of taking Cedar Green back to Route 28. As a result, according to Huber, commercial traffic, including tractor trailers, is routed into the residential neighborhood Old Sterling Gable, where it winds behind homes.

The task force is supporting several projects for the area, including altering the roadways for several roads and streets and the construction of the Moran Road Bridge, a multimodal bridge over Route 28. The bridge would give business and residents from the east side of Route 28 vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle access to the future Route 606 Metrorail Station, which according to the task force's final report is slated to be operational in 2015.

The goal, once the transportation issues are addressed, is to make the Belfort Park area a "mixed use" community that would accommodate businesses with buildings and office space and residents with space to build homes. Athletic fields, a park and a central theme of "railroads" are possibilities for the area as part of the mixed-use community, which the task force believes will create economic development and create a "unique, cohesive identity." The mixed use aspect of the project will be forwarded to the Transportation/Land Use Committee.

"I think there is an urgency to this and if you look at the motion it says we are just sending CTP recommendations to the Planning Commission for further consideration," Supervisor Susan Buckley (D-Sugarland Run) said, approving of the task force's plans. "I think that the time has come for them to start considering these things."

THE ONLY PART of the task force's recommendations that encountered any resistance was the motion to direct staff to determine if the recommendations would require any Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio (R-Sterling) was concerned that any amendments to the Zoning Ordinances might change the tax districts in the area, resulting in higher taxes for the residents.

He said that while some told the board that it was corporate only, which would not affect residents' taxes, the term "mixed use" may convolute that and without a definite answer, he could not vote for it. Buckley, who chaired the meeting in place of the absent Supervisor Scott York (I-At Large), said that further discussion about financial issues would take place at the board's next business meeting Feb. 3, prompting Delgaudio to vote no.

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Buy Low, Drive High



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I did something with my wife, Dina, the other day that I haven't done in a very long time. I filled up her car with gasoline for under \$25, and that's with the reserve fuel light on!. Meaning her car wasn't merely low on gas, it was be-low, with very few miles to spare before low was empty and the side of the road was in our sites. A sight that, due to the reduction in the price of a gallon of gasoline (regular was \$1.79 at my local service station this morning), I won't be seeing anytime soon since I can afford to buy before the fuel light illuminates.

However, if I am to stop — and then write — outside my own selfish joy, I suppose I must be concerned about why the price of gasoline is so low; concerned that business is so challenged, shall we say, nation and worldwide; worried that unemployment is increasing, nation and worldwide; and understanding that the declining consumption of fossil fuels are all less than encouraging signs. Signs that the economic bottom has still not been reached and that consumers can't even tolerate the current price (presuming of course, that if the oil companies could charge more and still sell more, they would). I guess, if I understand correctly, if I was paying more, it would be because consumers/businesses are consuming more (and presumably can afford to pay more) and consuming more means the economy is growing and the price would likely increase to reflect the increasing demand (Capitalism at work). And increased demand is a good thing, right?

The cumulative effect for me though, at this moment in time, seems to be new-found money. Money that is now available after gassing and heating up that only a few short months ago was not available. This change gives me more money to spend, but not money to spend on necessities, rather money to spend on "discretionaries." And the more money consumers have to spend on "discretionaries," the more money is spread around and it's that spreading around that makes the world go 'round (at least in my house).

Still, I can't hide my glee at the notion of cheap — relatively and comparatively — gasoline even though intellectually I have come to understand that if "things" weren't so bad economically-speaking, gasoline and to a lesser financial degree, home heating oil, wouldn't have to be so low in order to find buyers for the oil from which these products are refined.

Nevertheless, as bad as those "things" are, I can't imagine how much worse it would be for consumers if the price of gasoline and/or home heating oil were to return anywhere near their '08 peak. But I suppose that couldn't happen unless there were actual buyers increasing their demand which, with a slowing, maybe even contracting world economy, there simply doesn't appear to be. As such, since many consumers/businesses can't afford the price of gasoline/home heating oil at its present level, it seems unlikely to rise appreciably so I suppose I can keep smiling, especially so if I still have a job.

However, if something dramatic were to happen to the supply, then that would be another story, literally, and probably another column or two as well.

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

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In execution of a Deed of Trust from Joel C. Amundsen and Sarah E. Amundsen, dated July 21, 2005, and recorded July 22, 2005, in Deed Book 17544 at page 6 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 140, Section 10E, Franklin Farm, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 5822 at page 1686, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 13430 Elevation Lane, Herndon, Virginia 20171.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$35,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 5.875 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

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-Werner Heisenberg

SPORTS

Remaining Competitive

FROM PAGE 12

cious," Ewald said of the gritty Hibson. "She's been on the varsity since her freshman year and she's learned the tricks of the trade battling against bigger players. She's extremely competitive and wants to get after it. She takes it as a personal challenge when there is a rebound or loose ball to get to."

It's nothing at all to see Hibson, in her second year as team captain, to hit the floor going after a ball. It does not matter what the score is, she always plays as if the contest is going down to the wire.

Three juniors who have stepped up and put together good seasons for Potomac Falls are forward Jasmin Jefferies (11 points, 9.5 rebounds per game), shooting guard and 3-point specialist Raven Short (nine points per game) and point guard Simone Berry (eight points).

Short missed a stretch of games earlier in the season as a result of an injury. Of late, she has been one of the team's steadiest

players.

One of Potomac Falls' highlights this season was competing at the eight-team Oakton tournament over the holidays. There, the Panthers defeated Wakefield in a first-round game before falling to Stone Ridge by three points in the semifinals. In a

game for third place, Potomac Falls lost to a team from Bethlehem, Pa. — Liberty High — 61-41.

"The girls really liked it," Ewald said of the tournament. "Hopefully we can do it again next year. They got a chance to play some different teams. A few of the girls had relatives in town that hadn't seen them play."

This week is set to be a busy one for the Panthers, who were

scheduled to play a home game against Loudoun County Tuesday, Dec. 27, and a nondistrict road game at George Mason High on Wednesday. And on Friday, Potomac Falls will play a district contest at Park View.

"It's a thin line between wins and losses."

—Lynn Ewald,
Potomac Falls girls
basketball coach

SPORTS ROUNDUP

FROM PAGE 12

ment, Jan. 23-24, at Loudoun Valley High School. The Panthers went 8-1, their lone loss coming in a close match with Westfield, 37-27. The Panthers' wins came over Osborne Park (Manassas), 44-22, Yorktown High (Arlington), 48-25, Liberty High (Cedar Run District), 53-20, Osborne High (Manassas), 51-16, Manassas Park, 66-12, McLean High, 63-19, host Loudoun Valley, 57-13, and North Stafford, 60-9. Potomac Falls' Josh Belin (145-weight class) was selected as the most valuable wrestler for the Panthers. He went 8-1 in the tournament. Undefeated wrestlers for the Panthers were Paul Rowane (7-0 at 125 class) and David Zedan (9-0 at 215). Other Potomac Falls wrestlers who had an exceptional tournament included Nick Rae (7-1 at 103); JoJo Koenig (6-1 at 119); Ryan Snead (8-1 at 130); Charlie Haislip (6-2 at 140); Ryan Hagen (7-1 at 152); Aaron Rowane (5-1 at 160); and Zachery Duffen (7-1 at heavy-weight). Ryan Snead won his 100th career varsity match. The Panthers were scheduled to conclude the regular season with a Dulles District dual match against Dominion High on Wednesday, Jan. 28, of this week.

The spring soccer season is still a little ways off, but a group of Loudoun players warmed up for the upcoming high-school season by capturing the **National Capital Soccer League's** Division 3 title this past fall with an impressive 8-1 record. The Loudoun 91 Red (or Loudoun Revolution) boys team scored 29 goals and allowed just eight in nine games to earn promotion to Division 2 next fall. The U-17 Revolution is coached by Bob Doyle and Chris Flanagan. The team's players are Broad Run High's Robert Legg, Clarke County High's Josh Petti, Freedom High players Michael Denfeld, Tommy Farrell and Hayden

Schrader, Heritage High players Jamie Bruchman, Eric Dentler, Ryan Finnegan, Jake Flanagan, Spencer Page, Andy Salzer, Ryan Traster and Bobby Zane, Loudoun County High players Kevin Doyle, Timmy Kozak and Nick Voreas and Stone Bridge players Tim Jankowski and Cooper Sousa.

Chelsea Gantt made two free throws with six seconds left to help the **Broad Run girls basketball** team defeat Briar Woods, 43-40, last Friday night. The Dulles District contest took place at Briar Woods. Following a timeout, Gantt, with the Spartans ahead 41-40, made her first free throw. Following another timeout, she made her second from the line to make it 43-40. Briar Woods, in its final chance to tie the game, could not get off a shot before the final buzzer sounded. Broad Run, led by Caitlin Hunter's 14 points and nine rebounds, will be home against Heritage this Friday night.

Virginia Elite Volleyball Club (VA Elite), in partnership with Northern Virginia Volleyball Association (NVVA), will host an open volleyball clinic and presentation for players and parents Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 7 and 8. Open clinics will be led by 2008 Olympic women's volleyball assistant coach Tom Hogan, Olympic silver-medalist Stacy Sykora and USA Volleyball's top clinician, five-time Olympic staffer and team leader, John Kessel. All player clinics will be held Saturday, Feb. 7, at The Madeira School and Oakton High School with additional player clinics held Sunday at Lifetime Fitness in Ashburn. To register for the player events or for more information, go to www.vaelite.com. For questions contact Lily Richardson at 703-234-1753 or Lisa Baldwin at 703-737-3094. Cost of the clinic for players and coaches is \$55.

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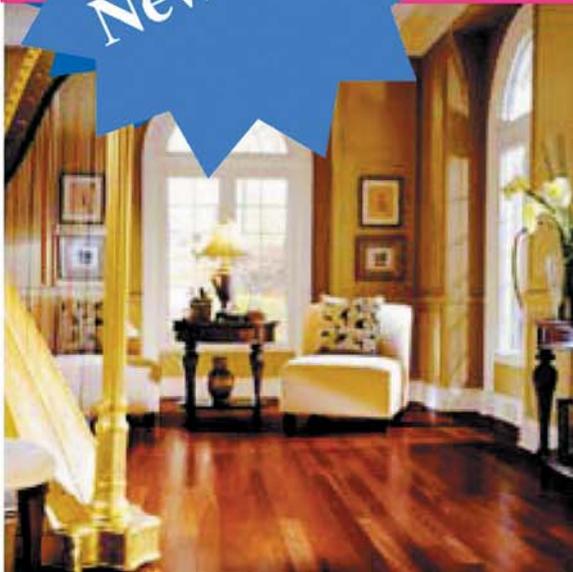
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