



Ashburn **CONNECTION**

Brambleton ♦ Broadlands ♦ Lansdowne

Symphonic Beats

SCHOOLS, PAGE 10

Snow Day

NEWS, PAGE 3

Bare Cupboards

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Healing Place

E, PAGE 8

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PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION



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James Ditaranto, D.O.

Dr. Ditaranto is a Board Certified Family Medicine Physician. He completed his Family Practice Residency in 1986. Dr. Ditaranto is a former Chairman of the Family Medicine Department at Reston Hospital Center and served on the Board of Medical Planning for Loudoun County. He has been practicing in Loudoun county for over 13 years.

Dr. Ditaranto's special interests include pediatric and adolescent health care. Other interests include Attention Deficit Disorders and Geriatrics.

Mary Anest, FNP-BC

Mary is a family nurse practitioner with board certification from the American Nurse Credentialing Center. She received her undergraduate nursing degree from Bob Jones University in Greenville, SC, in 2003. After working on an orthopedics unit and then a high-risk obstetrics unit, she attended Binghamton University in Binghamton, NY, for her graduate nursing degree.

Cynthia Hersh, FNP-BC

Cynthia is a graduate of Sacred Heart Hospital School of Nursing. In 1999 she graduated from Creighton University magna cum laude with a Bachelor's of Science degree in nursing and in 2001 with a Master's of Science advanced practice nursing degree specializing in family medicine.



42882 Truro Parish Dr. #201 - Ashburn, VA 703-729-1660



Mary Sewell and her bundled-up dog, Fluffy, enjoyed a brisk walk around their snowy Westmaren neighborhood in Ashburn Farms on Monday afternoon. Streets and sidewalks within the condominium complex were cleared that morning, making it easier for residents to get around and enjoy the wintery surroundings.

Emptying Shelves

Food pantry sees increased demand for services.

The need for emergency food assistance is increasing while donations to Loudoun Interfaith Relief Inc., the county's only food pantry, are not keeping pace.

"We are really in dramatic changes from last year," Bonnie Inman, executive director, said. "A review of our numbers shows we're almost 53 percent higher in the number of people we're helping over last year. We only saw a 14 percent increase last year."

Inman said in a typical day, LIR sees 30 families needing food assistance. Now, the non-profit routinely helps 60-70 families a day.

LIR is a food pantry where those needing assistance can come twice a month, register at the front desk and fill out a "wish list" of items along with providing informa-

Get Involved

To find out how and what to donate to Loudoun Interfaith Relief Inc. visit www.interfaithrelief.org or call 703-777-5911. The organization is located at 750 Miller Drive, Suite A-1, Leesburg. Hours: Food distribution: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., must arrive by 12:45 p.m. in order to be served; and Tuesday and Thursday evenings by appointment only. Food donations: Mondays-Fridays, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 1-2 p.m.

tion such as the size of the family, ages and any special needs such as food allergies or diabetes.

"Keeping the guidelines as simple as we do helps protect someone's dignity," Inman said. "Most people walking through the door never expected to walk into a food pantry."

There is no limit on how long a person can use the pantry services and referrals from other agencies aren't necessary. Inman said typically someone might services two to three months, but lately they've been seeing people returning up to six months.

After the wish list turned in volunteers fill grocery bags with nutritious and balanced meals.

The organization receives food items from Giant, Wegmans and Costco, but mostly relies on donations from citizens. "The holiday season was good to us," Inman said. "Last month we received 30 pounds of food and gave out 70."

Inman said the pantry tends to see an uptick over the summer because school breakfast and lunch programs are suspended until the fall.

"So far we've served everyone who has come through the doors," Inman said.

— JENNIFER LESINSKI

Weather Outside is Frightful ...

Heavy snow covers the county, resulting in school closures and other weather-related issues.

Though the snowfall that blanketed the region Sunday night into Monday may have provided great photo opportunities and scenic views, it undoubtedly provided strife and irritation for many as well.

According to the National Weather Service, the snow recorded at Washington Dulles International Airport totaled 5.1 inches, an almost 5-inch deviation from the day's historical average. This significant departure from the norm forced all Loudoun

County Public Schools to close and many more residents to stay home to avoid the roads.

Though the weather may have disrupted travel, education and work for many in the area, fortunately, weather-related incidents were mostly insignificant. According to Sheriff's Office spokesman Kraig Troxell, there were a number of automobile accidents, but they were mostly fender-benders and other minor incidents resulting in no major injuries.

According to Le-Ha Anderson of Dominion Power, the inclement weather had very little effect on the power infrastructure of the area. She said that there were "very few" weather-related issues reported in Northern Virginia and that the vast majority of reported incidents came from the Richmond area. The extent of the trouble in the area was 500 customers in Woodbridge and 500 in Springfield losing power for a short period of time.

"We had very few customers affected [in the Loudoun area]," Anderson said. "The incidents were small and scattered, so they may not even be weather-related."

— JUSTIN FANIZZI

Helping Others Recover

Couple in Sterling looks to open county's only residential substance abuse facility.

BY JENNIFER LESINSKI
THE CONNECTION

Jim Gross has been sober for more than 22 years. Lori St. Angelo was married to an alcoholic for three years. Together they hope to use their experiences to help others through a nonprofit residential substance abuse facility, Meridians Recovery, which they anticipate opening by 2011.

"He has experience from an addict's point of view and I have the experience from the family's point of view," St. Angelo said.

GROSS AND ST. ANGELO, both of Sterling, are doing fund-raising, seeking grants and looking for potential sites for the facility. They have met with members of the county's Community Services Board and anticipate bringing a proposal to the county, in hopes the Board of Supervisors can do-

Meridians Recovery Workshop

Co-Dependency vs. Dependency, Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Learn to manage stress, boost self-esteem and improve interpersonal relationships. Cost: \$45, supports the proposed nonprofit Meridians Recovery residential substance abuse facility. For more information about Meridians or to donate call Jim Gross, 703-434-9009 or Lori St. Angelo, 703-309-5960 or visit www.meridiansrecovery.org.

nate the land. They are in the process of gaining nonprofit status, while Gross works toward his certifications to be a counselor
SEE COUPLE PAGE 4

Mims Elected to Attorney General

The Virginia General Assembly formally elected William C. "Bill" Mims as Virginia's 45th Attorney General.

The former chief deputy attorney general, Mims succeeds Robert F. "Bob" McDonnell, who resigned Feb. 20 to run full-time for governor.

In this position, Mims is responsible for the Office of the Attorney General and its 337 attorneys and staff. He will serve until January 2010, when the new attorney general who will be elected in November is sworn in.

Mims served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1992-1997 and in the Virginia Senate from 1998-2005, before being tapped by McDonnell as his top lieutenant in January 2006.

"I am honored to serve as attorney general following Bob McDonnell," Mims said in a press release. "Bob McDonnell was an exceptional attorney general and I plan to continue his legacy by providing the very best legal services for Virginia's citizens."

Mims added, "The Office of the Attorney General is the law firm for Virginia's governmental agencies. I am proud to work with such dedicated public servants."

A native of Harrisonburg, Mims was educated in the Harrisonburg public schools. He received a degree in history from the College of William & Mary, where he was president of the student body. He also did graduate work in public administration at William & Mary. He has law degrees from George Washington University and Georgetown University.

During his years in the General Assembly, Mims worked as an attorney in Leesburg. Prior to practicing law he served as chief of staff to U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf and as deputy legislative director to Sen. Paul Trible. He served on the board of governors of the Virginia Bar Association from 2002-2004, and was a distinguished adjunct professor of Law at George Mason University from 2002-2005.

Republican AG Candidates Debate

Republican candidates for Virginia Attorney General will hold their first and only Loudoun County debate March 10, 7:30 p.m., at Stone Bridge High School, 43100 Hay Road, Ashburn. The candidates are U.S. Attorney for Southeastern Virginia John Brownlee, state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-Fairfax) and David Foster, an attorney in Arlington.

The candidates are competing for the GOP nomination at the state convention in Richmond May 30.

Candidates will be mingling with Republican groups and local leaders from 7-7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Loudoun County Republican Committee

PRCS Holding Summer Job Fair

Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services will hold a summer job fair Tuesday, March 10, 4-7 p.m., at 215 Depot Court S.E. in downtown Leesburg. Summer opportunities include camp assistants for licensed full day camps, trip camps and adaptive recreation camps. The department is also hiring summer maintenance help, lifeguards, pool managers, water safety instructors and recreation aides. Interested applicants should visit www.loudoun.gov and select the "Jobs" link to review position descriptions and requirements. Applications must be submitted online prior to the job fair. Applicants should bring a hard copy of their application(s) to the job fair. Interviews will be conducted on site. For more information, visit www.loudoun.gov/prcs or call 703-777-0343.

Sycolin Road Construction Beginning

The Virginia Department of Transportation will start construction in March on a project to reconstruct and pave 1.3 miles of Sycolin Road. The reconstruction will take place on a 0.3-mile section and a one-mile section of road between Shreve Mill Road (Route 653) and Goose Creek near Belmont Ridge Road. Construction on this \$2.5 million project is scheduled to be completed in November 2009. When completed, Sycolin Road will feature two 12-foot lanes for cars, curves will be straightened and drainage improved.

NEWS

Couple Plans to Open Facility

FROM PAGE 3

and his psychology degree.

Tom Maynard, director of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, said there are no facilities in Loudoun County that treat substance abuse on an inpatient basis. Instead, when residential treatment is required, the county refers patients to centers out of the county.

Being referred to facilities in Culpeper and Fauquier counties or even Pennsylvania can make the treatment difficult not only for the patient, but also the patient's family. Gross said it is important for the family to be involved in the treatment.

"The damage to the family is unbelievable," Gross said.

Maynard said the county helps about 1,700 to 2,000 people each year for substance abuse and there is a waiting list for the services.

"The demand exceeds the resources," Maynard said.

THE PAIR estimate they need between \$2 million to \$4 million to build a 30-bed facility, if the county can donate the land. The figure jumps to \$7 million if county land is not available. St. Angelo said the timeline is to have the facility open by 2011 and there are already plans to expand. Eventually Meridians will have separate living quarters for men, women, and juveniles, sober living transitional housing, a Latino center and spaces for alternative treatments such as a sweat lodge for mediation. The name Meridians, Gross said, comes from a term associated with Chinese medicine.

"I'm a strong believer in alternative medicines," he said. "Science is catching up with the ways to



Jim Gross, a resident of Sterling, along with Lori St. Angelo, hopes to open a nonprofit residential substance abuse facility.

treat addiction."

He said the key is not just treating the addiction, but also the body and mind, to reduce the triggers that may cause someone to turn to alcohol or drugs.

"If you can teach people to handle everyday stress and life, they are less likely to go back to chemicals," he said.

The process of raising awareness and dollars for their dream has had its ups and downs, but they are determined to be successful.

"It's rewarding and frustrating at the same time," St. Angelo, who manages a dental office and serves as Meridians chief operation officer and director of operations, said. "Nobody likes to hear no, but everywhere we've gone, people have been positive."

ONCE UP AND running, Meridians will employ licensed substance abuse professionals. The facility will be licensed by the state and Gross said, they hope to partner with the county so patients will not longer have to leave Loudoun for inpatient services. The facility will charge on a sliding scale to help ensure anyone who needs help can get it.

He said a private facility can charge anywhere from \$20,000 to \$30,000 a month. Meridians plans to charge \$7,000 a month. Even at that reduced cost, Gross said the facility will be self-sufficient within a year.

"Even at 60 percent full we'll have enough revenue for expansion," Gross said.

Maynard said that Meridians could be an asset to the county, assuming it achieves its fund-raising goals and state certifications.

"I think it would be a valuable resource," Maynard said. "Mr. Gross is enthusiastic and energetic. I'd like to see it be successful."

BULLETIN BOARD

Send announcements to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks prior to event; photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

THURSDAY/MARCH 5

KIDS BOOK CLUB. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Ages 8-11. Registration begins four weeks before the program. Books will be available at the Children's Desk. Selection: "Rules" by Cynthia Lord. Register by phone 703-737-8100 or online at <http://library.loudoun.gov>.

MASTER GARDNER. 7 p.m., Loudoun Extension Office, 30 Catoctin Circle S.E., Suite B, Leesburg. The Loudoun County Master Gardener Volunteers are holding a free monthly meeting. Keith Tomlinson, managing director Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, will address the topic, "Using Native Plants: Combining Ecology and Aesthetics." Call the Loudoun Extension Office at 703-777-0373 or visit www.loudouncountymastergardeners.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 6

WRITERS FIRST FRIDAY. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Leesburg Town Hall, 25 W. Market St., Leesburg. The event is titled "Hooks and Books: How to Get Agents, Editors and Readers to Pick

Up Your Story ... and Keep Reading," hosted by author Austin S. Camacho. Admission: \$4 for Writer's Center members and residents of Leesburg, \$6 for general public. Visit www.writer.org or call 301-654-8664.

LA LECHE LEAGUE. 10:15 a.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. La Leche League of Ashburn will hold its next meeting. The topic is "The Family and the Breastfed Baby." Pregnant and nursing women as well as their children are welcome to attend. Free. Call a La Leche League leader at 703-753-3214.

RIBBON CUTTING. 5:30 p.m., LCVA Office, 112-G South St., Leesburg. Loudoun Convention & Visitors Association celebrates the move to its new location at Market Station with a ribbon-cutting ceremony followed by an open house. RSVP to Greg Harp at 703-771-2170, Ext. 14 or harp@visitloudoun.org.

MONDAY/MARCH 9

STUDY TIME. 5-9 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Study for the SATs with friends. A private room, refreshments and SAT workbooks will be provided. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

TUESDAY/MARCH 10

STUDY TIME. 5-9 p.m., Ashburn

Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. See March 9 item for details.

FINDING EDUCATION SUPPORT.

10-11:30 a.m., George Washington University, Virginia Campus Library, 44983 Knoll Square, Ashburn. Learn how to research undergraduate scholarships, as well as funding for graduate and continuing education. Free. Registration required; call 703-726-8230 or e-mail virginia@gwu.edu.

FREEMASONRY. 6:4 p.m., Ashburn-Sterling Masonic Lodge, 43881 Waxpool Road in Ashburn. For information about Freemasonry, Ashburn-Sterling Masonic Lodge meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Visitors are welcome. AshburnLodge.org 703-868-7896.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

MAGIC TREE HOUSE BOOK CLUB.

4 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Ages 7-9.

Registration begins two weeks before the program. Selection: "Hour of the Olympics" by Mary Pope Osborne. Register by phone 703-737-8100 or online at <http://library.loudoun.gov>.

READING PALS. 4:30 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Children in grades one-three will be paired with a trained teen volunteer to practice reading in a six-week program. Call 703-737-8100 or go to library.loudoun.gov to register.

COMMUNITY



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The children of King Solomon's Christian Academy with kindergarten instructor Michelle Marion in the middle.

Bridging the Gap

First Baptist of Sterling is offering free child care in response to a slow economy.

By JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

Walking through the heavy red door adorned with a large logo, visitors turn into the main office and sit down. On a massive flat-screen television, images of children in classrooms with pristine whiteboards and a spacious, multihooped gymnasium, among other things, flicker across the picture. The walls of the main hallway are covered in class calendars and children's art and each room is filled with learning materials and at this particular time, sleepy youngsters catching some shut-eye.

After completing the tour, it would be perfectly logical to assume that this place was a school, most likely elementary. With desks, class itineraries, eager children and age-designated rooms, it would be a good guess. Then, when told that it is free for the children to attend, that assumption would seem even more precise.

The place, King Solomon's Christian Academy, may have the look and most definitely the name of a school; however, it is the brainchild of a church dedicated to its mission to be a pillar for the community at a time when it is needed the most.

Created by Bishop Leslie Patterson Jr. and his staff at the First Baptist Church of Sterling, located on Potomac View Road, King Solomon's Christian Academy offers free child care, five days a week, 12 hours a day for children 6 weeks old to 12 years old to new and current members of the church.

Patterson said that the idea for the program came to him when he heard that a member of the church could not go to work because the family could not afford to pay for day care. Seeing a problem he had

only read and heard about hit so close to home, affecting a member of his church, gave Patterson more than enough reason to carry out his vision.

"In a time of crisis, the Church has to be a place where those who are out in the cold can come in and get safety," Patterson said. "If you want to make the community better, everyone has to pitch in and help out and as a pastor, I have to be at the forefront during a crisis."

CREATED UNDER THE THEME of "Character Counts," Patterson takes pride in the fact that the children learn and grow in an environment that promotes not only scholarship, but also spirituality and diversity that is not bound by rigid religious denominations.

While discussing the impressive resume of his teachers and staff, which includes one master's degree and associates degrees across the board, he also notes that his students are a "picture of a rainbow," with children attending from all different backgrounds and cultures.

The school combines the A-Beka book curriculum, which teaches from a Christian perspective, and a Montessori curriculum, ensuring that both the secular and spiritual lessons are provided. Patterson also noted that the school strives to have a small student-to-teacher ratio, so that every child receives as much attention as possible.

Infant education focuses on the development of motor skills and senses through hands-on activities and individual attention. The academy has several cribs for the infants, so at nap time, they are safe, secure and comfortable. The toddlers are guided to accomplish independence by being taught to walk,

Learn More

Visit www.fbcsterlingva.org and click on the banner that reads "Free Childcare!" near the bottom of the home page or go to www.kingsolomonaca.org to go to the academy's site directly to find information about the curriculum, tuition rates and registration.

SEE LENDING, PAGE 7

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OPINION

Protecting Seniors

BY BILL MIMS
VIRGINIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Recently our office presented a grant to SeniorNavigator, a statewide nonprofit group that connects seniors in Virginia with health and aging information and service providers. They will use the funds to help educate Virginia seniors who are vulnerable to prescription drug abuse.

CONSUMER ALERT The \$30,116 grant results from recent prescription drug settlements secured by former Attorney General Bob McDonnell, working with other attorneys general nationwide.

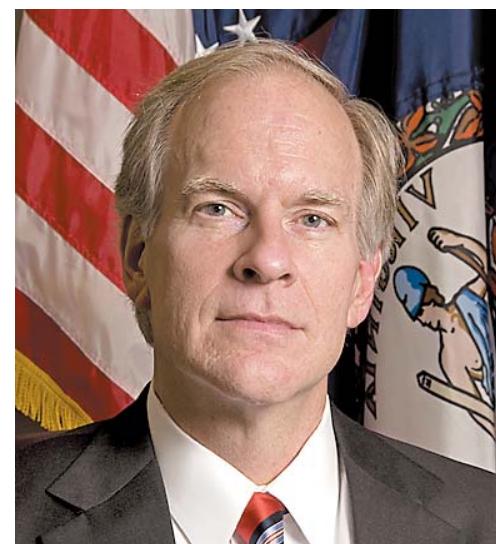
SeniorNavigator developed and manages the online resource www.SeniorNavigator.org. Since its launch in February 2001, SeniorNavigator.org has served as a resource

with a comprehensive network of community-based centers across Virginia. The Web site combines online assistance through its network, including hospitals, libraries, sheriff's offices, Agencies on Aging, senior centers and faith-based organizations.

Older adults are vulnerable to the tragic problem of prescription drug abuse and addiction — a problem that has gone largely undetected.

"This initiative takes a comprehensive approach through an awareness campaign aimed at seniors, their families, caregivers and professionals," said Linda Nablo, commissioner of the Virginia Department for the Aging.

The funds for this grant were recovered from legal settlements that the Virginia Office of the Attorney General reached in 2008 with Caremark Rx LLC, and Express Scripts Inc., two pharmacy benefits management companies. The settlements involved claims that these compa-



William C. "Bill" Mims

nies engaged in deceptive business practices.

Consumer protection is an important statutory duty of the Office of the Attorney General and our staff can help. In an age of increased consumer issues, we all must continue to be educated and vigilant.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need Our Libraries

To the Editor:

"The reflections and histories of men and women throughout the world are contained in books America's greatness is not only recorded in books, but it is also dependent upon each and every citizen being able to utilize public libraries." — Terence Cooke (1921-1983)

But, how can we utilize our libraries when they are in peril? Sadly, Loudoun County Library trustees are being forced to consider a variety of unsavory options for dealing with a tightening county budget: the closing of libraries, firing of librarians, reduced hours, elimination of special services and events and the delay of construction of new libraries and purchase of new books for older facilities.

This situation is not only shameful, it's an eventually debilitating one for the quality of life in our community. Limping by on a reduced library system will have long-term effects on our values and the quest for knowledge that made this country in the first place.

Further, during this time of economic hardship, our libraries are needed more than ever. Job seekers utilize them to research opportunities, residents and students that can no longer afford to buy from booksellers scour the shelves, families of every configuration employ them for a relationship-saving trip out of the house when other distractions prove too expensive, teens are kept off the streets by attending the libraries' After

Hours Teen Center. Loudoun's libraries are becoming more crowded everyday; as individual family incomes dry up, more and more people depend on the services that our libraries provide.

How to save Loudoun's libraries? A tax that has only a tiny impact on an individual's pocketbook could make a monumental difference on preserving our essential library services. But this tax should be dedicated to library services exclusively.

In the interim, the county administration and supervisors should reconsider the budget for libraries. True, falling home values are providing fewer taxes to work with, but not everything in the county budget should be cut the same across the board.

... Can we afford to thwart the way to opportunity today? No. Now we need our libraries more than ever.

Deborah A. Deal, APR
South Riding

Add Audacity to Chutzpah

To the Editor:

Talk about chutzpah.

After spending literally millions of dollars in advertising, consultant and PR fees and expensive mailings, Inova Loudoun Hospital was able to successfully defeat the building of the new Broadlands Hospital.

I am among the many who wrote letters like this one to editors of Northern Virginia newspapers and testified at most of the public hearings in support of the

Broadlands HCA hospital.

And what did I just receive in my mail? An "Annual Fund charity request" from the Inova Health System Foundation. Among many unbelievable statements in this "request for charity" letter is one like this: "Because Inova is a not-for-profit health system, we rely on the generosity of community members like you just as you rely on us for the high-quality health care."

You can now add audacity to their chutzpah. "High quality?" At the many hearings we heard complaint after complaint about their "high quality service."

After Inova's spending of those millions of dollars and causing the loss of millions of annual tax dollars to Loudoun County, not to mention losing 600 jobs and de-

nying us the medical care we need, they are now seeking to recoup those losses by begging to the very people who fought their extravagance, ignorance and total disregard for the majority of the citizens of Loudoun County.

Inova wants to "reach its Community Annual Fund goal of \$3 million." May I suggest they start by getting most of it from whatever budget line item they spent it on for their "campaign," or from whomever financed their adversarial anti-Broadlands crusade? They might even ask their chief executive officer to cut his million dollar salary by half and recoup some of the money they gave to other groups to help their opposition campaign?

Gerald F. Merna
Potomac Falls



Au pair Elena Dauber of Germany celebrates with host moms Leslie Jones, Leslie Snyder and Dana Waring.

International Valentine's Day

Mothers from Ashburn and Leesburg who host au pairs through the Cultural Care Au Pair program treated their au pairs to a luncheon and a celebration in honor of Valentine's Day, Feb. 8, at Rubino's of Ashburn.

THE CONNECTION

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COMMUNITY

Lending a Caring Hand

FROM PAGE 5

becoming potty-trained and developing verbal skills. It is in this age group where the Bible is first introduced, as the children are read stories and verses. The preschool group is where the children are fully introduced to the academic world, learning mathematics, writing, science and more, while the kindergarten program builds on the preschool program. The A-Beka books are used for these age groups and the "character counts" motto is explored in depth.

"We teach Spanish, language arts, phonics, science, we have a full-size gym and we go to chapel," the Rev. Tyler Brown said. "We have a top-notch program. We are not sitting there watching babies sleep. They are learning."

IN ADDITION to the educational program, the church also offers before- and after-school programs for children of members that go to other schools. As part of the before- and after-school care, students are given breakfast — full-day

"In a time of crisis, the Church has to be a place where those who are out in the cold can come in and get safety."

— Bishop Leslie Patterson Jr., First Baptist Church of Sterling

can run as high as \$275 a week.

"The truth is," Patterson said, "child care should be affordable for parents and you can't get much more affordable than free."

in ancient Persia. Costumes are encouraged. Visit www.sha-areshalom.org or call 703-639-1633.

The 10:30 a.m. service Sunday, **March 8**, at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** will be led by the youth group. UUS meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 22135 Davis Drive off of Church Road. Call 703-406-3068 or visit uusterling.org.

A program of **Jewish "lunch-and-learn studies"** continues Wednesday, **March 11, 18 and 25**, 12-1:15 p.m. Rabbi Bonny Grosz of the Community Rabbi Foundation will lead study sessions on "Turning Torah: Studying the Weekly Torah Reading Using Different Approaches." Free. Registration required. E-mail JewishStudies.Teacher@gmail.com to register and for locations.

The 10:30 a.m. service Sunday, **March 15**, at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** will be led by Karen Rasmussen, a UU ministerial student from Wesley Theological Seminary. In her sermon "The Rich Young Man,"

students also receive the meals, which are catered — and snacks and receive homework assistance. The church also provides transportation for children enrolled in this program, sending a van to pick up and drop off the students.

The only fees associated with the program are a \$75 one-time registration fee and a weekly meal cost of \$25 dollars for children 12 months and older. The

other requirements are that the parents or guardians must volunteer their time at the academy, making it possible to run the program with no consistent income to pay a teacher, and they must attend church and Bible study.

Regardless of any fees and requirements, Sanam Truman, school director, said that even if the parents of the children are not members of the church and are paying full tuition, it is still at least \$50 on average cheaper than any other child-care or day-care facilities in the area, which

based on the story in Mark 10:17-25, she will explore the topics of wealth, generosity and love. UUS meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 22135 Davis Drive off of Church Road. Call 703-406-3068 or visit uusterling.org.

Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation, 21740 Beaumeade Circle, Suite 100, Ashburn, is celebrating "Shabbat Across America" Friday, **March 20**, 6:15 p.m. Attend the potluck dinner at 6:15 p.m., followed by a Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m. led by Rabbi Jesse Gallop. Cost: \$10 per family plus a side dish. Call 703-729-1659 or e-mail publicrelationsvp@bcrcva.org to RSVP.

The 10:30 a.m. service Sunday, **March 29**, at the **Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** is called "Scars," and reflects on the remnants of physical, emotional, and spiritual injury. The UUS choir, led by Kris Rector, will share sacred music. UUS meets every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center at 22135 Davis Drive off of Church Road. Call 703-406-3068 or visit uusterling.org.

FAITH NOTES

Send announcements to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks prior to event; photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Sterling United Methodist Church, 304 East Church Road,

Sterling, is collecting items for the Marshall Islands. Donated items must be in new or gently used condition. Monetary donations are also welcome to help purchase items and offset general mission costs. Contributions may be dropped off at the church between 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekdays or on Sunday mornings from 8 a.m.- noon. Contact Phil Mohr, youth director, by calling 703-430-6455 or by e-mailing youth@sterlingumc.org. A complete list of suggested items can be found on the Web site at www.sterlingumc.org.

Congregation Sha'are Shalom, 19357 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg, is hosting the adult "Purim Masquerade Party" Saturday, **March 7**, 7:30 p.m. Purim is the Jewish festival that celebrates the survival of the Jewish people

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2009

Spring Household Hazardous Waste Schedule

All Events are on Saturdays 8:30am-2:30pm Loudoun County Residents Only

Date	Location
Mar 21	Heritage High School 520 Evergreen Mill Road, Leesburg
Apr 18	Loudoun Valley High School 304 N. Maple Avenue Purcellville

For more information call the **Office of Solid Waste Management** at **703-777-0187** or visit our webpage at www.loudoun.gov/hhw



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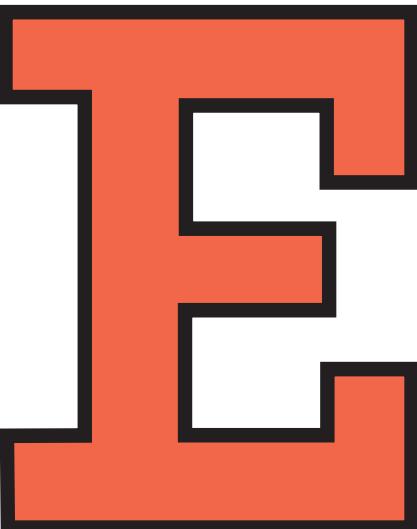
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Loudoun/Ashburn CONNECTION ♦ MARCH 4-10, 2009 ♦ 7



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE



CONTRIBUTED

Louisa is an adult female thoroughbred horse. She loves people and wants to be a companion.

To adopt a featured animal or any other animal, visit the Loudoun County Animal Shelter on Route 9 at the intersection of Route 704 in Waterford. General business hours are Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. and closed on Sundays. Adoption hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-6 p.m.; Wednesdays 1-8 p.m.; Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and closed on Fridays and Sundays. View other animals at <http://www.loudoun.gov/animals/shelter.htm>.

**"Morning Clouds"** by Tom Zuk, part of the exhibit, Earth, Wind and Water, on display March 6-28, Gallery Two at Gallery 222 in Leesburg.**Flint Hollow performs at the museum at the Autumn Apple Festival October 2008. Randy Collins is on guitar.**

CONTRIBUTED

Calling All Musicians

All skill levels welcome.BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

C et your fiddle and banjo and come down to a Bluegrass Jam at the Heritage Farm Museum of Loudoun County Sunday, March 8, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Join local musicians for an afternoon of impromptu music and fun. The event is free to visitors who bring a musical instrument; regular admission is \$5 per adult, \$4 per seniors and \$3 for children ages 2-12.

Jam sessions are part of a tradition for bluegrass where musicians come together and jam,"

To Go

BLUEGRASS JAM, 2:30-4:30 p.m., March 8, Heritage Farm Museum of Loudoun County, 21668 Heritage Farm Lane, Sterling. Join regional musicians for an afternoon of music, meet new people, improve your skills; refreshments provided. Cost: free event for visitors who bring a musical instrument; regular admission \$5 adult, \$4 senior, \$3 child age 2-12. Call 571-258-3800 or visit www.heritagfarmmuseum.org.

FOOD & DRINK

Send announcements to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks prior to event; photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

A Celebration of Hops, Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m., Tuscarora Mill Restaurant, 203 Harrison St., S.E., Leesburg. Features "over the top hopped" beers as well as some sensa-

THE ARTS

Send announcements to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks prior to event; photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Sterling Playmakers has an immediate opening for an actor, or actress, to play Roger, or Roberta, Hopewell in its production of "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," which is in rehearsal. See <http://www.sterlingplaymakers.com/> for a character description and production dates. For more information, e-mail mcmm1940@sterlingplaymakers.com. Scripts are available through Dramatist's

Upcoming

said Mary Novotny, manager of Heritage Farm Museum. "It's to have fun and transmit skills and learn how bluegrass has been played."

She said in western Loudoun, there are a few bluegrass jams that are regularly scheduled with lots of bluegrass musicians, but not any regular jams in eastern Loudoun. On the first and third Sundays, Frying Pan Park in Herndon has scheduled bluegrass jams, so the Heritage Farm Museum scheduled theirs on the second and fourth Sundays.

"If you're a musician, you come and you get in free with your instrument," said Novotny. Because the program is fairly new, they've had three musicians in the last two sessions. Randy Collins, the lead player for Flint Hollow, played the first week. Last week Barbara Grube brought her fiddle out. "As the word gets out, I'm hoping to have more people here," said Novotny. "I'm hoping to have a dozen people by this summer."

She added: "It's an opportunity for us to create a little community in eastern Loudoun for people who want to learn more about bluegrass and who want to participate."

tional single-hop brews. Cost: \$75 per person inclusive.

Call 703-771-9300 or visit www.tuskies.com.

Willowcroft Farm Vineyards, 38906 Mount Gilead Road, Leesburg, presents a special tasting of wines from Southern Italy Saturday, March 7, 12-5 p.m. Light Italian food will be served to pair with the wines. Cost: \$9 person. Willowcroft will also host "Fondue Day"

where fondue and wine will be paired Sunday, March 29, 1-5 p.m. Cost: \$10 person. Call 703-777-8161 or visit www.willowcroftwine.com.

The Wine Kitchen, 7 S. King St., Leesburg, will host a wine tasting and tapas dinner Wednesday, March 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Call 703-777-9463 or visit www.thewinekitchen.com/goings-ons.html.

Play Service, <http://www.dramatists.com/index.asp>.

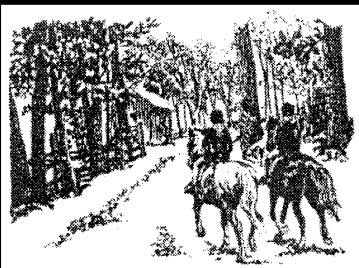
The **Sterling Playmakers** will present their next play, the musical "Puss In Boots," a play for children by Vera Morris, March 7 and 8. Evening performances on Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m., matinees on Saturday's and Sundays, 3 p.m.

Art on exhibit at the libraries for March and April include at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, March: art by the students of The Boyd School in celebration of Youth Art Month and March and April: watercolor paintings by Alice Power; and at Cascades Library, 21030

Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls, nature photography by Jim Emery.

A varied and colorful collection of **fabric art** created by 11 members of the New Image Group will be on exhibit at Gallery 222, **March 6-28**, with an opening reception Friday, March 6, from 6-9 p.m. during Leesburg's Gallery Walk. Gallery Two is collocated with Gallery 222, 222 South King St., Leesburg. Call 703-777-5498 or visit www.gallery222.com.

The **Loudoun Lyric Opera**, supported by the Loudoun Symphony, will perform Donizetti's comic opera "L'Elisir d'Amore" Saturday, March 14 and Sunday, March 15, at 8 p.m., at Heritage High School, 520 Evergreen Mill Road S.E., Leesburg. Cost: \$20 person advance, \$25 person at the door, \$15 senior advance, \$20 senior at the door, free for ages 18 years and younger.



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Nina McClary, front, and Kaitlyn O'Connell, members of the Broad Run High School drum line compete in the 2009 Symphony of Design Indoor Percussion and Winter Guard Competition at Potomac Falls High School Feb. 21.

See More Photos at  ConnectionNewspapers.com

The Broad Run High School drum line competes at the 2009 Symphony of Design Indoor Percussion and Winter Guard Competition at Potomac Falls High School on Feb. 21.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

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SCHOOLS

Keeping Beat

Potomac Falls High School hosted its 4th annual "Symphony of Design," a Winter Guard and Drum Line Competition Saturday, Feb. 21. Among the competitors at the all-day event was Broad Run High School. The program included precision movement, choreography and rhythms of scholastic drum lines.

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40898 SPECTACULAR BID PL	5	5	1	LEESBURG	\$1,158,000	Detached	1.00	BEACON HILL
21584 BURNT HICKORY CT	5	3	0	BROADLANDS	\$846,990	Detached	0.82	BROADLNADS
21816 AINSLEY CT	5	4	1	ASHBURN	\$780,000	Detached	22.96	BROADLNADS
42452 CORRO PL	5	4	1	ASHBURN	\$724,000	Detached	0.22	MORELAND ESTATES
42037 HEATERS ISLAND CT	5	4	1	LEESBURG	\$712,000	Detached	7.20	LEESBURG CROSSING
22082 AUCTION BARN DR	5	4	1	ASHBURN	\$700,001	Detached	0.50	VILLAGE OF WAXPOOL
18322 SEA ISLAND PL	5	4	1	LEESBURG	\$690,000	Detached	0.27	RIVER CREEK
16596 FERRIER CT	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$646,000	Detached	0.96	RASPBERRY FALLS
43247 BROWNSTONE CT	6	5	1	ASHBURN	\$638,000	Detached	ASHBURN FARM
19849 BETHPAGE CT	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$600,000	Detached	0.22	BELMONT COUNTRY CLUB
42448 MEADOW SAGE DR	4	4	1	ASHBURN	\$594,500	Detached	0.16	BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
23091 DUCATO CT	4	8	0	ASHBURN	\$591,000	Detached	0.23	BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
LOST BRANCH CIRCLE	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$585,006	Detached	0.00	AMBERLEIGH ESTATE
22245 VAL VARAITA DR	4	4	0	ASHBURN	\$576,000	Detached	0.52	LAKES AT BELLE TERRA
43272 KRISTIN MARIE CT	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$568,200	Detached	0.23	CEDAR RIDGE
20584 BLUE WATER CT	5	4	1	ASHBURN	\$532,000	Detached	0.27	ASHBURN SQUARE
14354 WATERFORD WOODS CT	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$530,000	Detached	4.50	SAUNDERS
42930 CONQUEST CIR	4	4	1	ASHBURN	\$530,000	Detached	0.20	BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
21003 ROSTORMEL CT	5	3	1	ASHBURN	\$527,500	Detached	1.14	TIMBERBROOKE
44004 RIVERPOINT DR	6	4	0	LEESBURG	\$522,000	Detached	0.31	LANSDOWNE ON THE POTOMAC
19906 ALEXANDRAS GROVE DR	5	3	1	ASHBURN	\$520,000	Detached	0.29	ALEXANDRAS GROVE
42020 RASPBERRY DR	5	4	1	LEESBURG	\$515,000	Detached	3.02	PLAINS OF RASPBERRY
22787 VICKERY PARK DR	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$515,000	Detached	0.15	BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
108 MAX CT SE	5	4	1	LEESBURG	\$515,000	Detached	0.20	STOWERS
43284 AMANDA KAY CT	4	2	1	ASHBURN	\$500,000	Detached	0.21	ALEXANDRAS GROVE AT BLMT
43925 FELICITY PL	4	2	1	ASHBURN	\$500,000	Detached	0.22	ASHBURN VILLAGE
42965 CHANCERY TER	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$499,271	Townhouse	0.12	THE CARRIAGES@LOUDOUN VALLEY
20888 FOWLER'S MILL CIR	5	2	1	ASHBURN	\$490,589	Detached	0.22	ASHBURN VILLAGE
43879 STRONGHOLD CT	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$489,900	Detached	0.23	ASHBURN VILLAGE
813 MELODY CT SE	5	3	1	LEESBURG	\$482,000	Detached	0.21	TAVISTOCK FARMS
529 FORTRESS CIR SE	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$480,000	Detached	0.47	BEAUREGARD ESTATES
18841 ACCOKEEK TER	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$465,000	Townhouse	0.12	LANSDOWNE ON THE POTOMAC
20949 HOLLYBERRY CT	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$440,000	Detached	0.18	ASHBURN FARM
517 CLAGETT ST SW	5	3	1	LEESBURG	\$435,000	Detached	0.25	LEESBURG CO CLB
43591 POPES CREEK SQ	6	4	1	LEESBURG	\$425,000	Townhouse	0.06	LANSDOWNE TOWN CTR
42861 KIRKLAND ST	4	3	0	ASHBURN	\$423,000	Detached	0.17	BELMONT FOREST
43168 CARDSTON PL	5	3	1	LEESBURG	\$410,000	Detached	0.17	POTOMAC STATION
22269 MAYBOROUGH TER	3	3	0	ASHBURN	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.09	WINDERMERE
43218 PARKERS RIDGE DR	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$400,000	Detached	0.19	POTOMAC STATION
295 ARIEL DR NE	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$395,000	Detached	0.17	HAMLET AT LEESBURG
20219 BIRDNSEST PL	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$390,000	Detached	0.15	ASHBURN VILLAGE
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43407 COTON COMMONS DR	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$385,000	Detached	0.14	COTON COMMONS
19226 COTON HOLDINGS CT	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$380,900	Detached	0.14	COTON COMMONS
105 MAX CT SE	5	2	1	LEESBURG	\$375,500	Detached	0.25	STOWERS
44022 KINGS ARMS SQ	3	3	1	ASHBURN	\$357,000	Townhouse	0.04	ASHBURN VILLAGE
20339 BOWFONDS ST	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.07	BELMONT GREENE
43783 CLEMENS TER	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.05	FARMWELL HUNT
43013 CHATHILL TER	3	3	1	LEESBURG	\$345,000	Townhouse	0.06	POTOMAC STATION
43776 MAISON BLANC SQ	3	3	1	ASHBURN	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.06	LOUDOUN PARKWY CNTR
43283 RUSH RUN TER	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$335,000	Patio Home	0.08	ASHBURN FARM
21763 LADYSLIPPER SQ	3	3	1	ASHBURN	\$327,000	Townhouse	0.06	FAULKNER'S LANDING
42522 MAGELLAN SQ	3	2	2	ASHBURN	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.06	BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
20105 PRAIRIE DUNES TER	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.05	BELMONT LAND BAY
21839 LADYSLIPPER SQ	3	3	1	ASHBURN	\$317,000	Townhouse	0.04	FAULKNERS LANDING
43152 SHADOW TER	3	3	1	LEESBURG	\$315,500	Townhouse	0.04	POTOMAC STATION
20333 BOWFONDS ST	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.05	BELMONT GREENE
21711 FRAME SQ	3	2	1	BROADLANDS	\$297,000	Townhouse	0.04	BROADLANDS
43402 NOTTINGHAM SQ	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.05	ASHBRIER
416 DODD DR NW	3	2	1	LEESBURG	\$295,000	Detached	0.23	ANDOVER MEADOW
43377 CHOKEBERRY SQ	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$291,000	Townhouse	0.04	ASHBURN FARM
1509 SHIELDS TER NE	3	2	1	LEESBURG	\$288,900	Townhouse	0.05	EDWARDS LANDING
42939 CHESTERTON ST	3	3	1	ASHBURN	\$280,000	Townhouse	0.05	BELMONT FOREST
20352 CHARTER OAK DR	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$278,000	Townhouse	0.05	BELMONT FOREST
661 MCLEAR SQ SE	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.08	TAVISTOCK FARMS
44897 POINT BAY TER	4	3	1	ASHBURN	\$271,000	Townhouse	0.03	RIVERSIDE VILLAGE AT UNI
21644 FRAME SQ	4	2	2	BROADLANDS	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.04	BROADLANDS
19924 UPLAND TER	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$260,000	Townhouse	0.04	RIVERSIDE VILLAGE AT UNI
447 FOX RIDGE DR SW	3	3	1	LEESBURG	\$260,000	Detached	0.14	FOX RIDGE
43106 SHERBROOKE TER	3	2	2	LEESBURG	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.06	POTOMAC STATION
21846 KELSEY SQ #21846	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$235,000	Townhouse	PARKSIDE AT ASHBURN
43879 CHLOE TER	3	2	2	ASHBURN	\$231,020	Townhouse	0.05	ASHBURN VILLAGE
259 GOLDEN LARCH TER NE	3	2	2	LEESBURG	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.04	SYCAMORE HILL
214 PLAZA ST	4	2	1	LEESBURG	\$220,000	Detached	0.25	CARVALLA
43840 HICKORY CORNER TER#105	2	2	1	ASHBURN	\$215,000	Townhouse	RIDGES AT BELMONT
43974 KITTS HILL TER	3	2	1	ASHBURN	\$215,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	ASHBURN VILLAGE
20582 SNOWSHOE SQ #201	2	2	0	ASHBURN	\$210,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	LAKESHORE
455 PEARLBUSH SQ NE	3	2	1	LEESBURG	\$205,000	Townhouse	0.03	SYCAMORE HILL
410 ANDROMEDA TER NE	4	3	1	LEESBURG	\$194,500	Townhouse	0.05	SYCAMORE HILL
1011 SMARTTS LN NE	3	2	2	LEESBURG	\$192,000	Townhouse	0.05	POTOMAC CROSSING
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118 MAYFAIR DR NE	4	2	1	LEESBURG	\$164,700	Semi-Detached	0.12	MAYFAIR
103 NOTTOWAY ST SE	3	3	1	LEESBURG	\$158,000	Townhouse	0.05	LEESBG STN</

SPORTS

Broad Run Barely Misses State Playoffs

Successful season under Costello ends with 65-59 region playoff loss to Orange.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

It was a tough way to end the season for the Broad Run High boys basketball team. The Spartans, one win away from qualifying for their first Virginia State AA playoff appearance, had overcome a first-half 13-point deficit in last Thursday night's Region II, Division 4 semifinals playoff game against Orange High. In front of their boisterous, enthusiastic partisan home crowd, Broad Run, the recently-crowned Dulles District champion, had surged back and taken a lead in the latter stages of the third quarter.

The game then went back and forth for several minutes. When Broad Run senior guard Breon Earl, who played a spectacular second half of basketball, converted an 18-foot jumper from the right wing a couple minutes into the fourth period, the Spartans held a one-point advantage.

But that is when the guests from the Jefferson District put a final spurt together — one that resembled the early stages of the contest when they jumped out to a 15-6 lead. This time, the Fighting Hornets went on a 10-2 tear that gave them a seven-point lead with less than two minutes to play, all but putting the game away. Orange went on to win the game, 65-59, earning a meeting with Charlottesville High in the title game.

Broad Run, though it lost, had fought hard all the way and given their fans a thrill in the exciting postseason game. The Spartans had nearly overcome a 37-26 halftime deficit.

"We stayed together as a team," said Earl,

who led Broad Run's comeback charge by scoring nine of his team-high 15 points in the third quarter. "When they were up by 11 points at halftime, we stuck together. We started doing what we do best [after halftime] — playing defense, rebounding and getting in transition."

EARL MADE THINGS happen for his team after halftime. He scored on hard drives to the basket as well as on medium-range jumpers and he also found open teammates such as big men Will Field (14 points, 10 rebounds, two blocked shots) and Kevin McGaughey (10 points).

"He was terrific," Broad Run coach John Costello said of Earl. "He went out the way a senior should go out."

Orange ultimately regained the momentum and won, thanks in large part to the play of 6-foot-3 senior Quintin Hunter, a guard-forward player who recently signed a scholarship to play collegiate football at the University of Virginia. Hunter scored a game-high 28 points with 12 rebounds. Most of his points came inside the lane off of drives to the hoops, rebound follow-ups or jump shots within the lane. But he also connected on outside shots, including one 3-pointer. Following Earl's basket that had given Broad Run its final lead at 51-50 early in the fourth quarter, Hunter took charge of the game by scoring his team's next three baskets, leading Orange to the win.

BUT HUNTER had a good supporting cast of talented players capable of making huge plays. Perhaps the biggest play of the game came during Orange's final quarter scoring



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Broad Run senior center Will Field (50) scored numerous baskets from close range during the second half of the Spartans' Region II playoff game against the Hornets. Twelve of Field's 14 points came after halftime.

spree when 6-5 senior forward Dennis Brown (seven points) shocked the Spartan faithful with an unbelievable sequence in which he blocked a driving shot by Earl before running down the loose ball, dribbling down the court on a breakaway and

slamming the ball into the basket on a one-handed dunk shot. That gave the Hornets a 58-53 lead with two minutes, 35 seconds left to play.

"Orange is awesome and very athletic,"
SEE TOUGH, PAGE 15

SPORTS ROUNDUP



Athlete of the Week

It was another good season for the Broad Run High girls basketball team, which went 15-11 with a stellar 9-5 mark in the Dulles District. The Spartans, under coach Mike O'Hara, qualified for the Region II playoffs for the sixth time in eight years. Their season ended at the Division 4 region semifinals with a loss at Charlottesville High last week. Broad Run senior Chelsea Gantt (22) scored eight points in the season-ending setback.

Athlete of the Week Sponsored by The Greg Wells Team

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Loudoun Field Hockey Association will hold two open houses for youth and adult players, on Saturday, March 7, from 1-2 p.m., at Morven Park, and Sunday, March 8, from 1-2 p.m., at Northern Virginia Community College-Loudoun campus. Learn what field hockey is about and give it a try by picking up a stick and running through skill stations. E-mail RSVPs to meg@loudounfieldhockey.org. For more information about locations, visit www.loudounfieldhockey.org.

Register for a fun introduction to the **basics of basketball**. Youngsters, ages 3-5, will develop motor skills, cognitive abilities and social relationships. Open to boys and girls. All classes held at the Douglass Community Center in Leesburg. For 3 year olds, classes are on Thursdays, from April 16-30, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Cost is \$25. For children ages 4-5, classes will also be on Thursdays, from April 16-30, from 4:15-5 p.m. Cost is \$30. Register by contacting the Douglass Community Cen-

ter at 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

Loudoun County Parks and Recreation has teamed with Challenger Sports to offer **British Soccer Clinics** this spring at the Douglass Community Center. For children ages 3-4, clinics will run Fridays, from April 17-June 5, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Cost is \$90. For children ages 5-6, clinics will also run from April 17-June 5, from 4:45-6:15 p.m. Cost is \$110. For more information or to register, contact the Douglass Community Center at 703-771-5913 or e-mail dcc@loudoun.gov.

Members of the international competition team of **Williams Martial Arts and Fitness** (WMAF) in Ashburn brought back 13 medals from the International TaiKai Karate Tournament in Rome, Italy. The tournament, held in February, drew hundreds of top martial artists from across Europe and North America. WMAF was part of an SEE ROUNDUP, PAGE 15

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Opposites Attract What, Exactly



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As an old, comparatively speaking, married man, I am intrigued by the how-couples-met process of today's engaged and/or married couples. The fact that there can be some rhyme or reason for individuals to actually meet seems quite an advantage over those of us who had no real practical alternative other than letting "the chips fall where they may" or allowing "nature to take its course."

Still, not having had that opportunity doesn't necessarily mean that all is lost, it more likely means that potentially all, certainly some, things may not yet be found. And how could it all be found, especially if you're not starting from the same place? It seems like relationships would be so much easier if there were more inherited similarities than there were newly discovered differences, more common interests, shared experiences and familiar "familialities." And not that there are any guarantees in life ("other than death and taxes"), but knowing more about your partner would seem to be quite an advantage over knowing less. Granted, some of the adventure in pursuit of the inevitable discovery — who, what, where, how and why — might be missing, but so too might some of the disappointment and difficulties be missing when two attempt to become one. As the character Tevye, from *Fiddler on the Roof*, said, "A bird can love a fish, but where would they live?"

Nowadays, if you're attempting to match, with some professional data entry-type assistance, this problem would never arise (I know, never is a long time), presumably nor would a host of other conflicts arise among people who speak different languages (figuratively speaking but certainly literally, too): religion, age range, smoke or not, like pets, like/want children, among many other considerations too numerous to list. But maybe not. Chemistry, in the classroom, on the job, in social settings, isn't really drawn up in any book. It seems to be somewhere between the luck of the draw and there being no accounting for taste: opposites attract, like-minded persons/personalities clash, individuals from similar backgrounds aren't necessarily similar; in summary, what's good for the goose isn't necessarily good for the gander and vice versa. True in nature might not necessarily be true in nurture.

What brought this curiosity to light was a recent neighborhood function, the post-wedding BBQ to celebrate a neighbor's son's betrothal. The couple were both in their mid-twenties. They met over the internet. The groom (my neighbor) lives in Montgomery County, Md., the bride lived in Richmond, Va. Given the geography involved, it's unlikely they would have met otherwise. How did it all happen? I asked. They matched on line, they said. When I asked their recollections of their profiles and whatever it was that they thought they had in common that led to the match, all they could muster was "family was important." And though I tried to learn more about their how and why and so forth concerning their "togetherness," no further explanation was offered.

As incomplete as I thought their answers were (given the "matching" elements presumably in play), perhaps they really weren't so incomplete. Perhaps starting from one common point is enough. Time will certainly tell, just like for the rest of us old married couples.

Maybe we're not that different after all. Maybe it matters not how — and/or why — you start, maybe it matters more how you finish.

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

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OBITUARY

Karl Owen Joedicke, 34, died on Friday, February 20, 2009 at his residence in Centreville, VA. Karl is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Stacey M. Joedicke, his parents, Ingo and Donna Joedicke, his sister, Jenine Gardner (Doug), his grandparents, Esther and Robert McCarthy and Gisela and Erwin Joedicke, his nieces, Alexis, Jaelyn and Sophia, his in-laws, Don and Mikey Wood, his brother-in-law, Richard Wood (Vashti), and Stacey's grandparents, Mary B. Wood and Oscar Link. Funeral services were held at the Church of the Holy Comforter, Vienna, Va., on Saturday, February 28, 2009 at 12 Noon. Entombment followed at Stonewall Memory Gardens in Manassas, Va.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the Lyme Disease Association, Inc., PO Box 1438, Jackson, NJ 08527 or to the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Rd., Vienna, Va 22180. Arrangements were by Money and King, Vienna, Va. Please view and sign the guestbook at: www.moneyandking.com

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

NOTICE****NOTICE****NOTICE****NOTICE****NOTICE*****

The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRA) hereby issues an INVITATION TO BID ON Request For Proposal (RFP) for:

Army Child Care In Your Neighborhood For U.S. Army Active Duty Service Family Members In the Northern Virginia area. For a copy of the full proposal, questions and submission go to: <http://www.naccrra.org/MilitaryPrograms/bidders/>

Responses are due by electronic copy to the following NACCRRA email address: accyn.rfp@naccrra.org No later than 4:30 pm (EST) on Friday, March 27, 2009. Original response to Request for Proposals with original signatures is due:

By hand delivery or post marked received date no later than 5:00 pm (EST) Friday, April 3, 2009 Proposals shall be opened and reviewed for consideration on: 5:00 pm (EST) on Monday, April 6, 2009 Award notification shall be posted on the NACCRRA website on:

5:30 (EST) pm on Monday April 20, 2009 Contract Duration: May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010 Submit proposals to: Caitlin McLaughlin, Associate Director, Quality Improvement Initiatives, 3101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 350 Arlington, Virginia 22201 703-341-4100

Responses emailed and/or mailed but not received at the designated address by the specified time and date will not be considered as meeting this requirement and will not be evaluated

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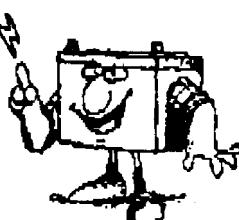
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