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months, to sleep in
the infant room at
King Solomon's
Christian Academy.

Healing Place

NEWS, PAGE 3

Bare Cupboards

NEWS, PAGE 3

Celebrating Black History

SCHOOLS, PAGE 7

Caring Hands

NEWS, PAGE 3

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

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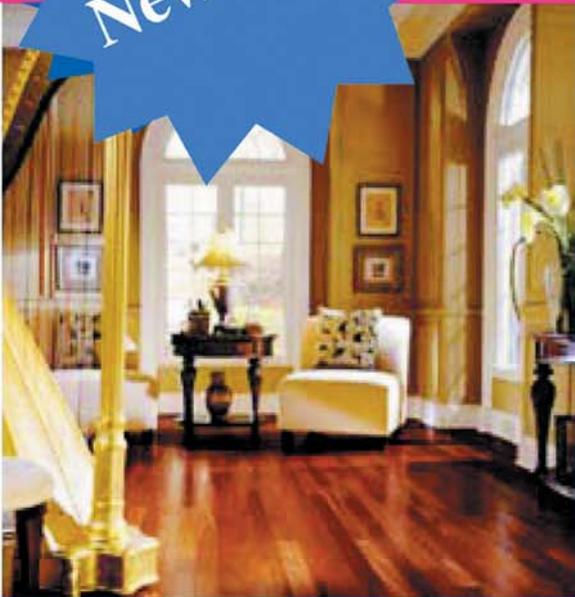
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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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, multihoppled 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

SEE LENDING, PAGE 5

Helping Others Recover

Couple 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 ex-

periences 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 donate the land. They are in the process of

gaining nonprofit status, while Gross works toward his certifications to be a counselor 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.

SEE COUPLE, PAGE 4

Emptying Shelves

Food pantry sees increase 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 were 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 nonprofit 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 information 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 need LIR's services two to three months, but lately they've been seeing people returning up to six months or more at a time.

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

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.

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, eliminating one of the last portions of gravel road between the Leesburg and Ashburn in Loudoun County.

NEWS



PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION
A Cascades neighborhood is covered in snow after the storm.

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

Couple Plans to Open Facility

FROM PAGE 3

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 associ-

ated with Chinese medicine.

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

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.

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.

Lending a Caring Hand

FROM PAGE 3

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."

"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

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

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.kingsolomonsca.org to go to the academy's site directly to find information about the curriculum, tuition rates and registration.

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, 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 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 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."

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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.

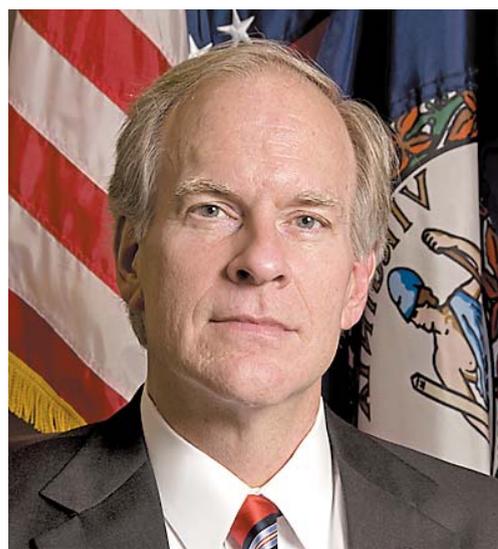
SeniorNavigator developed and manages the online resource www.SeniorNavigator.org. Since its launch in February 2001, SeniorNavigator.org has served as a resource

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



Community Builders

On Feb. 19, at Heritage Farm Museum, local nonprofit Loudoun Cares graduated the second class of youth volunteers from the Claude Moore Community Builders Program. The graduates are Ally Burnett, Abby Chapple, Hannah Chapple, Sara Dufour, Caitlyn Ebbets, Sharde Echols, Samantha Evans, Chris Farley, Kathryn Green, Taylor Ham, Nicole Ivey, Jin-Ju Kim, Madison Langenbach, Stephanie Luu, Victoria Luu, Isabel Manosalva, Shin Park, Alyssa Samuel, Saurav Sharma, Kelsey Stiles and Brooke Zeltner.

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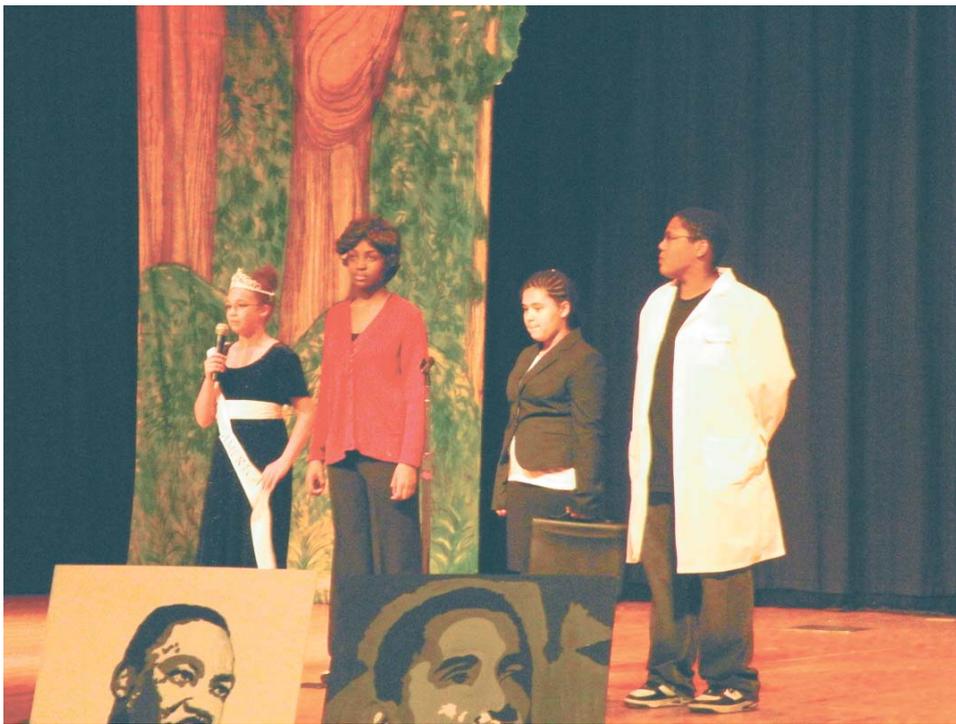
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SCHOOLS



Four students dressed as lesser-known, accomplished African-Americans gave short biographies of the individuals they portrayed.

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/ THE CONNECTION

Celebrating Black History Month

The students of Sterling Middle School performed in and watched a presentation outlining African-American history.

For more photos, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com

The students of Sterling Middle School celebrated the past and present at an assembly in honor of Black History Month Feb. 27.

Under the theme "From Chains to Change," the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders individually watched the same presentation performed by their fellow students. Dressed in their "grade colors," the sixth-graders wore white, the seventh-graders wore red and the eighth-graders donned black and learned about the tragedies and triumphs of African-Americans throughout the nation's history.

On a stage lined with the portraits of President Barack Obama, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman, the performers detailed several landmark events in black history.

First, a group of students in white shirts and cut-off pants bound in chains briefly re-enacted the life of a slave. Walking across the stage, they sang and

moaned, conveying the physical and emotional pain the slaves endured. Then, two students re-enacted the historic meeting between President Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass where Douglass pleaded with the president to sign the emancipation proclamation. Following that, two students read famous poems by Langston Hughes.

Next, students dressed as Vanessa Williams, Madam C.J. Walker and Dr. Ben Carson gave short bios on the people they were portraying to honor the accomplishments of lesser-known African-Americans. The students then performed a rendition of Rosa Parks' bus ordeal.

The assembly concluded with a musical slide show that featured pictures of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a speech from a student portraying President Obama. All of the performers then came to the stage for a rendition of the "Negro National Anthem."

— JUSTIN FANIZZI

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 |

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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>.



CONTRIBUTED

"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.



CONTRIBUTED

Flint Hollow performs at the museum at the Autumn Apple Festival October 2008. Randy Collins is on guitar.

Calling All Musicians

All skill levels welcome.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Get 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,"

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.

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.heritagefarmmuseum.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 mcm1940@sterlingplaymakers.com. Scripts are available through Dramatist's

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

Upcoming

BUNNY BONANZA. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., April 8, Heritage Farm Museum of Loudoun County, 21668 Heritage Farm Lane, Sterling. Learn about responsible pet ownership from the members of local animal organizations. Live animals, hands-on activities and demonstrations. Co-Sponsored by the Department of Animal Care and Control. Bunny Bonanza is free with paid museum admission.

"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 Grupe 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."

where fondue and wine will be paired person. **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.html.

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" person inclusive. Call 703-771-9300 or visit www.tuskies.com.

The Sterling United Methodist Players is presenting "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday evenings, **March 6 and 7**, and at 2 p.m., Sunday afternoon, **March 8**, in the sanctuary of Sterling United Methodist Church, 304 East Church Road in Sterling. Cost: in advance \$7 per adult and \$5 per child age 4-12, children age 3 and under are free, but pick up a ticket to hold the child's seat and at the door \$1 more. Contact the church office at 703-430-6455 or visit www.sterlingumc.org.

Paintings by Sterling artist Tom Zuk will be on display in Gallery Two at Gallery 222 in Leesburg. The exhibit, Earth, Wind and Water, will be on display

CALENDAR

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

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 4

BABYGARTEN. 10 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Babygarten is a program that focuses on how nursery rhymes, songs and books can enrich children's lives. Session meets every Wednesday, March 4-April 8. Recommended for ages 0-18 months with a parent or caregiver. Visit library.loudoun.gov to register.

RHYTHM, RHYME AND TUNE TIME. 11:15 a.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Sing, chant, play instruments and move creatively while exploring the sounds, rhythms and patterns that make up our language. Session runs Wednesdays, March 4-April 8. Recommended for ages 0-4 with a parent or caregiver. Registration, by lottery, is open from Feb. 17-22. Call 703-737-8100.

READING PALS VOLUNTEERS. 4:30 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Volunteer to help children in first-third grades improve their reading skills. Volunteers will be trained and then paired with a child for a six-week program, Wednesdays, March 4-April 15. Recommended for ages 12-18. Call 703-737-8100 to register.

THURSDAY/MARCH 5

SENIOR TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico. Lunch on own at museum. Cost: \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers, includes transportation and free admission. Extensive walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

DR. SEUSS' BIRTHDAY. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Celebrate Dr. Seuss' 104th birthday with books, songs and more. For ages 5-8. Visit library.loudoun.gov, 703-444-3228.

EYE SPY. 9:30-11 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-6. Explore nature, look high and low, for animals and plants that live in the park. Cost: \$10.50 child. 571-258-3700.

FRIDAY/MARCH 6

BABYGARTEN. 10 a.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Session meets every Friday, March 6-April 10. See March 4 item for details.

NATURE BUDDIES. 9:15-10 a.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Age 2. Toddlers explore nature with an adult. Discover the trees, birds and ponds of the park relating to insects. No unregistered siblings. Cost: \$5.25 per child. 571-258-3700.

NATURE EXPLORERS. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-5. Discover the outdoors with a grown-up friend. Look for tracks, listen for birdcalls, look under logs and more, while focusing on Bug Buddies. Cost: \$7 per child. 571-258-3700.

AFTER HOURS TEEN CENTER. 7-10 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. "Duct Tape Design." All teens attending the After Hours Teen Center must have a permission slip, signed by a parent or guardian, on file. Download the permission slip at <http://library.loudoun.gov> to Teen

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. In addition, several of the members will be present for a Gallery Talk Sunday, March 22, at 3 p.m., to answer questions about their artwork. Contact Gallery 222 at www.gallery222.com or 703-777-5498; Gallery 222 is located at 222 South King St. in historic downtown Leesburg.

Paintings by Sterling artist Tom Zuk will be on display in Gallery Two at Gallery 222 in Leesburg. The exhibit, Earth, Wind and Water, will be on display

Scene>Events>Hanging Out Rocks. **JOSIE BALLATO.** 7 p.m., Loudoun Museum, 16 Loudoun St. S.W., Leesburg. Josie Ballato, author of "Along Virginia's Route 15," will provide insight on collecting, selecting and valuing postcards for historians and hobbyists. She will also discuss her experiences as a novice author using postcard images from her recently published book. Cost: \$5. Call 703-777-7427 to register.

TEEN NIGHT. 6:30-9:30 p.m., Claude Moore Recreation Center, 46105 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling. Ages 11-14. Teen Night is a weekly, supervised recreational program for middle-school students. Admission covers planned activities, pizza and drinks. Required paperwork can be downloaded from www.loudoun.gov/prcs. Parents must sign for teens upon arrival and departure. Call 571-258-3600 or e-mail sharon.kilpatrick@loudoun.gov. Cost: \$5.

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

VANISHING VERNAL POOLS. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Rust Nature Sanctuary, 802 Children's Center Road S.W., Leesburg. This program will include an indoor session on vernal pool ecology followed by an outdoor exploration of vernal pool habitats at the Rust Nature Sanctuary and other nearby locations. Cost: Audubon Naturalist Society and Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy members \$29; nonmembers \$41. Registration required, contact ANS at 301-652-9188, Ext. 16.

VIDEO STORY TIME. 2 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Story time matinee for 3-6 year olds with stories, songs, a video storybook and a craft. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

SPRING BLING. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Ida Lee Park Recreation Center, 60 Ida Lee Drive, Leesburg. More than 100 vendors will sell jewelry, home decor items, clothing, candles, soaps and more. Free. Call 703-737-7156 or visit www.idalee.org.

STAR-SPANGLED GIRLS. 2 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. The Touring Theatre of North Carolina performs "Star-Spangled Girls," which highlights the experiences and contributions of women veterans of WWII through stories and song. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

SUNDAY/MARCH 8

BLUEGRASS JAM. 2:30-4:30 p.m., Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum, 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.heritagefarmmuseum.org.

MONDAY/MARCH 9

BABYGARTEN. 10:30 a.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Babygarten is a program that focuses on how nursery rhymes, songs and books can enrich children's lives. Session meets every Monday, March 9-April 13. Recommended for ages 0-18 months with a parent or caregiver. Visit library.loudoun.gov to register.

BEAVER BRIGADE. 9:30-11 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-6. Search for dams and chewed down trees while discovering the watery life of beavers. Cost: \$10.50 per child. 571-258-3700.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE STORY TIME. 10:45 a.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn.

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.

Monotype and relief prints by Heather Self will be on exhibit from

Neorealist **Sherry Zvares Sanabria's** paintings from the series, "Unforgotten: Slave Quarters and Other African American Sites" will be on display through **March 23**, at George Washington University Virginia Campus, Building 2, 44983 Knoll Square, Ashburn. Complimenting the Sanabria exhibit, Honoring and Commemorating Black Leadership is a selection of the artwork chosen or commissioned by the U.S. Postal Service, will be on display through **March 23**.

Monotype and relief prints by Heather Self will be on exhibit from

Expose children to other languages through stories and songs. Ages 3 and up. Registration required; call 703-737-8100 or visit library.loudoun.gov.

IRISH DANCING. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. The students of Applause! Applause! Performing Arts Center will perform Irish dances. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

WHEN TOAD CAME HOME. 4 p.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Celebrate the birthday of Kenneth Graham, author of "When Toad Came Home." Recommended for ages 6-10. Register at library.loudoun.gov or by phone 703-430-9500.

TUESDAY/MARCH 10

SENIOR TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to Alexandria for tours of Carlyle House, a Georgian-Palladian mansion, followed by a tour of the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Lunch on own in downtown Alexandria with time for shopping. Cost: \$12 for members, \$14 for nonmembers, includes transportation and tours. Extensive walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

BABYGARTEN. 2 p.m. Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Session meets every Tuesday, March 10-April 14. See March 9 item for details.

RHYTHM, RHYME AND TUNE TIME. 10 a.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Sing, chant, play instruments and move creatively while exploring the sounds, rhythms and patterns that make up our language. Session runs Tuesdays, March 10-April 14. Recommended for ages 0-4 years with a parent or caregiver. Call 703-430-9500.

ELLEN SCHREIBER. 7 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Meet Ellen Schreiber, author of "Vampire Kisses" and "Teenage Mermaid" and learn all the facts behind creating the fantastic characters of Alexander and Raven. Books will be available for sale and signing. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

MAD SCIENTISTS' CLUB. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Children ages 9-11 can explore science topics through recreational activities. Theme is "Geology Rocks!" Registration required; call 703-737-8100 or visit library.loudoun.gov to register.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

SENIOR TRIP. The Senior Center at Cascades Marketplace, 21060 Whitfield Place, will take a trip to Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia, Md., to see "My Way-A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra." Cost: \$58 for members, \$60 for nonmembers, includes transportation, show, buffet lunch and tip. Minimum walking. Call 703-430-2397 for departure and return times and locations.

RHYTHM, RHYME AND TUNE TIME. 1:30 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Sing, chant, play instruments and move creatively as we explore the sounds, rhythms and patterns that make up our language. Session runs Wednesdays, March 11-April 15. Recommended for ages 18 months-4 years with a parent or caregiver. Call 703-444-3228.

RHYTHM, RHYME AND TUNE TIME. 10 a.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Sing, chant, play instruments and move creatively as we explore the sounds, rhythms and patterns that make up our language. Session runs Wednesdays, March 11-April 15. Recommended for ages 0-4 years with a parent or caregiver. Call 703-430-9500.

Northern Virginia Community College, 1000 Harry Flood Byrd Highway, Sterling.

The Loudoun Ballet Company will perform its spring production, "Shades of Beauty," Saturday, **March 28** and Sunday, **March 29**, at 2 p.m., both days, at Potomac Falls High School, 46400 Algonkian Parkway, Sterling. Cost: \$12 adults advance, \$10 children and seniors advance, \$15 person at the door. Call 703-771-8074 or visit www.loudounballet.org.

Paintings by Loudoun artists Maggie Siner and Kurt Schwarz are on display at Washington Dulles International

NATURE WALK. 3-5 p.m., eastern Loudoun County. Join Mike Hayslett for an exploration of one of eastern Loudoun's natural areas where vernal pools thrive with wood frogs, spring peepers and salamanders. Hayslett will discuss the lifecycles of the animals that use vernal pools for breeding locations and the importance of the forests that surround them. Preregistration required; contact Nicole Hamilton at nhamilton@loudounwildlife.org or call 540-554-2542.

AMPHIBIANS AFOOT. 7-8:30 p.m., Broadlands Nature Center, 21907 Claiborne Parkway, Broadlands. Join Mike Hayslett for a discussion about vernal pools and their unique attributes. Learn about the diversity of frogs, toads and salamanders and their habitats. E-mail Nicole Hamilton at nhamilton@loudounwildlife.org or call 540-554-2542.

JOINT CHOIR CONCERT. 7:30 p.m., Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church, 43115 Waxpool Road, Ashburn. The Stone Bridge High School Choir will team with the choir from Tennessee Tech University to perform. Visit www.oswlc.org.

THURSDAY/MARCH 12

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.

BEAVER BRIGADE. 9:30-11 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. Ages 3-6. Search for dams and chewed down trees while discovering the watery life of beavers. Cost: \$10.50 per child. 571-258-3700.

FROGSHACKLE OPEN HOUSE. 2:30-4 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. All ages. Discover a treasure trove of objects from nature. Free, 571-258-3700.

CLUTTER CONTROL. 7 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Professional organizer Pablo Buitrago, will share tips and techniques to keep a home clutter-free. Recommended for adults. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or by phone at 703-444-3228.

FRIDAY/MARCH 13

RHYTHM, RHYME AND TUNE TIME. 10:30 a.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Session runs Wednesdays, March 13-April 17. See March 11 item for details.

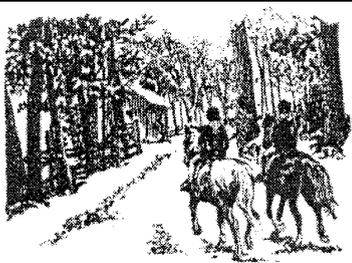
AFTER HOURS TEEN CENTER. 7-10 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. "Duct Tape Design." All teens attending the After Hours Teen Center must have a permission slip, signed by a parent or guardian, on file. Download the permission slip at <http://library.loudoun.gov> to Teen

Scene>Events>Hanging Out Rocks. **TEEN NIGHT.** 6:30-9:30 p.m., Claude Moore Recreation Center, 46105 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling. Ages 11-14. Teen Night is a weekly, supervised recreational program for middle-school students. Admission covers planned activities, pizza and drinks. Required paperwork can be downloaded from www.loudoun.gov. Parents must sign for teens upon arrival and departure. Call 571-258-3600 or e-mail sharon.kilpatrick@loudoun.gov. Cost: \$5.

POTOMAC JAZZ. 7:10 p.m., Sala Thai, 44640 Waxpool Road, Ashburn. The PJJ Duo with Phil Mathieu on guitar will perform live. Call 703-

Airport through **March 31**. The exhibit, coordinated by Gallery 222 and the Washington Metropolitan Airport Authority, is the sixth in the program's rotating series of displays. The paintings are installed in the area beyond the security checkpoints in the Main Terminal on the Arrivals Level.

Gallery 222 will host "An Evening for Art's Sake" Friday, **April 10**, 6-9 p.m., at Thomas Birkby House, 109 Loudoun St. S.W., Leesburg. Silent and live auctions feature original artwork by leading area artists, gifts and other items. Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres provided. Visit www.gallery222.com or call 703-777-5498 for tickets.



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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.

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.

See More Photos at  ConnectionNewspapers.com



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

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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| 45801 MOUNTAIN PINE SQ | 4 | 4 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | | \$439,900 | | Townhouse | | 0.09 | | TALL OAKS |
| 21046 LOWELL CT | 4 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | | \$340,000 | | Detached | | 0.09 | | WOODLAND VILLAGE |
| 20556 WILLOUGHBY SQ #74 | 3 | 2 | 2 | .. | 2 | STERLING | ..... | \$336,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | LOWES ISLAND |
| 20832 BUTTERWOOD FALLS TER | 3 | 2 | 2 | .. | 2 | STERLING | ..... | \$333,800 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | GREAT FALLS CHASE |
| 45620 LIVINGSTONE STATION ST | 4 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$330,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.09 | ..... | PEACE PLANTATION |
| 213 PENNY LN | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$327,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.17 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 21087 ALBERTA TER | 4 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$324,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | COLONNADE AT DULLES |
| 1 WORTHINGTON CT | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$305,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.18 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 143 SENECA RIDGE DR | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$300,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.24 | ..... | SENECA RIDGE |
| 22 MCPHERSON CIR | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$287,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.10 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 46953 TRUMPET CIR#11/29/08 | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$286,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.06 | ..... | FOX CREEK |
| 425 AVONDALE DR | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$285,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.22 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 104 ALMOND CT | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$280,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.24 | ..... | FOREST RIDGE |
| 21075 DANBURY CT | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$277,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.13 | ..... | WOODLAND VILLAGE |
| 115 TAMARACK CT | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$275,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.23 | ..... | FOREST RIDGE |
| 21812 STONINGTON SQ | 4 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$275,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | WOODSTONE |
| 1301 MAPLE AVE E | 5 | 3 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$275,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.25 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 45648 IRON HORSE TER | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$270,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | DOMINION STATION |
| 46686 CRYSTAL CT | 4 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$269,900 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | MIRROR RIDGE |
| 800 ROANOKE CT | 4 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$268,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.28 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 21885 SHALLOW ROCK SQ | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$265,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.06 | ..... | WOODSTONE |
| 1802 BRANDON AVE | 4 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$260,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.25 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 104 RED OAK LN | 5 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$260,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.23 | ..... | FOREST RIDGE |
| 206 FLETCHER RD | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$260,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.12 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 22007 MANNING SQ | 4 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$259,900 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.03 | ..... | PEACE PLANTATION II |
| 200 CAMERON ST | 5 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$252,500 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.22 | ..... | SPRING GROVE FARM |
| 22920 FLEET TER | 4 | 3 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$250,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | GROVEWOOD-PCL B |
| 23049 POTOMAC HILL SQ | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$248,500 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | ROCKHILL CENTER/ESTATES |
| 2 DUDLEY CT | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$246,700 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.14 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 408 ARGONNE AVE | 4 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$241,900 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.12 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 902 STERLING BLVD | 4 | 3 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$237,515 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.19 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 200 AMHURST PL | 4 | 3 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$237,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.21 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 719 STERLING BLVD | 4 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$235,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.21 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 22933 FLEET TER | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$234,500 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | GROVEWOOD-PCL B |
| 609 CHURCH RD W | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$230,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.27 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 21862 MAYWOOD TER | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$226,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | WOODSTONE |
| 33 NICHOLSON CT | 4 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$225,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.06 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 124 ASPEN AVE | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$220,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.24 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 45443 GABLE SQ | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$220,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | OLD STERL GABLE |
| 46012 CARAWAY TER #107 | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$220,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | PARKSIDE AT DULLES |
| 706 STERLING BLVD | 4 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$215,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.19 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 23154 BLACKTHORN SQ #1803 | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$212,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | PARKSIDE AT DULLES |
| 21 LUDWELL CT | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$210,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 3 CALVERT CT | 4 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$210,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.22 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 312 DERBY CT | 5 | 3 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$203,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.28 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 304 POPLAR RD | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$202,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.23 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 202 KENNEDY RD S | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$202,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.22 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 313 ARGONNE AVE | 4 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$200,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.19 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 208 LINCOLN AVE | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$200,000 | .... | Duplex | ..... | 0.13 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 902 AMELIA ST | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$198,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.23 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 130 FILLMORE AVE N | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$193,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.19 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 53 BICKEL CT | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$191,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.06 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 133 COTTAGE RD | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$186,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 1 MERCER CT | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$182,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.06 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 103 BICKEL CT | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$180,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 29 ALDEN CT | 3 | 1 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$175,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 101 ALDER AVE | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$175,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.24 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 516 TAVENNER CT | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$167,500 | .... | Duplex | ..... | 0.12 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 46 DORRELL CT | 2 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$165,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.03 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 11 BICKEL CT | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$165,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.06 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 22409 STABLEHOUSE DR | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$162,700 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | DOMINION VIEW |
| 200 ALDER AVE | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$160,000 | .... | Detached | ..... | 0.20 | ..... | STERLING PARK |
| 23 ALDEN CT | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$160,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.03 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 111 ANDREW PL #39 | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$159,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.03 | ..... | SEC NEWBERRY |
| 37 SOUTHALL CT | 2 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$155,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.03 | ..... | COUNTRYSIDE |
| 616 GILES PL #33 | 3 | 3 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$145,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.07 | ..... | HUNINGTON RIDGE 2 |
| 21823 BALDWIN SQ #300 | 2 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$145,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.10 | ..... | CHATHAM GREEN |
| 37 SUGARLAND SQUARE CT | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$144,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.10 | ..... | SUGARLAND SQ |
| 907 CHESHIRE CT #42 | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$143,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | NEWBERRY |
| 7 REGIS CIR | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$141,750 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 200 CHARING CT #49 | 2 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$135,500 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.07 | ..... | HUNINGTON RIDGE 3 |
| 48 SUGARLAND SQUARE CT | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$133,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | SUGARLAND SQ |
| 103 HAYLOFT CIR | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$131,300 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 55 ESSEX SQ #55 | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$130,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | PROVIDENCE VILLAGE |
| 7 SUGARLAND SQUARE CT | 2 | 3 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$129,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | SUGARLAND SQ |
| 6 PROVIDENCE SQ #6 | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$125,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | PROVIDENCE VILLAGE |
| 7 SIMEON LN | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$120,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 12 WEDGE DALE DR | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$118,900 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.06 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 1018B BRIXTON CT #1018B | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$115,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | NEWBERRY |
| 120 AUBURN DR #51 | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$115,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | PEMBROOKE OF LOUDOUN |
| 304 ARGUS PL #187 | 2 | 1 | 2 | .. | 2 | STERLING | ..... | \$110,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.04 | ..... | HUNINGTON RIDGE |
| 892 HOLBORN CT #892 | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$110,000 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | NEWBERRY |
| 40 SIMEON LN | 3 | 2 | 0 | .. | 0 | STERLING | ..... | \$105,900 | .... | Townhouse | ..... | 0.05 | ..... | SUGARLAND RUN |
| 1028B MARGATE CT #1028B | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | STERLING | ..... | \$100,000 | .... | Townhouse | | | | |

First Thing's First for State-Bound Dominion

Titan readying for Saturdays quarterfinals game in Richmond.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Dominion High boys basketball coach Steve Douglas calls this the year of "firsts" for his Titans' program. Indeed, it has been a breakthrough winter for Dominion, in its sixth season of existence as a program.

"There have been a lot of 'firsts,'" said Douglas.

Those "firsts" include winning the regular season Dulles District title, winning both of its regular season meetings against district rivals Park View and Potomac Falls, reaching the district tournament finals, qualifying for both regionals and states and winning 20 games.

That's quite a season for a team that was .500 a year ago.

"It's very exciting and a new experience for us all."

— Steve Douglas,
Dominion High boys basketball coach

"It's been an opportunity for us to get a feeling for what winning is all about," said Douglas. "It's like getting a new car."

Dominion's quest for a first Region II, Division 4 title fell just short last Saturday night when the Titans lost to Handley High (Winchester), 60-53, in the region finals game played at

Orange County High School, located outside of Charlottesville.

Despite the setback, Dominion (21-7) is set to compete at this weekend's state AA tournament. The Titans are scheduled to meet Brunswick High (Lawrenceville) in a quarterfinals round game this Saturday afternoon at the Seigel Center in Richmond. Tip-off is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

The Titans automatically qualified for the eight-team state tournament when it defeated William Monroe, 40-38, in a Region II semifinals contest last Thursday at Dominion.

Dominion's state playoff appearance marks just the third time in Loudoun County history in which a boys basketball team has qualified for states. The prior two teams to make it were the 1988 Loudoun Valley team and the 2002 Loudoun Valley squad. Ironically, Douglas was a player on the '88 Valley team that captured the state crown with a finals win over Brunswick High at University Hall in Charlottesville. The coach of that Loudoun Valley team was Scott Douglas, Steve's dad.

"It's very exciting," said Steve Douglas, of guiding a team to states as a coach after having experienced a state tournament as a player. "To get a chance to play in the state [tournament], I'm tickled to death. You have to have good talent [around you]."

CERTAINLY, this year's Dominion squad has got the talent. But, in the region finals loss to Handley (Northwestern District), the Titans could not get things going on offense.

SEE DOMINION, PAGE 15

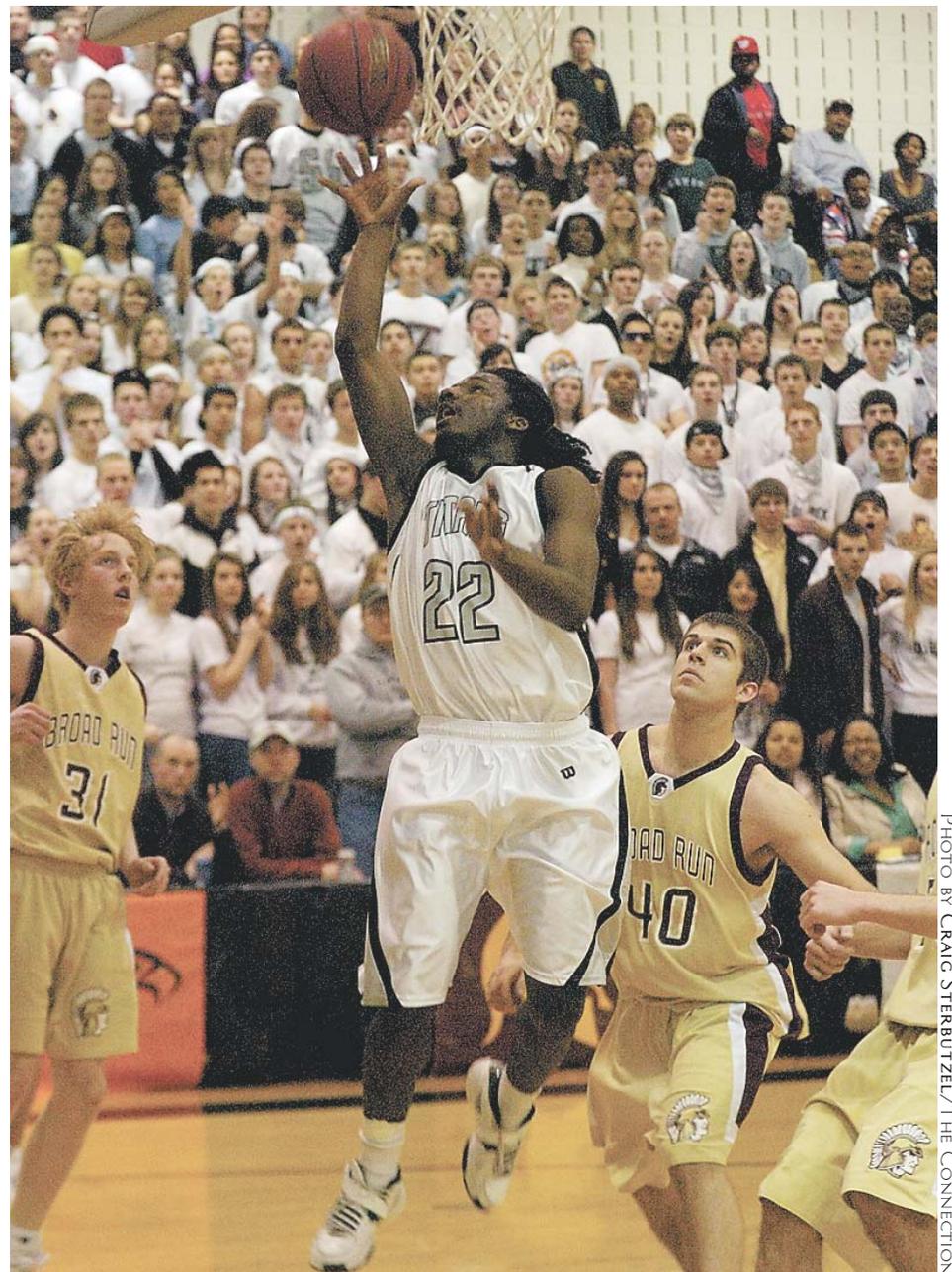


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Deandre Albritton, going up for a shot during the Titans' recent Dulles District championship game against Broad Run, scored 22 points in Dominion's Region II finals loss to Handley last Saturday night.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

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 Center 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 regis-

ter, 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 American contingent that garnered a total of 50 medals.

The 10 competitors from WMAF earned a total of 13 medals, including four gold, five silver and four bronze. It was WMAF's second international tournament in the last four years. The team also

competed in Osaka, Japan, in 2005.

One of WMAF's top competitors in Rome was Lisa Codella. She earned three medals, including a first-place gold in kata (forms), a second-place silver in team kumite (sparring) and a third-place bronze in kobudo (weapons). Codella, a second-degree black belt, is one of WMAF's top instructors. Over the past nine years of training, she has earned six national karate titles.

Her husband, Tom, is an instructor at WMAF and their four children — Spenser, 14, Logan, 11, Grace, 10, and Jordan, 6 — are members of the WMAF competition team.

In addition to her work at WMAF, Lisa Codella is a science

and social studies teacher at Nysmith School in Herndon. She is pursuing her masters degree in education.

"We are very pleased to have such a large group of athletes from the United States attend our tournament," said host Ivano DiBattista of Hanko Ryu Martial Arts in Rome, Italy. "The WMAF team had excellent competitors and represented their country well."

The **American Icebirds** AAA ice hockey team is looking for players ages 14-18 at all positions for spring/summer competitive AAA tournament play from May to July.

Interested players, call 703-400-2343 and ask for coach Kulla, or e-mail icebirds@inbox.com.

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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 Centerville, 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

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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
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Caitlin McLaughlin, Associate Director, Quality Improvement Initiatives, 3101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 350
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SPORTS

Dominion Getting Ready

FROM PAGE 12

"On that [region] stage, we did not execute really well on offense," said coach Douglas. "As the tournament goes on you play better and better teams and Handley is tough. They are very athletic and played better than we did. We really just didn't execute on offense."

Douglas said it was not a bad case of nerves that resulted in the offensive struggles. He said plays were called during timeouts or as Dominion was bringing the ball up the floor. But the Titans just didn't run what the coaches wanted them to.

"I went back and watched the videotape [of the game] and we just didn't run any of them," said Douglas. "We didn't get into an offensive flow."

Most frustrating for Dominion is that the game was winnable, despite the team's poor play in execution. The Titans, down 13-0 after one quarter, found themselves in a 31-31 tie midway through the third quarter. But a while later, Handley, following an 8-0 run, had built up a 14-point lead. Dominion continued to play hard but could not come back.

Dominion senior guard Deandre Albritton led the Titans with 22 points, eight rebounds and two steals. Backcourt mate Deandre Reaves, a sophomore, added 15 points and senior shooting guard Greg Smucker had eight. Albritton scored 10 of his points in the third quarter to help Dominion tie the game up.

"He's always going to keep us in it," Douglas said of his star player. "We just didn't get the team effort we've gotten in 20 wins this year."

The consolation for the Titans is that their season continues, despite the region finals loss, with this weekend's first round tournament action at states.

"It's very exciting and a new experience for us all," said Douglas.

DOMINION'S REGION semifinals victory

over William Monroe (Stanardsville) — a win that advanced the Titans to the finals and automatically qualified them for states — went right down to the wire. Albritton came through with two clutch free throws to give his team a 39-37 lead with three seconds remaining in the fourth quarter.

"He just nailed both of them," said Douglas.

Following the foul shots, a controversial blocking foul call against Dominion — as William Monroe was trying to inbound the ball for a final shot attempt — resulted in the Dragons going to the foul line themselves. The Monroe player at the line made the first free throw to cut the Dominion lead to 39-38, but missed the second. Dominion senior Travis Blackburn got the rebound off the miss and was immediately fouled. He made one of two foul shots from the line to make the score 40-38 and the Titans held on for the win.

"The [final] score was only 40-38, but I thought that was the best team we've played all year long," said Douglas. "They had some players. We played great defense. We played real solid man-to-man defense and kept their scoring in check."

Dominion trailed William Monroe by five points with four minutes left to play. Douglas said his team turned up the defensive pressure at that point. Key steals from Albritton, Reaves and Smucker resulted in key points and the Titans overtaking the Dragons.

Albritton finished with 19 points in the semifinals win and Steve Smucker, twin brother of Greg, scored nine.

Douglas has marveled at the school spirit the Dominion High student body has demonstrated throughout the season and on into the playoffs.

"We let them down a little bit at the region finals, but I'm real proud of the student body," he said. "They are there for us and they are our 'sixth man.' We've got the best fans in the county."

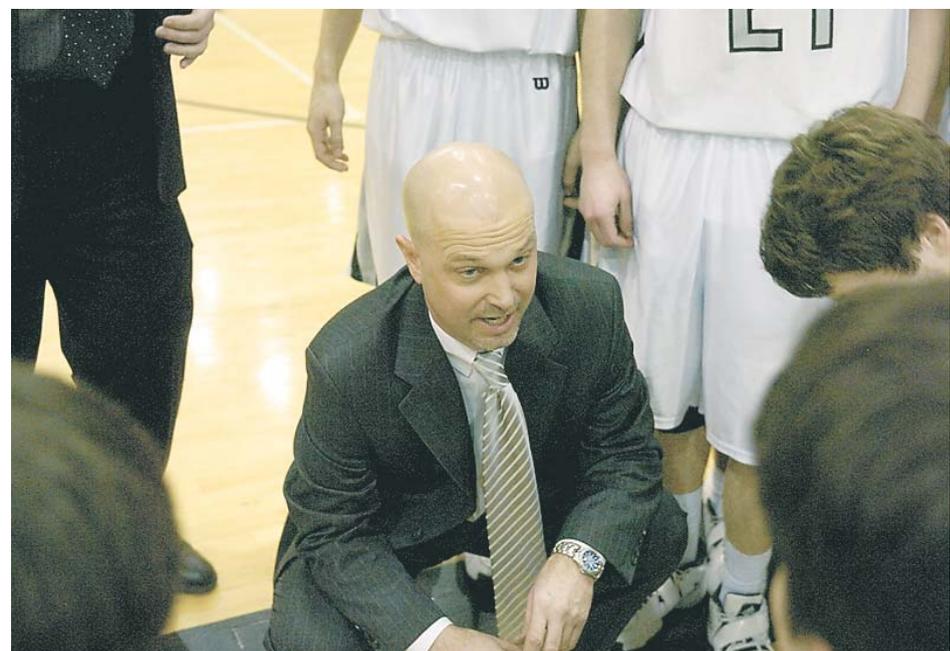


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Dominion High coach Steve Douglas experienced the state playoffs as a player in the late 1980s. Now, he will experience states from a coaching perspective.

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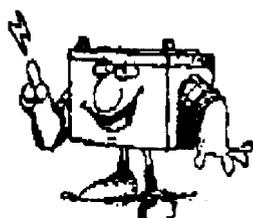
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