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The Hard Work Of Make Believe

ON STAGE, PAGE 2

Preparing for the night's production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" at Briar Woods High School, Jordyn Newsome helps Brad Kimball with his make-up for his role as an Oompa-Loompa. BriarWoods will next present "Footloose," on May 1, 2, 8 and 9.

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Comes to
Northern Virginia

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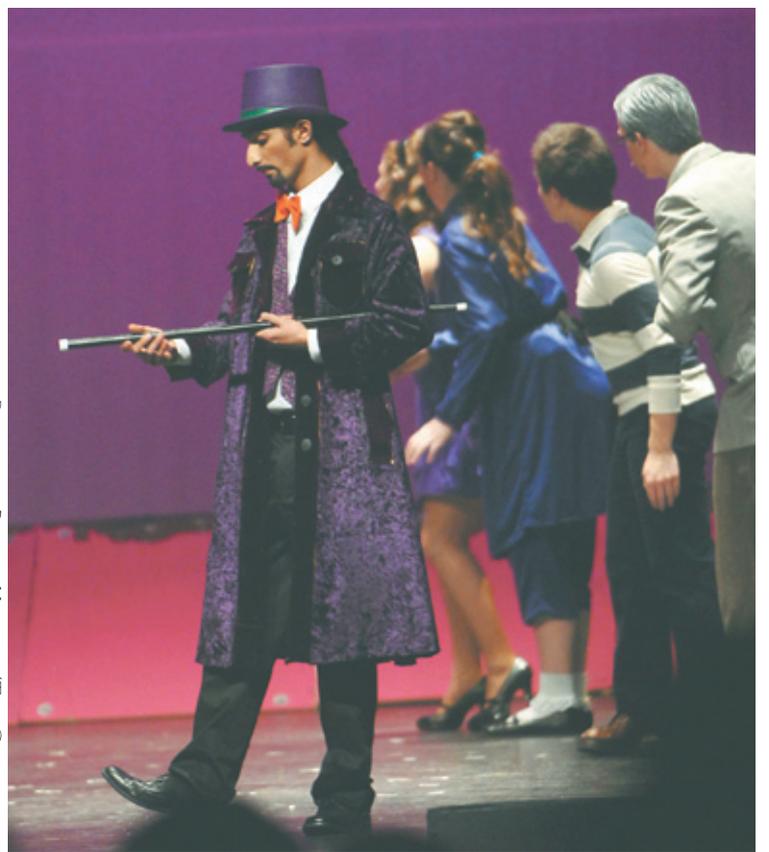
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PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

ON STAGE



Broad Run High School drama students perform their traditional ritual before their production of "The Fantasticks" on March 29.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Jesse Bhamrah, played the role of Willy Wonka, during the Briar Woods High School production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" on March 27.

It's Hard Work To Make Believe

As they learn lines, students also learn about themselves.

BY AARON STERN
THE CONNECTION

In one year Jesse Bhamrah made the transition from stoic cowboy to renegade chocolate tycoon. It was a lot of work.

"You have no idea," said Bhamrah as he broke from rehearsal last week at Briar Woods High School. A junior, Bhamrah took up acting last year. His first part was a small

HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

role as a cowboy in "Crazy for You," but now, just a year later, Bhamrah played Willy Wonka himself in the

Briar Woods performance of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" earlier this month. Last year he had to memorize seven lines. This year he had over 100.

"Learning lines was a killer," he said.

Bhamrah's rapid ascension from an after-thought character to a lead role is atypical in high school theater, where students typically rise from minor roles as freshmen to lead roles as juniors and seniors, putting in hundreds of hours rehearsing, memorizing and performing along the way.

It is difficult for those not involved in theater to appreciate the amount of work that students put into a show, said Dominion drama director Amy Young. In addition to two-plus hour rehearsals each day after school, there is the work of memorizing lines that must be done at home, which is the same place that the student actors of-



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/CONNECTION

The entire Stone Bridge High School cast rehearsing the scene after the witch dies in "The Wiz."

ten rehearse the intricate dance steps in their bedrooms, and those who are truly committed to acting become students of human nature and avid people watchers.

"Its hours of work that they put into it," said Potomac Falls drama director Renee Haynes. "It's every bit as much work as a sport is."

Stone Bridge senior Vicky Martinez can

attest to that. Martinez has run track and played basketball through her four years but in this, her final semester of high school, Martinez gave up track to focus on theater. She had only taken part in one show before — last year's production of "Arabian Nights" — and had never had a lead role or performed in a musical before. This year she has a major role as Auntie Em and has

a solo song.

"Every single little thing — just like in a sport — affects every second of a show," Martinez said. In fact, in some ways theater is harder, she said. Instead of relying on four teammates on the basketball court at a time, the entire cast and crew — 30

SEE LEARNING, PAGE 15

Practicing Multi-Hat Wizardry

Drama directors master multi-tasking, long hours, and the personal growth of their students.

BY AARON STERN
THE CONNECTION

Auntie Em loves her niece, but taking care of her wasn't her first choice of ways to devote her life. Conveying such sentiment in song is no easy task, and two weeks before opening night Stone Bridge drama director Glen Hochkeppel was trying to help senior Vicky Martinez, who is playing Auntie Em in the school's upcoming performance of "The Wiz," find her inspiration.

"It's kind of a hard thing to hear, it's like 'Yeah, I love you, but not a million,'" Hochkeppel told Martinez.

Then he quickly walked through the paces he wanted to see from Martinez while giving his stage directions in a grave musical singsong — "It's kind of like 'ah da da da, you're running away, now take it down-stage.'"



Renee Haynes has been the drama director at Potomac Falls High School since the school opened.

both occasionally imploring their father for one thing or another.

"That's Mr. Hochkeppel's crazy life," said Stone Bridge freshman Kaitlynn Norton.

THAT LIFE of is one many high school drama directors can relate to. Being a drama director is often a juggling act between the duties of a teacher and a parent, not to mention the multiple roles directors play



Stone Bridge drama director Glenn Hochkeppel works with senior Vicky Martinez to perfect the opening musical number to "The Wiz."

in leading a cast and crew of 30-some high school students who are themselves still growing up while juggling busy academic, extracurricular and social lives. Consequently, drama directors alternate between coach, cheerleader, confidante and whip cracker.

"You wear every hat in the book," said Dominion High School drama director Amy Woods.

"You wear every hat in the book."

— Dominion High School drama director Amy Woods

Then, of course, there is the show itself to direct. Directors choose shows based on the students they have, while considering the themes of recent shows and what will appeal to the audience.

"The way I look at theater... is you have to be responsive to the community," said Marilyn Gilligan, who is in her third

year as the director at Briar Woods. "You want the public to come out and if our neighborhood is created of little kids on up, I want to do pieces where someone's little brother can come see it."

To get the most out of students who are still developing emotionally and forming their own identities while learning how to act onstage, Potomac Falls director Renee Haynes often prompts her students with questions.

"You find your courage here — where do you find that?" she might ask, or other times she will be less direct, simply asking "What is that about?" about a character's habits, for instance.

Broad Run director Tim Willmot said that while some directors are open to a lot of student involvement in the overall direction of a show, he prefers to run it himself with a professional approach that often includes professional musicians, choreographers and fight choreographers.

"I've just always been around that professional element, so that's what kind of does it for me," Willmot said. "I think they're very appreciative of it — afterwards usually, maybe not so much when its happening."

AS MUCH WORK as it is — and directors can often reach triple digits in hours spent at school the two weeks leading up to a show, getting home at 11p.m. and later —

PHOTOS BY AARON STERN/THE CONNECTION



A 13-year veteran of the Capitol Steps comedy troupe, Amy Young is in her first year as the drama director at Dominion High School.

there isn't anything better than combining a love of storytelling with the full-bodied thrill of being onstage and teaching students how to act, said Hochkeppel.

"It's really the most fun job in the school," he said.

"That's what makes me stay late, that's what makes me do more and more shows," said Gilligan. "It's just their energy and their enthusiasm."

Last year Haynes graduated a student who as a freshman was so nervous onstage that he couldn't be heard in the audience but as a senior was a musical lead. Watching students grow as people over four years is fulfilling and rewarding, Haynes said.

"For me it's really all about the kids," she said. "I think I have the best job in the world."

LOOKING AHEAD

'The Wiz'

STONE BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Stone Bridge High School's upcoming spring musical has Dorothy, Auntie Em, and the Wicked Witch, but it's not exactly the "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz." "The Wiz" reimagines the classic tale of Dorothy's trip through an alternate world, but puts a 1970s urban spin on the story.

"I like how it's crazier than the 'Wizard of Oz,' crazier and funkier," said senior Vicky Martinez, who plays Auntie Em. Dorothy will be played by Abi York, the Wicked Witch by Austen Willis, and Erik DeLong will play the Wiz.

The show runs at Stone Bridge High School April 16, 17, and 18 starting at 7:30 p.m.

'Music Man'

DOMINION HIGH SCHOOL

As a sleazy salesman and con man bent on making a profit at the expense of the poor inhabitants of River City, Harold Hill doesn't start "Music Man" as a sympathetic or very likeable character. Over the course of the show, though, Hill begins to embrace moral responsibility, prompted in part by his love for River City resident Marion, and the town comes to benefit from Hill's con scheme.

Director Amy Young said the show's message of unity and support for children during hard economic times is particularly poignant these days, particularly as school systems consider cutting arts programs to save money.

"Strong families still need kids to be involved [in] constructive activities and the arts," said Young.

The show runs April 30, May 1, 2, and 3. The Thursday, Friday, Saturday shows start at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday, May 3 show starts at 3:30. Tickets are \$7 for students, \$10 for adults.

'The Pajama Game'

PARK VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

A standoff between a union and corporate executives at a pajama factory may be an unlikely setting for a love story, but that's what happens in Park View High School's upcoming spring musical "The Pajama Game."

The show has lots of catchy tunes and a mixture of adult humor and good clean laughs for youngsters, making it a good show for the whole family, said Park View junior and stage manager Joy Urban. The audience should especially look forward to the show's signature musical number "Steam Heat."

"The Pajama Game" runs at Park View High School from April 30 through May 2. For ticket and showtime information, call 571-434-4500.

'Fiddler on the Roof'

POTOMAC FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

In the classic Broadway musical "Fiddler on the Roof," Tevye is a character with a lot on his plate. As he struggles with raising five daughters and must reconcile with their increasingly untraditional choices for husbands, he must also protect his family in an increasingly anti-Semitic Russia. Potomac Falls High School tackles "Fiddler on the Roof" as its spring musical at the end of May.

"I love that it's not just a frilly dance number show. It's serious... but it's also really funny," said senior Michael Wakefield who will play Tevye. The show features layered characters and beautiful music, and heavy themes wrapped in humor, said director Renee Haynes.

"Fiddler on the Roof" kicks off on May 28. For showtime and ticket information, call 571-434-3200.

'Footloose'

BRIAR WOODS HIGH SCHOOL

BriarWoods will present the high-energy production of "Footloose," on May 1, 2, 8 and 9.

The Show Behind the Show

Tech crews, stage directors, and everything else that make a show possible.

BY AARON STERN
THE CONNECTION

Regular audiences at Briar Woods wouldn't recognize senior Sarah Worden because in four years of theater at the school she has never set foot on stage during a show. That's because as the stage manager, if she does her job well, hers is the world the audience never sees and never thinks about. Whether its lighting, set design, or making sure that every cast member and every technical aspect is in the right place at the right time, a show

HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

is only as good as its crew.

"It's like a whole different world backstage, it's like a show going on behind the show," said Worden.

It's Worden's job to make sure that everything goes off without a hitch, and if she does her job right, no one will ever notice it. Speed, efficiency and precision rule the backstage world. To ensure that everything is done properly Worden has a stopwatch that runs as soon as a rehearsal starts. Any miscue — a missed cue, an improper light, a muffed sound effect, a crew member briefly visible to the audience — is clocked, diagnosed, and corrected.

"We try to do it as professional as it would be in real theater," said Worden.

That backstage show that Worden oversees is the world of lighting, sound, props, set changes, and costume changes — ev-



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/CONNECTION

everything aside from the actors that makes a show possible. Tech crews oversee stage microphones, body microphones, sound effects, recorded music, while lighting crews oversee as many as 150 lights that follow a precise program during a show.

"With tech it's not as obvious as with acting, but it's still fulfilling," said Park View sophomore and sound director Sally Coleman. "You feel like you've done something important at the end of it."

Stone Bridge senior Rachel Martin paints sets for the school shows, something she started doing last year. For the last two weeks leading up to a show she typically spends four hours each day, including weekends, painting the backdrops that often themselves draw applause from audiences when the curtain lifts.

"We try to do it as professional as it would be in real theater."

— Briar Woods senior Sarah Worden

"It's a lot of work but when it comes together you feel really proud of yourself," Martin said.

THEN, TOO, there is often the school orchestra that plays live music during the show, and the dance numbers take hours of choreography work that is often created and taught by students, said Stone Bridge director Glen Hochkeppel.

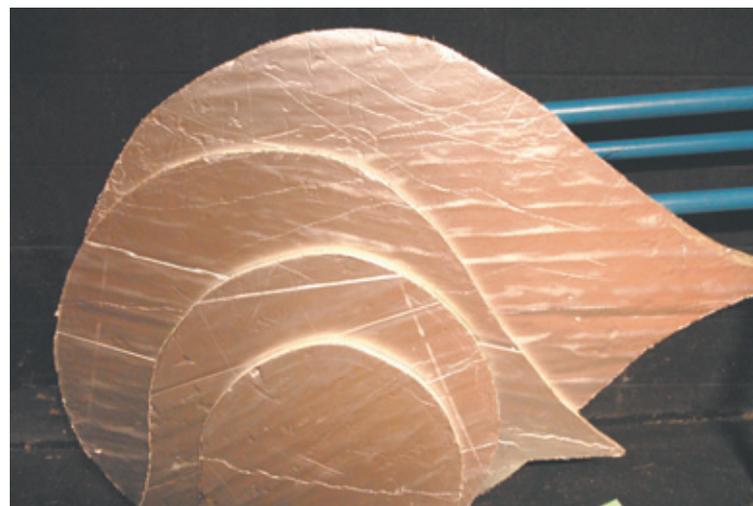
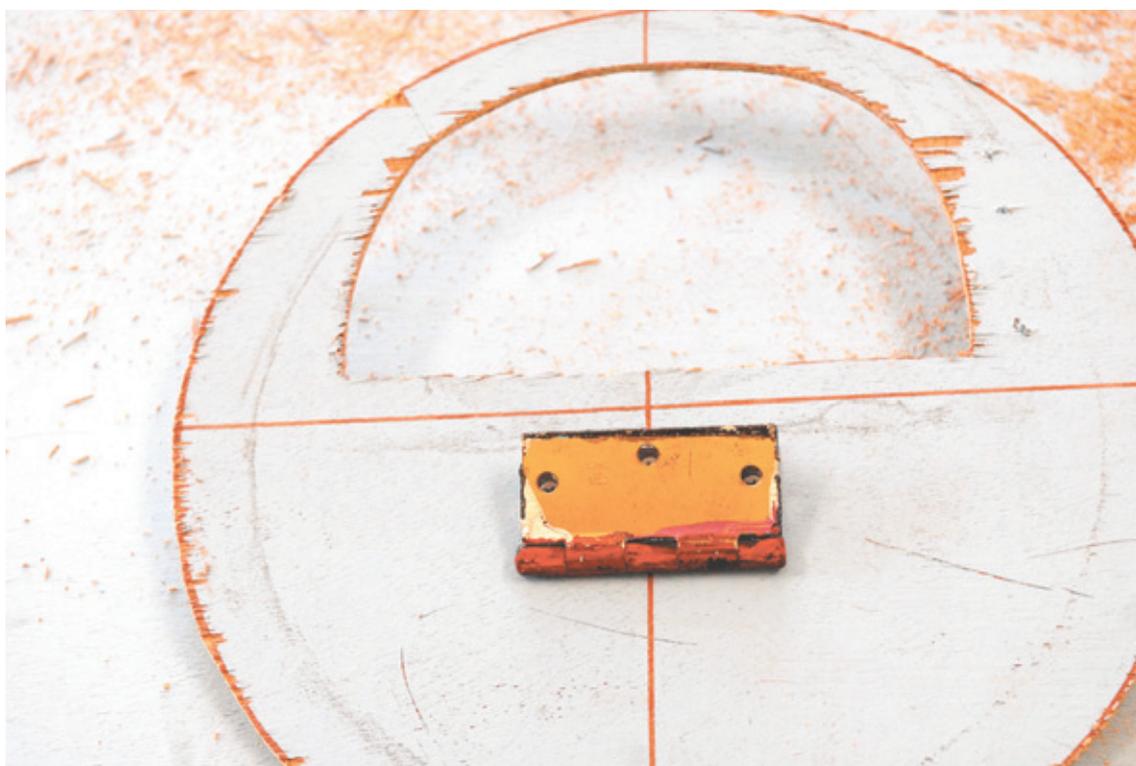
In addition to all the people that make the show go each night the set design, costume construction, dress rehearsal dinners, ticket sales, promotional posters, t-shirts, and so on, and parents often play a pivotal role in bringing

together all of those things, said Potomac Falls director Renee Haynes.

Some students, like Briar Woods junior Tyler Kirby pull double duty, serving as actors and members of the tech crew during shows. In addition to his portrayal of Grandpa Joe in the school's "Wonka," Kirby filmed and edited a video montage that sets the stage for the show, wrote three original Oompa-Loopa songs, penned the transition music and was in charge of sound effects. To imitate the sound of a chocolate rolling down a metal tube, Kirby took a peanut, a funnel cake mold, and his recording equipment and holed himself up in the nearest of soundstages — a closet in his home full of coats.

All of that work tied up most of his life for the last two weeks before the show, but for Kirby, who envisions himself one day either directing or scoring films, the time was well spent.

"It cost me some grades in classes but its fun," he said. "It's definitely worth it. It's hardly work if I enjoy doing it."



Props under construction for Stone Bridge High School's performance of "The Wiz."

CRIME

Leads in Attack Sought

Loudoun County Sheriff's Investigators have begun speaking with Cynthia Bennett of Lansdowne who was attacked March 22 on Riverside Parkway; her husband William was found murdered at the scene.

Although she has further surgeries to undergo, her condition has been improving each day since the attack, according to an April 7 sheriff's release. Investigators hope to speak to her further as her health improves.

DEPUTIES WERE initially called to the area for a report of a suspicious vehicle. The complainant stated they heard a commotion outside and observed a white panel van and several subjects outside. The van was described as having no windows on either of the rear sides of the vehicle. The van returned to the area and left the scene again before authorities were contacted. A deputy arrived on the scene and conducted a foot patrol when the discovery was made.

The Bennetts were attacked during their morning walk in the area

of Rocky Creek Drive and Riverside Parkway.

The Sheriff's Office is currently seeking four to five individuals involved in the attack of the woman and the homicide of her husband. The Sheriff's Office is asking the public to be aware of anyone who may be exhibiting changes in their behavior since the day of the attack.

Information about suspicious persons or unusual vehicles in the area of this homicide and attack could be important to this investigation, according to the Sheriff's Office.

A REWARD FUND has been established by the Loudoun Crime Commission. Anyone who provides information that leads to an arrest and indictment in this case is eligible for a cash reward of up to \$50,000. Those who have any information regarding this case are asked to call the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division at 703-777-0475. If the caller wishes to remain anonymous, they are asked to call 703-777-1919.

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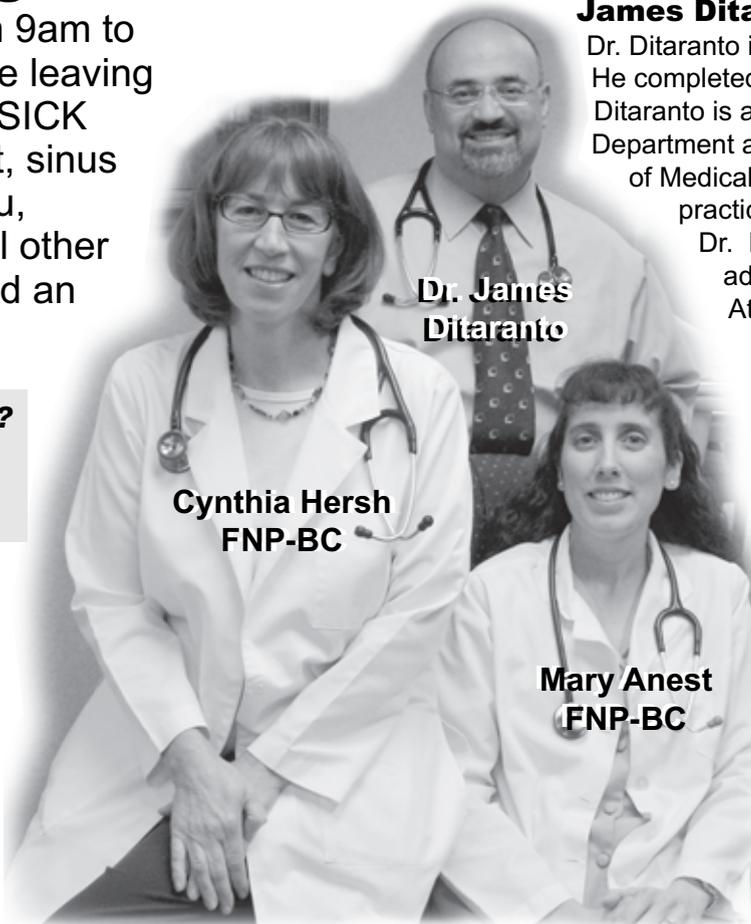
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Dr. Ditaranto is a Board Certified Family Medicine Physician. He completed his Family Practice Residency in 1986. Dr. Ditaranto is a former Chairman of the Family Medicine Department at Reston Hospital Center and served on the Board of Medical Planning 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.

Cynthia Hersh
FNP-BC

Mary Anest
FNP-BC

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.

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OPINION

Governor's Race Comes North

Candidates speak to region's business people.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Four candidates vying to be Virginia's next governor reached out to the Northern Virginia business community April 3.

The Republican Party's presumptive nominee Robert McDonnell and three potential Democratic Party nominees — former Del. Brian Moran, state Sen. Creigh Deeds and former Democratic National Committee chair Terry McAuliffe — participated in the Northern Virginia Technology Council's candidate forum at Microsoft's offices in Reston.

According to its Web site, the Northern Virginia Technology Council is a membership organization for the Northern Virginia technology community. It represents about 1,100 companies that employ more than 200,000 employees.

Three of the candidates have ties to Northern Virginia. McAuliffe lives in McLean. McDonnell, Virginia's former attorney general, grew up in Mount Vernon. Moran lives in the City of Alexandria and represented the area in the House of Delegates.

Deeds is from Bath County and represents the Charlottesville area.

Residents will have the chance to pick between Deeds, McAuliffe and Moran in an open primary, where people affiliated with any political party can vote, June 9. It is assumed McDonnell and the Democratic nominee will face off in the general election Nov. 3.

AT THE FORUM, Deeds emphasized he is the "one candidate for governor who can bring together all of Virginia."

The state senator, who lives in a county in central Virginia without a single traffic light,

has voted for transportation plans that would increase taxes and fees on his constituents for the sake of solving Northern Virginia's traffic problems.

Deeds said he tries to convince his neighbors that providing funding to ease Northern Virginia's road congestion is the right thing to do. Northern Virginia is the "bread basket" of the state and clogged roads and traffic jams in this region means fewer dollars for the rest of the commonwealth, he said.

Deeds added that Northern Virginia's tax revenue subsidizes many of the state functions in less affluent parts of the commonwealth, including parts of his state senate district.

"I told the rural people. You don't pay for your own schools," he said.

ON ISSUES OF education, McDonnell said he favors creating more charter schools in Virginia, which he said will improve access to education for at-risk primary and secondary students.

The former attorney general, who has lived in Virginia Beach and Richmond, added that he also supports a merit-pay system for teachers and principals in public schools.

Several of the "transportation priorities" McDonnell listed for the commonwealth were located in Northern Virginia. The Republican said he wanted to widen Interstate 66 inside the Capital beltway and finish the Dulles Metrorail project on time.

He would also push for a high-speed rail system that connects Washington D.C., Richmond and Hampton Roads.

McDonnell also supports transportation solutions like the high-occupancy toll lanes currently being constructed on the beltway.

"It is not perfect but it will give real and effective choices to commuters," he said.

McDonnell added that the lights on Route 7 should be synchronized and the state should utilize new technology that can locate accidents and traffic jams quickly.

WHEN IT COMES to Northern Virginia's

transportation woes, Moran said no one worked harder in the House of Delegates than he did. He said Virginia, particularly the General Assembly, has to be willing to make a larger investment in infrastructure.

"Can you find someone who is willing to fix you bridge and lay asphalt for free? If you do, let me know," said Moran.

Like McDonnell, Moran supports adding high-speed rail, for both freight and passengers, from Washington D.C. to Richmond. He also said the Virginia Railway Express, Northern Virginia's commuter train, should be expanded.

Moran also backs the use of the public-private transportation act, which helped bring about the Dulles Metrorail project but has been criticized for not requiring companies to provide enough transparency.

"I have been a fan of [the public-private transportation act] and continue to be. It is one of the tools in the toolbox that we currently have. But we need more," said Moran.

AS GOVERNOR, McAuliffe said he would focus on growing Virginia's economy and creating jobs.

"I get it. I've done it. I've hired 1,000s of people and I want to be the number one job creator in 50 states," said McAuliffe, who has started many of his own businesses.

The Democratic political consultant raised a significant amount of money for Barack Obama's presidential campaign and McAuliffe said he would use his relationship with the sitting U.S. president to try and steer stimulus money to Virginia, especially the high tech corridor in the Reston and Dulles areas.

Northern Virginia businesses should be the front of the line when the federal government dumps billions of dollars into digitizing health records, said McAuliffe.

"I am going to call Barack Obama every day and say Virginia wants its fair share. I want Virginia to have more than its fair share," he said. "As you all know, I am pretty good at getting money," added McAuliffe.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cost Will Be In Freedom

To the Editor:

How proud I felt that day in June of 2007. Winning the Republican nomination for Sheriff of Loudoun County was special in many ways. From the grass roots support that gave the victory to a virtual unknown candidate to the sense of satisfaction I felt for a job well done. However, more meaningful was representing the Party which I had grown up supporting and believing in. Time has distanced me from the pain of my defeat in the general election but it has not softened the sense of disappointment I have felt from the Republican party on a national level.

Most recently it began with the

original \$700 billion TARP package proposed in the final days of the Bush administration that was not supported by the majority of citizens who consider themselves to be Republican. We opened this bailout door and the Democrat-controlled government has blown it wide open with bailout after bailout. There is now no end in sight as taxpayers will foot the bill for a society that is becoming ever increasingly dependent on the government. More recently, and more disturbing, is the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act (GIVE Act) which, at \$6 billion, will create 250,000 "volunteers" to further government ideas and programs. This youth-targeted act again received the support of Republicans. I clearly expect this door to be

blown open by the Democrats. Much like the evolution of the government bailout program, many fear the GIVE Act could one day bear the resemblance of Hitler youth brigades as a way of indoctrinating our youth. As far fetched as that may seem to some, we find ourselves in financial situations not seen since prior to Hitler, Mussolini, et al.

Where am I going with this you may ask? Yes, it is time for "Change." I clearly believe our government has overstepped its bounds. My greatest disappointment is in the Republican party with whom I expected so much more. First, as our founding fathers boycotted English goods, we need to boycott government bailed out companies. Speak with your money. No GM or Chrysler prod-

ucts. No accounts with AIG, Citi and Bank of America. Second, stop the growing government intervention into our private lives. Men such as George Washington, Thomas Paine and James Madison believed the only purpose of the government was to ensure "freedom and security."

I would encourage all to read "Common Sense" by Thomas Paine just as our founding fathers did in 1776. This work emboldened these men to stand for what they believed was right. As for me, I do not call myself a Republican any longer. While there are many in the party both locally and nationally that I admire, I can not limit myself to a party that does not listen to their constituents.

Greg Ahlemann
Ashburn

PEOPLE

SCAN Honors Curtis' Work

Sue Curtis of Loudoun was one of five Northern Virginians honored last week for efforts to protect children and support families. The event was SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now) of Northern Virginia's official kick-off for April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

In 15 years, Curtis has changed the way victims of abuse and neglect are supported in Loudoun County. As executive director of LCSJ/LAWS (Loudoun Citizens for Social Justice/Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter), she created and found funding for a variety of programs for children who have experienced domestic violence and child abuse, as well as developed therapeutic services and provided advocacy, crisis intervention and support services. She implemented the nationally renowned Nurturing Parenting Program at the shelter, opened a facility to provide services for abused children, and began a Sexual Assault program.

In 2007, Curtis was instrumental in securing funding to launch a Child Advocacy Center in Loudoun County, for which LCSJ became the host agency. Today, the center is open and fully functional.

NVCC President Dr. Robert Templin was the event's keynote speaker, and NBC4's Julie Carey presented the awards. Verizon was the lead sponsor of the event.

More information on SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now) of Northern Virginia can be found at www.scanva.org.



Sue Curtis of Loudoun with NBC4's Julie Carey and SCAN Executive Director Diane Charles.

Chamber To Host Valor Awards

More than 400 area business leaders will be on hand when Lt. John Early, of the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Department, receives the Gold Medal of Valor in recognition of his sacrifice and heroism in the line of duty during a May 25, 2008 house fire in Leesburg.

Early is among the 44 honorees — including professional emergency responders, volunteers and ordinary citizens — whose heroism and lifesaving actions will be recognized at the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's 24th Annual Valor Awards on April 14 at the National Conference Center in Lansdowne.

"The 2009 Valor Awards promise to be the most compelling and historic ceremony in the 24-year history of this event, with the historic presentation of the most prestigious honor that an Loudoun County emergency first responder can receive," Chamber President Tony Howard said in a statement.

FBI Assistant Director Joseph Persichini, Jr., head

of the Bureau's Washington, D.C. and Northern Virginia operations, will be the keynote speaker at the Valor Awards. Alison Starling and Doug McKelway, of WJLA-TV's Good Morning Washington, are the Masters of Ceremony.

In all, 18 members of the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Department will be recognized for their heroism in the same incident for which Early will be honored, including Captain Micha Kiger, who will receive the very prestigious Silver Medal of Valor. Among the other honorees from this incident are two Bronze medals of Valor recipients: FF/EMT Jackie Shingleton and FF/EMT Brandy Lapoloe.

Tickets are still available for the 2009 Valor Awards. To purchase a table or seats to the 2009 Valor Awards, visit <http://www.loudounchamber.org/html/ifevents.html> and click on the "Register" link next to the Valor Awards headline or call 703-777-2176 for more information.

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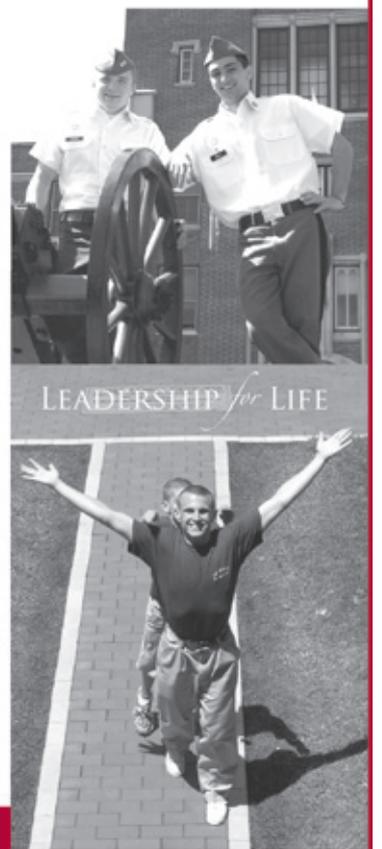
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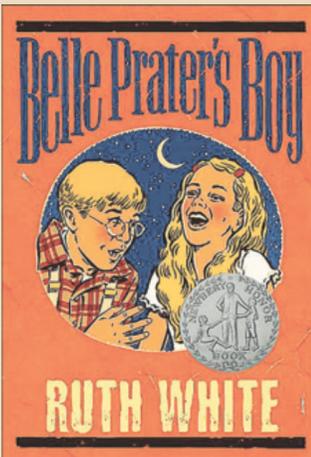
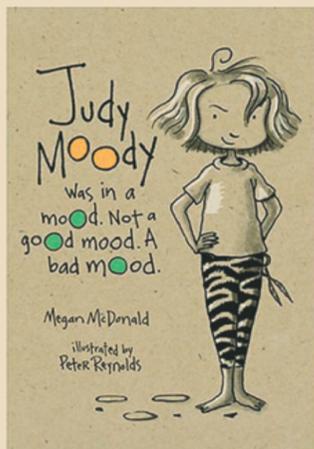
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CALENDAR

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Read a book in the "Judy Moody" series and enjoy fun related activities on Wednesday, April 15 at Cascades Library. Free.



Children 9-12 can discuss "Belle Prater's Boy" by Ruth White on Thursday, April 16 at 7 p.m. at Ashburn Library. Free.

Children's movies such as "Kung-Fu Panda" are being shown at Cascades and Ashburn Library on Thursday, April 9 at 2 p.m. Call for movie title.



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

THURSDAY/APRIL 9

Second Night Passover Seder Reading. Beth Chaverim Reform Congregation will hold a reading of the Haggadah and traditional Seder meal. \$46/nonmember; \$20/child. RSVP to socialvp@bcrcva.org.

Movies. 2 p.m. at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road. Children can watch "Kung Fu Panda" and other movies. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

Movies. 2 p.m. at Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St. Children can watch "Kung Fu Panda" and other movies. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

Seminar. 7 p.m. at Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Enjoy a seminar on smart shopping. Register at library.loudoun.gov or 703-444-3228.

Grand Re-Opening. Luxe Home Interiors, 45591 Dulles Eastern Plaza with designer Joe Ruggiero. Starts at noon. Reservations required, 703-481-4490.

ADULT BOOK CLUB. 10 a.m., Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. The group will discuss "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen. Call 703-430-9500.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOK CLUB. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. The Middle School Book Club will meet to discuss "Cupboards" by N.D. Wilson. Visit library.loudoun.gov.

FRIDAY/APRIL 10

AFTER HOURS TEEN CENTER. 7-10 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. "Draw Manga." 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> go to Teen Scene->Events->Hanging Out Rocks.

Movies. 2 p.m. at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road. Children can watch "Kung Fu Panda" and other movies. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

Movies. 2 p.m. at Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St. Children can watch "Kung Fu Panda" and other movies. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 11

Easter Event. Easter in Great Falls Plaza, 20789 Great Falls Plaza, Sterling. Join the merchants of Great Falls Plaza for a fun-filled family/pets event from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information call 571-434-0250 or visit www.amccascades.com.

Story Time. 2 p.m. at Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Children ages 6-10 can explore the world of caterpillars and bugs. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov to register.

Flea Market. 8 a.m.-noon at Ruritan Club, 183 Ruritan Road. Enjoy meeting Rudy Bear and having Easter eggs handed out. 703-444-6039.

Ashburn Classics. 10:30 a.m. at Mills Recreation Center. Hear guest speaker Judith Hines. Free.

Concert. 8 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Loudoun. Joe Jencks performs. \$12/person. Visit www.shenandoahacoustics.com for more.

Open House. 10 a.m. at Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road. Lanesville House will be open for tours. Free. 571-258-3700.

MONDAY/APRIL 13

Frogs and Tadpoles. 9:30 a.m. at

Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road. Children 3-6 can search for these animals. \$10.50/child. 571-258-3700.

TUESDAY/APRIL 14

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 "Pollution Solutions and the Recycling Process." Registration required; call 703-737-8100 or visit library.loudoun.gov to register.

Toastmasters International. 7:15 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Conquer your fear of public speaking in a safe environment. Open to ages 18+. For more information visit <http://cascades.freetoasthost.info> or e-mail cascadestm@yahoo.com.

Author Story Time. 7 p.m. at Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place. Meet Lauren Lette. For children ages 2 and up. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

Open House. 5:30 p.m. at Ashburn Children's Center, 20424 Ashburn Village Blvd. Free. 703-729-9100.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 15

Flashback Features. Noon and 7 p.m. at Regal Fox 16, 22875 Brambleton Plaza, Ashburn. \$5. 703-957-1027 for details.

Birds in Migration. 8:30 a.m. at Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road. Ages 18 and up can walk through the park. \$4/person. 571-258-3700 to register.

AFTER SCHOOL BOOK BREAK. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. For children ages 6-8. Read books by the author of the month with fun activities. April: Judy Moody Series by Megan McDonald. 703-444-3228.

THURSDAY/APRIL 16

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road. Discuss "Belle Prater's Boy" by Ruth White. Children ages 9-12. Register at library.loudoun.gov.

Frogs and Tadpoles. 12:30 p.m. at Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road. Children 3-6 can search for these animals. \$10.50/child. 571-258-3700.

ORIGAMI BOOK CLUB. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. For children ages 8 and up. Discuss the book with origami activities. "The Prince and the Pauper" by Mark Twain. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or call 703-444-3228.

KIDS EXPLORE BOOK CLUB. 4 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Ages 6-8. Registration begins two weeks before the program. Selection: "Waiting for Wings" by Lois Ehlert. Register by phone 703-737-8100 or online at library.loudoun.gov.

FRIDAY/APRIL 17

AFTER HOURS TEEN CENTER. 7-10 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. "Sculpture with Mixed Media." 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>.

Music Comedy. 8 p.m. at Sterling Middle School, 201 W. Holly Ave. Watch "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940." \$12/person. Visit www.sterlingplaymakers.com or 703-437-6117.

SATURDAY/APRIL 18

Parenting Course. 9 a.m.-noon at The Birthing Inn at Inova Loudoun

Hospital. Parents can learn effective strategies and discipline for children ages 2 through 12. \$55/couple. Register at www.thebirthinginn.org or 703-858-6360.

Musical Comedy. 8 p.m. at Sterling Middle School, 201 W. Holly Ave. Watch "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940." \$12/person. Visit www.sterlingplaymakers.com or 703-437-6117.

Arbor Day Celebration. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Outlands. Enjoy a parade, award ceremony, activities, exhibits and more. 703-777-2075.

Book Swap. 10 a.m.-noon at Claude Moore Community Center, 46111 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling. Recycle adult and children's books, especially those for ages 6-14. Free. 571-258-3500.

Earth Day Action. 8 a.m.-noon at Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling. All ages can clean up trails and more. Register at 571-258-3700.

Mambo Combo Concert. All ages can enjoy music at 2 p.m. at Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Free. 703-430-9500.

Dulles South Fun House. 11 a.m. at Dulles South Multipurpose Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding. \$5/person. Enjoy giant fun houses and more. 571-258-3456.

Performance. 7 p.m. at Franklin Park Performing Center. Loudoun's One Horse Town band will perform. \$20/advance or \$24/door. Visit www.goosecreekmusic.com or 540-338-7973 for tickets.

Sterling Boulevard Cleanup. 9 a.m. to noon. at Park View Recycling Center, 400 W Laurel Ave.) to receive orange bags, safety vests, and instructions. Bring gloves. 703-406-7749 or visit www.sterlingfoundation.org.

Acting Workshop and Performance. 1 p.m. at Ashburn Library. See a performance of "Romeo & Juliet." Workshop for teens only. Registration required, library.loudoun.gov.

Teen Musicians. 7 p.m. at Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place. Teen Battle of the Bands. Must be age 12-18 to participate. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

Storyteller and Author. 11 a.m. at Sterling Library. Donna Washington will read. All ages. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

Mambo Combo Concert. All ages can enjoy music at 2 p.m. at Sterling Library, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Free. 703-430-9500.

SUNDAY/APRIL 19

Musical Comedy. 2 p.m. at Sterling Middle School, 201 W. Holly Ave. Watch "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940." \$12/person. Visit www.sterlingplaymakers.com or 703-437-6117.

Music Concert. 3 p.m. at Franklin Park Performing Center. Hear the Loudoun Symphony Chamber Players. \$12/door for adults; \$10/door for senior. Advance purchase discount. Visit www.loudounsymphony.org or 703-771-8287.

Performance. 6:15 p.m. at Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church, 43115 Waxpool Road, Ashburn. Master Singers of Virginia perform. \$15/adult; \$12/student, senior in advance or \$17/adult; \$14/student, senior at door. Visit www.msva.org or 703-655-7809 for more information.

Dog Day. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at NVCC Loudoun Campus, 1000 Harry Flood Byrd Highway, Sterling. Activities include microchipping, vaccinations, washing and more. Prices vary for activities.

MONDAY/APRIL 20

Early Literacy. 7 p.m. at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road. Learn how

to teach pre-reading skills to children ages 2-3. Registration at library.loudoun.gov or 703-737-8100.

Puppet Show. 4:15 p.m. at Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place. See a double feature of puppets. All ages. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

TUESDAY/APRIL 21

Documentary Films. 7 p.m. at Cascades Library. Watch Holocaust Remembrance Day films. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

Poetry. 4 p.m. at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road. Children 8-11 enjoy poetry mad libs. Free. Visit library.loudoun.gov for more.

Relay For Life Team. American

Cancer Society's Eastern Loudoun "Relay For Life" team - Stand By Me fund-raiser at Mimi's Café in Sterling, from 6-8 p.m. Mimi's will donate 10 percent of the proceeds to the American Cancer Society. For flyer visit www.raymondmueller.com

TWEEN BOOK CLUB. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Recommended for ages 8-11. "Hate That Cat" by Sharon Creech. Register online at <http://library.loudoun.gov> or call 703-444-3228.

ADULT BOOK CLUB. 10 a.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. The group will discuss "The Third Angel" by Alice Hoffman. Call 703-737-8100.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 22

Flashback Features. Noon and 7 p.m. at Regal Fox 16, 22875 Brambleton Plaza, Ashburn. \$5. 703-957-1027 for details.

Crafts. 4 p.m. at Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place. Children 6-10 can make crafts from nature. Free. Register at library.loudoun.gov or 703-444-3228.

Film Series. 6:30 p.m. at Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road. Watch movies from India, Argentina. Free.

AFTER SCHOOL BOOK BREAK. 4 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place. For children ages 6-8. Read books by Megan McDonald with fun activities. 703-444-3228.

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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.

OTHER ITEMS

Registration is open for the Rotary Club of Sterling's 21st **Charity Golf Tournament**. The fund-raiser is May 4, at River Creek Country Club. Sponsorship and donor opportunities are also available. Register online at www.sterlingrotary.org or e-mail rgolf@sterlingrotary.org.

Loudoun Therapeutic Riding Foundation is seeking volunteers to help with program. Horse experience is not required. Please contact Kara Heafer for more information at kheafer@ltrf.org or 703-771-2689.

TUESDAY/APRIL 14

Open Houses. Ashburn Children's Center, (703-729-9100); Sully Station Children's Centers I & II (703-449-8123); McNair Farms Children's Center (703-713-0093); Fair Lakes Children's Center (703-818-9002) and South Riding Children's Center (703-327-6618) are all hosting springtime open houses

from 6:00-7:30pm with spring-related activities for the children as their parents tour the centers.

SATURDAY/APRIL 18

Grants Workshop. 10:30 a.m. at George Washington University Virginia Campus, 44983 Knoll Square, Ashburn. Learn how to use a comprehensive database. Free. Registration required, 703-726-8230.

THURSDAY/APRIL 23

BUYER/SELLER INFO EXCHANGE. 2 p.m. All local area vendors are invited to attend Loudoun County Procurement's 2008 buyer/seller information exchange sessions that provide information on the county's procurement processes and upcoming contracts. For location call 703-777-0403 or e-mail to Rebecca.Kummel@procurement@loudoun.gov.

TUESDAY/APRIL 28

Toastmasters International. 7:15 p.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Conquer the fear of public speaking. Open to ages 18 and up. For more information visit <http://cascades.freetoasthost.info> or e-mail cascadestm@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY/MAY 5

Self Defense Workshop. Female residents of Loudoun County can participate in this free workshop at 7 p.m. at Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy, 45299 Research Place, Ashburn. Register to 571-258-3049.

THURSDAY/MAY 21

BUYER/SELLER INFO EXCHANGE. 10:30 a.m. All local area vendors are invited to attend Loudoun County Procurement's 2008 buyer/seller information exchange sessions that provide information on the county's procurement processes and upcoming contracts. For location call 703-777-0403 or e-mail to Rebecca.Kummel@procurement@loudoun.gov.

TUESDAY/JUNE 23

BUYER/SELLER INFO EXCHANGE. 2 p.m. All local area vendors are invited to attend Loudoun County Procurement's 2008 buyer/seller information exchange sessions that provide information on the county's procurement processes and upcoming contracts. For location call 703-777-0403 or e-mail to Rebecca.Kummel@procurement@loudoun.gov.



Learning Chinese Painting

Forty-two Kindergarten students at the Broadlands campus of the Boyd School had the opportunity to use Chinese brushes, rice paper and ink under the guidance of guest instructor Bob Bernhards who has been studying Chinese painting and calligraphy for 16 years; he has taught Chinese painting for five years at the Chinese School of Reston.

SCHOOL NOTES

Families in Sterling and surrounding communities have a new option in **Montessori education** as Lola's Place announces the addition of a primary program. The five-day primary program educates children ages 3 through 5 in a Montessori environment. For more information or to schedule a

tour call 571-434-7555 or e-mail cascadesdirector@lolas-place.com. Visit www.lolas-place.com.

The Park View Mathematics Department congratulates **Mustafa Sungkar** for his outstanding performance on the American Mathematics Competition on

Feb. 10.

Nathanael Arthur has been named a Coca-Cola Bronze Scholar, one of a select group of students across the United States to receive this honor. Arthur, a student at the Loudoun Campus of Northern Virginia Community

College, will receive a \$1,000 stipend and a commemorative medallion and be recognized in "USA Today."

Arthur lives in Sterling and goes by the name of Nate. In essays written for the scholarship competition, he discusses his early life in India and the rocky road of his college journey.

Loudoun's **Natural History Day Camp** will be held again this summer. Two sessions: June 22-26 and July 6-10; 9 a.m.-3 p.m., daily at The 720-acre Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, Woods Road. For children entering 3rd through 7th grade. \$130/student. Visit www.LoudounWildlife.org.



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42201 HEATERS ISLAND CT	5	4	1		LEESBURG	\$715,000	Detached	7.73		LEESBURG CROSSING
20753 ASHBURN STATION PL	4	4	1		ASHBURN	\$680,000	Detached	0.47		ASHBURN STATION
23011 EAGLE WATCH CT	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$666,000	Detached	0.31		BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
22958 MCCROSKEY CT	4	4	1		ASHBURN	\$638,000	Detached	0.31		THE GLEN@LOUDOUN VALLEY ESTS
20597 WOODCOCK CT	5	4	1		LEESBURG	\$615,000	Detached	7.82		BIG WOODS
611 STRIBLING CT SW	4	3	1		LEESBURG	\$607,500	Detached	0.41		WOODLEA MANOR
22292 LOST BRANCH CIR	5	5	0		ASHBURN	\$590,000	Detached	0.19		AMBERLEIGH
43620 HABITAT CIR	5	4	1		LEESBURG	\$585,000	Detached	0.18		LANSDOWNE ON THE POTOMAC
44319 SAINT GERMAIN CT	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$575,000	Detached	0.89		CAMERON CHASE
42751 CHATELAIN CIR	4	3	1		BRAMBLETON	\$569,999	Detached	0.00		BRAMBLETON
23084 CHARMAY POND PL	5	4	1		ASHBURN	\$550,000	Detached	0.26		BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
21349 CAMERON HUNT PL	4	2	1		ASHBURN	\$547,000	Detached	0.96		CAMERON CHASE
21359 FERNBROOK CT	4	3	1		BROADLANDS	\$540,000	Detached	0.23		BROADLANDS
42481 SPRING SPLENDOR DR	3	3	1		ASHBURN	\$527,246	Detached	0.16		BRAMBLETON MAINSTREET
20029 BLACKWOLF RUN PL	4	2	1		ASHBURN	\$520,000	Detached	0.19		BELMONT COUNTRY CLUB
42882 DELEON DR	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$520,000	Detached	0.34		BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
807 MELODY CT SE	5	3	1		LEESBURG	\$499,000	Detached	0.21		TAVISTOCK FARMS
43178 AMBERLEIGH FARM DR	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$490,000	Detached	0.22		AMBERLEIGH
21926 WINDOVER DR	3	3	2		BROADLANDS	\$490,000	Detached			BROADLANDS SOUTH
40802 WOODSIDE PL	5	2	1		LEESBURG	\$480,000	Detached	3.09		ROLLING ACRES
19453 COPPERMINE SQ	1	1	0		LEESBURG	\$474,735	Other	0.06		LANSDOWNE TOWN CTR
18290 MAPLE SPRING CT	5	4	1		LEESBURG	\$450,000	Detached	0.34		NORTHLAKE
116 ROSEBROOK CT NW	5	3	1		LEESBURG	\$418,000	Detached	0.28		ROSEBROOK
43616 RYDER CUP SQ	3	2	1		ASHBURN	\$408,000	Townhouse	0.08		BELMONT COUNTRY CLUB
143 BALCH SPRINGS CIR SE	5	3	1		LEESBURG	\$399,000	Detached	0.19		STOWERS
20975 HOODED CROW DR	5	3	1		LEESBURG	\$395,000	Detached	0.36		COURTLAND RURAL VILLAGE
43276 TUMBLETREE TER	3	2	2		BROADLANDS	\$390,000	Townhouse	0.08		BROADLANDS SOUTH
123 BURNELL PL SE	5	2	1		LEESBURG	\$385,000	Detached	0.22		STRATFORD
19196 SWEIG TER	3	2	1		LEESBURG	\$385,000	Townhouse	0.08		LANSDOWNE
22620 SCATTERSVILLE GAP TER	3	2	2		ASHBURN	\$373,000	Townhouse	0.06		LOUDOUN VALLEY ESTATES
20614 CRESCENT POINTE PL	3	3	0		ASHBURN	\$371,815	Detached	0.13		POTOMAC GREEN
706 CLAIRMONT CT NE	4	3	1		LEESBURG	\$365,000	Detached	0.19		EXETER
18839 POTOMAC STATION DR	4	3	1		LEESBURG	\$358,000	Detached	0.17		POTOMAC STATION
43213 SOMERSET HILLS TER	3	2	1		ASHBURN	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.07		BELMONT LAND BAY
101 COURIER CT NE	5	3	1		LEESBURG	\$350,000	Detached	0.18		POTOMAC CROSSING
860 STONEFIELD SQ	3	3	1		LEESBURG	\$345,000	Townhouse	0.08		POTOMAC CROSSING
40122 MOUNT GILEAD RD	3	2	0		LEESBURG	\$345,000	Detached	1.01		HERNDON
42969 MILL RACE TER	4	3	1		LEESBURG	\$344,250	Townhouse	0.05		NORTHLAKE
44265 HURON TER	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.07		ASHBROOK VILLAGE
43129 SHADOW TER	3	2	1		LEESBURG	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.04		POTOMAC STATION
43655 MCDOWELL SQ #AL203	3	2	1		LEESBURG	\$325,000	Townhouse			LANSDOWNE TOWN CENTER
42622 HOLLYHOCK TER #0	3	2	1		ASHBURN	\$322,660	Other			BRAMBLETON SKY MEADOWS
618 HOWITZER TER NE	3	2	2		LEESBURG	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.07		EDWARDS LANDING
22380 MAISON CARREE SQ	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$320,000	Detached	0.10		LOUDOUN PARKWAY CNTR
1212 FEATHERSTONE LN NE #31	4	3	1		LEESBURG	\$320,000	Detached	0.14		POTOMAC CROSSING
42500 CORONADO TER	3	3	1		ASHBURN	\$319,000	Townhouse	0.05		BRAMBLETON LAND BAY
44394 MALTESE FALCON SQ	3	3	0		ASHBURN	\$317,500	Attach/Row Hse	0.00		POTOMAC GREEN
43077 SHADOW TER	4	3	1		LEESBURG	\$317,500	Townhouse	0.06		POTOMAC STATION
42544 MAGELLAN SQ	3	2	2		ASHBURN	\$317,099	Townhouse	0.06		BRAMBLETON
903 STONEFIELD SQ	3	3	1		LEESBURG	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.05		POTOMAC CROSSING
22643 UPPERVILLE HEIGHTS SQ	3	2	1		ASHBURN	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.08		LOUDOUN VALLEY ESTATES
43033 RUNDLE TER	3	3	1		LEESBURG	\$287,000	Townhouse	0.04		POTOMAC STATION
22677 HIGH HAVEN TER	3	2	1		ASHBURN	\$286,500	Townhouse	0.04		LOUDOUN PARKWAY CNTR
20117 HARDWOOD TER	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$286,000	Townhouse	0.05		UNIVERSITY CENTER
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44894 POINT BAY TER	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$282,000	Townhouse	0.04		RIVERSIDE VILLAGE AT UNI
635 BURNSIDE TER SE	4	3	0		LEESBURG	\$277,000	Townhouse	0.04		TAVISTOCK FARMS
310 BELMONT DR SW	3	1	0		LEESBURG	\$275,000	Detached	0.31		PROSPECT HILLS
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43676 WAXPOOL RD	3	1	0		ASHBURN	\$273,000	Detached	1.00		RYAN
43663 MCDOWELL SQ #AL103	3	2	1		LEESBURG	\$270,000	Townhouse			LANSDOWNE TOWN CENTER
21172 WINDING BROOK SQ	3	2	1		ASHBURN	\$260,000	Townhouse	0.06		ASHBURN FARM
43509 BLACKSMITH SQ #103	3	2	2		ASHBURN	\$255,000	Townhouse	0.04		ASHBURN FARM
587 EDMONTON TER	2	3	0		LEESBURG	\$254,000	Townhouse	0.04		POTOMAC STATION
43241 BENT TWIG TER	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$251,500	Townhouse	0.06		ASHBURN FARM
45080 UNIVERSITY DR	4	3	1		ASHBURN	\$245,000	Townhouse	0.03		UNIVERSITY CTR
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44172 MOSSY BROOK SQ	3	2	1		ASHBURN	\$236,900	Townhouse	0.04		ASHBURN VILLAGE
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20958 ROOTSTOWN TER	3	3	1		ASHBURN	\$233,000	Townhouse	0.06		ASHBURN VILLAGE
454 PEARLBUSH SQ NE	3	3	1		LEESBURG	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.05		SYCAMORE HILL
910 BIRCH ST NE	3	2	1		LEESBURG	\$230,000	Detached	0.23		CARRVALE
43105 GATWICK SQ	3	3	1		ASHBURN	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.04		ASHBURN FARM
516 LILAC TER NE	3	2	2		LEESBURG	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.04		SYCAMORE HILL
531 LILAC TER NE	3	3	1		LEESBURG	\$228,000	Townhouse	0.04		SYCAMORE HILL
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21196 WINDING BROOK SQ	3	3	1		ASHBURN	\$225,000	Townhouse	0.04		ASHBURN FARM
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21812 JARVIS SQ	2	2	0		ASHBURN	\$210,000	Townhouse	0.00		PARKSIDE AT ASHBURN
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103-A FORT EVANS RD SE #18	2	2	0		LEESBURG	\$164,900	Garden 1-4 Floors			FOX CHAPEL
547 ROCKBRIDGE DR SE	3	2	0		LEESBURG	\$154,900	Detached	0.14		SILVER OAKS
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'09 Spartans Wanting To Make Their Own History

New look Broad Run softball team not as dominant, but perhaps just as determined as last year's state champs.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

It is unrealistic to believe the Broad Run High girls' softball team could be as dominant as the Spartans have been the past two years when they went unbeaten and won consecutive Virginia State AA titles.

But head coach Ed Steele's squad, while less experienced this spring, has a rock solid belief that it can experience its own successful journey. The Spartans might not go 29-0 as they have the past two seasons, and they no longer have the best pitcher in the state with former ace Caitlyn Delahaba having graduated, but they are a hungry, confident squad that would love more than anything to leave their own mark in the annals of the program's storied history.

The Spartans are excited about their past, but hardly swallowed up by it. They have every inten-

tion of once again giving it their best shot and ultimately qualifying for the state playoffs again. Yes, the team has a different make-up this season after losing five players to graduation. But Broad Run is still a highly confident team carrying much of the aura that comes with consecutive state crowns.

"It's a mindset of Broad Run softball, that's what it is," said Steele, who has led the Spartans to three state titles (2000, '07, and '08) during his time as head coach of the program. "It doesn't change. When we go into a game, we expect to win. It's that simple."

BROAD RUN, 6-1 overall and 4-0 in the Dulles District, lost for the first time in over two years when



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

This season's Broad Run High softball team might not be the dominant team of recent years. Even so, opponents better not look past the Spartans, who still have plenty of offensive firepower, including the bat of Haley Johnson (pictured), and a strong new starting pitcher in Judy Betz.

it fell at Ashburn rival Stone Bridge, 4-2, on March 30. It was the program's first loss since falling at the state quarterfinals to conclude the 2006 season. Despite the setback to the Bulldogs, the team's confidence and composure have not been shaken. Broad Run came back the following day and defeated Dulles District opponent Loudoun County, 3-2, in an extra inning road win. Senior catcher Haley Johnson's one-out, solo home run in the top of the ninth inning broke a 2-2 tie and proved to be the game-winner.

Delahaba is no longer on the mound, striking out opposing hitters at a feverish rate for Broad Run as she did in recent years. Now, the focused, determined right-hander, one of the best high school pitchers the state of Virginia has ever seen, has taken her game to the Big East as Villanova University's starting pitcher.

Meanwhile, on the hill for Broad Run now is steady senior Judy Betz, a solid, composed player who is hardly overwhelmed at being the pitcher to follow Delahaba. Betz, who underwent a surgical procedure on her right throwing arm in early December, has taken it slowly early on this season. Steele has been careful about not overusing Betz, utilizing backup pitcher Anna Blessing, a junior, and third stringer Kate Sims, a freshman. Betz pitched just four innings against Stone Bridge. As a result, she was available to pitch all nine innings in the extra inning affair with Loudoun County the following day.

"She's not as fast as she ordinarily is," Steele said earlier this spring, in regards to Betz coming back from her arm injury. "But she is smart and hard to hit. We're hoping by midseason, she'll be at full strength."

Many of Broad Run's opponents struggled to even put the ball into play when Delahaba, a tremendous strikeout pitcher, was on the mound. With Betz, it will be a different story. Broad Run's defense will have to be on top of its game if the Spartans are going to hold down opposing offenses this season. In the loss to Stone Bridge, a poor fifth inning on defense resulted in the Bulldogs scoring all four of their runs and overcoming a 2-0 deficit.

"Our girls do realize our defense can't go to sleep this season," said Steele. "We're not going to watch 19 strikeouts in 21 batters with two little [fielding] plays. They know they have to play defense and won't be standing around and twiddling their fingers."

BETZ, WHO DID NOT allow a run over her first three starts this season (15 innings) in wins over Oakton, Briar Woods and Freedom, is not overpowering on the mound, but is a quality pitcher.

"Judy is not a Delahaba-type pitcher," said Steele. "She keeps batters off balance and hits her spots. Most of the time, [hitters] don't get a solid read of her pitches."

Betz said she tries to get batters to hit the ball into play early in the count to cut down on her pitch

count and utilize the defense behind her.

"I always want to make them hit my pitch," said Betz, the pitching backup to Delahaba last year. "Caitlyn was so good at striking people out and not letting batters touch the ball. I like to get the defense an easy play with a ground out or pop up."

Betz said her nine-inning outing against Loudoun County was somewhat of a struggle.

"Some innings were definitely tougher to get through than others," said Betz, who allowed just two runs in the Spartans' win. "[Catcher] Haley Johnson helped settle me down."

"Judy pitched great against Loudoun County," said Johnson, who caught Delahaba, her best friend, the past three years. "I think she's starting to feel better. I think she's looking a lot better than she did at the beginning of the season."

Johnson said it's naturally a big difference catching Betz after having been the backstop to Delahaba.

"I'd always been catching Caitlyn since my freshmen year," said Johnson. "It has definitely been a change for me. But Judy is a good pitcher herself. I've just had to pick up on what she does. She can mix it up a lot and has speed and some of the same pitches as Caitlyn."

BROAD RUN had a trio of core senior leaders last year in Delahaba, first baseman Karla Powell and shortstop Ashley Kramer. Powell is currently playing at the University of Wisconsin while Kramer is playing at Longwood University.

But Broad Run still has top notch talent, including returning First Team All-District selections in Johnson (catcher) and Blessing (outfield). Johnson, the team's fourth year starting catcher and clean-up batter, knocked in 30 runs last year.

"Haley is an awesome player," said Steele. "She's a great catcher. Our three pitchers all love her because she doesn't let them make mistakes. And no one runs on her because if they do they know they'll be out."

Johnson's game-winning home run over Loudoun County two weeks ago is Broad Run's highlight moment of the season thus far. The round-tripper, which came with one out in the top of the ninth, sailed over the left center field fence.



Ashburn Athlete of the Week

PHOTO COURTESY/SHOOTING STARS

The Ashburn Shooting Stars 14U White fastpitch softball team recently returned to Ashburn from Ashland, Va., where it had earned a championship trophy at the USSSA St. Patrick's Day Open tournament on March 21-22. It was the first tournament of the season for the Shooting Stars, who faced a field of nine other teams from central, eastern, and northern Virginia. The Shooting Stars were 2-1 after the first day of pool play, earning them a bye in the first round of the championship bracket. They won three consecutive games on championship Sunday, outscoring the opposition 16-5, behind strong pitching, defense, and hitting. For the tournament, the team batted .362, led by four players with averages of .500 or better.

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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm at a funny age, somewhere between accomplishment and retirement/entitlement. And though I truly believe I have plenty of good years ahead, it's the years I've left behind that concern me more. It seems like the tools I've used to reach this point in my life might not be the tools I'll need to reach the next points in my life. Specifically, I'm referring to technology, past and present versus future. As a few examples: utilizing a solar-powered calculator instead of pencil and paper and one's actual brain; replacing an eight-track tape player with a CD player and then replacing the CD with the upgraded benefits of a DVD; scrapping the VCR for the enhancements offered through TiVO/DVR; communicating via cell phone rather than with a cordless land line (and not having to be within 500 feet of its base); and switching to cable/digital/HD television and saying goodbye to antennas/rabbit ears (with or without the aluminum foil), among many others too numerous to mention but familiar to most.

These sorts of improvements, this kind of progress, I could handle; it seemed to follow in some sort of line with what had preceded it. Mentally, conceptually, even literally, I was able to connect the dots, so to speak and follow the progression of change. Things sort of built upon the hands-on experiences and instincts I had accumulated over time, those formative Wonder Bread-years where one sort of understands and appreciates a bit of what's going on and much of what has already gone on.

But now, the technology changes so quickly that some of the improvements seem not to be grounded in, or even based upon, the previously accepted technology of the day. It's like having to learn a new language/verbal means of communication when the previous language offered few familiar elements that were compatible; like going from English to Chinese to Navajo to Bushmen to signing for the hearing impaired. Other than them all being means of communication, it's not as if knowing something about one will help too much with the other. Your experiences will only clarify all that you don't know rather than some of what you might know. This is exactly how I feel about the technological revolution that is likely passing me by.

All my learning instincts (and many of my life's experiences) seem unsuitable for the environment in which I must now thrive in order to survive - or else. It sometimes feels like an episode of "Star Trek, Next Generation," where I'm stuck in a recurring time loop and can only succeed up to the point where I've already succeeded (something to do with the time-space continuum). It's sort of an upgraded "Peter Principle" for the 21st century. I feel like I've reached a point in my life where I've become successful but unfortunately for me, the kind of success I've had (and am having) does not make for a successful transition to the next level. It's as if I'm a victim of my own successful circumstances.

I can only do what I know how to do. But continuing to do that might not get me to the promised-to-no-one land. To succeed more, going forward, is going to require doing things with which I've had little success doing. I suppose I don't have to totally undue, I just have to find a way to redo, and redo in a way in which I've never done before; specifically using/embracing technological tools of the future trade, tools with which I have few instincts, limited experience, minimal aptitude and zero patience. And yet, if I don't embrace this new math, you can count me out, literally and figuratively. But I'm too young to be counted out. So either I change for the better or not change for the worse.

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

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OBITUARY

Donald Dennis Fusaro, 81, retired Computer Systems Analyst with the Library of Congress, died March 9, 2009, at home from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

Mr. Fusaro came to Washington in 1965 as a computer programmer with IBM. He joined the Information Technology Service at the Library of Congress in 1970 and was a programmer and systems analyst. He worked on the Library's conversion from a manual to a digital database system and other projects. He retired in 1998. He liked to dialogue, pun and engage in conversational sparring. He and his family moved to Reston, July, 1967.

Donald D. Fusaro was born in New Britain, Conn. He graduated from Yale University in 1950, studied at the Yale School of Architecture, following which he worked for architecture and engineering firms. In 1960 he received a Master's Degree from Yale. During the 70's he participated in Bucky Fuller's World Game Summer Institutes. He was a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston.

Survivors include his wife, Eleanor "Ellie" Fusaro, son Dennis Fusaro and wife, Mary, daughter, Susan Alderson and husband, Michael, 7 grandchildren, other relatives and friends.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2009, 11Am at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA. Memorial contributions for a lecture on Buckminster "Bucky" Fuller may be made to Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston, 1625 Wiele Ave, Reston, VA 20190.

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Briar Woods High School recently presented their production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and will next produce the musical, "Footloose," on May 1, 2, 8 and 9.

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/
THE CONNECTION

Learning To Rely on Each Other

FROM PAGE 2

people or more — must rely on one another to ensure a successful production. And unlike in a sport where there are moments one can fade into the background, in theater that is not an option. Every movement, every note, every gesture has to be precise, Martinez said.

"Once you get it right it's the best feeling," she said.

WHAT KEEPS ACTORS coming back is not just that feeling of getting it right but the thrill and challenge of acting itself.

"You can step out onto the stage and be anyone you want. There's nowhere else you can do that," said Dominion senior Chris Wolfe.

Being someone else isn't always easy. Musicals are one thing — the characters and subject matter tend towards the lighter side

— but dramas can be difficult, said Potomac Falls senior Heather Ellis. There are times in drama class that Ellis is rehearsing the role of a troubled character, trying to connect with the depth of emotion that her character is experiencing.

"The hardest thing probably is... [when] you have to get really emotionally invested onstage," Ellis said. "I'm just onstage screaming and crying and I don't even know why. Then the bell rings and everyone's just like, 'oh right,' and everyone goes about their day."

The challenge for young actors especially, said Haynes, is putting themselves into shoes of characters with life experiences that they as teenagers likely can not directly relate to.

FOR NEW ACTORS the challenge is especially difficult.

"You're very nervous, you're worried what people will think if you really let yourself go," said Potomac Falls junior Michael Wakefield.

Exactly what makes a good actor is a mystery, said Haynes, but it is a combination of intelligence, creativity and natural ability.

The key to a good show, said Park View junior Mandie Plowman, is having actors willing to get outside of their comfort zones, and not just onstage or in pursuit of mastering their character — actors must also be willing to open themselves up personally to their fellow actors.

"Its building relationships offstage that makes for success onstage," said Plowman.

For all the memorization of lines and dance steps and the countless hours memorizing lines, rehearsing scenes and practicing dance numbers, the joy of acting goes back to the simple pleasure of make believe, Plowman said.

"Here I get to be a different person every three months. I can be hokey and have fun with people I love," she said. "It's almost a relief for everything that goes on outside of here."



Kathryn Lea portrays the role of Luisa during Broad Run High School's presentation of "The Fantasticks" on March 29.

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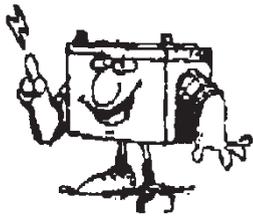
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