

Wall of Faces

NEWS, PAGE 4



Ceramic faces by Santiago Rodriguez, a sophomore at Robinson Secondary School, are on display at the Robinson Pyramid Art Show.

'Birds' Star Comes to Lorton
NEWS, PAGE 3

Refuge Turns 40
NEWS, PAGE 3

PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 10 ❖ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 13

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Where Eagles Soar

Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge celebrates 40 years.



A variety of activities were available to be enjoyed by all ages including, during the Elizabeth Hartwell Eagle Festival at Mason Neck State Park on April 25. The event celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Elizabeth Hartwell Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge.

At right, Steven Thompson, 10, of Bethesda, Md., tries cutting a piece of wood with a type of axe that would have been used in the 18th century or earlier.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Two in One Day

Town of Clifton hosts Kidfest, Spring Festival.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Two springtime events take place Saturday, May 9 in the Town of Clifton. From 10 a.m.-4 p.m., the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA) is hosting the fourth annual KidFest in the Clifton Town Park. From 10 a.m.-5 p.m., the Acacia Masonic Lodge No. 16 will put on a Spring Festival at the lodge, CBA barn and the Clifton Presbyterian Church parking lot.

"It's an awesome time and a happy, festive event for families and children," said Kathy Kinter, organizing

SEE TWO, PAGE 11

Tippi Hedren Comes to Lorton Workhouse

Animal activist, star of Alfred Hitchcock's 'The Birds' to speak at Workhouse May 9.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

It's a movie scene not quickly forgotten: A woman, standing in a phone booth, is surrounded by menacing ravens, throwing themselves at the glass until it cracks.

Forty-six years later, Tippi Hedren recalls the filming of that movie with a fondness that almost seems unfitting for one of the most iconic and terrifying scenes in cinematic history.

"I think it's lovely," Hedren said from her home in California. "But the expression on her face is far too pleasant. It's neat though, she has all these ravens attacking her dress and her hat."

Hedren still makes the occasional appearance in movies and on television, recently appearing in an episode of "CSI" on CBS, but most of her time is dedicated to her crusade to make it illegal to keep large cats as pets.

To that end, she has created Shambala, a

72-acre preserve in Acton, Calif., where 65 lions, tigers, lynx and other large cats live. A 501c3 organization, Shambala is a \$75,000-per-month operation where the cats live and are cared for, full time, by Hedren and her staff.

The cats that surround her home have been rescued from people who thought it would be neat to have a big cat as a pet, Hedren said. Once people realize that the adorable tiger cub they bought off Craigslist or from some animal trader isn't the cute and cuddly kitten they brought home and could kill or seriously injure them, the question of what to do when they sometimes meet with tragic consequences.

One of her cats was found walking through the streets of town after his original owner realized he couldn't afford to take care of the shaggy-maned Stevie, a large lion, Hedren said. Stevie came to Shambala from Branson, Mo.

Stevie's one of the lucky ones, however.

Big cats have been rescued from far worse conditions.

One man in California had 90 cats that he couldn't afford to keep, so he would feed them the occasional piece of road kill that died near his home. When game wardens eventually visited his home, they discovered tigresses so weak and malnourished that they couldn't feed their cubs. Dozens of dead cubs were found stuffed in a freeze. Others, still alive, were being kept in an air conditioning vent.

Hedren began her love affair with large cats while in Africa, where she and her then-husband came across a house, previously owned by a game warden, which was overtaken by lions when the house was vacated during the rainy season. The pride that claimed the house grew to be one of the largest in Africa, Hedren said, and she was captivated by the animal's beauty and power.



Meet Tippi Hedren

Tickets for An Evening with Tippi Hedren May 9, at 7 p.m., are available by calling the Workhouse Arts Center at 703-584-2900 or going to www.workhousearts.org. Tickets for the movie screening and discussion are \$20 presale, \$25 at the door; tickets for the VIP reception are \$125. Purchasing tickets ahead of time is strongly encouraged as this event is expected to sell out.

Shambala is an animal sanctuary, meaning it can take in animals removed from their owners' homes. The animals are not to be bred for more animals or used for performances of any kind. They are visited by veterinarians, fed (an average of 500 pounds of meat is needed there every day for the 65 cats) and have nearly free run of the preserve. School children take occasional trips to visit the preserve and tourists can pay \$3,000 for an overnight stay, complete with gourmet meals.

But Hedren's dedication to the animals doesn't stop there. She has already suc-

cessfully teamed up with Senators Jim Jeffords (I-Vt.), John Ensign (R-Nev.), Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), Carl Levin (D-Mich.), Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) and U.S. Reps. Howard McKeon (R-Calif.) and George Miller (D-

SEE HITCHCOCK, PAGE 6

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NEWS

Evidence of Creativity



Christina Baker, a junior at Robinson Secondary School, sits in her art booth during the annual Robinson Secondary School Pyramid Art Show on April 22. Art students from all the school in the Robinson Pyramid show some of their work each year in the show.



Sophomore Emily Cali displays her artwork in the annual Robinson Pyramid Art Show on April 22 at Robinson.

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

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The Fairfax Symphony is in search of its first new music director in 37 years. Six finalists, selected from a pool of 249 applicants, auditioned as guest conductors this season. The sixth and final candidate, Christopher Zimmerman, will appear Saturday, May 2, at George Mason University, Concert Hall of Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive in Fairfax. Performance is at 8 p.m.; free pre-concert lecture, 7 p.m. After the performance during the 2008-09 season, audience members will have the opportunity to offer feedback.

Zimmerman will be joined by violinist Chee-Yun, as the symphony performs Haydn's "Symphony No. 39 in G Minor," Bodorova's "Concerto dei Fiori" and Shostakovich's "Symphony No. 10."

Zimmerman, 50, was educated at Yale and University of Michigan. He also studied with Seiji Ozawa and Gunther Schuller at Tanglewood and at Pierre Monteux School in Maine.

He made his professional debut in 1985 with Royal Philharmonic, followed by engagements with the London Symphony and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. He also co-founded City of London Chamber Orchestra in 1989 and on National Opera Association Award's first prize for conducting operas. Tickets are \$25 and up, available online at Tickets.com, by phone at 888-945-2468, or in person at the George Mason University box office, Tuesday-Saturday, 10-6 p.m. Visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

Clifton Man Is Arrested

City of Fairfax Police have charged a 39-year-old Clifton man with grand larceny, possession of stolen property, possession of burglary tools and two counts of petit larceny. Sometime on Nov. 9 or Nov. 10, 2008, a Volkswagen Jetta was stolen from the parking lot of Fairfax Volkswagen at 11050 Fairfax Blvd.

Following an investigation by the Criminal Investigations Division, Gregory Clifford Fields of the 13500 block of Sierra Drive was arrested on April 16. He was held without bond in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.



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Hitchcock Lead To Speak at 'Birds' Screening

FROM PAGE 3

Calif.) to get the Captive Wild Safety Act passed, which was signed by President George Bush in December 2003.

Now, the same week that Hedren will be making an appearance at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, she will be introducing a second bill, "A Federal Ban on Breeding the Exotic Feline for Personal Possession," which would make it illegal to keep big cats as pets or to breed them for sale. Hedren had started working on the bill a few years ago, with the help of the late U.S. Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.). She is now working with U.S. Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-Colo.), who will introduce the bill May 7 or 8.

"I'm very certain it will pass," she said, given the amount of attention paid to the attack on Las Vegas performer Roy Horn and the attack earlier this year by a trained chimpanzee on a woman in Connecticut. People are talking more about what kind of animals should be kept as pets and which need to be left alone in the wild, she said.

IN RECENT YEARS, lions and tigers have mauled at least 570 people and killed 37, she said, accidents and deaths that wouldn't have happened if the animals hadn't been kept as pets.

She understands why people think they want to keep these cats as pets. As cubs, they're adorable and look more like stuffed animals than dangerous ones.

"In a split second, they can kill you," she said. "Out in the wild, their job is to take out the old, sick and lame animals. Unfortunately, these beautiful creatures have hurt so many people who want to keep them as pets. It's unnecessary and insane to try and keep these animals as pets."

Hedren will be happy to answer questions about her animal activism when she visits Lorton, but she will also be happy to talk about her film career, which started with "The Birds" in 1963. It was her first film and her introduction to Alfred Hitchcock, who would cast Hedren in other films.

While in Lorton, Hedren will receive the inaugural Workhouse Lifetime Achievement in the Arts, honoring her work in film and television and her efforts to help animals.

It will join her collection of awards, which include a Golden Globe and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

The Workhouse Arts Center is welcom-

ing Hedren as a part of its ongoing film festival, a monthly event that pairs a film with a discussion, typically with someone either associated with the film or with extensive knowledge of the topic discussed in the film. Hedren will give a short presentation after the film and then answer some questions, said Joey Wallen, director of performing arts

and film at the Workhouse. This will be the third event for the Film Institute, which officially kicked off with a series of classes about film and animation in March.

"We're so excited that Tippi's coming to talk with us about her career, especially after viewing 'The Birds,' which could be what she's best known for," Wallen said. "This is exactly the kind of event we have in mind for the Film Institute. She was there for the film, obviously, so we're hoping she can maybe clear up some misconceptions people might have about various things, like how the birds were added into some scenes in editing and what it was like to work with Alfred Hitchcock."

But it is the combination of the professional and the personal loves of Hedren's that made her the perfect candidate for the

award, which will be given out on an annual basis and made by one of the glass artists associated with the Workhouse. The award will be individually made each year for the recipient, Wallen said, but because it is handmade, it will be slightly different for each honoree.

"Tippi has always done such great things for the animals. She's trying to create solutions to problems that don't necessarily exist yet, and we think that's wonderful," he said.

People who want the chance to meet Hedren up close and personal can purchase a ticket for a VIP event, which features hors d'oeuvres, wine and conversation before the film screening. Otherwise, popcorn and other refreshments will be available during the movie, followed by the discussion.

Other events in the future will include a viewing of the documentary "In the Shadow of the Moon," followed by a discussion with a NASA scientist, Wallen said.

With a little over six months of operations under her belt, Workhouse executive director Sharon Mason is pleased with the Lorton Arts Foundation's success so far.

"We're very pleased to have Ms. Hedren coming to visit us and to be able to give her this award," Mason said. "She's not only a famous actress, she's very classy and her heart's always been in the right place."

"Tippi has always done such great things for the animals."

— **Joey Wallen, Workhouse Arts Center**

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FAITH

Messianic Jewish leader Jeff Friedman will speak at the Jubilee Christian Center on Sunday, May 3, at the 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. He is currently the director of "Jacob's Hope," a worldwide ministry to Jewish people. Jubilee Christian Center is located at 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. 703-383-1170. www.jccag.org.

Sydenstricker United Methodist Church will be open to the public every Wednesday morning from 5:45-7:45 a.m. for prayer and meditation. The church is at 8508 Hooes Road. Free. 703-451-8223. www.sumdisciples.org.

One God Ministry Church, located at 4280/4282 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, has launched a new Web site with news, events, training, conferences, fellowship programs and more. Sunday School is at 10 a.m., Sunday Worship Service at 11 a.m., and Wednesday Prayer Service at 7 p.m. Women's, Men's, and Youth Bible Studies are on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. A Spiritual Gifts Service is the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m. One God Ministry has ministries for youth, men, women, couples, music and singles. 703-591-6161 or www.onegodministry.org.

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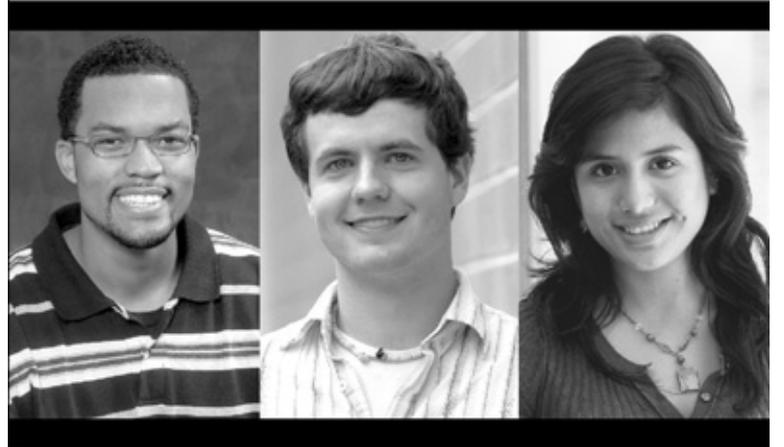
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CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6459. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

THURSDAY/APRIL 30

Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire," 7:30 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-426-1070.

Stories and Science, 4 p.m. at the John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Stories, activities and an age-appropriate experiment. Age 4-6 with adult. 703-971-0010.

'Say Goodnight, Gracie,' presented by George Mason University's Theater Department and the GMU Players. 8 p.m., at GMU's TheaterSpace at the school's Fairfax campus. Tickets are \$12; \$8 for students, seniors and GMU faculty/staff. Limited free tickets available for GMU students. 703-993-8888.

FRIDAY/MAY 1

Occoquan River Festival features events at six venues along the Occoquan River. Taste of Occoquan, an Ultimate Frisbee Tournament, a boat show, a children's playground midway, ghost walks, quarry tours and more at Occoquan Regional Park, Belmont Bay, Prince William Marina, and the Town of Occoquan. Visit www.occquanrivercommunities.com for specific event locations and times.

Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire," 7:30 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-426-1070.

The Young People's Theatre presents 'Annie,' 7 p.m. at New Hope Church, 8905 Ox Road in Lorton. Reserved seats are \$10. www.YPTnva.com.

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke, 703-978-5600.

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Pohick Regional Library, 6450

Sydenstricker Road, Burke, 703-644-7333.

'Annie Get Your Gun.' 7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets at the door or online at <http://tinyURL.com/wshstheater>.

'The Little Mermaid.' The Joan Izzo Academy of Dance presents Superne Dance Theatre's underwater fairy tale adventure. 7:30 p.m., at the Ernst Community Cultural Center at Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for children and \$10 each for groups of 10 or more. To purchase tickets contact Cynthia Davenport at 703-815-7558 or e-mail Kostickets@gmail.com or joanizzodance@joanizzodance.org.

'Say Goodnight, Gracie,' presented by George Mason University's Theater Department and the GMU Players. 8 p.m., at GMU's TheaterSpace at the school's Fairfax campus. Tickets are \$12; \$8 for students, seniors and GMU faculty/staff. Limited free tickets available for GMU students. 703-993-8888.

'The Wedding From Hell' by Eileen Mouskey. The W.T. Woodson Drama Department presents this comedy and dinner theater event (rated PG-13) 12 p.m. and 7 p.m., at Main Street Marketplace, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. Visit wtwdrama.org for tickets. Tickets are \$18 for buffet meal and performance. Pre-sale only. No tickets sold at the door. Caterers vary per show, but include: Red Hot & Blue, Metro Diner, Auld Shebeen, Buffalo Wing University, Brion's Grill, and Mama Lucia's.

SATURDAY/MAY 2

Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire," 7:30 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-426-1070.

Jimmy Lange to Battle Ryan Davis for WBC USNBC Championship Title. Junior middleweight contender Jimmy Lange (29-3-2, 20 KOs) will battle Ryan "Dangerous" Davis (20-8-2, 8 KOs) for the vacant World Boxing Council (WBC) United States National Boxing Championship (USNBC) Super Welterweight (154-lb) Title in the 12-round Main Event



The Young People's Theatre presents 'Annie,' May 1, May 3 and May 8-9 at New Hope Church, 8905 Ox Road in Lorton. Reserved seats are \$10. www.YPTnva.com.

7:30 p.m., at the Patriot Center. Tickets are \$20-\$500 (plus applicable service charges), and are on sale now. Tickets are available through all Ticketmaster outlets including the Patriot Center box office, online at www.ticketmaster.com, or via Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT, 202-397-SEAT or 410-547-SEAT. For more information visit www.ipboxing.com or www.patriotcenter.com.

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4p.m., Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke, 703-978-5600.

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4p.m., Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke, 703-644-7333.

Occoquan River Festival, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Free. The River Festival celebrates life along the Occoquan River. Rain date is May 3. Contact: www.occquanrivercommunities.com, 703-690-2121.

Paddle Adventure- Morning Tour at Pohick Bay, 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Cost: \$30 per person or group rate. Enjoy a morning park paddle tour on the water before the hustle and bustle of boaters. See eagles in the morning light as they hunt for the day. Pohick Bay Regional Park, 6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton. No experience is necessary. 703-339-6104.

Art in the Park at Occoquan, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Free. Artists from the Workhouse Arts Center will display their art and also be creating new work along the riverfront at Occoquan Regional Park, 9520 Ox Road, Lorton. Contact: John Houser, 703-690-2121, Occoquan@nvrpa.org.

'Annie Get Your Gun.' 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets at the door or online at <http://tinyURL.com/wshstheater>.

Container Garden Workshop. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at Heather Hill Gardens, 8111 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Free. Rain date May 3. Bring a container or

purchase one, and employees will help select plants and design a garden. Soil, fertilizer and light refreshments will be provided. Call 703-690-6060 or visit www.heatherhillgardens.com.

'Say Goodnight, Gracie,' presented by George Mason University's Theater Department and the GMU Players. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., at GMU's TheaterSpace at the school's Fairfax campus. Tickets are \$12; \$8 for students, seniors and GMU faculty/staff. Limited free tickets available for GMU students. 703-993-8888.

'The Wedding From Hell' by Eileen Mouskey. The W.T. Woodson Drama Department presents this comedy and dinner theater event (rated PG-13) 12 and 7 p.m., at Main Street Marketplace, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. Visit wtwdrama.org for tickets. Tickets are \$18 for buffet meal and performance. Pre-sale only. No tickets sold at the door. Caterers vary per show, but include: Red Hot & Blue, Metro Diner, Auld Shebeen, Buffalo Wing University, Brion's Grill, and Mama Lucia's.

Plant Sale, hosted by the Robinson Secondary Crew Booster Club at Burke Nursery and Gardening Center at 9401 Burke Road, Burke. Crew Rowing teams are non funded sports in Fairfax County. Burke Nursery contributes 20 percent of total sales for customers who present pre purchased certificates (\$10) the day of sale. *See www.robinsoncrew.com for details.

Artist's Exhibit. Anabela Ferguson and special guests offer a 10-year celebration reception, with food, woodwind and strings jazz music. 1-5 p.m., at 7304 Grace St., Springfield. www.anabela-artist.com, 571-594-3717.

SUNDAY/MAY 3

The Young People's Theatre presents 'Annie,' 3:30 p.m. at New Hope Church, 8905 Ox Road in

Lorton. Reserved seats are \$10. www.YPTnva.com.

Used Book Sale. 12-5 p.m., Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke, 703-644-7333.

'The Little Mermaid.' The Joan Izzo Academy of Dance presents Superne Dance Theatre's underwater fairy tale adventure. 3 p.m., at the Ernst Community Cultural Center at Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for children and \$10 each for groups of 10 or more. To purchase tickets contact Cynthia Davenport at 703-815-7558 or e-mail Kostickets@gmail.com or joanizzodance@joanizzodance.org.

Train Show. Tabletop N-scale model trains will be running 1-4 p.m., at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Admission is \$2/adults and \$1/child. 703-425-9225. www.fairfax-station.org.

'Say Goodnight, Gracie,' presented by George Mason University's Theater Department and the GMU Players. 2 p.m., at GMU's TheaterSpace at the school's Fairfax campus. Tickets are \$12; \$8 for students, seniors and GMU faculty/staff. Limited free tickets available for GMU students. 703-993-8888.

Artist's Exhibit. Anabela Ferguson and special guests offer a 10-year celebration reception, with food, woodwind and strings jazz music. 1-5 p.m., at 7304 Grace St., Springfield. www.anabela-artist.com, 571-594-3717.

TUESDAY/MAY 5

'An Evening with IL Divo,' David Miller, Carlos Marin, Urs Buhler & Sébastien Izambard, 7:30 p.m. at the George Mason Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle Fairfax. Tickets are \$59.50-\$129.50, available online at www.ticketmaster.com or at 703-573-SEAT. www.ildivo.com.

Blossoming Out of the Box, flower show presented by the Dominion Valley Garden Club. 1:30-4 p.m., at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The show will be judged by National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc. Flower Show judges and will include floral designs and horticultural specimens. Free. For more, call Olivia Ford, the Flower Show chair, at 703-250-7533.

THURSDAY/MAY 7

Movie on the Lawn: 'He's Just Not That Into You.' 8 p.m. at the plaza in front of the McDiarmid Building, Annandale Campus, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Free. Cars without NOVA parking stickers must use the visitor parking garage for \$1 per hour, cash only. 703-323-3484.

FRIDAY/MAY 8

The Young People's Theatre presents 'Annie,' 7 p.m. at New Hope Church, 8905 Ox Road in Lorton. Reserved seats are \$10. www.YPTnva.com.

'A Harmonizer on Broadway' presented at 8 p.m. by the Alexandria Harmonizers Barbershop Chorus. Music from "West Side Story," "Phantom of the Opera," "Spamalot" and many others. Location is Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale. Tickets from \$15-\$30 available by calling 703-910-4600 or at www.harmonizers.org.

Two Plays: 'Empty Chair' and 'Tarmac,' presented by Metropolitan Performing Arts

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

OCOQUAN RIVER FESTIVAL

Occoquan River Festival on Saturday, May 2 will feature events at six venues along the Occoquan River, including Taste of Occoquan, an Ultimate Frisbee Tournament, a boat show, a children's playground midway, ghost walks, quarry tours and more. Free parking at all locations. Once parked, travel to other locations using shuttle buses from overflow parking to main venues or water taxis at Occoquan Regional Park, Belmont Bay, Prince William Marina, and the Town of Occoquan. Visit www.occquanrivercommunities.com for details.

❖ Occoquan Regional Park

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Family Paddle Event
10 a.m.-7 p.m. Food Fair
12-7 p.m. Ultimate Frisbee Championship
12-4 p.m. Family Bicycle Fun
7 p.m. Fireworks Extravaganza

❖ Historic Town of Occoquan

10 a.m.-7 p.m. Sidewalk Sale, Roaming Musicians, Craft Demonstrations, Historical Re-enactments, Carriage Rides and Children's Activity Area
12-7 p.m. Ghost Walks
3-5 p.m. Taste of Occoquan

❖ Lorton Workhouse Arts Center

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Shops Open and Live Music in the Quad
7-8:30 p.m. Fireworks and Live Concert

❖ Belmont Bay

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wet and Wild Wheels Show, Vendors, Golf Putting Contest and Clinics, Moonbounce & Festival Concessions, DJ, Bud Booths and Steamed Crabs, Food and Wine Tasting
12-4 p.m. Bungee/Trampoline Rides

12:30-4:30 p.m. Live Country-Rock Band at Village Green Pavilion

❖ Prince William Marina

10 a.m.-7 p.m. Children's Inflatable Midway and Carnival Food Vendors

❖ Vulcan Quarry

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Public Tours

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

Theater, Lorton. 7:30 p.m., at Convergence, A Creative Community of Faith. 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/60074/. For more, info@metrotheater.org or sceletano@aol.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 9

Bill Engvall and Frank Caliendo Comedy Show, 8 p.m. at the Patriot Center, 4500 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$49.50, through www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. Visit www.billengvall.com or www.frankcaliendo.com.

The Young People's Theatre presents 'Annie', 3:30 p.m. at New Hope Church, 8905 Ox Road in Lorton. Reserved seats are \$10. www.YPTnva.com.

Concerts from Kirkwood, Recital. 3 p.m., at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. Free. Young Artist Competition Winners featuring high school and middle school artists from the Northern Virginia area playing piano, violin, flute, trumpet or horn. Donations accepted. 703-451-5320, www.kirkwoodpres.com.

'The Blue Door Collection,' paintings by Jan E. Moffatt, will displayed at an Artist's Reception from 1-4 p.m. at The Loft Gallery, 313 Mill St. in Occoquan. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday 12-5 p.m. 703-490-1117 or www.loftgallery.org.

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Friends Book Sale. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria, 703-339-4610.

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Raindate: Sunday, May 3

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Sat. 9:30 - 5:30 • Sun. 11:00 - 5:30

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an evening with actress
Tippi Hedren

May 9, 2009

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An Evening With...
Actress Tippi Hedren
Join Ms. Hedren on this rare opportunity to revisit a cinematic masterpiece. Following a screening of her breakout film *The Birds*, Ms. Hedren leads an informal Q&A offering insight to this classic film.

VIP Reception
An exclusive private event featuring a wine reception, paparazzi party and private meet-and-greet with Tippi Hedren.

For more information:
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WorkhouseArts.org

The Workhouse Arts Center
Gallery W-16, Second Floor
9517 Workhouse Way
Lorton, Virginia 22079

Saturday May 9, 2009
7pm- *The Birds* screening
\$20 (advance) \$25 (at the door)
(advance tickets are recommended)

VIP Reception
6pm-7pm
\$125 (reservations required)

Special thanks to The Connection Newspapers

Real Division-I Ride

Lake Braddock senior earns scholarship as equestrian athlete.

BY JASON MACKEY
THE CONNECTION

When Mark Martino, Lake Braddock's director of student activities, was coordinating a college signing ceremony back in late March, he thought he had invited all of his school's upper-level athletes and their families.

When Susan Mull heard of the plans to host such an event, she called Martino, letting him know that her daughter, Melissa Mull, was a Division-I athlete as well and asked if it would be all right if she was included.

"Absolutely," Martino said.

And so Mull, a senior at Lake Braddock, was booked.

Since she was 3, Melissa Mull has been riding horses. At age 5, she started doing so competitively. Now, after countless shows across the country and trips to the barn her family has rented for the past three years in Clifton, Mull has

"Everyone thinks it's cool, but they don't understand how much of a sport it really is."

— Melissa Mull, senior,
Lake Braddock Secondary

earned an equestrian scholarship to the University of South Carolina.

"That was a good feeling to be up there with the soccer players and the field hockey players and be like, 'Hey, I'm an athlete too,' Mull said. "People underestimate [horseback riding], but it's a lot more tiring than you think."

While horseback riding can be split into several disciplines, the two most popular are the English and Western styles. English riding, the more formal of the two, requires more jumping and dressage, a riding term that can best be described as a horse's level of obedience to its rider. It's also the style featured in the Olympic Games.

Melissa Mull prefers the Western style, somewhat because of the clothes — Western riders wear boots, chaps and cowboy hats, while English-style riders wear those beige britches and black hats — but also because of the Western style's level of difficulty and freeness.

WEARING A gold, oversized belt buckle with tight blue jeans inside the barn in Clifton on a Sunday afternoon, Melissa Mull, looking every bit the Western part, stood to

SEE HORSEBACK, PAGE 15



PHOTO BY JASON MACKEY/THE CONNECTION

Outside of the barn her family rents in Clifton, Melissa Mull, a senior at Lake Braddock, sits atop Petey, her horse of the past six years.

Rams Don't Have To Look Far To Find New Pitcher

Robinson softball team, with first-time pitcher, keeps opponents guessing.

BY JASON MACKEY
THE CONNECTION

Everybody can pitch. Attend a baseball or softball practice one spring afternoon and chances are an outfielder somewhere waits undiscovered with a looping curveball or there's a catcher with 90-mile-per-hour heat — if only that darn coach would realize it.

Intra-squad games often become the perfect forum for those wannabes to falter, to issue three straight walks and suddenly the joke isn't so funny anymore. But what happens when that wannabe pitcher actually gets a chance to throw in a real game?

Ask Marcy Bowdren, the Robinson softball team's first-year pitcher, who, as it turns out, was anything but an imposter. With the graduation of pitcher Erin Henning from last year's 16-10 team, Robinson was looking for someone to step into the circle.

Bowdren, a third baseman last spring, became coach Barry Gorodnick's lead candidate, mainly because of her strong arm and overall athleticism, not that her teammates were entirely convinced.

"She always said she could pitch, but nobody ever believed her. It was always a big joke," said senior Christine Cunningham,

who, in addition to playing shortstop also serves as Bowdren's catcher. "But actually she has really pulled through for the team because we needed a pitcher."

Before the Rams' 1-2 loss to Fairfax on Tuesday night, Bowdren was 6-2 on the season with four saves. Her 1.58 ERA has been lower than expected and her strikeout total (70) has been a pleasant surprise, too.

Two years removed from capturing the 2007 Northern Region title, it wasn't all that unfathomable back in February that this spring would become a rebuilding one for the Rams. The losses of shortstop Ali Marco, Henning and center fielder Taryn Cutrona all stung, and Gorodnick, in his 20th season on Robinson's bench, wasn't so sure what to expect early on.

Robinson started out this season red-hot, recording wins over West Potomac, Centreville and Herndon. In all, the team was victorious in 10 of its first 11 games,

with the only loss coming to last year's region champion, Westfield.

Following a spring break trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C., though, Robinson hit a three-game skid with losses to Oakton, Centreville and Westfield. A win over Herndon on Friday, April 24 helped to shake those defeats, but the Rams (11-6) will look to put memories of the Fairfax loss behind them by hosting Chantilly on Friday for Senior Night.

"We had a pretty good start, but now it

just seems like we've been tapering a little bit," Gorodnick said at practice on Monday afternoon. "I'd like to see us get back to that level of consistency where we were at the beginning of the year."

When searching for consistency, Gorodnick doesn't need to look much further than his two battery mates on most nights, with Cunningham hitting .327 from the No. 3 slot and Bowdren hitting a head-turning .565 from her leadoff position.

The formula is simple: Bowdren, reaching base 66 percent of the time, gets on. Then, either a stolen base — Bowdren has 16 — or a sacrifice moves her into scoring position. A Cunningham hit generally fol-

"She always said she could pitch, but nobody ever believed her. It was always a big joke."

— Christine Cunningham, senior,
Robinson Secondary



PHOTO BY JASON MACKEY/THE CONNECTION

Robinson senior Christine Cunningham makes contact during batting practice Monday afternoon. A catcher/shortstop, Cunningham was hitting .327 before Tuesday's game at Fairfax.

lows, as evidenced by Bowdren's total of 25 runs scored and Cunningham's 12 RBIs.

"I've been pitching in the back yard with my dad for years, and I just thought I'd try it," Bowdren said. "It's fun. There's more pressure, but you have more control. You get put on the spot, and I'm not really used to that."

COMMUNITY

Two Festivals on May 9

FROM PAGE 3

KidFest 2009. "There's a lot of excitement and it's always a fun-filled day."

KidFest entertainment includes live musical acts, roving clowns, a 27-foot inflatable slide, moon bounces, carnival games and children's arts and crafts.

Eggspectations will have several, different food items for sale, and hot dogs, hamburgers, cotton candy, salad and beverages will also be available. Attendees may also visit Clifton's businesses, such as the Clifton Café, Peterson's Ice Cream, The Clifton Store and the Heart in Hand restaurant for lunch and snacks. Retail shops will also be open.

Admission to KidFest is \$5 for anyone who can walk, with all proceeds supporting CBA events for children and raising money for Shelter House, Moms For A Cure and the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program. Each attendee will also receive two, \$1 tickets toward any activity requiring tickets.

In addition, the Bryce Foundation will raffle off a gift certificate of at least \$500 to a local bike shop. This organization supports research aimed at the prevention, early detection and treatment of pediatric cancers, as well as parental education, advocacy and financial assistance to families.

The Acacia Lodge's Spring Festival also offers fun for all ages. Clowns from the Kena Shriners in Fairfax will be on hand, and the Kena 500 — people driving miniature Corvettes — will perform several times a day in front of the fire station.

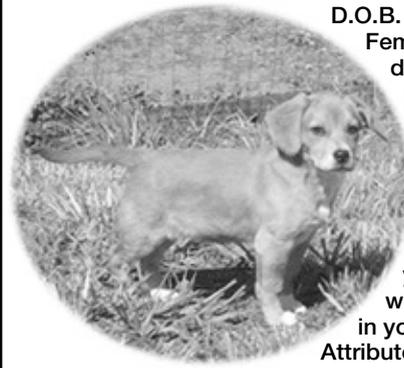
From 12-3 p.m., One Night Stand, a five-piece blues band, will entertain on a stage in front of the CBA barn. Then from 3-5 p.m., Wild Card Band will play classic rock. Food and beverages, including adult beverages, will be offered near the barn, and vendors will sell flowers, plants and shrubs, as well as antiques.

Admission is free, but a \$5 charge for parking will be collected. Proceeds will benefit restoration of the historic Acacia Lodge building, which suffered severe flood damage, a few years ago, and needs other repairs, as well.

"It's the first year we've done this," said Lodge spokesman Don McAndrews. "We've been looking for ways to raise money to repair the lodge. It's a timber structure, originally built as a blacksmith shop, and was the first building in Clifton to have electricity. But the floor sagged down, 4-6 inches, and none of the doors or windows worked because the building wasn't square. It never even had a foundation, until recently."

Thanks to a loan from another lodge, work has already begun and, during the Spring Festival, the building will be open for tours. In addition, McAndrews, who chairs the Lodge's museum committee, said he and his son will either find or build display cases so they can interpret the Lodge's history and its role in Clifton's development. "We can open the museum to the public and also do some outreach to the local schools," he said. "It should be a neat event for the town, a laid-back, fun, spring thing."

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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Burke (22015)

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6417 COLCHESTER RD.....\$799,990 ... Sun 1-4 Long & Foster.....Gordon Riley.....703-556-8600
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8520 KENTFORD DR.....\$459,000 ... Sat 1-4 RE/MAX.....Karen Overheu.....703-507-5448
6252 ROLLING SPRING CT.....\$834,900 ... Sat 1-4 Weichert.....Gheogostia Damtier...703-569-7870
8808 SHADOWLAKE WAY.....\$579,900 ... Sun 1-4 RE/MAX.....Bruce & Tanya Tyburski.703-239-2525

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OPINION

Call for Mother's Day Photos

Also inviting contributions of photos and stories from the community from any local event.

Every year at this time, the Connection puts out the call for photographs of mothers and their children, grandmothers and their children and grandchildren.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10, and once again the Connection will publish a gallery of Mother's Day photos.

Send in photos as soon as possible, including names of everyone in the picture, the date the picture was taken, the ages of the children, a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to include your town name and neighborhood.

We prefer digital photos, but we also accept prints. We will do our best to return hard copies of photos that include a self-addressed-stamped envelope for that purpose, but please do not send us any photos that cannot be replaced.

E-mail photos to south@connectionnewspapers.com.

Send photos to The Connection, Mother's Day Photo Gallery, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102.

Father's Day, Sunday, June 21, will be here by the time we blink, and we will also accept Father's Day photos, with the same guidelines.

THE CONNECTION'S photographers, Robbie Hammer and Louise Krafft won almost every possible award this year in the Virginia Press Association news contest. But they cannot attend even a significant fraction of the many newsworthy, photogenic events that occur around our communities every week.

Many of our readers are accomplished photographers, and many more perfectly competent with their point and shoot digital camera. We invite you to send us photos and a short write-up of any local event you think might interest us.

Some examples: events, awards or other happenings at schools; fairs, charity events or any other gathering at a house of worship; a photo celebrating the anniversary of a business; a photo celebrating a local couple's milestone anniversary; engagement and wedding announcements; graduations; Eagle Scout projects and ceremonies; youth sports teams with trophies; community service projects by families, individuals or teams of employees; almost anything else you can imagine.

We prefer digital photos emailed along with the write-up. Be sure to include the name of everyone in the photo including where they live; we will almost certainly not use a photo if people are not identified. Please include age, grade and school for young people. And a paragraph or two that says where and when the event took place and what is happening. Include a phone number in case we have any questions.

E-mail photos to south@connectionnewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Understanding A Child's Needs

To the Editor:

School Board member Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence) responded to Supervisor Pat Herrity's (R-Springfield) editorial ["School Budget: Changing the Equation," March 26-April 1, 2009] regarding the school system budget ["Commentary: Understanding the Equation" April 7, 2000]. I would like to thank Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner for reaching out to the community to solicit for opinions on the subject of the school budget. To that end, the message that Mr. Herrity and the rest of the parents of Fairfax County are delivering is very clear: give teachers their seniority-based raises and do not raise class sizes.

There have been thousands of studies on what are the most important criteria in helping children learn. The Harvard Graduate program says that the education of the teacher drives successful learning, the studies of the 1990s point to class size, and more recently it is education level of the child's mother. Regardless of all of these studies, no one can dispute that increasing the class size makes it more difficult for our children to learn. All children can't have a teacher with a Ph.D. in education, and not everyone's mother graduated from an Ivy League school. But we can control how many kids are in the classroom.

Virginia State Department of Education Regulation 22.1-

253.13:2 sets limits of 30 students per class for grades 1-3, and 35 students per class for grades 4-6. There is no "formal" limit on the middle and high school levels (except for English classes). So theoretically, you can have 50 students in a high school class, as long as it is not an English class and as long as a teacher does not teach more than 150 students in a week.

Regardless of our vague state regulations, Fairfax County should take it upon itself to establish its own goals on class size.

Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner defends the School Board's budget by providing excruciating details on the price of gas, anticipated enrollment and details of the size of the administration. These details dilute the broader and more substantive message — the School Board has not established goals for maximum class sizes or pursued additional measures to keep class sizes in check. Montgomery County is controlling class size and Prince William is giving their teachers 2.9 percent increase in cost-of-living adjustments and no increases in class size. The School Board will tell you that we can't do this because we get less funding from the state. Rather than address the problem and work on a solution that does not increase class sizes, they take the easy way out.

Kim Farrell
Vienna

ESSAYS

I Am Thankful For ...

BY ALY O'ROURKE
GRADE 6, SANGSTER ELEMENTARY

I'm thankful for our country's freedom. Now we have the freedom of speech, the freedom to make our own decisions, and to say "no" to what we don't believe in. Now we all are treated equally. So I say, "Thank you," to all the men and women in the Armed Forces who gave their lives for your and my lives and for our amazing country.

I Am Thankful For ...

BY BEN TOBIN
GRADE 6, SANGSTER ELEMENTARY

I am thankful for my really entertaining older brother, Sam. He brings out the worst and best of me. We have a lot of excellent times, and we have some pretty terrible times. But, when we have our excellent times, it is just so much plain fun. I am very thankful for Sam. He helps me move on with a thrilling life rather than a boring one. The time I spend with my brother means the world to me.

I Am Thankful For ...

BY CONNOR BAUGH
GRADE 6, SANGSTER ELEMENTARY

I am thankful for my family. If we didn't have family, we wouldn't be able to truly enjoy life. If there was never family then you would be all alone on this vast inhabited planet. If you didn't have family, you wouldn't be able to do things like give gifts or argue with your parents. You couldn't have holidays like Thanksgiving or Christmas because there would be no one to visit or eat with. You wouldn't know much because there wouldn't be anyone to teach you. It would be a horribly lonely life and a wasted one at that. This is what I am most thankful for.

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SPORTS

Horseback

FROM PAGE 10

the right of her 9-year-old horse, Petey. For the past six years, she and Petey have been nearly inseparable.

Despite the typical requirements of a high school student, Melissa Mull travels to Clifton at least four or five times a week, either to practice riding or just to visit Petey. A quarter horse, Petey is the ideal breed for Melissa Mull's style of riding, compact and obedient.

"I would put a baby or a grandmother on him and never give it a second thought," Susan Mull said.

The ability to listen is imperative for Melissa Mull's discipline, which falls under the Western umbrella and is known as reining. First developed as a way for ranchers and their horses to control cattle in an open field, reining is comprised of circles, sliding stops and spins that the rider must navigate his or her horse through.

"It's a lot more fun than trotting around a ring," Melissa Mull said.

At the family's previous barn that was closer to home, a horse trainer named Richard O'Toole, a Western-style rider himself, caught a glimpse of Melissa Mull when she was younger. O'Toole recognized the girl's talent and offered to train her. Since, Melissa Mull has competed in shows with O'Toole and has even beaten him on occasion.

LIKE MANY aspiring college athletes, Melissa Mull and her family made a DVD to showcase her riding talents. Ed Mull, Melissa's father, had heard that colleges, with a different set of rules that horse shows, were not looking to see Melissa Mull ride the same horse she with which she had trained and developed a relationship.

In collegiate equestrian competitions, each team member draws a horse and, within a 5-minute time frame, must get acquainted with its habits. The opposing rider must also compete on that horse and whoever earns a higher score garners a point for his or her team.

"It's really the rider's skill that comes through," said Melissa Mull, who curled her lower lip outward and dropped her head when the subject of not taking Petey to South Carolina came up.

On Melissa Mull's highlight tape, the family made sure to show footage of her riding some of O'Toole's horses, careful to demonstrate her ability to adapt at a moment's notice. They also included a clip that illustrated the relationship that Melissa Mull and Petey have formed over the course of six years.

Missella Mull has seen her dorm room, which includes her own kitchen, bathroom and covered parking space across the street. She has a couple of friends already at South Carolina and almost feels bad about the luxuries afforded to Division-I athletes.

"Since [equestrian] is not a sport at school, it bothers me because I feel like I don't get the same respect as some of the other athletes," Melissa Mull said. "Everyone thinks it's cool, but they don't understand how much of a sport it really is."

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You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. other (specify):

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(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
Martinez District
725 Court St, Martinez, CA 94553
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
Harvey W. Stein (Bar#43725)
Law Offices of Harvey W. Stein
499-14th Street, Suite 210, Oakland, CA 94612

Deputy Clerk, by (Adjunto) (Secretario)

DATE: DEC. 17, 2008 (Fecha)
(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010). (Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).

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CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation)
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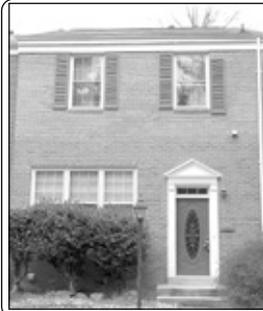
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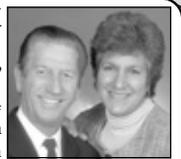
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