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White Oaks  
teacher George  
Weiner talks with  
Gillian Hersh  
during the recent  
'It's Comprehensive'  
contest at the school.

## Favorite Teacher

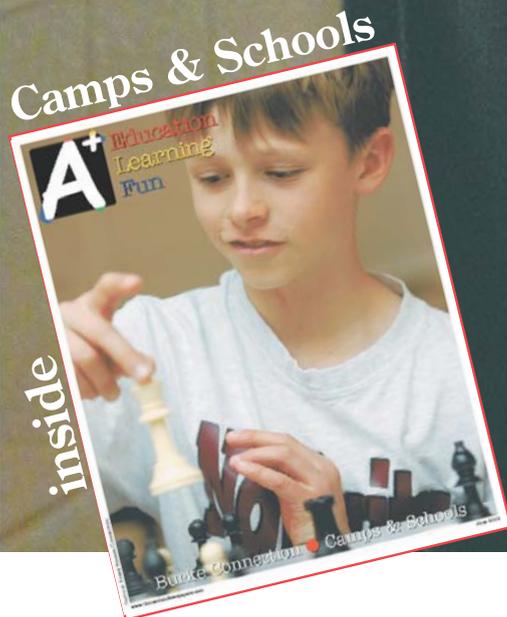
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PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

# 22 Years on Innovation at White Oaks

**Award-winning teacher George Weiner inspires and enlightens.**

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

One day, George Weiner is in character as Johnny Quizmo, the next, he is leading his team to victory in "Phalange Ball." No matter what role he plays or where he plays it, Weiner is undoubtedly engaging minds and hearts.

Weiner has been a teacher at White Oaks Elementary for 22 years, and over those two-plus decades, he has made an impression on countless young minds, finding new ways to educate his students, and not just academically.

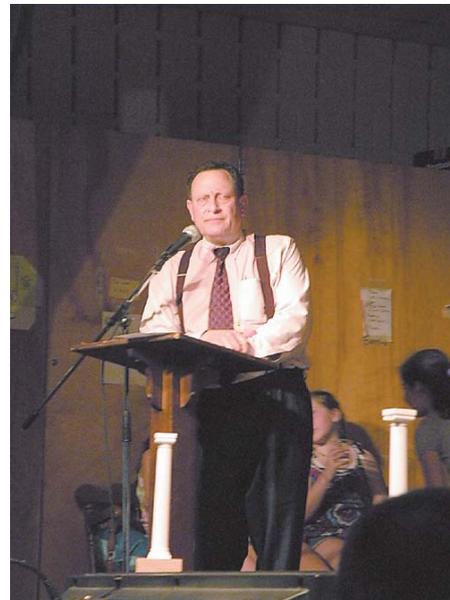
**"He made learning cooler than anything else we were doing."**

— Mimi Lynch, senior at Robinson Secondary School and White Oaks alumnus

"Mr. Weiner was my favorite teacher," said Mimi Lynch, a senior at Robinson Secondary School and White Oaks alumnus. "He is totally invested [in his students] and he really cares. He made learning cooler than anything else we were doing."

Before Weiner, 60, came and made his mark at White Oaks as a fourth grade teacher in the gifted and talented program, his career path seemed to be headed in a different direction. Born just north of New York City in Spring Valley, N.Y., Weiner graduated from SUNY Plattsburg and after finishing his undergraduate studies, he was given a glimpse into his future, serving as a substitute teacher for four years while working toward his graduate degree at night.

As Weiner was preparing for his fifth year, however, he learned that he would not be rehired, as the school's enrollment was slipping and a permanent substitute was not needed. Worried about finding work, he called his older brother for advice. His brother had a law



White Oaks teacher George Weiner.

practice in Virginia at the time and quickly offered a solution.

"I said to him, 'What should I do?'" Weiner said. "He said 'Come down here and we will make a lawyer out of you,' and he did."

FOLLOWING HIS brother's suggestion, Weiner moved to Fairfax County and the law practice soon became a family affair, as the firm's name was changed to Weiner,

Weiner and Weiner, with Weiner and his two brothers serving as the partners, and their mother as the receptionist. Though Weiner worked at the firm for eight years as a personal injury lawyer and enjoyed his work, he still felt the itch to teach.

"I missed teaching," Weiner said. "My true calling is teaching, not law."

The itch would finally be scratched as Weiner attended a bar association luncheon one day, and Dr. Robert R. Spillane, the former superintendent of Fairfax County Schools, was the keynote speaker. Spillane told the audience that the school system was looking to get people from other fields in the classroom to teach. That day, Weiner recalls, was Aug. 27, 1987, and on Aug. 30, he was officially a teacher once again.

"I told my brothers about [the opportunity], and they said take the firm car and go," Weiner said. "I did and I never looked back."

In his first year at White Oaks, he was a fifth-grade teacher and taught all subjects. In his second year, he was switched to fourth grade and taught science, social studies and a special spelling and vocabulary program, which is still a staple of his curriculum to this day. He embarked on several other efforts to educate while entertaining.

SEE WEINER, PAGE 4



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# Deeds Wins Democratic Primary

Voters cite Washington Post endorsement and ability to beat GOP as key factors.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

Just minutes after gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe and his family finished voting at their home precinct in Spring Hill Elementary School, Susan Gorin walked through the door.

Gorin, like McAuliffe, is a McLean resident with a home near Tysons Corner. She and the former Democratic National Committee chair live so close to each other that they are likely to get stuck in the same traffic jam on any given weekday afternoon.

But Gorin voted for state Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-25), whose home county in central Virginia is so rural, it doesn't contain a single stoplight.

"I am in education and the teachers' union endorsed Deeds. The Washington Post endorsement [of Deeds] also impressed me," said Gorin, who works for the National Association of School Psychologists.

**TERRY McAULIFFE** may be a Fairfax County resident and former Del. Brian Moran used to represent part of the jurisdiction in the Virginia House of Virginia Delegates. But Deeds beat both candidates statewide and in Fairfax County to become

the Democratic Party's nominee for governor this week.

"Wow. ... No one could have imagined what we accomplished here tonight," said Deeds to his supporters at a victory party in Charlottesville on election night.

Across the commonwealth, Deeds received about 49.73 percent of the vote to McAuliffe's 26.43 percent and Moran's 23.84 percent. Just under 20 percent of the primary ballots were cast in Fairfax County, where Deeds, winning about 49.31 percent of the vote, enjoyed the same level of support he saw statewide.

"I have supported Creigh for six months but I am as surprised as anyone to see the amount of support he got up here," said state Sen. Chap Petersen (D-35).

In the City of Fairfax, where Petersen lives, Deeds won 53.42 percent of the vote.

In the aftermath of primary, both Moran and McAuliffe endorsed Deeds and encouraged their supporters to throw their support behind the Democratic nominee.

**VOTER TURNOUT** in the election, at 9.2 percent, was slightly higher in Fairfax County than the rest of Virginia, where approximately 6.3 percent of registered voters participated in the primary overall.

Though any registered voter, including



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

**State Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-25), from Bath County, won the Democratic gubernatorial primary June 9, pictured here in Oakton on the day of the primary.**

Republicans, could vote in the primary, Fairfax County registrar Rokey Suleman said he expected participation to be low.

"Historically, Virginia and Fairfax have low primary turnout," said Suleman.

Areas like the Mason District and Vienna, where competitive Democratic delegate races were also taking place, tended to have

higher turnout and could have driven up participation overall in the county to higher than the state average.

**THE NEW DEMOCRATIC** nominee will face Republican candidate and former Vir

SEE DEEDS, PAGE 18

# More Changes Ahead on GMU Campus

Braddock residents hear updates from GMU reps on campus construction.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) welcomed representatives from George Mason University to provide updates on their development plans to his constituency and to address their questions and concerns at a June 3 district forum.

Thomas Calhoun, GMU's vice president of Facilities, was on hand to discuss the new construction projects on campus, including the hotel/conference center and Masonvale, which will provide housing for new staff, faculty and graduate students.

The meeting was the latest in a series of joint forums between the university and neighboring residents, aimed at keeping the residents of the district cognizant of the changes occurring on the campus and how those changes will affect them. Cook thinks that the meetings are necessary to alleviate any tensions that may arise due to the close proximity of the campus and shopping cen-

ter and the community.

"There is always going to be tension between universities and colleges and the surrounding communities," Cook said. "Anytime you put 30,000 20-year-olds in a confined space near nice homes, there is going to be conflict. But we have some things we can work on."

Calhoun first described the recent changes and updates to the blueprints for the planned hotel and conference center to be built on campus. Calhoun said that the hotel, which is being constructed halfway between Braddock Road and University Drive on Ox Road, is scheduled to open July 15, 2010.

According to Calhoun, the hotel, which will be named "The George Mason Inn," will have 149 rooms, all on floors two through seven. In addition, the hotel will have a lounge, bar, restaurant, 250-person ballroom and a conference center. Planned parking for the new center is 80 underground spaces beneath the hotel and 120

surface parking spots, for a total of 200 parking spaces.

"It is supposed to feel like a home, George Mason's home," Calhoun said. "It's a more elegant home setting."

To deal with a new flow of traffic to the hotel, Calhoun said that a new entrance to the university will be constructed. The new entrance will extend a road from the campus' main road, Patriot Circle, to Ox Road, and will be a right turn in, right turn out-only intersection. Calhoun said that the university hopes that this new entrance will "unclog the arteries" of the campus and therefore, ease congested traffic along Braddock Road.

"We had a lot of discussion with [the Virginia Department of Transportation] and the county on what to do with the intersection," Calhoun said. "Both VDOT and the county agreed that a right turn in and out

only was the way to go. It's better for the whole region to have that intersection."

Calhoun then discussed the plans for the new faculty and staff housing, which will be named "Masonvale." The housing would be located in the northeast corner of the campus and would include 157 one, two and three bedroom townhomes. The homes, which would be rent-only for three-year terms, are slated to be transitional housing for new employees and for new graduate students and would fall within the W.T. Woodson High School pyramid in the county school

system.

Calhoun noted that the traffic flow, which is a concern for nearby residents, will be about 50 percent less for Masonvale than a typical neighborhood, as there would be few children living in the homes and most of

SEE GMU, PAGE 8

## 1981 Cold Case Solved

Fairfax County Cold Case detectives solved a 1981 sex offense case from Burke last week through DNA evidence, according to Fairfax County Police reports.

Fairfax Police transported Maurice Turner, 63, to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged him Thursday, June 4, 2009 with rape, abduction with intent to defile and burglary with intent to commit a felony.



POLICE PHOTO

Turner

In April 1981, Turner forced entry into the townhouse of a Burke woman in her 20s. Turner held her at gunpoint when he assaulted her, according to Fairfax County Police.

Turner had been in the Hampton Roads Regional Jail on unrelated charges, according to police.

— KEN MOORE

## Former Navy Officer Dies



DONATED PHOTO

Lt. Cmdr. Joseph de Buzna

Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Alexander de Buzna, 76, died peacefully April 7, in a hospital in Homburg, Germany after a 3-month fight against leukemia. He was a resident of Burke.

Born Aug. 27., 1932 in Budapest, Hungary, de Buzna served 23 years in the U.S. Navy, then served more than 25 years in the U.S. government.

He is survived by his wife of the last several years, Ann; the children who grew up under his wings, René, Christine, Richard,

Janelle and Joe; four grandchildren; other relatives and many friends.

His family will host a memorial June 20, at 10:45 a.m., at Fairfax Memorial Park to celebrate his life and loving memories. Fairfax Memorial Park is located at 9900 Braddock Road in Fairfax.

## It's a Rugby Day in Fairfax

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors declared Saturday, June 6 to be Rugby Day in the county. Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) sponsored the proclamation. The event also coincided with the first-ever crowning for a Virginia state rugby champion with three title games, and though they were supposed to take place at South County Secondary School in Lorton, rain forced a move to the turf field at T.C. Williams.

"I played rugby when I was in high school and I am pleased to see that the sport has grown so much that we now have an official high school state championship," Herrity said in a statement. "Any time we can expand access to athletic programs, it's a good thing." On Saturday, both the Western Loudoun boys' and girls' teams swept the U-19 Division I games, while the T.C. Williams boys' team won the Division II game.

## Puppy Raisers Needed

Guiding Eye for the Blind needs puppy raisers that are willing to open their hearts and homes to Labrador retriever

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

Robinson Secondary students and White Oaks alumni pose for a photo with Weiner.

## Weiner Enlightening Educator

FROM PAGE 2

For one, Weiner gave weekly spelling tests, which included a Latin word. Once, the Latin terms were "summa cum laude" and "magna cum laude," and he told his students that if any of them graduate college with those honors, he would take them out to dinner. Almost 15 years later, he actually received phone calls from two students letting him know that they had, in fact, attained those honors, and off to dinner they went.

In addition, Weiner buried a time capsule in 1987 with his students that was to be opened in the year 2000. Sure enough, 13 years later, 29 of his 30 students from that year came back to White Oaks to dig it up, and even staged a class reunion while they were at it.

Among the other things that have made Weiner such an effective educator are his creation of "Phalange Ball," a cross between Spud and dodge ball that he plays with his students during recess; his show on Channel 21 called "Universal Words," that teaches vocabulary words using hands-on demonstrations and interactive quizzes; and of course, his now-famous "It's Comprehensive," a "Jeopardy"-style educational game show that displays not only the

smarts but the creativity of his students.

**DUE TO** these innovative ideas and dedication to education, Weiner has been recognized by more than just his students and fellow faculty members. In 2002, he received the Milken National Educator Award, which recognizes excellence in elementary and secondary school education. To put the award in perspective, the winners are selected by a blue-ribbon panel of educators and since its inception in 1987, only 2,300 teachers have been recognized nationwide and only 32 in Virginia. In addition, Weiner was also named Fairfax County Teacher of the Year in 2001.

Though he has been showered with accolades by his peers and students alike, Weiner is quick to deflect the praise. He credits his fellow faculty members, namely Gail Kahn, for helping him create new programs and institute fresh policies. But still, no matter how much he tries to diffuse the acclaim, it is undeniable that White Oaks Elementary and the lives of myriad young people would not be the same if not for him.

"He gave up a very lucrative law career to do what he loves to do," said White Oaks Principal Connie Goodman. "And he does it very well."

### COLLEGE NOTES

**Weilin Yang** of Burke recently graduated from Cornell University with a bachelor of science in biological engineering.

**Roderic C. Jackson** of Burke was awarded a master of arts in international relations from Salve Regina University.

**Joshua A. Krisinger**, a senior at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, was recently selected to receive a J. William

Fulbright Foreign Scholarship to further his university studies in Germany. Krisinger is presently completing his undergraduate studies at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich. He is a 2005 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary School and is the son of Chris and Denise Krisinger of Burke.

**Kara Trachtenberg** of Burke, a senior at The College of Charleston in Charleston, S.C. has received the 2009 Cistern Award for Outstanding College

Leadership and Community Service. In addition, she was the runner up for the Student of the Year as picked by the college faculty. Trachtenberg is the president of the College of Charleston chapter of Best Buddies and has attended the Best Buddies International Summer Conference for several years. She is a member of the Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-Medical Honor Society, The National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society.

## PEOPLE



Sara Beth Dean-Keyser and Michael Aaron Dillow

### Dean-Keyser, Dillow Engaged

Grace Kenna Keyser is happy to announce the engagement of her mother Sara Beth Dean-Keyser to Michael Aaron Dillow.

Dean-Keyser is the daughter of Sally and Bryon Dean of Williamsburg, Va., and is a human resources associate for Customer Value Partners Inc. She is a 1997 graduate of West Virginia University. She is the granddaughter of the late Janet and Warder Dean, and Freda and Ray Griffith of Braxton County, W.Va.

Dillow is the son of Diane and Charlie Dillow of Burke. He is a final inspector of shipping and receiving for Simco Electronics. He is a 1987 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary. He is the grandson of Janie and Bob Steward of Harpers Ferry, W.Va. and the late Mr. and Mrs. T.W. Dillow of Millville, W.Va. A fall 2009 wedding is planned.

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Additionally, using the Waterlase® for gum procedures reduces bleeding, post-operative pain, swelling and the need for pain medication in many cases. That means a new level of comfort and satisfaction for your entire family.

#### ■ Sterilization

The laser sterilizes the tooth as it removes decay. This is very important. Because of bacterial contamination, many of you have had old fillings replaced with either new fillings, or in many cases, with crowns--and sometimes even root canals!! The reoccurrence of decay under fillings is a primary reason so many root canals are needed. Since this new laser sterilizes the tooth as it removes decay, and since many dentists now use 'bonded' filling materials enriched with fluoride, the chances of ever having recurrent decay under that new filling are much lower.

#### ■ Great for Teenagers

The Waterlase® is especially great for teenagers. Sure, if the dentist is very good, shots should not really be painful. But **KNOWING** you're getting a shot is psychologically painful even if you can't feel the needle--especially for teenagers. By not getting a shot, not feeling the vibration of the drill, and by not hearing the loud drill, kids never become **afraid of the dentist**, so they don't grow up to be adults afraid of the dentist.

By incorporating laser technology into our dental practice, we are changing dentistry. It is no longer yesterday's world of painful shots, large silver mercury fillings, and fearful patients. Lasers have improved the lives of patients and their dentists.

Technology is something that makes life better. Better in this case is better clinical results, improved patient comfort, less use of anesthesia and antibiotics.

We are proud to be one of the first dentists in Fairfax County to offer this revolutionary technology. Since August 2003, Dr. Fox has completed over 3,000 laser fillings with no needle/no pain/no numbness. If you've been putting off going to the dentist because you were nervous about the drill and needle, you don't have to put it off any longer!

For more information about our dental practice please visit our website at [www.larryfoxdds.com](http://www.larryfoxdds.com)



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# OPINION

## Teen Safety in the Summer

### Washington Regional Alcohol Program's tips for keeping teen drivers and passengers safe.

Proms and graduation season is upon us. Most schools have organized events that deter drinking and driving around these joyous times, although there have been tragic exceptions in recent years.

Two years ago, on June 14, 2007, four young women died in on the Beltway in Springfield; two of them had graduated earlier in the day from West Potomac High School, and police reported that alcohol was found in the car.

**THE SUMMER** continues to be the most dangerous time of year for teens and drinking and driving. WRAP's top tips for parents to deter underage drinking and drunk driving this summer include:

- ❖ **Talk.** Parents can have a significant — if not most significant — impact as to whether their teens will engage in risky behaviors including the use of alcohol. Talk openly to your teen about alcohol.

- ❖ **Provide structure.** The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse found that teen children of "absentee parents" were four-times more likely to abuse substances than children in structured homes.

- ❖ **Host a party.** Host a teen party in your own home following guidelines of no drugs or alcohol. Ask another parent to help chaperone; when a guest leaves, do not allow them to return; make your presence known; and if you suspect that a guest has used alcohol or drugs, contact their parents.

#### EDITORIAL

- ❖ **Instill self-confidence** in your teen by talking with them about peer pressure. At some point, your teen will be offered alcohol. As the National Institutes of Health points out, teens prefer quick "one-liners" that allow them to dodge a drink without making a big scene.

- ❖ **Lay down the law.** In Virginia, it's a crime to possess, transport or purchase alcohol if

you're under 21. A new law went into effect last year ensuring that teens convicted of driving after consuming virtually any amount of alcohol will lose their driver's licenses for a year.

- ❖ **Even if you know your teen won't drink alcohol,** make sure he or she also knows how to avoid getting in a car driven by someone who has been drinking.

- ❖ **Beware of your civil liability.** In most cases, it's unlawful for parents to allow their children's friends to consume alcohol in their home. If these same "friends" are later involved in a crash, the providing parents may be responsible for injuries, property damages and wrongful death. These same parents may also face criminal charges of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

- ❖ **Be a role model.** Parents, themselves, should be good role models by making sure their behavior is appropriate. Use alcohol moderately, serve as a responsible host and never drink and drive.

- ❖ **If you suspect that your child is drinking,** intervene. Talk to your child and obtain qualified professional help if necessary.

For more, see [www.wrap.org](http://www.wrap.org).

## That Time of Year Again

### High school seniors face challenges, both emotional and monetarily, on road to prom.

BY JACK DUCKWORTH  
BURKE

Spring is finally here, that time of year when young hearts turn to love and some young minds contemplate the world beyond high school. Prom is a magical night to be sure, but its anticipation can and often does produce euphoria and pain that dominates the weeks before the magical event. A young man, with his heart pounding, silently practices the words of an entreaty to a prospective beautiful young woman. He practices, over and over again, until those words seem to lose all meaning. A young woman will tense anxiously, with bated breath, each time she meets a potential suitor in the hallways between classes. She is terrified that the geek she befriended will finally broach the issue and ask her to the prom and her dream guy won't.

The young men and women should be spending their evenings preparing for final exams, but instead spend all of their free time contemplating and planning for the final social days of high school. The planning is as complex and daunting as that for Barnum & Bailey's Big Top.

A guy (who we will call Stuart) must decide in advance, even before he has a committed date, if he wants to go solo or ensemble. Does he want to take his date to the prom in his own junk car, or daddy's borrowed car, or instead, does he want to

join three other couples in a shared limousine? Limos will be reserved early and there are only so many in the area. If one doesn't plan early, one will have no options. What will his date want, whoever she is? Will she have her heart set on joining her best friends on a double, triple or quadruple date? Will she want a more private and romantic date?

A gal (who we will call Kelsey) must plan what she's going to wear, often before she even has a date — it takes time to find the right formal, but her most stressful decision is regarding whose invitation she's going to accept, if she gets more than one. Should she hold out for Stu's invitation, which might or might not be forthcoming or should she accept Joe Doke's invitation even though she has her heart set on Stu? How long can she stall an answer to Joe? She knows it's not fair to not give Joe a timely answer because he will have other girls to ask if she declines, but she will just die if she tells Joe she will go with him and later that day Stu asks her.

Lucky for her, she sees Stu's very public invitation in the median strip Monday morning on the way to school, as does everyone else at school.

"How much is all this going to cost?" each wonders.

Stu will have to come up with \$130 for two prom tickets, \$150 for a tuxedo rental,



A question and an answer play out on a median strip in Burke.



PHOTOS BY JACK DUCKWORTH

\$30 for Kel's corsage, \$160 for his and Kel's share of a four-couple limousine and \$120 for dinner for two, for a total of \$590.

Kel will have to pay \$250 for a formal, \$90 for new shoes, \$80 for a matching handbag, \$120 for hair shampoo and styling, \$40 for a manicure and \$10 for Stu's boutonniere, for a total of \$590.

It will be an evening to remember as the two high school sweethearts step into the adult world of grand entertainment with the fulfillment of grand dreams which come with a commensurate total obligation of \$1,180 to be paid, most likely, by mommy and daddy's Visas or MasterCards.

## THE CONNECTION

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Call: 703-917-6444  
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**Michael O'Connell**  
Editor / 703-917-6440

**Justin Fanizzi**  
Community Reporter  
703-917-6437  
[jfanizzi@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jfanizzi@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Julia O'Donoghue**  
Education & Politics  
703-917-6433  
[jodonoghue@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jodonoghue@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Ken Moore**  
Courts & Projects  
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[kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jason Mackey**  
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Mary Kimm  
703-917-6416  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

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**Managing Editors**  
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**Peter Labovitz**  
President/CEO

**Mary Kimm**  
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer  
703-917-6416  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jerry Vernon**  
Executive Vice President  
703-917-6404  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Wesley DeBrosse**  
Controller

**Debbie Funk**  
National Sales  
703-518-4631  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

# NEWS

FROM PAGE 4

puppies until the pups are old enough to be professionally trained as guide dogs. Training and guidance is provided by local experienced counselors. Volunteers are asked to give the pups love and affection, behavior training and socialization experiences, and include the guide dog puppy's first 16 to 18 months of life into family activities. To learn more, call 703-242-2232.

## NEWS BRIEFS

Boys' basketball team went 20-5 this past season and garnered several awards from the National Christian Schools Athletic Association (NCSAA). Head Coach Jerry Cuffee was named the NCSAA's National Coach of the Year, as he was among 54 coaches nominated for this prestigious award. Junior forward Sam Rattray, who averaged 12.4 points and 7.7 rebounds per game, made the Small Schools (Division 3) All-American Team. He was a first team selection. Senior point guard Bobak Sharifi and Rattray were both selected to the North East Super-Regional Team. Sharifi averaged 9 points, 3.1 assists, and 3.5 steals per contest.

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- Judy Ford Wason, Advisory Board, Virginia Redistricting Coalition

## SUPPORTS A TWO-TERM GOVERNOR

"For Virginia to maintain its leadership as one of the best states in America to do business, we must abandon our antiquated rule limiting Governors to one four year term. Bob McDonnell is showing real leadership for Virginia by supporting a change that allows voters a chance to voice their opinion about the job a Governor has done. Bob's experience as a legislator and as Attorney General makes him uniquely qualified to bring about this important reform."

- John Sherman, Former Chief Executive Officer, Scott & Stringfellow; Member, Joint Subcommittee to Study the Balance of Powers Between the Legislative and Executive Branches

## TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT THROUGH ELIMINATION OF WASTEFUL SPENDING

"An informed citizenry is key to growing our economy. Bob McDonnell's proposals to create transparency when it comes to the spending of taxpayer dollars, and the use of technology to provide more access to executive boards and commissions are cutting edge ideas that show he will simplify government services for families and make it more user friendly for the working people of Virginia."

- George Newstrom, Former Virginia Secretary of Technology, Office of Governor Mark Warner

The Virginian-Pilot

MARCH 26, 2008

"McDonnell has worked effectively with Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine and... showed a talent for assembling bipartisan coalitions..."

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PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

A photo of a townhome in Masonvale.

# GMU Construction

FROM PAGE 3

the people living there would be working on campus and therefore would be using the campus shuttle service to get from their homes to their jobs.

Though Calhoun promised the residents in attendance that the University would do everything it could to appease them, the surrounding communities still have concerns over the changes that the construction will bring.

**EVEN THOUGH** a new entrance is planned, the primary concern is the increased traffic flow coming to and from the university. Meeting attendees stated that with the increased enrollment of the last couple of years and the planned construction has resulted in congested roads, making it difficult for residents to drive around their homes.

Tena Bluhm, president of the George Mason Forest community, said that only two entrances and exits exist to enter and leave the neighborhood off of Braddock Road. With the increased amount of traffic, traveling on the road has become an issue.

"It is definitely the biggest problem [we have]," Bluhm said. "When classes change, the volume of traffic increases substantially and during evening rush hour, it is nearly impossible to get out of our subdivision."

The residents of George Mason Forest have also said that the storm water runoff from the construction site has had some unwelcome effects on the environment. The community owns an 11-acre common land through which Little Rabbit Run Stream flows and, because of all the construction on Masonvale, the stream has become inundated with silt and is no longer clear.

"That stream is normally clear and since the construction started, it looks like chocolate milk," Bluhm said. "What used to be a crystal clear stream is no longer there."

In addition to the discoloration of the stream, Bluhm said that a couple of bridges over the stream are in danger due to erosion caused by the increased water flow. If the bridges end up needing to be repaired, then the money to do so would have to come from the community's treasury, which is funded through community dues.

Bluhm said that the university told the neighborhood that it would take steps to curb the water flow and the influx of silt that is being released, and that until then, the residents can do nothing but wait.

"We have been assured by GMU reps that they would look into having contractors put up silt barriers," Bluhm said. "There's been a lot of unexpected rain, which hasn't helped, but I really hope they do put up the barriers."

## Soccer Tryouts

The Apex, a U-14 girls' travel soccer team with Burke AC, is looking for another striker born on or after Aug. 1, 1995 for the fall 2009 season. The team is coached by Larry Rice. Apex is a five-year-old, family-oriented team with remarkable chemistry, a great goalie and rock-solid defense. For more information on the team, visit [www.burkeathleticclub.org/](http://www.burkeathleticclub.org/)

[travelteampages/apex](http://travelteampages/apex). For tryout times, call coach Rice at 703-869-1419.

## Soccer Camp

Paul VI High School will host a girls' soccer camp July 6-10 from 9 a.m.-3p.m, with a 10:1 camper-to-staff ratio. To learn more, call the Paul VI athletic department at 703-352-0927, ext. 503.

## CAMPS & SCHOOLS



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The cast of Robinson Secondary's 'Fiddler on the Roof,' which won Best Musical.

# Rams Win Seven Cappies

**'Fiddler' takes trophies for best musical, lead actor, among others.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**W**inning for Best Musical and Lead Actor, Robinson Secondary captured a school-record seven victories Sunday night at the 10th annual Cappies Gala at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., for its production of "Fiddler on the Roof."

As the fiddler, freshman Jose Justiniano took home two trophies – one for Cameo Actor and one for Creativity – and Eric Fischer, who portrayed patriarch Tevye, won the Cappie for Lead Actor in a Musical. As for Director Chip Rome, he's as proud as can be of his entire cast and crew.

"It was a very exciting night. I'm exhausted," he said Monday, after directing the entire Cappies Gala. "It was gratifying to win this. Now we can hang ban-

ners saying 'Best Play' and 'Best Musical,' side by side."

Four years ago, Robinson won six Cappies, including Best Play, for "Metamorphoses." Sunday night, said Rome, "When the numbers started to climb and the kids were keeping count, I hadn't realized how under the shadow of 'Morph' they felt. They really wanted to beat that total. Talk about the cherry on top of the frosting on the cake. And with this show, I confess, I really wanted to win the big one."

**BACKSTAGE**, overjoyed with their victory for Best Musical, the students who'd accepted the star-topped trophy for Robinson excitedly passed it around, from person to person, taking turns holding it. "I'm so proud, I'm crying," said co-stage manager Paige Ford. "There's no award for stage manager, so it makes my day, my world, to go on stage for this. Everyone worked so hard; I feel like a mother hen — all my babies have grown up."

Co-stage manager Sam Wharton said he felt "overwhelmed, excited and thankful." Assistant director

SEE RECORD, PAGE 10

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# CALENDAR

To have community events listed, send to [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-917-6459 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

## THURSDAY/JUNE 11

**"Greater Tuna,"** 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. 703-219-2351 or [www.fxplayers.org](http://www.fxplayers.org).

**King Teddy,** 8-10 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, 3999 University Dr, Fairfax. Complimentary swing lesson, 7:30 p.m. \$10 per person. 703-424-1745 or [www.headoverheelsdance.com](http://www.headoverheelsdance.com).

**Chess Club.** 3:30 p.m. at the Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn the rules and strategy; play the game. Age 6-14. 703-644-7333.

**Where Do We Go From Here?** 10:30 a.m. at the City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-293-6227.

**Afternoon Reading Group.** 1 p.m. at the City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. The Places In Between by Rory Stewart. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Genealogy Databases.** 2 p.m. at the City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Search for ancestors using the library's genealogy databases and other free Internet databases. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Sex & Missiles.** 8 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## FRIDAY/JUNE 12

**"Greater Tuna,"** 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. 703-219-2351 or [www.fxplayers.org](http://www.fxplayers.org).

**Louis Fabrizi (CD Release Show) and The OK Corral.** 6 p.m. and DMV Showcase Vol. 5, Sketch, Jett Black and more at 9:30 p.m., at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

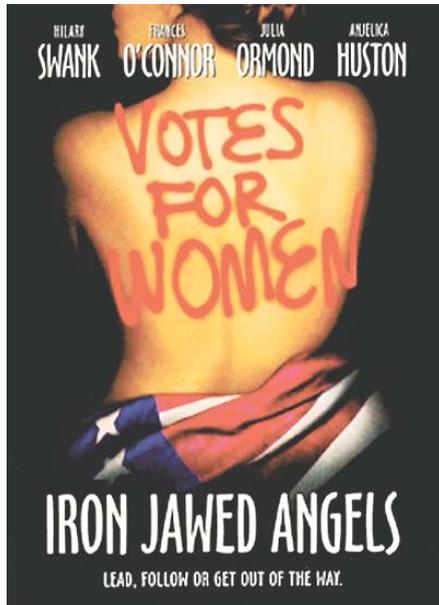
**City of Fairfax Concert Band** performs 7:30-8:30 p.m., as part of the free Braddock Nights summer concert series at Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Free. Concerts are cancelled if it is raining. If there is a threat of bad weather, call 703-324-SHOW (7469) one hour prior to the start of the show for cancellation updates. For more, call 703-324-8702 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/).

**Melodime** performs as part of the Braddock Nights summer concert series 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. The band just released their debut album. Their song "Sweet Contentment" was featured on Fox's primetime show, "So You Think You Can Dance." Free. Concerts are cancelled if it is raining. If there is a threat of bad weather, call 703-324-SHOW (7469) one hour prior to the start of the show for cancellation updates. For more, call 703-324-8702 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/).

**Books! The Magic Is Real!** 1:30 p.m. at the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Magician Joe Romano brings books to life through magic and illusion. All ages. 703-978-5600.

**Summer Reading Program Sneak Peek.** 1 p.m. at the Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. A magic show with Louis Meyer of Child Time Magic, book talks and refreshments to celebrate the beginning of the Summer Reading Program. 703-644-7333.

**Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.** 10 a.m. at the City of Fairfax Regional Library,



## Feminist Film

**The Republican Women of Clifton is a hosting private viewing of the movie 'Iron Jawed Angels,' on Monday, June 15, at 7:30 p.m., at the home theater of one of its members. The film is based on political activists Alice Paul and Lucy Burns as they use peaceful and effective strategies, tactics, and dialogues to revolutionize the American feminist movement to obtain the right to vote. To learn more about the RWC or to find out the location, go to [www.cliftongo.com](http://www.cliftongo.com).**

10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227.

## SATURDAY/JUNE 13

**The Theater of the First Amendment Discovery Artists Series,** in TheaterSpace at the George Mason University Center for the Arts in Fairfax. Featured readings include "The Bay of Fundy" by Sherry Kramer at 12 p.m., "Refugee Blues" by Wendy L. Anderson at 3 p.m., and "24, 7, 365" by Jennifer L. Nelson at 6 p.m. Free. [www.theaterofthefirstamendment.org](http://www.theaterofthefirstamendment.org).

**"Greater Tuna,"** 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. 703-219-2351 or [www.fxplayers.org](http://www.fxplayers.org).

**Meet authors Laura Elliott** at 11 a.m. and John Gilstrap 2:30 p.m. at the Burke Centre Library Anniversary Celebration, Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Free. 703-249-1520.

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m. at the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. Adults. 703-978-5600.

**SummerFest,** a celebration of community, fellowship, music and the arts. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., at Burke United Methodist Church. Open to everyone. Arts and crafts vendors, five bands, a moonbounce and more, grilled food and drink. Web site. [www.burkeumc.org](http://www.burkeumc.org). Any donations received at the event go to funding church ministries.

**Tim Harmon 5K Run/Walk.** 8:30 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board's Alcohol and Drug Services program sponsors the event to raise awareness of Hepatitis C and substance abuse in the community and to honor the memory of Tim Harmon who served as director of CSB Alcohol and Drug Services Residential Services. Registration and packet pick-up will begin at 7 a.m. The race will take place on a certified course and is spectator friendly. [www.timharmon5k.org](http://www.timharmon5k.org).



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PROPOSED NEW ISSUE

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## PROM 2009



Jen Grottle arrives at the W.T. Woodson Prom 2009.



Mike Caldwell and Olga Korostelina share a dance as king and queen of the prom.



Aaron James dances at the W.T. Woodson Prom.

# The Big Night

Woodson students hit the dance floor for 2009 Prom.



Kelly Kim and Ana Jivotovski prepare to leave their prom in style.



Students dance at the W.T. Woodson prom, which took place Friday, June 5 at the Springfield Waterford.

# Renner-Led Spartans Fall Just Short



West Springfield baseball falls to Menchville, 6-5, in Virginia AAA state semifinals.

BY JASON MACKEY  
THE CONNECTION

**B**ryn Renner was the last to leave West Springfield's dugout early last Saturday evening, June 6. His baseball team had just suffered a crushing 6-5 defeat to Menchville in the Virginia AAA state semifinals, and Renner, with his head down, held two bats in his left hand and had a red duffel bag slung over his right shoulder.

For the 2 hours and 20 minutes before that moment, the weight Renner carried was immeasurable. West Springfield's unquestioned leader, Renner collected four hits, drove in three runs and scored twice. Those associated with the Spartans' program had come to expect an heroic effort from Renner.

"He's been doing it for us all year," head coach John James said. "He's just a special athlete."

Special enough that Renner, as a ritual, pulls his team into center field before every game and leads a prayer session. Special enough that, at his direction, the Spartans color their hats and spikes with enough orange ink that you'd think they were sponsored by Sharpie. Special enough that when his team needed not only offense but a heartbeat, Renner provided both.

"I just want to do whatever it takes to

win," said Renner, who previously started at shortstop but this year shifted to center field. "I want to make sure my team has a chance to win. If that means I have to go 0-for-4 and make catches in the outfield, I'll do it. I just want to get the win."

Renner did all he could. All the Spartans did. No one wanted this historic season to end. The Spartans won 23 games in 2009 and lost only once — on Saturday — in the state of Virginia. The team won its first Patriot District title since 2005, and it held its

first Northern Region trophy since 1998, the first during James' five-year tenure.

**"He's been doing it for us all year. He's just a special athlete."**

**— John James, coach,  
West Springfield High**

**WEST SPRINGFIELD** had not reached this point solely because of Renner. Two pitch-

ers, righties Mike Kent and Bobby Wahl, had turned in one dominant performance after another, with Kent tossing a complete-game gem during the Spartans' region title game against Lake Braddock and Wahl steadying himself enough three days later in a state quarterfinal victory over Deep Run. A week earlier, Wahl tossed nine innings of one-run ball during an extra-inning region semifinal win over Chantilly.

The Spartans have benefited from a wealth of offensive contributions, too. Take a look at one of James' lineup cards, and its occupants have all had significant moments.

SEE SPARTANS, PAGE 14

FILE PHOTO

During the West Springfield baseball team's Virginia AAA state semifinal loss to Menchville over the weekend, senior Bryn Renner went 4-for-4 with three RBIs and two runs scored.

## Rams Shocked In Final

Robinson girls' lacrosse coach Alison Neun approached each one of her players following this past Sunday's stunning 13-4 loss to Chantilly in the Virginia AAA state title game. Though Neun was aware that words wouldn't make the pain subside, she reassured her team that it wouldn't be judged on one day's performance.

"I told these girls, you really don't measure your career by trophies, because if you did only, these two teams would be happy with what they've done," Neun said. "And these girls from the start had so much heart."

The state final unfolded completely opposite of how anyone wearing blue and gold would've expected — or

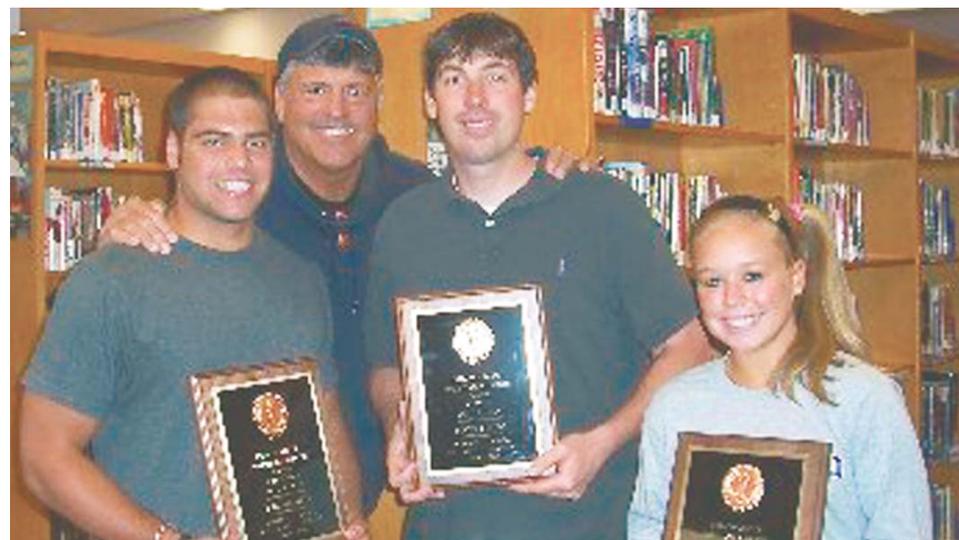
wanted — it to. Chantilly raced out to a seven-goal lead before Robinson got on the board, which happened after a Courtney Coleman goal with 12 minutes, 27 seconds left in the first half.

But the Chargers went on another five-goal run and had a 12-1 lead with 9 minutes to play. Robinson (17-4) scored three of the game's final four goals, making one last push behind scores from Coleman, Tory Barron and Katie McHugh.

"They could've given up when this team went ahead on them, but instead of giving up, they just kept on fighting," Neun said. "I'm really proud of them for doing that."

Of course if Neun was looking to measure her team's season by trophies, those two commemorating the Rams' Concorde District and Northern Region title game victories would surely suffice.

WEEK IN SPORTS



West Springfield's Fellowship of Christian Athletes has recognized **Joey DeSantis, left, (football) and Danielle O'Brien, right, (field hockey, soccer and gymnastics) as the group's Male and Female Athletes of the Year. Boys' lacrosse coach Scott Settar, second from right, was named the Coach of the Year. Also pictured is Todd Lalich, second from left. These three were selected for their integrity, service and teamwork in the field, classroom and in the community. Past winners of this award have included Joe Saunders, Bryn Renner, Peter Lalich, Kara Lawson and Meghan Ogilvie.**

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## SPORTS

# Spartans Stumble in Semifinals

FROM PAGE 13

Shortstop Trevor Snook's squeeze bunt captured that district title, mercilessly ending a 16-inning, two-day marathon with South County.

Tucker Tobin, the team's catcher, hit home runs in both the region final and against Deep Run, totaling eight RBIs during the Saturday-to-Tuesday stretch. Charlie Morgan, the team's third baseman, hit a tape-measure shot over the center field fence in the first inning Saturday, which followed Renner's homer to left and tied the score at two.

"There's nothing to be disappointed about," James said. "We showed tremendous heart. We showed tremendous character all year. There's nothing to be disappointed about with these guys."

Renner was one of five seniors that James started against Menchville. Tobin, Kent, outfielder Andy Stallings and first baseman Richie McMahon were the others. That core group has started for three years, every year realizing that this season's title run would come.

"I feel we really took a big step as a baseball program, and as a whole school," Renner said. "We really stepped up. Our senior class really took it upon ourselves since freshman year and said that we really wanted to go far."

**ONE THING** that traveled far was Devorn Lake's

first-inning home run Saturday against Kent. With the count 0-1, Lake pounded the next pitch he saw over the 24-foot fence in center, giving the Monarchs a 2-0 lead.

But West Springfield had some power on reserve. With Renner and Morgan answering with shots of their own, the game was tied at two entering the bottom of the third inning. After Stallings singled and second baseman Bubba Self reached on a fielder's choice, Renner's double down the left field line scored the Spartans' third run. Then Morgan, with a 1-1 count, laced a single to score Renner.

The Spartans' 4-2 lead would gradually disappear, though. With single runs in the fourth and fifth innings, Menchville tied it up.

Then, after the Monarchs had runners on second and third with one out in the sixth, Jeff Gray's single to right field scored two, making it 6-4.

West Springfield fought back. Despite two swinging strikeouts in the bottom of the seventh, Self reached on a well-placed bunt, advanced to second on a balk and scored when Renner singled three pitches later, bringing the Spartans to within a run. But Morgan's swinging strikeout would later end it.

With West Springfield's loss, a Northern Region team has not captured a state championship since Madison did it in 2002.

"We kept fighting the whole time," James said, "but it just didn't work for us today."

**"We kept fighting  
the whole time."**

— John James, coach,  
West Springfield High

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28 Yard Sales

101 Computers

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Garage Sale 6/13, 10 am - 2. 6812 Brimstone Lane, Fairfax Station. Rain Date June 20

Garage sale moving, Sat 6/13, 8am-12, clths furn, lawn, books linens, 6252 Rolling Spring ct off Center rd. Sfd

Garage sale, Sat 6/13, 8am-12, furniture, books, lawn mower, home goods & more 7409 Jenna Rd, Springfield near Huntsman and 7100.

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I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.  
-Arthur Wing Pinero

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF HORRY  
Dorothy E Darling  
Petitioner  
vs  
HEIRS-AT-LAW OF HOWARD N. DARLING  
and all persons unknown who are or might claim to be heirs-at-law of Howard N. Darling, all such unknown persons being collectively designated as JOHN DOE and MARY DOE, including any unknown persons in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, any minors, persons non compos mentis and persons under a disability of any kind of nature who might claim to be heirs-at-law or Howard N. Darling.  
Respondents.

IN THE PROBATE COURT  
CASE NUMBER:  
2007-ES-26-1731  
SUMMONS AND  
HEARING NOTICE

TO: RESPONDENTS NAMED ABOVE  
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Petition to Determine Heirs, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer to the Petition to Determine Heirs on the subscriber at his office at 4702 Oleander Drive, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577, within thirty (30) days of service. If you fail to answer the Petition to Determine Heirs within the time aforesaid, the Petitioners will seek default against you.

CLIFFORD H. TALL, P.A.  
Clifford H. Tall  
SC Bar No: 005463  
Attorney for Petitioner,  
Dorothy E. Darling  
4702 Oleander Drive  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577  
Telephone: 843-497-9777

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Merits Hearing in this matter will be held at the Horry County Probate Court 1301 Second Avenue, Courtroom 2A, Conway, SC 29528 on July 23, 2009 at 8:30 AM. Interested parties are encouraged, should they require additional information, to contact Guardian ad Litem, Mary W. Tovornik, 201 Beaty St, Suite 107, Conway, SC 29526 843-438-8251 or Petitioner's counsel, Clifford H. Tall 4702 Oleander Drive, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 843-497-9777.

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### 21 Announcements

### 21 Announcements

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## TAX NOTICE CITY OF FAIRFAX

### REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENTS ARE DUE

Real Estate tax bills have been mailed and are due  
**June 22, 2009**

### LATE PAYMENT PENALTY

To avoid a 10% late payment penalty and interest charges, payment  
in full must be made in person or postmarked by close of business on

**June 22, 2009**

Taxes may be paid in person Monday – Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Office, Room 234, City Hall

### IMPORTANT

Even if you do not receive a bill,  
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**June 22, 2009** to avoid late payment penalties

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## POLITICS

# Deeds Scores Win

FROM PAGE 3

ginia Attorney General Bob McDonnell for the second time in a general election this fall.

McDonnell beat Deeds by just 323 votes in the 2005 attorney general race, the closest election in the history of Virginia.

In that election, Deeds carried Fairfax County four years ago by a healthy margin of 57 percent to McDonnell's 42 percent. McDonnell said he intends to close that gap of support between him and Deeds in Fairfax, where approximately one in seven Virginia voters lives.

"I will make sure people know I am the original Fairfax resident and I intend to spend a lot more time up here," said McDonnell, who grew up in the Mount Vernon area.

In the aftermath of primary, both Moran and McAuliffe endorsed Deeds and encouraged their supporters to throw their support behind the Democratic nominee.

In 2005, McDonnell outspent Deeds \$5.9 million to \$3.1 million in the attorney general's race. And Deeds still came very close to beating McDonnell, which proves he can win a general election against the Republican, he said.

Many Northern Virginia voters also said they were not concerned Deeds had lost to McDonnell in a previous statewide race. As a rural Virginian, Deeds would be able to attract a broader base of support to the Democratic Party ticket, they said.

"We need a candidate who has been a part of the Virginia government and is a good match against McDonnell," said Paul Honigberg, a McLean resident who was considering voting for Deeds.

**JUST A FEW WEEKS AGO**, Deeds was lagging behind McAuliffe and Moran in polls and considered a long shot to win the primary, particularly in voter-rich Northern Virginia.

As of May 27, McAuliffe had raised \$5.7 million to Deeds' \$2.3 million and Moran's \$3 million. Several said the prolific fundraiser would be able to overwhelm the other candidates with staff and advertising.

Moran also had more name recognition than Deeds in Northern Virginia. He had been a local delegate to the state legislature and his older brother, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), is a popular local congressman.

Others said Deeds would also be too conservative for the Democratic primary voters of Northern Virginia.

Deeds had voted in favor of bill that would have allowed people to wear concealed guns in bars, a measure that Gov. Tim Kaine (D) vetoed and the Fairfax County government actively lobbied against this year. The state senator had also voted in favor of changing the Virginia constitution to define marriage as between a man and a woman, thereby limiting same sex partner benefits.

But Fairfax County Democratic Committee chair Scott Surovell said Democratic

primary voters were most concerned with picking the person who could beat McDonnell in the fall.

"A lot of people assume that hard-core Democrats are single issue voters like hard-core Republicans and they are not. Democratic Party people tend to vote 'electability' over social policy," said Surovell.

"They may not agree with Creigh's voting record on guns and gay marriage but a lot of Democrats recognize that the rest of the state doesn't think like Fairfax County and Arlington," he added.

Deeds did pick up a lot of support in Fairfax's more conservative, Republican-leaning like Clifton, Fairfax Station and Newgate South. But one of his largest precinct wins — getting 65 percent of the vote at the Sunrise Valley Elementary School — came in Reston, one of Fairfax's most socially liberal communities.

**SEVERAL DEEDS SUPPORTERS** said the campaign began to gain momentum and attention in Northern Virginia after The Washington Post editorial board endorsed the candidate on May 22.

"That was definitely a turning point for us. ... I took him around Viva Vienna! [festival] the weekend after the endorsement came out and I was amazed at how many people came up to him and said they were voting for him," said Petersen.

In days leading up to the election, the newspaper also followed up with two more editorial columns praising Deeds, including one admonishing the Moran campaign for being "misleading" about Deeds' record on gun control.

Primary voters said Deeds support for increasing Northern Virginia's state transportation funding was important.

In 2008, Deeds supported a failed bill that would have raised the gas tax statewide to provide more transportation funding, even though many of his own constituents were unhappy with the decision. Moran did not support the plan, in part because he did not believe it would be politically viable as a time when gas prices were reaching record highs.

"I think Deeds has a better record on the issues like transportation that affect us than the other candidates," said Carolyn Lee Decker, a Fairfax Station resident who voted for Deeds.

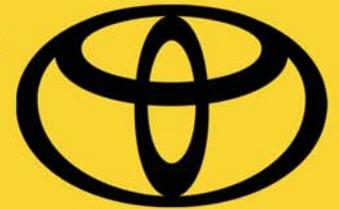
Among the runners up, Moran outperformed McAuliffe in Fairfax County, despite losing to him overall in Virginia.

The former delegate won about six Fairfax precincts that directly abut or are very close to the City of Alexandria, which he used to represent. He also performed about seven percentage points higher — for a total of 35.43 percent overall — in those Fairfax County polling stations than overlap with his brother's congressional district.

McAuliffe did not earn more than 45 percent of the vote at any Fairfax County polling station but won about still won about three precincts. His strongest support was found in parts of Herndon, Lorton and Centreville.

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