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Fairfax Station ♦ Laurel Hill
CONNECTION
Clifton ♦ Lorton ♦ Lorton Valley ♦ Crosspointe

On Last Walk

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South County graduates scan the audience looking and waving to family and friends.

Clifton School's Unclear Future

NEWS, PAGE 4

HOT Lanes On Hold

NEWS, PAGE 3

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VDOT Suspends HOT Lanes Work

Contractor cited for environmental violations.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

The Virginia Department of Transportation halted construction in three out of four "areas" of the Capital Beltway High Occupancy Toll [HOT] Lanes project June 22 after a contractor failed to comply with environmental regulations.

Residents and environmental advocates have documented the failure of fences that are supposed to prevent sediment from running into Accotink Creek and other watersheds after rainfall.

Contractor Capital Beltway Express LLC is responsible for ensuring sediment control precautions are in place, according to a June 19 letter written by Larry Cloyd, senior project manager for the state transportation department.

Photographs taken by environmentalists show that many of the existing fences have been overwhelmed consistently during rain-

storms over the last nine months.

A Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation inspection also determined that "[Capital Beltway Express] had not taken the necessary action to ensure environmental compliance," according to Cloyd's letter.

"When visiting these sites, I saw the sediment structures were failing consistently. They will get washed out and water and soil end up getting washed into the local tributary and washed into Accotink Creek," said Kris Unger, an Arlington County resident who works with several local environmental groups. Unger took many of the pictures that document the fence failures.

The presence of additional run off raises the water temperature and "kills off critters" in Accotink Creek. It also further erodes the creek banks, which can cause trees around the creek to topple, said Duane Murphy, a Burke resident and coordinator of Friends of Accotink.

"The reason the Chesapeake Bay is not

doing well is because of actions like this," said Murphy.

The additional sediment from the construction project could also end up costing Fairfax County taxpayers money.

Lake Accotink has to be dredged approximately once every 10 years because a large amount of silt — the equivalent of a busload — runs into the lake every month normally. The last dredging, which took place recently, cost the county about \$8 million, said Murphy.

If the appropriate sediment controls are not put in place around the HOT lanes project, even more sediment will flow into Lake Accotink and it will have to be dredged sooner than normal, said Murphy.

Murphy said he also believes that the flooding of Braddock Road and Route 236 by Accotink Creek that occurred last September — and shut down parts of both cor-

ridors — might be related to increased run off from the HOT Lanes project.

Even with the sediment fences, the tree removal associated with the HOT Lanes caused the amount of run off into the creek to increase, said Murphy.

On June 12, the Virginia transportation department warned Capital Beltway Express that it needed to take care of the environmental violations by June 17, when the state performed another inspection of the construction site. The company did not comply so the Commonwealth decided to suspend work on the project, wrote Cloyd in the letter to the contractor.

Capital Beltway Express will be able to resume work when they put appropriate environmental measures in place and pass a state inspection scheduled for two weeks from June 22, wrote Cloyd.

"When visiting these sites, I saw the sediment structures were failing consistently."

— Kris Unger

South County Send Off

Seniors say goodbye to high school during their June 18 Commencement.

BY SARA RIDDLE
THE CONNECTION

Thursday, June 18 marked a distinct day for the South County Class of 2009. Although the seniors received diplomas and turned their tassels just like every other senior class, they did so as the "first four-year" graduating class of South County Secondary School.

The Commencement ceremony, which convened at George Mason University's Patriot Center, was full of laughs, cheers and words of wisdom.

"Looking back now, it is safe to say the tassel was well worth the hassle," said Carly Botero, president of the class of 2009.

Not only did the Class of 2009 live up to its motto, "Excellence in All Endeavors," they exceeded it.

After the welcoming and class president's speech, Principal Jane Lipp recognized the special guests and presented medals to an outstanding 37 valedictorians. Since all valedictorians qualified for delivering the valedictorian address, students who wanted to deliver the address read their speeches to fellow valedictorians and chose which one they thought was best fitting. Chelsea Bracci, a valedictorian headed

to the College of William and Mary in the fall, was chosen to present the valedictorian address.

"We came to South County from all over, confused and upset about having to leave half of our friends behind, becoming the jumbled Class of '09," said Bracci. "Over four years, we have made South County our school and shattered all the 'Breakfast Club' stereotypes along the way."

South County, which opened in 2005, became the first secondary school to open in Fairfax County in 32 years. During its first year, the school did not have a senior class. The Class of 2009 is the first class to go through all four years of high school at South County.

In addition to the medals given out to the valedictorians, Lipp presented the Principal's Award to one deserving and well-rounded student who exemplified leadership and involvement not only with the school but the community. This award went to Kelly Miles, a senior involved in cheerleading, DECA, leadership and more.

MANY SPECIAL guests attended South County's Commencement. Among these guests were U.S. Rep. Gerald E. Connolly (D-11); Del. Dave Albo (R-42); Board of Supervisor Chair Sharon Bulova (D-At-large); Supervisors Pat Herrity (Springfield) and Gerry Hyland (Mount Vernon); School Board Chair Daniel G. Storck (Mount Vernon); School Board Member Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield); FCPS Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale; Betsy Fenske,

"Looking back now, it is safe to say the tassel was well worth the hassle."

— Carly Botero, president, Class of 2009

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

Principal Jane Lipp congratulates the graduates as each receives his or her diploma.

Former Congressman Davis In Obama Administration?

Fairfax County's former U.S. Rep. Tom Davis (R) says he is happy at his current job as director of government services at Deloitte LLP. He does not anticipate leaving the private sector any time soon.

A handful of news outlets have reported that the Obama administration is considering Davis as a "leading candidate" for the newly created position of cybersecurity czar.

"I think it is unlikely at this point," said Davis.

The former congressman would not comment on whether he had been approached by the Obama administration about taking the cybersecurity czar position.

"I appreciate being mentioned," he said.

Davis, who served 14 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, hinted that he would consider working as a political appointee at some point.

"I am taking sabbatical right now. ... I won't rule it out in the future but I am giving my mind a rest. I like having my weekends free," he said.

Davis has a significant amount of experience when it comes to intersection of the high tech industry and government.

In Congress, Davis oversaw a subcommittee on technology and procurement policy and sponsored technology-related legislation. He was also co-chair of the Information Technology Work Group, which promoted better understanding of computer and technology issues among members of Congress.

In his current job, Davis advises Deloitte's clients on trends and opportunities in the federal government that relate to technology innovation and transformation.

Davis has received praise from local Democrats who worked with him on regional issues, including House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) and Northern Virginia U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8). But the former congressman has also taken on very partisan roles for the Republican Party in the past.

Davis oversaw the National Republican Congressional Committee from 1998 to 2002 and extended his party's reach in the U.S. House of Representatives by helping Republicans across the country win elections.

Locally, Davis is considered one of the architects of the Virginia Republicans' political redistricting efforts following the 2000 census, which helped secure the party's control over both branches of the General Assembly for part of the past decade.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

10 Pounds of Meth Seized

Federal authorities last week arrested a man and woman in a Lorton hotel and, at the same time, confiscated 10 pounds of methamphetamine. An undercover agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives made the bust Thursday, June 18, at the Comfort Inn.

Charged with conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine were Maria Benita Santa-Maria, 34, of Dawson, Ala., and Nihad Jasarevic, 19, of no fixed address. According to authorities, the pair allegedly distributed 10 packages – each containing a pound of the narcotic – to the agent.

The ATF estimated the street value of the meth as somewhere between \$300,000 and \$400,000. Court records state that agents arranged the drug purchase after the cellmate of a jailed informant reportedly claimed he was connected to a Mexican, drug-trafficking cartel.

Back-to-School Support

Our Daily Bread is launching its annual Back to School program to ensure that Fairfax County area children start the school year off with their best foot forward. On average, it costs \$40 per child to purchase all the required supplies.

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 9

School's Future Uncertain

School Board will meet July 13 to discuss options for Clifton Elementary.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI & JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

After dealing with several different issues regarding the facilities at Clifton Elementary School, from water contamination to Internet access, students and their parents may finally be seeing a light at the end of the tunnel.

According to School Board member Liz Bradsher (Springfield), the School Board will be briefed July 13 by Dean Tisdadt, chief operating officer of the department of facilities and transportation, on a study that will explore the state of the school's facilities. The study will outline potential options for alleviating its problems, with the two most probable panaceas being renovation, or more drastically, closure and relocation.

Bradsher said that the briefing, which would also include studies on overcrowding at Colin Powell and Eagle View elementary schools, would examine the "multitude of options" that are available for Clifton Elementary, which the Board will discuss and then open up to community input.

"We want to do what is best for the community and the community's children," Bradsher said. "We just have to wait for the report and then analyze it."

"Clifton Elementary School has to be either renovated or the students have to be moved."

— Dean Tisdadt

The talk of change coming to the school began June 17, when Clifton Mayor Tom Peterson sent an e-mail to members of his constituency. In the e-mail, Peterson wrote that he had heard from a source within the School Board that the Board decided that it is more cost effective to tear down Clifton Elementary entirely and rebuild it near Liberty Middle School in the next two to three years, instead of attempting renovations.

In the e-mail, Peterson said that "plans are well underway [to tear the school down] and the School Board has done everything in secrecy." He expressed concern that tearing down the town's only neighborhood school would negatively impact the town financially in several different ways.

"I believe losing our only neighborhood school would affect town revenues, businesses and our property values," Peterson wrote.

According to Bradsher, the e-mail led to many unhappy phone calls from parents and residents, who expressed concern over Peterson's charge that the School Board is operating in secrecy.

Bradsher maintained that no closed-door discussions were occurring, and that she is striving to keep open communication lines with area residents.

"I operate with full communication with those who are affected by a decision," Bradsher said. "I will make sure the community is involved and that there will be some discussion."

Following the e-mail, Peterson said that he had a meeting with Bradsher to discuss what he had heard and what the truth may be. Peterson said that he had

SEE CLIFTON, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Food for Families

John Berry, director of the United States Office of Personnel Management, announces the agency's new program Fed's Feed Families, in which employees of OPM will donate food each week, with the ultimate goal of collecting one million pounds of food from federal workers from across the country during the summer months to benefit the Capital Area Food Bank.

Clifton Elementary

FROM PAGE 4

no doubt that the information he received from his source was correct, but that he used the wrong words in his e-mail.

"I have no doubt that the 'head's up' I was given was the truth, but I apologize for a poor choice in words in saying that Fairfax County School Board has every intention of closing Clifton Elementary School within the next two or three years," Peterson said. "I should have correctly stated that studies were being conducted and that closing Clifton Elementary was a possibility. I should have also stated that no decision had been made. That being said, I know I would have received the same responses from residents had I stated there was the remotest possibility that Clifton Elementary might be closed."

Tisdadt confirmed that no decisions have been made regarding school, but did say that changes are needed. Tisdadt noted that Clifton Elementary is the only school in Fairfax County that is not on public water, instead it relies on well water. However, the well water often becomes contaminated, and therefore, for the past year, the school has had to bring in bottled water for its students to drink. Tisdadt also said that Clifton is not on the public sewer system, meaning that the county does not handle its waste.

As for the possibility of a move, Tisdadt said that Liberty Middle is, in fact, a potential site should Clifton Elementary be relocated. Tisdadt said that Liberty Middle is a large site. Building an elementary school next to it would alleviate the challenges at the current Clifton Elementary site and would also help with overcrowding issues at schools around Liberty, such as Colin Powell Elementary.

Though Tisdadt acknowledged that renovating or relocating the school could be costly and difficult, he stressed that changes must be made and is hoping to receive more input on other options for the school at the July 13 meeting.

"Clifton Elementary School has to be either renovated or the students have to be moved," Tisdadt said. "Something has to be done to that school. The status quo is unacceptable."

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OPINION

Top Ten Secrets

To long, happy, useful,
productive and meaningful life.

This is a month filled with graduations and graduation messages. Last month the speech for graduates at my daughter's Earlham College struck me as one of the best. Here, squeezed to less than 20 percent of its original, are excerpts from the Baccalaureate address by Chuck Yates, professor of history.

—MARY KIMM

NUMBER TEN: Figure out what you like to do and then find someone who'll pay you to do it. But don't go where the money is good; go where the work is good, where the good comes from the difference the work makes in your life and the lives of others.

NUMBER NINE: Get to know the locals. Remember: they live here; they know how the system works here; they know who the movers and shakers are. The locals are your neighbors. The locals are your community. The locals are your lifeline.

NUMBER EIGHT: Ask for directions. You might as well get used to the idea that you're going to get lost now and then. So ask for directions. There's no shame in not knowing the way.

NUMBER SEVEN: "To thine own self be true." ... And when you mess things up, be the first one to step up, and own up, and do what you can to fix what you broke.

And forgive — always forgive. Forgiveness is not about letting the other person off the hook; it's not about the other person at all. It's

about you, about the kind of person you want to be, about how you define yourself as a moral agent. And forgive yourself when you trip over your own feet and fall flat on your face.

NUMBER SIX: Know what you think, but more important, know why you think it. What you believe is nobody's business but your own, but the rub is that belief guides behavior, so knowing why you think what you think is a precondition for knowing why you do what you do.

NUMBER FIVE: Remember that other people want you to take them just as seriously as you want them to take you. If you don't understand your opponent's position well enough to make your own persuasive defense of it, at a minimum that probably means you haven't been paying attention.

NUMBER FOUR: Take care of yourself. Hold it in your heart that taking care of yourself is not the same thing as being selfish. ... And there's this one other thing that's absolutely essential if you want to do your best job of taking care of yourself: never take yourself too seriously.

NUMBER THREE: Remember that most of the time, most of it isn't going to make much sense to you. But that doesn't mean it doesn't make sense. Most of us spend a lot of time and energy trying to make the math come out even. The trouble is, the only place where the math

comes out even is in math.

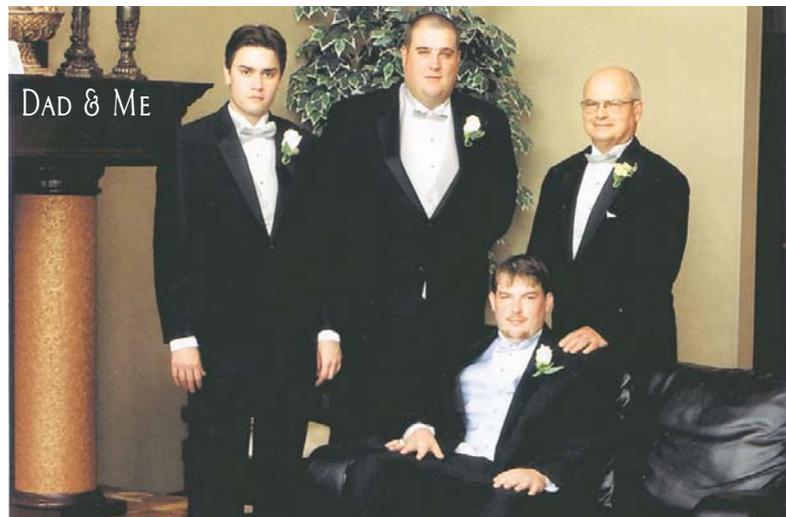
NUMBER TWO: Keep your scriptures handy. We all need scriptures. What's good about scriptures is that they put us in touch with the wisdom of others who've gone a lot farther down the road than we have. The scripture I rely on most frequently is very simple, and goes like this: "God, grant me serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference."

NUMBER ONE: Love. Paul told the Corinthians, there are three things that last forever. They work together — faith, hope, and love — each one woven through the other two into a fabric that never tears, never wears out, and always gives warmth and shelter. But love, Paul said, love is the main thing.

SO HERE I am, telling you to love. Love yourselves. Love each other. Love this magical mysterious heart-breaker of a world we live in. Love it for what it can become. But love it for what it is too. If you choose love, you create a center of gravity for yourself that will help you stay balanced no matter what happens.

Yate's address ended with a crowd-pleasing round of the Beatles' "All You Need Is Love." For the full address, see www.earlham.edu/documents/pdf/baccalaureate/2009address.pdf

EDITORIAL



Dad and his boys at the wedding of the youngest son of the three Landers. Seated is the groom Andrew, and, from left, are Nate, Tim and Dad Steve. The wedding was Aug. 28 in Cooperstown, N.Y.



My husband and my deceased son were working on a motor for his car in our kitchen the night before he died. We Love you Sam — Dad, Mom, Brother Johnny, Sister Sandra, and Sister Angela of the Seipel family



Son Aidan and daughter Lauren, along with wife, surprise Sean C. Dent for lunch at the office.



Jon Lindenberg of Clifton with Peyton and Cassidy and newborn twins Taylor and Brody.

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Stallions March

FROM PAGE 3

assistant superintendent Cluster V; and Dr. Scott Turner, dean of students, Northern Virginia Community College.

Albo was chosen as the guest speaker who would deliver the Commencement address.

In his "Secret of Life" speech, Albo reminisced on his days of high school and gave words of encouragement to the class of 2009.

"At this exact moment, this exact millisecond, any of you can achieve anything you want as long as you

work and never give up," said Albo.

By the end of his speech, and after numerous music analogies to artists such as Keith Richards and Def Leppard, Albo left students wanting to know what the secret of life was. Instead of telling it to them, he told them to go look up the last line on "The End" from the Beatles' Abbey Road album.

The line reads: "And, in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make."

Lipp concluded the ceremony by saying a few more words to the class of 2009.

"You were industrious and hard working as you helped create an academic and positive learning environment for 3,000 students," said Lipp. "Thank you graduates for leaving the school a better place."

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COMMUNITY



Vendors from locally owned Winemania Jill Parady, left, and Anne Walsh display wine accessories for sale.



Friends, from left, Rosemary Shelton, Lori Stewart and Portia Graham toast to a good time.

PHOTOS BY SARAH MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Rain or Shine, Pour the Wine

Clifton Wine Festival runs despite rain.

BY SARAH MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Rainclouds and muddy fields did nothing to stop wine vendors from whetting their guests' palates with tastes of local wine from around Virginia at the third annual Clifton Wine Festival on Saturday, June 20.

The festival, which has attracted between 2,000 and 3,000 guests each of its previous years, featured local wines, cuisine, music and arts and crafts. Local bands like rhythm and swing blues Blue

Book Value Band played from stage while guests sampled food and wine. Vendors sold hand crafted jewelry, painted glassware, scarves and purses under tents that lined part of Main Street which was closed to traffic for the festival.

This year was the Clifton Wine Festival's third year running and its second in which

rain has been an unwelcome guest. Marcus Silva, chairperson for the wine festival and owner of the event's chief sponsor, Capitol Roofing-USA of Chantilly, said that the rain was not a deterrent for the many visitors who come from all around the Washington metropolitan area.

"It's actually not that bad. It's keeping people cool" he said.

The downpour did cause some worry for Clifton's Mayor Tom Peterson, who was concerned that the rain might have discouraged some people from coming to the festival.

"If we don't make money at this then we have to cut some things we would want to do like beautification, like renovation of the triangle, things like that" he said.

LAST YEAR'S rain may have been the principal reason the wine festival did not make as much money as Peterson had hoped.

"It's great for this town because that's how we raise money."

— Mayor Tom Peterson

How To Help

For more information on volunteering for future Clifton events, contact Michelle Stein by phone at 703-539-8000 (office) or at home 703-830-4908 or e-mail at michellestein@cox.net.

ton metropolitan area who attended the event together, Debbie Yench, Rosemary Shelton, Lori Stewart and Portia Graham, said that they like to frequent wine festivals because they are a fun social activity. They appreciated the atmosphere Clifton's festival provided.

"We love the people. They've been very nice" said Shelton. "I like the local wineries. The representatives of the vineyards are more laid-back because it's like, 'Oh rain, oh well.' ... They're just laid-back. It's more

fun that way."

The local flavor was also what drew vendors to participate in this year's festival. Jeremy Chancellor, a representative from Old House Vineyards in Culpeper, said his wine boutique returned to Clifton for its second year because the festival's local focus was what made it so charming.

"We have so much fun with the mayor here It's small and intimate," said Chancellor. "I like that."

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.

FRIDAY/JUNE 26

Cox Movies Under the Moon. "Boomerang Cartoons."

Field opens at 6:30 p.m. and movie starts at 8:30 p.m. Free. Van Dyck Park, 3730 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax.

Spectacular Science. 10:30 a.m. at the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Indoor

fireworks, bubbling potions and more. Age 6-12. 703-249-1520.

All-Star Local Show. 6 p.m. at Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, West Springfield. \$10 in advance, \$12 day of show. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 27

Cox Movies Under the Moon. "The Dark Knight." Field opens at 6:30 p.m. and movie starts at 8:30 p.m. Free. Van Dyck Park, 3730 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax.

Monkeys in the House. 10:30 a.m. at the Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond

Highway, Lorton. Flap your arms, tap your feet and release your inner monkey with John Hadfield. All ages. 703-339-7385.

Kayak Tour of the Natural & Human History of Kane's Creek.

9 a.m.-12 p.m. Launches from Mason Neck State Park Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Reservation required. \$45. 703-354-5093.

SUNDAY/JUNE 28

Cox Movies Under the Moon.

"Mama Mia!" Field opens at 6:30 p.m. and movie starts at 8:30 p.m.

Free. Van Dyck Park, 3730 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 29

'Little Shop of Horrors' opens at the Lazy Susan Dinner Theatre, Route 1 at Furnace Road in Woodbridge.

The show will run through Sept. 27, with matinees on selected dates. Call 703-494-6311 or visit www.lazysusan.com for showtimes and ticket prices.

The Wright Stuff. 2:30 p.m. at the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Discover the mystery of flight with

the Maryland Science Center. Age 6-12. 703-339-4610.

Kingstowne in Stitches. 7 p.m. at the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Spend an evening in the company of other needleworkers. Program for adults. To learn more, call 703-339-4610.

TUESDAY/JUNE 30

Monkeys in the House. 7 p.m. at the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Flap your arms and release your inner monkey. All ages. 703-249-1520.

NEWS

FROM PAGE 4

Donors can help by "adopting" a child or a family of children to provide school supplies for the upcoming academic year, or by donating designated funds to ODB to purchase gift cards that will help families obtain necessary supplies.

Lisa Whetzel, Our Daily Bread's Executive Director, said, "In 2008, we raised \$4,224 and assisted 242 children — 117 of whom were 'adopted.' We are very proud of the fact that we

were able to serve 100 more children last year than in 2007. In the past year, we have seen a 70 percent increase in requests for food assistance and a steep rise in demand for emergency financial assistance. This leads us to believe there will be even greater need this year for school supply assistance."

NEWS BRIEFS

The Back to School program serves the children of Our Daily Bread's clients. Those interested in adopting a child or children or donating to the Back to School program may call 703-273-8829, e-mail info@ODBfairfax.org.

Genius is the gold in the mine; talent is the miner that works and brings it out.

—Marguerite Blessington

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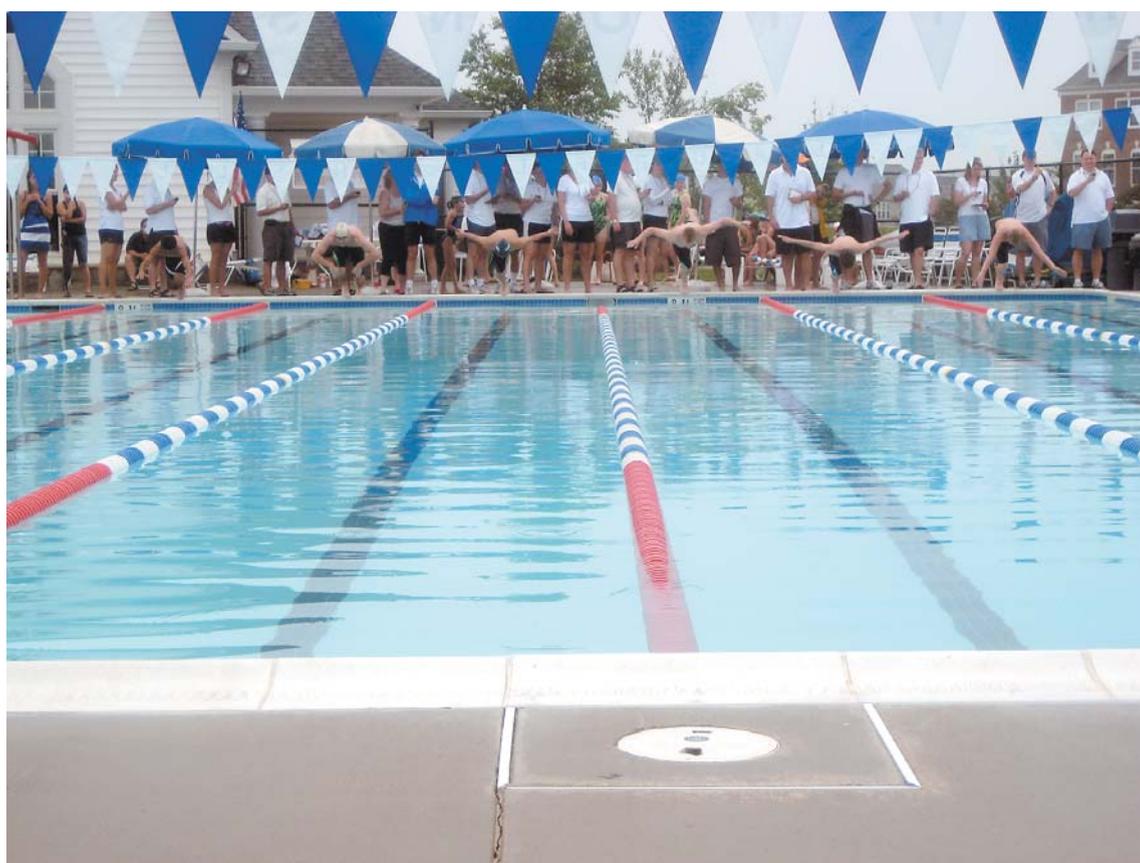


PHOTO BY COLIN DAILEDAL/THE CONNECTION

Members of the Laurel Hill Tritons and Little Hunting Park Gators compete in the 50-meter butterfly Saturday, June 20 for the start of the Northern Virginia Swim League season.

Big Splash at Local Pool

Laurel Hill team kicks off NVSL summer season.

BY COLIN DAILEDAL
THE CONNECTION

The sky was overcast and it began to drizzle as Bryan Nguyen, 9, was led in a single-file line to his swimming lane. He stood staring out at the 25 meters of light blue in front of him, shifting his weight anxiously. His goggles were pulled tight around his eyes. Just 25 meters and it would all be over.

"Swimmers, take your mark," said the man with the bullhorn. The horn sounded and the crowd began to roar. Nguyen leapt, and with a splash, his small frame shattered the water's plane. Suddenly, all was silent.

Nguyen would go on to win this event, the 25-meter butterfly, and perform well in every event he swam that day. But despite the youngster's speed, he was not a member of the Laurel Hill Tritons just so he could stockpile first-place ribbons.

"My favorite thing about the team is probably my friends," said Nguyen. In fact, when asked what he wanted to do competitively this season he simply said, "I don't care."

Although Laurel Hill has enjoyed success in the water, moving from Division 17 to 14 in just four years of existence, the attitude displayed by both swimmers and pool officials was that having fun comes before winning. One such pool official was team representative Tom Gemma.

"At summer swim, we want the kids to have a good

time," said Gemma. "Competition and winning really are secondary for us."

While pool officials do their best to ensure everyone is having fun, it is the team atmosphere that makes summer swim enjoyable. That team atmosphere is often created by the older swimmers, who teach the youngsters both how to swim and how to be gracious in victory and defeat.

"When you teach them, you start with the fundamentals," said Danielle Gemma, 15, Tom Gemma's daughter. "We always teach them to be really good sports."

Whether they're being taught fundamentals, good sportsmanship or something else, the younger swimmers appear to be listening.

"They taught me how to dive in the pool correctly," said Kevin Mao, 23.

His friend, Nick Orsino, 13, has learned from older teammates as well.

"They motivate me to swim even faster," said Orsino. But perhaps the most important thing they taught him is "don't stop trying because you can always come back and win."

Team camaraderie brings the swimmers closer together, and when neighborhood children become friends, it provides an opportunity for everyone in the community to get to know one another.

"It's a neighborhood activity," said assistant team representative Carl Despiggelagre. "The night before our swim meets, we have a barbecue so the families can get together. It's also to set up the pool. It's social with a purpose."

Swim team provides a way for the community to

SEE RAIN, PAGE 12

Flyers Flying Again

After winning the 2008 Northern Virginia Swim League Division 2 championship, the Fairfax Station Flyers returned to Division 1 competition on Saturday, June 20 with a 226-176 win over Vienna Aquatic. Winning freestyle events for the Flyers were Faith Lowery, Roman Lowery, Andrew Pascual, Molly Rowland and Alex Saffran. Winning backstroke events were Theresa Boyd, Roman Lowery, Saffran and Robbie Munch. First-place finishers in the breaststroke were Faith Lowery, Bailey Williams, Katie Munch and Ricky Munch. Finishing out the individual events, Pascual, Rowland, Cory Hansen, Katie Munch and Maggie Rodgers won butterfly events.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARTY CLARK

Faith Lowery anchored the girls' U-8 100-meter freestyle relay team and won two other events Saturday, June 20 during the Fairfax Station Flyers' 226-176 win over Vienna Aquatic.

Stallions' New Boss

In a literal sense, Brian Cabacar's mathematics background probably won't have a lot to do with how his team performs in the spring of 2010. But until that time, the newly hired boys' lacrosse coach at South County hopes that it will help his team improve from a logistical standpoint anyway.

Cabacar was hired last week to succeed Kenny Carrington, who did not work at the school. Since 2005, Cabacar has taught geometry, algebra II and applied statistics at South County and has served as an assistant boys' lacrosse coach since 2007.

When the position became available, Cabacar, believing he was ready to make the leap to head-coaching duties, applied. With his hiring, Cabacar insists that his team would benefit from having a coach that works "inside the building."

Cabacar also hopes to implement some of the things he learned while

SEE WEEK IN SPORTS, PAGE 12

WEEK IN SPORTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF JANE ANDERSON

Like many swimmers, Daniel Balderson, 8, took to the pool on Saturday, June 20. Balderson is pictured here swimming the 25-meter backstroke for the Commonwealth Cudas, who dropped a 239-154 to Dominion Hills.

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FAITH NOTES

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.

Messiah United Methodist Church is located at 6215 Rolling Road, Springfield. For more information, call 703-569-9862 or visit www.messiahumc.org.

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✦ **Sacred Echo: A Six-Week Women's Bible Study.** Wednesdays, June 24-Aug. 5, in room 261, read and discuss Margaret Feinberg's "The Sacred Echo: Hearing God's voice in every area of your life." Come at 7 p.m. for cappuccinos and fellowship. Study time

will begin at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. Free child care available upon request.

Jubilee Christian Center is having a Vacation Bible School, July 20-24, 12:30-3:30 p.m. It is for ages 3 through sixth grade, and the theme is "Museum at 12627, the Mystery of God's Great Plan. Free, but must be pre-registered by July 3. Jubilee Christian Center is located at 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Call 703-383-1170 to register, or see www.jccag.org.

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8930 HOLLYMEADE DR	\$797,500	Sun 1-4	Weichert	Jenny Ko	703-380-8825
9261 LEE MASEY DR	\$549,900	Sun 1-4	Long & Foster	Susan Borrelli	703-216-2620
Clifton (20124)					
12601 CLIFTON HUNT LA	\$769,990	Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	Diane Lenahan	703-283-7328
7701 ROSE GATE CT	\$1,099,000	Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	Diane Lenahan	703-283-7328
Springfield (22150, 22151, 22152, 22153)					
8870 EAGLE ROCK LA	\$409,900	Sun 1-4	RE/MAX	Bruce & Tanya Tyburski	703-239-2525
7805 ODELL ST	\$575,000	Sun 1-4	ERA	Ingrid Barrett	571-216-2313
8315 MAGIC LEAF RD	\$494,880	Sun 1-4	Long & Foster	Brian Hong	703-929-5764
7443 QUINCY HALL CT	\$540,000	Sun 1-4	ERA	Ngima Lama	703-395-3693
Kingstowne/Alexandria (22310, 22315)					
4510 PENWOOD DR	\$659,000	Sun 1-4	Keller Williams	Kyle Graumann	703-628-7024
5598 GOVERNORS POND CIR	\$565,000	Sun 1-4	Carter Virginia	Danny Carter	703-282-0065
6570 KIERNAN CT	\$599,000	Sun 1-4	Coldwell Banker	Gilbert Stockton	703-969-5089
Annandale (22003)					
5116 WOODLAND WAY	\$885,000	Sun 2-4	Long & Foster	Carol Greco	703-658-1600
3409 CHARLESON ST	\$548,000	Sun 1-4	Fall Properties	Bruce Fall	703-677-2812

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Burke \$489,950
Enormous 3 Level Deck
Gorgeous Col on premium private lot w/ remodeled kit w/ granite cntns & breakfast bar, 4BR, 2.55 BA, fin walkout bsmt, high-end remodeled baths w/ granite, replaced roof, siding, doors & garage drs, frplc, walk to school & more.



Fairfax Station \$814,950
South Run Beauty
Lovely updated Col on gorgeous street w/ huge deck, premium 3/4 wooded acres, Eat-in kit w/ SS appl & Corian cntns, 4 BR, 3.5 BA, fin bsmt, dramatic fmly rm w/ vaulted clngs, quality remodeled bathrms, new garage drs, fresh paint, new carpet, new light fixtures, mint condition & more.

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PHOTO BY COLIN DALEDA/THE CONNECTION

Team parents seek shelter under the concession stand during a lightning delay at Laurel Hill Swimming Pool, as rain wreaked havoc on several local swim meets over the weekend.

Rain Leaves Meet All Wet

FROM PAGE 10

connect and, in the eyes of Tom Gemma, a way for individual families to come together as well.

"Think about it," said Tom Gemma. "As a family event ... this is the only sport where a family can come where all their children, whether they're 6 years old, 15 or 18, male or female, [they] can all swim together at the same time."

The bond the Laurel Hill community has developed was evident during their first meet of the year. As the day wore on, the opposing Little Hunting Park Gators began to pull away on the scoreboard, but chil-

dren and parents alike remained to cheer on the Tritons. The majority of them even stayed through a nearly hour-long lightning delay despite having just six races remaining.

The Tritons could not mount a comeback against the Gators, and wound up falling in their first meet of the season, 217-184. Victory is always nice, but as Tom Gemma said, it is secondary here.

"Swim team has been a vehicle for parents to meet each other, kids to make new friends and everyone to come together," he said.

For a new community, that seems victory enough.

FROM PAGE 10

serving as an assistant coach at Robinson from February 2003-May 2004 under Tom Tufts.

"Looking at a lot of the top-notch programs around the area, it's not like they do anything different schematically than what we do or anybody else does," said Cabacar, who will lose 12 seniors from this spring's 3-8 team. "They just do a lot of the little things really well."

Ram Runners and Jumpers Rock

Several local athletes competed at the USA Track and Field Potomac Valley Junior Olympic Championships this past weekend at Prince George's County Sports and Learning Complex

in Landover. Their goal was to advance past this meet to compete in the Region III meet, held at the same venue. Those who make it past the Region III meet will compete at the national meet in Greensboro, N.C. this July.

To qualify once for the Region III meet is remarkable, but Robinson's Genamarie McCant did so four times. She took first in the 400-meter dash, second in the 200 and her team placed first in the 4x400 meter relay and third in the 4x100.

Also coming out of Robinson, Joey Muzzio took first place in the high jump. Muzzio's younger sister, Maria Muzzio, competed in the midget age group (11- and 12-year-olds), qualifying in the high jump, long jump and turbo javelin. Muzzio's high jump mark (6 feet, 4 3/4 inches) and McCant's 400 time of 57.51 seconds both set meet records, as did the 4x400's mark of 3:53.02.

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21 Announcements

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF HORRY

Dorothy E Darling
Petitioner

21 Announcements

IN THE PROBATE COURT

CASE NUMBER:
2007-ES-26-1731

SUMMONS AND
HEARING NOTICE

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.

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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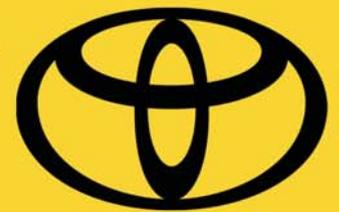
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See this property at www.CliftonMLS.com.



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