

Final Touches

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Now in the final phases of its construction, Laurel Hill Elementary will have Smart Boards in every classroom.

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PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

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School's Out, Work Continues

Laurel Hill School makes progress on way to grand opening.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

As the September opening of Laurel Hill Elementary School draws near, Principal Suzie Montgomery knows that it is all about the details.

Equipped with a 33-page spreadsheet listing every need the school must fulfill before the start of the school year from lawnmowers to soccer balls, Montgomery faces the daunting task of helping build a school from scratch. So far, she is quite pleased with the results.

"It's a wonderful process to bring the community together to create a new learning community," Montgomery said. "And I am honored to be a part of it."

Montgomery, a 19-year veteran of the school system and former principal of Anthony T. Lane Elementary, was appointed principal of the school Feb. 1, and has been on a whirlwind journey ever since. As with any school, the most important base to cover is filling out the faculty ranks, and it has consumed a great deal of her time over the last six months.

Montgomery said that since Feb. 1, she has received more than 200 applications for 51 teaching positions, and still has more than 130 additional applications to review. Of the 51 that have been hired, Montgomery said that 46 have taught in the school system before, while three of the remaining five have teaching experience outside



PHOTOS BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

"It's a wonderful process to bring the community together to create a new learning community."

— Suzie Montgomery, Laurel Hill Elementary principal

The inside of Laurel Hill Elementary upon entering the front doors.

the system.

"Hiring has gone really well," Montgomery said. "We are very close to having all that we need. We have only two teachers to hire and that is right where we want to be."

Just as Laurel Hill Elementary draws teachers from different schools, the school

will be doing the same in regard to its students and parents. The school will welcome students from Silverbrook, Lorton Station and Halley elementary schools, and will have an estimated enrollment of 725, well under the maximum capacity of 950. As a result, the school will not have to bring trailers onto the campus like many other county schools.

Also, according to Christine Morin, education committee chair of the South County Federation, the school has already formed its PTA with the former second vice president of the Lorton Station PTA, Michelle Fick, serving as president. Rounding out the leadership positions are first vice president Peggy Shahin, second vice president Tracy Frye, treasurer Karen DeSpiegelaere and secretary Kim Thornbur.

In addition, the school will boast several features that place it at the forefront of the county school system, including state-of-the-art technology and innovative ideas. Montgomery said that each classroom will be equipped with "Smart Boards," interactive, electronic whiteboards that allow the teacher and students to engage in the latest education materials and technology. A production center will also be built in the library that would allow students to manufacture and broadcast their own "morning show," complete with the day's announcements, weather reports and other relevant information.

Fulfilling a crucial need to many parents

and alleviating a major concern, the Board of Supervisors approved the implementation of a new School Age Child Care program at the school in early May. The program will service Laurel Hill Elementary students as well as outside students and will be furnished with two classrooms.

Equally important as equipping the school with all of the latest technology and state-of-the-art facilities is coming in on budget, especially in such tight times. According to School Board Chairman Daniel Storck, who represents the Mount Vernon District on the board, the school, so far, has met budget requirements that were set when the voter bond was passed in late 2007, and has not jeopardized the quality of education, even in the face of staff cuts.

"I'm pleased that it has come in on budget and early," Storck said. "It's a credit to the facilities management as well as the quality of the contractor. Our needs are always greater than our resources, but it's great to see the community put their money where their minds are."

Though the school is still a construction site and cannot be viewed by the public yet, several county officials have taken a look at the school. Storck had been to the site several times but took a tour of the facilities for the first time last week and left impressed.

"I think that it is gorgeous," Storck said. "People are surprised at how large it is and how beautiful it looks."



A typical classroom in Laurel Hill Elementary.

Rain or Shine, Swim-a-Thon a Success

Cloudy skies deterred many from hopping into the pool, not from writing a check.

BY COLIN DAILED
THE CONNECTION

Gray clouds hovered ominously over South Run Community Pool on Sunday, June 28, and rumors of afternoon thunderstorms made sure everyone's eyes were trained on the sky. It's not the best forecast for the pool's Swim-a-Thon, an annual event to raise money for the organization Life with Cancer.

But where the sun failed to shine, the community's generosity did not. Within the first hour of the Swim-a-Thon, the pool had already raised more than \$600.

Blake Murphy, a 15-year-old assistant coach of the pool's swim team, was one of the people who came up with the Swim-a-Thon idea, which is now in its second year of existence.

"A lot of my friends on the team, a lot of the other coaches even ... their parents have cancer and they're out here volunteering, working the concession stand, timing, just like all the other parents and this is just the way we want to give back," said Murphy.

The idea behind the Swim-a-Thon is fairly

SEE SWIMMING, PAGE 11



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

A few participants take a breather during South Run's Swim-a-Thon this past Sunday, June 28. They are, from left, Bailey Sturtz, Bryce Sturtz and Joseph Larson.

County Out of Road Money

If it's not already under construction, it probably won't happen anytime soon.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Virginia allocated such a small amount of funding for new secondary road construction projects in Fairfax County this year that the money would barely cover the cost of installing one single traffic signal in the locality, according to officials.

The Virginia Department of Transportation awarded Fairfax about \$240,000 for all new secondary road construction, about 2.5 percent of the \$ 11 million the county received for the same purpose last year.

"A fairly minor signal? Yes, [\$240,000] might cover it. But some traffic signals cost between \$250,000 and \$300,000 to put in," said Kathy Ichter, director of Fairfax County's Department of Transportation.

In most of the past decade, the commonwealth has given Fairfax between \$20 million and \$30 million annually for secondary road construction. At the time, elected

officials and county staff said that amount of money was grossly inadequate to meet Fairfax's needs.

But the shortfalls of years past pale in comparison to what the county could face in the future. Virginia officials have told

"In two or three years, when we have no new money coming in, it is going to be extremely difficult to get even basic new work done."

— Kathy Ichter, director, Fairfax County Department of Transportation

Ichter to expect Fairfax's funding for new secondary road construction could remain at about \$240,000 per year or lower for the foreseeable future.

"Over the next two to three years, people may not notice it because we have projects underway that have been in the pipeline for awhile and are already funded. After that,

the difference is going to be substantial," said Ichter.

IN FAIRFAX, secondary roads are hardly secondary. The term applies to everything from the local, neighborhood cul de sac to major thoroughfares like Braddock and Rolling roads.

For example, with the exception of Route 123, nearly every street and corridor in the Springfield District is a "secondary road,"

according to Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield).

So the county's secondary road construction funding pool is expected to cover a wide range projects. New speed bumps, crosswalks, sidewalks, bike lanes, bus stops,

SEE ROAD FUNDING, PAGE 5

Annandale/Poe Students Move to Lake Braddock

The Fairfax County School Board voted to move about 105 students living in the Ravensworth community from Annandale High School and Poe Middle School to Lake Braddock Secondary School June 26.

Ravensworth is located immediately to the southwest of the Braddock Road and Interstate 495 interchange. It directly abuts Kings Park and other residential developments where families currently attend Lake Braddock.

The school redistricting will be implemented for the 2010-11 school year and includes some exceptions.

Rising seventh graders at Poe and rising juniors at Annandale would be able to attend their current school through the 2010-11 school year. Annandale sophomores who become candidates for the full International Baccalaureate [IB] diploma would

SEE LAKE BRADDOCK, PAGE 11



POLICE PHOTO

Fairfax County Police say this woman robbed a bank in Lorton on Thursday, June 25.

Lorton Bank Is Robbed

Fairfax County Police are looking for the woman who robbed a Lorton bank last Thursday, June 25. The incident occurred at the Wachovia Bank at 8994 Lorton Station Blvd. Police say the woman entered the bank around 2:10 p.m. and approached the bank teller, a 22-year-old man, at the counter.

She passed him a note, implied she had a weapon and demanded money. The teller complied and the robber fled out the front door with an undisclosed amount of cash. She then made her getaway in an older-model, tan or champagne-colored Honda Accord.

The suspect was described as black, in her mid 30s to early 40s. She was 5 feet 2 inches to 5 feet 6 inches and had a large build. She wore a white T-shirt, blue jeans, white baseball cap and black sunglasses and had a black purse.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.

Fire Causes \$85,000 Damage

A fire in a Lorton garage last week caused an estimated \$85,000 damage. According to investigators with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, the blaze was accidental and was caused by an extension cord.

Firefighters responded on Wednesday, June 24, around 12:40 p.m. to a residential, one-car, detached garage at 9000 Jameson St. Upon arrival, they encountered heavy fire and smoke, but were able to bring the fire under control in approximately 20 minutes.

No one was injured; however, the flames destroyed the garage and three vehicles. One was parked inside the garage, and two others, including a recreational vehicle, were parked nearby.

Clifton School's Future Mulled

At its work session on Monday, July 13, the Fairfax County School Board will be reviewing staff findings for a renovation of Clifton Elementary and solutions to overcrowding at several elementary schools in the southwestern region of the county. Because of the complexity of the issues, staff will be recommending a comprehensive community-engagement process to consider all points of view.

At the conclusion of this process and after careful review of the feasibility studies, the School Board will consider what actions to take, if any, regarding these issues. Board members have not yet discussed these matters, nor made any decision on any aspect of them.

The public is invited to attend the work session, which begins at 11 a.m., at the Gatehouse Administrative Center, 8115

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DONATED PHOTO

Standing on the equator line in Quito, Ecuador at the Intiñan Solar Museum, students from Laurel Ridge in Fairfax give the thumbs up sign, indicating good energy. Front row, from left, are Clarisse O'Brien, Sami Ryder, Graciela Perez, Olivia Farber, Lucas Ortiz and Tobin Wieder; back row, Camilo Ortiz, Bella Farber, Charlotte Hathaway and Sean Hathaway.

Students Travel to Quito

Spanish-immersion students take excursion to Ecuador.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

What began as an idea ended up as a trip to Ecuador for some local students and their parents. Shortly before the school year ended, they gathered to reminisce about their big adventure.

Almost all the students attended Laurel Ridge Elementary, and 10 of them made the journey, along with nine parents, three of whom speak Spanish. The trip wasn't sponsored by the school but, instead, was organized by parent Michele Farber of Fairfax's Hayden Village community.

She has two children in Laurel Ridge Elementary's partial, Spanish-language immersion program, where some subjects are taught in Spanish, and others, in English. After reading about a trip to Japan taken by another group of immersion-school children, Farber began thinking about a trip for the Laurel Ridge students.

"It would supplement their speaking and understanding of the Spanish language and help them learn about a different culture," she said. "They'd also get to experience international travel and interact with children in a Spanish-speaking country."

So a group of interested parents started meeting and evaluated several destinations before deciding on Ecuador. Being an immersion school, Laurel Ridge draws students from other school districts, and those who went on the trip, April 3-12, live in Fairfax, Burke, Clifton and Centreville.

"We had an amazing experience," said Farber. "Prior to our trip, we started writing back and forth with children in a very small school located in a small farming community in the mountains outside Ibarra, Ecuador. The kids exchanged letters and pictures. The children there are indigenous people who speak a native language in addition to Spanish. During our trip, we met with their community and spent two days at their school."

The American visitors helped their new friends paint a mural on a wall, taught the children how to jump rope and play American games and spent time in their classrooms. In return, their hosts cooked na-

tive food for them, including a meal featuring the local delicacy of guinea pig.

"We also visited and toured the capital city of Quito, visited a crater lake, shopped at one of the largest markets in South America, called Otavalo, and visited Quilotoa and the town of Mindo, where we hiked in the rainforest and did an awesome, zip-line canopy tour," said Farber. "The trip ended with a spectacular visit to the national equator monument and the neighboring, 'real' equator museum dedicated to the native people of Ecuador."

Fifth-grader Camilo Ortiz was excited to meet the children there and learn more Spanish. "It was a poor, but nice, country," he said. "I saw mostly people walking and not a lot of cars. I spent time with my pen pal, Aida, who's 10, and we spoke in Spanish. We also played soccer and jumped on a trampoline in the playground. And we went to a museum and saw a lot of cool artifacts."

Sixth-grader Tobin Wieder, 12, liked "seeing how other people lived differently from the U.S. But some of them were begging on the streets, and it was kind of sad. The food was different, especially the guinea pig, which tasted like lemon-flavored chicken, and we had soup every day. My favorite moment was the zip line in Mindo. It was fun going upside down, 100 feet in the air. And my pen pal Christian was strong and funny."

Burke resident Clarisse O'Brien, 11, a Laurel Ridge sixth-grader, said the area was "rural, with lots of open plains and farms. The roads were gravel and there were lots of stray dogs. I liked seeing my pen pal, Diego. We played soccer — all the kids were good at it — and had fun."

Farber's daughter Bella, 11, in sixth grade, was surprised to see "old ladies and kids living on the streets. The kids sold gum or shined shoes to make money; they offered to shine our sneakers. I couldn't imagine living like that. Some of them walked at least two hours to school along paths."

Lucas Ortiz, a fourth-grader, said pen pal Andrea is "shy, doesn't have many friends and is poor. But she was nice and playful." He said people ate guinea pig every Sunday and also eat lots of soup and popcorn. He also had fun visiting the museum at the equator line because "it showed what happened in the country long ago and what they wore. I would go back again to see how my pen pal is; we're going to keep writing to each other."

Michele Farber feels the same way. "The experience was incredible," she said. "We're planning on going again next year and making it an annual thing."

"We had an amazing experience."

— Michelle Farber

Road Funding Drops from \$11M to \$240K

FROM PAGE 3

no-parking signs, stop signs, interchanges and the widening of existing roads are just some of the types of transportation enhancements that are supposed to be funded out of this pot of money, now at \$240,000.

The shortage of funds has resulted in several transportation projects being dropped or permanently put on hold.

Officials halted plans to widen parts of Rolling Road, Telegraph Road, Richmond Highway and Route 7 outside the Capital Beltway over the next few years. No money is available for interchange construction at Franconia-Springfield Parkway and Neuman Street, Franconia-Springfield Parkway and Interstate 95 or Franconia Road and South Van Dorn Street, according to Ichter.

"There are roads that have been included in the secondary program since 1986 and now there is no hope of getting them built in the short term," she said.

LACK OF "secondary road" construction funding could also impact much of the plans to redevelop Tysons Corner and other parts of northern Fairfax County around the new Metrorail extension. According to Ichter, there will be no state money to expand the number of bus routes or increase service on

existing bus lines, even if passengers at the new Metro stations demand it.

There will also be no state money available to assist with developing a grid of streets or installing more pedestrian and bicycle paths in Tysons Corner, where the county hopes to create a more urban landscape, said Ichter.

"I think this will absolutely affect every resident. ... In two or three years, when we have no new money coming in, it is going to be extremely difficult to get even basic new work done," she said.

Due to the budget shortfall, the Virginia Department of Transportation is also unlikely to mow street medians and the public space along the side of many county roads, except in those areas the long grass poses a safety hazard for drivers.

IN SOME CASES, new transportation projects are moving forward because the federal or local government stepped in to fill the financial gap.

Federal stimulus money will allow construction of the final phase of the Fairfax County Parkway and a new interchange at the intersection of the Fairfax County Parkway, Fair Lakes Parkway and Monument Drive.

County government is using some of its own revenue for Telegraph Road improve-

ments in anticipation of a change in traffic patterns when several new jobs move to the Fort Belvoir military base.

Under Virginia law, state transportation funding must be used for maintenance before capacity enhancements and new construction. So, a general lack of transportation funding coupled with the rising cost of Virginia's road maintenance has resulted in fewer dollars for new transportation projects.

Several sources of revenues specifically dedicated to transportation, including the sales tax and fees associated with car purchases, have also declined in the recent recession.

Nearly all elected officials have said that more transportation funding is needed, particularly in heavily congested areas like Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads. But state government officials, including the governor and Virginia General Assembly members, have been unable to reach a compromise on how to address the problem.

For the most part, Republicans in the General Assembly have been unwilling to raise taxes to assist with transportation needs. In general, Democrats have been unwilling to divert money from other state programs like education and public safety to solve transportation issues if taxes or fees are not increased to address the problem.

The closest the state government has come finding a transportation solution was in 2007, when a bill with new transportation funding mechanisms passed out of the Virginia General Assembly.

The bill passed the responsibility for raising revenue off to local governments, like the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and regional bodies, like the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.

But the Virginia Supreme Court declared the 2007 transportation bill unconstitutional, stating that regional entities made up of appointed members, like the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, do not have the power to impose taxes on residents.

SINCE THEN, Republicans and Democrats in the state government have been in a deadlock, unable to find common ground over how to solve the transportation crisis. Without resolution, the revenue has dwindled.

In several ways, Fairfax County's hands are tied, even if the supervisors wanted to raise their own revenue for transportation.

The Virginia General Assembly has put several restrictions on types of taxes and revenues the Fairfax supervisors are able to implement. They are mostly limited to adjusting the local real estate tax rate.

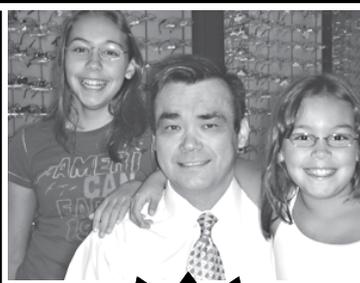


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OPINION

No Money for Local Roadwork

County to receive \$250,000 for secondary road construction; steep decline from previous years.

Between declining revenue because of the recession and the Virginia Supreme Court striking down the one significant transportation funding plan to come out of Richmond in the last decade, virtually all transportation projects in the state will now cease to exist.

There will be no money for intersection improvements, for widening roads, for bus lines, for filling potholes. No money for transit. Just no money.

If a project is currently under construction, or construction is about to be, it will continue. Otherwise there is no money in the pipeline.

This is a different kind of "no money" than the low-dollar budget that we have coped with in the past. A large jurisdiction like Fairfax County will see only about \$250,000 this year for secondary road construction, down to about

a tenth of previous years.

In fact, Metrorail construction bringing rail through Tysons and out to Dulles Airport and the HOT-lanes construction underway on the Beltway are the only two major projects likely in the foreseeable future. Some federal money, some local money and increases on the Dulles toll road will pay for rail to Dulles construction. Federal money will also pay for improvements on the Fairfax County Parkway.

As for HOT-lanes, we suspect that many drivers stuck in traffic in the future will be surprised to discover that they can ride in newly added lanes for a steep toll of as much as \$1 a mile or more (\$14 or more for the trip from the American Legion Bridge to the Springfield interchange), and that the private company in

this public-private partnership will get to keep 100 percent of that toll money to finance the construction.

We are suffering from election fatigue too, and aren't ready to start in on the fact that every seat in the Virginia House of Delegates is on the ballot this November, along with statewide races for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, plus some special elections and ballot issues.

But these races matter, and every voter should stand ready to make candidates talk about real solutions to real problems, including funding for real transportation spending, dedicated funding for Metro and congestion relief. Likely every candidate will talk about Virginia's ranking as the top state for business. But it's hard to argue that Virginia is open for business if it's economic engine, Northern Virginia, can't solve a single congestion chokepoint or add a busline to bring riders to new Metro stations.

— MARY KIMM

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Expertise for Annual Community Guides Needed

What would someone new to your town need to know? What interesting, almost secret, places would you like to have learned about earlier when you moved in?

We invite you to share the expertise you've gained in living in your hometown with your neighbors and with people new to the area in our Newcomers and Community Guides, coming later this summer.

Connection staff members and interns are already working on the Connection's annual Newcomers and Community Guides, which will publish between the end of July and the be-

ginning of August.

We invite citizens, businesses and organizations to send us suggestions. We invite calendar listings for major events for the upcoming year, information on how to get involved in nonprofits and charities, details about your club or other organization.

When are the major festivals, celebrations and other events at your church or temple or mosque?

We also invite readers to contribute directly to the newcomers and community guides. Send us a short letter: what do you love about your community? Tell us about one special place

you've discovered. Does your family have different favorites in different seasons? How did you get involved in your town? Share your favorite park. Tell us about your favorite annual event.

Helping pets adapt to new surroundings can be a big part of any family's move. Share tips you have for acclimating a pet to a new home. Do you have a favorite dog park?

SEND YOUR comments and submissions to south@connectionnewspapers.com, or mail to Michael O'Connell, Connection Newspapers, 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Beefing Up Protections

To the Editor:

Stormwater management and safety are the highest priorities for VDOT and its private partners on the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes Project. While the project had an extensive stormwater management program in place, some areas were overtaxed by the heavy and almost daily thunderstorms in recent weeks. That's why VDOT and its private partners have launched new environmental protections to address recent stormwater management concerns along the 14-mile corridor.

New additional systems are now in place to ensure protection during future rain events to include: reinforced silt fences, deeper sediment traps, additional rock check dams, more slope drains and re-stabilization of excavated slopes and embankments. These tools

will be used to control sediment, prevent erosion and protect the surrounding environment.

In addition to these stormwater control mechanisms, the HOT Lanes project staff will also conduct more comprehensive environmental inspections, including daily monitoring and bi-weekly quality assurance by an independent environmental inspection team. Our new Field Environmental Action Team (FEAT) will provide beefed-up staffing to walk the entire work zone keeping a focused eye on ensuring environmental compliance and protection.

The project team is also advancing the installation of permanent stormwater control structures to provide further protection and eliminate the need for temporary control measures.

Larry O. Cloyed, PMP
VDOT Sr. Project Manager

Prepare for Safe Summer

To the Editor:

On Saturday, June 20, yet another child died of hyperthermia when left alone in a parked car. Two-year-old April Knight lived in Kentucky, and at the beginning of summer is already the 13th child in the U.S. to die in a hot vehicle this year.

How can we be sure this does not happen to the children and families in our own community?

The truth is summer may be a fun time of year, but it can present difficult, sometimes dangerous challenges for parents. From inconveniences like bug bites to tragedies like drowning and death, children themselves are often unaware of these issues or too young to understand. Fortunately, many of these accidents are preventable. As parents, babysitters, and caregivers, it's our job to ensure

that every child remains safe and healthy in the coming months. Taking a few moments to be aware of these situations is a small sacrifice to make for our children's wellbeing.

Parents might leave their children alone in a vehicle if they want to avoid waking a sleeping baby or getting the child out of and back into a car seat. But a child can get overheated quickly — it only takes 10 minutes for a car's temperature to increase 19 degrees F. A child should never be left alone in a car.

Parenting can be tough at times, and summer safety issues pose a special challenge. Luckily, there are resources dedicated to helping parents make the season both fun and safe. Visit the Parent Resource Center on SCAN of Northern Virginia's Web site at www.scanva.org — and look for the feature on summer safety.

Diane Charles
SCAN of Northern Virginia

THE CONNECTION

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PEOPLE

Journey of Language, Culture

National scholarship program sends local high school student to Korea.

BY SARA RIDDLE
THE CONNECTION

Rachel Geller has always had a passion for traveling. Whether staying within the United States or going to Japan with the People to People organization, she loves taking advantage of great opportunities.

"I love traveling and meeting people from all over," said Geller. "I just love getting out and being able to see the world."

So, when her Korean teacher at the Fairfax Academy for Communications and the Arts introduced her to the National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) program, she immediately applied for one of the semester long exchange programs in Korea.

After waiting three months, Geller received the anticipated letter from the United States Department of State, informing her of her selection for one of the 2009 NSLI for Youth scholarships.

Geller, a junior at Robinson Secondary School, applied with 1,400 other teens from across the United States. Out of the 1,400 who applied, only 500 were selected for the program with only 38 of them being chosen to travel to South Korea.

SPONSORED BY the U.S. Department of State, NSLI for Youth provides merit-based scholarships for eligible high school students to learn less commonly taught languages in summer, semester and yearlong immersion programs. Scholarships are awarded by the State Department to travel abroad to study Chinese, Arabic, Hindi, Korean, Farsi, Russian and Turkish.

Geller said that she has a "mixture of feelings" when it comes to her expectations of Korea. "I'm excited, but I'm kind of scared because I'm not sure if my speaking and listening ability is as good as I think it is," she said.

In addition to being sponsored by the State Department, NSLI for Youth is administered by a lead team of organizations that include American Councils for International Education, AFS-USA, Concordia Language Villages and iEARN. Each organization handles a different component of the exchange program.

For example, iEARN (International Education and Resource Network) contributes to the program by administering NSLI Language Lounges. These "lounges" provide interactive forums through an online platform for students going to each of the countries to communicate with native speakers of each country's language.

"We at iEARN are honored to be part of this program," said Dina Guirguis, public relations liaison for iEARN.

The vision of iEARN is that "if students start working together globally from the earliest ages, they will learn to communicate more effectively through di-



PHOTO BY SARA RIDDLE/THE CONNECTION

Rachel Geller, one of the 500 students in America chosen for a NSLI-Y scholarship, shows off her Korean Handbook.

rect online dialogs with peers in other countries and learn how the world's issues can be solved through collaborative solutions," said Guirguis.

NSLI FOR Youth is the first State Department program to provide young Americans the opportunity to advance their language facility while living and interacting with people from different parts of the world.

To be considered for a scholarship, an applicant must be a U.S. citizen, be 15-18 years of age, have at least a 2.5 GPA and be enrolled in high school.

In addition to providing a transcript, Geller had to go through an extensive application process in which she had a health screening, wrote an essay on why she wanted to study Korean and wrote a letter to her prospective host family.

"It was a long process, but it really was worth it," said Geller.

Before departing for South Korea for a semester, Geller will attend a three-day orientation in Washington, D.C.

For the first six weeks of the program, Geller will be living with a host family and participating in an intense language program at Seoul National University. Once the six weeks are over, she will attend Seoul's Mirim Girl's High School for the remainder of the semester. She will take courses in Korean and Life, P.E., Japanese, Chinese Characters, Korean Literature, World History, Society and Culture, Math, Biology, English, English Conversation and Korean Language.

"She basically will be acting as an ambassador for the United States," said Greta Geller, Rachel's mother.

Just like the other 499 students heading to their designated countries this July, Geller will be on her way to being a great, young leader in the global world.

"It was a long process, but it really was worth it."

— Rachel Geller

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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/JULY 2

Comedy Night at Jaxx with Justin Kincaid and Friends. 8 p.m. at Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, West Springfield. \$5. 703-569-5940.

Yo-yo sensation Dick Stohr. 10:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

Book discussion group. Convening at 12 p.m. in the meeting room of the Kingstowne Library. The primary book being discussed will be "Bee Season" by Myra Goldberg. 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

FRIDAY/JULY 3

Hot Society Orchestra of Washington. 7:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. 703-324-SHOW.

L.A. Guns Mis-Fit Reunion 09, Tilt, Sinners Trail and Bitter Pill. 8 p.m. at Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, West Springfield. \$18 in advance, \$20 day of show. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

All Fairfax County Public Libraries are closed for the Independence Day holiday.

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m. at Kingstowne Town Center behind the Sunoco Gas Station.

SATURDAY/JULY 4

Kayak Tour of Historic Alexandria Waterfront. 8-11 a.m. Launches

from Belle Haven Marina, 6401 George Washington Memorial Parkway, Alexandria. Reservation required. \$45. kayak@nvct.org or 703-354-5093.

All Fairfax County Public Libraries are closed for the Independence Day holiday.

SUNDAY/ JULY 5

Plant Clinic put on by Fairfax County Master Gardeners. 1 p.m. in the lobby of the Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Lorton Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Lorton VRE Station Parking Lot, 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton.

MONDAY/JULY 6

Spellbound's Sanctuary All. 8 p.m. at Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, West Springfield. \$10 in advance, \$12 day of show. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

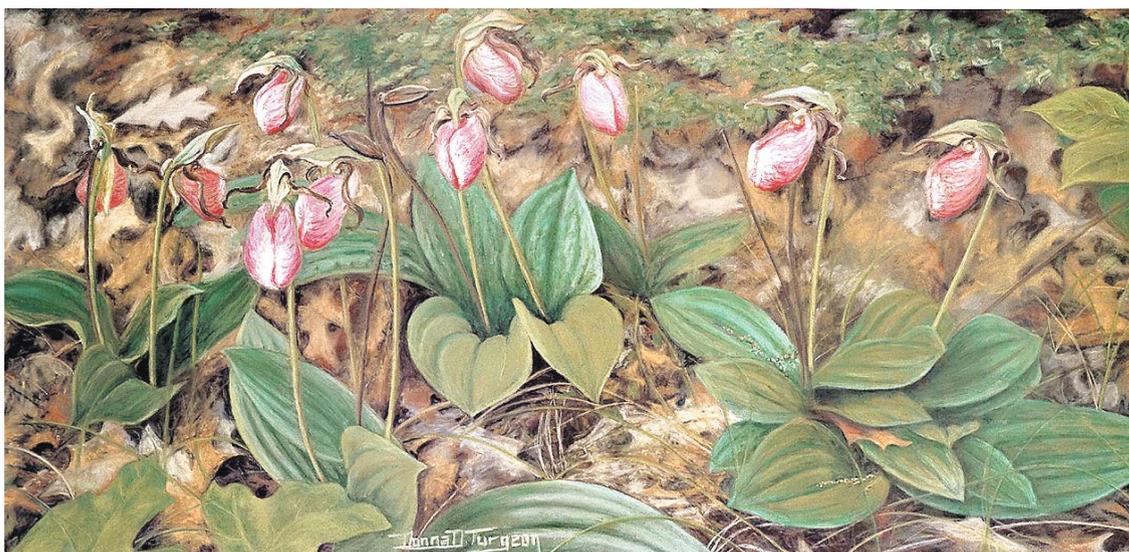
Bar C. puts on an animal show. 10:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. 703-971-0010.

Yo-yo sensation Dick Stohr. 10:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

African Culture show put on by the Cultural Foundation for Children. 2:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

Bar C Ranch puts on animal show. 2:30 p.m. in Pohick Regional Library meeting room, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Plant Clinic. The Fairfax County



Summer Woods

The Artists' Undertaking Gallery in Historic Occoquan presents 'Summer Woods,' an exhibit that will feature the natural beauty of the woods by woodturner Bob Horowitz of Falls Church and watercolor artist Donna Turgeon of Fairfax Station. An artist's reception takes place Saturday, July 25, from 2-7 p.m. The exhibit runs July 7-Aug. 3. The gallery is open daily, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., and is located at 309 Mill St. in Historic Occoquan. For more information contact the gallery at 703-494-0584 or at www.theartistsundertaking.com.

Master Gardeners will be giving gardening advice at 6 p.m. in the lobby of the Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Book discussion group for boys ages 9-12. 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Call the library to find out what books are intended for discussion. 703-978-5600.

Kingstowne in Stitches. Starting at 7 p.m. spend an evening at the conference room of the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria, in the company of fellow needle-workers..703-339-4610.

TUESDAY/ JULY 7

Plant Clinic. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners will be giving gardening advice at 10 a.m. in the lobby of the Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Storytime. At 11:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, children and their parents will enjoy an afternoon telling stories, watching movies and more. 703-249-1520.

Computer tutoring session. 3:30 p.m. in the Burke Centre computer tutoring space of the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Those who attend will receive help using common software applications and navigating the Internet. 703-249-1520.

"Cool Clips" workshop. 4 p.m. in the meeting room of the Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke, to show anyone interested how to make films for the library's "Cool Clips" contest or just for fun. 703-644-7333.

Computer tutoring session. 4:30 p.m. in the Burke Centre computer tutoring space of the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Those who attend will receive help using common software applications and navigating the Internet. 703-249-1520.

Story time! At 7 p.m., the meeting room of the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria, will play host to new parents and their young children as they listen to stories and engage in fun activities. Pajamas and stuffed animals are welcome. 703-339-4610.

Yo-yo sensation Dick Stohr. 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Lorton

Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. 703-339-7385.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 8

King Teddy. 7:30 p.m., at Lee District Park, 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia. 703-324-SHOW.

Conversation group. For people learning English. 10:15 a.m. in the conference room of the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

Award-winning songwriter Ray Owen. He will be talking at 10:30 a.m. in meeting room half of the Pohick Regional Library. 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Adult book discussion group. 2 p.m. at the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. The primary book of discussion will be "Left Behind" by Tim LaHaye. 703-339-4610.

Kingstowne evening book discussion group. Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria, to discuss "The Age of Innocence" by Edith Wharton. 703-339-4610.

Conversation group. Designed for people learning English will meet 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Kingstowne Library. 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

Mother-daughter book discussion group. 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Call the library to register and for book title. 703-978-5600.

Wakefield Farmers Market. 2-6 p.m. at Wakefield Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale.

THURSDAY/JULY 9

Redemption Thursdays. 8 p.m. at Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, West Springfield. \$5 in advance, \$7 day of show. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

Kofi Dennis. At 10:30 a.m. he will lead all in attendance through music, movement and fun in the meeting room of the Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Register all children and adults. 703-339-7385.

Picnic time. At 11:30 a.m. young children and their parents can bring a lunch and enjoy movies in meeting room half at the Pohick Regional

Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. 703-644-7333.

Chess Club Meeting. They will convene at 3:30 p.m. in meeting room half at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn the rules and strategy of chess as well as play the game 703-644-7333.

FRIDAY/JULY 10

Athiest AdMat, Condemn the Infected and A Bloodbath in Boston. 6 p.m. at Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, West Springfield. \$20 in advance, \$23 day of show. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

Falls Church Concert Band. 7:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. 703-324-SHOW.

Story time. At 12 p.m., young children and their parents can enjoy lunch and stories in the meeting room of the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. 703-978-5600.

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m. at Kingstowne Town Center behind the Sunoco Gas Station.

SATURDAY/JULY 11

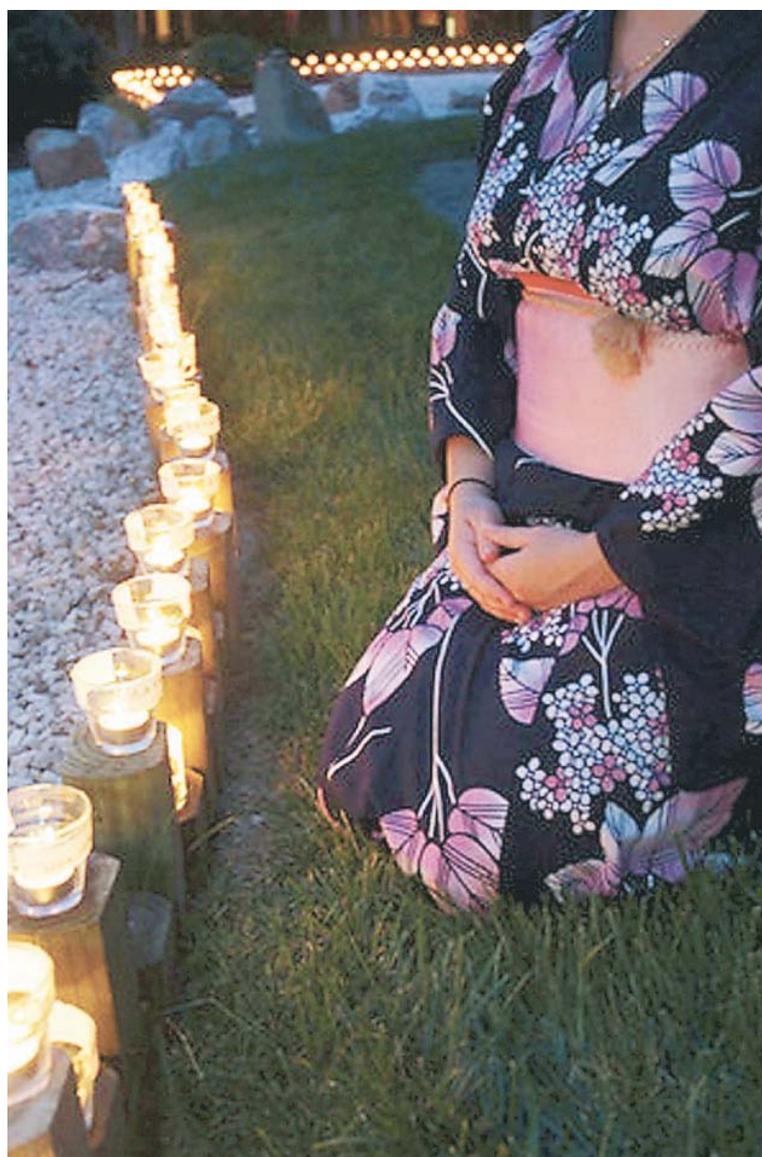
Obon Summer Festival. 5:30-9 p.m., at Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lake Haven Lane, Fairfax Station. Candle illumination, temple tours, Japanese garden, children's games, Japanese dancing and food. 703-239-0500.

Kayak Tour of the Natural & Human History of Pohick Creek. 8-11am. Launches from Pohick Bay Regional Park, 6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton. Reservation required. \$45. kayak@nvct.org or 703-354-5093.

Exercise Paddle Adventure at Pohick Bay. 4:30 p.m. to sunset. \$30 per person or group rate. Reservations required. Paddle trip with interval training and endurance. General good health required. Must be 18 or older. Kayak experience necessary. Contact: 703-339-6104 for reservations. Pohick Bay Regional Park is located at 6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton.

The Kingstowne Library book sale. p.m. at Lorton VRE Station Parking Lot, 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton.

"Alte Kamaraden German." 7:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. 703-324-SHOW.



Stroll through a Japanese garden during Ekoji Buddhist Temple's Obon Summer Festival on Saturday, July 11.

FROM PAGE 4

Gatehouse Road in Falls Church. The feasibility studies will be posted at www.fcps.edu when it is completed and before the School Board work session.

Lorton Crash Claims Life

A 21-year-old Lorton man was killed Friday, June 26, after losing control of his vehicle and crashing into a parked car.

The victim, Allen Thomas Jones, was driving down the 8400 block of Silverdale Court at approximately 11:30 p.m. when he attempted to make a right turn and struck the curb. Jones, who was not wearing a seatbelt, lost control of the car was partially ejected from his 1989 Volkswagon. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to Fairfax County Police Officer Tawny Wright, detectives investigating the accident believe that alcohol may have been a factor, but that speed is not believed to have contributed to the crash.

"They are waiting for toxicology reports to come back," Wright said. "But the detectives who worked [the case] feel that alcohol may have contributed."

Detectives from the Crash Reconstruction Unit were on scene and continue their investigation. According to police, this is the 15th fatal crash in the county this year. At this time last year there had been nine fatal crashes reported.

Bread for Our Daily Bread

Two local organizations are partnering this month to feed the growing number of low-income families

seeking supplemental food and financial assistance in Fairfax County. Our Daily Bread, a nonprofit organization providing food and monetary support to low-income residence, will receive a donated loaf of bread for every Honey Whole Wheat loaf bought from Great Harvest Bread Co. from July 7-11.

The donated loaves will be distributed by Our Daily Bread to families struggling to live in one of the most expensive areas in the country often by working multiple, minimum-wage jobs. The number of clients seeking support from Our Daily Bread has quadrupled in the past year.

During the week of July 7-11, Great Harvest Bread Co. celebrates its fifth anniversary of offering whole-grain nutrition in Burke, Fairfax and Fairfax Station with a Buy One, Give One donation. Our Daily Bread, celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, serves families with an average annual income of \$16,000 who are pre-qualified for support through Fairfax County Coordinated Services.

More than half the clients served are children. Our Daily Bread helps stabilize their living conditions and helps their families attain financial self-sufficiency through biweekly supplemental food deliveries, financial support and mentoring. For more information about Our Daily Bread, see www.Our-Daily-Bread.org. Great Harvest Bread Company is at 6030-G Burke Commons Road in Burke and 8170-B Silverbrook Road in Lorton.

No Support Meetings

The Ostomy Support Group of Northern Virginia LLC does not meet in July and August. The next scheduled meeting will be in September.

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Back Home, Marino Comes Full Circle

Fairfax native enjoys career year, looks for first PGA win at AT&T National.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE CONNECTION

It's a mundane ritual for most golf pros during their practice rounds, signing autographs for children lining the golf course, many of whom aren't sure whose signature they're getting unless it reads "Tiger Woods."

But as Fairfax native Steve Marino played nine holes Tuesday in advance of this week's Washington, D.C. area PGA Tour stop, the AT&T National at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md., he made it a point to autograph anything and everything, whether that meant a shirt, a towel or even someone's back. And he did so with a giant smile on his face.

Marino was thinking back to his not so distant past, when he was one of those local children at the now-defunct Kemper Open, longing to be one of the professionals.

"I'd love going out there to watch it," said Marino, a W.T. Woodson graduate. "I'd come back home and try to imitate people's swings. Now that I'm actually out here, it's a little bit different than I thought it would be, but it's awesome. It's so much fun, I'm having a blast."

For the 29-year-old, his latest homecoming to the area has been one to remember. Marino is currently enjoying his finest year on the PGA Tour, already with three top-10 showings this season, including a second-place finish at the Crowne Plaza Invitational in May. He lost in a playoff to Steve Stricker.



COURTESY OF THE PGA TOUR

Fairfax native and W.T. Woodson grad Steve Marino has three top-10 finishes on the PGA Tour in 2009. This week, he's back in the area to take part in the AT&T National hosted by Tiger Woods.

In the process, Marino has vaulted himself to No. 72 on the world golf rankings and currently sits 28th on the 2009 PGA money list with more than \$1.4 million in earnings.

HE'D LOVE TO get that elusive first professional win at this week's AT&T National, where he'll be surrounded by friends and family. At last year's AT&T National, Marino, the 1999 Virginia State Amateur champion, carded a first round 5-under par 65 and led the tournament heading into Friday's second round.

Though Marino faded down the stretch, finishing T-24th with a 4-under par score, he, or more accurately, his fans left a lasting impression.

A collection of alcohol-aided friends from W.T. Woodson High School, some tag-a-

longs from his playing days at the University of Virginia, and some golfing buddies became the talk of the course, injecting the pristine country club with some much needed Happy Gilmore-esque flair.

"It's like a party out here for them," said Marino on Tuesday, in between signing autographs for the masses. "They come out here, drink beer, get drunk, get loud and they really enjoy themselves, which is what this is all about. You want the fans to come out here and have fun. I think my friends might take that to another level, but they're having fun and it makes it fun for everybody."

His local roots go even deeper, though. At last year's AT&T National, he brought on longtime friend and Oakton graduate G.W. Cable to be his caddy. He has kept him on the bag ever since.

"It's the best time of my life right now."

— Fairfax native and PGA pro Steve Marino

This week, Marino said he's staying with the family of one of those friends, in a nearby Potomac home, rather than coming back to Fairfax. He may reside in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., these days, but his memory of Beltway traffic hasn't faded away.

Aside from golf, Marino plans to catch up with some friends he hasn't seen in awhile, maybe play some pick-up basketball like they used to during high school.

But his focus will be squarely on winning this year's AT&T National, which features a loaded field with top players like Tiger Woods, defending champion Anthony Kim, Jim Furyk, Mike Weir and Lucas Glover in the mix. The total purse for the event is \$6 million, the winner taking home \$1.08 million.

Marino's long, accurate driver — he's currently T-18th on the tour in total driving — and strong first round a year ago have cemented him as a trendy dark horse pick to take home the trophy this year. It would be a fitting end to the week since the 2009 AT&T National is the D.C. area's last professional golf tournament until the 2011 U.S. Open comes to Congressional.

Not that Marino is putting much pressure on himself, he's just enjoying the moment, being back in town riding a wave of success he always dreamed about.

"I don't really have any expectations for this week, I just want to go out and have fun and do the best I can," said Marino. "I just feel like I've been getting a little bit better every year in pretty much all aspects of the game. It's the best time of my life right now."

WEEK IN SPORTS

Ram Golfer Shines

Alexandra Austin of Burke won the Middle Atlantic Golf Association's Junior Girls Championship on Wednesday, June 24. The rising junior at Robinson Secondary School shot a career-low round of 39-39-78 to take the title by one stroke. International Country Club of Fairfax hosted the 51st annual event.

"I made four birdies," Austin said, "but I also made four double bogeys."

Austin spoke proudly of her putting, especially several important par putts. "I made some long ones," she said.

Austin, who plays on the Robinson boys' golf team, has won twice and gained seven, top-10 finishes since 2007 on the Plantation Junior Golf

Tour.

She will play in a prestigious American Junior Golf Association tournament at the Nemaconlin Woodlands Resort in Farmington, Pa. on June 30-July 3. The following week, Austin will play at her home course, Springfield Golf and Country Club, in the Bobby Bowers Memorial.

Lowery Lowers Records

Roman Lowery broke two longtime Fairfax Station pool records during a meet against Overlee on Saturday, June 27, a meet the Flyers won, 279-123. A year ago when he was 8, Lowery broke the Northern

SEE WEEK IN SPORTS, PAGE 14



PHOTO COURTESY OF SYDNEY SAWYER

Molly Roland from Fairfax Station performs a front dive half twist during her team's meet Tuesday against Great Falls, which Roland and Co. eventually won, 52-16.

COMMUNITY

Swimming for Charity

FROM PAGE 3

simple. A tent and table are set up in the corner of the pool where anyone who makes a donation can slip money into an envelope. After supporting the cause with funds, those who donated are invited to swim laps in support of the cause as well.

DREW BOLLEA, head coach of the South Run swim team, appreciated the community support. His mother is a breast cancer survivor and his father is currently dealing with multiple melanoma, a cancer that attacks one's bones. He remembers the scene at the inaugural Swim-a-Thon.

"At one time ... the entire pool was just covered with people swimming," said Bollea. "I think that really shows how much this neighborhood really cares that they're willing to come out here and contribute. The people who were just here at the pool and didn't really know anything about it would walk up and say, 'Hey what is this?' And they'd throw 10 bucks in or something and do a couple laps."

The number of swimmers may have been down from last year, but the checks kept coming in. All of them were made out to Life with Cancer, an organization based in Northern Virginia that provides counseling and helps those afflicted with cancer release their emotions through different art forms such as music and writing.

Laura Murphy, Blake Murphy's mother, was at the

pool all day either swimming laps or working the donation table and was one of the people who suggested the funds be donated to Life with Cancer.

"They really know how to work with [cancer patients] and pull things out that you generally wouldn't get from them, what they're experiencing," said Laura Murphy. "And we like the direct benefits that they see. If you just give it to 'xyz' charity then you don't really see the direct benefits."

THE DIRECT benefit comes in the form of a salt-water fish tank. Life with Cancer wanted to put one of these tanks in an area location to give its building a more serene atmosphere. The tanks cost \$5,000 a piece and they asked the South Run Community Pool to contribute what they could.

That number wound up being in excess of \$1,600 and they expect more to come in the days following the Swim-a-Thon, as the donation envelope remains at the pool's entrance for those who couldn't attend the event.

It may not be enough for a salt-water fish tank, but the emotional support is often what matters most.

Matt Jackson, a member of the South Run community, has no personal ties to cancer but came to swim some laps anyway.

"When you're in a challenging time in your life and people recognize it, there's always something good that comes from that," said Jackson. "It keeps your spirits up."

Lake Braddock

FROM PAGE 3

also be allowed to stay at their base school, since Lake Braddock has no IB program.

This change is part of a larger boundary study, which also moved students from Annandale to Falls Church High School and Poe to Glasgow Middle School.

According to school documents, Annandale was approximately 20 percent over its building capacity this year. If no boundary change is made, staff expects that Annandale would have student population a little under 3,000 students in 2013, even though the school building is only supposed to accommodate a little over 2,100 students.

Several School board members, including Tessie Wilson (Braddock), said immediate action was necessary to address the overcrowding at Annandale.

But a few School Board members, including Dan Storck (Mount Vernon), Tina Hone (At-large), Ilryong Moon (At-large) and Kaye Kory (Mason), voted to conduct a more comprehensive boundary study with a wider spread of schools next fall. Their motion failed.

Kory said the inclusion of Woodson and Stuart high schools, for example, would give the school system more options for relieving Annandale's overcrowding.

Both Hone and Kory said they were very concerned that many of the parents being moved out of Annandale and into Lake Braddock are among the school community's most affluent and active. The boundary change would leave Annandale's community lopsided, with a large population of at-risk students and fewer engaged families, they said.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

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ABC LICENSE
Lorton Arts Foundation, Inc trading as The Workhouse Arts Center, 9517 Workhouse way, Lorton, VA 22079. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for an Annual Mixed Beverage Special Event License to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Sharon Mason, Executive Director

ABC LICENSE
Robin, Inc trading as Annandale Dollar and Gift Store, 7253 Maple Place, Annandale, VA 22003. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer and Wine off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Norul Amin Jahangir, President

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-Archimedes

21 Announcements
ABC LICENSE
Pler Group, Inc trading as Mee-Ga Korean Grill, 4070 Jermantown Rd. #5, Fairfax, VA 22030. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine & Beer on Premise /Mixed Beverage on Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mun Jae Kim, President

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PHOTO COURTESY OF LISA CAMPO

The South County Copperheads won the USSSA-sanctioned U-13 Virginia AAA state tournament. Pictured are, front row, from left, Kyle Delaney, Jon Gentry and Jack Milewski; back row, coach Rick Gentry, Nick Kryza, Danny Herrera, David Gemma, Robbie Baird, Patrick Campo, John Gardner, Harrison Dandridge, Austin Collier, Teddy Badley, Austin Magestro and coach Neil Collier.

FROM PAGE 10

Virginia Swim League's 25-meter backstroke record, and, as a member of the 9-10 boys' division on Saturday, he bested pool record from 2001 in the 50 back with a time of 37.45 seconds. He also broke a 13-year-old pool record in the 25 butterfly, posting a time of 16.00. Other winners for the Flyers included Faith Lowery (U-8 girls' freestyle and breaststroke), Theresa Boyd (U-8 girls' back), Alex Saffran (13-14 boys' free and back), Cory Hansen (13-14 boys' fly), Robbie Munch (15-18 boys' back) and Ricky Munch (15-18 boys' breast). The U-8 girls', 13-14 boys', 15-18 boys' and the mixed-age boys' relay teams were also victorious.

Copperheads Take States

The South County Copperheads beat the Richmond-area Hanover Heat, 9-4, on Sunday, June 21 to win the USSSA-sanctioned U-13 Virginia AAA state tournament at the Virginia Sports Complex in Ruther Glen. This marked the Copperheads' fourth tournament championship win for the spring season. The Copperheads also prevailed in the Virginia Sports Complex Commonwealth Classic in March, the Cougar Clash in April and the Virginia Sports Complex Bring the Heat

Tournament in May. The Copperheads will conduct tryouts for their fall 2009 roster at Occoquan Regional Park's Field No. 4, 9751 Ox Road, Lorton, on Thursday, July 7 at 6 p.m. Learn more about the Copperheads at www.southcountycopperheads.org or contact coach Rick Gentry at ricmikjon@yahoo.com.

WEEK IN SPORTS

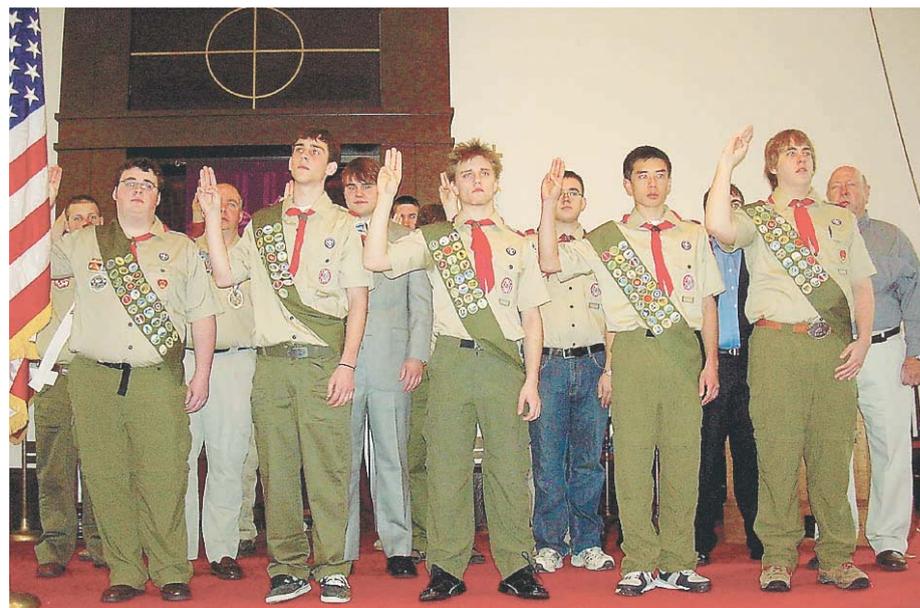
Diving Right In

The Fairfax Station dive team won its first meet of the season last Tuesday, June 23 by a score of 52-16 over Great Falls. First-place finishers included Emily Weidner, Tyler Hazard, Mackenzie Wessling, Zach Monday, Molly Rowland, Andrew Pascual, Ray Skaddan.

PEOPLE NOTES



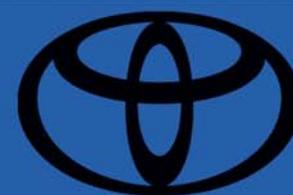
Mial Fessenden
Six Eagles Soar
In Clifton Troop



Recently, Boy Scout Troop 1104 recognized several scouts for their accomplishment of Eagle Scout. Chris Marr, Bobby Richard, Zach Schebish, Will Ridenour and Chris Messier were all recognized at an Eagle Court of Honor. In this photo they are surrounded by all their brother Eagles from the audience and they are affirming their Eagle Oath. Eight days later, one of the other scouts in the background, Mial Fessenden had his Eagle Court of Honor. Based in Clifton, Troop 1104 has had 86 scouts earn the rank of Eagle in its 40-year history

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LAKERIDGE - RIDGELEIGH \$309,000

Beautifully sited in sought after RIDGELEIGH with a spectacular river view - backs to trees. Immaculate 3 BR, 3 finished level townhome with walk-out to custom patio. Extended bump-outs on three levels. To preview this property or for more information please call ANN WITHERSPOON 703.503.1836



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Springfield \$399,000 "Davenport"

Updated 3-level townhome backing to trees! Beautiful gourmet kitchen w/granite counters and stainless steel appliances plus upper level has vaulted ceilings! Lower level features gas fireplace in recreation room with sliding glass door opening to fenced rear deck! Great location for commuters, neighborhood pool, tennis & trails.

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Fairfax Station \$1,049,000 This is Virginia!

Beautiful Williamsburg Colonial with an incredible setting. This 5 acre estate offers a home that will wow you, a POOL, setting that is perfect for gatherings and a BARN with fenced pasture area. So many recent updates throughout this 5 bedroom/3.5 bath home. It truly has it all! This is absolutely one of the prettiest settings/locations in Fairfax Station.



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Custom Built Estate, Original Owners built dream home on dream lot in outstanding neighborhood. Absolutely breathtaking detail both inside & out! Banquet-sized dining room, elegant custom library, two master suites, gourmet kitchen, each bd ensuite, walk out LL w custom bar & wine cellar and recreation room. Cul-de-sac 5 acre setting!



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Manassas \$475,000

Beautiful 5 BR/3.5 BA colonial in retreat-like setting. Expansive home on over an acre in sought after North Shore on the Occoquan! Call for details!

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From the Beltway (495), take Rte. 66 West to the Nutley St. South Exit (exit 62) towards Fairfax. Go through the intersection of Lee Highway and Nutley Street. The training center is located in the Pan Am Shopping Center on the left.

TO REGISTER:
Please contact Mary Ann Plonka at 703-503-1898 or maryann.plonka@longandfoster.com



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Fairfax Station \$798,500

Gorgeous 4BR, 2.5BA updated, waterfront Colonial on 5+ wooded acres. Charming interior with all modern conveniences. Updated kitchen, baths, Pella windows, Hardiplank exterior, landscaping & new HVAC. Picturesque view of lake, tiered deck, foot bridges, creek, and in-ground pool. Convenient yet completely private location.



Riverview Estates/Manassas \$900,000

Waterfront 5 BR, 5.5 BA Colonial on 2.4 acres overlooking the Occoquan. Main level bedroom, gourmet kitchen, two story great room, huge deck & hot tub. Huge upper level master suite with balcony, luxury bath, 3 walk-in closets & fireplace. Walk-out lower level with bar, recreation room, billiards room, theater room & basketball court!



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