

Burke CONNECTION

Festive For All

Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5412 Tom Troy, Dave Courter, Scott Logan and Brian Engler stand with U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) at their booth.

NEWS, PAGE 3



Central Command For Emergencies

NEWS, PAGE 16



Epstein, Bruins Win Invitational

SPORTS, PAGE 17

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PHOTOS BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

A young girl is led on a horse at the Burke Centre Festival.

Something for Everybody at Burke Festival

The 32nd annual festival provided one last weekend of summer fun.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

With a team of dedicated volunteers, two days packed with entertainment and a little help from the weather, the 32nd annual Burke Centre Festival was a rousing success again this year.

Though final numbers were not available at press time, the turnout was massive, with many attendees saying that this installment was the best they have ever seen.

"The weather looked a little iffy [Saturday morning] and there was a slow start compared to other years, but by noon we were hopping," said Patrick Gloyd, executive director of the Burke Centre Conservancy. "Everyone is saying that this is the best festival we've ever had."

This year's fair had something for every taste, with dozens of vendor booths that sold everything from wooden guns to sand art and 14 live performances that featured everything from Beatles cover songs to dance teams. Adults enjoyed jazz and a glass of red or white in Saturday's wine garden, while children could snack on fried dough and ice cream and went on rides.

"When the kids were little, we came for the children's booths," said Burke resident Terry Henning, who attended with his wife, Mary. "Now that we are empty nesters, we come for the wine booths and look forward to meeting our friends and neighbors."

In addition to a whole new wave of visi-

tors brought in by an unsolicited, surprise announcement by radio station WASH 97.1, the festival also welcomed many familiar faces who return year after year for the sense of community that the festival elicits.

"I come every year," said U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), who had a booth at the festival. "It's a great community event; a real expression of the Burke community. The Conservancy does great work every year."

Like Connolly, other area residents are also making the festival an annual event to mark on their calendars. Beth Gill, who attended the fair with her young children, said that she and her family moved to the area recently, but has come to the festival every year. It is families like these, the Conservancy hopes, who will carry on the tradition and make the festival a success for years to come.

"We have come here every year for the past six years," Gill said. "It never gets old. We love it."



The band 'Never Too Late' pleased the crowd with several Beatles covers.



Children line up to ride down the large, inflatable slide.

"Everyone is saying that this is the best festival we've ever had."

— Patrick Gloyd, Burke Centre Conservancy, executive director



A boy scales an inflatable, mock-climbing wall at the Burke Centre Festival.



Taking a train ride.

Toddler Drowns in Ornamental Pool

A 14-month-old Springfield boy died after drowning in an ornamental pond Sunday, Sept. 13.

According to police, the boy, identified as Jack Luong, fell into a 17-inch deep ornamental pond in the yard of his home, located at 8720 Parliament Drive at approximately 4 p.m. He lived at the home with his parents and several siblings.

"Police are still investigating the exact circumstances, but we do know that family members were home," said police spokesman Lucy Caldwell.

The boy was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital where he was pronounced dead. An autopsy performed by the Medical Examiners Office Monday, Sept. 14 preliminarily determined the cause of death to be drowning.

Packing Day for Military Personnel

Little River Glen Senior Center is hosting a Packing Day to gather and pack donated items as care packages for service men and women overseas. Packing Day is Saturday, Sept. 26, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. This project is being conducted in conjunction with the America's Adopt a Soldier program.

Members of the community may collect or donate unused items to pack in the boxes. All items can be dropped off at Little River Glen Senior Center. Community members may also donate funds to ship one or more boxes. The cost to mail one box is approximately \$13. Make a check or money order payable to USPS (United States Postal Service). Checks or money orders can be mailed or delivered to the Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax, VA 22032.

Family Night Out

The Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services' Teen Center Division will host a free "Family Night Out" Monday, Sept. 28, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

This year's Family Night Out activities will take place simultaneously at seven locations throughout the county. Seniors from Kingstowne Center for Active Adults, Little River Glen Senior Center and Sully Senior Center will have dinner with a family. They will share a meal with their families, and the evening will include activities, gifts and prizes.

Area families can take part in the event at the following locations:

❖ David R. Pinn Community Center

10225 Zion Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-250-9181, TTY 711

❖ Lynbrook Soccer Program*

Lynbrook Elementary School
5801 Backlick Road
Springfield, VA 22150
703-324-TEEN

❖ Mott Community Center

12111 Braddock Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-278-8605, TTY 711

❖ Yorkville Cooperative

3146 Draper Drive
Fairfax, VA 22031
703-324-TEEN

Advance registration is required. Call one of the centers listed above by Sept. 14 to RSVP. For more details, contact Torrey Piper at 703-324-TEEN, TTY 711 or Torrey.Piper@fairfaxcounty.gov.

NEWS

Fund-Raiser to Help Family and More

"We're hoping for a big turnout."

— KT Lynch

Fair Lakes woman in Conquer Chiari walk.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Chantilly High Assistant Principal KT Lynch doesn't have Chiari Malformation, but one of her sisters and a niece do. So next week, Lynch, of Fair Lakes, will participate in a fund-raising walk to raise money to help them and others.

The Conquer Chiari Walk Across America will be held Saturday, Sept. 26, at 8:30 a.m. at Ida Lee Recreation Center in Leesburg. It's at 60 Ida Lee Drive, N.W., off Route 15. The course is just one mile, and this walk is one of 30 being held simultaneously across the nation for this disorder.

"We're hoping for a big turnout because I know how it's affected my family," said Lynch. "And if we can raise any money for research, it can help those who have it and lessen the heartache, trials and trauma for others who may be unaware they have it."

Chiari Malformation is a neurological condition in which the bottom part of the brain, the cerebellum, descends out of the skull and crowds the spinal cord, putting pressure on both the brain and spine. The results are problems including debilitating headaches, neck pain, weakness and numbness in the limbs, balance problems and visual disturbances.

It affects more than 300,000 people in the U.S. and one in 1,000 people nationwide have it. Still, said Lynch's sister, Teresa Wheeler of Leesburg, "Most people have never heard of it. It can happen from trauma or injury, but it can also be congenital — and that's why research money is so important to help find out these things, raise awareness and get people involved."

ANOTHER SISTER, Patti Sinnen of Waterford, believes hers happened in a bus accident when she was 30. She sprained her lumbar region and has suffered with severe migraine headaches and a sensitivity to light, sound, and touch, ever since.

"The only way to tell you have it is by an MRI," said Wheeler. "There are still doctors who don't



The three sisters (from left) Teresa Wheeler, KT Lynch and Patti Sinnen with Wheeler's daughter Grace, 9.

know about it." Added Sinnen: "They still don't know if it's hereditary."

Wheeler hasn't been diagnosed with it, but her daughter Grace, 9, has. "This piece of brain hangs down, like an internal tail down the back of your neck," said Wheeler. "And anytime you bend or move your head, it causes pain and can block the flow of spinal-cord fluid to the brain."

When Grace was a toddler, said her mom, "When she'd get her hair cut, she'd freak out bending back at the shampoo bowl because of the pressure it placed on her brain. It caused her a lot of pain."

"But I couldn't really explain," said Grace. "I would just scream and yell." Finally, when she was 6 and having double vision, a pediatric ophthalmologist discovered her problem.

Her symptoms continued worsening and, in May, she was operated on successfully. Her Chiari no longer presses against her spine or skull. Said Sinnen: "It has more space now so the pressure is relieved."

However, said Wheeler, "Only children can have this surgery; it can't be done on adults." So Sinnen still suffers.

"Even atmospheric changes in pressure affect her," said Lynch. "So whenever a weather front is coming, I call Patti to see if she's OK. Your skull protects your brain from these changes; but with the brain tail hanging out, it's like a lightning rod."

THAT'S WHY they're hoping to raise at least \$12,500 from the walk. "For years, we've done an Alzheimer's walk because our mom has it," said Lynch. "But

when we learned there was no walk for Chiari in the Washington Metropolitan area, Teresa and Patti organized this first one, along with Patti's daughter Kelly, who's 24."

The proceeds go to Conquer Chiari, the national nonprofit organization working on research and awareness. "To participate, they're asking for \$25 donations, but people may give whatever they want," said Wheeler. To register for the walk, or make a tax-deductible donation, go to www.conquerchiari.org/index.htm. Registration may also be done in person that day.

There'll be music and refreshments, and two Washington Redskins cheerleaders will also be at the walk. Ruffled off will be a Redskins mini-helmet donated by running back Clinton Portis.

"We'll also have door prizes," said Sinnen. "Any business wanting to donate anything may contact us at chiarimom@ymail.com."

"There's also a variety of kids' activities," added Lynch. "Since I used to be an art teacher, I'm going to do face painting. I'll also be walking with my family, and Chantilly National Honor Society members can receive service hours for working at this event."

Two years ago, Lynch had a student at Chantilly with Chiari. But already knowing about this disorder helped her work with that student's family and teachers to develop "good educational strategies" for the student.

Now, she hopes lots of people with Chiari will be helped by Virginia's first, fund-raising walk for it. As for the three sisters, said Lynch, "This is what our family does — we all pull together."

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

OBITUARY

Peter John Morgan

Peter Morgan, 20, beloved son of Kent and Julie Morgan, died Sept. 6 in a one-car accident. He was born and raised in Burke. He enjoyed painting and drawing. He delivered food to the homeless for FACETS during his high school years. He graduated from Robinson Secondary School in 2007 and was an accomplished athlete and leader in the Robinson Football program. He pursued higher education and played football at Christopher Newport University for two years. He was currently a student at Thomas Nelson Community College, pursuing construction management.

Peter is survived by his parents, Kent and Julie; brother, Danny; sisters, Laura and Emily; and grandparents, Richard and Dolores Baker, Wally and Sirgute Morgan.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the "Peter Morgan Memorial Fund", sent to 6225 Wilmette Drive, Burke, VA 22015. The fund will provide a scholarship to deserving student-athletes from Robinson Secondary School in their pursuit of higher education.

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More Advanced Courses

More participation in upper level courses bodes well for students headed to college.

Fairfax County schools reported this week that about 20,000 students are taking at least one Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course this fall, an increase of 700 over last year.

Students benefit from participating in advanced level coursework in many ways. Coping with even one class with higher-level expectations helps in preparation for college classes. Completing advanced courses in high school is a good indication of a student's abil-

ity to complete college level work. While that ability is just one element of college success — organization, time management, discipline and more are major factors — the confidence that comes with the experience is key.

Many students who have taken a full AP or IB program report an easier time with the academics of their first year of college, although there are no doubt plenty of other adjustments to make.

Students who take a full complement of AP or IB coursework also lay the groundwork for getting more out of college, and possibly paying less.

A good score on AP or IB exams can be counted for credit in some colleges, so a student with many advanced credits from high school can move directly into upper levels of courses when they arrive in college. And with

credit, some students are able to graduate in three or three-and-a-half years, potentially saving tens of thousands of dollars in the meantime.

Parents and students in schools that offer International Baccalaureate instead of Advanced Placement should know that students who successfully complete an IB course are likely to perform well on the related AP exam, and would be well advised to register to take that AP test. While most colleges accept an AP score of 3 or more for either credit or placement, some colleges are still less consistent about how they handle IB test results. Having the AP test score can make the process in college much simpler. High schools offering IB should also be encouraging their students to take the AP exams.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Health Care, Who Needs It?

To the Editor:

We do. As a senior citizen here in Fairfax County, I need it. And for free. We senior citizens have been paying for it out of our first paycheck since we had Social Security deducted from my first full-time job 65 years ago.

The U.S. constitution says, in part, we are all to be treated equal. Of course, we know that is not how it works today. The privileged have their own health care, the poor do not and the middle class is having a most difficult time paying for it.

The jobless is another problem group of folks. They have no jobs because the wealthy, who have their health care, laid us off, so they can continue to increase their yearly bonus.

Is the current system fair? Of course not. Whenever we, as citizens, demand Congress, who holds our tax dollars in the palm of their hands, to stop taking in donations for their reelection campaigns from drug companies, in-

surance companies and banks, who underwrite loans for insurance and drug companies — until we demand our elected and pre-elected officials to stop these somewhat legal, but unethical ways, only then can we all look to our leaders and expect health care reform to be applied equally for us all to have a chance to be healthy.

Ronald L. Baker
Springfield

Choice Is Clear

To the Editor:

I'm intrigued at the discontinuity between Bob McDonnell's (R) claims and his record.

Much has been written lately of McDonnell's Regent University thesis, "The Republican Party's Vision for the Family." It was written 20 years ago, and Mr. McDonnell says his views have changed. But have they? The language in his 1989 ringing call for change included, among other things, labeling feminism one of the "real enemies of the traditional family" and saying that federal tax

cuts for child care costs encourage women to enter the workforce (the horror!). He called a government safety net for the neediest a socialist effort to destroy the family.

There were many more cries of alarm, and yet candidate McDonnell says he modified his views in the years after leaving Regent University. Really? Then why — over the next 14 years in the state legislature — did he push, sometimes successfully, to enact 10 of the 15 points in his thesis? Mr. McDonnell's excuse that "that was then, this is now" has a hollow ring.

By contrast, Mr. McDonnell's opponent for governor, Creigh Deeds (D), has a consistent record of support for women, for public education and for increasing economic opportunity in the commonwealth. He favors a tax cut for small business for each job it provides, as well as common-sense solutions to our pressing transportation problems. And Mr. Deeds' positions have been consistent throughout his record of public service.

To me, the choice is clear: Creigh Deeds.

Edward L. Jaffee
Springfield

'Family Values' vs. Right to Choose

To the Editor:

Every year we have an election in Virginia. This year is of particular concern for me. The types of candidates I see on the Republican side are determined to bring back "family values" according to McDonnell, and that scares me.

Jane Blechman
Fairfax Station

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.

By e-mail: info@connectionnewspapers.com

AROUND TOWN

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

The Accotink Academy Volunteer Program enables students to learn job skills at no cost to the employer, through the On the Job Training Program. Contact Jason Norton at 703-451-8041 Ext. 281 or 202-391-4111.

Franconia Museum, located in the Franconia Government Center building at 6121 Franconia Road, Franconia, is open Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Members of the Board of Directors staff the museum and are on hand to take questions and discuss local history. The Franconia Museum is a private, non-profit local history museum dedicated to preserving the past, present and future of the Franconia area in pictures, artifacts and stories. On Wednesdays, Jac Walker is on hand to help Franconia residents begin writing their personal story of growing up in the area.

The Fairfax County Park Authority has trail maps illuminating the network of over 200 miles of trails throughout the county. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/trailsframe.htm to download maps of the nationally recognized Cross County Trail and other popular stream valley trails. The maps show the nearest points to access a trail, the location of stream crossings, and provide trail descriptions and distances.

The Fairfax County Park Authority and Fairfax County Animal

Shelter offer discounted dog-training courses to those who adopt a dog from the county shelter. Adoptive families who attend a Park Authority workshop receive a coupon for half-off tuition for the Park Authority Obedience I or Puppy Kindergarten class. Conditional upon completion of the course. For more about dogs available for adoption, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animalservices or call 703-830-1100. For more about FCPA dog training classes, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Northern Virginia callers may now dial 2-1-1 to receive information and referrals for local health and human services. CrisisLink, which provides regional hotlines, will answer 2-1-1 daily, from 8 a.m. to 12 a.m., or residents may call the City of Fairfax's human services coordinator weekdays, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding holidays, at 703-385-7894.

The City of Fairfax operates a 24-hour drop-off center for recyclables at the property yard located at 3410 Pickett Road. The center accepts a variety of items, including paper, glass, aluminum, recyclable batteries, automotive batteries, plastic beverage containers and metal cans. Additionally, residents may drop off used motor oil and filters weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., excluding holidays, at the center. White paper is accepted at the center and also in the blue recycling bins behind the City Hall Annex, which is accessible 24 hours a day. Household hazardous waste must be taken to the Fairfax County Interstate 66 Complex at 4618 West Ox Road. 703-324-5068. A fee may be assessed for some items.

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

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

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

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NEWS



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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

At the first station in the drill, the greeting unit includes Fairfax medical corps volunteers Rod Bubeck, Deborah Hardy and program manager Dianne Quebral.

Get Ready Fairfax

Members of the Fairfax County Health Department, Fairfax Medical Reserve Corp volunteers and community and county partners conducted a drill Saturday, Aug. 15, at a mock medication dispensing site in the parking lot of the South County Government Center. The exercise was funded by a grant from the Department of Homeland Security.

Another drill is scheduled for the beginning of September in the Reston Town Center.



Fairfax County Health Department staff members Maria Leonard and Marisa Lengor provide information on the flu virus.



Firefighters Joseph Herrera, Brendan Downing and Matt Helmuth.

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Schools See More Teacher Applicants

Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Dale said 29,000 people applied for teaching positions in the school system this year, which is about 10,000 more people than applied for Fairfax County teaching positions in 2008.

"That says something about the economic climate and people trying to get into a more stable employment situation," said Dale.

The school system hired a total of 943 new teachers overall, according to school system documents.

AP/IB Enrollment Increase

More Fairfax County public school students are taking an interest in Advanced Placement (AP) classes and the International Baccalaureate (IB) program this year.

AP and IB classes are considered more rigorous and can be used by high school students to acquire college credit and ultimately save money on undergraduate tuition.

According to School Superintendent Jack Dale, 700 more high school students are enrolled in AP and IB classes for the 2009-2010 school year than in the 2008-2009 school year, for a total of approximately 20,000 students taking at least one AP or IB class overall.

The number of students who are seeking an IB diploma — which requires the students to take IB for two years — is up 10 percent from last year as well, he said.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

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SCHOOLS

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

Timothy Academy offers classes every Saturday, from 9 a.m., at Virginia Korean Baptist Church, 7200 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Classes offered: basketball, judo, piano, violin, viola, guitar, drum and saxophone. Contact Rebekah Yang at 703-727-5144 or jhjumma@yahoo.com.

The American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra is seeking upright bass players at the elementary or middle school levels, and tuba players at the middle or high school level, to join the orchestra program. Contact Holly Hanneke at 703-642-8051, ext. 24 or hhanneke@aypo.org.

The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, National Leadership Trainers Halstead Inc. and Sylvan Learning Center, McLean have created leadership/fitness training program for students in grades seven through 12. The training will incorporate vigorous fitness exercise with the nationally accepted Rising Star leadership program. The program is not directed to any one group or sex.

Proper nutrition, weight training techniques, cardio techniques and body motion will be taught by the JCCNV-certified personal trainers. The students will have complete access to all the facilities at the JCCNV including the pool, basketball gym, and weight/fitness room.

The Rising Star leadership program teaches leadership skills, goal setting and successful achievement of those goals, time management, study habits and many more skills teens today need to succeed later in life. The training is 12 weeks long with one session in the morning before school and one in the evening after school. Constant parent/instructor contact is available and encouraged. Each student will receive a free one-year membership to the JCCNV so they will continue to have access to the facilities and instructors. The JCCNV is at 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. Contact Curtis Doss, Sports Development Coordinator, at 703-537-3028 or curtisd@jccnv.org.

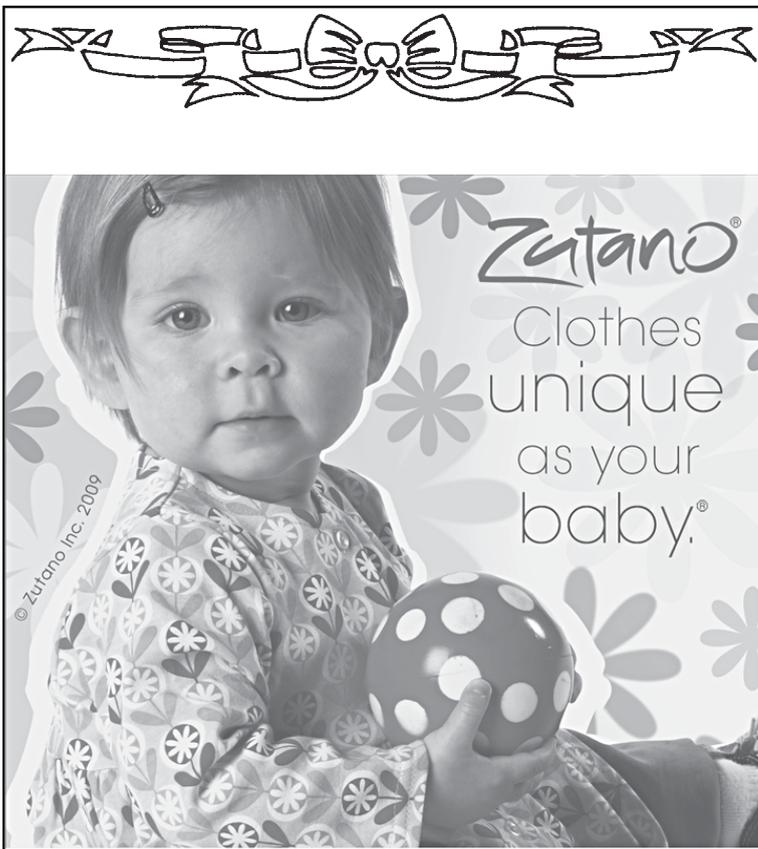
Brett Anders of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, who plans to study sustainable design in college, has received a National Merit Accenture Scholarship, a corporate-sponsored scholarship from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Corporate-sponsored merit scholarship awards are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and range from \$500 to \$10,000 per year. Others provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Recipients can use the awards at regionally accredited U.S. colleges or universities of their choice.

Zachary Greer of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, who plans to study computer science in college, has received a National Merit Lockheed Martin Scholarship, a corporate-sponsored scholarship from the National Merit

Scholarship Corporation. Corporate-sponsored merit scholarship awards are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and range from \$500 to \$10,000 per year. Others provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Recipients can use the awards at regionally accredited U.S. colleges or universities of their choice.

Susan Lee of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, who plans to study linguistics in college, has received a National Merit General Dynamics Scholarship, a corporate-sponsored scholarship from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Corporate-sponsored merit scholarship awards are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and range from \$500 to \$10,000 per year. Others provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Recipients can use the awards at regionally accredited U.S. colleges or universities of their choice.

Jacob McAuliffe of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, who plans to study medicine in college, has received a National Merit CACI Scholarship, a corporate-sponsored scholarship from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Corporate-sponsored merit scholarship awards are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and range from \$500 to \$10,000 per year. Others provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Recipients can use the awards at regionally accredited U.S. colleges or universities of their choice.



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CALENDAR

To have community events listed, send to south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

Are You 50 or Better? Come to the Lunch N' Life sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke 12-2 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Randolph Bragg will give a "Spirited" Presentation: George Washington's Distillery at Mount Vernon. Seating is limited. For reservations, call Faye Quesenberry at 703-620-0161 by Sept. 10. The cost is \$8; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office 703-323-4788. For more info on SCFB, see www.fairfax-burkesc.org.

Nuts About Squirrels! 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories, songs and activities about squirrels. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

Afternoon Reading Group. 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Atoneum by Ian McEwan. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Ballyhoo, Black White Radio, Monako and Prettier In Person. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

The Hits of the Beatles. 6:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

29th Annual Fall Mosby's

Confederacy Bus Tour sponsored by the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society. The Tour Leaders will be Don Hakenson, Gregg Dudding and Eric Buckland. The bus will be leaving the Truro Rectory at 8:30 a.m. We will be visiting various sites in Marshall (Salem) and Rectortown as well as the Caleb Rector House, and more, arriving back at Truro around 5:50 p.m. Price: \$65 members of the Stuart-Mosby Society \$75 for non-members. Contact Don Hakenson, 703-971-4984 or dhakenson@cox.net; Gregg Dudding, wdudding@cox.net. Send a check made payable to Don Hakenson to Don Hakenson, 4708 Lillian Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310.

Country Western Dance sponsored by The Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association will be a smoke-free, alcohol-free dance. 7:30-11 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. \$10 for NVCWDA members, \$12 for non-members, and \$5 for ages 16-20 with student ID. www.nvcwda.org or 703-860-4941.

Learn and enjoy the Two Step, Waltz, Line, Swing, Cha Cha, and other specialty dances. Couples and singles are welcome. Snacks and drinks will be available.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-11 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. 703-978-5600.

Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information and advice. 703-293-6227.

Truro Church Used Book Sale. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Truro Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Huge outdoor book sale on the front lawn. Book

donations may be dropped off at Truro Church-Common Grounds, Sept. 8-17, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Hits of the Beatles at 2 p.m., **Rocknocoeros Family Happy Hour** at 7 p.m., and **Chainsaw Baby CD Release, Trauma DeVille VA CD Release and Sore Eyes** at 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/ SEPT. 20

Anniversary of Birth of Confederate Battle Flag. 4:30 p.m., at the corner of Main and Oak streets, Fairfax. Author and local historian Ed Trexler will speak at the Frank Stringfello2 Camp #822 Sons of Confederate Veterans ceremony. Free. 703-250-8705 or stringfellowbuva@worldnet.att.net.

Lecture by Mark Vogl on "Jefferson Davis, American Patriot, American President." 6 p.m., at the Panera Bread, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Hosted by Frank Stringfello Camp #822 Sons of Confederate Veterans. Vogl's first book, "Military Lessons of the Civil War," was published in the spring of 2007 and received the Jefferson Davis Historical Gold medal from the United Daughters of the Confederacy. \$5. 703-250-8705 or stringfellowbuva@worldnet.att.net.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 703-644-7333.

"Grand" Piano Celebration. Jean Carrington Cook Memorial Scholarship Concert featuring Mason's Piano Faculty and Scholarship Students. 3 p.m., at

Concert Hall, George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets: \$15 adult, \$10 senior, students free.

"Chopin for Lovers!" Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel. 7 p.m., at Concert Hall, George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets: \$38, \$30, \$19. Youth through grade 12, half price.

Truro Church Used Book Sale. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Truro Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Huge outdoor book sale on the front lawn. Book donations may be dropped off at Truro Church-Common Grounds, Sept. 8-17, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Poetry reading by poet Scott Cairns, book signing and reception 7 p.m. in the Chapel.

Premiere of "Spies in Crinoline," a docudrama about Civil War heroines Antonia Ford and Laura Ratcliffe will be shown at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., at Cinema Arts Theatre, which is located in Fair City Mall, near Route 236 and Pickett Road in Fairfax. Tickets \$5. For more information go to: <http://www.cinemaartstheatre.com/>.

The Pork Dukes, S.P.O.T.S., Jumpship (ex-Images) and Point Blank at 1 p.m. and **Tony Lucca, Jay Nash, Matt Duke and Christopher Williams** at 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/SEPT. 21

One-on-One eAudiobook Training. 6 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to download digital audiobooks to a personal computer and portable MP3 player. Call to sign up. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Kid Science: It's Electric! 2 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450



Traci Oberle and Marni Maree Exhibit at Vale Arts Show

Watercolorist Traci Oberle of Burke and Marni Maree of Springfield will exhibit their most recent work Oct 2-4, at the Vale Arts Fall ART Show in Oakton. The nine member ValeArts will exhibit more than 125 original works in the three day show. Maree has prepared a series of ever-colorful watercolor florals for the show while Oberle has experimented with the abstract in a group of mixed media pieces. The varied paintings will hang in the 1888 Vale school-house, which had been used as a Fairfax county school until the 1930s. Hours are: Friday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3 and 4, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Free.

Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories, discussion and experiments about electricity. Age 4-6 with adult. 703-644-7333.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 6 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 703-644-7333.

"Global Warming: Science, Adaptation and Mitigation" by Jagadish Shukla. 7 p.m., at Concert Hall, George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free.

Open Mic Showcase hosted by Ron Goad. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 22

Speaker: Ralph Eubanks. 6 p.m., at City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Memoirist Ralph Eubanks, director of publishing at the Library of Congress, is the author of "Ever Is a Long Time: A Journey Into Mississippi's Dark Past" and "The House at the End of the Road: The Story of Three Generations of an Interracial Family in the American South." www.fallforthebook.org.

Computer Tutoring. 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. One-on-one help with computers, common software applications and navigating the Internet. Call to sign up. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Author Ralph Eubanks. 6 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Eubanks is the director of publishing at the Library of Congress and author of "The House at the End of the Road." 703-293-6227.

BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

SATURDAYS

Al-Anon Beginner's Meeting. 7-8 p.m., at Messiah Methodist Church, Room 212, 6215 Rolling Road, Springfield. See www.AlAnonVA.com for more information and meeting times. For those whose life has been affected by another person's drinking, Al-Anon may help. Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of relatives and Friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength and hope in order to solve their common problems.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

Western Fairfax Republican Women's Club. 6:30 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center (Sully District Station), 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Meeting and presentation by the speaker, Jim Gilmore, former governor of Virginia will begin at 7 p.m. after the social. For more, visit <http://www.wfrw.org/>.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

Democratic Women of Clifton will host U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) 3-5 p.m., at Clifton Community Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Connolly will discuss how a bill is made and the upcoming Virginia elections. Parking available in the parking lot next to the shops.

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11:30 a.m. worship service
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For more information, please contact Rev. Bernard Snowden at 703-425-0710

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Command Sargent Major Michael W. Williams asked all veterans to stand up during the 9/11 ceremony.
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Presented by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, "Spirit of America" is the story of soldiers past and present, generations of men and women who, for more than 230 years, in times of war and peace, have left families and friends to serve their country.
More than 300 active duty soldiers performed historical reenactments, musical entertainment and precision military drill at the Patriot Center last weekend.
The U.S. Army band plays a set at the Spirit of America concert.

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FAITH

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Join Congregation Adat Reyim for the High Holidays: Rosh Hashanah Services Friday evening, Sept. 18; Saturday, Sept. 19 and Sunday, Sept. 20, with a family service open to the community on Saturday at 2 p.m. Take part in the Community Tashlich Service on Sunday, Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. Yom Kippur Services begin with Kol Nidre, Sunday evening, Sept. 27 and Monday, Sept. 28, with a family service open to the community at 2 p.m. Tickets are available for non-members. For more information and times, call 703-569-7577, or visit AdatReyim.org.

Saint Peter's in the Woods hosts its Annual Community Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 5911 Fairview Woods Drive, Fairfax Station. spiwmain@vacoxxmail.com. Free. Games, entertainment, face-painting, moon bounce and more.

Parenting: The Early Years Class. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, will offer a six-session video study for parents of young children on Mondays from 7-9 p.m. starting Oct 5-Nov 16 (no class on Oct. 12). \$15 registration fee, which includes a workbook. To register, contact Frank at 703-971-5151 ext.112, or e-mail dce@franconiaumc.org. Web site: <http://www.franconiaumc.org>.

Community Days at Harvest Church. Saturday, Oct. 3 and Sunday, Oct. 4. Bring the whole family to Saturdays events from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and will include inflatables, rock wall, pony rides, face painting, magic show, drawings for prizes, etc. On Sunday a special one-hour community service will begin at 10:30 a.m. highlighting the various ministries of the church. Grand prizes will be given away on Sunday. Must be present to win and at least 18 years of age. Free. Harvest Church is lo-

cated at 7401 Beulah St., Kingstowne. Call 703-971-7070 or visit www.harvestchurchag.org.

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

♦ **A Community of Contagious Joy.** Sunday Worship: 8:15 a.m., with Holy Communion every Sunday; and 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month.

♦ **Heartline:** An interactive praise and worship service, Sunday evenings at 7 p.m.

Fairfax Presbyterian Church worship services are at 8:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at 10723 Main St., Fairfax. Contact 703-273-5300 or fpc@fairfaxpresby.com.

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

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

Lord of Life Lutheran Church presents Financial Peace University, a video-based small group study that teaches families how to beat debt, build wealth and better manage their finances. Contact Arlene K. Darke at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. 703-323-9500 or adarke@lordoflifelutheran.com.

New Women's Bible Study meets at Jubilee Christian Center on Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m.-12 p.m. The study will focus on "Spirit, Soul, and Body" by Andrew Wommack. \$10 per person. Nursery provided for registered children. 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

The Fresh Fire congregation meets every Sunday for a service at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Sackey and his congregation invite all to participate in preaching and teaching, praise and worship, in a Christ-centered ministry. Fresh Fire International Center meets at the Chinese Martial Arts Building, 8426-B Lee Highway, Fairfax, opposite the BMW Fairfax; entrance is in the back. 703-815-8950.

Faith Communities in Action meets the first Wednesday of every other month from 2-4 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 2 and 3, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

The **Baha'i of Fairfax County Southwest** offers "Interfaith Devotions: World Peace and Unity" for the general public on Saturdays. These free devotional gatherings meet at the Pohick Regional Library, Room #1, located at 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke, 22015.

International Calvary Church Sunday services in English are at 9:45 a.m., Korean services at 11:30 a.m. and youth services at 11:30 a.m. Sunday School classes in English are at 11:30 a.m. and children's classes at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible study and Youth Meeting are at 8 p.m. and Friday Prayer and Youth Meeting at 8:30 p.m. 5700 Hanover Ave., Springfield. 703-569-1918.

St. Leo the Great in Fairfax hosts "Night of Praise" the first Saturday of each month, featuring praise music and Eucharist adoration at 7 p.m. Located at 3704 Old Lee Highway in Fairfax.

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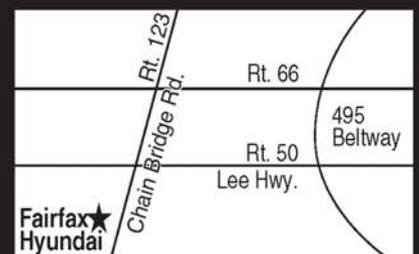


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PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Looking down on the EOC operations floor for VDOT, 911 and State Police inside the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center. Emergency Operations Center Manager Sulayman Brown explains the facility's functions.

Fairfax's Central Command for Emergencies

A look inside county's new public safety building.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County's new, public safety, emergency operations and transportation center isn't fully staffed or completely up-and-running just yet. But it's well on its way.

In July, it opened its doors — at least, some of them — for a tour sponsored by the Central Virginia Chapter of WTS (Women's Transportation Seminar).

"WTS is a professional group advancing the careers of women in transportation," said Tammy Thomas, a vice president of the Central Virginia Chapter. "Because this is a new, multi-agency, state-of-the-art facility, we wanted our members to see what's available here."

WTS has state and industry personnel who work in consulting and engineering, so Thomas wanted them to see this building for professional development, plus networking opportunities. Attendees also included Maryland transportation officials, U.S. Department of Transportation employees and members of NEMA (National Emergency Management Agency).

Called the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (MPSTOC), after former Springfield District Supervisor Elaine McConnell, the building is on some 200 acres on West Ox Road near Route 29 in Fairfax.

The public-safety complex is being built in phases, through 2025, with capability for future expansion. Phase one is the 114,000-square-foot MPSTOC and the 33,000-square-foot Forensics Facility attached to it.

A partnership between the county, state and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the facility broke ground in late November 2005, and some of its first occupants moved in last summer.

It will serve as a central command facility where state and county representatives join together during a national or weather-related emergency. But certain county and state police functions are already operating there now on a regular basis, and these entities are what the visitors learned about on their tour.

LEADING THE WAY and providing information were MPSTOC General Manager Tracy Shelton, who manages the partnership here between the county and state; Fairfax County EOC (Emergency Operations Center) Manager Sulayman Brown; and the Virginia Department of Transportation's Technology Transition Manager Tom Phillips, who's helping transfer VDOT employees and functions here from Arlington.

"It's built to U.S. Embassy security standards."

— Tracy Shelton,
MPSTOC general manager

Contained within MPSTOC will be the county's Department of Public Safety Communications (911 call center), Office of Emergency Management and Emergency Operations Center. Shelton said the 911 center will go operational here, the end of September.

"The Forensics Facility, which is separate operationally, has been here for a year now," she said. It's off-limits to the public, but has sections dealing with the Northern Virginia Regional Information System (NOVARIS, helpful in fingerprint identification), crime-

scene analysis and electronic surveillance. There's also room for a future DNA lab.

"The new EOC will be up-and-running, later this summer," said Shelton. "VDOT's been here since November [2008], and the State Police, since December."

It's a secure structure, with multiple backup systems and safeguarded access to the crucial functions the county will rely on in the event of a disaster, when rapid and seamless communication is vital. "It's a medium-security facility built to U.S. Embassy security standards," said Shelton.

Some 350 people will work in MPSTOC, around the clock, when it's fully operational. Already there are the State Police Division 7 call-takers and dispatchers, plus VDOT's Smart Traffic Center comprised of its Traffic Management and Signal systems.

"MOST FOLKS came from older, retrofitted facilities, so this is like a dream for them," said Shelton. "A lot of groups designed it and even chose the furnishings together."

She then led the visitors on a tour of the 3,600-square-foot EOC area, "for significant, unexpected events, such as weather and terrorist activities," plus its operations floor for VDOT, 911 and State Police. Said Shelton: "Each partner has its own technical staff, plus a small IT staff supports the whole structure."

The complex will also include a 165,000-square-foot building for VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office and State Police Division 7 Administration. It'll be four stories with separate entrances for each entity. "They'll move into their building across the street, the end of next year," said Shelton. "It will be silver-level, LEEDS certified."

Standing in a room filled with long tables covered with computers and surrounded by large TV screens, including one, huge screen adorning an entire wall, Brown discussed what will happen in the EOC.

"This room holds 94 people," he said. "During an event, we'd contact emergency personnel to come here to provide support staff for incidents. It'll serve three functions,

monitoring the event; partial activation, bringing in 10-20 people to manage a situation; and full activation, involving all 94 people."

"There's a conference room nearby where we have video and audio communications and a Smartboard and we can

talk to our federal partners," said Brown. "Each room has a panel with which you can control everything in the EOC, and there are other rooms like it nearby. All senior county personnel, such as the county and deputy executives, would sit in a separate room during an emergency."

Brown called an adjacent, watch office "the eyes and ears of the county. It monitors police and fire units and receives information from the county during an emergency. It also monitors terrorist activity around the world, biochemical sensors and dam water levels around the country."

However, the EOC will also come in handy for more mundane activities directly affecting area residents. "We'd use this room, for example, if there's an overturned gasoline truck on I-66 and it's going to be shut down for hours," said Brown. "We could distribute information to the media about it from here."

SCHOOL AND government closings will

SEE HIGH-TECH, PAGE 22

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SPORTS

Epstein's Top Finish Leads Bruins

Lake Braddock kicks off cross country season with first place finish in girls' race.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock Secondary School senior Liana Epstein wobbled with each step after finishing first overall with a time of 17:53 in the girls' varsity cross country race at the Monroe Parker Invitational at Burke Lake Park on Sept. 12.

Pacing back-and-forth to avoid muscle cramps, the exhausted senior slowly collected herself before taking time to think about her latest triumph.

"My plan was not to go all out, but to try to be controlled," the reigning regional champion said. "I just kind

of stuck my feet in the water to get a feel of what I could do. Then I picked it up every mile."

"We're a long way from her best performance."
—Michael Mangan

EPSTEIN entered the final leg of the 2.98-mile race with a commanding lead, but it was a crucial pass during one of the courses' most difficult stretches that Epstein overtook West Springfield High School's Paige Kwartunas to gain the lead.

"It was crowded going through the woods and the race started to spread out along the pavement," she said. "There was a huge gap between [us], so I picked up the pace to catch her."

Epstein's familiarity with the Burke Lake course didn't hurt. The Bruins regularly train at Burke Lake and it is regarded as their home course.

"I know my weaknesses and strengths when it comes to running this course," she said. "I have more leg speed than the other girls and I know when to use it here. It helps in the last parts [of the race] when you have to finish strong."

Epstein's strategic finish helped the Lake Braddock girls earn first place in the team competition with a score of 77. Head Coach Michael Mangan said that this is just the start of a strong season for the senior and her team.

"We're a long way from her best performance," Mangan said. "That will come at the end of the season.



Liana Epstein's first place finish in the girls' race helped the Bruins girls' varsity cross country open its season with a first place finish.



Robinson's Taylor Crosson battles with Centreville's Juli Cuomo in the later stages of the race.

She hasn't had her best race yet."

Other top runners for the Bruins' girls team were senior Kelly Hagan, who finished ninth overall with a time of 18:52, and senior Amanda Parker, who rounded out the Bruins' girls top finishers in 12th place with a time of 19:03.

"I'm proud of the girls, they really worked hard out there," Mangan said.

THE BOYS' TEAM also had a strong day on the course. The Bruins' boys finished third overall in the team competition with a score of 161. Senior Alex Clark finished fourth overall with a time of 15:45. Junior Luke Sohl finished eighth for the Bruins with a time of 16:03 to round out the top finishers from Lake Braddock.

"[Both teams] had a great day," Mangan said. "We know where our conditioning is and I'm excited about the season."

Another competitor, Robinson Secondary School, used the Monroe Parker Invitational as a way to gauge where it stands in the Concorde District this season.

"We lost our top two girls from last year, but I got some encouraging signs from this race [about our team]," Head Coach Jeremy Workman said. "We lost four of our seven runners from the boys team but I was encouraged to see our front runners step up today."

The Robinson girls finished fifth overall in the team competition. Junior Taylor Crosson placed 11th with a time of 18:58. Sophomore Barbara Platenberg was the only other Ram girl to place in the top 25, finishing 14th with a time of 19:09.

In the boy's race, the Rams finished seventh overall with junior Nick Reed ranking seventh with a time of 16:03 for the only top 25 finish for a Robinson boy.

"We still have a big gap between our runners' [times]," Workman said. "It's big enough to run a truck through, so we have to fix that this season."

"We lost four of our seven runners from the boys team but I was encouraged to see our front runners step up today."
— Coach Jeremy Workman

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

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SCHOOLS



Marquis Simmons helps the students make wooden flutes.

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

A Place To Grow

Fairfax County's School Age Child Care Program provides more than just a day care for local students.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

Many parents across the county often feel the crunch of raising a family and providing for it each day, not to mention finding the extra time for all of the other commitments they must make.

Though they would like to drive their children to and from school, attend every sporting event or play and efficiently perform at work, all at the same time, sometimes it simply is not possible. Fortunately, the Fairfax County Office for Children's School Age Child Care Program (SACC) is there to bridge the gap.

Founded as a child supervision program for parents who were not able to provide care for their children immediately before and after school, SACC has transformed into an extension of the day's education and an attractive option for all children.

"The program is not a babysitting service," said SACC Regional Supervisor Art Cole. "It's a social environment where children can learn and master new skills. We support what the schools do during the day."

THE PROGRAM, in its 30th year, is open to any elementary school students whose parents work at least 30 hours a week, are disabled, attend school full time, or a combination of all. At typical SACC centers, housed in 135 area elementary schools, child care programs are available before school from 7:15 a.m. until the start of the school day, after kindergarten from 12-3 p.m. and after school from 3:35-6:15. Each SACC center has two rooms provided by the school, with some centers even having their own dedicated, unshared room.

Instead of simply finding ways each day to occupy



The students at Laurel Hill Elementary's SACC Center leave the cafeteria after having a snack.

the students' time for three hours, the SACC program dedicates itself to building upon the education that the child receives during the day. According to Cole, the SACC leaders create and plan a unique curriculum for each year, two years in advance. It is this extensive planning, Cole said, that enables SACC to draw more than 10,000 students into the program.

"We plan our curriculum, and change it, based on the interests of the children," Cole said. "It's all about choices. If they want to do something, we will start it, as long as it's safe."

This year, SACC created a curriculum focusing on the environment and human's impact on it, naming it "Earth Matters." So, each SACC center will be choosing their favorite biome and will create it within their own classroom, and use their second room as a "science lab."

According to Cole, the purpose of creating a biome in the classroom is for the students to get an intensive look at certain aspect of the earth's ecosystem. After decorating the room to look like their chosen

SEE CHERRY RUN. PAGE 19

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SCHOOLS

Cherry Run Looks For 'What Works Best'

FROM PAGE 18

biome, Cole said, the teachers and students will study the animals within the biome, learn about how humans impact it and how they can protect it.

In addition to the in-class education, Cole said that SACC is stressing instruction out in the field. SACC centers will take their students out to locations within walking distance to study their local environments. For example, Cole said that if schools have bodies of water nearby, then those SACC center students will be collecting water and soil samples and bringing them back to their science labs to perform tests. Also, SACC is continuing its push for its centers to connect with their communities. Throughout the year, each SACC center will be performing community service, whether it is litter pickups or even growing gardens and planting trees.

"We look at the community, see where the need is, and connect with them," Cole said. "That way, the children can look at their community and be aware of what is going on around them."

AT BURKE'S Cherry Run Elementary School SACC center, for example, the children will be creating a marine biome, and will decorate their classroom to look like a coral reef. Then, as the year progresses, the children will continue to decorate the room with marine animals and plants so that by the end of the year, the biome will be complete. In their science lab, Cherry Run SACC Supervisor Michelle Diggs said that the center's 63 children will be focusing on going green; creating recycling programs and having a running assignment for their children to think of an activity they can do to help the environment.

"Right now, we have a lot of new children, so we have been doing a lot of activities that introduce them to one another," Diggs said. "But we will be adding activities as we do more things [related to the theme]."

While environmental education and community service are the hallmarks of the program this year, SACC centers will also continue to offer standard activities. The students participate in a fitness session each day, playing games like four-square and pin-dodge, a no-contact variation of dodge ball. Students who do not like sports or physical activity have the choice to stay in the classroom with a different group and read, do homework, play board games and more.

"Some things do not have anything to do with the theme because it's all about the children's interests," Cole said. "We look at the school's resources, and go from there."

Though the SACC instructors are not provided by



The students compare the wooden flutes they made.



The SACC students play pin-dodge, a no-contact alternative to dodge ball.

the individual schools, Lois Kirkpatrick of the Fairfax County Office for Children said, the quality of education has no drop off. Each center has five teachers, and according to Kirkpatrick, many of them have master's degrees and some have even been teaching in the SACC program for 10 to 15 years. In addition, many of the teachers possess special skills that they are encouraged to teach other instructors so that students at other centers can learn about it.

"We look for creative people [to teach in the SACC program]," Kirkpatrick said. "We have a wide variety. We have artists, musicians, dancers, riders and more. Some of our teachers were SACC kids, too."

Because the school year just started with many new young faces throughout the program,

Cherry Run, like most of the SACC centers, is still tweaking its schedule to see what works best. Cole said that these tweaks are necessary as each center's teachers learn what their children like to do and what they would like to study. It is this flexibility, Cole said, that makes the program not only possible, but successful.

"We've had a lot of success stories with our children [in SACC]," Cole said. "We don't look for short term fixes, we look for opportunities for our children to be successful."

"The program is not a babysitting service. It's a social environment where children can learn and master new skills."

— SACC Regional Supervisor
Art Cole

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In accordance with Virginia Solid Waste Management regulations 9 VAC 20-80-485.2.g., citizens may comment on a permit-by-rule application for a materials recovery facility to be located at 10100 Furnace Road in Lorton, Virginia. COMMENT PERIOD: September 8, 2009 through October 19, 2009. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: W&N Material Recovery Facility, 10001 Furnace Road, Lorton, Virginia 22079. The facility is owned and operated by Furnace Associates, Inc. PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The purpose of this notice is to allow the public to comment on a proposed material recovery facility, which will operate under a permit-by-rule to be issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality after public comments are received. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The facility is located on a 9.7 acre property off Furnace Road. The facility will accept construction and demolition debris and will process the waste to recover recyclable materials, such as cardboard, steel, or brick. Recyclable materials will be shipped off-site and reused, while remaining residuals will be shipped off-site for disposal. No waste materials will be left on-site. TO REVIEW THE PERMIT APPLICATION: A copy of the permit-by-rule application document is available for review at the Lorton Public Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton, Virginia 22079 under the title W&N Material Recovery Facility. HOW TO COMMENT: Written comments may be submitted at any time during the comment period via e-mail to the following address: wnccomments@geosyntec.com. Alternatively, written comments can be mailed to: Hearing Officer, c/o Geosyntec Consultants, 10220 Old Columbia Road, Suite A, Columbia, Maryland 21046. Comments must include the name and address of the person commenting as well as a brief statement regarding the interest of the person commenting and how the operation of the facility may affect the citizen. Oral and written comments will be received at a public meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on October 19, 2009 at the Lorton Public Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton, Virginia 22079.

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Supervisor Pat Herrity (S-Springfield) prepares to fly down the zip line at Hemlock Overlook Regional Park in Clifton.



Fairfax County Board Chair Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) suits up for her zip line adventure.

Adventure Links To Run Hemlock Overlook

The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) and Adventure Links recently entered into a new operating agreement for Hemlock Overlook Regional Park in Clifton. Fairfax County Board Chair Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) and Supervisor Pat Herrity (S-Springfield) recently joined in the kick-off of the agreement by flying through the canopy of the forest on parallel zip lines. The agreement came after the Dec. 31, 2008 announcement by George Mason University that the school was ending its

operations at the park on June 30, 2009. NVRPA put out a request for proposals for an organization to replace GMU. After reviewing 10 proposals, the Park Authority chose Adventure Links to run the training programs at Hemlock Overlook. For years, fifth and sixth graders from area schools have visited Hemlock Overlook to tackle the zip lines. For more information or to schedule a program at Hemlock Overlook, visit www.hemlockoverlook.org or www.adventurelinks.net.

High-Tech at County Facility

FROM PAGE 16

also be sent from that office. "We can communicate with other jurisdictions in the case of multi-jurisdictional events," said Brown. "On the big screen, we can put up GIS maps of an incident scene, international and local TV stations, helicopter photos from the scene and streamlined net videos — anything that would help people in this room deal with their response to the event." Anywhere from 1-42 different elements may be placed on the screen, with workers able to listen to information from the particular one they want. "People can log onto their computers here and see and hear everything going on in the EOC from their desks, while still doing their jobs," said Brown. "All our public safety representatives are now within walking distance of each other," he said. "So it's an important accomplishment for Fairfax County."

LOOKING THROUGH a glass wall overhead, the visitors viewed VDOT transportation operations and State Police dispatchers working on the operations floor. The county's 911 call center and fire and police dispatchers will complete the picture. "At the table in the center, people will be able to turn around and talk to people about

how to handle an incident," said Shelton. "That'll be pretty powerful stuff." Since VDOT moved in, Nov. 8, said Phillips, "We've dealt with accidents and disabled vehicles on the roads. We have 10 work stations here, and working with the State Police, hand-in-hand, on the Fourth of July, helped us immensely. For example, through their screens, we saw a bonfire on I-66, and the Arlington Fire Department responded." "Having the public-safety people here enables us to have clear communication," he said. "Every 911 call that comes in goes in the State Police's CAD [computer-aided design] data and we're now connected to it, so their information about incidents will pop up on our screens, too. We're also working on CAD integration with other jurisdictions like Prince William and Arlington." During the recent presidential election, said Phillips, "We had about 30 other agencies in here with us. So Virginia used this as its communications center on this side of the [Potomac] river and was able to communicate with agencies in [Washington], D.C." Closer to home, he said, "Last week, 250 accidents went through here — and if we can minimize the amount of time an incident takes, it can make a big difference to traffic."



Public Information Meetings I-66 Transit/Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Study

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is conducting this study to identify potential short- and medium-term transit and TDM enhancements that will increase mobility in the I-66 corridor between Washington, D.C. and Haymarket, Virginia.

The public information meetings will focus on the transportation alternatives under study, including new bus services such as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), express bus service and commuter choices such as carpooling, vanpooling and park and ride lots.

Each meeting will include a continuous open house with study representatives available to provide information. Presentations will be given at 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. with an opportunity for questions and answers afterwards.

Meeting Dates and Locations

Wednesday, September 23, 2009	Wednesday, September 30, 2009
Arlington County Board Room-3rd Floor 2100 Clarendon Boulevard Arlington, VA 22201	Oakton High School Cafeteria 2900 Sutton Road Vienna, VA 22181
Thursday, September 24, 2009 Battlefield High School Auditorium 15000 Graduation Drive Haymarket, VA 20169	Schedule for all Meetings: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – Open House 7:00 p.m. – Presentation and Q&A 8:00 p.m. – Presentation and Q&A

For more information on the study, visit
www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/I66study.aspx.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, comments on the study may be sent to Public Information Office, DRPT, 600 E. Main St., Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219, or DRPTPR@DRPT.Virginia.gov. Comments will be accepted until October 9, 2009.

DRPT ensures nondiscrimination in all programs, services and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For special assistance or information, call (804) 786-4440 or TDD 711 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting date.



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3069 Nutley St.
Fairfax, VA 22031

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@longandfooster.com



Fairfax \$479,500
Corner lot on quiet street in great community. Beautiful master gardener's garden. Granite counters, ceramic/wood floors, crown molding, gas, remodeled mstr bath & 2 sun porches, one block from Royal Lake. Excellent school tier!
Mary Hovland 703-946-1775
Cathy DeLoach 571-276-9421



West Springfield \$484,950
Well cared for. 4 bedrooms, large rooms, many upgrades including granite countertops, kitchen, new siding, new carpets, new paint, nice private yard with brick patio. Move right in.
Mary FitzHenry 703-250-8915



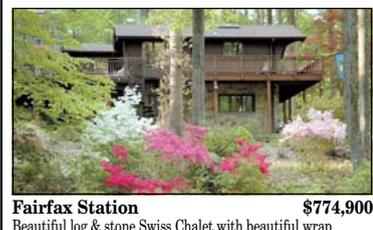
Burke \$552,000
4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, updated kitchen, hardwood floors, new carpet, den/rec room, deck & patio. Pristine condition throughout! Cul de sac location.
Betty Barthle 703-425-4466



Fairfax Station \$929,000
Exceptional Custom Stone & Cedar home with open sunlit floor plan. Abundant windows frame beautifully landscaped 5 acre setting. Family room with grand 2 story stone fireplace & cathedral ceiling. Incredible studio/office with gorgeous seasonal views. Recent updates to master bath & gourmet kitchen. Located within beautiful private community, conveniently located with easy access to 123 & Fairfax County Pkwy.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Fairfax City \$910,000
4 BR, 4.5 BA on one of the largest & most private lots in prestigious Farrcroft. New hwd floors, granite kitchen, gas flpl, 9+' ceilings, library, 3 fin levels. Perfection! Close to shops & restaurants.
Nancy Basham 703-772-2066



Fairfax Station \$774,900
Beautiful log & stone Swiss Chalet with beautiful wrap around deck, nestled on nearly 6 acres overlooking a meandering stream. Custom built home offers over 4000 sq ft on two levels. Incredible features to include Great room with floor to ceiling stone fireplace, recently renovated bathrooms & kitchen with exotic granite & custom cabinets, wide plank hardwood flooring. Gracious, yet comfortably relaxed living. Park like setting conveniently located with easy access to 123 & Fairfax County Pkwy.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Fairfax \$594,900
Stately all-brick home sited on near acre lot in sought-after Brecon Ridge. Circular drive, mature trees & level playing yard just the beginning. Interior boasts LR w/frpl, formal DR & modern KT w/bkfst area/fam rm. Expansive MBR w/sitting area & full bath. Lower lvl includes W/O rec rm, BR's 3 & 4, full BA. Sep laundry rm. Sep workshop/storage room. 2-car sideload gar.
Jim Fox 703-503-1800



Fairfax \$598,500
A 10+
Move right in to this 4BR, 3.5BA remodelled home! Tons of updates: remodelled kitchen, super bathroom renovations, freshly painted, new carpet, more!! Private 0.58 acres with level back yard! WO lower level, 2 car garage, sought after family friendly neighborhood! Attends Clifton ES and Robinson SS! See photos at www.marshawolber.com
Marsha Wolber 703-618-4397

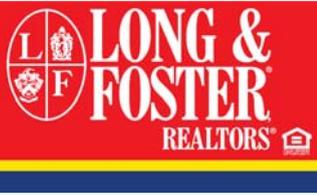


Clifton \$849,900
Price Reduced!
Gorgeous custom home sited on 5 private acres w/circular Drive. 3 sides brick, 4BR, 2.5BA, kitchen & baths recently updated. 10' ceilings. Walkout basement, main lvl library, side load garage. Extensive landscaping & covered storage for boat or trailer. See this property at www.CliftonMLS.com.
Ann Grainger 703-503-1870



Clifton \$735,000
Sunlit, former model, spacious 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 3 fireplaces, updated kitchen, main level laundry, elegant two story family room, private library and formal living room. Upper level has 4 sunlit bedrooms. Fully finished walk out lower level rec room, game room, another bedroom and bth perfect for guests. The neighborhood offers a community pool, tennis court, and tot lot.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949

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Clifton \$998,000

Elegant Home in Picturesque Glencairn Estates
Beautiful community known for its quiet privacy, yet conveniently located near the Historic town of Clifton. Many recent updates in this stately 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home. Grand great room with two story fireplace, main level library, wonderfully finished walk out lower level with art studio! Three car garage & two level decks!



Clifton \$4,500,000 Finest Home in the Area

One of a kind breathtaking setting. Attention to detail is incredible. Absolutely every amenity you could want has been included in this estate. Newly finished pavillion added to the property to include both an indoor and outdoor soaring stone fireplace, resistance swimming pool, built in outdoor kitchen.



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Fairfax \$249,900

End townhouse with a one car garage. Vaulted ceiling in LR. Enclosed patio with access from LR and kitchen. 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. Just painted & new carpet - move in condition! Minutes to Vienna Metro station



Lorton/Laurel Hill \$429,900

Very large, END UNIT townhome in popular Laurel Hill. Gourmet kitchen, private office, deck, over-sized fenced yard w/premium landscaping. Walk to brand new elementary school. For 24-hour recorded information, call 1-888-495-6207 x 218.



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703-503-1885

judys@longandfooster.com
www.JudysHomeTeam.com



Alexandria \$229,900

Brick rambler on large corner lot * Sunroom * 2 car detached garage * Updated bath and kitchen * Fireplace in living room *

Call Judy 703-503-1885.



Manassas \$290,000

Colonial on 2.29 acres * Front porch * Deck * Patio * Attached 2 car & detached 2 car garages * Newer windows * 3 finished levels *

Call Judy 703-503-1885.



CHARLES SHAW

703-503-1826

charles.shaw@longandfooster.com
Search the MLS at charlesNshaw.com

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FOR RENT 5947 Havener House \$1250/mo

Lovely 2 bedroom home. Hardwood floors on main level in Living room and Dining room. Fireplace. Newer carpet upstairs. Washer/dryer included. Pets allowed. Community pool. Close to 66. Available Dec. 1.

Call Diane for more info or to see. 703-615-4626



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Springfield \$420,000

Backyard - Treed & Fenced
Detached w/garage, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Comfortable entry level w/Family Rm, Bedroom & spacious Den w/free-standing fireplace. Upper level HW floors. Updated baths and sliding door from Dining Rm to patio. 14,813 sq ft private lot.

Joel Lutkenhouse 703-969-6442

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Fairfax \$1,499,000 Price Reduced \$100,000

Gorgeous 6 Bedroom, 7.55 Bath Home on .8 acres. Woodson School District. Almost 10,000 total sq. ft. Main

Level Master Bdrm. Gourmet Kitchen w/adjoining Fam Rm. Finished Walkup Basement w/Wet Bar and Media Rm. Upper Level Loft Walks Out to Rear Deck. Each Bdrm has full bath and walk-in closet. Built in 2008.

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Clifton \$859,000 Charming New England Colonial!

5 acres with swimming pool. Total privacy yet very close to Historic town of Clifton. 5BR, 4BA, 3 fireplaces. All new Kitchen with

Granite counters and upgraded appliances. Fully finished walkout lower level with 5th bedroom/den, full bath, & rec. room. Great Value!

See this property at www.GraingerTeam.com

Ann Grainger 703-503-1870



Fairfax Station \$975,000 Builder's Own Home!

This is one of the prettiest settings you will find in all of Fairfax Station! 5 gorgeous acres w/professionally designed landscaping, brick & slate walkways & patio. A golfer's delight including a lighted putting green, sand trap, and driving range, plus a 3-stall stable! 4BR, 3.5 BA, Lib, fin. walkout bsmt. The 2 story sun room addition is spectacular! A perfect "10".

See this property at www.GraingerTeam.com.



Sheila Adams

703-503-1895

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Life Member, NVAR TOP PRODUCERS



Fairfax Station \$739,000

Crosspointe
This stunning brick front colonial features 4 BRs, 3 1/2 Baths, gorgeous hardwood floors through-out.

Granite counters grace the large updated kitchen, adjacent family room opens to wonderful deck perfect for entertaining. The Lower level is unbelievable with Media Room, Recreation Room w/Wet Bar & Study area. Great Location, minutes to Parkway, Metro & I-95. For a private showing

Call Sheila Adams 703.503.1895

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