

Burke CONNECTION

Burke Centre Express

NEWS, PAGE 3

The train carrying Amtrak officials on their 'Whistle Stop' tour arrives at Burke Centre Station.



Quick Thinking Recognized

NEWS, PAGE 3

37th District House Race

NEWS, PAGE 4

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Karen Paris 571-220-7503
kparis@thewolfrungroup.com



The Wolf Run Group

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Enjoy the serene, resort-style setting as the back yard of this home spills into Fountainhead Regional Park with trails that lead into the park and to the Occoquan.

Terri Gallagher 703-362-2700
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 ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA



All Aboard in Burke

'Whistle Stop' marks opening of Amtrak's Northeast Regional Train Service.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

Amtrak officials joined local politicians Wednesday, Sept. 30 at the Burke Centre Station to celebrate the official launch of Amtrak's Northeast Regional train service.

The ceremony, attended by Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At large), Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) and Del. David Marsden (D-41), was part of a six-stop "Whistle Stop Train Tour" embarked upon by Amtrak leaders to deliver the train to Lynchburg.

"Today, we mark another addition to the range of transportation options we offer," said Ellen Kamilakis, Fairfax County Department of Transportation spokesman. "VRE riders will now be able to go into the district mid-day, and the serviced will open up central Virginia to this part of the state and vice-versa."

The service is part of a three-year, \$17 million pilot program in which the state funds the operation of the Northeast Re-



Amtrak leaders and local officials cut the ribbon for the Northeast Regional Service at Burke Centre Station.

gional, which originates in Lynchburg and ends at Union Station in Washington, D.C. The partnership allows residents near Virginia Railway Express (VRE) stations, like

the Burke Centre Station, to travel from their homes to destinations as far north as Boston by transferring from the VRE line to an Amtrak line at the Alexandria station or

Union Station in Washington, D.C. After three years, the state will evaluate the suc

SEE NORTHEAST, PAGE 9

Scout Receives Medal for Actions To Save Family

Burke youth helps evacuate family members during 2008 fire.

The Boy Scouts of America National Court of Honor awarded Nicholas Peevy the Medal of Merit for his quick action in saving his family from a laundry room fire.

On May 26, 2008, Nick, 14, and his family had just returned from a weekend trip with a big load of laundry. The clothes were being washed and dried in the laundry room on the first floor when Nick walked by and saw smoke and flames. He ran upstairs announcing that there was a fire and proceeded to make sure everyone got out of the house. His mother was already out front and Nick told her to call 911. After making sure that his two sisters also got outside, Nick ran to a neighbor's house across the street and grabbed a fire extinguisher. The neighbors also called 911.

Meanwhile, Nick's step-father, David DeClark, had gone downstairs with a fire extinguisher and was dampening the fire when Nick came back. Smoke was everywhere, but Nick knew he could not leave his father there alone and went back in the house to get him. Just then, the fire company arrived and finished off the job.

Nick used his Boy Scout fire safety training instinctively by making evacuation the priority. He also managed to close the doors around the ground floor to contain the fire if it grew. His step-father cited Nick's "razor-sharp calm" in dealing with this emergency. By staying calm and displaying the courage to go back in the house, Nick made a big difference in the outcome of this situation. Nick is a member of Troop 1523 sponsored by Parkwood Baptist Church of Annandale. He is the son of Mary Peevy-DeClark and Paul Peevy.



At a recent National Court of Honor, Boy Scout Nicholas Peevy, a member of Troop 1523, received a Medal of Merit for his actions in helping his family evacuate their home during a May 2008 fire. Nicholas is shown here with his family during the ceremony.

Bulova Makes Plea for 95/395 HOT Lanes Project

Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) wrote a strongly-worded letter to Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine (D) last month, asking the commonwealth to continue work on the high occupancy toll [HOT] lanes project for interstates 95 and 395.

The Virginia Department of Transportation recently announced that the project had to be put on hold because turmoil in the financial markets would make it difficult to secure bonds to fund construction.

The halt in the 395/95 project would have no impact on those HOT lanes planned for the Capital Beltway, which are already under construction.

Under the HOT lanes concept, buses, vans and cars that carry a certain number of passengers would be able to travel on newly built express sections of the 395/95 interstate for free. But unlike the popular high-occupancy-vehicle [HOV] lanes currently in use, single-rider vehicles could also use the "fast" lanes, if drivers are willing to pay a toll.

The amount of the toll would fluctuate, depending on traffic congestion. During the peak hours of travel, it would be higher to discourage large numbers of people from clogging the express HOT lanes. At times of light traffic, it would be lower.

The 395/95 HOT lanes would stretch from Spotsylvania County to Arlington County, ending at the Pentagon. Construction was expected to start this summer before Virginia delayed the project.

But the region, particularly parts of Fairfax County affected by the military's base realignment and closure process, need the project to move forward, according to Bulova.

"It is very important that the project's commitment to public transit and to commuter parking continue to move forward regardless of the delay in the larger project," wrote the chairman in her letter to Kaine dated Sept. 15.

Specifically, Bulova asked that Virginia carry through with acquiring a piece of land in central Springfield for a commuter parking lot that was supposed to be built as part of the HOT lanes project. Fairfax County has committed to purchase the former Circuit City site on Old Keene Mill Road and is counting on the commonwealth to acquire other property, where the former Long John Silver's restaurant stands and a service station sits, so plans for the new commuter lot can move forward.

Even without the HOT lanes in place, a new commuter parking lot in central Springfield could be used by "sluggers," commuters who drivers pick up before getting on the interstate in order to take advantage of HOV lanes, which move at a much fast pace than regular lanes of traffic on 395 and 95.

Fairfax County is also deeply concerned about proposals to divide the 395/95 project up to two parts. Some officials have floated the idea of constructing an initial phase that only runs HOT lanes up to the 95/395 interchange with the Capital Beltway in Springfield and not all the way to the Pentagon.

In her letter, Bulova said a truncated HOT lanes project would significantly diminish the benefits to Fairfax residents and wreak havoc on the county's local road network.

In particular, the military's decision to relocate 6,000 employees, many of whom are expected to come from south of Fairfax, to the Mark Center in the City of Alexandria was based on the assumption that the HOT lanes project would add some transit and general traffic capacity at the 395 interchange with Seminary Road.

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 15

NEWS

3 on Ballot in 37th District Race

Bulova: Address traffic woes.

What is the most significant issue facing Northern Virginia?

Our long-term economic vitality is linked to addressing our regional transportation needs and providing our children a world-class education. While we are faced with tough budget decisions, these must be made strategically and protect the core services that are essential to our quality of life. Additional areas where I have focused include protecting consumers from identity theft, conserving our natural resources, and ensuring that our police and firefighters have the resources to keep us safe.

How would you address this issue?

Adequate, sustainable funding for transportation is critical. However, even in the current economy, there are actions we can take to use our resources more effectively. Specifically, I have strongly supported efforts to better coordinate transportation and land use and successfully spearheaded legislation to save our schools money by eliminating unnecessary administrative requirements. Formulas that short-change Fairfax must also be addressed, and I have led the effort to change the road maintenance formula.

What qualifies you for the office?

I care deeply about the community I grew up in, and where my wife and I are now raising our three children. It is important to listen and engage constituents in the decision making process. I have put this belief into practice with frequent newsletters, informal office hours and town hall meetings. My background in environmental planning has also enabled me to serve as a leader on water resources, energy, and open space issues.

What differentiates you from your opponent(s)?

I bring a can-do attitude and a diverse background of public and private sector experience. I am passionate about public service and have worked hard to make our community an even better place to live. For seven years, my wife and I organized our community's National Night Out crime prevention program. I also serve on the Brain Injury Services Board of Trustees and was a former chair-

David L. Bulova

Age: 40
Residence: Fairfax
Party Affiliation: Democrat

Education: Master of public administration, Virginia Tech; B.A., government, College of William and Mary; Robinson Secondary, Fairfax

Occupation: Senior environmental planner, AMEC Earth & Environmental, Inc.

Family: Married to Gretchen Bulova; Children include Alex, 12; Josette, 10; and Grayson, 1



David L. Bulova

man of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission.

If you could say one thing to voters, what would it be?

It is an incredible honor to serve and represent you in Richmond. As your delegate, I have worked hard to be open and accountable. I am proud of what we have accomplished together, including legislation to protect consumers when their personal information has been compromised, conserve trees during development and safeguard our drinking water supply. I ask for your support so that together we can build an even stronger community.

Who are your political heroes/influences?

My mother for teaching me the value of listening and the importance of engaging citizens in the decision-making process. Former Gov. Gerald Baliles, who exemplified the ethic that democracy isn't about lofty campaign speeches, but our willingness to engage in honest debate to solve very complicated problems. Finally, any candidate with the resolve to stay positive and talk about the issues even in the face of negative attacks.

DeCarlo: Small business key.

What is the most significant issue facing Northern Virginia?

From the perspective of a small business owner, the loss of mom and pop small businesses, discouragement of entrepreneurship because of over regulation and taxation.

How would you address this issue?

- 1) Interjecting common sense and street experience.
- 2) Not being handicapped and constrained by party affiliation and debts to special interest groups.

What qualifies you for the office? What qualities do you bring?

- 1) Small business experience of working in the competitive market of supply and demand. Skepticism about what government regulation and administration accomplishes in the business community.
- 2) Independence, creativity and problem solving skills.

What differentiates you from your opponent(s)?

The ability to speak for the small business person and to apply the small business characteristics of efficiency and customer service into government regulation and administration.

If you could say one thing to voters, what would it be?

One purpose of laws is to protect us from government.

Christopher DeCarlo

Age: 50
Town of residence: Fairfax
Party Affiliation: Independent

Education: Marshall High School, Falls Church; Georgia Institute of Technology; George Mason University.

Family: Kathleen DeCarlo, children: Catherine, 3; Vince, 4; Mike, 8; John, 10; and MaryJane, 11

Employer and Occupation: Fairfax Propane, small business owner



Christopher DeCarlo

But laws have become very complex and the complexity decreases our protection because the government makes, interprets and enforces the laws and excludes us from the process.

Growth and development of small business is being stymied by excess regulation and taxation. Small

SEE CHRISTOPHER DECARLO, PAGE 5

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NEWS

Prescription Discount Cards

Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield) is pushing Fairfax County to sign up for a prescription drug discount card program, which he said could provide Fairfax residents cost savings on critical medication.

Herrity said a working group was set up in June 2008 to study the issue of prescription discount card. He is asking that the group report back to the supervisors with some recommendations before the Fairfax County board's November meeting.

"There are several companies that provide these services and hundreds of localities throughout the country are taking advantage of these cost saving programs for their residents," said Herrity at the Oct. 5 Board of Supervisors meeting Oct. 5.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Christopher DeCarlo (I)

FROM PAGE 4

business improves the community quality of life and should be encouraged.

Who are your political heroes/influences?

Harry Truman because he came from humble origins to lead the country. Like many Americans

he started a small business. Later, he applied his leadership skills to effectively lead the nation.

Also Running

Anna Choi, an Independent Green candidate, is also on the ballot for the 37th District House of Delegates seat. She did not return a questionnaire in time for publication.

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Visit www.tfkmetrodc.org for more information.

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OPINION

It's Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Early detection is key to success.

Last week, the American Cancer Society reported that women diagnosed with breast cancer are seeing increasingly positive results from treatment, with mortality rates continuing to drop, a trend that began in 1990.

In 2009, I was one of more than 190,000 U.S. women diagnosed with breast cancer.

In June, still in the midst of a regimen of chemotherapy, I walked in the Komen Global Race for the Cure on the National Mall. It wasn't the first time I had participated in the event, but it was my first time as a breast cancer survivor.

Now finished with my treatment, this is my first October — Breast Cancer Awareness Month — as a member of the club of more than 2.5 million women in the country with a history of breast cancer. And like the majority of women whose breast cancer is detected early, my prognosis is excellent.

Many, many readers and community members reached out to me warmly over the course of the year, and the support from coworkers, community members, breast cancer survivors, family and friends has been amazing and contributed mightily to my health and energy throughout my treatment.

What You See Is What You Get

To the Editor:

History has a way of repeating itself. As a "senior citizen" of 86 years, I recall the last great depression of 1929-41. There are many similarities between that era and today. In attempting to obtain relief from the economic crises, the federal government resorted to measures that only exacerbated the problem and which were contrary to free market principles. They also compromised the individual freedom of the citizens. Because of this history, it is important that we, when choosing our candidates for office, consider their dedication to the principles of our republic as set forth in the Constitution.

In this "off year" election in Virginia we have an opportunity to elect as "our lawyer" (attorney general) a gentleman who has both the temperament and the dedication to the principles of freedom under the Constitution. This is particularly important since, during the current crisis, the president and those surrounding him seem to be taking advantage of the situation to exercise the power of the federal government at the ex-

pense of our individuality.

The person who has these qualities is Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) of Fairfax. He is not only a man who is dedicated to family values but also to other matters that affect our everyday life. Some of these issues are transportation, education and, as he has shown most recently in his calling for the legislature to "fix" a problem with our criminal laws, public safety.

LETTERS

With Ken Cuccinelli, what you see is what you get. He does not shift his opinions and views with each passing breeze. For those who say that one must "compromise" more, let me point out that Ken Cuccinelli was the only member of his party to win re-election two years ago in the highly "Democrat/Blue" area of Northern Virginia. For those Democrats that still claim adherence to Jeffersonian principles, which Jefferson are you following? Is it the great Virginian Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence or is it former U.S. Rep. William Jefferson of Louisiana who gives new meaning to "cold cash."

Again, this year, I am supporting Sen. Ken Cuccinelli for attorney general of the Commonwealth

Get Involved

Here are a few of many local events in October to support breast cancer awareness.

Walk for Hope, Sunday, Oct. 11, event day registration, 8:30 a.m., run/walk begins at 10 a.m., Sunday, 4k run, 4k walk or 1k walk, Cabin John Regional Park, 7400 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. <http://nationalevents.cityofhope.org>

Breast Education Day, Inova Fairfax Hospital, Tuesday, Oct. 13, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., 3300 Gallows Road, Falls Church, no registration required.

Join the 2009 Komen DC 3-Day for the Cure, which takes place this weekend, but you can still donate, or sign up for the 2010 event at www.the3day.org. Thousands will walk 60 miles over three days to raise awareness and money.

20th Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Conference at Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington, Saturday, Oct. 17, 9-3. Call 703-558-0913 to register. John T. Hazel, MD Conference Center, 1701 N. George Mason Drive, Arlington.

The annual Walk to Fight Breast Cancer, organized by the City of Alexandria's Office on Women and Inova Alexandria Hospital

Foundation, is Saturday, Oct. 24, at 8 a.m. and includes 1.5K/3.5K/5K walk or run.

Registration 6:30 am - 8 am inside the lobby of the AMC Hoffman Center 22 Theatres, 206 Swamp Fox Road. www.alexandriawalk.com

Women's Health Lunch, Inova Fair Oaks Hospital, Saturday, Oct. 17, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. 3600 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax, Registration is required. Call 703-391-3776.

Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, Breast Health and Women's Imaging Open House, Monday, Oct. 19, 5 - 7 p.m., 2501 Parker's Lane, Alexandria.

Dine Out and Shop for the Walk to Fight Breast Cancer, Tuesday, Oct. 20. Restaurants, retail stores, spas, and many other businesses throughout Alexandria will be contributing a portion of their proceeds throughout the day to the Walk to Fight Breast Cancer. All funds raised from this event will go to support Alexandria's Breast Cancer Fund at Inova Alexandria Hospital Foundation. www.alexandriawalk.com

Read "Race for the Cure, a Personal Note," from June: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=328740&paper=63&cat=110>

But despite the advances in early detection, treatment and mortality rates, more than 40,000 women will die of breast cancer this year in this country.

As you think about breast cancer survivors and feel empathy for those in the midst of treatment, I urge the women reading this to be sure that they are taking care of themselves, for

everyone reading this to be sure the women in their lives are as well.

Early detection is the key. Breast cancer is detected early by self-exams, by doctor exams and by mammograms. Be sure you show up for all of the above on your own behalf.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

of Virginia and I urge others to do the same.

Theodore E. Byers
Annandale

History Matters

To the Editor:

Having received one too many mailers declaring Bob McDonnell (R) NoVa's or Fairfax's Own, especially on the issue of education, I feel compelled to write. Bob McDonnell, like his running mate, Ken Cuccinelli (R), have a long history of blocking and/or not supporting funding for public education, both K-12 and universities, and imposing their ideology on public students.

Reviewing the legislative history of Mr. McDonnell (1994-2005) and Sen. Cuccinelli (2002-09) brought back a flood of memories of Richmond's unwarranted and continued intrusion into our schools and universities, while at the same time failing to adequately fund them. Rather than addressing real educational issues, Mr. McDonnell co-patroned such failing bills as 1) former Dick Black's requiring school boards to make sure students understood why they had a moment of silence each day; 2) former Del. Roger

McClure's making family life education an opt-in, rather than opt-out procedure; 3) denying gay students the right to form clubs. Mr. Cuccinelli may use the "Don't Tread on Me" flag motto representing "less intrusive" government, but he, along with Dick Black, tried to stop a student run health fair at George Mason University in 2005. He has had a long history of contempt for K-12 education, calling administrators "educrats" and deeming funds spent on Fairfax students as out of line despite the fact the Fairfax County ranks in the middle in the metropolitan area on per-pupils pending but ranks at the top for SAT scores.

More importantly, both men have consistently voted against funds allocated toward K-12 education and universities. In the 2001 Special Session, Mr. McDonnell did not vote for Del. Jim Dillard's bill providing revenue for public K-12 and universities. In 2004, both Bob McDonnell and Ken Cuccinelli voted against the budget bill funding schools, a bill supported by the business community and forged in a compromise with then Gov. Warner and moderate Republicans such as

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THE CONNECTION

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

former Sens. John Chichester and Russell Potts and Del. Jim Dillard. These men understood that in order to succeed, Virginia had to invest in its schools.

Despite Mr. McDonnell's claims that he will get more Fairfax County students into our top universities, he cannot do this unless he is willing to replace the funds our universities receive from out-of-state students, who pay three times the in-state tuition. In 1995, McDonnell co-sponsored former Sen. Jay O'Brien's failing bill that would make the in-state ratio 67 percent. Although Sen. O'Brien and Del. Tim Hugo continued to introduce bills mandating more in-state students, they never included the funding necessary to replace out-of-state tuition. Richmond only provides 8 percent of our colleges' funding. Unless Richmond is willing to fund our top universities adequately, they will continue on their go-it-alone path, relying on corporate, alumni and non-profit donations and yes, accepting more out-of-state students.

What most concerns me, however, is that although Mr. McDonnell claims his "thesis" is irrelevant, it represents the

mindset of Richmond in the 1990s. One of the most destructive, long-lasting policies was the introduction of Standards of Learning that were so poorly drafted and so clearly biased that superintendents traveled from all over the state to object at the first hearing. Thankfully, our more courageous teachers did not "teach to the test" but encouraged creative and analytical thought, preserving our strong school system. My fear is that should these two gentlemen be elected, we would revert right back to those times and have to begin the slow climb back like we did under Gov. Warner. These gentlemen's past legislative history and ideology do matter and we, the voters, should pay attention especially given our belief in a strong educational system and desire to get our children into the top universities in the nation.

Lu Ann Maciulla McNabb
Centreville

Time To Change

To the Editor:

The recent pictures in the Connection of Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) and Del. Dave Albo (R-42) ["Transportation Secretary

Paints Gloomy Scenario," Sept. 17-23, 2009] trying to cut the grass in the median in front of West Springfield High School were as laughable as they were pathetic. Beyond the fact that poor, hapless Albo was trying to cut foot tall grass with a weed whacker, it's pathetic that a photo op in the local newspaper was the most creative response these two politicians could come up with for the grass-cutting problem.

Has Herrity attempted to utilize the excess capacity in the county lawn-cutting regime to apply to selective places such as medians in front of schools and other high priority sites? Did either of these supposedly business-loving politicians think of asking the lawn service companies to donate some cuttings in between the state cuttings for the good public relations that would result?

No. After 16 years in the General Assembly, Albo's only stated solution to the lack of state funding for Northern Virginia is to wait for re-apportionment of seats in the General Assembly. We need a lot more than that. It's time for a change.

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The Robinson Marching Rams take part in the parade.



The Robinson High School Varsity Cheerleaders.

Once Upon a Robinson ...

Robinson Secondary School celebrates homecoming.

Robinson Secondary School rolled out all the fun, food and festivities that its students could handle last week as the school celebrated its homecoming, themed "Once Upon a Robinson."

The school kicked off the festivities with a weekend of dress-up days, including "Wild West Day," "Twin Day," "Pajama Day" and on Friday, "Blue and Gold Day." The school then threw its pep rally Friday, Oct. 2 for the football team, who was slated to play the Lake Braddock Bruins later that night. According to Principal Dan Meier, 4,000 students packed into the gym for the rally. Following the pep rally, the school had its annual homecoming parade, where many of the school's clubs, teams and organiza-

tions walked along the parade route, which took the participants down Cascade Lane and onto Gainsborough and Wheatstone drives in a large circle that brought them back to the school.

After the parade, the entire student body made its way back to campus for the annual "Taste of Robinson" event where school organizations sold baked goods and businesses like Baja Fresh, Chick-fil-A, Dominos Pizza and Red, Hot and Blue sold hot food. Also, the school blew up a massive castle-shaped moon

bounce and a large slide for the students to enjoy.

Perhaps the most appealing activity at the event, however, was the opportunity to drop Meier and other faculty and staff members

principal and teachers fall into the tank of water.

The festivities concluded the next night at the homecoming dance, where seniors Brad Burgess and Emily Morgan were named homecoming king and queen, respectively.

"I've been here for seven years, and this was by far the best homecoming I've been a part of," Meier said. "We are so fortunate to have a school body with such school spirit that embraces the traditions of home-

"We are so fortunate to have a school body with such school spirit that embraces the traditions of homecoming."

— Principal Dan Meier

into a dunk tank. Dozens of students and their siblings lined up to take three shots with a ball to hit a target and watch their

— JUSTIN FANIZZI



The school's jump rope team marches in the parade.



The Decadance Club

Northeast Regional Service Rolls into Burke Station

FROM PAGE 3

cess of the program based on usage and decide whether or not to continue funding the service.

"The good thing about the program is that we can take the projections [for ridership] and test them out," Cook said. "But the good news is that we have another option. It's a plus-plus all around and it's great for the community to be a part of this."

BULOVA DISCUSSED how the rail system has come full circle, as the county depended on trains in its early stages, and now, more than 100 years later, county residents are again looking to them to move about the area.

She also praised the service, echoing the sentiment that the new rail service provides another mode of transportation to avoid congested roadways.

"We realize that the solution to our transportation challenges in Fairfax County requires a mosaic of solutions," Bulova said. "We can't just advocate for one thing. We need to connect the modes of transportation because it will open up new avenues."

After the ceremony concluded at the Burke Centre Station, Virginia Transportation Secretary Pierce Homer, Amtrak President and CEO Joseph Boardman and Nor-



Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) speaks to the crowd at the ceremony.

folk Southern Chairman, President and CEO Wick Moorman boarded the train to move on to their next stop in Manassas.

Following a brief ceremony there, they were scheduled to make stops in Culpeper and Charlottesville, where they met Gov. Timothy Kaine (D). The group then trav-



The Amtrak train arrives at Burke Centre Station.

eled to Lynchburg for a concluding celebration.

The Northeast Regional Service officially opened for public use the following day, Thursday, Oct. 1. The service will expand to Richmond on Dec. 15.

Northeast Regional

Amtrak has launched a Web site for Virginia rail travelers with information on all Amtrak services in the state including the new Northeast Regional service, www.AmtrakVirginia.com.

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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.

George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123.

FRIDAY/OCT. 9

"Harvey" presented by The Providence Players. 7:30 p.m., at the James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Single show tickets: adults \$15, students/seniors 62+ 12. Season tickets: adults \$35, students/seniors 62+ \$25. Information and ticket reservations: www.providenceplayers.org, providenceplayers@cox.net or 703-425-6782.

Kelly Clarkson. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. With The Veronicas and Parachute. Tickets are \$59.50 and \$49.50, available through all Ticketmaster outlets including the Patriot Center box office, www.ticketmaster.com or Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT. www.kellyclarkson.com or www.patriotcenter.com.

Dan Navarro. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Author Scott Turow presents "Confessions of a Death Penalty Agnostic" 7:30 p.m., at the Fairfax County Government Center Board Auditorium, at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Turow, best-selling author of many novels including "Presumed Innocent" and "Ordinary Heroes," is also the author of "Ultimate Punishment: A Lawyer's Reflections on Dealing with the Death Penalty" and will present a discussion of capital punishment. No registration required, first come, first served. For details, see the Fairfax County



Library's Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-324-8428.

Studio Series #1 "Fuddy Meers." 8 p.m., at Black Box Theater. \$6 adult, \$3 student/senior. The Black Box Theater is on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123.

SATURDAY/OCT. 10

"Harvey" presented by The Providence Players. 7:30 p.m., at the James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Single show tickets: adults \$15, students/seniors 62+ 12. Season tickets: adults \$35, students/

seniors 62+ \$25. Information and ticket reservations: www.providenceplayers.org, providenceplayers@cox.net or 703-425-6782.

Richard Alston Dance Company. 8 p.m., at George Mason University's Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$42, \$34, \$21. Charge tickets at 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com. Center for the Arts complex is on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123.

Spring-Mar Cooperative Preschool Children's Consignment Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Children's clothing and furniture, toys, books,

Disney On Ice Coming To GMU

Disney On Ice presents Celebrations! Oct. 21-25 at The Patriot Center at George Mason University. Tickets can be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets via charge, by phone at 703-573-SEAT; via www.ticketmaster.com; and at the Patriot Center box office. To discover more about Disney On Ice, log on to www.disneyonice.com.

videos, maternity and nursing clothes and more. Due to space constraints, no strollers permitted. www.spring-mar.org, sales@spring-mar.org, 703-239-1213.

Microsoft Access. 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Introduction to databases Adults. 703-293-6227.

High School Reunion. W.T. Woodson High's Class of 1984 will be having its 25th Reunion 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., at Jammin' Java Cafe in Vienna. Go to www.woodson84.org for more details or call Kim at 703-801-1900.

Fall Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., in Historic Downtown Fairfax. The annual event features more than 400

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

juried crafters and food vendors, rides, a new car show and a business expo. The Legwarmers, a 1980s tribute band, performs from 12:30-3:30 p.m. To learn more, visit www.fairfaxva.gov or call 703-385-7858.

Studio Series #1 "Fuddy Meers." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., at Black Box Theater. \$6 adult, \$3 student/senior. The Black Box Theater is on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123.

SUNDAY/OCT. 11

The Flying Karamazov Brothers. 4 p.m., at George Mason University's Center for the Arts. Tickets for youth through grade 12 half price. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins 45 minutes prior to the performance on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets are \$42, \$34, \$21. The Center for the Arts, on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or visit www.gmu.edu/cfa.

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.

Quilt Talk. Learn about quilts made in the 1930s in an illustrated talk by Bunnie Jordan, local quilt educator and appraiser, 2 p.m., at Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. Following the talk, Jordan will discuss the museum's current exhibition, "Stitching Pretty

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

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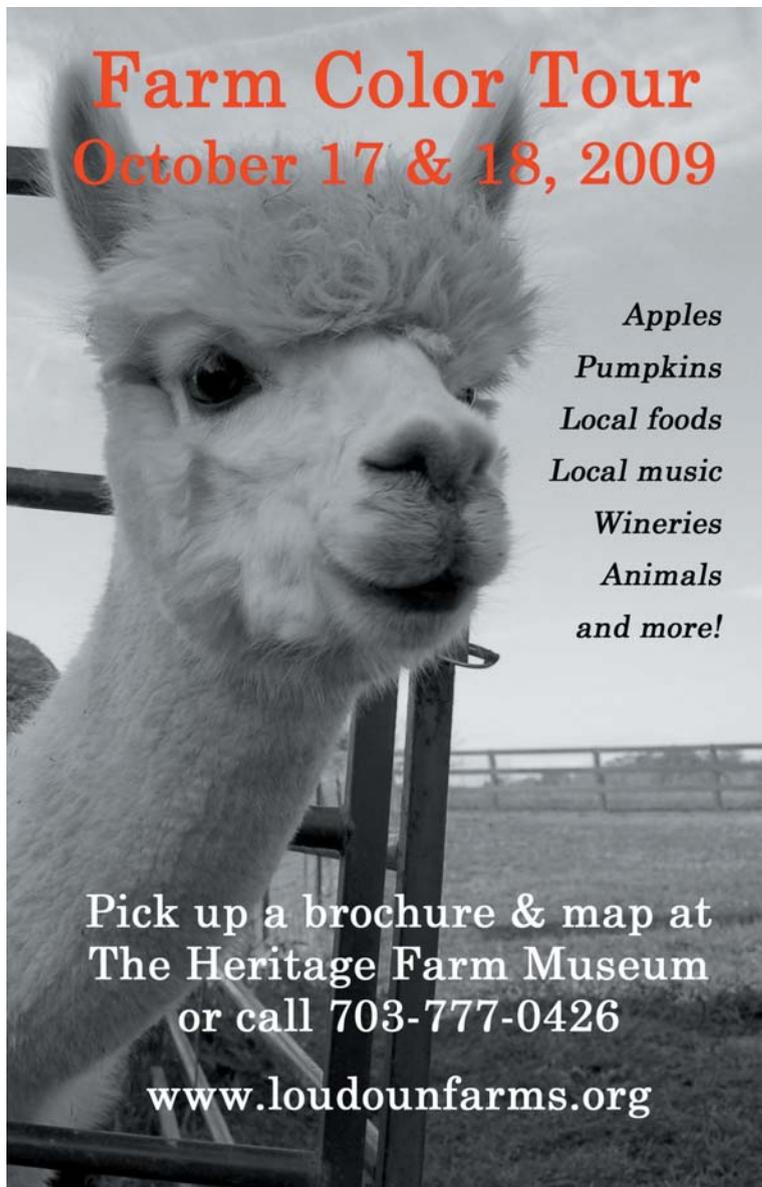
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Training Their Sights on Success

Robinson Rifle Team looks to repeat as smallbore National Champions in 2010.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

Robinson Secondary School senior and dual-sport athlete Nathan Davison could have used the “I’m too tired” excuse if he wanted to get out of his 6 a.m. practice with the rifle team.

After playing a full game as an offensive lineman for the Rams’ varsity football team, who could blame Davison if all he wanted was a Saturday morning’s rest?

But while Davison’s teammates were sleeping in after their 28-21 victory against Lake Braddock Secondary School, Davison crawled out of bed at 5 a.m. to train in his other athletic commitment.

“It’s just a good clean, fun activity.”

— Head Coach Bob Hardy

As a member of the Robinson Rifle Team, Davison meets his teammates and coaches at the National Rifle Association Headquarters in Fairfax each Saturday morning to train for the upcoming season.

“It’s very hard to wake up and get out here for practice,” the offensive lineman said, yawning in between words. “I want to get better and better [at shooting], so I



Nathan Davison, center, a member of the Robinson football team, adjusts his sighting. Davison played in the Rams’ football game on Oct. 2, but woke up in time for the Rifle Team’s 6 a.m. practice the next morning.

come out here regardless of how tired I am.”

Despite the sleepy haze Davison appears to be in, he awakens and rejuvenates when placed behind the sights of his air rifle.

The senior is an expert marksman and while he’s a major part of the Robinson football team, college scouts are more enam-

ored with his shooting ability.

“I’m being looked at by West Point for the rifle team,” Davison said. “I want to get better and show improvement each time they talk to me. That’s why I can get out here [when I’m tired.]”

Davison isn’t alone in battling yawns and the desire to sleep for the chance to practice and earn a scholarship through rifle shooting.

He’s just one of 15 marksmen and women on the team.

The rifle team, which has been existence since the school opened in 1971, is one of Robinson’s most successful sporting clubs.

The team won the 2009 National Rifle Association Junior Sectional Indoor National Championship last season and many of its members are scholar athletes.

“It’s just a good clean, fun activity,” said Head Coach Bob Hardy. “We’ve been successful in competitions and our kids are strong academically.”

The rifle team currently has a 206-23 record in smallbore (.22 cal) rifle and a 16-3 record in air rifle competitions.

THE RIFLE TEAM is a winter sport that runs from December to March, but Hardy credits the team’s recent national championship title and other accomplishments to the members’ commitment to offseason practice.

“The kids come out here and work really



Junior Lauren Alman takes aim at a paper target during the Rifle Team’s practice at the National Rifle Association Headquarters’ underground shooting range.

hard,” the 26-year coaching veteran said. “I’m always impressed by how [passionate] the kids are about the sport.”

Passionate might describe the team’s enthusiasm for rifle shooting, but participating in the club is expensive.

“We have the blessing of the school,” Hardy said. “But we don’t have any funding from the county or Robinson.”

Hardy said that the team has two club-



Rifle Team member Katie Gibson talks with Head Coach Bob Hardy about trying to group her shots closer together. Hardy has been the Rifle Team’s coach for 26 years.

SEE ROBINSON, PAGE 14

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

Through Hard Times: Quilts and the Sewing Arts of the 1930s," features quilts, "feed sack" garments and needlework books. Free. Light refreshments will be served. 703-385-8414.

Studio Series #1 "Fuddy Meers." 2 p.m., at Black Box Theater. \$6 adult, \$3 student/senior. The Black Box Theater is on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123.

Faculty Artist Series: Piano trio with Anna Balakerskaia, Zino Bogachev and David Teie. 7 p.m., at GMU's Harris Theater. Free. The Harris Theater is on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123.

MONDAY/OCT. 12

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

TUESDAY/OCT. 13

Tim Be Told, Steph Modder and Alex Mejias. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Computer Tutoring. 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke.

One-on-one help with basic computer skills, navigating the Internet and using Microsoft Word and Excel. Call to sign up. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Midnight at Bunnyman Bridge.

6:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Storyteller Margaret Chatham and the local

legend of the Bunnyman murders and other creepy tales. Age 12 and up. 703-249-1520.

Fairfax Bibliophiles Book Collecting Group. 7:15 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Topic to be announced. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Let's Hear It For The Girls. 7:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Mother-daughter book discussion group. The Teacher's Funeral by Richard Peck. Age 9-11 with adult. 703-978-5600.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m. 703-644-7333. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 703-644-7333.

Book Club Kids: Fall Leaves Fall! 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Activities and fun, centered around the book Fall Leaves Fall by Zoe Hall. Children should be familiar with this story before coming. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-644-7333.

Book Discussion Group. 1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers by Mary Roach. Adults. 703-644-7333.

Reading Across the Centuries. 6:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. "Masque of the Red Death" by Edgar Allan Poe. Adults. 703-644-7333.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 14

The Guggenheim Grotto and Maia Sharp. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Cowboy Junkies and Lee Harvey Osmond. 8 p.m. at the Barns at Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap Foundation for

the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$40. www.wolftrap.org or 703-938-2404.

Identity Theft. 11 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn how to protect yourself from thieves who want to steal your information. 703-978-5600.

Library Board of Trustees. 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. A maximum of five people may speak during the public comment period. To sign up to speak, call 703-324-8324. Adults.

Teen Book Chat. 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Mother-daughter book discussion group. "The Earth, My Butt, & other Big Round Things" by Carolyn Mackler. Age 12-16 with adult. 703-978-5600.

Finding Your Fit on the Roller Coaster of College Admissions. 6:45 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. How to identify schools that fit individual students, build strong student resumes, and work with admissions officers to gain admissions and merit scholarships. Age 13 and up. 703-644-7333.

THURSDAY/OCT. 15

An Evening with Unknown Hinson. 9 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Stanley Clarke Trio with Lenny White, percussion, and Hiromi, piano. 8 p.m. at the Barns at Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$45. www.wolftrap.org or 703-938-2404.

Ensy Weensy Spiders. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

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SPORTS

Aiming To Be 'Homecoming Wreckers'

DeSantis motivated by chance to spoil South County's homecoming game.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

West Springfield High School senior linebacker Joey DeSantis hopes that on Friday night he can reclaim a nickname his team earned during his freshman year.

"We went 4-6 that season, but we called ourselves 'The Homecoming Wreckers,'" DeSantis said. "Three of the games we won were the other school's homecoming games."

Earning that nickname this season might prove to be a sizable challenge as the Spartans take on the South County Secondary School Stallions on Oct. 9, a team that's currently 4-1.

"I look forward to trying to earn that title again," DeSantis said. "South County's got a good squad so we know it's going to be a hard-fought game."

A win against South County wouldn't just give the Spartans' bragging rights for the season, but also momentum as the team moves further into its Patriot District schedule.

The Spartans 3-2 record might suggest the team is a middle-of-the-road squad. But

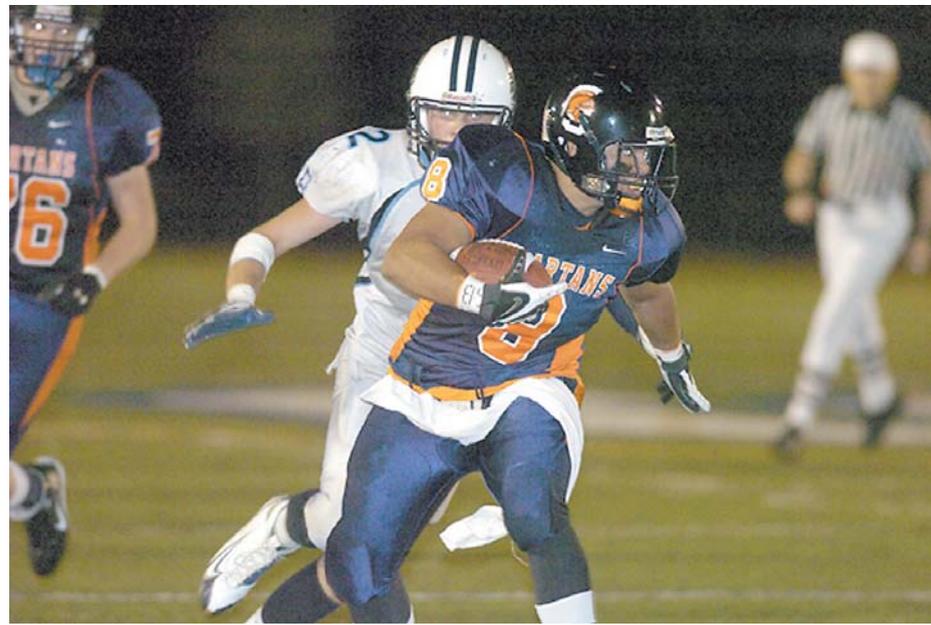


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Senior fullback Miguel Martinez rushes during the Spartans' game against Stone Bridge High School on Sept. 17. The Spartans (3-2), are looking to extend their win streak to three against South County Secondary School on Oct. 9.

DeSantis is quick to point out the quality of the team's opponents.

"We've had the toughest schedule for our out-of-district games," DeSantis said. "We put up a good fight and came up short, but we'll be ready for [the Patriot District teams]."

West Springfield's two losses have come from two of the Northern Region's best teams, Oakton High School (3-2) and Stone Bridge High School (5-0).

Separating West Springfield from a 5-0 record and the current 3-2 mark, is only four

points.

The Spartans lost 35-34 to Oakton in overtime and 36-33 to Stone Bridge.

DESPITE THE disappointing close losses to top tier opponents, the team knows that the lessons from those losses will drive them as the season progresses.

"Each week we made progress," Head Coach J.T. Biddison said. "We just hope to get better each week."

Biddison, who took over the coaching job after Bill Renner left last season, said the

"I look forward to trying to earn that title again."

— Joey DeSantis, linebacker

players have responded to his coaching style.

"It's calmer on the field," DeSantis said. "[Biddison] really makes it a point to talk to you and teach from your mistakes. It's much different from last year, but I like it."

Although the team has faced disappointing losses early, DeSantis said he's ready to face Patriot District opponents.

"This is the toughest district [in the Northern Region]," he said. "It gets at me that we could be 5-0."

The Spartans already are 1-0 this season against Patriot District opponents after opening district play with a 15-14 win against T.C. Williams High School on Oct. 2.

"We had a big turnover early when we were getting ready to score and then they scored," Biddison said. "It put us in a bind, but then we controlled the clock. After that our offense did a great job of holding on to the ball and the defense shut down [T.C. Williams]."

Although the team wants to win its third straight district championship many of the players are taking the season one game at a time.

"The season has gone well so far, but we can do better," senior offensive lineman Kevin Gillespie said. "We have to work harder in practice and know that we'll get better from it."

Robinson Rifle Team

FROM PAGE 12

owned rifles, but those interested in joining the club must be able to provide their own weaponry.

According to Hardy, an air-rifle can cost from \$800 to \$1,500, and that's if a student is lucky enough to find a used rifle.

The investment climbs higher when one adds in the costs of a shooting jacket and various scopes and sighting equipment.

"It can be \$1,500 to \$2,500 for everything," Hardy said.

Fortunately, the club doesn't have to pay to practice at the NRA range.

"We practice here on a handshake," Hardy said. "When we lost our old practice spot at Fort Belvoir, I came here and explained our situation. I told them I didn't have any money, but [the NRA] took us in and allows us to use the range during off-hours."

Combined with the rifle team's recent success is the impeccable safety record the team has earned throughout its existence.

"We've never had an injury [involving the guns] and we make sure to teach the kids safety first," Hardy said. "Safety is our No. 1 concern. Before the kids start shooting on the team, they have to go through safety seminars."

Hardy said that club has managed to stay safe by keeping guns unloaded when not in use, strict enforcement of not bringing the rifles to school and proper use of the weaponry to avoid injury.

Despite the team's accomplishments, some misconceptions surround the club.

"People think we twirl guns like a drill team," junior Alanna Linton said. "I tell them that we actually shoot the guns. Then they think that [we're] training to be sniper killers."

Many team members joined out of curiosity about the sport.

"It's a varsity letter and it sounded like a fun activity," senior Raleigh Cunningham said.

Junior Lauren Alman, a team captain, said she enjoys the team's camaraderie.

"I never thought I'd be in [Rifle Club], but I tried a bunch of sports and I felt right on the rifle team," she said. "What makes rifle team so much fun is that it's like a family. We just have fun with each other and we all get along."

The family-bonding isn't just between the students, it also extends to their coach.

"I love these kids like they are my [platoon members] when I was in the Army," Hardy, a retired lieutenant colonel, said. "It's always a pleasure to wake up and shoot with the team."

WEEK IN SPORTS

Reilly's Two Passing TDs Lead Woodson Over Westfield

The W.T. Woodson varsity football team improved to 6-1 after its 28-7 victory against Concorde District powerhouse Westfield High School.

Senior quarterback Connor Reilly led the team with 196 passing yards, 39 rushing yards and two passing touchdowns.

Woodson's defense held the Bulldogs to seven points and was lead by sacks from James Johnson and Tim Herberg.

The Cavaliers' next game is on Oct. 9 against West Potomac High School.

Rams Tennis To Host Tourney

The Robinson Tennis Team will be hosting a Fall Tennis Classic on Saturday, Oct 17 at Robinson Secondary School.

The tournament will be run in a shootout format over one day featuring consolation rounds and mini-sets.

Age divisions will be boys and girls 12 and under, boys and girls 14 and under and high school boys and girls.

The entry fee is \$25 per person and checks should be made out to Robinson Boosters Club.

To enter or for more information, contact Robinson Tennis Coach Paul Fisher at paul@aol.com or 703-503-9337.

NEWS

FROM PAGE 4

At a minimum, Virginia should consider terminating the HOT lanes project at Seminary Road, instead of in Springfield, to address the potential traffic problems created by the military workers relocation to Alexandria, wrote Bulova.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Cook's Community Engagement Initiative

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) is hoping to boost civic engagement and participation in community groups through a series of educational events about building effective local leadership.

"We want to give community organizations the training and resources to they need to marshal the great ethic of volunteerism that we know resides in the people of this county," wrote Cook in a board matter presented to the other Fairfax County supervisors Oct. 5.

Cook said his constituents should organize block parties and make an effort to say hello to their neighbors as they walk down the street. He challenged each Braddock resident to try and meet on new person who lives on their street or in their neighborhood each month.

"As our communities become more diverse in age, ethnicity, and socio-economic

status, we must make greater effort to get to know people with backgrounds different from our own," he wrote in the board matter submitted to the Fairfax County board.

Cook will formally launch what he is calling a "Community Engagement Initiative" at a town hall meeting Wednesday, Oct. 21 in Lake Braddock Secondary School cafeteria. The Braddock District Council, Neighborhood Watch, Area Agency on Aging and Emergency Response will also sponsor booths at this event about volunteer opportunities.

NEWS BRIEFS

Cook's office will also conduct a one-day "Leadership Institute," tentatively scheduled for Jan. 23, for people who wish run organizations such as homeowners associations, civic associations, parent teacher associations, community pools, recreational clubs, scouts, business and religious organizations.

The one-day seminar will teach current and prospective community leaders about the legal, financial and fiduciary duties that fall to people who run community organizations. They will also teach the leaders-in-training how to effectively recruit volunteers, reach out to people of different backgrounds, and run a meeting, according to Cook's board matter.

Later in the spring, the Braddock District office will also help sponsor two neighborhood colleges. This program, which is run by the county, teaches citizens about local government, community building, cultural

competency, and team building, wrote Cook.

Those wishing to attend the October town hall should send an e-mail to braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-425-9300.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Local Businesses Cut Public Road Grass

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors commended the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce and other local businesses for taking it upon themselves to cut grass in and around Virginia's state roads.

The Virginia Department of Transportation is responsible for mowing and pruning in the commonwealth's right of way, including the greenery around most county roads and in medians, but recent revenue shortfalls have caused the agency to cut back on mowing.

Virginia's transportation funding is largely dependent on a statewide gas tax and the fees associated with vehicle sales, both of which have declined sharply in the recent economic downturn.

Though Fairfax County supervisors have continuously complained about the lack of mowing and upkeep along local state thoroughfares, Virginia transportation secretary Pierce Homer indicated that the grass cutting budget could be slashed even more during a presentation to the Northern Vir-

ginia Transportation Alliance last month.

"If the grass is being maintained properly [in the median or alongside a road], it is probably because of a business or company," said Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee).

Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield) added that some homeowners have taken it upon themselves to mow grass in the right-of-way along Rolling Road and Huntsman Boulevard in his district.

In addition to the Greater Springfield Chamber, McKay, Herrity, Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) and Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) request Fairfax honor the following businesses and groups for their grass-mowing efforts at a Board of Supervisors meeting in November:

- ❖ Burke Centre Conservancy, which mows all the medians of Burke Centre Parkway
- ❖ The Halle Companies, which dedicates 16 to 20 hours per month for the mowing of medians and upkeep of South Van Dorn Street.
- ❖ Hilton Springfield, which mows a 10 feet by 100 feet patch of grass between its fence and Franconia Road
- ❖ Kingstowne Residential Owners Corporation, which contributes 48 hours per month to the mowing of medians on Kingstowne Village Parkway
- ❖ Akridge, which maintains Walker Lane's medians and curbs
- ❖ Interstate Worldwide Relocation Van Lines, which mows the median along a section of Rolling Road.

PEOPLE NOTES

Doucette Stars In 'Violet Hour'

Cameron Doucette of Burke was selected to play Denis McCleary for the University of Mary Washington's Studio 115 production of 'The Violet Hour.'

Doucette is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Doucette of Burke, and is a 2007 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary School.



Cameron Doucette

A junior in international affairs and French major, Doucette has appeared in the UMW productions of "She Stoops to Conquer" as Marlowe, "Goodnight Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet" as Romeo, and "Our Town" as Geroge Gibbs. In addition, he is box office manager at Klein Theatre and is an officer in the Swing Dance Club.

Performances took place Sept. 24-27. Studio 115 is a black box theatre managed by and for UMW students.

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PHOTO BY DIANE METZGER

MS Walkers Members of the Jacki's Determined Soles, led by Oak Hill resident Jacki Varacalli, third from right, stop for a group photo before the start of the two-day, 50k Capital Challenge Walk MS at the George Mason University Field House on Saturday, Oct. 3. The event is expected to raise half a million dollars for the National MS Society, National Capital Chapter.

Hershey, Blondin Wed in New York

Daniel Hershey formerly of Burke and Michelle Blondin formerly of Glens Falls, N.Y. were married Sept. 27, at the Top of the World Golf Resort overlooking Lake George, N.Y. Rev. Ronald Qualley of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Fairfax officiated. Dinner and dancing followed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mary Berger of Colonie, N.Y. and Ray Blondin of Glens Falls, N.Y. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Hershey of Burke.

The maid of honor was Sarah Lee Higginson of Las Vegas, Nev. Bridesmaids were Rene Driscoll, Cheri Lynn Schroeder, Margaret Ann Schroeder and Katrina Schroeder. Flower girl was Ava Hershey. Best man was Evan Hershey of Henderson, Colo. Groomsmen were Stephen Sewall, Brian Olmstead, Christopher Brown and Benjamin Hershey. Ring bearer was Nathaniel Hershey.

The bride and groom are both graduates of Rochester Institute of Technology. The bride is a senior marketing manager at IDC in Framingham, Mass. The groom is a project team leader at iRobot in Bedford, Mass. The couple honeymooned in Bali, In-



DONATED PHOTO

Daniel Hershey and Michelle Blondin

onesia, and will be residing in Pepperell, Mass.

SCHOOL NOTES

Karanveer Singh, son of Gurdip Singh and Ravinder Kaur of Burke, was named to the Randolph-Macon Academy dean's list for the fourth quarter. A student must attain a grade point average above 3.3 to be named to the dean's list. Karanveer is a rising senior at the Academy.

West Springfield High School students **Lauren R. Brown, Megan A. Fraedrich, Maya N. Halthore, Gabriel F. Manion and Emily A. Pope** have been named as Semifinalists in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Lake Braddock Secondary School students

Samuel J. Chirtel, Mari F. Jarris, David J. Katz and Christina E. McGarry have been named as Semifinalists in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Anthony Arcuri of Burke earned a dean's academic scholarship from York College of Pennsylvania. Arcuri is a first-year marketing major and a graduate of James W Robinson Jr. Secondary School. The dean's academic scholarship is a scholarship of one-third tuition per year for entering first-time, full-time freshmen accepted by Feb. 1, who have graduated in the upper two-fifths of their high school class and have a combined SAT score of 1,150 or higher.

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28 Yard Sales

Community yard sale-South Run Oaks Sat. Oct. 10th - 8 am - 1 pm (rain date Sun. Oct 11th)

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DONATED PHOTOS

Norman Davis, host of the TLC show 'Ultimate Cake Off' gave a demonstration of his cake decorating skills and served up a taste of his creations to everyone.

Something Sweet

Private preschool, school bring stars to Fall Festival.

Students and families of Grasshopper Green and Kenwood School, a private preschool and elementary school in Annandale, enjoyed their Fall Festival on Friday, Oct 2.

This year, in addition to face painting, pony rides, bubble machines, cotton candy and moon bounces and a barbecue buffet, the schools welcomed two special guests. Norman Davis [www.thesweetlife.com], host of the TLC show "Ultimate Cake Off" gave a demonstration of his cake decorating skills and served up a taste of his creations to everyone. Davis is Certified Master Sugar Artist, one of only seven in the United States. He donated some of his beautiful cakes to the school's annual cake walk. Davis also donated as a door prize a children's birthday party where the kids help cook and decorate their own cakes.

The Capitals mascot Slap Shot joined in the fun, dancing the electric slide with parents and children.



Norman Davis, host of the TLC show 'Ultimate Cake Off,' donated cakes for the cake walk at the Oct. 2 Fall Festival at Grasshopper Green preschool and Kenwood School. Davis also judged students' cakes.

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.

SATURDAY/OCT. 10
Morning Coffee with Del. David Bulova (D-37). 9-11 a.m., at Main Street Bagel, 10268 Main St, Fairfax. Constituents are invited to talk about issues of interest and to ask questions about legislation affecting our community. The format is casual and no appointment is needed.

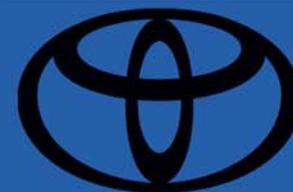
Child Identification and Fingerprinting. Fairfax County Police is offering a free photo

of your child and a set of his or her fingerprints using quick, clean, inkless technology. Photo identification with fingerprints gives authorities vital information to help them locate a missing child. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at Fair Oaks Fire Station, 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax.

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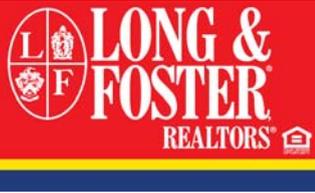
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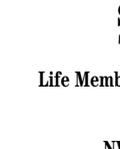
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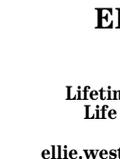


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