

Springfield CONNECTION

Franconia ❖ Kingstowne ❖ Newington

Fit To Fight

NEWS, PAGE 2



Firefighters from the Springfield Volunteer Fire Department visit Greenspring Retirement Community to determine who is the fittest.

St. John's Fall Fair

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Plush Police Partners

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Who's Fit Under Fire?

Greenspring Retirement Community hosts event to find most fit firefighter.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

Members of the Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department returned with their trucks and gear Oct. 5 to a familiar location, but were not fighting fires or saving lives. This time, they made the trip to Greenspring Retirement Community to try to save their own.

Greenspring welcomed several members of the station to take part in the "Viva! Firefighter Challenge" as part of National Fire Prevention Week. The challenge put the firefighters through a battery of physical tests to determine which department member could be called the station's "most fit."

"We are doing this as part of our annual physical tests," said Lt. Tom Mayhew. "There are only five fire departments in the county that do health screening annually, and we are one of them. It's the culture of the department, and it shows that a healthy firefighter is a better firefighter."

The firefighters performed the tests in Greenspring's Viva! office, which is typically open to

residents of Greenspring for health and wellness screening. Viva! is a program that puts an individual through a series of tests to measure body composition, bone density, physical activity levels, leg strength, balance, vision, blood pressure, mental health, cognitive function and more. The information gleaned from the tests then helps a Viva! counselor give the individual advice on how to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

"It's something that we encourage and rec-

"It shows that a healthy firefighter is a better firefighter."

— Lt. Tom Mayhew, Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department

ommend people to do," said Greenspring Associate Director Robin Gliboff. "There's no place you can go to get all these tests done in the same place."

THE FIREFIGHTERS, one-by one, underwent the leg strength, balance, body composi-

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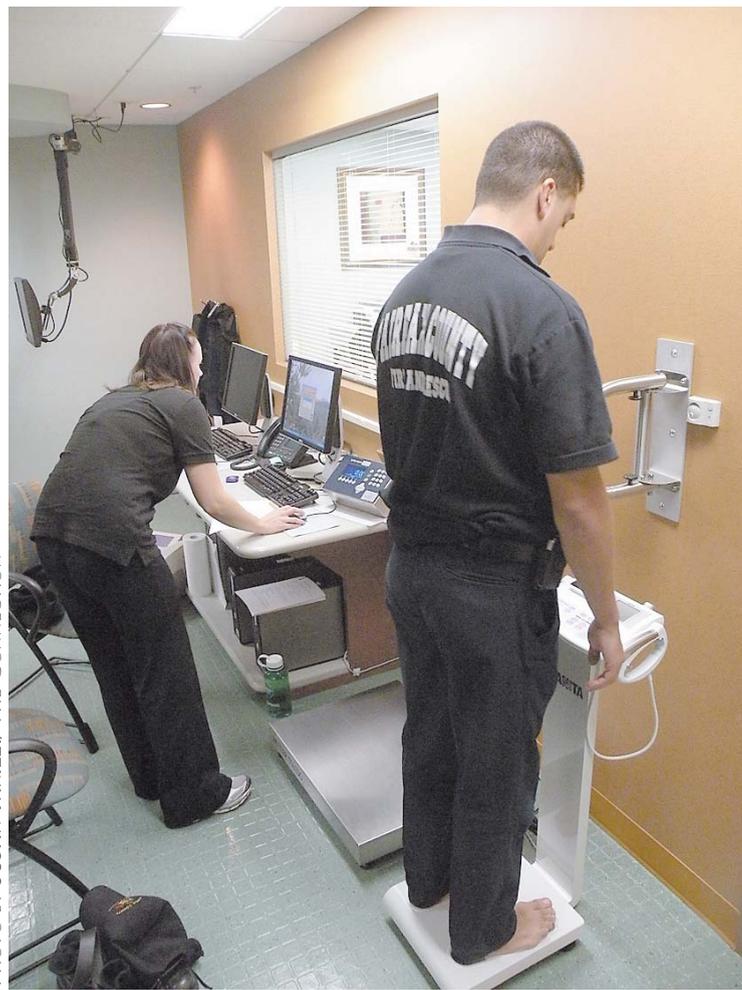


PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

Firefighter Steve Sprague gets his body composition tested.

Enjoying a Little Fall Fun

St. John's Methodist hosts annual Community Fun Festival.

BY TIFFANY DANIEL
THE CONNECTION

Music, games, friendly people, great weather and food — what more could a person ask for? The St. John's Methodist Church hosted its seventh annual Community Fun Festival on Saturday, Oct. 3 at the church in Springfield.

With music provided by the Arlington Methodist Church, the band had people from all over Virginia, but most of them came from the church and the City of Fairfax Band. Logan Kraft also performed popular songs, and also songs that he wrote himself.

"Us being here was kind of last minute, we received an e-mail, prayed about it, and now we're here," said Randy Sharp, leader of the band said.

The festival offered various activities for children such as a petting zoo, pony rides, games, a moon bounce, train rides around the church parking lot and face painting, which is always, a big hit. The festival is open to all ages but it is aimed at children ages 3 to 13. The festival had games such as a cakewalk and tin cup, which was similar to golf.

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Church volunteers ran the games played at the festival.

"I volunteer every year because I feel like it brings our community together, and we had a bigger outcome this year," said C.J. Sidener, a volunteer.

THE FESTIVAL began seven years ago when a group of church members decided that it would be good for the children and also would help bring the community together. Most of the people who are behind the scenes are volunteers and members of the church.

"We wanted to make this event fun and inexpensive, because we didn't want parents to have to reach in their wallets with this day in time," said Mary Bickford, church council member.

The church reached out to Holmes Middle School eighth-graders that need community service hours to get them at the event. Also spread around the parking lot were vendors, selling many things ranging from paintings to jewelry.

"This is our first year being here and we like it, it's very family oriented and all the people are nice, we'd definitely come back" said Paulette Martin and Stanley Martin, who sold inspirational rocks at the

SEE ST. JOHN'S, PAGE 12

Isabel Dalsimer and her mother Allison Dalsimer goof off at the St. John's Methodist Church's Community Fun Festival.



PHOTO BY TIFFANY DANIEL/THE CONNECTION



PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

Officer J.T. Frey, Officer Pete Feigleson, Elaine Huston, Renee Wheeler, Capt. Bruce Ferguson and Lt. Randy Joyce

Sewing Bears, Mending Hearts

Janome Memory Craft Club donates 53 teddy bears to police.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

Members of the Janome Memory Craft Club of Fairfax have been on a charitable mission for years, providing a variety of goods and services to organizations and individuals throughout the county.

They have reached out to the military, hospitals and the Salvation Army. They have filled Christmas stockings, embroidered quilts and collected neck coolers for soldiers in Iraq. This year, however, they are turning their attention to the community's children and enlisting the help of the Fairfax County Police Department to do it.

For their latest charity effort, the club made 53 stuffed Teddy Bears by hand over the past six months and is donating them to the West Springfield Police District to hand out to children they encounter on the job. As a result of their efforts, the club was recognized by police at the Oct. 6 meeting of the West Springfield Citizens Advisory Committee with members Renee Wheeler and Elaine Huston, both Springfield residents, representing the group.

"We will use these [bears] to make the kids feel better," said Officer J.T. Frey, who honored the group at the meeting. "If a child was the victim of a crime or if their parents were involved in a crime, [the bears] can be used as a tool to make them feel at ease."

Wheeler, a 10-year member of the craft club, which meets at the Fairfax Sewing Center near Jermantown Square in Fairfax, said that the idea to make the bears

came from her neighbor. After a car accident last year, her neighbor's child was given a teddy bear by a police officer on the scene. Wheeler then brought the idea to the club last September, and they voted to make the bears. The group made a few samples and brought them to the police, who were excited by what they saw. Soon, the 30-member craft group had its members divided into groups, with one stuffing bears and the other sewing up the backs.

"We brought in a sample and they said right away, 'We want these,'" Wheeler said. "The children who have come to my house and seen the bears left with smiles on their faces, so I can only imagine how the kids who really need it will feel [when they get one]."

IN ADDITION to providing comfort after a traumatic experience such as a car crash or domestic disturbance, Huston also noted that the bears can be used to forge a relationship between children in the community and its police officers. She said that children can often be intimidated by the officers, and giving a bear to the child can leave a lasting impression.

"It helps children to see the police in a better light," Huston said.

"Sometimes, they don't see police officers as friends and these help to show the children that they are."

Wheeler said that the group, which is also making the bears for children at Fairfax Hospital and walker bags for patients at the Veteran's Administration at the moment, has already voted to make the bears for the police station again next year. While the bears will go only into patrol cars in the West Springfield Police District this year, Wheeler said that the group hopes to get the bears into police cars across the county so that they are available to all children who may need them.

"We would love to branch out if we see that it is working," Wheeler said. "Children can be traumatized and this is something for them to hug."

"The bears can be used as a tool to make [the children] feel at ease."

— Officer J.T. Frey

WEEK IN SPRINGFIELD

Supervisor McKay Wants To Eliminate Human Signs

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) wants Fairfax County drivers to be focused on the road, not a human being swinging a big arrow in the middle of the traffic median on Richmond Highway.

"There are many of these 'human' signs in my district, most notably in the months leading up to the April 15 federal income tax deadline, where costumed advertisers direct drivers to tax preparation services," said McKay at a Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting Oct. 5.

The supervisor is particularly concerned about people standing in the rights-of-way, such as road medians, or on sidewalks, very close to the road, dressed in costume and/or moving signs, he wrote in a board matter.

McKay wants the supervisors' legislative committee to determine what, if any, authority the county may have to regulate such forms of advertising practices.

Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason) also expressed concern over what she called "rooster tail" signs, which are cloth and blow in the wind.

"They are proliferating at a tremendous rate in my district and they are almost as distracting as having a person standing there," said Gross.

But not all supervisor districts have problems with such flamboyant forms of advertising. Supervisor Mike Frey (R-Sully) said he has never seen the type of human sign to which McKay referred. But any legislation regulating human advertising should be careful not to prohibit high school students promoting car washes for the booster club and other related activities.

"Good luck with the free speech aspect of that one," said Frey.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Mount Vernon Residents Targets of Tree Trimming Scam

Fairfax County Police have been responding to numerous complaints of exorbitant fees, deceptive practices and poor or unnecessary work that are part of tree cutting and trimming scam, according to Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) and Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large).

"In Fairfax County, there are clearly some tree workers taking advantage of unsuspecting residents through these door-to-door solicitations," wrote Bulova in a letter to the director of Virginia's Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

In a board matter introduced Oct. 5, McKay added that these unscrupulous workers appeared to be targeting vulnerable populations, particularly senior citizens. The complaints also originated in the Mount Vernon area, which McKay partially represents.

The supervisors have directed staff to launch a consumer awareness campaign about the disingenuous tree workers, with targeted outreach to seniors.

In her letter, Bulova also wants the department of professional and occupational regulation to investigate whether state legislation is needed to address the problem.

"We hope that you will look into this problem to see if there are gaps in licensing requirements that allow those tree workers to operate in an inappropriate manner," wrote Bulova in her letter.

Bulova copied State Sens. George Barker (D-39), Toddy Puller (D-36) and Patricia Ticer (D-30) as well as Dels. Vivian Watts (D-39), Dave Albo (R-42), Mark Sickles (D-43), Kris Amundson (D-44) and Dave Englin (D-45) on her letter. McKay said these representatives have constituents who have been impacted by the tree worker scam.

— JULIE O'DONOGHUE

Man Charged with Making False Report of Attack at Mall

Fairfax County Police have determined that a man who claimed to have been stabbed at the Springfield Mall on Tuesday, Sept. 29 falsified the report.

According to police, Anthony Chedid of the 6400 block of Franconia Court in Springfield made a false police report when he alleged he was robbed and stabbed at the mall. Chedid claimed that he was approached by two men who demanded his wallet. Chedid claimed that he complied and was then stabbed in the upper body with a knife by one of the assailants, who then fled.

After investigation, the injuries were deemed to be self-inflicted. Chedid was arrested on Thursday, Oct. 1 and taken to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and was charged with filing a false police report. Police declined to release a motive, as the case is still being investigated, according to Officer Camille Neville.



Chedid

POLICE PHOTO

Sex Offender Fails To Register

A 58-year-old piano teacher was arrested for allegedly failing to adequately update his information on Virginia's Sex Offender Registry. On Tuesday, Oct. 6, around 10 a.m., Charles Duwain Dillon of the 6900 block of Spelman Drive in Springfield, was taken to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged with violating Virginia Code 18.2-472.1.

According to police, Dillon allegedly set up a Web site entitled "Piano Dreams Studio" advertising piano lessons for ages 4 and up, and failed to register it with authorities. Virginia law requires a registered sex offender to notify authorities within 30 minutes of any change to Internet communication used by the offender.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

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. Construc

SEE MAKING PLEA, PAGE 7

3 Vie in 41st Delegate Race

Kerry D. Bolognese

Age: 55
Town of Residence: West Springfield
Party Affiliation: Republican
Education: Fleetwood Area High School, Fleetwood, Pa. ; B.A. in political science from East Stroudsburg University, and an M.S. in international relations from Rutgers University.

Family: Wife, Christine; parents, Karl and Dorothy Bolognese; three grown step children: Ellyn, Catherine and Steve; four grand children ages 7, 4 1/2, 3, 1 1/2

Employer and Occupation: Vice president, International Programs, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (formerly National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges).

What is the most significant issue facing Northern Virginia?

Fiscal responsibility: Out of control spending in Richmond and high taxes on the middle class.

How would you address this issue?

Here are some ideas I plan to propose: slow the rate of growth in certain government programs saving millions of dollars; create a Web-based/online tool for transparency and easy access to the state budget and government programs so people know where their money is going; establish a bipartisan commission to scrutinize the budget to weed out unnecessary spending and programs as was done with the (Former Gov.) Wilder Commission a number of years ago; consideration of sunset provisions

SEE KERRY D. BOLOGNESE, PAGE 14



Kerry D. Bolognese

David Marsden

Age: 61
Town of Residence: Burke
Party Affiliation: Democrat
Education: Woodson High School, Fairfax; Randolph-Macon College

Family: Wife, Julia; Sons: Nathan, 39; Stuart, 34 and Connor 33. Grandchildren: Sarah, 6; Nathan, 9; and Anderson, 1

Employer and Occupation: Development Services Group, director of state and local programs



David Marsden

What is the most significant issue facing Northern Virginia?

The most significant issue facing Northern Virginia is education. Recent funding reductions at the state and local level due to the current economic down turn has put our outstanding school system at risk of not being able to meet the varied needs of all of our students.

How would you address this issue?

We are currently facing tough economic times where serious budget cuts must be made. Virginia, by constitution, must have a balanced budget. We do not permit deficit spending. Education is the key to our prosperity and growth. When the economy gets stronger and funds are available, restoring education funding must be our first priority. Having high-ranking schools ensures Virginia's future, protects our property values and it is the best investment we can make. We must also revisit the state funding formula for schools as it penalizes Fairfax County for its high incomes without accounting for its high cost of living.

SEE DEL. DAVID MARSDEN, PAGE 14

C. Monique Berry

Age: 46
Town of Residence: Burke
Party Affiliation: Independent Green

Education: Stafford Senior High School; B.A. in communications from American University

Family: Single with no children; three rescue cats

Employer and Occupation: Self employed film producer and full-time candidate



C. Monique Berry

What is the most significant issue facing Northern Virginia?

Northern Virginia has experienced rapid development and a heavy influx of new residents. There must be a system in place that is fiscally sound and transparent. I am concerned that our taxes continue to rise as the deficit continues to increase. There needs to more accountability in our political processes.

How would you address this issue?

There needs to be reform of county government with regard to how we spend our tax dollars.

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

I am honest, straightforward, have common sense and am practical. I believe in building strong families and community. I have a respect for all individuals, their belief systems and equal

rights. I have been active in civil, humanitarian and environmental issues since I was a youth. I excelled in school and am a quick study. I will be a voice for my constituents and not special interest groups.

What differentiates you from your opponent(s)?

My official political campaign slogan is: "I don't waste my money — I won't waste yours. Quite simply, I believe in accountability and cannot overemphasize the latter.

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

The time has come to elect a delegate who will effectively listen and have the best interest of the community as a whole.

Who are your political heroes/influences?

Not all of my heroes or influences actually held office, but their contributions to the political process were innumerable. Eleanor Roosevelt was the first lady behind the president. She was outspoken and an advocate of the people. John F. Kennedy projected an aura of approachability. Martin Luther King promoted peace, unity and respect for all when some individuals during that particular era were advocating divisiveness. Above all, each of the preceding leaders' support of civil and human rights helped tremendously in which to usher into existence many of the notions of change that we often hear about and still talk about, even to this day, in the 21st century, yet have not fully embraced.

NEWS

Herrity Pushes For 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

NEWS BRIEFS

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

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OPINION

Consumer Representative

To the Editor:

One issue that is not getting enough attention as the current campaign season marches on to its conclusion in a little over five weeks from now is which political team will do the best job to ensure that Virginia is a leader in the 21st century economy. The Republican candidate for attorney general, Ken Cuccinelli, is demonstrating that he will bring 21st century consumer services and protection into the Commonwealth.

Currently, the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs (OCA) is housed within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs. This was fine when Virginia had a primarily agricultural based economy and the majority of consumer issues were focused on food safety and ensuring fair competition among farming interests. Such is obviously no longer the case as Virginia is emerging as one of the leading high-tech, service based economies in the world.

Today, Virginia's families and especially its elderly population are faced with sophisticated scams and misleading advertising and pricing tactics. Additionally, Virginia businesses are pulled in several different directions when it comes to responding to consumer issues on the state and federal levels and this is unfair, confusing and burdensome for both consumers and businesses.

As attorney general, Ken Cuccinelli has announced that he would have legislation introduced that moves the Office of Consumer Affairs into the Office of the Attorney General. Additionally, Cuccinelli promised that he would conduct a public awareness campaign for consumers and businesses to ensure that complaints, questions and concerns about utility, financial and insurance activities are directed to the Office of the Attorney General and not the State Corporation Commission. This proposed change is important to citizens of the Commonwealth as the job of the SCC is to apply the laws of the General Assembly as they relate to regulation of business and protection of customer interests — the attorney general represents consumers. Consumers will finally have one-stop service when it comes to questions, complaints or the sharing of information about potential scams and other violations. More importantly, Virginians will know that the Virginia attorney general is looking out for their interests.

Virginia citizens and businesses will benefit from this transformative change. With Ken Cuccinelli as attorney general and Bob McDonnell as governor, Virginians will know that they have strong advocates for consumers and businesses.

Thomas G. Bognanno
 Springfield

Bolling Refuses To Debate

To the Editor:

Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling's (R) refusal to debate with challenger Jody Wagner (D) in Prince William County this week doesn't surprise. It matches his consistent record of missing meetings of key councils and commissions in the commonwealth on which the lieutenant governor serves and we expect him to attend.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Revenue Estimates, a group focusing on an area of key concern in the commonwealth, has held seven meetings since Mr. Bolling took office. He has yet to show up for even one, according to minutes from the Virginia Department of Taxation.

The Health Care Reform Commission has held five meetings. Mr. Bolling did not bother to show up for three of them. Minutes of the other two meetings were not available from the Department of Health and Human Resources.

Of the nine meetings held by the Virginia Disability Commission, Mr. Bolling missed every one of them during his term as a member or the commission, according to records of the Clerk of the Virginia House of Delegates.

Mr. Bolling has missed all or most meetings of other councils and commissions on which he serves as well, including the Commission on Civics Education.

So is it really surprising that a lieutenant governor who routinely blows off meetings of groups on key issues would fail to attend a political debate to defend his record? I think not.

Stephen Clermont
 Springfield

Making Plea for HOT Lanes

FROM PAGE 4

tion 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.

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

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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.

THURSDAY/OCT. 8

WBIS Fairfax County Monthly Luncheon. 12-1:30 p.m., at the Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax. Come join Women Building & Investing in Success. Learn more at www.wbis.biz.

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.

FRIDAY/OCT. 9

Lunch Bunch. 12 p.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Bring lunch and come for stories. Birth-5 with adult. 703-971-0010.

Hanzel und Gretyl, Dreams in Fear, Dark Dissolve and more. 8 p.m. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.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

Children's Consignment Sale sponsored by Spring-Mar Cooperative Preschool. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Children's clothing and furniture, baby equipment, toys, books and videos, maternity and nursing clothes and more. Due to space constraints, shoppers with strollers are not permitted. www.spring-mar.org or 703-239-1213.

Flu Vaccinations. 10:30 a.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Shots \$25 or Medicare Part B; must be 18 or older. Call Inova for details; 877-895-5284877-895-5284. Adults. No registration required.

Friends Book Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. 703-339-4610.

Dance Gavin Dance, Emarosa, Of Mice & Men, Tides of Man of Machines and Girls Get All The Action. 4:15 p.m. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

Charm City Devils, Method of Friction, The Splints and more.

9 p.m. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$11 in advance, \$13 at the door. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

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.

Richard Alston Dance Company. 8 p.m., at GMU Concert Hall. \$42, \$34, \$21 Pre-Performance Discussion 45 minutes prior to the performance. The Concert Hall 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 complex is 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.

Poison the Well, I Saw a Ghost, Remember This City, Life After Hours, The Markov Process and Earthborn. 5 p.m. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

Clifton Community Woman's Club will be featuring homemade goodies and coffee at Clifton Day, 9 a.m.-5

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

p.m. Come browse club's cookbook, a collection of member's most famous dishes, available for a special Clifton Day only price of \$10. Talk to members about the various charitable organizations that benefit from the club's programs. For more about the CCWC, visit at www.cliftoncwc.org.

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.

TUESDAY/OCT. 13

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.

Welcome Fall. 10:30 a.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Join us for stories and activities. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-971-0010.

Calling All Wimpy Kids! 4 p.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Age 8-14. 703-339-7385.

Acoustic Open Mic with Bob Gaynor of The Roadducks. 7 p.m. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Age 21 and up. 703-569-5940 or jaxxroxx.com.

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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

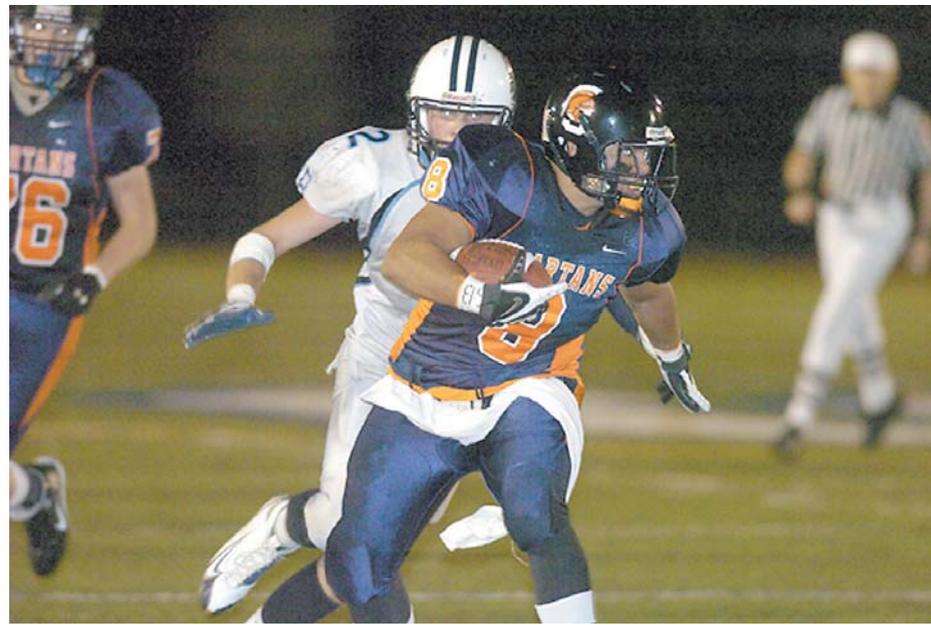


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

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."

Edison Victorious in 'Battle of the Birds'

Mother-daughter coaching rivalry takes main stage in 'battle.'

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

In some parents' lives, a moment occurs when they realize they can no longer defeat their children in the games they used to win for much of their children's lives.

For Ginger White, 45, head coach of the Edison High School field hockey team, that moment was pushed back at least one more year as her team defeated Hayfield Secondary School's field hockey team, coached by her 25-year-old daughter Lauren White, 1-0.

The Oct. 2 match was dubbed the "Battle of the Birds," because of the schools' mascots the Edison Eagles (4-8) and the Hayfield Hawks (4-8).

The game was a meeting of, former but now reunited, National District rivals.

But the marquee matchup was the friendly mother-and-daughter rivalry.

Before the game, Lauren White led her mother 2-1 in previous meetings, but this was the first time that the two teams had played each other as district rivals.

"It's a friendly rivalry because it's my mom," Lauren White said. "But I wanted to win."

Lauren White said that neither side resorted to gamesmanship, but her mother did play a small joke when she asked the announcer to remind her daughter of her alma mater.

"I told the announcer to say that she was a 2005 Edison graduate," Ginger White said. "It was my way of saying, 'You're still ours.'"

Lauren White said that she was unaware of her mother's pre-game tactic, but said that her mother was on the wrong team as well.

"She graduated from Hayfield in 1982 and played on the field hockey team," Lauren White said.

With the joking between the Whites over,

the players took the field in front of a crowd that Lauren White said her players described as "what you would normally see for football games."

ALTHOUGH BOTH teams are currently in rebuilding years, the match was not a one-sided affair.

"Battle of the Birds' is definitely what it was," Ginger White said. "It was a great game between two evenly matched teams. It's also a big rivalry because Hayfield is [back in the National District] and it's only going to get bigger"

For the first half, the game was a defensive stalemate with both teams failing to solve their opponents' goalie.

But what's a good rivalry without a dramatic finish to motivate next year's team?

The Eagles provided that when senior Britney Weber scored the game-winning goal with two minutes left in the game.

"It was a great play," Ginger White said. "[Weber] scored after a breakaway and it put us up 1-0."

The drama didn't end with Weber's goal. With time expired, the Eagles committed

a penalty in the shooting circle, giving the Hawks a chance to tie the game.

"We had a penalty corner when time expired so we had a chance," Lauren White said. "It was a real nail biter for the fans."

The Hawks' first penalty corner chance failed to score, but the Eagles committed another penalty in the shooting circle, giving Hayfield another chance.

"I thought we would go to overtime [when they got the second corner]," Ginger White said. "The game really turned out to be a battle."

Unfortunately for Hayfield, its second chance was cleared out of the shooting circle, ending the game.

"Our biggest problem has been scoring," Lauren White said. "It's something we've been working on all season long."

DESPITE THE series between the Whites now tied at 2-2, Lauren White said she is anxious to experience the "Battle of the Birds" atmosphere again.

"I've never seen that many people at a field hockey game," White said. "It was a great experience."

FAITH

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.

Dr. David Mellott, of Lancaster Theological Seminary, a noted theologian, will speak at both the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services of the Little River United Church of Christ, 8410 Annandale, on Oct. 25 on Beyond Affirming: A Deeper Conversation. For more information, call church office, 703 978-3060

Antioch Baptist Church invites children and adults with special needs to its Sunday, Nov. 1, 11:30 a.m. worship service: Celebrating All God's Children. A reception will follow the service. RSVP to Robyn Ausberry at 703-866-0399 or 703-743-9504. Antioch Baptist Church is located at 6531 Little Ox Road, Fairfax Station.

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

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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.

BULLETIN BOARD

MONDAY/OCT. 12

League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area: A Look at Issues Critical to Democracy. The League will be discussing its partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau. Materials will be on hand to suggest ways we can reach out to Hard to Count Populations. 1:30 p.m., at Greenspring, Hunters Crossing Classroom, Spring Village Drive, Springfield. For more information, go to the LWVFA Web site: www.lwv-fairfax.org. Contact: Kay, 703-644-2670.

TUESDAY/OCT. 13

South County Federation Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the South County Secondary School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. Southcountyfederation.com.

Meet the Dems. The Jewish community hosts a light dessert meet and greet with Jody Wagner and Steve Shannon, Democratic candidates for lieutenant governor and attorney general, 8 p.m., at Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. RSVPs required at www.jcouncil.org/2009MeetTheDems or to JCRC, 703-962-9230/dlinick@jcouncil.org.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 14

League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area: A Look at Issues Critical to Democracy. The League will be discussing its partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau. Materials will be on hand to suggest ways we can reach out to Hard to Count Populations. 10 a.m., at Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred's Oak Road, Burke. For more information, go to the LWVFA Web site: www.lwv-fairfax.org. Contact: Lois, 703-690-0908.

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PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

Firefighter Michael Beilstein listens to instructions from Lisa Boorum on how to take the test.

Finding Fit Firefighters

FROM PAGE 2

tion and bone density tests. First, they stood on a machine that resembled a scale that measured the firefighter's vitals and their body composition, including body fat percentage. After obtaining their basic physical information, the firefighters then moved onto the bone density scanner, where they each put their right heel onto a machine that tested that strength of their bones. Finally, each firefighter stood on a platform in front of a television screen and did exercises that tested their balance. In addition to leaning in different directions, the firefighters had to close their eyes and try to balance, and then stood on a foam block and tested their balance again.

"I thought that the testing was pretty intricate," said firefighter Matt DeRosa. "The tests seemed simple, but it told you so much about yourself. I was kind of sweating my [test] results a little bit."

Each machine gave a printout with the

person's test results, and then Viva! associate Lisa Boorum and her staff analyzed the results after the firefighters left to determine who was the most fit. Though the test results were not available at press time, Mayhew predicted that the winner would easily be Jerome Bethea, whom Mayhew said runs for 45 minutes on a treadmill while wearing a 40 pound weight vest as part of his typical exercise regimen.

"I enjoyed the balance test, but I didn't like the body fat test," Bethea said.

Though the department already makes its fair share of visits to Greenspring, as Mayhew estimates that three to five calls a day come from the community, they nonetheless plan on making Viva! tests a regular part of their existing health screening process.

"This is a good partnership," Mayhew said. "We're here quite frequently and with that, we work together on many projects and this is a natural evolution of that. It's a great marriage."

St. John's Methodist Fete

FROM PAGE 2

event.

Each youth received 20 tickets upon arrival and five more tickets was only \$1. Hot dogs, hamburgers, funnel cake, soda and water were sold for at most \$5.

"I came last year because I saw the sign on the road, and I like the fact that as soon as you walk in you don't have to pay, and then if you want more you can buy more tickets, and my two children enjoy it," said

COLLEGE NOTES

The following students from Springfield recently graduated from the College of William and Mary with bachelor of science degrees: **Michael Harootunian, Raymond Lai, Iris Warchall, Daniel Lee, James McGuinness and Sarah**

Amy Williams.

New to the festival this year was magician Tim Brennan, who entertained children with his ventriloquism and magic tricks. He utilized children from his audience to help him perform his tricks.

The Fun Festival is growing every year with a bigger audience and more vendors and volunteers.

"We try to add something every year, and I think that we're getting bigger and better" Bickford said.

Milam.

Amanda Geder from Springfield recently graduated from the College of William and Mary with a M.E.D. degree.

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POLITICS

Kerry D. Bolognese

FROM PAGE 4

on new authorizations; and regular audits of key state agencies.

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

I have lived in the community for more than 31 years, have deep roots, family and strong interests in preserving the quality of life for area residents. I feel blessed to live in this great community and that is why I want to go to Richmond to keep it that way. I am not a professional politician. I am a concerned citizen who works every day and has to meet family needs by putting together a kitchen table family budget. I have worked 13 years on Capitol Hill and understand the legislative games that are played to hide budget realities from the voters, protect politicians from their records, and I how agencies resort to scare tactics to pump up their budgets at the expense of good governance and taxpayer dollars.

What differentiates you from your opponent(s)?

My opponent has consistently voted to increase taxes, including the State gas tax, sales tax, hotel, tax, titling tax, grantors tax. Added together, these taxes could have resulted in an increase of \$1,200 for the average family. He voted for a transportation bill that would have sent much of this money downstate, leaving Northern Vir-

ginia with only 18 percent of the transportation dollars while we constitute 33 percent of the state's population. That bill also contained the abuser fees. I would have voted against all of these and worked for bipartisan solutions. He sits on the Transportation Committee, but our traffic problems have gotten palpably worse. He has shown no leadership on this issue. My opponent has also voted against the Commonwealth's Right-to-Work law, which has been responsible for the Commonwealth's reputation of one of the best states in the nation to do business.

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

When elected, I will represent you and this wonderful community in Richmond above any party affiliation or special interest.

That is why I am running to maintain the quality of life in Springfield and Burke. I am not a professional politician and when I say I will work for fiscal restraint and low taxes, that is what I will do.

Who are your political heroes/influences?

Ronald Reagan, because he worked across the aisle to lower taxes, reduce spending, and rejuvenate our economy. He was not just a Republican leader, but a leader for the whole country with clarity of mission, conviction and principle.

Del. David Marsden

FROM PAGE 4

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

As the former head of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, I am the leading expert in the House of Delegates on Juvenile Justice issues. I use this area of expertise in order to try and save the state money. I have authored and passed legislation that gives police better tools to combat violent street gangs, introduced the Prisoner Litigation Reform Act, which eliminates unnecessary notices and filings in prisoner lawsuits, saving the state time and money. I also created a pilot program in four counties, Fairfax included, that works with delinquent spouses to keep them out of jail so they can pay child support, saving the state money and directing more funds to their children.

What differentiates you from your opponent(s)?

Experience. I grew up in Fairfax County. It is where I spent my career working for the Fairfax Juvenile Detention Court, first as a probation officer and for 17 years as the superintendent of Juvenile Detention. I authored Virginia's "blended sentencing" law and created a video intake system for statewide juvenile detainees that saved money and kept police officers on the

street and not tied up in paperwork.

My wife and I raised our family here. I coached four different youth sports, served on community non-profit boards, supported events at the local schools, and saw my three sons graduate from Lake Braddock High School and Virginia Colleges. I still serve on local boards of directors including Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), the Fairfax County Partnership for Youth, and Preserving Fairfax Cemeteries.

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

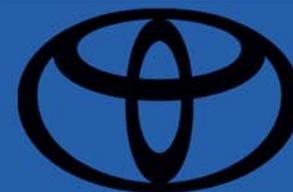
I take pride in my constituent services. I return e-mails and phone calls personally in order to understand the details and get to the bottom of issues that affect people's lives. I work at my regular job on a part time basis so that I can put the necessary time and effort into following through for constituents to solve problems.

Who are your political heroes/influences?

Del. Jim Dillard (R), who represented the 41st District for 32 years prior to my election. Jim is a great friend and mentor. It was always Virginia first over political partisanship with Jim. During his last six years in office, I worked for Jim and always admired his dedication to education, his district and his duty to the Commonwealth.

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