

Online Safety

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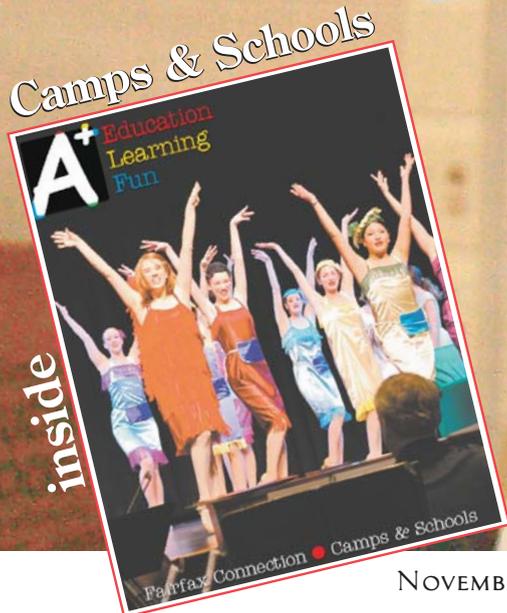
**Stefan Mascoll, with the FCPS
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Remembering Extraordinary Acts

Local veterans remember comrades, both fallen and still living.

BY KRISTINA TREVINO
THE CONNECTION

On a chilly and rainy day, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, proud veterans stood together and remembered the valiant heroes that have served and fallen during time of war.

On the damp lawn of the Fairfax Courthouse, The American Legion Post 177 and VFW Post 8469 conducted a Veterans Day Ceremony of Remembrance to commemorate the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I, which led to the celebration and recognition of our brave veterans.

"Today is an important day because we are honoring the veterans that are alive and passed away," said Bob Sussan, commander of American Legion Post 177, "and with 1,000 members, American Legion takes care

"Today is an important day because we are honoring the veterans that are alive and passed away."

— Bob Sussan, commander of American Legion Post 177

of the community, their veterans, their families."

The hazy and dreary weather further augmented the mood of the melancholic ceremony that commenced at 10:30 a.m. with an opening prayer, then the Pledge of Allegiance, followed with remarks by City of Fairfax Mayor Robert Lederer, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large), Sussan and Floyd Houston, commander of the Veterans of Foreign War Post 8469.

"My dad served as a marine during World War II, served in the Pacific in battles such as Iwo Jima and Okinawa," said Bulova. "When he was in the town of Charan Kanoa, he loved the name Charan so much that he vowed if he ever got out alive he would get married and name his daughter Charan."

"I have tremendous respect for our veterans," she said. "My dad did come back alive



PHOTO BY KRISTINA TREVINO/THE CONNECTION

Local officials join members of American Legion Post 177 and VFW Post 8469 on Wednesday, Nov. 11, for a Ceremony of Remembrance.

but many of his friends did not come back. They still are alive in my dad's stories and there isn't a dad where he doesn't mention his experience and friends including people did not survive."

After the moment of silence, volunteers lined up to read names from the Fairfax

Honor Roll at a podium under a small tent. "What we do is read the names of all the Fairfax County war dead, which are listed on the Fairfax County war memorial and we added the names of the modern war

SEE REMEMBERING, PAGE 6

Promoting Youth Safety in Digital World

Police discuss dangers of sexting, texting.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

It was an informative and eye-opening presentation on keeping children and teens safe in a digital world — for all 16 or so parents who attended. City of Fairfax and Fairfax County police joined with the Fairfax Community Coalition to bring this information Thursday, Nov. 12, to Lanier Middle School.

"This is an important issue for us to learn about," said Principal Scott Poole. "Sometimes, parents are the last to know what's going on. In school, we're seeing problems with PCDs — portable communication devices — and it's a classic case of technology getting ahead of regulations."

He said cell phones used to be just phones; but now, they're used for texting, e-mailing and taking and sending pictures — often, nude ones. "And all of a sudden, kids are in serious trouble," said Poole. "We're talking about nice kids who've never been in trouble before."

Not long ago, he said, a Lanier student let a female classmate borrow his phone.

In the girls' locker room, she took legitimate pictures of her friends but, in the background, other girls were changing. After showing the photos to her friends, she thought she deleted them all, but one was left. When she returned the phone, the boy, 12, saw a photo with half-naked girls in the background and shared it with his friends.

Just like that, said Poole, the boy was facing legal problems with the school and police. "He even tried to e-mail the photo to a friend, but was unsuccessful, luckily," said Poole. "If not, there'd have been nothing the school could have done to stop it. That picture could have ended up on a billboard in Asia. The kids were amazed when we sat down and talked about it. They need to understand how instantaneous actions can have serious ramifications."

Stefan Mascoll, with the FCPS Office of Safety and Wellness, discussed cyber-bullying — harassing or degrading others electronically. "Kids can be playing a game with somebody online, when that person says, 'I'm gonna kill you' or 'I know where you live,'" said Mascoll. "Kids lose some of their personal boundaries and get a false sense



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Police Officer Marc MacDonald

of confidence online."

They might not challenge a bully at school, he said, but "can do or be whatever they want online. They can threaten someone and hit 'resend' 150 times. So students start feeling there aren't any consequences, and they know the victim probably can't track them through the Internet. But police

can track down an IP address. Parents can also teach children how to use their cell phones to prevent hateful or threatening voicemails or text messages."

"Kids who are bullied feel embarrassed and socially isolated," said FCPS school psychologist Rebecca Caldwell. "They can internalize it and suffer from anxiety and depression, and it can also impact their academics."

Mascoll also warned that embarrassing information made public can be permanent. For example, he said, "Because of one picture posted online, Michael Phelps is an eight-time, Olympic, gold-medal winner/marijuana user."

In Virginia, cyber-bullying is now a misdemeanor punishable by a year in jail and/or a \$2,500 fine. Furthermore, said Mascoll, students caught doing illegal things online also lose their parents' trust.

"Kids use the new technology to communicate, so parents need to begin using it, too," he said. "Keep your child's computer in a public location so you can check on what they're doing. Maintain an open dialogue with them so you know what's going on in their lives."

SEE ONLINE, PAGE 17

Man Charged in City Fire

The City of Fairfax Fire Marshal's Office has charged a part owner and manager of Bridges Billiards and Grill with deliberately setting fire to the place. He is Ajmal Aman, 28, and the incident occurred Nov. 1, around 3:30 a.m.

Lt. David Whitacre, a fire investigator and assistant fire marshal, explained the case against him in a Nov. 1 affidavit for a warrant to search the popular nightclub, at 10560 Main St., for possible evidence of arson.

Assistant Fire Chief Andrew Wilson said Monday that the damage is estimated at \$50,000. He said Bridges' owners had hoped to be able to reopen the business sometime this week but, as yet, that has not occurred and is "probably very optimistic."

Wilson said a sprinkler system contained the flames to a small office/storage room so it "did not take long to extinguish. Getting the smoke out took longer. The call was initially dispatched as an automatic alarm, which only gets an engine and ladder truck — two units, eight people — [but] this was quickly upgraded." Overall, some 50 firefighters and EMTs were dispatched, along with four fire engines, plus tanker trucks and ambulances.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Call for Committee Members

The Fairfax City Council recently adopted a resolution to create an Environmental Sustainability Committee, which will focus on environmental and energy sustainability issues related to the City of Fairfax. Among its duties, the committee will also advocate for protecting, preserving and enhancing the environment as it relates to issues under consideration by the City Council and Planning Commission; advise the City Council and all boards and commissions on environmental policy issues and provide a means for promoting discussion between the public and private sectors on issues related to the environment.

The city is seeking three members from the City of Fairfax business community to serve on the committee. City residency is not required for business committee members. The committee will meet twice a month on a weeknight to be determined. Letters of interest can be submitted to the City Clerk through this month via e-mail at mburrell@fairfaxva.gov, fax 703-385-7811 or in person at City Hall.

H1N1 Mass Vaccination Clinic

The Fairfax County Health Department will operate a mass vaccination clinic for the H1N1 virus Saturday, Nov. 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

The vaccine is voluntary and will be offered on a walk-in basis, free of charge. The clinic will target pregnant women; people who live with or provide care for infants younger than 6 months; health care workers who have direct patient contact; people 6 months through 24 years of age and people 25 years through 64 years of age who have certain medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications. The Health Department has the capacity to vaccinate a maximum of 12,000 people. To help reduce crowds and keep the line moving, only those who are in the target groups should plan to come to the clinic.

Those planning on attending are encouraged to check www.fairfaxcounty.gov/flu/ prior to coming for any updates or breaking news on the clinic. Details for other vaccination opportunities can also be found on the Web site.

One Month in Jail

In September, City of Fairfax Police charged Nicole Salvas, 25, of Woodbridge, with grand larceny following an incident at a nightclub here. Police said that, on Sept. 4, at 1:48

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 5



Reza Afshar, founder of the Afghan Relief Fund, is surrounded by some of the orphans his nonprofit has helped.

Giving to Afghan Relief

Student, businessmen start basketball event for Afghan orphans, widows.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

The old saying goes, home is where your heart is. For Maria Kazemi, Reza Afshar and Naser Shahalemi, that means giving back to their native Afghanistan whenever and however they can. As another bitter winter approaches, thoughts turn to those less fortunate on the other side of the world.

Kazemi, a graduate student at George Mason University and former president of the Afghan Student Union there, had organized a clothing drive last year, collecting scarves, sweaters, shoes and blankets for orphans and widows for the country that has been devastated by war over the past three decades. But when the cost to ship those goods became almost prohibitive, she decided to do something different this year.

Her new idea? Basketball and volleyball.

With the help of a few other students, Kazemi has organized a two-day, 20 team basketball and volleyball tournament at Mason on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 21 and 22, with registration fees and donations going to benefit the Afghan Relief Fund, an organization started a few years ago by Afshar, whom Kazemi had met during last year's collection drive.

Shahalemi, a mutual friend, was a natural call to make for Kazemi, as he is a founder of the National Basketball Association of Afghanistan and organizer of basketball tournaments for Afghani players across the U.S.

"Our goal is to raise around \$7,000 this year, and we've had a high interest so far" in terms of teams

that wish to participate, Kazemi said.

She also reached out to various community groups and businesses for sponsorship, but found it a little harder to get the same support as last year, a difficulty she blamed not on an unwillingness to help, but the hard economic times faced by so many in the U.S.

But Kazemi and her friends at GMU have continued working hard, and as of Nov. 13, six men's basketball teams, one men's volleyball team, two women's basketball teams and four women's volleyball teams have signed up to play, and with a \$350 registration fee pledged per team, Kazemi is on her way to meeting her goal.

The money will be donated to the Afghan Relief Fund, and Afshar will use the money to purchase shoes, blankets, gloves and hats for the women and orphans who reside in the two dormitories his organization has built in Afghanistan in recent years.

All three have the same reason for being involved in this tournament: They feel fortunate for their lives and opportunities in America and wanted, more than anything, to help those who didn't make it out of the country in the 1978 revolution.

"I just want to help," Kazemi said. "This is a charity event and while it's the first year for it, I'm hoping to keep it going in the future if it's a success."

She'd like to eventually make a trip to Afghanistan and meet the people at Afshar's centers, where children orphaned in the war and widows with no family to care for them have been given new homes.

"I can't go right now, but I want to do whatever I can here to make things better," she said.

Kazemi knows she's fortunate, living in America, getting a top-notch education at GMU — she's a double major in accounting and marketing — and even though she's young, she knows she wants to give back.

"I'm very thankful for all the things I have here,

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 6

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

FROM PAGE 4

a.m., a male at Bridges Billiards and Grill, on 10560 Main St., reported seeing a woman conceal someone else's purse under her shirt.

NEWS BRIEFS

Subsequent investigation by the Patrol Division resulted in

Salvas being identified as the suspect and arrested. She appeared Oct. 26 in General District Court and, at that time, her charge was reduced to disorderly conduct. Judge Penny Azcarate then sentenced her to 360 days in jail, with 360 suspended, for 30 days to serve.

McCormick's Charges Are Dropped

On March 19, City of Fairfax Police charged Lisa Mylan McCormick, 36, of Sterling with four counts of felony embezzlement from a city law firm. However, when she appeared Oct. 27 in General District Court before Judge Ian O'Flaherty, all the charges against her were dropped.

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Basketball Tournament at Mason

FROM PAGE 4

like a great family, my education, a home and a job. I really feel for others who are in need of our help.”

IT WAS THIS sense of giving back that prompted Afshar to start the Afghan Relief Fund in 2002, after a trip to Afghanistan. He spent four months touring the country, witnessing the devastation first-hand. He was familiar with organizations that offered sponsorships for orphanages or children who lived there, but he wanted to do more.

“There are 1.5 million orphans in Afghanistan ... seeing those children broke my heart,” he said. “I knew this was an area I had to organize my efforts.”

So he got to work with the idea of building dormitories with classrooms and cafeterias for as many children as he could, and just last year, the first one opened, providing shelter for some 500-600 children. This year, he opened another building, this time for the women who were widowed after years of war and poverty.

Both the women and children would have been begging in the streets, Afshar said. Now they have a place to live, just outside Kabul, and Afshar is looking ahead to building more as soon as he’s able.

In addition to the housing, Afghan Relief Fund distributes food once a month, including wheat, rice, flour and cooking oil. In the winter, coal or wood is provided for fires. Widows also receive a stipend of \$25 per month, which may seem a small amount, but it goes a lot farther in Afghanistan, he said.

Widows and children are offered classes on computer training, English, carpentry, auto mechanics and sewing, to learn a skill that may help them get a job.

People who donate to the Afghan Relief Fund can get a real sense of where their money is being used by going to his Web site, www.afghanrelieffund.org. Afshar is quick to note that this organization has no overhead and all that work there are volunteers, so every penny donated goes directly to helping those in need.

He’s proud of Kazemi and her efforts to organize a fund raiser, especially since she only started working on it in September.

“Whatever money they can raise is great,” he said. “It’s a gesture of goodwill.”

The tournament is open to teams of all descriptions, which will be a good challenge for the players who normally participate in Shahalemi’s National Basketball Association of Afghanistan, a league he helped form a few years ago. The league now has 50 teams, many of which have won tournaments around the country.

More

To help out the Afghan Relief Fund, go to www.AfghanReliefFund.org. For more information about the basketball and volleyball tournament, send an e-mail to ARFClassic09@gmail.com. The tournament is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 21 and 22, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the George Mason University Fieldhouse, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Admission is free, but donations for the Afghan Relief Fund will be accepted at the door.

Remembering Vets

FROM PAGE 3

dead,” said Houston.

“We have about 300 members and it’s been going on since 1946, since world World War II,” he said. “World War I and Spanish American War veterans decided there needed to be a post when World War II veterans got home, so they organized one.”

Along with the reading of the names, a vintage U.S. Navy Bell from a war ship is struck before each name is read aloud by Avon Blevins, a retired Navy chief. He was on board the U.S.S. O’Brien where half the crew was wounded during his time on board while fighting in both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

“The ceremony was beautiful,” said Bulova. “It very moving the way they blended into the ceremony the reading of the names of people who lost their lives in different wars. Extremely well done.”

Among the veterans present that day was a true gallant warrior. “Jerry Wolf was shot down over Germany in 1944, 2,600 feet, and then wounded, and then a year later one of our comrades liberated him and then they didn’t know each other until we were doing our history program,” said Houston.

“We had a job to do and we did it. You feel the proudest to who we paid the honor to, to those that didn’t make it,” Wolf said, with tears in his eyes.

As the ceremony reached its culmination, the veterans saluted, and the wreath was placed in front of the Fairfax War Memorial, followed by one more salute and a closing prayer.

“The significance of Veterans Day: ordinary people, doing extraordinary things,” said Sussan.

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SCHOOLS

Eagle View Wins Healthy School Award

Eagle View Elementary School received the 2009 Marine Corps Marathon Healthy School Awards, presented to the three schools with the most student participants in the Healthy Kids Fun Run. The 1-mile run, which took place in the Pentagon North Parking lot on Oct. 24, hosted a record 2,691 runners between the ages 6 to 13 from 353 different schools. Eagle View won the award for the fourth consecutive year, bringing 182 participants to the event.

The Marine Corps Marathon will present the award during a school assembly with its partner, Washington FAMILY Magazine, and the magazine will make a donation to the school's physical education department.

COLLEGE NOTES

Matthew Baer of Fairfax received a bachelor of science in business degree cum laude in finance from the Pamplin College of Business during Virginia Tech's fall commencement ceremony on Dec. 19, 2008, in Cassell Coliseum.



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FAIRFAX CONNECTION ❖ NOVEMBER 19-25, 2009 ❖ 7

OPINION

Calling All Young Artists, Writers

Local children, teens may submit work for Children's Connection.

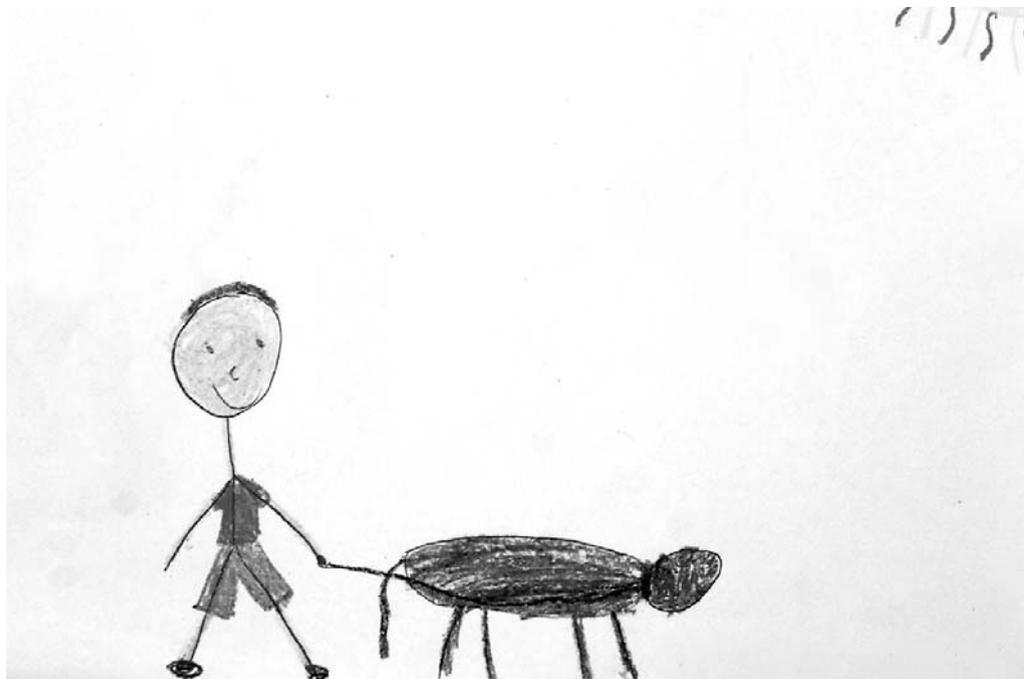
Every year, over the winter holidays, the Connection turns the pages of one entire issue over to the contributions of local students.

We will feature artwork of many kinds, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories, reflections and more. Artwork can include paintings, drawings or any media; photos of sculpture, ceramics or other works too large to submit are also encouraged.

We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled. Past contributions have come from children from nursery schools through those preparing to graduate from high school.

Sometimes an art or English teacher will assign a project and submit the work of an entire class, but individual submissions from any young person in the community are welcome.

You can see last year's Children's Connections on our Web site. Go to www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, click on "print Editions Online" in the red bar and scroll down to "Children's Connection."



Ryan Pelczynski, Providence Elementary

We prefer digital submissions, delivered on CD or via e-mail. Please send in submissions as soon as possible. Our address is 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. E-mail to fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com. Please be

sure to include the name of the artist or author, and include age, grade, school attended and name of the home town, along with address and phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

Veterans Day

To the Editor:

In the year 1918 on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month an armistice was reached and went into effect between the Entente Powers consisting of United Kingdom, France, the Russian Empire, Belgium, Serbia, Canada, Australia, Italy, Japan, Greece, Romania and the United States and the Central Powers, consisting of the German Empire, the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, the Ottoman Empire and the Kingdom of Bulgaria. This armistice was to bring an end to more than four years of war known as World War I, the Great War and the War to End All Wars. The armistice was planned for several months in advance of November 1918 and the armies on both sides knew of its existence. Yet the fighting continued for vain attempts at last chances to secure glory, honor and reputations. Most attempts ended with a grave marker. Additionally, while this official date to mark the end of the war reflects the ceasefire on the Western Front, hostilities continued in other regions, especially across the former Russian Empire and in parts of the old Ottoman Empire. This war to end all wars killed more than 15 million people.

Armistice Day would primarily be a day to honor veterans of

World War I. However, since Armistice Day in 1918 there have been numerous other wars in which the United States has participated. World War II required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen in the history of the United States.

In that war, more than 62 million people were killed most of whom were civilians. The Korea

War, a few years later, claimed more than 3 million lives again most of whom were civilians. The Vietnam War killed 4 million people. The list of American participation in war continues on through the invasions of Grenada, Panama, Iraq in 1991, Kosovo and up to today's current occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan.

After American forces fought in Korea, Congress, at the urging of veterans' service organizations, struck the word "armistice" and inserted "veterans." On June 1, 1954, with legislative approval and President Eisenhower's signature, Nov. 11 became a day to honor all American veterans. For some veterans, Veterans Day is a day of celebration, patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. For other veterans, it is a day just like any other. Many veterans go to work on this day. Many other veterans and their loved

ones suffer in silence or out loud with the physical and mental pain of service and war. Most veterans old and young just fade away without notice.

In this world of war without end, remember this day was to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be celebrated and known as "Armistice Day."

Anthony Teolis
Treasurer

Veterans For Peace, Delwin Anderson Memorial Chapter

Supporting Public Option

To the Editor:

We agree with President Obama's assertion to Congress that "now is the time to deliver on health care." Moreover, we strongly endorse the views expressed by many reform advocates, such as Dr. Howard Dean, that "the healthcare reform bill is not worth passing unless the American people have the choice of signing up for a public option — a real public option."

Some detractors argue that a public option would bring with it a bloated, inefficient, "big government" program, and that our hard-earned dollars should not be cavalierly siphoned into a taxpayer-funded, perpetual revenue sink

that citizens end up regarding as their inalienable right. If you have a visceral reaction against federal taxes in any amount or for any purpose, we have no counterargument to convince you. But if you are open to a more nuanced assessment, we offer the following comments for your consideration as you debate, amend, reconcile, and vote on health care legislation over the next few weeks:

We also don't like paying taxes, and take personal offense when our hard-earned dollars are squandered on special-interest projects large and small.

We are, however, prepared, indeed enthusiastic, to pay hard-earned dollars for programs that benefit the citizenry at large — tangibly or intangibly, now or in the future.

Our biggest fear regarding a public option would be chronic underfunding rather than rampant waste and abuse.

We note that our national parks are a source of national pride and actually weave into the fabric that defines us as Americans. That fabric would be stronger and even more precious with the added thread of a national healthcare option.

George, Christine and Karin Lehnigk
Oakton

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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/NOV. 19

Lunch N' Life for Seniors 50+, sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke. 12-2 p.m., at Fairfax Presbyterian Church, 10723 Main St., Fairfax. Entertainment provided by Special Blend, a barbershop quartet. \$8. 703-323-4788 or www.fairfax-burkesc.org.

The GMU Players present Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen's "The Exonerated." 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater. \$6, \$3 students and seniors. 703-993-8888.

Workshop Jazz Band Concert. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Our Daily Bread 25th Anniversary Celebration. 7-9 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Business casual. Light appetizers, cake, wine tasting provided by The Wine House. Children's activities for age 5 and up. Donations welcome. 703-273-8829 or info@ODBfairfax.org. www.our-daily-bread.org.

Afternoon Reading Group. 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. "She Walks These Hills" by Sharyn McCrumb. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Robbie Schaefer and Lucy Wainwright Roche. 8 p.m. at the Barns at Wolftrap Center for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$18. Wolftrap.org.

"The Lion, the Witch and the

Wardrobe." 7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Call 703-913-3934 or go to www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/academic/perf/theatre/theatre.html to purchase tickets.

Neil Simon's comedy "Rumors." 7:30 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at www.RobinsonDrama.org or at the door. More information is on the Web site, or call 703-426-2123.

"Alice in Wonderland Jr." 7:30 p.m., at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. Tickets \$5. For more, contact director Brenda Scott at 703-934-7250 or brenda.scott@fcps.edu.

FRIDAY/NOV. 20

Aquila Theatre Company Presents "As You Like It." 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$17-\$34. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468. www.patriotcenter.com.

The GMU Players present Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen's "The Exonerated." 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater. \$6, \$3 students and seniors. 703-993-8888.

Grant Lee Phillips and Winterpills. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$18. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Passafire and MOJO. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance/ \$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Jean-Luc Ponty and Clara Ponty. 8 p.m. at the Barns at Wolftrap Center

for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$35. Wolftrap.org.

"Meet Me in St. Louis." Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology's Drama program will be performing "Meet Me in St. Louis," at 7:30 p.m., in the auditorium at Thomas Jefferson. Tickets are \$10 at the door and food and drinks will be sold at intermission. A pre-show performance of TJ Drama's VTA competition piece "The Idiot and the Oddity" will be presented at no extra charge. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology is located at 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria.

"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." 7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Call 703-913-3934 or go to www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/academic/perf/theatre/theatre.html to purchase tickets.

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SATURDAY/NOV. 21

Masterworks 3 Fairfax Symphony Orchestra with Chu-Fang Huang, piano. 8 p.m. at George

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 12



\$14⁹⁹

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HOLIDAY CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/NOV. 19

Turkey Tales. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Thanksgiving story time. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.
Goodbye Pumpkin Pie. 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-293-6227.

SATURDAY/NOV. 21

Holiday Food Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. next to Safeway at Courthouse Plaza, 10376 Willard Way, Fairfax City. Proceeds to benefit Our Daily Bread. www.our-daily-bread.org.

The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia's 29th Annual Fall Gala. 7:30 p.m. at Westfields Marriott, 14750 Conference Center Drive, Chantilly. Casino night, art auction, dancing and entertainment, dinner buffet stations, desserts and open bar. Tickets start at \$180 per individual/\$360 per couple, sponsorships begin at \$550. Proceeds benefit the JCCNV's Special Needs program. www.jccnv.org or Sara Moore, 703-537-3024 or SaraM@jccnv.org.

Burke Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker." 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus. www.buffas.com.

Holiday Craft Show. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel

Run, Fairfax. \$5 per day, \$8 for two-day pass. No charge for children under 18.

SUNDAY/NOV. 22

Northern Virginia Mineral Club 18th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Student Union II Building, George Mason University, Fairfax. Sponsored by GMU's Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences. \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens and age 13-18. Age 12 and under, Scouts in uniform and GMU students with ID free. rockclctr@aol.com.

Burke Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker." 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus. www.buffas.com.

Holiday Craft Show. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. \$5 per day, \$8 for two-day pass. No charge for children under 18.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 25

26th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Join members of Congregation Adat Reyim, Burke Presbyterian Church and St. Mary of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church 7:30 p.m., at Burke Presbyterian, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke.

THURSDAY/NOV. 26

Thanksgiving Lunch. Bring a potluck dish to share; otherwise, the cost is \$5 per person. Reservations are welcome but not required. Dress is casual. Senior Center at Green Acres

Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. 703-359-2487.

SATURDAY/NOV. 28

Our Daily Bread Holiday Food Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. next to Safeway at Courthouse Plaza, 10376 Willard Way, Fairfax City. Proceeds to benefit Fairfax United Methodist Church www.our-daily-bread.org.
A Chanticleer Christmas. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$24-\$48. Pre-Performance Discussion held 45 minutes prior to the performance. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

TUESDAY/DEC. 1

West Springfield High School Tiny Tots Concert. 10 a.m. Familiar nursery and show tunes for 4-5 year olds. Some of their favorite costumed characters will be there to add to the enjoyment. Tickets available at the door. ladesio@verizon.net.

FRIDAY/DEC. 4

Opera Recital: "Amahl and the Night Visitors." 8 p.m., at the Harris Theater, George Mason University's Fairfax campus. Purchase tickets at tickets.com or at 888-945-2468.

SATURDAY/DEC. 5

Our Daily Bread Holiday Food Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. next to Safeway at Courthouse Plaza, 10376 Willard Way, Fairfax City. Proceeds to benefit Reston Bible Church. www.our-daily-bread.org.

20th Annual Model Train Display. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Fairfax Station



Clara studies the toy Nutcracker in Burke Civic Ballet's presentation of 'The Nutcracker.'

Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Many different gauge model trains will be running in the main building, caboose and on the grounds

surrounding the station. Come enjoy some hot chocolate and a gingerbread man while you admire

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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HOLIDAY CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

the trains. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$1 for children. 703-425-9225.

Festival of Lights and Carols. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Old Town Hall and Kitty Pozer Garden, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax.

Lunch with Santa. Seatings 11:30 a.m.; 12:15 p.m. and 1 p.m., at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$5 per child, maximum of five tickets per purchase. For ages 12 and under. Tickets available at the Parks and Recreation office, 10455 Armstrong St. and Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Lunch will be Chick-fil-A chicken nuggets, cookies and juice.

Lighting of the Christmas Tree. 5-6 p.m., at Kitty Pozer Garden, next to Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Caroling and bell ringing with the Jubil-Aires and Good News Ringers.

Opera Recital: "Amahl and the Night Visitors." 8 p.m., at the Harris Theater, George Mason University's Fairfax campus. Purchase tickets at tickets.com or at 888-945-2468.

SUNDAY/DEC. 6

Gifts that Give Holiday Market. 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke. Gifts, jewelry, ornaments, toys, baskets, and more. Proceeds go to the artisans in developing countries. No admission fee. 703-978-8724.

20th Annual Model Train Display. 12-4 p.m., at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Many different gauge model trains will be

running in the main building, caboose and on the grounds surrounding the station. Come enjoy some hot chocolate and a gingerbread man while you admire the trains. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$1 for children. 703-425-9225.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 9

DC101 Festus with Weezer, Jack's Mannequin and Motion City Soundtrack. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. \$49.50. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.dc101.com or www.patriotcenter.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 11

Pianist George Winston's "The Winter Show." 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Adults \$21-\$42. Youth through grade 12, half price when accompanied by an adult. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa. www.georgewinston.com.

Bonita Lestina Performance Series: U.S. Navy Band Brass Quintet — Holiday Program. 8 p.m., at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-352-ARTS.

SATURDAY/DEC. 12

Our Daily Bread Holiday Food Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. next to Safeway at Courthouse Plaza, 10376 Willard Way, Fairfax City. Proceeds to benefit Annandale Christian Community in Action (ACCA)/Fairfax Presbyterian Church

www.our-daily-bread.org.
The WB&A Chapter of the TCA Annual Christmas Toy Train Show. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Shriners Kena Temple, 9001 Arlington Blvd. Train doctor, all scales, parts, new and collectables, and Santa on site. Admission \$5 adults, children under 12 and military free.

www.wbchapter.org or contact Pete Jackson at 703-455-6154 or Kenameet@wbchapter.org.

Christmas Cantata: Unto Us a Child is Born. 6 p.m. at Greater Little Zion Baptist Church, 10185 Zion Drive, Fairfax. Traditional and contemporary music, interpretive dance and readings. Fellowship reception to follow. 703-764-9111.

Breakfast with St. Nick. 9-11 a.m. Includes continental breakfast, seasonal craft making, carol singing, a photo session with St. Nick, storytelling and a visit to the Little Shoppe. This event is free of charge and open to the community but RSVP to SaintNick@BurkePresChurch.org or phone our office at 703-764-0456. Hosted by Burke Presbyterian Church at 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. www.BurkePresChurch.org.

A 1940's Christmas Homecoming. 6 p.m. at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. A drama about a WWII soldier who is attempting to be home in time for Christmas to surprise his family. Refreshments will be served. 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

Canadian Brass: A Canadian Brass Christmas. 8 p.m., at the George Mason University Concert Hall, Fairfax. Pre-performance discussion 7:15 p.m. Tickets: \$48, \$40, \$24. Purchase tickets at tickets.com

Kaydee Puppets: A Visit to Santa's Workshop. 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., at the City of Fairfax Regional Library,

10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227.

A Celtic Christmas in Old Town Fairfax. 8 p.m., at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Performers include Sior Og, Maddy O'Neill, Penelope Fleming, Shannon Dunn and the Culkin School of Dance.

SUNDAY/DEC. 13

A 1940's Christmas Homecoming. 6 p.m. at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

George Mason University Symphony Orchestra and Choruses Holiday Concert. 7 p.m., at the George Mason University Concert Hall, Fairfax. \$20. Purchase tickets at tickets.com.

Second Sunday Series: Victorian Christmas Ornaments. 2 p.m., at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. A talk and demonstration by Linda Lau, Victorian Society of Falls Church.

TUESDAY/DEC. 15

Radio City Rockettes Christmas Spectacular. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center. www.ticketmaster.com.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 16

Radio City Rockettes Christmas Spectacular. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center. www.ticketmaster.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 18

Bill Kirchen and Too Much Fun Holiday Show. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna.

\$20. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Natalie MacMaster: Christmas in Cape Breton. 8 p.m., at the George Mason University Concert Hall, Fairfax. \$46, \$38, \$23. Purchase tickets at tickets.com. Pre-performance discussion 7:15 p.m.

SATURDAY/DEC. 19

Rocknocoeros Holiday Show and Sing-a-long at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 for everyone one and older. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Rockapella: A Rockapella Holiday. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., at the George Mason University Concert Hall, Fairfax. \$42, \$34, \$21. Purchase tickets at tickets.com. Pre-performance discussions at 1:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Christmas in Fairfax with the City of Fairfax Band. 7 p.m., at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Free, but tickets are required. Bring a nonperishable food item to benefit Food for Others. 703-757-0220.

MONDAY/DEC. 21

Bob Brown Puppets: Nutcracker Fantasy. 10:30 a.m., Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-352-ARTS.

FRIDAY/DEC. 25

Christmas Lunch. Bring a potluck dish to share; otherwise, the cost is \$6 per person. Reservations required; all family members welcome. Dress is casual. Senior Center at Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. 703-359-2487.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Falla's The Three-Cornered Hat, Suites 1 and 2, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, Ravel's Piano Concerto in G, and Ginastera's Estancia. 7 p.m. pre-concert lecture, free to ticketed patrons. 1-888-945-2468 or Tickets.com

Holiday Food Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. next to Safeway at Courthouse Plaza, 10376 Willard Way, Fairfax City. Proceeds to benefit Our Daily Bread. www.our-daily-bread.org.

The GMU Players present Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen's "The Exonerated." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater. \$6, \$3 students and seniors. 703-993-8888.

Annual Craft/Gift Fair. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria. Proceeds benefit arts/crafts community and TJ Crew team. www.tjgiftshow.com or tjgiftshow@gmail.com.

GMU Saxophone Ensemble. 3 p.m. at the George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia's 29th Annual Fall Gala. 7:30 p.m. at Westfields Marriott, 14750 Conference Center Drive, Chantilly. Casino night, art auction, dancing and entertainment, dinner buffet stations, desserts and open bar. Tickets start at \$180 per individual/\$360 per couple, sponsorships begin at \$550. Proceeds benefit the JCCNV's Special Needs program. www.jccnv.org or Sara Moore, 703-537-3024 or SaraM@jccnv.org.

Survival Interviewing Skills. 11 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. How to answer challenging questions through practice and build skill sets. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Northern Virginia Mineral Club 18th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Student Union II Building, George Mason University, Fairfax. \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens and age 13-18. Age 12 and under, Scouts in uniform and GMU students with ID free. rockcllctr@aol.com.

Theater of the First Amendment's Staged Reading of "The Rivers and Ravines." 8 p.m. at theSPACE, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. There will be a pre-show reception at 7 p.m., and a brief discussion with author Heather McDonald after the reading. 703-993-8794.

"Meet Me in St. Louis." 7:30 p.m., in the auditorium at Thomas Jefferson High School. Tickets are \$10 at the door and food and drinks will be sold at intermission. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology is located at 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria.

"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. 703-913-3934 or www.fcps.edu/westspringfields/academic/perf/theatre/theatre.html.

Neil Simon's comedy "Rumors." 7:30 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at www.RobinsonDrama.org or at the door. More information is on the Web site, or call 703-426-2123.

"Alice in Wonderland Jr." 7:30 p.m., at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. Tickets \$5. For more, contact director Brenda Scott at 703-934-7250 or brenda.scott@fcps.edu.

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Cavaliers Attempt To Forget a Victory

South County aims to upset No. 1 seeded Woodson on Friday.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

W.T. Woodson High School head varsity football coach Trey Taylor only needed a few words to remind his team how precarious a playoff position really is. He used Patriot District rival Lake Braddock Secondary School's recent 19-14 victory against Fairfax as a parable.

"Lake Braddock overlooked Fairfax," Taylor said. "[Lake Braddock] barely beat them. Their season was almost over right then. Anyone can beat anyone in the playoffs."

With a bout with South County Secondary School looming on Nov. 20, the Cavaliers are quickly trying to forget that they dominated the Stallions 35-0 on Nov. 6.

"If you don't show up for one week, then that's the end of your season," Taylor said. "We haven't practiced well and if we have that attitude on Friday, South County will beat us by 70."

South County advanced to the Northern Region semi-finals by stunning Westfield High School 27-23 on Nov. 14, scoring 16 points in the second quarter to upset the Concorde District champions.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The W.T. Woodson Cavaliers (10-1) are led onto the field by Colin Dempsey. The Cavaliers will face South County on Nov. 20.

"South County is not going to lay down," Taylor said. "We saw that in the Westfield game. They're going to play until the end."

Taylor's concern about falling asleep on South County also has rubbed off on the Cavaliers' senior leaders.

"The South County team that we played [on Nov. 6] is not the same team we played," said quarterback Connor Reilly. "South County was hungry for a victory and they went out and played for a victory. They're going to be gunning for us."

But forgetting the recent 35-0 victory over South County isn't going to be an easy task, Reilly said.

"It's very difficult," he said. "We looked past Lee High School because we had beaten Lake Braddock. Hopefully, we will have learned our lesson from that."

The team is trying also to keep up the intensity it created by defeating Oakton High School 31-16 on Nov. 13 in the first game of the playoffs.

In the victory against Oakton, the Cava-

"We haven't practiced well and if we have that attitude on Friday, South County will beat us by 70."

— Trey Taylor

liers cruised to a victory thanks to two 60-plus yard rushes from senior James Johnson and junior Paul Fridley.

Johnson finished the game with 87 yards of rushing while Reilly finished with 85 yards of passing.

"We pride ourselves on our running game," Taylor said. "Our biggest passing game was against Lake Braddock, but since then, our run has been very successful."

Despite the strong playoff win against Oakton, the Cavaliers' seniors are hoping coach Taylor's sense of urgency will rub off on the younger players.

"We have to come out with the mentality that we are the lesser team," Johnson said. "It's not hard for the seniors to understand that this could be our last game. We have to get the younger guys to understand it, too."

South County plays Woodson on Nov. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at W.T. Woodson High School.

Lake Braddock and Robinson secondary schools face off in the other Northern Region semi-final on Nov. 20.

Rebels Fall to Bruins in Playoffs

Season capped by first postseason game for Fairfax since 1999.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax High School football head coach Chris Haddock hopes the 2009 Rebels varsity football team isn't dwelling too much on its 19-14 playoff loss to Lake Braddock Secondary School on Nov. 14.

In fact, Haddock believes that the teams' appearance in the Virginia Division 6 AAA playoffs is just one more step in rebuilding the storied Fairfax program.

"For the first time in a long time, we felt like we could play with anyone," Haddock said. "We took a major step forward for our program."

THE REBELS started the season with a 2-4 start, but four consecutive wins pushed Fairfax into the playoffs for the first time since 1999.

"We didn't back into the playoffs," Had-

dock said. "We earned our spot. We fought for it."

When the Rebels drew No. 3 seeded Lake Braddock in the first round, some, including the Lake Braddock players, considered the Rebels to be an easy first round victory for the powerful Bruins' team.

But Fairfax proved to be anything but a pushover by shutting down the Bruins' potent passing game and being one of two teams this season to limit the Bruins to less than 20 points in a game.

"We fought hard against Lake Braddock," Haddock said. "Maybe if one thing had gone this way, or we did something else, we would have won. But I'm proud of the team."

Standouts for the Rebels against Lake

"We didn't back into the playoffs. We earned our spot. We fought for it."

— Chris Haddock

Braddock include running back Anton Burns, who ran for 55 yards, and quarterback Jack Bechert, who rushed for 28 yards and a touchdown and threw for 30 yards.

Lake Braddock had previously met Fairfax during a pre-season scrimmage, a game they won 42-7, but Haddock said his players' maturity showed in the playoff matchup.

"We're a completely different team than who were when we scrimmaged [Lake Braddock]," Haddock said. "This season and that game were the product of a lot of

hard work by our kids."

With the football season over for Fairfax, Haddock took a moment to reflect on his team's transformative season.

"I'm going to remember how many kids stepped up and worked hard for this program," he said. "This was just a great year for our team and I'm excited about the future."

WEEK IN SPORTS

Bowdren Signs With Virginia

Marcy Bowdren of Robinson Secondary School took advantage of the NCAA's early signing period and signed her National Letter of Intent to play women's softball at the University of Virginia on Nov. 11.

Marcy has been a member of the Robinson Rams varsity softball team since her freshman year, playing third base, catcher, and in her junior year, pitcher.

She is also a member of the Shamrocks 18U Gold Travel Softball team where she is a catcher and third basemen.

Last year, she garnered player of the year honors for the Concorde District and for the Northern Region with a 1.3 earned run average on the mound, a .568 batting average, along with 5 homeruns and 22 stolen bases.

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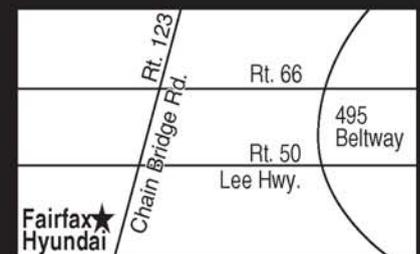


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As of 10/15/09, the medical office of Mert Kivanc, D.O. has been closed. At this point, Dr. Kivanc does not intend to return to the practice of medicine. All current patient records have been transferred to Dr. Mahadevappa Hunasikatti (2826 Old Lee Highway, Suite 330, Fairfax, VA 22031), who will serve as the records custodian. Patients needing records transfer should submit a written request to Dr. Hunasikatti's office. A processing fee will be applied and patients should allow for a 3-4 week processing time. Patients will be informed by telephone to pick-up their records in person from Dr. Hunasikatti's office. The records will remain with Dr. Hunasikatti for six years and will then be shredded pursuant to state and federal medical record privacy laws."

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Online Safety Tips

FROM PAGE 3

Mascoll said teens should never share their passwords. If, for example, girls get into a fight with each other, then one could use the other's password to send bogus and inappropriate messages in her name.

"Parents, you should have a Facebook account and also know about other online, social-networking sites," he said. "Photos young ladies put on Facebook are a concern. Pictures of kids drinking go up on Facebook all the time, and they could get sent all over — to that person's mother, school principal or SRO. Then that person could face underage drinking penalties. So talk to them about what's appropriate and what's not."

Police Officer Marc MacDonald, Hayfield Secondary's SRO, discussed sexting, in which teens send sexual photos of themselves or others via cell phone. "Girls take nude pictures of themselves, thinking only their boyfriend will see it, but it can get sent to other cell phones or posted on the Web for all to see," he said. "Then the person in the photo is humiliated, and it can lead to teasing and, possibly, suicide."

QUOTING NATIONAL statistics, MacDonald said one in five teens have sent nude or semi-nude photos of themselves and half have sent a sexually suggestive message. "A girl shared spring-break photos and they went to sites all over the world," he said. "They were even used in advertising in another country."

Furthermore, if a boy and girl break up and he sends her nude photos to others, he could be prosecuted for sending them. But that's not all. "The recipient could also be prosecuted for receiving them," said MacDonald. "You can't just delete it, because it's still there; you have to report it."

"These aren't bad kids," he said. "They don't believe what they're doing is illegal or wrong, and they don't realize it can have long-term consequences. When someone's sending nude photos of someone under age 18, they're considered producing, possessing and distributing child pornography. They can also be charged with using electronic means to facilitate [the distribution], plus taking indecent liberties with a minor. They could be in prison 30 years and the first three [offenses] require registration as a sex offender."

The non-legal consequences are just as

bad, said MacDonald. Years later, he said, "Employers Google your kids' names, and up come the nude and alcohol/drug related photos. And it's hard for kids to go to school anymore, after everyone's seen them naked. It changes their lives forever."

So, he said, parents need to stop such photos from ever being sent. "Set ground rules for the use of these devices," said MacDonald. "At a certain time every night, the cell phone gets handed over to a parent. Otherwise, teens text at least once an hour between 12 and 5 a.m. Be nosy. See who's in their phonebook; people you don't know shouldn't be calling or texting them. Access parental-control features and block text-messaging, if necessary."

He said parents should learn to use their children's communication devices, have a password to their Facebook page and look at it. Since teens may have a different Facebook account than the one their parents know about, he told parents to go to www.pipl.com and www.yoname.com to search all the social-networking sites in the world.

Additionally, said MacDonald, gaming systems, iPods and iTouch phones are also "a full ride on the Internet. And nothing good is happening when your kid has a Web cam."

Parent Hemang Sanghavi said his daughter, 12, wants a Facebook account like her friends. "How do I counsel her?" he asked.

"Reinforce your family values and tell her that's not the only way to communicate," said Caldwell. "And tell her you're [saying no] for her protection."

Patrick O'Connor said his son deletes all his text messages. "How can I get a record of them?" he asked.

"Contact the cell-phone company," said MacDonald. "A forensic investigator can retrieve them."

Poole said today's youth are slick and sophisticated. Although students aren't allowed to display cell phones at school, he said a boy walked right by him in the cafeteria, last year, texting. When Poole asked for his phone, he said the boy surreptitiously removed the chip before handing it over. "I promptly informed his parent," said Poole.

Julie Knight, a parent and the City of Fairfax School Board representative on the Fairfax Community Coalition, said that's why "it's important for parents to communicate and support each other on these issues. And it's OK to say no, at times."

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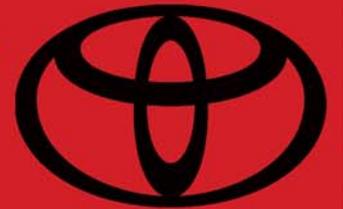
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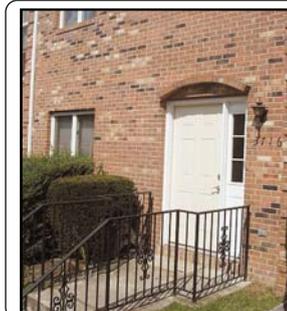


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