

Region Champs

SPORTS, PAGE 10

Lake Braddock wide receiver Brandon Johnson breaks free from a defender during the Bruins' 27-20 victory over Woodson in the Northern Region Division 6 AAA football championship.

Hunt, Marsden Vie for Senate Seat

NEWS, PAGE 3

JROTC Soars at Lake Braddock

NEWS, PAGE 2

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Bruins Learn To Lead

Lake Braddock's newly formed JROTC program is taking shape.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

When Lt. Col. Dwight Lomax looks at the students filling up his four JROTC classes at Lake Braddock Secondary School, he is overwhelmed with a

sense of pride and satisfaction.

Lomax and his assistant, 1st Sgt. Craig Simmons see confident, motivated students that have grown more than they could have ever imagined.

Lomax is the leader of the first-ever JROTC class at Lake Braddock, a program that the school started March 2009 and implemented this school year. Though enrollment was slow at first, the number of students in the program has skyrocketed since it began less than three months ago.

"We've come a really long way, starting from scratch," said junior Amanda Harrison, a JROTC student. "The program isn't about recruiting [for the

military] at all. It's about being a leader and setting an example for your school and your classmates. It's been a great experience so far."

While Lake Braddock's JROTC program is not the first of its kind in an area school, the whole program, top to bottom, is comprised of people new to the experience. Lomax retired from the U.S. Army earlier this year after 20 years of service, and had never been a part of any JROTC program prior to this one. Lomax said that after his retirement, he was seeking to continue his military service in some capacity and realized that educating a new generation of young people was the best way to do so. So, upon hearing that

Lake Braddock was proposing a JROTC program, he applied and got the position.

"I took the job because I wanted to have an opportunity to work with kids," Lomax said. "I have kids of my own and so I have a good idea and good feel of what they need and expect."

The school hired officially only a week before school started, so his first few weeks leading the program was a trial-by-fire. The first thing he did after being hired was

to become familiar with the program, which he did by speaking to leaders of JROTC programs at South

SEE FIRST YEAR, PAGE 5

"It's about being a leader and setting an example for your school and your classmates."

— Amanda Harrison, junior

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Every year between Christmas and New Year's, the Burke Connection turns its pages over to the contributions of local students. We are seeking artwork, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories and reflections. We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled.

E-mail to: PhotoB@connectionnews papers.com, or mail or deliver contributions to 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Please be sure to include the student's name, age, grade, school and town of residence along with each submission. For information, call 703-778-9410.

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Hunt Wins GOP Primary for Senate Seat

Former at-large School Board member faces Del. Dave Marsden (D-41) in special election.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Eric Alter is sure to remember the first time he voted for several reasons, including the fact that it took two trips to the polling station and approximately 45 minutes of standing outside Centreville High School without a coat on a chilly, 40-degree night.

The Westfield High School senior turned 18 on Dec. 1, just in time to participate in the Republican primary that took place the same night for the Virginia Senate's 37th District.

"I want to make sure the Republicans come out with the strongest candidate for the special election," said Alter, who studied many of the state races that took place in November with his government class.

Incumbent Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) is vacating the position when he becomes the commonwealth's next Attorney General in 2010.

Former at-large Fairfax County School

Board member Steven Hunt won just over 50 percent of the vote in the three-way primary against a former President George W. Bush appointee, Marianne Horinko, and Greenspring retirement community's executive director Will Nance. Hunt garnered 955 ballots to Horinko's 479 and Nance's 469, according to local Republican Party officials organizing the election.

Alter had said he intended to vote for Hunt, in part because the candidate is a veteran and Alter plans to attend the Virginia Military Institute next year for college.

"He is a military man and I want to go into the military," said Alter.

Hunt faces Del. Dave Marsden (D-41), who had no primary opponent, in a special election Jan. 12. Cuccinelli's replacement will have to be in Richmond for the start of the 2010 General Assembly session Jan. 13, the day after the election.

"I plan to focus on the same things that Bob McDonnell (R) focused on in the governor's race," said Hunt of the upcoming special election.



PHOTOS BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

Former Fairfax County School Board member Steve Hunt garnered a little more than 50 percent of the vote in a three-way Republican primary election.

The high primary turnout took both the election's participants and the Republican activists running the primary by surprise. A

little over 1,900 voters participated from the district, which spans Centreville, Chantilly, Fairfax Station, Burke and Springfield.

"I didn't know there were this many Republicans who lived here," said Virginia Run resident Richie Coryell, who had been waiting about 30 minutes in line to vote.

Anthony Bedell, the Fairfax County Republican Committee president, said the local political party thought they were overshooting by preparing for 1,500 voters to show up at the primary's one polling station.

He and others were shocked when they saw a line of more than 100 people starting to run out the door and down the Centreville High School library. Traffic also started to back up down Union Mill Road and onto Route 29 shortly after the polls opened at 6 p.m.

"We had to come twice. We spent two hours in the car trying to get here the first time, but the backup was so bad that we decided to go back home to listen to Obama's speech and try again later," said Burke resident Evan Stoyas, who called himself a independent voter.

Many of those who came out to partici

SEE HUNT, PAGE 5

Opening Chanukah Celebrations to All

Several Jewish congregations around area are hosting community-wide Chanukah events.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

As they prepare for Chanukah, Jewish congregations across the area are ready to spread the message of unity and community.

While some congregations host private Chanukah events and celebrations, others are reaching out to their entire faith community, putting denominations aside to include all.

Chabad Lubavitch of Northern Virginia, based in Fairfax, Adat Reyim of Springfield and Ohev Yisrael Messianic in Lorton are all hosting public events during this Chanukah season.

Instead of closing their doors, however, each event will be open to all members of the community.

According to Rabbi Levi Deitsch, Chabad Lubavitch, located at 3939 Prince William Drive, is hosting two events for the entire family, offering food, games, music and more.

"A big part of the holiday is sharing the lights with the world."

— Rabbi Levi Deitsch, Chabad Lubavitch

"A big part of the holiday is sharing the lights with the world," Deitsch said. "So, we'd like to do [the events] with people of the Jewish faith as well as people of all faiths."

The first event, "Chanukah and Games Night," is slated for Saturday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the congregation. Deitsch said that the menorah will be lit to start the event, and at 7 p.m., latkes, donuts and other food will be served and children and

teens will take part in an educational holiday program. The following day, a menorah lighting event will take place at Fairfax Corner at 4:35 p.m., but with a new twist. Deitsch said that a menorah will be built with Legos by the children, and again, traditional Jewish food will be served.

"We're always looking for innovative things for the holidays to bring fun and joy," Deitsch said.

Adat Reyim is launching a brand new holiday celebration this year, leading the



FILE PHOTO

Making Chanukah picture frames are, from left, far side of the table, Lennon Claypool, Leigh Claypool, Emily Dewhurst, Denise Dewhurst; and near side of the table, Rabbi Levi Deitsch and Alex Claypool.

first-ever "Community Wide Chanukah Party." The party, which will be Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. in the Oaks Community Center in Burke, has something for every member of the family. According to Adat Reyim spokesman Melissa Bodner, the event will feature moon bounces, dreidel games and arts and crafts for children ages 2 to 11, and music and traditional Jewish food like latkes and donuts for all ages. In addition,

all attendees are encouraged to bring their own menorah to light.

"We have a nice group with younger children [in the congregation's Junior Youth Group], so those families are very excited," Bodner said. "It's really geared toward the whole family."

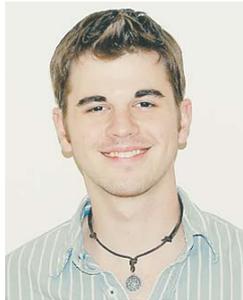
Bodner said that for this inaugural year,

SEE CHANUKAH, PAGE 11

Local Actor in College Show

Cameron Doucette of Burke, was selected to play Jack Stone for the University of Mary Washington production of "Reefer Madness." Performances were Nov. 12-15 and 19-22.

Doucette is the son of John and Janette Doucette of Burke and is a 2007 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary High School.



Doucette

A junior international affairs and French major, Cameron Doucette has appeared in the UMW productions of "She Stoops to Conquer" as Charles Marlow, "Our Town" as George Gibbs and "Goodnight Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet" as Romeo. He also is an officer of the Swing Dance Club.

Youth Acting Camp Dec. 12

An acting camp and movie night for students in first through sixth grade takes place Saturday, Dec. 12, from 2-8 p.m., at Woodson High School. Theater director Terri Hobson, the Virginia State Thespian Educator of the Year, will lead the students in acting improvisation, playwriting and craftmaking, then wrap up the evening with pizza and a movie. The cost is \$40 per camper (\$30 for each additional sibling). For a registration form, contact Martha Moses at 703 963 6288 or marthaangelynn@aol.com. Each camper requires an Emergency Care form, found at www.fcps.edu. Specify food allergies or special needs for foods.

Free Spay, Neuter at Shelter

During the month of December, the Fairfax County Animal Shelter is offering a free spay or neuter for the first 100 cats or kittens adopted from the shelter. This offer is part of the shelter's annual Home 4 the Holidays adoption promotion, which seeks to help shelter animals find a loving, permanent home during the holidays.

The shelter is also extending its hours by opening its doors on three consecutive Sundays in December. The shelter will be open for adoptions on Sundays, Dec. 6, 13 and 20, from 12-4 p.m., in addition to regular operating hours throughout the week. Regular adoption hours are Tuesday-Friday, 12-6:30 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The shelter has cats and dogs available for adoption, as well as a number of birds, small mammals and reptiles. To view animals available for adoption, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animalservices/>. The shelter is located at 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax. To learn more, call the shelter at 703-830-1100.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/DEC. 3

"Coping with the Holidays after the Death of a Loved One" presented by Haven of Northern Virginia. 7:30-9 p.m. This presentation will offer strategies and ideas for reinventing the holidays. Free. For registration and information, 703-941-7000, www.havenofnova.org. Haven offers one-on-one support to those grieving the death of a loved one. Call to schedule an appointment with a trained volunteer. Walk-ins welcome, Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale.

SUNDAY/DEC. 6

Ostomy Support Group of Northern Virginia. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Fairfax Hospital Physicians Conference Center. Annual Holiday Festivities; also Capital Hospice. 703-802-3457 or www.ostomysupportofnova.org.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Goodwill Gators gather around a statue of Ronald McDonald.

Spreading Some Goodwill

Kings Glen club tours Ronald McDonald House, brings gifts for residents.



On Tuesday afternoon, students from Kings Glen and Kings Park elementary schools toured the Ronald McDonald House.

On Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 1, the Goodwill Gators, a group of students from Kings Glen Elementary and one student from Kings Park Elementary, visited the Ronald McDonald House. The students had collected drinks, snacks, cereal, tissues and notepads for families staying at the facility, which is located near Inova Fairfax Hospital. Students left their gifts in the reception area and were given a tour of the facility that can house eight families and up to 40 people at one time.

Barbara Clarke, the house operations manager, led the students on the tour.

The children posed with a Ronald McDonald statue in the playground/courtyard of the house. The Metropolitan Washington Chapter of the Ronald McDonald House is celebrating 30 years in 2011, which is why the students were holding up the "30" in one of the group photos.

The Goodwill Gator Club students taking part in the tour were Devin Sheridan, Katie Tisler, Miranda Cortez, Isiah Castro, Amanda Carpio, Joshua Carpio, Katie Campbell, Jason Turner, Rebecca Marietta-Perez, Joseph Gopaio, Stanley Tran, Allyson Savage, Nicholas Ges, Lukas Trick, Jan Trick, Joshua Thayer, Billy Tran, Osman Rashid, Eugene Song and Eric Wunderlich.

Elke Trick, a parent of a Kings Park and Kings Glen student, and Chris Kamerow are the sponsors of the Goodwill Gator Club, which has about 20 students as members. They have been meeting all fall to collect and bag the items for the Ronald McDonald House. According to Kamerow, the club plans to focus on a different community service project in the spring for the students at Kings Glen.



Students inspect notes posted on the wall.

COMMUNITY

First Year for Bruin JROTC

FROM PAGE 2

Lakes High School in Reston and Hayfield Secondary School. Following that, Lomax realized that he needed an assistant to handle some of his responsibilities, so he hired Simmons to take care of administrative items such as uniforms and other supplies.

Once the program's leadership was in place, the next step was to recruit students for the program. According to Lomax, only 15 students had signed up the previous school year for the program, but 14 of those 15 had never participated in a JROTC program before. So, Lomax and Simmons quickly jumped into teaching the fundamentals like marching, basic formations, ethics, leadership training and physical training. Those 15 students had spread the word about the program to their fellow classmates and within a month, more than 60 students had enrolled in the program.

"I've been tremendously impressed with the students so far," said Simmons, a 24-year retired veteran of the U.S. Army. "This is a startup program and they have caught onto things very well. The students are not only grasping the information that they're learning, but they're using it as well."

LOMAX AND Simmons have expanded the program to include community service activities and other activities to create a better-rounded student. According to Lomax, his students volunteered at the American Legion Post 177 in Fairfax's Veterans Day festivities on Nov. 7 and at the Lake Braddock Fall Craft Show and plan on taking part in many more activities. In addition, Lomax and Simmons are working on public speaking with their students, saying that it builds confidence.

"This program is a major contributor to their confidence and it rolls over to their other classes," Lomax said. "Some of the students were misguided and you can see the lights coming on. Teachers have told me that some of the students didn't have discipline or confidence and how they do."

Though his students still have much to learn, Lomax is more than pleased with the direction that



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From left, Lake Braddock Secondary School juniors Kevin Johnson, Jeff Berger, Kristina Roller and Tom Nawrozzada, all members of their school's Army JROTC, were color guards in the American Legion's Veterans Day ceremony Saturday in Fairfax.

the program is headed. Next year, JROTC students from West Springfield High School and Centreville High School will be joining the students at Lake Braddock, further expanding a program that is already proving to be a success. In the meantime, however, Lomax and Simmons can take satisfaction in knowing that they are making a difference in the students' lives.

"We're going in the right direction," Lomax said. "We're a program on the rise. We're only at the base level, but it's a good base."

Hunt Wins by Wide Margin

FROM PAGE 3

pate in the primary said they were motivated, in part, by concerns about President Barack Obama (D) and the Democratic Party's majority in the U.S. Congress.

"I worry about 'Obamacare.' I wonder if the people who voted for Obama knew what they were getting. I hope they didn't. I hope they are concerned like us," said Susie Bentz, who lives in Virginia Run.

Regardless of the reason, the high primary turnout had made local Republicans optimistic about their chances of winning in January.

"Judging by our incredible turnout tonight, I think Dave Marsden should save his rent money and spend it on something else," said Bedell, referencing the fact that Hunt's Democratic opponent technically lived outside of the district until he decided to run for the Senate seat a few weeks ago.

Marsden, whose Burke house is just outside the political boundary, has said he is currently renting a house in the 37th District and will permanently move if he wins the race.

Attorney General-elect Ken Cuccinelli (R) poses with first-time voter Eric Alter.

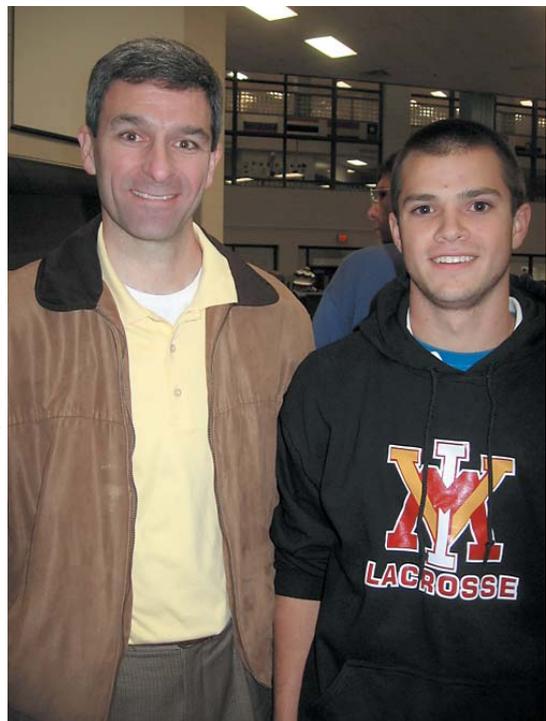


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Frequently, it is the local retail or service person who is active in fund raising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events. They know how important local traffic issues can be. They have a lot at stake.

Still, it's a different world than it was one or two holiday seasons ago, and many families, even families who feel financially secure, are approaching this holiday season differently than in the past. We want to do things more simply, we want what we do to be less harmful to the environment, we want our children to learn the pleasure of receiving and being grateful without being overwhelmed.

Still almost all of us will be doing some significant holiday shopping in the next month. While you're at it, be sure to spend a portion of your shopping dollars close to home.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of the shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There

is special holiday ambiance available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face some of the toughest challenges imaginable right now. The costs of being in business have grown tremendously while revenues are not.

Competition from Big Box stores, expanded shopping malls and shopping online make the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally-owned retailers.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. In this area, almost everyone will do some shopping online.

But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores.

EDITORIAL

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

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Letters to the Editor
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1606 King St.
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By e-mail: burke@connectionnewspapers.com

Tax for War

To the Editor:

I understand there is a proposal being floated in the United States Congress to enact a surtax to pay for the war in Afghanistan. It is my opinion and belief that such a tax is a good idea. Our nation would then stop putting the cost of the war on its credit card, primarily with China

and Japan. We should stop the irresponsible practice of putting a huge financial burden on our children and grandchildren.

The only ones now being asked to sacrifice are the men and women of our armed services who are being deployed multiple times into harms way and their loved ones back in the United States. Most of the citizens of our country are not being asked to sacrifice at all — they hardly know a war is going on. If the wars we are fight

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7

THE CONNECTION

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

ing are important to the security of our country, then all of us should help carry the burden in some fashion. Since we do not have a draft, then surely all citizens should be willing to pay surtax as their share of the burden of fighting these wars. And, why not apply the same concept to the Iraq War?

Many elected officials publicly proclaim they are against any kind of new tax. If these same officials also claim they support our troops, then let them step up to be counted and vote for or against the surtax to pay for the Afghanistan war. To use an old cliché, "Put their money where their mouth is."

Alonza L. Caldwell
Springfield

COLLEGE NOTES

Mimi Lynch of Burke, a freshman biology major at York College of Pennsylvania, was selected as sound manager for the York College Players' November performance of "A Raisin in the Sun."

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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/DEC. 3

Luke Brindley, Peter Bradley Adams and Rosi Golan. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

FX Players Present "Lucky Stiff." Fairfax High School Theatre Department presents the musical "Lucky Stiff" 7:30 p.m., in the school auditorium, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. The cost is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. See www.fxplayers.org for more information and to order tickets online.

Schooner Fare. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Maritime folk-pop and original compositions. \$25. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

Alan Knezevich Design Associates: Case Studies. 7:30 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-993-8794.

FRIDAY/DEC. 4

Graham Colton. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12 advance/ \$15 day of show. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

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.

Memphis 59 "Ragged But Right" CD Release. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java,

227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Fairfax County Parks and Recreation Department Trip to "Voices of Christmas," at the Sight & Sound Theatre, Lancaster, Pa. Depart at 9 a.m., return approximately 8 p.m. \$140 per person, includes show, lunch and time for shopping. Call 703-359-2487 to reserve.

FX Players Present "Lucky Stiff." Fairfax High School Theatre Department presents the musical "Lucky Stiff" 7:30 p.m., in the school auditorium, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. The cost is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. See www.fxplayers.org for more information and to order tickets online.

Virginia Opera presents Donizetti's romantic comedy "The Daughter of the Regiment." 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$44-\$86. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Schooner Fare. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Maritime folk-pop and original compositions. \$25. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

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.

Person L, John Nolan and Brian Bonz. 9 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance/ \$12 day of show. 703-255-1566 or



December Exhibit

'The Invitation' by Diane Shiely Frykman

jamminjava.com.
Preventing Diabetes. 10 a.m. at the Diabetes Center, Inova Fair Oaks Hospital, 3700 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax. Delay and perhaps prevent Type 2 diabetes with healthier habits during the pre-diabetes stage. Two two-hour classes, in which Certified Diabetes Educators will provide information on physical activity, an

improved diet and other positive lifestyle changes. \$50 Registration required. 703-750-8800 or www.inova.org/healthclasses.

FX Players Present "Lucky Stiff." Fairfax High School Theatre Department presents the musical "Lucky Stiff" 7:30 p.m., in the school auditorium, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. The cost is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the

Diane Shiely Frykman, a Burke painter, will exhibit her latest series "re:collection" in Gallery 4 at the Workhouse for the Arts in Lorton. The show runs from Dec. 9-Jan. 10. Open hours are Monday-Saturday, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sundays from 12-5 p.m. A tea reception will take place on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 4-6 p.m. in Building 4. The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. Frykman is an award-winning artist, noted particularly for her romantic realism oil paintings. She was an art teacher in the Fairfax County school system where she was given the Art Teacher of the Year Recognition. She has a studio in the Lorton Workhouse for the Arts where she teaches adults in the Old Master Method of painting.

door. See www.fxplayers.org for more information and to order tickets online.

Flatpicking guitarist Doc Watson with banjoist David Holt and grandson Richard Watson, performing "Hills of Home." 8 p.m. at George Mason University's

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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THEATER

Bruins Stage 'Macbeth'

BY ASHLEY ADAMS
SOUTH LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

Macbeth has definitely got his eyes on the prize — and a few murders won't stand in his way. Filled with sword fights, witches and ghosts, and tied-together with an original, post-apocalyptic interpretation, Lake Braddock's production of "Macbeth" had the audience on the edge of their seats.

"Macbeth," one of Shakespeare's most renowned tragedies, tells the bloody tale of a man destroyed by his own ambition. The play was written in the early 1600s with the precise date unknown. Although there is little record of the play being performed during Shakespeare's life, today the show is an undisputed classic.

As the cunning and manipulative Lady Macbeth, Noelle Viñas, carried the show with her obvious understanding of the show's dialogue and her character's motives. She played the part perfectly, ranging from the calculating and murderous in the show's beginning to positively deranged as her character meets her downfall in the final act. And though it seems almost unfair to compare any performance to Viñas', Hisham El Mawan held his own as Macbeth in his character's quest for power that intrigued the audience.

As Banquo, Jimmy Day was especially haunting as the silent specter Macbeth witnesses in his banquet hall and played the ill-fated friend of Macbeth well.

With his spot-on emotion and facial expression, Michael Ross (Macduff) refused to be overshadowed. Indeed, the silhouette of Macduff against a blood-red backdrop, triumphantly clutching the head of Macbeth is not an image the audience is likely to forget.

Alex Kaplan provided some much-needed comic relief as the Porter, leaving the audience in stitches with every call of "Knock, knock!" perfectly complimented with a swig of wine and a drunken sway. Rachael Ulmer, Kimmi Johnston and Kate Bongiorno were nothing short of creepy as they crooned and cackled as the trio of Witches who prophesy Macbeth's eventual rule as King and later his defeat by a man not "of woman born." While the ensemble occasionally lacked energy and a clear focus, it was nothing the talented lead and supporting actors couldn't make up for.

Alex Kaplan's set perfectly fit the post-judgment day theme. Complete with chain-link fences, a stone arch and multiple levels for the actors to play on, it only served to enhance the performance. And while some sound, especially gunshot effects, seemed to lag, the sound was, for the most part, very good. Intense music heightened tension, especially during the famous duel between Macduff and Macbeth.

Overall, the cast of "Macbeth" delivered an enjoyable evening. With talented actors, an impressive set, and an original interpretation, Lake Braddock proved that the classics never go out of style.

CAPPIES REVIEW

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Traditional Appalachian roots with a variety of American musical genres including bluegrass, country, gospel and blues. 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.

The Celebration Singers. 4 p.m. at Springfield United Methodist Church, 7047 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. A costumed and choreographed Christmas show. 703-451-2375 or www.springfieldvaumc.org.

Northern Virginia Chorale and Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Chorale Holiday Concert. 7 p.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5800 Backlick Road, Springfield. Gwyneth Walker's Rejoice!, John Rutter's Winchester Te Deum, Z. Randall Stroope's All My Heart This Night Rejoices and more, including a brass quintet, percussion and piano. Adults \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Students 12-24 \$10, under age 12 free. www.northernvirginiachorale.org or 703-239-2180.

The 20th Annual Model Train Display. 10 a.m.-5 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.

Enjoy hot chocolate and a gingerbread man. \$5 adults, \$1 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.

Juvenile Arthritis Carnival. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Admission \$5, free to children under 12. Food, games and prizes. Proceeds from the event will support the Arthritis Foundation's Juvenile Arthritis Network. For more, contact Katie Sperberg, 202-537-6800, ext. 3339 or ksperberg@arthritis.org. <http://metropolitanwashington.arthritis.org>.

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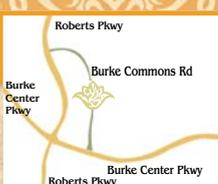
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Bruins Best Cavaliers, Win Region Title

Lake Braddock holds on during Woodson scoring surge in 27-20 'mud bowl.'

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock head coach Jim Poythress walked slowly toward the W.T. Woodson team following Lake Braddock's 27-20 victory in the Northern Region Division 6 AAA football championships on Nov. 28.

His shoes sunk into Woodson's muddy, war-torn field and his facial expression suggested that even with the clock at zero, the shock of winning still hadn't hit the six-year Lake Braddock coach.

"You wait so long for this. You dream about being competitive and then to win it, it's just a special feeling," he said.

After shaking hands with his opponents, the coach stood near the 40-yard line with a smile on his face. Reality came crashing down on his shoulders in the form of a Gatorade shower.

With the yellow sports drink dripping down his Bruins football coat, it finally hit him: the Bruins are the 2009 Northern Region Division 6 AAA Champs.

"[The Gatorade] was cold, but it woke me up," Poythress said. "I was still kind of dazed out, and when it hit me it was like, 'Wow, this is what we've been working for.'"



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock's Osman Mansaray breaks away from the Woodson defense for a 47-yard touchdown. Mansaray finished the game with two rushing touchdowns and 85 yards rushing.

The fruits of the Bruins' season-long labors were evident just minutes into the contest.

After a quick field goal drive to start the game, the Bruins defense declared its presence by forcing a fumble and setting up another scoring drive capped by running back Osman Mansaray's 14-yard touchdown run.

The defense's domination continued when defensive back Peres Nubong gave the Bruins a formidable 17-0 lead in the second quarter with a 50-yard interception return for a touchdown.

It wasn't the only time the defense stepped up for the Bruins. At the 3:25 mark of the third quarter, with the Cavaliers driving down the field, senior cornerback Thomas Stickford came up with another momentum-swaying pick.

"We knew we needed turnovers if we wanted to win," Stickford said. "All week, we'd been working on forcing fumbles and getting interceptions."

The week's work was one of the difference makers in the game, as the Cavaliers had four turnovers in the game, one fumble and three interceptions.

"You dream about being competitive and then to win it, it's just a special feeling."

— Jim Poythress

"The whole defense stepped up and made those plays happen," Poythress said. "Our safeties did a great job of making the situations happen and we were able to get the turnovers."

Despite the turnovers, the Cavaliers' offense still managed to keep within reach of the Bruins, thanks to another strong performance by quarterback Connor Reilly.

Reilly threw for 301 yards, two passing touchdowns and one rushing touchdown. His play helped the Cavaliers lead a comeback attempt, but momentum drastically changed when the Bruins blocked two of the Cavaliers' point-after attempts.

"I guess we just wanted it more," said senior offensive lineman Khamrone Kolb, who blocked one of the two point-after attempts. "We pushed them around like they were little kids."

Further adding to the spectacle of the game was the horrid field conditions, which some spectators called "the Mud Bowl." Molasses-thick patches of mud plagued the Woodson field, creating problems for both teams.

"We had to be careful because of the

SEE BRUINS, PAGE 14

Brother, Sister Pursue Speed Skating

Ethan and Monica Sohn aim to compete for the United States in speed skating.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

When United States speed skating superstar Apollo Anton Ono takes the ice at the Winter Olympics in Vancouver this February, two youths from the Fairfax Station area will be watching and taking notes on Ono's skating to help improve their own.

At the Prince William Ice House on Nov. 23, 9-year-old Ethan and 14-year-old Monica Sohn took to the ice to practice the skills that might help them one day achieve speed skating glory.

"I want to become a National and Olympic champion," said Ethan, a 9-year-old Fairfax Station resident and Sangster Elementary School student.

Although it will be some time before the youngster has his chance to qualify for the Olympics, the Sohn family is enjoying participating in the sport.

"A friend of mine started speed skating and told me about it," said Kristen Sohn, Monica and Ethan's mother. "We looked it up on YouTube and we always enjoyed speed skating during the Olympics. We thought we'd give it a try."

What started as a small interest in the sport soon ballooned into a full-fledged commitment.

"The kids really enjoy [speed skating]," Kristen Sohn said. "They've really embraced it and we love it too."

Each of the sibling speedsters has his or her own reason for enjoying the sport, ranging from competing in races to the feeling of making tight turns on the ice.

"I like how the sport challenges me," said Monica, an eighth grader at Lake Braddock Secondary School. "I like the adrenaline rush of being on the ice, racing against other people."

Her brother Ethan, whom Monica said is the fastest of the two, enjoys the sport's

speed element.

"I like to have the wind in my face," Ethan said. "It's fun to go really fast."

Although Ethan and Monica enjoy the sport, setting up practices and finding ice time at local ice rinks can be taxing on their mother.

"It's very demanding [to set up practices]," Kristen Sohn said. "Hockey and figure skating are the two major ice sports and take up most of the ice time. It's a challenge to get on the ice at a reasonable time."

The ice times can vary from after-school sessions at 4:30 p.m. to late-night skates at 11:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. The family must also move from ice rink to ice rink, one day skating at Prince William Ice House and the next traveling to Ashburn Ice House.

"[Ethan and Monica] want to do the practices," Kristen Sohn said. "But it can be hard to get out to them or get everyone ready [because of the time and locations]."

IF PAYING for ice time wasn't enough, the sport's equipment isn't easy on the wallet either.

SEE SIBLING, PAGE 14

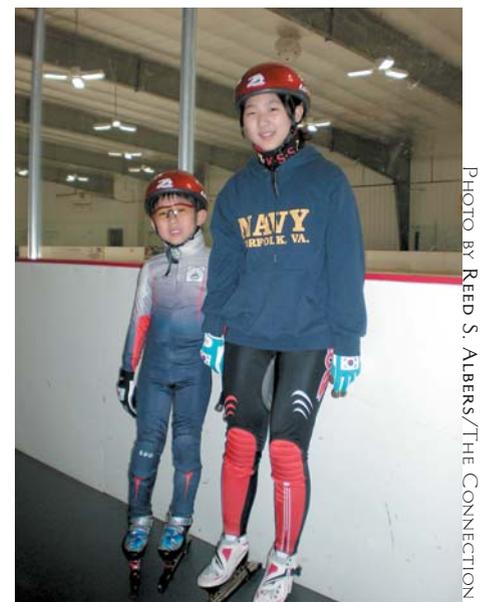


PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/THE CONNECTION

Monica, a student at Lake Braddock Secondary School, and Ethan, a student at Sangster Elementary School, said they both enjoy their time speed skating. 'I like how the sport challenges me,' Monica said.

COMMUNITY

Chanukah

FROM PAGE 3

the celebration would be hosted solely by Adat Reyim for organizational purposes. However, as soon as next year, Bodner said that the congregation hopes to expand and invite other congregations in the area to co-host the event.

"This is the inaugural celebration, so it is just us [hosting the event]," Bodner said.

At Ohev Yisrael, located at 8196 Terminal Road, an open-door event is taking place, but this year, a surprise is in store for the attendees. According to Office Manager Marinell Drew, the event, which is slated for Sunday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. at the congregation, includes lectures about the history of menorah lighting and a dance group will perform to traditional Jewish music. Drew could not reveal the other parts of the ceremony, however, saying that it is an Ohev Yisrael custom to keep the children's portion of the event a surprise.

"It's usually a surprise, but it's a small service," Drew said. "The children get very excited. We have all kinds of guests come, and the children love to light the candles."

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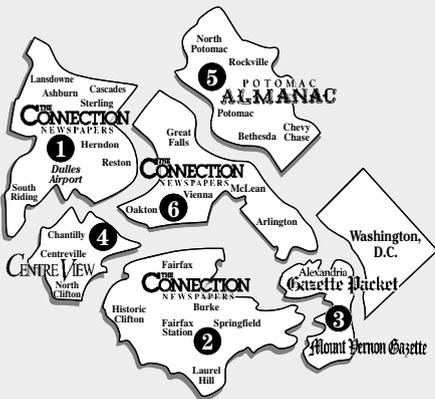
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-Dean Acheson

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On December 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clifton Community Hall, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton, Virginia, the Town Council of the Town of Clifton will hold a public hearing on a lease of Town-owned property located at 7137 Main Street, Clifton Virginia, known as the "Pink House" property. The public hearing will be held pursuant Virginia Code Section 15.2-1800 (disposal of public property). The public hearing was authorized at a special meeting of the Town Council on November 22, 2009. Copies of the rental criteria are available for public inspection at 7150 Main Street, Clifton Virginia.

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TAX NOTICE CITY OF FAIRFAX

REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENTS ARE DUE

Real Estate tax bills have been mailed and are due
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LATE PAYMENT PENALTY

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Taxes may be paid in person Monday – Friday
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IMPORTANT

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For Additional Information, please call 703-385-7904



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Lake Braddock Bruins crowd around the Northern Region Championship Trophy after defeating their rival Woodson 27-20.

Bruins Win Region

FROM PAGE 10

field's messy conditions," Mansaray said. "It was very muddy, slippery and easy for the ball to come loose. You had to keep your body over your feet to keep your balance. But it was kind of fun to play in that."

While the game was billed to be rematch of two passing teams who had previously met on Sept. 11— with Woodson winning 43-42 — it was Lake Braddock's running back Osman Mansaray who played the role of game-changer.

Mansaray finished the game with 85 yards rushing and two rushing touchdowns, including a 47-yard highlight reel rush late in the second quarter.

"It was just a simple counter play," Mansaray said. "It was perfect for their defense. They didn't have anyone deep to guard against the long run. We executed the play perfectly."

Although the season ended for Woodson on a somber note, head coach Trey Taylor commended his team's never-give-up attitude late in the game.

"I'm proud of all of you," he said. "We fought hard and we didn't stop fighting. It didn't end the way we wanted it to, but we fought to the end."

On the opposite side of the field, the Bruins celebration began with the players passing the Northern Region championship trophy around, raising it above their heads and some even kissing it.

The Bruins' players even planted a Lake Braddock flag in the field at the 50-yard line, declaring their dominance over their newfound rival.

"Revenge is nice," Kolb said.

Lake Braddock will travel to Battlefield High School in Haymarket on Dec. 5 to face the Bobcats in the Virginia AAA State Semifinals.

Sibling Speed Skaters

FROM PAGE 10

A pair of speed skates runs about \$1,200 and in order to help a skater cut through the air easily, a \$150 aerodynamic skin suit is a necessity. Tack on another \$100 for a helmet to prevent head injuries in case of a wipe out and \$30 for neck guard and gloves.

"It's more expensive than being on a soccer team or playing baseball," Kristen Sohn said. "The costs really add up and then when they grow out of the [skates], you have to get new ones."

Further adding to the expense is the cost of travel to speed skating competitions. The speed skating season runs from September to March, and the Sohns travel out of state once a month to competitions.

"We were just in Ohio," Kristen said. "We have to get ready to go to Pittsburgh, [Pa.], for our next competition this month."

The travel has been worth it for the Sohns. Ethan has competed in four competitions and placed in the top three at three of them.

"It's very [nerve-wracking] in competitions," Ethan said. "But it's exciting at the same time. It's a lot of fun to go out and compete and win."

Monica's speed skating success has been hindered by an injury she suffered two months ago during a race. "I fractured my foot after a fall," Monica said. "I slipped in a corner trying to pass someone."

With both skaters in the infancy of their speed skating careers, their coach Soo Yeon Yeo, who was a world champion speed skater in 2004 and 2005, said the Sohns have what it takes to go to the next level in skating. "They have the right attitude and are learning the necessary skills," Yeo said. "They have good balance and you can see they enjoy the sport."

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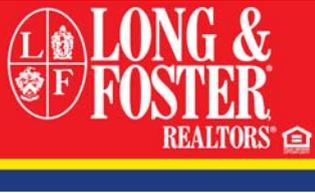


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Wonderful 4 level-split in sought after Kings Park West. Four bedrooms, three full baths, open kitchen, screened-in porch, just steps away from park, schools and metro! Call for details!

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Clifton \$1,995,000
A MASTERPIECE!
 Exceptional 5 BR/6BA custom brick home, built in 2009, with the finest in upgrades and 9500+ sf. Dramatic 2-story family rm, chef's kitchen, library, huge MBR suite, 4 fl, elevator, dual staircases, 10' ceilings, media rm, wine grotto, walkout rec room, pool, 4 car gar, 5 acres, spectacular views. 703-772-2066



Springfield \$419,950
RENOVATED & READY
 Move right in to this classic 3BR, 2BA all brick split level! Beautiful granite island kitchen, gorgeous hardwoods on 2 levels! Renovated baths, master w/private bath! Spacious walk out LL rec room w/home theatre option! Fenced back yard, 1 car garage, close in North Springfield location! 7448 Long Pine Dr, Springfield. Open 12/6 from 1 - 4.



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Season's Greetings!

When thinking about your future in 2010, Call Kay Hart, Realtor® to help you prepare. If you are thinking of selling your home, getting it ready for the market is critical. If you are planning to purchase, being prepared, Learning about the market and having financing in place Will save you time and money, resulting in a happy transaction. Call Kay for an appointment: 703-503-1860

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Fairfax Station \$698,900
Crosspointe
 This attractive brick front colonial features 4 BRs, 3 1/2 Baths, gorgeous hardwood floors throughout. Granite counters grace the large updated kitchen, adjacent family room opens to wonderful deck perfect for entertaining. The Lower level is unbelievable with Media Room, Recreation Room w/Wet Bar & Study area. Great Location, minutes to Parkway, Metro & I-95.
 For a private showing call Ann Witherspoon 703.503.1836.



Fairfax Station \$969,900
 Country Living, Close In
 This lovely Colonial is sited on a wooded paradise, 6+ acres. 4 BRs, 3 1/2 Baths, Updated Kitchen w/Granite Counters, Center Island, Updated appliances, Huge Fam. Rm & Sun Rm w/wall to wall windows, Formal LR & DR, Brazilian Cherry Flooring on Main level, Stairs, Hall & MBR, Finished LL Level is fun filled and ready for entertaining. All this plus a Inground Pool & Hot Tub. Call Sheila Adams 703.503.1895



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Manassas \$499,900
 Gorgeous 4BR, 2.5BA Colonial on 1.13 acre lot! Two-story foyer, formal living & dining, large family room w/gas fireplace, sunroom & gourmet kitchen with granite. Huge master suite w/luxury bath & walk-in closets. Large walk-out lower level is ready to be finished the way you'd like!



Mason Neck \$475,000
 Waterfront lot in Mason Neck! This .61 acre lot is perfect for building the home of your dreams. Utility lines are already in place. Property is ready for a dock. Fantastic view of Massey Creek & Belmont Bay with access to the Potomac River.



Richard Esposito
703-503-4035
 Richard@LNF.com
 Service is the difference I provide

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Burke
 Beautiful colonial featuring a pool & spa in fenced back yard overlooking one of Burke Centre's ponds. Updated eat-in kitchen and baths. Wood floors. Raised hearth brick fireplace in family room. 3 finished levels. Updated windows, siding & roof.
Richard 703-503-4035



Alexandria Potomac Yard \$599,000
 Minutes to exciting Potomac Yard featuring restaurants, theaters and shopping. One year old end unit townhome featuring hardwood floors, stainless and granite kitchen as well as a walk out recreation room for your enjoyment. Two car garage parking and convenient to Metro, Crystal City, and Reagan Airport.

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