

Burke CONNECTION

Spring Planting

NEWS, PAGE 3

Supervisors OK 2011 Budget

NEWS, PAGE 3

School Honors 'Average' Athlete

SPORTS, PAGE 16

Kelly Panchot helps daughter Chloe, 6, pull a tough weed during the GROW (Growing Ravensworth's Outdoor World) Outdoor Classroom workday on Saturday, April 17.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION CALENDAR, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 19

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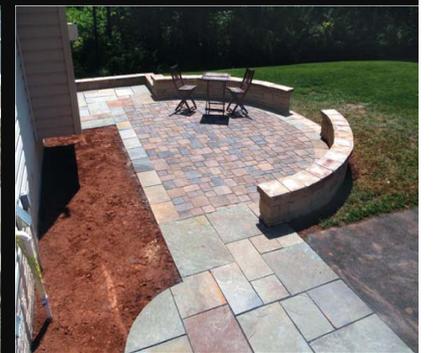
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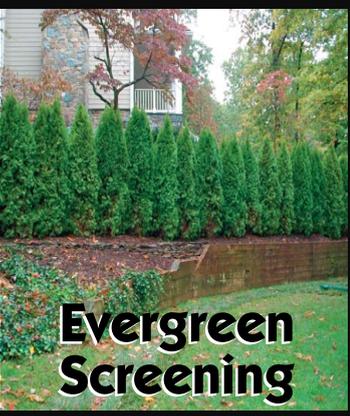
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Green Thumbs In Action

Volunteers prep school grounds for growing season.

Ravensworth Elementary parent, faculty and student volunteers got down and dirty Saturday, April 17 for the GROW (Growing Ravensworth's Outdoor World) Outdoor Classroom workday. The volunteers cleaned up the school grounds by weeding, pruning and planting to get ready for the upcoming growing season.

Ravensworth's GROW gardens incorporate the FCPS curriculum and to support Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) requirements. The gardens were designed and installed by the GROW team, staffed solely by parents and teachers that began work in 2004.

The gardens include a gazebo, which was built with an anonymous \$10,000 donation; a Colonial herb garden; a teacher appre-



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Juliu Liu, left, talks about what herbs the students are going to plant.

ciation and memory garden; and a butterfly garden with both host and nectar plants.

The GROW garden is also an official monarch butterfly way station.

Phil Franke Acts as Musical Mentor

Marine Band member nurtures area's young musicians.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

Phil Franke has toured the country for the last 29 years playing music for some of the most powerful leaders in some of its most prestigious venues. No audience compares, though, to the one closest to his heart and home.

Franke, a member of the world-renowned U.S. Marine Corps Band, spends most of the year touring the country with the armed forces' premier musical organization. When not bound by his commitment to the band,



CONTRIBUTED

Phil Franke

Valley and Keene Mill elementary schools. "He is a tremendous help to the music students and is an outstanding exemplar who loyally attends rehearsals every week to help these budding musicians."

Franke, a native of Quincy, Ill., was able to

bring the talent and experience to Burke and Springfield-area schools because of a lifetime of musical immersion. Franke said as far back as he can remember, music has always been a part of his life. His father was a baritone and bass singer that sang in his church choir and was also hired to sing at special events such as weddings and funerals. His mother, he said, was a skilled piano

player. Both of his parents passed on their love of music to Franke and his three siblings, who all played in bands and orchestras through high school.

"My father had a gorgeous voice, and mom was a great piano player," Franke said. "They made it easy to play music at the house. Music was always a part of life at our home."

Franke began playing music in fourth grade, choosing the euphonium as his first instrument. He played it exclusively until ninth grade, when a teacher pushed him to try other instruments. Franke said that his private teacher at the time told him that he was starting a jazz band the following fall, and asked Franke to be a part of it on the condition that he learned how to play the

SEE MARINE CORPS, PAGE 14

Making Stone Soup

Fairfax County adopts Fiscal Year 2011 budget.

BY CHAIRMAN SHARON BULOVA
FAIRFAX COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

As we worked through our budget process for adoption of the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget, I was reminded of an old story called "Stone Soup." According to one variation of the story:

Tired, hungry soldiers came upon a little village. When they inquired about food, the villagers were reluctant to share their food stores, worried that their limited supply would become depleted.

And so, the soldiers set down their gear in the village square and produced a large pot.

They filled the pot with water and a large stone, then set it over a fire. A

few curious villagers walked over and asked what the soldiers were making. The captain explained that they were making something called stone soup, which tasted wonderful, but probably needed just a few more ingredients. He offered to share the soup with the villagers once it was finished.

One of the villagers returned and offered to supplement the soup with a few potatoes, which he diced and put into the simmering water. Another villager produced a bunch of carrots and another offered to share a few onions from her garden. These small but tasty contributions continued throughout the day.

Eventually the soup pot was full of a hearty, delicious soup. That evening, the entire village joined the soldiers in a satisfying feast of Stone Soup.

Last year at this time, during the most severe economic breakdown in most of our lifetimes, our Board adopted a budget which closed a projected shortfall of \$650 million. The \$3.3 billion General Fund budget we adopted included \$90.8 million of reductions and represented a decrease

SEE BOARD, PAGE 18

New Director of FCPS SACC

Anne Goldstein has been appointed director of the School Age Child Care program. Goldstein has more than 30 years of experience in the field of early childhood education. She was the founding executive director of the National Child Care Information Center, and has directed child care programs in both Fairfax and Montgomery counties. Goldstein served as the director of state policy initiatives at Zero to Three, and also as an adjunct professor of early childhood development.



Burke Motorist Charged In Crash with Officer

A 49-year-old Burke woman was charged with driving while intoxicated after striking a Fairfax County police officer's vehicle Friday, April 16.

According to the Fairfax County Police Department, Cristina Zamorano of the 9200 block Lake Braddock Drive was driving a 2009 Toyota Corolla shortly before 9:30 p.m. when she pulled out of Parliament Drive into the path of an officer traveling northbound on Rolling Road. The 40-year-old officer, a 15-year veteran of the force, and his K-9 were en route to a burglary in progress and had the vehicle's emergency lights and siren activated at the time of the crash.

Both drivers suffered serious, but non life-threatening injuries. Zamorano was flown to Inova Fairfax Hospital and the officer was transported there by ambulance. The officer was released Monday, April 19. His K-9 partner was evaluated by a veterinarian and did not suffer serious injury.

Detectives from the Crash Reconstruction Unit responded to the crash and are continuing to investigate.

Formal Wear Available

Fairfax County Public Schools is sponsoring its eighth annual Princess for a Night project, which enables high school-age girls to attend prom without spending a lot of money. Community members can donate dry-cleaned spring and summer formal dresses, shoes, handbags, jewelry, unused makeup (such as sample cosmetics) and shopping bags from department stores through Friday, April 30. Winter dresses, soiled or outdated items, casual dresses or items for mature women will not be accepted. Donations can be brought to the following locations:

- ❖ Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Drive in Annandale, in the main office on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and at the Annandale Neighborhood Center (behind the school) Monday and Wednesday, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- ❖ South County Secondary School, 8501 Silverbrook Road in Lorton, Monday-Friday, between 7 a.m. and 3:15 p.m., in the main office.

SEE NEWS, PAGE 7



Some of the cast of 'The Boy Friend' dance to the lively number, 'The Riviera,' during a rehearsal at Robinson Secondary.

No Message, Just a Fun Show

Robinson Secondary stages musical 'The Boy Friend.'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Theatergoers looking for a good time will find it in Robinson Secondary School's spring musical, "The Boy Friend." The curtain rises Thursday-Saturday, April 29-30 and May 1, and Friday-Saturday, May 7-8, at 7:30 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$10 at www.RobinsonDrama.org.

"The past few years, we've done serious productions with a message," said Director Chip Rome. "This one has no message. It's just light, frothy and fun."

The story takes place at a British, schoolgirls' finishing school in the 1920s on the French Riviera and marked Julie Andrews' American stage debut. With a cast and crew of 70, plus a 20-person orchestra, it's Robinson's biggest dance show in years.

"It's songs and dances glued together with a little bit of plot," said Rome. Two people will be talking and, just when you think they'll burst into song, instead 50 people join them onstage and dance. And by the end of the scene, the 50 people have vanished."

Senior Corrie McNulty plays Polly, 17, one of the girls at the school. "The story shows one day in our lives," she said. "There's a dance that night and we're looking for dates because a boyfriend is the most important thing in our lives. Polly's wealthy and constantly afraid that boys are only interested in her money, and she doesn't have a boyfriend because her father's so protective. Then when she meets a boy she likes, she pretends to be poor."

McNulty likes the role because "we're both 17 and interested in boys, and Polly's emotions are over the top. She cries a lot, so it's an emotional outlet for me. My favorite number is 'The Boyfriend' because I like singing with the whole ensemble and the dance has a kick line."

McNulty said the audience will enjoy the catchy music. "It'll get into your head and you'll be singing it after you leave," she said. People who like swing music will especially like it."

Playing Dulcie, one of Polly's best friends, is senior Micah Chelen. "She's bubbly, naïve and innocent, a lot of fun and is often the center of attention," said Chelen. "I have lots of freedom with the role, so I get to play around with her. I do a high-pitched, British accent that's proper and bubbly, at the same time."

Chelen likes the "Sur la Plage" number because "the entire second act is on the beach, and we're in bathing suits. And out of the school setting, they can be fun and free and flirt with the boys. You get a better understanding of who they are. ... It's a really delightful show with lots of surprises that'll make everyone happy."

Junior Ben Johnson portrays Tony, born into a wealthy British family and educated at Oxford. "I'm spoiled and given everything I ever needed," said Johnson. "But it's not the life I want, so I leave Oxford and become a package-delivery boy. I'm trying to find myself by living the life of a common person. Then I meet Polly and instantly fall head-over-heels in love."

Johnson's role is fun, he said, because of Tony's energy. "There's so much he wants to show Polly, and he has this big dream of his future, the two of them living happily in a little house in the country," Johnson said. "He's a hopeless romantic." He also likes the "cool dancing" in the numbers, "The Riviera"

SEE 'BOY FRIEND', PAGE 21

NEWS

Third Annual Invasive Plant Removal Day

Volunteers are needed for the statewide Invasive Plant Removal Day on Saturday, May 1. Activities at the state level are being coordinated by the Virginia Native Plant Society and the Virginia Master Naturalists. Contact Kathy Frederick at 703-324-8681 or katherine.frederick@fairfaxcounty.gov or register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/ima/

❖ Huntley Meadows, 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria. 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

❖ Rocky Run Park, Stringfellow Road, Springfield District. 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

❖ Lake Royal, 9450 Lake Braddock Drive, Burke. 7-10 a.m.

HEALTH NOTES

Flow Yoga is an active yoga class incorporating breath with movement to increase strength, flexibility and focus. This is an intense class taught for all levels. Class meets Mondays through April 26, 8-9 p.m., at Green Acres Community Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Cost is \$11/class. Register at www.FairfaxCityFit.com or contact andrea.d.webb@gmail.com.

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PHOTO GALLERY!

“Me and My Mom”

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Connection will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

PhotoB@connectionnewspapers.com

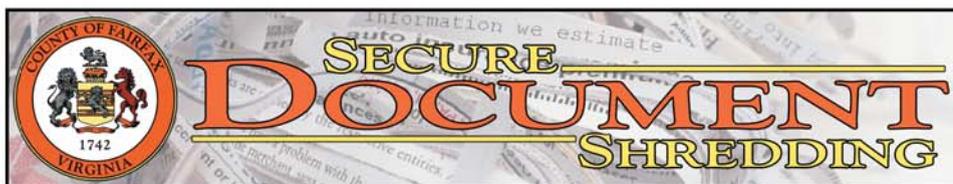
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PHOTO COURTESY OF PEGGY BULEY/FAIRVIEW ELEMENTARY

Generous Gift Fairview Elementary students receive generous technology donation from Northrop Grumman. The company donated 148 laptops and 183 desktops to the school.

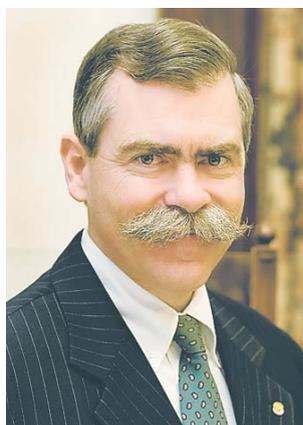
Local Bank Elects New Chairman

E. Hunt Burke, chief executive officer of the Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Company, has been elected chairman of the board effective April 1.

Burke previously served as president and was named chief executive officer of the bank in July 2009. He succeeds Charles K. Collum, who served as chairman since 2002. As part of the executive leadership transition, W. Scott McSween joined the Bank in July 2009 as president and chief operating officer.

The fifth generation of his family to lead the 158-year-old Bank, Burke has worked at the Bank in a variety of roles since the age of 13 and then as a full-time staff member for 30 years.

"I am honored to assume the role of chairman of Burke & Herbert Bank," said Burke. "This is an exciting time for our Bank. We have produced record lev-



E. Hunt Burke

els of growth and earnings for two consecutive years, amid challenging times for the banking industry and the economy in general. We now move forward with the next exciting chapter in our story. Our near-term future includes new and enhanced banking products and services, improved use of technology, and new branches in more Northern Virginia communities to offer even greater convenience for our customers."

Burke was born and raised in Alexandria, attended Episcopal High School and the University of Richmond. He received his B.A. from George Mason University while work-

ing full time at Burke & Herbert Bank. He graduated with honors from the Graduate School of Bank Management at the University of Virginia. He and his wife of 26 years, Molly, reside in Alexandria with their four daughters.

Help residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities advocate for their rights, resolve conflicts and improve the quality of their lives. The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers who can commit four hours a week for one year. Visits must occur between 8 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays. Volunteers receive training and continuing support. 703-324-5861, TTY 703-449-1186 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lombudsman.

Shepherd's Center of

VOLUNTEERS

Fairfax-Burke needs drivers in order to launch a Companion Shopping Program for seniors in our area. Volunteers will drive seniors twice each month to grocery stores and banks, on Tuesdays 1-4 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Contact 703-359-2918, aowbrw@verizon.net, or the Shepherd's Center office at 703-323-788.

Host families are needed for 25 high school French students visiting the Washington, D.C. area. Anyone interested in learning about new cultures and sharing the American way of life, that has an extra bed/space for sleeping, would make a great host family. Students will

be here Aug. 1-21. For more information, e-mail rachael@parlezvous.org.

Inova Fair Oaks Hospital Volunteer Auxiliary is expanding its Thrift Shop and looking for additional adult volunteers to work at the store for three-hour shifts. The store is open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and located at 9683 Fairfax Blvd. near Fairfax Circle. The Auxiliary Gift Shop located at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital is also looking for adult volunteers to work every other weekend to work the register and assist customers. Contact Rena Mobley at 703-391-3056 or rena.mobley@inova.org.

My Passover Cedar

Muslim welcomed at Adat Reyim.

BY MOHAMMAD ALI SALIH BURKE

Except a casual mention of Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian lands and the tensions they recently caused in U.S.-Israeli relations, my Passover Cedar last night was very spiritual. Another "adventure" for this Muslim.

After 9/11, as some Americans started to learn about Islam, I embarked on a difficult journey to learn about Christianity and Judaism (to a lesser degree, religions of immigrants like Hinduism and Buddhism).

Until I was 30, when I came to America, I didn't know a Jew; until today, I don't closely know one; and until today my attitude towards the Jews is clouded by Israel's expansionist policy in the Middle East.

That was probably why I was a little nervous when I attended the Passover celebrations at Adat Reyim synagogue, near where I live in Burke.

A black man, a foreign accent, a Muslim name and Arabic as a native tongue, I, understandably, made some people curious.

One asked what a "Mohammad" was doing in a synagogue; another, upon knowing I emigrated from Sudan, didn't miss a second to ask about "Arabs killing Africans" in Darfur; and a third seemed dismayed when everyone stood up and sang "Hatikva," Israel's national anthem, and I just stood up.

But, as I sat down, was warmly welcomed and joined the prayers, I felt at ease. Rabbi Bruce Aft was the first to ask me to "feel at home." I saw a Hebrew sign that was translated to me as a Bible verse that said:

"Remember Before Whom You Stand" and the program mentioned that four cups of wine would be served before the dinner was over.

COMMENTARY

But it wasn't my usual dinner. I ate parsley twigs after dipping them in salty water, half hard-boiled egg after pouring salty water on it, hot mashed horseradish, bitter apple sauce, mashed fish ball and, 10 times, I dipped my index finger in the wine, dropped a drop on my plate and licked my finger, 10 times.

Matzo was all-over: matzo crackers, matzo-ball soup, baked matzo, boiled matzo, fried matzo, sautéed vegetables with matzo and so on.

From across the dining table, an old man asked: "Mohammad, do you know why the Jews have survived all these centuries?" He answered: "Because of these details. They help us to remember our traditions."

As the rituals were practiced, Rabbi Aft, standing in the middle of the room, read "Haggadah," the story of the Jews exodus from Egypt and offered an explanation for each ritual: the matzo for the unleavened bread that the Jews cooked in a hurry before leaving; the salty water for their tears when oppressed there; the 10 drops of wine for the 10 plagues and so on.

Most of the prayers were in Hebrew of which I don't understand a word, but there were easy songs in English, like "Take Us Out Of Egypt" (to the tune of "Take Me Out To The Ball Game"); "A Passover Song" (to the tune of "These Are Few Of My Favorite Things"); and "There Is No Seder Like Our Seder" (to the tune of "There Is No Business Like Show Business").

I could have practiced another ritual had I known about it in advance: fasting of the first-born sons on Passover, symbolizing the story about a plague that hit the first-born sons before the Exodus.

I, a first-born, could have fasted, but from another prospective. Few months ago, while talking on the phone with my sister in Sudan, she mentioned that she was fasting for the day. I wondered why because Ramadan, the Muslims' fasting month, was over a long time ago. She blamed me for "leaving to America and forgetting our village traditions." That was a reference to "Ashura," an annual Muslim day of fasting that, yes, symbolizes the Exodus.

At Adat Reyim synagogue, it was time for the fourth and last cup of wine and a final round of prayers, this time to thank God. I found this one simple: "Baruh hu u-varuh shmo" (Praised be He and praised be His name).

Before leaving, my welcoming tablemates mentioned that I could come again for other Jewish celebrations, like Yum Kippur, which they said was a day of fasting.

If I didn't fast on "Ashura" maybe I will fast on Yum Kippur.

FROM PAGE 4

❖ Gold's Gym, 7770 Richmond Highway in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County, Monday-Friday, from 4:45 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Students are served on a first come, first served basis, and all students from Northern Virginia schools, regardless of income level, are welcome. It is strongly recommended that parents accompany their daughters to participate in dress selection. Shopping and dress selection will

take place at the following locations:

❖ Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County. Friday, May 7, 5-8 p.m.; Saturday, May 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Monday, May 10, 2:15-6 p.m.

❖ Annandale Neighborhood Center, located behind Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale. Friday, April 30, 2:30 -8 p.m.; Monday, May 3, 3-8 p.m.

❖ T. C. Williams High School, 3330 King St., Alexandria Enter through the Chinquapin Drive entrance and follow the signs. Friday, May 14, 4-6 p.m.

Lucician New CEO at Habitat for Humanity

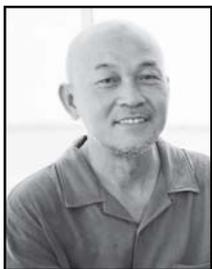
Frank Lucician has been hired as the new president and CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia.

Prior to joining Habitat in April, Lucician was the director of program development of Interfaith Housing Alliance in Frederick, Md. He has worked in for-profit and non-profit development of affordable housing for more than 40 years and has extensive experience establishing contacts at local,

state and federal levels with all agencies and departments funding affordable housing developments.

Originally from Ohio, Lucician has lived in the metropolitan region of Washington, D.C. for three years. Prior to moving to the area, he traveled to D.C., lobbying for affordable housing business issues. He is a past president of the Council for Rural and Affordable Housing in Ohio, served two terms on the Council for Rural and Affordable Housing in Washington, D.C. and was a past board member of the Frederick County, Md. Affordable Housing Council.

Charlie's Barber Shop



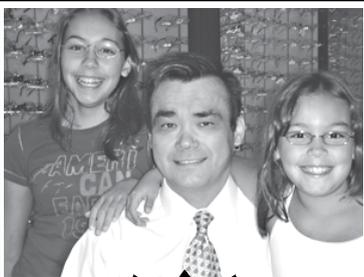
Charlie now has his own shop in Burke!

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"Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure"

During the months of April and May 2010, Brennan's will donate 2% of all equipment sales profit to the "Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure" Foundation. This years race date is June 5th, 2010. For more information on the race please go to www5.komen.org

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OPINION

On 40th Anniversary of Earth Day ...

... a Fortunate Potomac River.

BY MICHAEL LIPFORD

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans actively participated in a new holiday: Earth Day. Inspired by Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, the event evolved into an annual celebration of the planet that gives us life.

In Washington, those first Earth Day celebrants assembled around the monuments on the National Mall, within sight of the Potomac River. But the Potomac of 40 years ago was far different from the river we know today.

That river would literally make you sick. Huge toxic algae blooms created such a stench that government officials steered visiting dignitaries away from the river. The algae also caused massive fish kills, and pollution made swimming unthinkable, even on the hottest days.

But those first Earth Day celebrants were part of a rising tide of environmental awareness, and ensuing landmark legislation would improve the health of rivers nationwide. Most notably, the Clean Water Act of 1972 prompted Virginia, Maryland and D.C. to modernize sewage treatment plants and reduce pollution entering the Potomac by 95 percent.

A CLEAN POTOMAC benefits us all, especially the more than 80 percent of Washington-area residents whose drinking water comes from the river. The Potomac also is the second-largest tributary of the Chesapeake Bay, so the cleaner the river, the better our chances of restoring the bay's fish, crabs and oysters.

People also love to fish, boat and hike along the Potomac. In fact, more than 3 million people a year visit Great Falls alone, a place The Nature Conservancy helped protect a decade before the inaugural Earth Day. That year,



ALAN ECKERT PHOTOGRAPHY

View of the Potomac River, now 95 percent clearer than it was on the first Earth Day.

1960, also saw the establishment of the Conservancy's Virginia Chapter.

So in addition to observing the 40th Earth Day, the Conservancy throughout 2010 is celebrating the golden anniversary of our conservation work in Virginia. Our earliest milestones, in fact, occurred right here in Northern Virginia. Besides helping spearhead a partnership that led to Great Falls Park, we established our first Virginia preserve in Fauquier County at Wildcat Mountain.

Along the Potomac, the Conservancy owns Fraser Preserve in Fairfax County and, with the National Park Service, co-owns Bear Island and the popular Billy Goat Trail. We continue to work with the Park Service and other partners to protect the entire Potomac Gorge.

We still have work to do to improve the Potomac's health, but Earth Day presents an opportunity to celebrate how far we've come.

Not only have we turned around the health of the river in a generation, but also proven that we can restore our environment. In the shadow of our national monuments, we have achieved the rebirth of a natural monument.

This year, you can celebrate, have fun outdoors and help nature by running or walking in the Conservancy's annual Earth Day 5K in Silver Spring, Maryland, on Sunday, April 17. Hosted by Pacers Events LLC, this "Sprint for Spat" will raise funds to plant 5 million baby oysters (called spat) in the Chesapeake Bay. See nature.org/earthday5k.

Michael Lipford is Virginia director of The Nature Conservancy, a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve the diversity of life on Earth. The organization cares for more than 50 preserves across Virginia and Maryland. On the Web at nature.org/virginia.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Call for Mother's Day Photos

And Father's Day too.

Every year at this time, the Connection puts out the call for photo graphs of moms and their children, grandmothers and their children and grandchildren. Most years, we're lucky enough to receive a photo or two that includes four generations great-grandma and all the rest.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9, and once again the Connection will publish a gallery of Mother's Day photos, celebrating

the mothers who make so many things possible in families, communities, schools and other institutions in local neighborhoods.

Send in photos as soon as possible, including information about who is in the picture, the date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and sentence or two about what is happening and the location (who, what, where, when, why).

EDITORIAL

We prefer digital photos in Jpeg format; email them to Vienna@ConnectionNewspapers.com, and write Mother's Day Photos in the subject line. Or you can mail a CD with your photos on it in Jpeg format.

We will also accept prints, and we will do our best to return photos that include a self-addressed-stamped envelope for that purpose, but please do not send us any photos that cannot be replaced.

Send photos to burke@ConnectionNewspapers.com, or mail to Burke Connection, Mother's Day Photo Gallery, 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

And remember, a few weeks from now it will be time to send photos of Dads and children, grandfathers and children and grandchildren. Or feel free to send your Mother's and Father's Day photos at the same time.

THE CONNECTION

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OPINION

Revisit Joint Resolution

To the Editor:

Recently at a District Band Competition with my seventh grade son, I was handed a flyer asking Fairfax citizens to ask our Board of Supervisors to advertise a 10-12 cent increase in real-estate tax rates to cover proposed cuts in our K-12 music programs, freshmen sports and other vital offerings in FCPS.

I asked the gentlemen who handed me the flyer if he asked for a tiered salary reduction of 15 percent for everyone making \$250,000 and above in the county, 10 percent from those making \$150,000-\$249,000 and 5 percent cut for those making \$90,000-\$149,000, you could more easily fill the budget gap to preserve these essential programs, and most of our classroom teachers would be unaffected.

LETTERS I then ask the gentlemen if he knew that in Fairfax County there are two Departments of Transportation, two General Services Departments, two IT Departments, two Human Resource Departments, multiple warehouses and multiple fulltime HVAC, carpenters and plumbers. And if you could consolidate and merge these departments, we could not only preserve all our FCPS programs, but lower the real-estate tax rate too!

In 1996, Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Katherine Hanley and School Board Chairman Kristen Amundson agreed on a Joint Resolution on Consolidation and the Sharing of Services to "identify and implement programs to control expenditures, consolidate services and avoid pressures to increase taxes for our citizens."

Too bad this joint resolution was never fully explored and enacted, or we might not be having a discussion about cutting any FCPS program today. It's time for the Board of Supervisors and the School Board to revisit this Joint Resolution.

And the gentlemen's response to my counter proposals to save our programs, rather than raising the tax rate, "never knew about any of that, but sounds like a plan I could support."

Scott Martin
Fairfax Station

The writer is a 2011 Republican candidate for State Senate in the 39th District.



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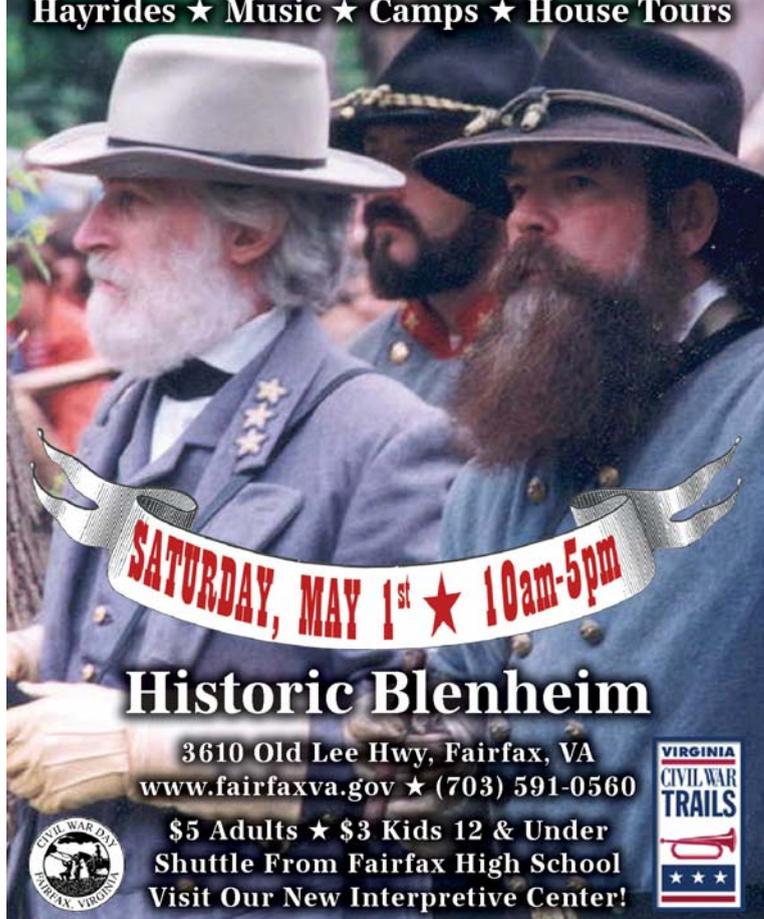


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To have community events listed, send to south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 24

Polka Till Ya Drop. 7 p.m. at Williams Hall, Volunteer Fire Department No. 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. With Blaskapelle Alte Kameraden, the German Band of the City of Fairfax Band Association, polka lessons for novices and polka demonstrations. German beer and wine, pretzels and pastries available for purchase. \$10 admission. 703-

Larry the Cable Guy. 8 p.m. at the George Mason Patriot Center, 4500 University Drive, Fairfax. \$59.50, available online at www.ticketmaster.com or via Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available for patrons with disabilities at 703-993-3035. www.patriotcenter.com.

Traditional Origami Workshop. 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Explore and learn about traditional origami, the art of paper folding. Age 8-12. 703-

THURSDAY/APRIL 22

Swing Into Spring Jazz Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Church of the Holy Spirit School, 8800 Braddock Road, Annandale. Vocalist Nancy Scimone, guitarist Steve Herberman and bassist Victor Dvoskin. \$10. Proceeds benefit Christ House Shelter in Alexandria. 571-232-1873 or LiveJazzConcerts@veizon.net.

Tales for Twos:

Mudlicious. 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories and activities about mud. Age 23-35 months with adult. 703-644-7333.

Adrian Belew:

Painting with Guitar (An Electric One Man Show). 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$30. jamminjava.com.

Indie-folk rocker Luke Brindley with The Alternate Routes. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$16. www.wolftrap.org.



Sabah Sabah, left, as Motel, Henry Dodge as Tevey and Gina Reistrup as Yente rehearse a scene from West Springfield's upcoming production of 'Fiddler on the Roof.'

Spartans Stage 'Fiddler on the Roof'

West Springfield High School will present its production of Broadway's beloved musical "Fiddler on the Roof" beginning Saturday, April 30. The talented student cast, orchestra and stage crews from West Springfield under the direction of theater teacher, Mary Jo Levesque are preparing for performances on Friday-Saturday April 30 and May 1 at 7:30 p.m., and Friday-Saturday May 7 and 8, at 7:30 p.m., with a matinee available on Saturday, May 8, at 2 p.m. Tickets for the show may be purchased online at www.tinyurl.com/wshstheatre or at the door.

FRIDAY/APRIL 23

The Virginia Opera presents The Gershwins' "Porgy and Bess." 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

The Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. 8 p.m. at Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church.

Volunteer Fairfax and more than 500 community members will honor 176 volunteer individuals and organizations. \$35 for individuals or nonprofits, \$50 for corporate guests. Tickets available at www.volunteerfairfax.org. Contact Samantha Watson at swatson@volunteerfairfax.org or 703-246-3826.

Singer/songwriter Jon Carroll. 7 p.m. at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Proceeds benefit the church's Piano Fund. 703-503-4579 or administrator@accotinkuuc.org.

The Benefits of Chocolate. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$75. Supporting the Stroke Comeback Center. jamminjava.com.

A Night to SHINE: Supporting & Helping Inova Needs Everyone. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks, 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Shop and support Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children. 703-266-2299.

Folk singer/songwriter Lucy Kaplansky. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20.

352-ARTS or 703-757-0220.

2010 United Community Ministries Gala. 6-11 p.m. at Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road, Alexandria. This year's theme is "UCM in Bloom: Helping Our Community Flourish" and includes cocktails and dinner, dancing, raffles, silent and live auctions. Proceeds benefit UCM programs. Tickets \$125, available at 703-768-7106 or www.ucmagency.org.

Cherryholmes and Dr. Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Classic and contemporary bluegrass. \$23-\$46. Youth through grade 12, half price. Charge tickets at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Virginia Ballet Company and School: Les Sylphides, Firebird and the Polovetzian Dances from Prince Igor. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale. \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. Reservations required at www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

Jeff Foxworthy, Bill Engvall and

293-6227.

Thomas Lowery Book Signing. 2 p.m. at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Discussion and book signing by Thomas Lowry, author of "Love and Lust: Private and Amorous Letters of the Civil War." Free. Lowry's book will be available for purchase for \$14.95. Recommended for a mature audience. 703-591-0560.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to use a computer, navigate the Internet and work with common software applications. Call for an appointment. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Fairfax County's Best Hikes and Hiking Trails. 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Celebrate Earth Day by letting author and hiking guru Paul Elliott point in environmental and recreational directions. Books available for sale and signing. Ages 12 and up. 703-249-1520.

The Nields. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. jamminjava.com.

FAZE Electro Dance Party with Menya, Ypset and Santi. 10 p.m.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 12

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THINGS TO DO



Go 'Into the Woods'

Tickets are on sale for Good Shepherd Players' production of 'Into the Woods,' which runs April 24-25, April 30 and May 1-2 at the Church of the Good Shepherd,

9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Tickets are adults, \$15; children 12 and under, \$10. Evening shows are at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Purchase tickets at www.goodshepherdplayers.com or Sundays after services through the church office 703-323-5400.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$8-\$21. jamminjava.com.

E-Waste Recycling Event. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Fairfax Campus of George Mason University, Lot K, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. All electronic items accepted. Free and open to the public. 757-222-8432 or felicia.blow@cox.com.

Woodbury Woods Community Association Community Yard Sale. 8:30-11 a.m. at the corner of Sideburn Road and Woodbury Woods Court in Fairfax, one block from Zion Drive. bjsadtler@cox.net.

Junior-Parent Golf Tournament. 8 a.m. at Burke Lake Golf course, 7315 Ox road, Fairfax Station. Teams of two compete in an 18-hole scramble format. \$60 per team includes lunch. Reserve at 703-323-1641.

"Into the Woods" presented by the Good Shepherd Players. 8 p.m., at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Tickets: Adults, \$15; children 12 and Under, \$10 Evening shows are at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Online tickets www.goodshepherdplayers.com or Sundays after services or through the church office 703-323-5400.

Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Foundation 12th Annual Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction. 1:30 p.m. at the Waterford, 12025 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. www.mlkculturfoundation.org.

Earth Day/Arbor Day All Weekend at the Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling or 703-324-5052, TTY 711. Earth Day/Arbor Day Celebration 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Games, exhibits and several hands-on workshops and activities. Free. Document Shredding 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Residents may shred up to five medium-sized boxes of personal documents per household at no charge. Remove all paper from binders and binder clips. Film or computer disks will not be accepted: paper documents only.

Folk duo Buskin & Batteau. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 25

The Virginia Opera presents The Gershwins' "Porgy and Bess." 2 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

Virginia Ballet Company and School: Les Sylphides, Firebird and the Polovetzian Dances from Prince Igor. 2 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale. \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. Reservations required at www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

Half Brother and White Noise. 2 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$8. jamminjava.com.

Anais Mitchell and the Hadestown Orchestra with Michael Chorney Sextet. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. jamminjava.com.

"Into the Woods" presented by the Good Shepherd Players. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Tickets: Adults, \$15; children

12 and Under, \$10 Evening shows are at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Online tickets www.goodshepherdplayers.com or Sundays after services or through the church office 703-323-5400.

Earth Day/Arbor Day Electric Sunday. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax. Residents may recycle old televisions, computers and peripheral electronics such as speakers, printers, scanners and more, as well as unbroken fluorescent tubes and light bulbs. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling or 703-324-5052, TTY 711.

MONDAY/APRIL 26

JSSA Workshop: Considering Separation and Divorce. 6:30 p.m. at JSSA, 3018 Javier Road, Fairfax. Experts will explain the legal, financial and personal issues of separation and divorce. www.jssa.org.

Jessie and James: Mutts Gone Nuts! 2:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. See Jessie and James present a comic and thrilling dog show with juggling, rope walking and crowd play. All Ages. 703-644-7333.

Cadillac Sky and Jill Andrews. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 27

Genealogy Databases. 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Use the library's genealogy databases and other free Internet databases. Age 13 and up. 703-293-6227.

Inova Blood Drive. 1-6:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450

Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Photo ID required. Appointments preferred, call 1-866-256-6372. Adults.

Teen Book Group. 6 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. What's hot and what's not. Age 13-18. 703-644-7333.

DC101's Last Band Standing. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 28

Trees of the Mind: Neurons and Their Relationship to Consciousness. 6:30 p.m. at George Mason University Center for Center for Consciousness and Transformation, Research I building, room 163, 4500 University Drive, Fairfax. Light refreshments will be served. Registration forms are available at http://cct.gmu.edu/events/ or eagle.gmu.edu/map/fairfax.php.

Evening Book Discussion Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Call for title. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Bobby Long. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 29

Fairfax Saxophone Quartet with Amy LaCivita: Beethoven and Beyond. 8 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Featuring two Beethoven arrangements by James Francis. Free admission. 703-757-0220 or www.fairfaxband.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 30

George Mason University Theater of the First Amendment: 20

Years, Only the Beginning. 8 p.m. at theSPACE, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Featuring a selection of scenes chosen from the many productions staged by TFA since 1990. Free and non-ticketed, but reservations are recommended. 703-993-2195 or tfa@gmu.edu.

Chopteeth Afrofunk Big Band and Funk Ark. 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. jamminjava.com.

"Into the Woods" presented by the Good Shepherd Players. 8 p.m., at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Tickets: Adults, \$15; children 12 and Under, \$10 Evening shows are at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Online tickets www.goodshepherdplayers.com or Sundays after services or through the church office 703-323-5400.

SATURDAY/MAY 1

Fairfax Civil War Day. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Historic Blenheim Estate, 3610 Old Lee Highway. \$5 adults, \$3 age 12 and younger. Proceeds benefit the restoration and maintenance of the Blenheim Estate. Free parking and shuttle service are provided at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run. This event is produced by the City of Fairfax, Historic Fairfax City Inc. and the 17th Virginia Infantry, Company D "Fairfax Rifles." 703-591-0560 or www.fairfaxva.gov.

Cello Master Class. 10 a.m. at Fairfax Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. s with cellist and master teacher Julie Albers. \$10, VASTA members \$5. For more information, go to www.vastaweb.org or call 703-772-5212.

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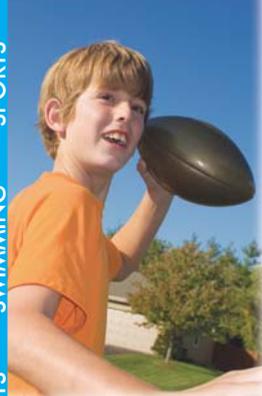
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FAITH

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

Phoenix Rising Meal Program. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, needs volunteers to help prepare meals for the homeless along the Route 1 corridor in Alexandria on Thursday, Apr 22, at 6:30 p.m., and deliver the bags on Friday, April 23, at 6 p.m. If interested, call 703-971-5151 or e-mail admin@franconiaumc.org.

New Hope Church, 8905 Ox Road in Lorton, will offer a Beth Moore Simulcast on Saturday, April 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Moore offers women freedom, deliverance and depth through her teaching of God's word. \$25 per person, including lunch. Purchase tickets at www.newhope.org.

Community Prayer Walk and Benefit Concert presented by the GRACE Youth Group of Fairfax Presbyterian Church, 10723 Main St., Fairfax, on Saturday, May 1. Join them during the final two hours of their 20 hour, 10 minute prayer walk around the City of Fairfax, beginning in the church parking lot on Saturday, May 1, at 2 p.m., and concluding on the church lawn with a benefit concert at 4 p.m. The walk is \$25, including a T-shirt and concert admission. Concert tickets \$10, age 10 and under free. All proceeds benefit Hearts with Haiti, a non-profit organization bringing boys off the streets of Port-au-Prince, whose facility was completely destroyed in the recent earthquake. Register at www.fairfaxpresbyterian.org or 571-

244-0753. Visit www.heartswithhaiti.org.

Messiah United Methodist Church, 6215 Rolling Road in Springfield, will host a Community Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 6, at 7 a.m. U.S. Navy Chaplain LCDR Charles Rowley will be guest speaker on this year's theme, "For Such a Time as This." Chaplain Rowley recently returned from a deployment to Iraq. \$15. Reserve at 703-569-9862.

Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, welcomes the community to several events this summer. Contact 703-971-5151 or admin@franconiaumc.org.

❖ **Ice Cream Social.** Celebrate summer 12-2 p.m. Saturday, May 15, with free ice cream sundaes and cones. Relax under tents and spend time talking with neighbors and making new friends.

❖ **Phoenix Rising Meal Program Volunteers Needed.** Help prepare meals for the homeless along the Route 1 corridor 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 27, and deliver the bags 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 28.

❖ **Phoenix Rising Meal Program Volunteers Needed.** Help prepare meals for the homeless along the Route 1 corridor 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 24, and deliver the bags 5:30 p.m. Friday, June 25.

❖ **Vacation Bible School: Meet God on the Mountain.** 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Jul 19-23. For children age 4 to eighth grade. Learn about God's majesty and power.

❖ **Phoenix Rising Meal Program Volunteers Needed.** Help prepare meals for the homeless along the Route

1 corridor 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 22, and deliver the bags 5:30 p.m. Friday, July 23.

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

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

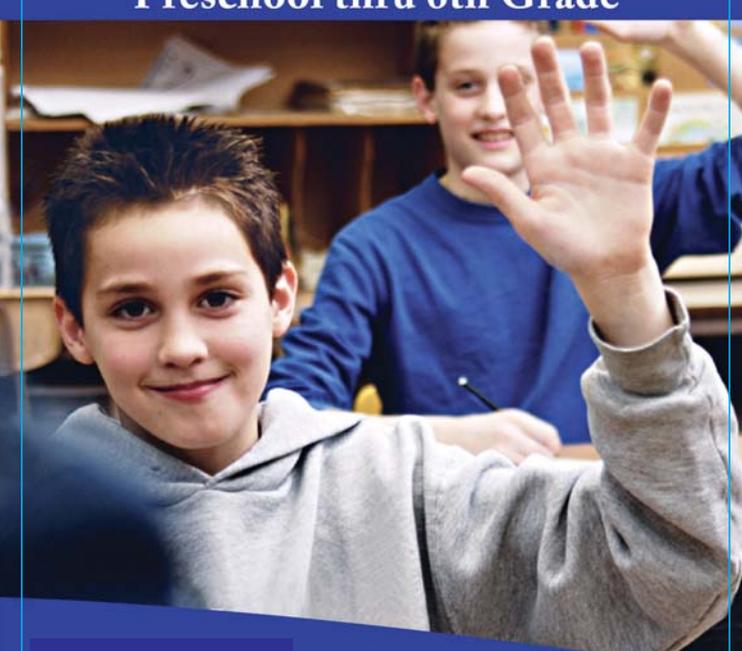
New Women's Bible Study meets at Jubilee Christian Center on Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m.-12 p.m. The study will focus on "Spirit, Soul, and Body" by Andrew Wommack. \$10 per person. Nursery provided for registered children. 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

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

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SCHOOL NOTES

Christian Olivera of Burke, a junior majoring in civil engineering in the College of Engineering, has been inducted into Chi Epsilon, the National Civil Engineering Honor Society, at Virginia Tech.

Amigos en Cristo + Friends in Christ of St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church has made financial scholarships of up to \$1,000 available. Applicants must be registered parishioners in the Arlington Diocese, of Hispanic descent and must be attending or accepted as a student in a post-secondary, accredited, two or four year college or university program. Application forms and complete program rules can be obtained by e-mailing: AmigosCristo@verizon.net, or by going to the St. Mary of Sorrows Web site at: <http://www.stmaryofsorrows.org> and looking at "Scholarships." Deadline: May 15.

Thirty-seven health and medical sciences students represented Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) at the 30th Annual Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) State Leadership Conference March 12-14 in Williamsburg. FCPS student winners at the state HOSA conference include: **Molly Sabolsky**, second place in Health Education Team (Woodson High School and West Potomac Academy); **Erika Dommes**, second place in Physical Therapy (Hayfield Secondary School and West Potomac Academy) and **Cassandra Dahlke**, third place in Medical Photography (Woodson High School and West Potomac Academy). Student winners of fourth and fifth place awards include: **Stephanie Aguilar**, (West Springfield High School and West Potomac Academy).

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



BURKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5690 Oak Leather Drive
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8:30 & 11:15 am
9:45 am Sunday School

Saturday Worship:
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casual, guest musicians

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Weekend Worship Services

SATURDAY	6:30PM
SUNDAY	8, 9:30, 11AM
VENTURE (YOUNG ADULTS)	11AM
HISPANIC	12:30PM

Check out our

- Creative ministry to children, including Union Station, AWANA, and VBS
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- Vibrant ministry to men, women, and couples
- Young Adults service at 11am
- Spanish-language service at 12:30pm
- ESL classes (fall/winter/spring)
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6911 BRADDOCK RD, SPRINGFIELD, VA 703.941.4124
on the web at www.immanuelbible.net

Messiah United Methodist Church

www.messiahumc.org

Check out our:

- dynamic youth group
- both men's and women's ministry
- wonderful choir, bell choirs and a full orchestra

Sunday Services 8:15, 9:30 and 11 am
Sunday School 9:30 and 11 am
Childcare is available during worship

6215 Rolling Road, Springfield
(near West Springfield High School)
703-569-9862

Baha'i Faith
Baha'is of Fairfax County Southwest
703-912-1719

Baptist
Preservation of Zion Fellowship
703-409-1015

Catholic
Church of the Nativity
703-455-2400

Christian Reformed
Grace Christian Reformed Church
703-323-8033

Episcopal
Church of the Good Shepherd
703-323-5400

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
703-455-2500

Lutheran
Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
703-455-7500

Methodist
Burke United Methodist Church
703-250-6100



9800 Old Keene Mill Rd.
703-455-7041

Sunday School
9:15 AM

Worship Service
10:30 AM

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Realtime Worship - Sunday 8:45 & 11 AM
Sunday School 10:10 AM
Sunday Evening - 6:30 PM Youth Meeting
Family Night - Wednesday 7:15 PM
Call for Sunday Evening Worship Home Group Schedule visit our website: www.jccag.org

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School Boundary Study Considered 'Likely'

Fate of Clifton Elementary School unclear.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

School redistricting is likely to be part of "any and all solutions" to public elementary school overcrowding taking place in southwestern Fairfax County, according to a Power Point prepared by a volunteer parent committee appointed to study the issue.

The group, called the Southwestern Fairfax Regional Planning Committee, is scheduled to present a report about different strategies for coping with the overcrowding in May.

But during a public outreach meeting April 13, committee co-chairs Andrew Fligel and Kelly

Hutter said the School Board would probably have to proceed with a school boundary study next fall regardless of what the group's report said.

A boundary study could potentially affect 28 elementary schools that serve Springfield, Fairfax Station, Clifton, Burke, Fairfax, Centreville, Chantilly and Oak Hill.

Each school under consideration currently has a parent representative on the planning

committee.

The committee, including Fligel and Hutter, conducted public outreach meetings on school overcrowding before they pulled together the final report.

The April 13 meeting took place at Robinson Secondary School. Other meetings were scheduled for April 15, 19 and 20 at schools in the Centreville area.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS in the county's southwestern region are currently 96 percent of their building capacity, when including the space provided by the modular classrooms that are found on many campuses.

According to school system data, the southwestern elementary schools will be at 99 percent of capacity overall — again including modular classrooms — by the 2014-15 school year.

Individual schools already have student populations that well exceed 100 percent of building capacity, which is why many presume at least some boundary adjustments will be forthcoming.

Many parents who attended the public meeting at Robinson said they were generally supportive of changing school bound-

"I know that all of these issues can be very emotional. We are talking about our children."

— Andrew Fligel



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

Parents Andrew Fligel and Kelly Hutter are co-chairs of the Southwestern Regional Planning Study Committee.

aries to cope with the overcrowding problem. Boundary adjustments and moving special programs — like a gifted and talented center — to a new school tend to be the cheapest option for addressing overpopulation.

But others worried that redistricting is likely to be disruptive to community and neighborhood life.

Many Fairfax residents purchase homes in certain neighborhoods because they wanted to send their children to a particu-

lar school. They could become angry if they are asked to send their children somewhere else.

"I know that all of these issues can be very emotional. We are talking about our children," said Fligel.

SO DURING the public meeting, parents also discussed the possibility of adding new building wings to those schools with overcrowding problems.

With building additions, more communities and neighborhoods would be spared the pain of going through a boundary adjustment. But some people attending the meeting worried about Fairfax creating elementary schools with more than 1,000 students. They thought a school that size was simply too large for younger children.

Currently, new elementary schools are built to a capacity of approximately 950 students, according to the school system data.

The parent committee also asked for feedback on a proposal to move sixth grade students from elementary to middle schools. By shifting the sixth grade, Fairfax officials would free up some extra space in elementary school buildings that could be used to address the overcrowding problems.

Some also suggested that six graders belong in middle school, rather than elementary school. Several school districts, including Arlington County, group all their students in a sixth through eighth grade in a middle school configuration. Currently,

SEE CITIZEN, PAGE 18

Marine Corps Trombonist Helps Young Musicians

FROM PAGE 3

trombone over the summer. Reluctantly, Franke accepted the invitation only after receiving perhaps the best advice of his life.

"I asked why I should switch to the trombone," Franke said. "He told me that I would have more fun playing the euphonium, but that I'd make money playing the trombone, so I learned how to play it."

Franke continued to play both instruments through high school and eventually took his trade to the University of Illinois, where he majored in music education. Franke said that he was on the five-year plan at the school, as music majors must fulfill a lengthy list of degree requirements. In his fourth year, before graduating, he auditioned for the Marine Band on the euphonium and was accepted into the band in 1981. Franke played the euphonium for the first year and a half he was in the band before switching instruments to fill the empty principal trombone seat. Eventually, he was moved to assistant trombone and subsequently went back to playing the euphonium, which he still plays in the band today.

The Marine Band schedule has kept Franke occupied year-round for nearly three decades. According to Franke, the band's

primary function is playing at the White House, so whenever a president needs music for an event, Franke and his band mates are called on. In addition, the band follows a seasonal schedule. During the summer, the band plays outdoor concerts at the U.S. Capitol, Washington Monument and Marine barracks in Southeast D.C. During the fall, the band is divided into five sections and each section is assigned to tour a region of the country for 4 1/2 weeks. Last fall, Franke toured the West Coast from Seattle to San Diego.

"It's the first job I got after getting out of college, and it's the only job I've ever had," Franke said.

WHILE THE MARINE BAND may be the only job Franke has ever had, the time he puts in with the West Springfield Area Honor Band could qualify as a second. According to Franke, he first became involved with the band when his youngest son, Kurt, joined the band, which draws from several Burke and Springfield-area elementary schools, as a fifth-grader at Rolling Valley eight years ago. Franke said that he usually drove his son to the band rehearsals, and one day, had time to kill so he decided to sit in on one. Franke said that he simply went to listen, but within minutes of arriv-

ing, he found himself with a trombone in his hand.

"I didn't have anywhere else to be that day, so I sat in to listen to the rehearsal," Franke said. "There seemed to be a vacancy in the back row, so I told the band leader, Susan Deck, that I could sit in with the brass guys."

That simple favor quickly turned into a permanent gig, as Franke continued to play with his son in the honor band for the rest of that year and the next. After his son moved onto middle school, Franke stopped attending rehearsals, but never lost the desire to work with the band. So, he approached Deck later that year and asked if he could still help out, and Deck was more than happy to welcome him back.

Since then, Franke has continued to volunteer his time to teach and play with the students in the band each year. Franke said that the opportunity to help the budding musicians develop and the excitement and enthusiasm they get from learning an instrument is what keeps him coming back.

Each year, he said, the band is shaky initially as the students struggle to learn new pieces of music, and during this time, Franke works with students he notices are having an especially difficult time. After some one-on-one tutoring and some words

of encouragement, however, Franke said that the students blossom, mastering the music and gaining confidence and self-esteem along the way.

"It's rewarding for me just to be a positive influence on them," Franke said. "It's just really cool watching a group of kids being challenged at the beginning, and then seeing the progress that they make week by week. By the end of rehearsals, there is a world of difference, and it is as exciting as can be."

WHILE FRANKE'S commitment to the Marine Band keeps him busy nearly year-round, he has no plans on ending his relationship with then honor band anytime soon. He said that he will keep coming to rehearsals and will continue to volunteer for fund-raising activities such as selling concessions at West Springfield High School football games as long as Deck will have him. Based on the first eight years of results, though, it appears as if he will always have a place in the West Springfield Area Honors Band.

"Phil Franke is nothing less than an angel," Deck said. "He does the work of many teachers and always with a smile on his face. All I can say is if the world had a few more Phil Frankes, we would all be better off."

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HOME SALES

MARCH 2010
\$580,000 ~ \$215,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
9308 POPLAR SPRING CT	4	3	1		BURKE	\$580,000	Detached	0.08		MILLSTONE POND
9429 GOLDFIELD LN	4	3	1		BURKE	\$570,000	Detached	0.30		INGLEWOOD ESTATES
5730 WOODEN HAWK LN	5	3	1		BURKE	\$559,000	Detached	0.23		BURKE CENTRE
9633 SHIPWRIGHT DR	4	2	1		BURKE	\$555,000	Detached	0.22		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
5215 LIGHTHORNE RD	4	3	0		BURKE	\$522,900	Detached	0.24		LAKE BRADDOCK
6134 WICKLOW DR	4	3	0		BURKE	\$480,000	Detached	0.29		BURKE CENTRE
6007 WINDWARD DR	3	2	1		BURKE	\$479,900	Detached	0.16		BURKE CENTRE
10052 BEACON POND LN	2	3	1		BURKE	\$375,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE CENTRE
5658 SUTHERLAND CT	3	3	1		BURKE	\$367,888	Townhouse	0.06		CROWNLEIGH
5502 BEACONSFIELD CT	3	3	1		BURKE	\$365,000	Townhouse	0.04		LAKE BRADDOCK
5716 WOOD MOUSE CT	4	3	1		BURKE	\$344,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE CENTRE
6056 MEYERS LANDING CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.05		BURKE CENTRE
9667 PIERRPONT ST	3	2	1		BURKE	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.05		HILLSDALE
9605 WESTPORT LN	3	3	1		BURKE	\$326,531	Townhouse	0.03		LAKE BRADDOCK
9532 CHERRY OAK CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$321,500	Townhouse	0.05		OLD MILL COMMUNITY
10218 FAIRE COMMONS CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.03		BURKE CENTRE
10061 CHESTNUT WOOD LN	3	2	1		BURKE	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE CENTRE
5911 HERITAGE SQUARE DR	3	3	1		BURKE	\$308,750	Townhouse	0.06		HERITAGE SQUARE NORTH
5520 SWIFT CURRENT CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$307,000	Townhouse	0.03		LAKEPOINTE
6037 MEYERS LANDING CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$305,000	Townhouse	0.05		BURKE CENTRE
5871 KARA PL	4	2	1		BURKE	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.05		BURKE STATION SQUARE
5695 SUMMER OAK WAY	3	2	1		BURKE	\$290,000	Townhouse	0.05		BURKE CENTRE
5828 APPLE WOOD LN	3	2	2		BURKE	\$280,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE CENTRE
6022 TICONDEROGA CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$276,900	Townhouse	0.04		HERITAGE SQUARE
5842 BRIDGETOWN CT #29	3	3	0		BURKE	\$265,000	Townhouse			OAKWOOD COMMONS BURKE
9926 WHITEWATER DR	3	2	2		BURKE	\$255,000	Townhouse			LAKEPOINTE
6415 FENESTRA CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$250,000	Townhouse			KEENE MILL WOODS
6301 BUFFIE CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$240,000	Townhouse	0.04		OLD MILL COMMUNITY
5831 OAK LADDER CT	3	3	1		BURKE	\$235,000	Townhouse	0.03		BURKE CENTRE
9714 ASHBOURN DR	3	1	1		BURKE	\$215,000	Townhouse	0.03		GREENFIELD FARM

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SCHOOL NOTES

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.

Sangster Elementary, 7420 Reservation Drive in Springfield, will have a Kindergarten Open House on Monday, May 10, at 2 p.m. Bring incoming

2010-11 school year kindergarteners to learn all about kindergarten. Registration for the upcoming school year will be available. Contact 703-644-8203.

Students at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology **Kevin Cao and Colvin Wang are starting a student service group that will**

be offering free tutoring to elementary school students. They are looking for children from low-income families who need academic help, but all are welcome. Tutoring will be offered Sundays, starting April 18, at Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. For more information, contact Cao at kevincao95@gmail.com or 571-215-0467.

OPEN HOUSES

SAT./SUN. APRIL 24 & 25



7613 Maple Branch Rd., Clifton • \$599,990 • Open Sunday 1-4
Casey Margenau, RE/MAX, 703-827-5777

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Fairfax Station

11005 Highridge St	\$629,999	Sun. 1-4	Sherril Fischer	Long & Foster	703-593-5657
6542 Little Ox Rd	\$749,900	Sun. 1-4	Debbie Meser	Weichert	703-201-7723
7605 Rustle Ridge Ct	\$839,950	Sun. 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli	Weichert	703-862-8808
8303 Pinyon Pine Ct	\$949,900	Sun. 1-4	Mary FitzHenry	Long & Foster	703-250-8915

Lorton

8327 Fran Ct	\$618,000	Sun. 1-4	Mary Taylor	Long & Foster	703-785-5519
7787 Grace Church La	\$679,900	Sun. 1-4	Tammie Hollowood	Keller Williams	703-868-1797
2262 Gunsmith Sq	\$319,850	Sun. 1-4	Karen Kidwell	Long & Foster	703-216-7437

Clifton

7613 Maple Branch Rd	\$599,990	Sun. 1-4	Casey Margenau	RE/MAX	703-827-5777
6736 Bunkers Ct	\$899,000	Sun. 1-4	Marsha Wolber	Long & Foster	703-618-4397

Burke

5822 Jacksons Oak Court	\$324,900	Sun. 1-4	Diana LeFrancois	Century 21	703-930-6682
6110 Wilmington Dr	\$399,999	Sun. 1-4	Karen Brown	Weichert	703-644-1364
6236 Wilmette Dr	\$599,000	Sun. 1-4	Carlos Garcia	Keller Williams	202-253-6177
5216 Dunleigh Dr	\$599,000	Sun. 1-4	Anthony Carr	Weichert	703-819-9800

Springfield

7303 Gary St	\$300,000	Sun. 1-4	Kathy Stark	Weichert	703-201-9656
8134 PARKDALE CT	\$304,888	Sun. 1-4	Debbie Dogrul Associates	Long & Foster	703-425-3582
5678 Kirkham Ct	\$345,000	Sun. 1-4	Susan Metcalf	Avery-Hess	703-472-6512
9055 Golden Sunset La	\$449,000	Sat. 2-4	Tupelo Miller	Weichert	202-870-1700
6825 Bluecurl Cir	\$600,000	Sun. 1-5	Steve Childress	Long & Foster	703-981-3277

Kingstowne/Alexandria

6196 Little Valley Dr	\$330,000	Sat-Sun. 1-4	Frank Vincent	Keller Williams	703-608-8700
5984 Kimberly Anne Way #303	\$319,987	Sun. 1-4	Keith Harris	Samson Properties	703-395-6601
7509 Wexford Pl	\$429,900	Sun. 2-4	Doris Crockett	Weichert	703-615-8411
124 N. Grayson St	\$459,000	Sun. 1-4	Ron Fowler	Weichert	703-691-0555
5430 Brookland Rd	\$469,900	Sun. 1-4	Michael Malferrari	Avery-Hess	703-399-5774
6601 Dunwich Way	\$609,950	Sun. 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli	Weichert	703-862-8808

Annandale

6903 Lafayette Park Dr	\$345,000	Sun. 2-4	Phil Bolin	RE/MAX	703-371-6454
3985 Championship Dr	\$365,000	Sun. 1-4	Clay Williams	RE/MAX	703-573-6224
7210 Quiet Cove	\$900,000	Sun. 1-4	Margaret Ann Bermudez	Coldwell Banker	571-334-6809
7510 Woodpalace Ct	\$998,000	Sun. 1-4	Carol Hawley	Long & Foster	703-975-6403

Fairfax

3907 Golf Tee Court #201	\$252,000	Sun. 1-4	Kristine Price	Samson Properties	703-328-1025
3952 ROSEBAY COURT	\$424,888	Sun. 1-4	Debbie Dogrul Associates	Long & Foster	703-425-3582
3915 Kathryn Jean Court	\$429,900	Sun. 2-4	Virginia Lung	Century 21	703-582-9756
13215 CORALBERRY DR	\$525,000	Sun. 1-3	Thomas Kirchner	Flexable Real Estate	(571) 223-0311
10725 Norman Ave	\$529,000	Sun. 1-4	Ron Fowler	Weichert	703-691-0555
5617 HAMPTON FOREST WAY	\$699,888	Sun. 1-4	Debbie Dogrul Associates	Long & Foster	703-425-3582
10507 OAK PLACE	\$814,888	Sun. 1-4	Debbie Dogrul Associates	Long & Foster	703-425-3582

Centreville

5700 OTTAWA RD	\$396,000	Sat 2-5	Carina Slepian	Weichert	(703) 759-6300
6502 FLOWERDEW HUNDRED CT	\$639,900	Sun. 1-4	Spencer Marker	Long & Foster	(703) 830-6123
15445 EAGLE TAVERN LN	\$675,000	Sun. 1-4	Amy Trumbull	Long & Foster	(703) 961-7157
5132 Pleasant Forest Drive	\$1,293,000	Sun. 1-4	Pat Samson	Century 21	703-380-7025

Falls Church

2105 Kings Mill Ct	\$544,900	Sun. 1-4	Lee Jones	Samson Properties	703-675-0523
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To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Steve Hogan at 703-778-9418 or E-Mail the info to shogan@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Tuesday at 3 pm.

#1 Weichert Agent in Burke & Fairfax Station



Call Kathleen today and ask for a copy of her "Satisfied Client List"



Ffx Sta/South Run \$839,950
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Rarely available model w/dramatic & open flr plan w/huge 2-story foyer & family rm, hdwd flrs, library, large updated kit w/granite & SS appl, 2 frplcs, sunny fin walk-out bsmt, updated MBA w/sep tub & shower, MBR w/vaulted ceilings & 2 walk-in closets, deck, gazebo, dual zone HVAC & more.



Alex/Kingstowne \$609,950
Open Sunday 4/25 1-4

Spectacular home loaded w/bells & whistles, backs to woods & lake, 3 gas frplcs, eat-in kit w/granite & SS appl, 2-lvl deck + patio, dramatic open staircase w/Palladian window, MBA w/skylight & granite, fin walkout bsmt, 3 BR, 3.5 BA, community pool, walk to shopping & more.



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An Average Runner, A Stand-Out Spirit

West Springfield honors runner who died in Virginia Tech shootings.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

The honor of naming a field after a student or faculty member is often reserved for the most elite athletes, coaches or faculty members, but some names have little to do with tremendous athletic success.

Last week, West Springfield gave that honor to a runner who, as described by her parents and coaches, was simply average.

Track and cross country runner Leslie Sherman didn't win an individual state title for West Springfield High School. She never qualified for regional or state competitions or received offers to run at prestigious invitational meets.

On April 16, 2007, Sherman, a history and international studies major, died along with 31 other Virginia Tech students during the deadliest peacetime shooting by a single gunman in American history.

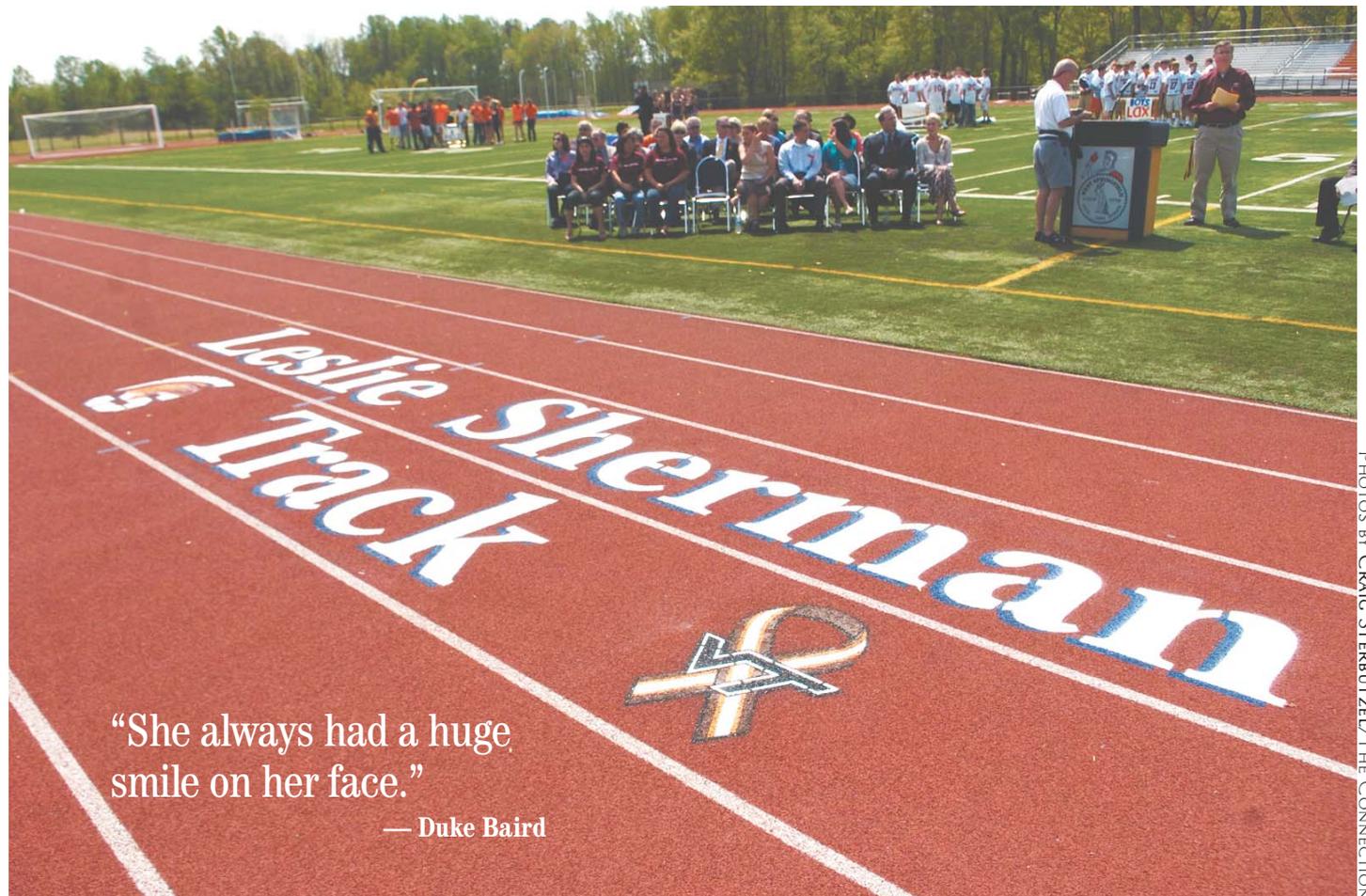
At West Springfield, Sherman "was not the winner or the loser, she was a mid-pack player," said her mother, Holly Sherman. "Her goals were to improve on her performances and to cheer on others. She was No. 1 in spirit."

Holly Sherman said her daughter's team spirit even won praise from coaches at a sport banquet.

"I hated [banquets] because they dragged on for hours," she said. "They were talking about a player who had more spirit than all of the players. Then, I realized they were



Students prepare by making Virginia Tech ribbons to hand out to students before the ceremony.



"She always had a huge smile on her face."

— Duke Baird

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

West Springfield named its track for Leslie Sherman, a 2005 graduate who ran cross country and track for the school. Sherman was killed in the 2007 Virginia Tech shootings.

talking about my daughter."

Leslie Sherman was also heralded for the amount of time she put into working on her running, even after she had left West Springfield to attend Virginia Tech.

On a team visit to Virginia Tech after Sherman had graduated, cross-country coach Duke Baird said he saw her running on a road, practicing for an upcoming marathon.

"I drove right by her and yelled something like 'Too slow!'" he said. "She turned around and recognized my voice. She smiled and we went on our ways. That was the last time I saw her alive."

In school, Holly Sherman said her daughter loved history and languages. "That's where she was, in her French class, when the gunman came and took their lives," she said.

Three years later, on the third anniversary of the shootings, West Springfield conducted a ceremony in Leslie Sherman's honor and named the school's track after her.

"We want people to look at the name and ask about her," said West Springfield Director of Student Activities Andy Muir. "We want students to look her up, see who she was."

During the ceremony, the family had a chance to speak and tell the West Springfield student body about their daughter.

"It was a very hard ceremony to get through because so many nice things were



Holly and Tony Sherman speak about their daughter's life at the April 16 ceremony, which marked the three-year anniversary of the Virginia Tech shooting.

said and nice reminders," Sherman said. "But I can't imagine that there would have been anything more appropriate on that day."

Baird said that Leslie Sherman was not a glory-seeking runner, but one who was just happy to be part of the team and an athletic family.

"She would be very surprised of the honor," Baird said. "But I look at it as moti-

vation for our average kid, athletically speaking, who isn't the best runner or sports athlete."

And even the school's top athletes can draw inspiration from the track's namesake whose sunny attitude never faltered — win or lose. "She always had a huge smile on her face, no matter what the circumstances were," Baird said. "Good race, bad race, you couldn't tell if she had a bad day."

"I can't wait for the first home game."

— Diego Hadalگو



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Oakton goalie Mike Chanhiran fends off a Robinson attack. The Rams won 4-0 in their last game of a seven-game road trip.

Road Warriors Long for Home

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

Robinson boys' soccer team finishes seven-game road swing with 6-1 record.

Long road trips take a toll on a professional sports team, but even for a high school team, continual cross-county travel isn't easy.

Robinson senior striker J.H. Musick noticed his team's players didn't come out with the same tenacity as they used to. Defender Kevin Murphy missed the wider pitch the Rams are used to playing on, and Diego Hadalگو said the team lacked passion in a 1-0 loss to Stone Bridge on April 16.

After opening the season with a seven-game road swing, a run which saw the team

go 6-1, the feeling on the bench was mutual.

The Rams just wanted to go home.

"We've just had a ton of away games," Murphy said. "It's going to be so nice to go home."

The wait to return to Robinson will soon be over. The Rams home opener is on April 23 against Westfield, one of the team's Concorde District rivals.

"I can't wait for the first home game,"

Hadalگو said. "It's going to lift up our spirits and we'll play even better."

So, maybe the Rams are a little homesick, but head coach Jay Cicala said his team's road warrior mentality over the past few weeks has been nothing but a positive.

"It's toughening the team up and making them deal with a lack of a comfort zone," he said. "The team has to play on different fields they are not used to, and it's going to help us later on if we get in to playoff situations where we are on the road."

But the team's anticipation to go home hasn't halted its roll over Northern Region opponents. On April 20, the Rams stunted Oakton 4-0, making up for their Stone Bridge slip-up.

Robinson took control of the match from the start.

"It was great to come out here and learn something from our Stone Bridge loss," Cicala said.

J.H. Musick opened the scoring with a header five minutes into the game. The quick start to the game helped the Rams set the game's tempo and show Cicala they had corrected mistakes from their loss.

"It stinks to go out and lose," Musick said. "But to come out and cream a team makes you feel better."

Considered by many as one of the top boys' soccer teams in the Region, the Rams will enjoy a four game home-stand before taking to the road to face Edison on May 7.

Even with the team's early success, Musick wants the Rams to refocus themselves for the end of the season.

5 Qs With Robinson soccer player Diego Hadalگو

Q: What's your favorite music to listen to before a game?

A: I'd have to say Lil' Wayne and his music.

Q: Any favorite soccer teams you like to follow?

A: I'd have to say my favorites are (La Liga team) Barcelona and (English Premier League team) Arsenal.

Q: If you could be any athlete for a day, who would it be?

A: [French] soccer player Zinedine Zidane. He's my favorite player.

Q: What is it you love about soccer?

A: I just love the passion everyone has for the game. It's better than any other sport.

Q: If you weren't playing soccer, what sport would you want to play?

A: That's a hard one. Probably football. Maybe I could be a quarterback.



REED S. ALBERS

Diego Hadalگو

— REED S. ALBERS

WEEK IN SPORTS

South County Basketball Camp

The South County summer basketball camp, run by South County's coaching staff and area college and high school basketball players, is accepting registration.

The camp will feature two, one week sessions running from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Session one runs July 12-16 and session two runs July 19-23.

All sessions will be at South County Secondary School on the three air-conditioned courts and one outdoor court.

The cost is \$185 per session and the fee includes a camp t-shirt, a basketball, individual and team awards, personal evaluations and guest speakers.

For more information, contact varsity basketball head coach Wendell Johnson at 703-446-1993 or Wendell.Johnson@fcps.edu.

Robinson Crew Plant Sale

The Robinson Crew team will be conducting its annual plant sale on May 1 at the Burke Nursery and Garden Center.

The Burke Nursery and Garden Center will be donating a percentage of its total sales to the club when shoppers purchase items at the school's booth on May 1 and with at least one \$10 certificate sold by members of the crew team.

The certificates can be pre-purchased from a member of the crew team at anytime leading up to the fund raiser.

For more information, contact Chris Veale at cv622@aol.com, Louise Lewis at lewisfamily6@verizon.net.

Lake Braddock Crew Fund Raiser

The Lake Braddock Crew Team is hosting its annual plant sale on Sunday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Burke Nursery at 9401 Burke Road.

With a wide plant and gardening selection, the team is excited to be able to offer the finest in annuals, perennials, potted plants, herbs, shrubs, trees — everything within the nursery is available for purchase.

The team is also offering free delivery on mulch orders of 25 bags or more. On April 25, look for our satellite station at Lake Braddock Secondary to pick up your pre-sale certificate, or visit www.bruincrew.com to download a flyer. In order for a purchase to benefit the team, bring a certificate to purchase items.

Board of Supervisors Approves FY2011 Budget

FROM PAGE 3

of \$91.9 million from the previous year. We started our budget process for Fiscal Year 2011 well before any dust could settle on the adoption of Fiscal Year 2010. While the number is coming down, we are still challenged with foreclosures, more than 700 in March 2010. Residential property values have continued to decline, this year by approximately 6 percent. Commercial property values dropped more than 18 percent.

In addition, as we began the process, we anticipated reductions from the state as they attempted to close their \$4.2 billion budget shortfall. We continue to be challenged with increasing demands on county services from families and individuals turning to us for help with food stamps, utility assistance, rent, housing assistance and finding employment. These dynamics all combine to challenge us once again to close a projected shortfall — this time of \$257.2 million.

As in the story of Stone Soup, the process of closing that shortfall has been one of impressive community engagement, creativity and collaboration among County staff and our non-profit partners. What began as a seemingly empty pot is a balanced budget that, despite \$91.3 million in reductions over last year, maintains critical services, is sensitive to the taxpayer and protects the quality of life we value in Fairfax County.

Coupled with a positive formula change (of \$61 million) in the Local Composite Index (LCI) — State Funding to localities, our \$1.6 billion transfer to the schools fully funds the Schools Board's requested budget and establishes a \$45 million balance for future Virginia Retirement System (VRS) requirements.

THE NEWLY adopted \$3.3 billion budget contains many reorganizational changes and efficiencies that help reduce the cost

for providing services, and in many, perhaps most cases, improves the delivery of those services and programs.

Highlights of Amendments to the Advertised FY 2011 Budget include:

- ❖ A Real Estate Tax Rate of \$1.09, an increase of 5 cents. At this rate, the average homeowner's tax bill is a reduction of \$48.55;

- ❖ A 0.5 cent increase on the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Stormwater Service District Levy. These two rates combined result in a net reduction for the average homeowner's bill of \$26.93;

- ❖ A Vehicle Registration Fee of \$33 per vehicle. Most other localities in Virginia utilize this fee to provide local services;

- ❖ The Sewer Service Charge increases, from \$4.50 to \$5.27. This fee increase addresses aging sewer infrastructure and compliance with state and Federal Clean Water and environmental mandates. Our rates continue to be among the lowest in the region;

- ❖ A \$1.6 billion Transfer to the Schools. The Fairfax County Public Schools continue to be more than 53 percent of the county's General Fund Budget;

- ❖ The Fiscal Year 2011 General Fund (Schools & General County Combined) Budget is a 2.7 percent reduction from the previous year.

Using a \$21.6 million Reserve established through agency/department savings throughout Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010 the following adjustments/restorations were made to the County Executive's Advertised Budget:

- ❖ Reduced by known state reductions of approximately \$3 million

- ❖ Holds \$7 million aside for additional State Reductions and Critical Funding issues for both the county and schools

- ❖ Reduce Board of Supervisors' Office

Budgets by 2 percent, resulting in \$81,350, which is used to add one position to the auditor to the Board's office. The auditor to the Board acts as an Inspector General's Office, and works through the Board's Audit Committee.

Human Services and CSB (Community Services Board) Most Critical List is fully restored - \$1.4 million, includes: Mental Health Adult Day Treatment Sites, Home Respite for individuals with Intellectual Disability Services, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Programs, Partial restoration

Truck Driver and Heavy Equipment (mobile Crew) positions; Operation and management at Martin Luther King Jr. Pool.

Other Restorations and Adjustments - \$2.7 million: All Connector routes; five Law Clerks supporting Circuit Court Judges; Support for Families4Kids and Mount Vernon District Satellite Intake Center.

The Budget fully funds the Priority 1 requirements of the Board Adopted Affordable Housing Blueprint through the use of \$4 million in operation revenues from the Wedgewood affordable housing complex.

This funds the Bridging Affordability portion of the Blueprint. This program, a partnership with non-profits and Faith community organizations addresses homelessness, provides affordable housing options to those with special needs and reduces the waiting lists for housing programs.

Budget adoption was the culmination of an unprecedented

level of community engagement. Community Dialogues were held throughout the County during the fall and early winter. Throughout late February, March and early April more than 20 Town Meetings and Forums were hosted to receive feedback on the Advertised Budget. Employee Budget Briefings and Dialogues were organized by County Executive Tony Griffin and by our Unions and Employee organizations. And lastly, hundreds of speakers attended three days — over 20 hours — of public hearings.

Like the villagers' contributions in the story of Stone Soup, this generous level of public engagement enriched our process and has resulted in a better product. When we adopt a budget, we are investing in the priorities of our community. I am glad to have had the community at the table with us during these months.

“The process of closing that shortfall has been one of impressive community engagement, creativity and collaboration among County staff and our non-profit partners.”

for Domestic and Sexual Violence Services and support for Commission for Women.

Police Restorations - \$2.8 million: School Resource Officers in Middle Schools (\$2.1 million); 50 percent of Police Citizen Aide Positions at District Stations; Marine Unit and Traffic Safety Officers.

Fire & Rescue Officers - \$2.5 million: Basic Life Support units; Seventh Fire & Rescue Battalion; Hazardous Material Support Unit; Second set of gear for firefighters; and Fireboat Patrols on the Potomac River and Pohick Bay.

Parks and Library Restorations - \$1.9 million: Approximate 3 percent restoration for Libraries — maintains Tuesday evening hours at all 8 regional libraries; Library Access Services; Athletic Field Maintenance Program; Grounds maintenance staff — and restores closing of restrooms; Nighttime court lighting and lighting for practice fiends;

Citizen Committee: School Boundary Study 'Likely'

FROM PAGE 14

Fairfax has three middle schools — Glasgow, Holmes and Poe — that already house sixth graders.

Still, parents whose children would matriculate to Robinson or Lake Braddock secondary schools said they were opposed to putting sixth graders in the same building as high school students. Plus, Robinson, at more than 4,000 students, is already the largest school in Virginia, they said.

It is unlikely the school system would ever recommend moving sixth graders from elementary schools to secondary schools, even if they moved other sixth graders from elementary

to middle schools, said Dean Tistadt, the school system's chief operating officer.

Fairfax schools staff has also floated a proposal to build a new elementary school to solve overcrowding problems. Officials had suggested putting the new elementary school on the grounds of Liberty Middle School, though the committee has also discussed other sites.

To fill the new school, officials suggested closing Clifton Elementary School.

According to the school system, Clifton would more expensive to renovate than a typical elementary school, partially because the site is difficult to access.

The school also faces problems with well contamination and has to have bottled water brought to site on a daily basis.

For a full renovation, Clifton would cost

approximately \$36,600 per student compared to the \$22,455 per student other recent elementary school renovations have cost.

But several Clifton residents who attended the public meeting at Robinson objected to idea of closing Clifton. They said the school is the center of the Clifton community and has been recognized by the governor for academic excellence.

“I hope the School Board and staff will hear that keeping Clifton in the school system is helpful,” said Dwayne Nitz, a Clifton parent who attended the meeting.

The School Board is likely to make a decision about whether to close or keep Clifton open this summer, before any larger school boundary study would get underway, said School Board member Liz Bradsher (Spring-

field).

The School Board has set a precedent of moving award-winning schools out of facilities the school system considered inadequate, despite protests from the community.

Graham Road Elementary School, where President Barack Obama (D) chose to unveil his national “race to the top” education initiative, was forced to move out of one school building and into another last year, even though some parents said the change would detract from the school's academic program. Like Clifton, the old Graham Road building lacked some basic amenities — such as adequate field space — that school officials deemed necessary.

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Public Notice – Public Information Meeting – Fairfax County Parkway Extension, Phase III, from Hooes Road to Franconia-Springfield Parkway.

Please join Federal Highway Eastern Federal Lands Division and the Virginia Department of Transportation on April 29, 2010, from 6pm to 8pm at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield, Virginia, to learn about and discuss design improvements for the final phase of the Fairfax County Parkway Extension project. Phase III will include constructing a 1.5-mile long, six-lane divided, limited access highway to connect two previously constructed segments of the Fairfax County Parkway. It will also complete construction of the Parkway to its Northern project termini at the existing Franconia-Springfield Parkway Interchange. Construction will involve re-aligning two local roads in that corridor (Hooes Road & Rolling Road) to meet the requirements of a limited access facility on Fairfax County Parkway.

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS' SALE OF VALUABLE FAIRFAX COUNTY REAL ESTATE

Pursuant to Decree of the Circuit Court of King George County, Virginia, dated July 16, 2009, entered in the Chancery matter now pending before the Court under the style of Adam M. Steil v. Alexander P. Steil, the undersigned Special Commissioners were authorized to sell the hereinafter described real estate at auction; and pursuant thereto, notice is hereby given that the following described real estate:

All that piece, parcel or tract of real estate with all improvements thereon, commonly known as 2101 Farrington Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22303, having Tax Map Identification Number of 83-1-14-E-1A and being more accurately described as:

Lot 1-A, Block E, Section 3, Huntington, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 549, page 182.

BEING the same property conveyed to Adam M. Steil and Alexander P. Steil, by deed dated September 27, 2001 and recorded in Deed Book 12258, page 353.

shall be sold to the highest bidder; however, subject to confirmation by the Court, on Friday, May 7, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. on site at the property. The property shall be sold AS IS and shall be conveyed by Special Warranty Deed. The successful bidder shall be required to deposit 10% of the bid price by Certified Check payable to the General Receiver of King George Circuit Court. Closing on the sale shall take place within 30 days of confirmation of sale by the Court.

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'Boy Friend' on Ram Stage

FROM PAGE 4

and "Poor Little Pierette." Calling this show a lighthearted spoof of other musicals, he said, "It doesn't take itself seriously, so it's lots of fun."

PLAYING Madame Dubonnet, the school's headmistress, is senior Madison Auch. "She's not stuffy and formal, but motherly, yet spunky with a sense of fun," said Auch. "She's also strong and can stand up for herself. When Polly's widowed father, who was her old flame, visits the school, she pursues him again. I get to do a French accent and be serious with a fun and flirty side."

Auch's favorite song is "Safety in Numbers," in which schoolgirl Maisie says she can't pick just one boy. She wants to dance with them all. She says the show will be visually beautiful because of the period costumes, ranging from school uniforms to 1920s bathing suits to masks and gowns at a masquerade ball.

Choreographer is Cappie-winning dancer Logan Hillman, who began work in February, choreographing 16 of the show's 17

numbers. Hardest, he said, is "getting it from my mind to paper and then to the actors and making any necessary changes. But this cast caught on pretty quickly to the dance basics. Then we worked on body 'pictures' on stage, their proximity to other dancers and the 1920s style of dancing."

Hillman especially likes "The Riviera" because it's so energized and best represents the style of that era's shows. "The audience will like the dance flips, turns and spins," he said. "I like choreographing as well as or better than acting because I'm a dancer and this is what I do. I'm doing my dancing through others."

Director Rome said the show's 1920s feel is carried out via the footlights around the stage and the numbers being performed directly to the audience, rather than to the other actors. Even the minor characters add "extra spice" to the story, he said, and both the colors and mood will be bright.

"The costumes, lights and set are bold and playful," said Rome. "It's tremendous fun so the audience will have fun, too. It's like a Valentine to them. There's no redeeming, social value — just entertainment."

HEALTH NOTES

Haven of Northern Virginia, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, will be offering a free Widow/Widower's support group. Haven also offers one-on-one support. A volunteer will meet

with a person grieving the death of a loved one, as needed, to provide individual support. Volunteers will be selected to match individual need. 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org.

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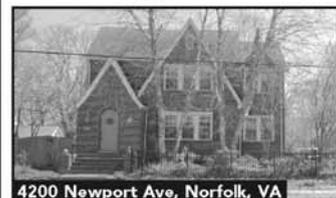
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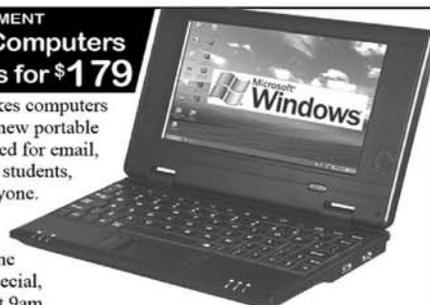
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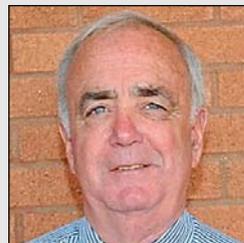
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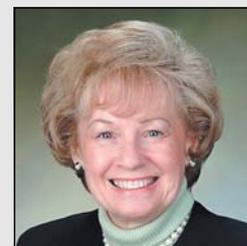
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