

# Burke CONNECTION

Ben Groover, a junior at Lake Braddock Secondary, sits next to his work during the school's first Juried Art Show. Groover calls his work 'elaborated doodles.'

ses

days

## Oodles Of Doodles

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Wahl Spartans' 90 mph Man

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Mom & Me

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# Ask and You Shall Receive

County begins improvements to Kings Park Park.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he community has spoken, and its officials have listened and delivered.

The Fairfax County Park Authority is beginning construction on several improvements to equipment and facilities at Kings Park Park. The improvements to the park, located on Trafalgar Court in Springfield, aim to make the park more accessible to children while bolstering the park's existing offerings.

"The improvements include relocating an existing playground and replacing some existing equipment," Park Authority Judy Pederson said. "The reason they're doing this is so they can install a new play set for older ages and meet the needs of the children in that neighborhood."

According to Pederson, the improvements include changes to several aspects of the park. Two contractors, GameTime Inc. and Southern Asphalt Co., will be relocating two existing swing sets and an existing piece of tot lot equipment, which is a climbing structure for preschool to kindergarten-aged children. This equipment will be moved to the area adjacent to the location of a new school-age playground for older children that will be installed. In addition, Southern Asphalt Co. will construct a new Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant asphalt trail, a new stone dust trail, and will remove and replace all other existing asphalt trails. A tennis practice wall is also being installed at the tennis court.

The two contractors were chosen, Pederson said, because of a standing contract the county already had with them. She said that the county already had an agreement with GameTime and Southern Asphalt to be the designated contractors for any projects that include improvements to playgrounds and playground equipment within county parks, so no

SEE PARK, PAGE 5

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## Livick's Lax Family Marches Against Diabetes



PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/THE CONNECTION

Taylor Livick and members of the Lake Braddock girls' lacrosse team marched in the Diabetes Research Foundation walk at Nationals Park in Washington, D.C.

### Lake Braddock girls' lacrosse team supports one of their own.

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock girls' lacrosse team has followed a simple creed throughout their 2010 season. "We are a family."

OK, so that's the motto for a lot of sports team, but when the Bruins' freshman midfielder Taylor Livick was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes last June, the team decided to stand with her and fight it.

"Everyone thing we've been talking about this season is that we're a family," team captain Alex Kelly said. "Taylor is a part of this team and I love her to death. Diabetes is a part of her life, so we thought we'd fight it with her."

On May 2, the team lived up to their motto by supporting Livick at the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) walk at Nationals Park in Washington D.C.

The walk, which circles Nationals Park twice before heading into the stadium for a victory march over home plate, is designed to raise awareness for childhood diabetes. Participants also raise money for childhood diabetes research.

In June 2009, Taylor was diagnosed with diabetes. Although doctors said only her eating habits and

lifestyle would change, she wanted to prove it wouldn't set her back athletically.

"I didn't think I would be able to do any of the sports I do now," she said. "But it's made me better at sports and I work harder to prove that it couldn't stop me."

But that doesn't mean she doesn't have to take precautions. Taylor's mother, Andrea Livick, said her daughter has to take insulin shots four times a day, and timing her treatments between practices can be tough.

"It's not as easy as 'Go to practice honey, see you later,'" Andrea Livick said.

After hearing about the JDRF walk at Nationals Park, Taylor Livick decided to get involved and formed "Taylor's Troop," which at its roots consisted of her family members.

"I wanted to get involved and start making a difference," she said.

When her lacrosse team learned about her illness and the walk, Kelly decided to take action on her own and follow through on the creed that head coach Victor Chen

had been promoting.

"From the very on-set of the season, a philosophy I had been trying to instill was to be more of a family off the field," Chen said. "The support for Taylor shows they took it to heart."

**THE FIRST** indication that the family-first mentality had sunk in came in an e-mail from Kelly to An

**"It's just great to know she has a family that is looking out for her."**

—Andrea Livick

SEE BRUINS, PAGE 18

## Pair Walks To Raise Awareness of Williams Disease

### May 15 fund raiser is for genetic disorder.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Jason Anderson, 25, and Matthew Pow, 24, have lots in common. Both love sports and music, enjoy their jobs and are good friends. They also share something else – a rare, genetic disorder called Williams Syndrome.

It's virtually unknown to the general public, educators and many doctors. Yet it's touched families in the local area, and Jason and Matthew are participating with them Saturday, May 15, in the first-ever Walk for Williams.

"We're hoping to raise at least \$2,000," said Jason's mom, Malia Anderson of Chantilly's Armfield Farm community. "But the whole purpose is to raise awareness, even more than funds. People can just come out, walk and have fun."

Matthew's mother, Laurie Pow of Fairfax, near Burke Centre, agreed. Her son was diagnosed at 6 months old. "No one knew anything about it," she said.

Now, Chantilly is among more than 35

communities across the U.S. participating in the inaugural Williams Syndrome Awareness Week, May 9-15. Area residents, plus honor and SGA students from Chantilly High and Lees Corner Elementary, will walk.

"It's a community walk that will start and end at the Armfield Farm pool parking lot, at 3567 Armfield Farm Drive," said Malia Anderson. "It's about 2.2 miles, and strollers and dogs are welcome."

It's open to the public, and registration is \$10/person or \$25/family. Registration and pledge forms are available at wschantilly@gmail.com or call Malia Anderson at 703-478-0987. People may also register, the day of the walk, at 9 a.m. The walk begins at 10 a.m.

Attendees are encouraged to bring picnic lunches because after the walk there'll be family fun time with moonbounces, face painting, children's activities, crafts and music. Those wishing to make donations may do so at <http://thenewwsa.org>. Click on Walk for Williams, scroll down to the

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PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

From left, Jason Anderson and Matthew Pow will participate in Chantilly's Walk for Williams.



DONATED PHOTO

**The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard participates in a competition.**

## Honor Guard Takes First, Is Best Dressed at Competition

The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard placed and took home the best dressed award at the May 1 Washington Metropolitan Council of Government's (COG) Honor Guard Competition, which took place on the grounds of the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D.C. The members of the Honor Guard are Master Deputy Sheriff Samuel Gonsalves and Privates First Class Derrick Ledford, Thomas Kyle, Christopher Loftis and Kent Lwin. First Lieutenants William Friedman and Kevin Smith are co-commanders of the Honor Guard.

"I'm very proud of the Honor Guard and their many accomplishments," said Sheriff Stan Barry. "These awards are a direct reflection of their tireless efforts and commitment to excellence."

The Honor Guard represents the Sheriff's Office at different functions in Fairfax County and the metropolitan area, including parades, graduations, funerals, major and minor league sporting events and other activities.



## Earth Day Celebration

**The Earth is 79 percent water and 21 percent land. To celebrate Earth Day, 79 percent of the Cherry Run fifth graders dressed in blue and 21 percent dressed in green.**

## Correction

In the article "Citizens Sound Off on County Budget [Burke Connection, April 15-21, 2010, an incorrect military rank was given for Burke resident Michael Colburn. He is a colonel.



**A variety of artwork from the elementary schools that feed into Lake Braddock Secondary School was on exhibit. Pictured at left are tessellations from Kings Park Elementary School.**

# Bruins On Exhibit

## Lake Braddock art students compete in first Juried Art Show.

**O**n Thursday, April 29, Lake Braddock Secondary School hosted its first Juried Art Show. Only students currently enrolled in art classes at the school were allowed to participate. Those interested submitted a portfolio of their work to be reviewed. One of the prerequisites of participation was that 60-70 percent of the displayed pieces be things the students made 'in house.'

More than 500 students from Lake Braddock had artwork displayed in the show and some students provided live entertainment. The event included a 'Pyramid Show' of artwork from elementary schools that feed into Lake Braddock.



**Lake Braddock senior Amy Wu Donovan poses with her award winning work 'Puppet Show.' Donovan won a national Gold Award from the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.**



**Lake Braddock ninth-grader Erin Thiel is pictured with her illustration 'Collision.'**



**Lake Braddock senior Patrick RoDee sits in front of two logos he has designed for two local bands.**

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB



DONATED PHOTOS

Kings Park Park's existing playground.

## Park Renovations Begin

FROM PAGE 2

bidding process was carried out for this project.

"Generally, when we do playground work, we have contractors that we work with through a standing contract," Pederson said. "The contract is for future work, not for specific projects, so we go to them for that type of service."

The costs, Pederson said, will total \$198,600 and funding for the improvements will come from several different sources. The Virginia Department of Transportation contributed money in an attempt to mitigate the impact of the HOT Lanes construction in the Braddock District, and additional funds were raised through assorted development proffers. The main source of funding, however, came from the 2008 Park Authority Bond after changes were made to the park's Master Plan in 2009.

Pederson said that in March 2008, the Park Authority Board voted to revise the Kings Park Park Master Plan so that it could ensure that it had accounted for all of the community's needs.

Pederson said that after voting to revise the plan, the Park Authority reached out to the community through a series of public hearings and meetings with community members to get a feel for what the residents wanted. Pederson said that community members made it clear that they wanted the

playground to be updated so that older children could have equipment to play on as well.

"The community really wanted this," Pederson said. "They wanted something to meet the needs of the children, and this is a direct reflection of that sentiment."

According to Kings Park Civic Association President Beth Owens, the Kings Park community is eagerly anticipating the completion of the changes. She said that the community's children had gotten older since the last round of playground improvements were made, and that they wanted a place for them to play. In addition,

she said that the park was dark with secluded areas, and that the trail improvements will open up the park and make it more hospitable to the older age group.

"We think that it's wonderful that the county is updating our park," Owens said. "It will bring new life to the park because it will have equipment in all sizes for all ages of children. We're looking forward to the fact that the children will feel more welcome in the park. We're just really excited."

Pederson said that the construction is slated to begin this week, and that it will be completed by July. She also said that the Park Authority plans to conduct a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the improvements July 4 between the morning parade and afternoon concert at the annual Kings Park Fourth of July celebration.

**"It will bring new life to the park."**

— **Beth Owens, Kings Park Civic Association, president**

### SCHOOL NOTES

Burke resident and Azusa Pacific University student **Monica A. Nutley** made the academic deans' list at APU. Nutley, a music major, is honored for a fall semester 2009 academic standing of 3.5 or better grade-point average. Nutley is joined by more than 1,565 other students receiving the same honor.

**Blaine Hartman**, Lake Braddock Secondary School, Class of 2006, was awarded her bachelor of science degree in environmental chemistry from Florida State University on Friday, April 30. She'll begin her pursuit of a doctor of philosophy degree in chemistry from Old Dominion University this fall.

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## Change for the 11th Congressional District

We write as concerned senior citizens of Northern Virginia. The "we" is a loose collection of seniors who have previously had little or no active role in the political process. Our concerns have been raised and discussed among us at church gatherings, business meetings, social events, etc.

What we are gravely concerned about is the future, both for our children and for this country. The recent passage of health reform legislation, with its secretive and anti-democratic process in the House of Representatives, has served as a catalyst for raising our voices. Our current congressman, Mr. Gerald Connolly, has trumpeted the Health Insurance Reform Law as an "historic achievement" that his constituents favored. We could not disagree more with this characterization. Here are just a few of the reasons why Mr. Connolly's justification for his yes vote is wrong:

- In passing the health care legislation, Mr. Connolly and others who voted in the affirmative, broke the covenant between those who govern and those of us who are governed. Mr. Connolly ignored the fact that he is a representative of his constituents and is in that position based on the consent of the governed. The majority of Americans (including those in the 11th Congressional District) is not opposed to health care reform, but does not want this specific health care bill. Regrettably, Mr. Connolly chose his own political self-interest over the majority view of his constituents.
- Mr. Connolly argues that the health insurance reform will bring down the budget deficit. This is political spin of which we have all grown weary. We know that this deliberately deceitful calculus is based on ten years of revenue and only six years of cost. We know that the \$500 billion that is to be stripped out of Medicare is a hot potato politically and will not likely be feasible to accomplish. But most of all, we know that the major entitlement programs of the U.S. Government in the past have all cost substantially more than originally claimed and have added significantly to our nation's deficit.
- We seniors are not selfishly concerned about the effect fiscal irresponsibility will have on us. It is our children that will bear the burden of health care legislation, the stimulus package, cap and trade, etc.; all pieces of legislation that Mr. Connolly has voted for. As Americans, we face unprecedented increases in our federal deficit. This year the federal budget deficit will exceed \$1.4 trillion, representing some 10% of our nation's entire GDP. Moody's credit rating service has begun to call into question the AAA rating for our country. Our children are facing the prospect of a lower standard of living as a result of higher and higher taxes tied to increasing growth in government and entitlements. What was once an unquestioned principle and goal for our country, "equality of opportunity," has now been repackaged by Mr. Connolly and others as "equality of income."
- Mr. Connolly states that health care reform will improve Americans' access to care. On the face of it, this is counterintuitive. The legislation is to add thirty million new people to the health insurance rolls without a commensurately proportional growth in physicians and health care facilities. The effect of this can only mean less access to care not more.
- Mr. Connolly believes that Medicare will be improved and protected. As seniors, we know that this is but another political ruse. The health care law reduces Medicare by half a trillion dollars. How can that be a good thing for all of us who have paid into Medicare all these years and are now told that we won't be getting what we thought we had paid for? Moreover, the changes imposed on what physicians can charge and how they must account for these charges, will lead to a much smaller number of doctors willing to accept Medicare payments for their patients. No doubt other unintended consequences will be a reduction in the number of those choosing to pursue a medical career and a dilution of the talent pool among those who do.
- Finally, Mr. Connolly is certain that the new health care law will bring down premium costs for families and small businesses. Presumably he is basing this on the Congressional Budget Office review. Sadly, however, this too is just so much political window dressing. During the debate surrounding passage of the health reform legislation, in-depth studies were done that showed that the bill would drive up premium costs. WellPoint, parent company to Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, did analyses that showed significant increases in cost for families, seniors and the young. As for small businesses, increases could occur depending upon the size of the company's employee population.

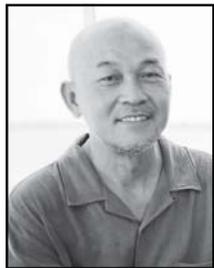
We believe it is time for change in the 11th Congressional District. We want to see more political balance in the U.S. Congress so that what happened with health care does not occur again. We want a representative who is more interested in supporting his constituents rather than supporting his political party.

No one political party should unilaterally wield power sufficient to subvert our democratic process. Our forefathers understood this and were wise enough to design a system of checks and balances. Mr. Connolly is a professional politician who has voted consistently in favor of large, costly and inefficient government programs that have contributed substantially to our country's huge and growing budget deficit. We believe he is out of step with his constituents. In November he should be "one and done."

Seniors for Change in the 11th Congressional District

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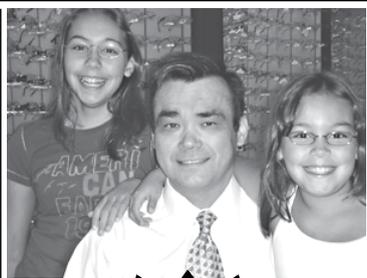
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## OPINION

### Democracy Demands Education

To the Editor:

It was heartening to read that Sen. Chap Petersen (D-35) and Del. David Bulova (D-37) committed to "do whatever is necessary" to preserve Fairfax Public Schools in the article "Not a lot of Good News" [Connection, Feb. 25-March 3, 2010]. Unfortunately the proposed solutions to yet another year of budget troubles is to the same old—raise the real estate tax and fees, cut and close. Year after year, we are presented with a false choice: a fair wage for service employees or healthcare; schools or firefighters; librarians or social workers.

LETTERS

If this keeps going, we will lose the institutions that keep our community healthy, educated and safe. Our elected officials' job is to administer our resources to benefit society and to advance bold solutions that will keep us on the road to progress. Fairfax County and the Commonwealth are some of the most affluent areas of the country. We have the money to meet the challenges of a faltering economy without compromising the values and integrity of our communities.

The truth is that our decision makers just choose to spend money on other things. Last year, the people paid more than \$19 billion in income taxes and corporations paid \$1.9 billion to the Commonwealth. Yet, this year the governor wants to spend \$50 million to attract potential business instead of investing that \$50 million in firefighters, healthcare, education and libraries. Instead of following that same old broken model, our elected officials at the county and the state level must create jobs and raise revenue by making the budget match our priorities as a democratic society.

**Lucero Beebe-Giudice**  
Alexandria

### Pay To Play in Fairfax?

To the Editor:

It's bad enough that Fairfax County Public Schools' Superintendent Jack Dale has proposed the idea that high school students must pay money to play a sport, but it is equally amazing that his budget proposes that students must pay to take Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) classes. To be precise, his budget will require students to pay to take the tests associated with these classes but without the test, the student is robbed of the some of the most important benefits of the class. Additionally, both School Board policy and the IB organization require the tests. That the wealthiest county in the United States would discriminate between the well off families who can afford for their children to play a sport and take tests and the middle and lower income families who cannot is inimical to the very concept of non-discriminatory equal public education — perhaps the most central tenet of American education. The proposed means testing of the application of these fees will not work.

Dale's proposed budget will deny our teachers any type of a raise for the second year in a row but further balances the budget on the backs of children whose families will be forced to choose between a superior education (AP and IB classes) and sports versus other basic family needs. The draft school budget proposes that students will pay \$100 per each sport they participate in and \$75 for each AP or IB test they take. There is ample evidence that participating in sports is extremely beneficial for our students. Sports teach leadership, discipline, teamwork and respect for authority. Students who play sports do better in school than those who do not and there are obvious health benefits associated with sports. One of the best ways to keep our children out of gangs is to provide them the opportunity to play sports.

While the School Board bemoans the so called achievement gap between races, the concept of charging AP and IB fees to students who can't afford it will guarantee that this gap widens. There are 11 high schools in Fairfax County where 20 percent or more of the student body are on free or reduced lunch (the standard method used to determine poverty). Walk through the cafeterias of schools with even higher levels of low-income students and you will see many children not eating lunch at all because they won't self-identify as poor. Dale contends he is not discriminating because the fees will be means tested but if a student won't self-identify for food, what are the odds he or she would do so to take an IB test or to play football? And what of the middle class who might not qualify as being poor enough? A student playing

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

three sports and taking two or three of these advanced courses could have fees totaling over \$500 a year. A student wanting to get a prestigious IB diploma and playing three sports a year would have fees of over \$700 a year. What of families with two children in high school? Many IB and AP classes are taken by seniors who may simultaneously be applying to colleges. Those applications costs can easily be another \$200 or \$300. While some in Fairfax can afford this many families could not.

Imagine what this will do to our high school sports boosters whose contributions essentially pay for all the uniforms and sports equipment used by our teams. After paying these fees for their children to play sports, how many families will then have the funds to continue their contributions to these essential booster clubs? This will decimate the booster clubs and in turn could easily lead to the elimination of sports teams certainly among those schools with large

low-income populations. What will be the costs of administering this fee collection? It doesn't take much to imagine how difficult it will be.

Instead of the star running back being pulled for poor grades we will lose him because his family couldn't afford to have him play. The discrimination will continue into college.

Families whose children have taken IB and AP classes can get credit for those higher levels when their kids are in college thereby reducing their tuition bills. Those who can't pay for the fees — and who would therefore also be challenged to pay for college — will not get this same break.

Is this the Fairfax County we want? The School Board should revisit this idea before adopting a final budget. The Board of Supervisors needs to get real and address the needs of the school system that continues to grow by thousands of students every year.

**George Waters**  
Falls Church

## SCHOOL NOTES

**David Kagulu-Kalema** of Burke was named to the high list, Episcopal High School's academic honor roll, for the third quarter of the 2009-10 school year. This honor denotes an average of 90 or above in five or more academic courses for the quarter. A senior, Kagulu-Kalema is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kalema-Musoke.

**Blaine Hartman**, Lake Braddock Secondary School, Class of 2006, was awarded her bachelor of science degree in environmental chemistry from Florida State University on Friday, April 30. Hartman will begin her pursuit of a doctor of philosophy degree in chemistry from Old Dominion University this fall.

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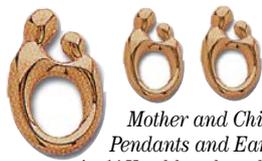
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Brett Barrientos, Jacqueline Barrientos, Nicholas Barrientos and Brendan Barrientos celebrate Easter together in 2010.



Mother Natalie Franke and 3-month-old daughter Jenna Franke at a church brunch on Easter.

## HOPSFROG GRILLE

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11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 1:00-2:30 p.m.

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## Mom & Me

Burke families share photos of their moms.

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Day!

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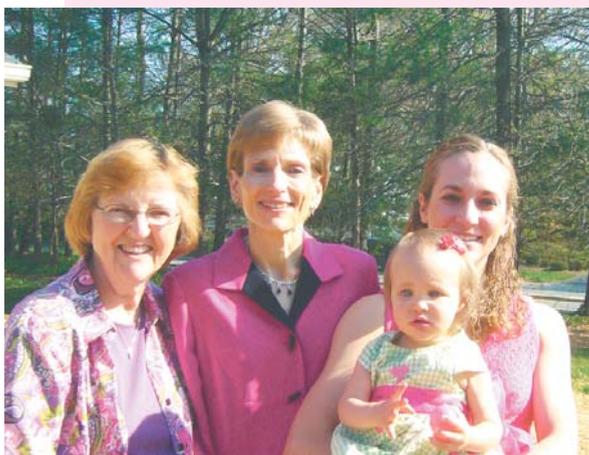
Visit our Web site: [www.fivestarsejewelers.net](http://www.fivestarsejewelers.net)  
Hours: Tue-Fri: 10-7 • Sat: 10-5 • Sun & Mon: Closed



Nick and Missy Longo live in Burke. Nick was in the March Madness an April 17 swim meet at Oak Marr Rec Center. Nick won Gold — first place — in the 50 Freestyle.



From left are Anna, John Paul, Megan and mom Jackie. The picture was taken during a camping trip at Elizabeth Furnace in the Shenandoah Valley late last summer.



Four Generations of 'the girls,' all members of the same church in Burke, photo taken on Easter. Great-grandma Faye Johnson, grandma Sue Franke, mother Sara Dyson and 14-month-old daughter Courtney Dyson enjoying the beautiful sunny day.



Misty Pritchett (mom), Anthony Pritchett (baby) and Jordan Mack (older son).

# BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at [burke@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:burke@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

[fairfaxtoastmasters@gmail.com](mailto:fairfaxtoastmasters@gmail.com).

## THURSDAY/MAY 6

**Haven of Northern Virginia Four-Week Teen Bereavement Support Group.** 5 p.m. at 4606 Ravensworth road, Annandale. Free. Registration is required at 703-941-7000. [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org).

**Fairfax Toastmasters.** 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School Room J136, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Meetings on the first and third Thursdays of the month.

## TUESDAY/MAY 11

**Telephone Support Group for Caregivers of Older Adults.** 7 p.m. Discussion topic: Working with Home Health Agencies. Share experiences, gain support and get important information without having to travel. Sponsored by Fairfax County Department of Family Services' Fairfax Area Agency on Aging. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices) or 703-324-7948.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 12

**Managing Care for a Difficult**

**Older Adult.** 7 p.m. at Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. Learn strategies to deal with challenging personalities and behaviors. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices).

## THURSDAY/MAY 13

**Women Building & Investing in Success Monthly Luncheon.** 12 p.m. at The Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax. "Blogging for Business" with speaker Cindie Reinhold. Members and first-time guests \$20, non-members \$30. [womenbuildinginvestingsuccess.com](http://womenbuildinginvestingsuccess.com).

**Training on Personal Care for**

**Older Adults.** 7 p.m. at Falls Church High School, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church. Family caregivers can learn the proper way to provide physical and emotional care to an older adult from a nurse educator including bathing, turning, assisting with movement and feeding. \$30. Sponsored by the Fairfax County Department of Family Services' Fairfax Area Agency on Aging. 703-324-5432 or [caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## SATURDAY/MAY 15

**Grandparent Respite Day.** Grandparents and other relatives raising children can take part in a

respite day from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County; and Mott Community Center, 12111 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Children aged 3-12 can be dropped off at one of the sites for a day of activities; lunch and snacks will be provided for the children at no cost to caregivers. Activities will be based on the theme "Quest for Adventure: A Treasure Map of Fun. Respite day is for residents of Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax and the City of Falls Church. Preregistration is required by Tuesday, May 11. Call 703-324-3517 (TTY 703-449-1186) in order to register.

## YARD SALE!

**SATURDAY, May 15th**  
**8 A.M. - 12 P.M.**

**Calvary Christian Church**  
**9800 Old Keene Mill Road**  
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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 [ww5.komen.org](http://ww5.komen.org)

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BURKE CONNECTION ❖ MAY 6-12, 2010 ❖ 9

# CALENDAR

## You're Invited to Countdown to Prom! An Evening of Prom Fun, Prizes & Planning



**Friday, May 14  
6-8 P.M.**

- The latest in corsages & boutonnieres
- Hair tips from Sana's stylists
- Visit our Facebook page,  
[www.flowersnferns.com](http://www.flowersnferns.com) or  
call us at **703-455-3100**



**Burke Town Plaza • 9562 Old Keene Mill Road**

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

### FRIDAY/MAY 7

**Hunks with Heart Auction for Ladies.** 7 p.m. at Historic Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Wine, food, live jazz, 'Hunk' auction and a scavenger hunt to find 'The Perfect Man'. Proceeds benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities. [www.rmhc.greaterdc.org](http://www.rmhc.greaterdc.org) or 703-698-7080.

**Michelle Shocked and The Roadworks All-Stars.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20 advance, \$25 at the door. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Friends of the Library Book Sale.** 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Great books at great prices. 703-978-5600.

**"The Little Mermaid."** 7:30 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Presented by the Joan Izzo Academy of Dance. Adults \$15, children and groups of 10 or more \$10 each. Reserve at 703-815-7558 or [kostickets@gmail.com](mailto:kostickets@gmail.com).

### SATURDAY/MAY 8

**Olympia Dukakis performs a concert version 'Rose.'** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Playwright Martin Sherman's portrait of an 80-year-old Jewish woman on a park bench. Pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, on the Center's Grand Tier III at 7:45 p.m. Tickets are \$22-\$44,



## Art on Display

Visit the Pohick Regional Library during the month of May to see art work of Carol Zeitlin's art students. Classes and Art Camp meet in Burke. Registration is open now for Art Camp. To register, call Zeitlin at 703-250-6930.

available at 888-945-2468 or [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

**Boys Will Be Boys, The Love Light and The Five One.** 5:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Fairfax County Master Gardeners.** 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Virginia Land To Sea.** 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. A tour of Virginia through song and story with CSells music. All ages. 703-293-6227.

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935

Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to use a computer. Call for an appointment. Adults. 703-249-1520.

**How to Find a Job in Today's Troubled Economy.** 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Advice from an experienced HR recruiter on all aspects of finding and keeping a good job. Bring a copy of your resume. Adults. 703-249-1520.

**Friends of the Library Book Sale.** 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Great books at great prices. 703-978-5600.

**"The Little Mermaid."** 11:30 a.m. at the Northern Virginia Community

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

**City of Fairfax  
Antique Car Show  
Old Town Fairfax**

**Saturday May 15, 2010  
10:00AM - 3:00 PM**

**LOCATION: CITY HALL** (Between Rt. 123 & University Dr.)  
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email: [info@nvrg.org](mailto:info@nvrg.org)

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Burke, Virginia

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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

www.lakebraddockchorus.org.

College Ernst Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Presented by the Joan Izzo Academy of Dance. Adults \$15, children and groups of 10 or more \$10 each. Reserve at 703-815-7558 or kostickets@gmail.com.

**Lake Braddock Secondary School Choral Concert.** 1 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary School Little Theatre, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Featuring a medley of songs from Disney's "The Princess and the Frog." Admission is two cans of food or \$2 per person, benefitting ECHO, serving families in need in Springfield and Burke.

## SUNDAY/MAY 9

**Fairfax Museum Mother's Day Program.** 2 p.m. at 10386 Main St., Fairfax. Treat Mom to music and light refreshments on the patio of historic Ratcliffe-Allison House and a guided tour of the adjacent Kitty Pozer Garden. Free. 703-385-8414.

**Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel.** 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A free Young Artists Musicales will be at 6 p.m. in the Concert Hall lobby, with piano students grades 3-12, and winners of the Northern

Virginia Music Teachers Association Honors Recitals, performing short pieces. \$19-\$38. Youth through grade 12, half price when accompanied by an adult. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or at cfa.gmu.edu.

**Aqalung and Krista Polvere.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20. jamminjava.com.  
**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 703-644-7333.

## MONDAY/MAY 10

**Open Mic Showcase hosted by Ron Goad.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$2. jamminjava.com.

**PAL Reading Visits.** 4:30-5:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice reading with a trained therapy dog. Call to register. 703-249-1520.

**How To Draw Great Big Faces.** 3:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Artist Paul Merklein shows how to draw big faces. Ages 6-12. 703-978-5600.

**Calling All Guys.** 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Book discussion group for boys. Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac. Age 9-12 with adult. 703-978-5600.

**Friends of the Library Meeting.** 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Monthly meeting. Adults. 703-978-5600.

**The Frog Prince.** 2:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Bob Brown Puppets presents the story of the prince turned into a frog. Age 3-9 with adult. 703-644-7333.

## TUESDAY/MAY 11

**Encore Chorale Spring Concert.** 12:30 at The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Free event, seating is limited. Reserve at 703-667-9801. Encore SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 12

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**Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.**

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### Burke

9712 Turnbuckle Dr. .... \$579,950 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Kathleen Quintarelli ..... Weichert ..... 703-862-8808

### Springfield

6448 Blarney Stone Ct. .... \$359,900 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Traci Rochon ..... Keller Williams ..... 703-562-1800

6825 Bluecurl Cir. .... \$600,000 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Steve Childress ..... Long & Foster ..... 703-981-3277

### Kingstowne/Alexandria

6196 Little Valley Way ..... \$320,000 ..... Sat./Sun. 2-5 ..... Shanelle Ramos-Rodgers ..... Keller Williams ..... 703-565-6693

6153 Castletown Way ..... \$390,000 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Carol Hooks ..... Coldwell Banker ..... 703-518-8300

5430 Brookland Rd. .... \$459,238 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Michael Malferrari ..... Avery-Hess ..... 703-451-9797

### Annandale

4917 Casimir St. .... \$345,000 ..... Sun. 1-3 ..... Fawzia Noori ..... Long & Foster ..... 703-313-6500

6450 Gainer St. .... \$499,999 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Deborah Gorham ..... Long & Foster ..... 703-581-9005

4233 GUINEA RD. .... \$549,888 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Debbie Dogrul Assoc. .... Long & Foster ..... 703-425-3582

### Fairfax

11784 ROCKAWAY LN #62 ..... \$349,500 ..... Sat. 5/15 2-5 ..... Aliko Mwisela ..... Prosperity Realty ..... (703) 863-9218

10725 Norman Ave ..... \$ 529,000 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Ron Fowler ..... Weichert ..... 703-691-0555

10501 Oak Place Ct. .... \$587,900 ..... Sun. 1-3 ..... Kate Stafford-Walter ..... ERA ..... 703-629-8091

13050 BLACKBIRD PL ..... \$689,000 ..... Sun. 1-5 ..... Charles Jackson ..... Weichert ..... (703) 569-7870

3526 FROSTLEAF CT. .... \$1,695,000 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Pat Stack ..... Weichert ..... (703) 597-9373

### Centreville

5132 Pleasant Forest Drive ..... \$1,293,000 ..... Sun. 1-4 ..... Pat Samson ..... Century 21 ..... 703-380-7025

**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](mailto:shogan@connectionnewspapers.com) All listings due by Tuesday at 3 pm.**

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

Chorale Spring Concert. 12:30 at The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Free event, seating is limited. Reserve at 703-667-9801.

**Joey Ryan, Ian Axel and Matt Duke. 7:30 p.m.** Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 at the door. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

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

**Let's Hear It for the Girls.** 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Mother-daughter book discussion group. Reader's choice of the Sammy Keyes Mysteries by Wendelin Van Draanan. Age 9-11 with adult. 703-978-5600.

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

**Daytime Book Discussion Group.** 1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. "The Unbearable Lightness of Being" by Milan Kundera. Adults. 703-644-7333.

**Bedtime Stories: Hug a Bug.** 7 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories, activities and a friendly look at insects. Pajamas optional. Age 3-6 with adult. 703-644-7333.

### WEDNESDAY/MAY 12

**Local author Chuck Mauro.** 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station

Road, Fairfax Station. Mauro will discuss "A Southern Spy in Northern Virginia: The Civil War Album of Laura Ratcliffe", concerning an album containing signatures and poems that Confederate Gen. J.E.B. Stuart gave to Laura in 1862. Copies will be available for purchase and autographing. Free, donations accepted. 703-425-9225.

**The Mick Taylor Band.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$25 advance, \$30 at the door. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**My Big Backyard.** 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-293-6227.

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

### THURSDAY/MAY 13

**Swing Dance with DeJa Blue Blues Band.** 7:30 at The Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-424-1745.

**Afternoon Book Discussion Group.** 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Call for title. Adults. 703-249-1520.

**Tiny Tots.** 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Very short stories, fingerplays and activities. Age 13-17 months with adult.

**Small Oneders.** 11:15 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Very short stories, fingerplays and activities. Age 18-23 months with adult. 703-644-7333.

### FRIDAY/MAY 14

**Dan Navarro and Peter Bradley**

**Adams.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$17. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

### SATURDAY/MAY 15

**Spaghetti Dinner.** 5-7 p.m. at the City of Fairfax Senior Center, Green Acres Center Cafeteria, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Pasta, salad, garlic bread, dessert and beverage. Adults \$8, students and seniors \$7, \$6 under age 10. Children under age 2 free. Proceeds benefit the Senior Center. Open to the public, walk-ins welcome. 703-359-2487 or [jormesher@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:jormesher@fairfaxva.gov).

**City of Fairfax Antique Car Show.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Antique cars, live bluegrass music, food and more. See a Model-T Ford reassembled and running in 15 minutes at 1 p.m. A portion of the proceeds are donated to the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, D.C. [www.visitfairfax.com](http://www.visitfairfax.com) or [www.nvrg.org](http://www.nvrg.org).

**Charity Poker Run to benefit Children's Grief Camp.** 10 a.m.-12 p.m. registration at Patriot Harley Davidson, 9739 Lee Hwy, Fairfax. Last player returns by 5:30 p.m. Donate \$20/hand and ride your Harley or any other means of transportation through pre-determined route picking up a card at each stop. Winning hand for the day gets \$300; 2nd Place \$150; 3rd place \$50. Contact Julie Weatherington at 703-396-6199 or [jweatherington@capitalhospice.org](mailto:jweatherington@capitalhospice.org).

**McLean High School and Longfellow Middle School Big Band Jam.** 2 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$8. For more information, visit [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

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# Birth of a Major League Dream

## Bobby Wahl prepares to choose between college baseball and MLB career.

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

If it was up to a young Bobby Wahl, he'd stand on the pitcher's mound in front of 57,545 fans at Yankee Stadium and attempt to strike out the last batter in the ninth inning.

If he gets the strikeout, adoring fans will paint his name in pinstripe and he'll become a Bronx hero.

"I've always wanted to be the pitcher on the mound," the West Springfield pitcher said. "All eyes on me. I've always wanted that situation and every kid dreams about it — being in Yankee Stadium with the pinstripes."

It's a situation ripped from baseball lore, and it has been Wahl's childhood dream to fulfill it.

On June 7 at the Major League Baseball draft, Wahl will come one step closer to that dream. The only unknowns are which team his 94-mile-per-hour fastball will go to, and whether he'll go pro or join

**Bobby Wahl's trademark pitch is his four-seam fastball. At a baseball camp at the University of Virginia, Wahl's fastball broke the 90s for the first time.**

**"I've thought about it, but I don't know if I've come to grips with it."**

— Bobby Wahl

the University of Mississippi baseball team next year. "It depends on what happens on June 7," he said. "If I get the right amount of money, go in the right round, then maybe there's a shot I will go to the MLB. Until that day, I'm focused on going to Ole' Miss."

Mock drafts have the right-handed pitcher going in the fifth round. Fan bloggers who have never seen him play debate if he would be a good fit for their team, and West Springfield's baseball games are flooded with professional scouts watching his form.

Even if Wahl decides to play in college, he's just now realizing he is on a crash course with professional baseball.

"I don't know if it has set in yet," he said. "I'm still just playing my senior year of high school baseball.

I've thought about it, but I don't know if I've come to grips with it."

Wahl's baseball playing days started in his grandfather Elden Wahl's backyard with a plastic Baltimore Orioles bat and glove.

"While my parents worked, my grandfather would play with me," he

said. "He helped me love the game."

As a child, Wahl idolized former Orioles great Cal Ripken Jr. He had other favorites as well. In an interview with The Connection on March 10, Wahl said he'd want to trade places with former Boston Red Sox pitcher Pedro Martinez during his 1999 season.

Wahl's path to becoming a scouted prospect began at a baseball camp at the University of Virginia after his sophomore year of high school.

At the camp, Wahl's fastball broke 90 miles per

SEE OLE' MISS, PAGE 14

## Wahl's Arsenal

In addition to his blistering pitch speeds, Wahl possesses five different pitches he uses to strikeout batters.



### FOUR-SEAM FASTBALL

"It's a typical grip for any baseball player. Usually on a good day it's sitting around 92-94 miles per hour. It's my go-to pitch. It's what I'm going to start you off with and I'm going to dare you to hit it."



### CURVEBALL

"This is a 12-6 curveball. I'm not exactly sure how fast this one is coming at you, but it's definitely a strike pitch."



### CHANGE-UP

"This is my change up. It's got some inside break to a right-hand batter. Right now it sits in the high 70s, sometimes 81 miles per hour. This is definitely a good pitch to throw to right hand batters because it comes in to them and breaks the opposite of a slider."



### SLIDER

"This is definitely my go-to off-speed pitch. It's sitting in the low to mid-80s. It's the most effective pitch I have right now. It has a last second break that most people can't really hit. I enjoy throwing this pitch. I just love snapping this pitch off."



### CUTTER

"I have a little bit of a cutter. I put a lot of pressure on the middle finger. It's a little bit faster than the slider, but a little bit less break. I'm working on it right now and trying to get it like [New York Yankee] Mariano Rivera's. Don't know if that's going to happen."

# Ole' Miss or MLB Bound?

FROM PAGE 13

hour for the first time.

"It was a good feeling," he said. "I was like, 'Wow, I actually got to that goal.' Ninety is the magic number. Once I hit that, I realized I could go somewhere with my arm."

After his junior season with West Springfield, Wahl joined other baseball prospects for a circuit of summer games. He even got to pitch at a prospects' game at Wrigley Field in Chicago.

Interest in Wahl began to sizzle.

"After [the showcase] they saw me," he said. "A lot of scouts came to my house and talked to me for awhile. Then they came to my games and I noticed them watching me."

West Springfield head coach John James said every team in the MLB has made the trip to Springfield to watch Wahl, some making return visits. Teams also conducted in-home interviews with Wahl, James said.

"We've played in front of the scouts at least five or six times," he said. "I knew they were going to come this year. Early in the season, I was worried it might affect the team. It's not a factor now."

Wahl makes it clear that there's more to his success than five pitches and a blistering fastball. He is a self-described gym-rat.

"I'm always out on the track or in the weight room," he said. "It's constant go for me. I never quit and I never end. I want people to realize how much hard work goes into my pitching. It's not just God given."

It's a character trait that has helped drive Wahl to his current success, and fortunately for James, he rarely needs to remind his star pitcher to work on his own.

"He understands that he needs to take care of his body," James said. "It's not just throw and take three days off and throw again. He understands that between pitching he has to do running and lifting. He does it on his own."

The iron work ethic doesn't surprise James.

"Baseball is his passion," James said. "When you're passionate about anything, you get consumed by it and you work as hard as you possibly can."

All the talk swirling around Wahl doesn't faze his teammates. Catcher David Pyon said Wahl doesn't brag about his spotlight and never strays from working toward the Spartans' team goals.

"He's just awesome," he said. "He's always keeping us in class and keeping us focused on what we should be doing. The scouts don't bother him. It's just a game out there to him."

## 5 Qs With West Springfield baseball player Charlie Morgan

### Q: So what's your walk-up music?

A: My walk-up song right now is "Sad but true" by Metallica. It just gets me in the zone, especially the guitar part.

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

A: Barry Bonds. To me he is the best baseball player of all time.

### Q: What made you fall in love with baseball?

A: My dad was the announcer for the Prince William Cannons for 13 years, so I just grew up around the game.

### Q: So what do you like to do on the weekends when you're not paying baseball.

A: I play some video games. The sports games gets real competitive with the guys on the game.

### Q: How "competitive"?

A: The most heated game we have going is probably MLB 2k10. It gets intense. There's broken controllers, holes in the wall, but it's all in good fun.



REED S. ALBERS

Charlie Morgan

— REED S. ALBERS

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# Raising Awareness of Little-Known Genetic Disorder

FROM PAGE 3

second page and click on Virginia: Chantilly.

Williams Syndrome is characterized by medical and developmental delays, cardiovascular disease and learning disabilities. Children with Williams syndrome need costly, ongoing medical care and early interventions that may not be covered by insurance or state funding. But at the same time, people with Williams often have unique abilities, including advanced verbal skills, highly sociable personalities and an affinity for music.

Williams Syndrome occurs in about one in 8,000 births and is not caused by anything the parents did or did not do, either before or during pregnancy. Instead, it's caused by the spontaneous deletion of 26-28 genes on chromosome No. 7 – and this deletion occurs at the time of conception.

One of the missing genes is the gene that produces elastin, a protein allowing blood vessels and other tissues to stretch. So it's believed that having only one copy of this gene leads to the blood-vessel narrowing found in people with Williams.

In Jason Anderson, it manifests as aortic and pulmonary stenosis – narrowing of the arteries. He only has one kidney. "He's had his share of medical issues, including prob-

lems with feeding. But he's in pretty good health, right now," said Malia Anderson.

Matthew Pow also has pulmonary stenosis and, as an infant, had failure to thrive. So at 6-months old, he had open-heart surgery and he still has a patch on one of his heart chambers to keep it open. "He's also had surgery for crossed eyes and now wears corrective lenses for reading," said his mother.

**NONETHELESS**, both Jason Anderson and Matthew Pow lead full, happy lives. Both were in the special-education program at Chantilly High, Jason graduated in 2004, and Matthew, in 2005. They then received further training in the FCPS vocational program at the Davis Center. Jason Anderson now works in food services at the NRO in Chantilly, and Matthew Pow does a variety of jobs at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church in Alexandria.

"Jason is very friendly, outgoing, loves music and used to play the sax," said Malia Anderson. "He knows every artist on the radio, every song and who wrote it. And he always remembers faces."

Jason Anderson and his dad John belong to the International Order of Alhambra, a fraternal organization of Catholic men that helps those with intellectual disabilities. Within the Arlington Diocese, it provides

support and financial resources to enhance the quality of life for adults and children through particular programs, plus social activities such as dances and cookouts.

In addition, Jason Anderson enjoys playing sports. "In the Special Olympics, he likes bowling and power lifting," said John Anderson. "He also likes playing basketball, soccer and softball. And recently, at the Franklin Farm Shopping Center, he helped collect donations for the Knights of Columbus to donate to people with special needs. He's very social and enjoyed talking with all the people."

Matthew Pow loves sports, too. He likes reading about them in the newspaper and watching hockey, basketball and golf on TV. "He knows his teams and what everybody's doing," said Laurie Pow. "Recently, he even told Jason's dad something about the Boston Celtics in 1980. He knew all the players, but it was before he was even born."

Matthew Pow likes listening to any type of music, but especially loves 1970s groups like the Eagles and America, as well as disco tunes and Michael Jackson songs. "But he also likes the Three Tenors, country and even do-wop," said Laurie Pow. "And if you play a little bit of a song, he can tell you what it is, who sings it and when it came out."

He, too, participates in softball in Special

Olympics, and John Andrews coaches both Matthew Pow and Jason Anderson in basketball. Each fall, the pair bowl on Sundays in a bowling league for families with children with disabilities, at the Bowl America near Matthew's home.

Matthew Pow also enjoys his job at the church, where he mops tables, picks up trash, sets up chairs for preschool and stuffs envelopes in the office. "He's so happy," said Laurie Pow. "It makes a difference to his life. He's proud that he can do it and can get to and from work by himself. He knows this is what you do when you're a grownup. He likes having responsibilities, and it makes him feel like he's part of the community and fits in."

Laurie Pow said her son is "so looking forward to the Walk for Williams. Jason and Matthew have known each other for years. Jason's parents were directors of this area's Williams Syndrome Association when Matthew was diagnosed, shortly after birth."

It's a volunteer organization formed in 1982 by family members of people living with the disorder. It's the most comprehensive resource for them, as well as for doctors, researchers and educators. For more information, see [www.williams-syndrome.org](http://www.williams-syndrome.org).

"It's a great support group," said Laurie Pow. "I think having this walk is fantastic. I hope a lot of people show up for it."

## FAITH NOTES

**Sydenstricker United Methodist Church**, 8508 Hooes Road Springfield, announces several events for May. Contact the church at [www.sumcdisciples.org](http://www.sumcdisciples.org) or 703-451-8223.

❖ **Hand Bell Performance.** Sunday, May 23, 7 p.m. The Jubilate Ringers (adults) and Alleluia Ringers (children) will be joined by Worzzship (youth ensemble), Kids Choir, and the Chancel Choir. Free and open to the public. [www.sumcdisciples.org](http://www.sumcdisciples.org) or 703-451-8223.

❖ **Tea & Fashions.** Sunday, May 16, 2-4 p.m. The annual tea sponsored by the UMW has added a Fashion Show.

❖ **A Homebuilders Couples Bible Study is now being formed.** This study is designed to help couples discover biblical principles to apply in their marriages and build friendships with other couples.

**The Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church Reach for the Beach Charity Auction** will be at the church, 10125 Lakehaven Court in Burke, on Saturday, May 8, from 6-10 p.m. Free children's program by Rainbow Company. Proceeds benefit Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church charitable programs. \$5 per bidder. 703-503-4579. See a full catalog at [www.accotinkuuc.org](http://www.accotinkuuc.org).

**A National Day of Prayer Service** will be Thursday, May 6, at 12 p.m., at the Fairfax County Government Center Building, 12000 Government Center Parkway. All are welcome to attend. Sponsored by Jubilee Christian Church of Fairfax. 703-383-1170 or [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

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**21 Announcements**

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**21 Announcements**

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Unit 3120- Alaina Flynn- boxes, toys, electronics

**21 Announcements**

**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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PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/THE CONNECTION

The Lake Braddock girls' lacrosse team head coach Victor Chen had been trying to instill a 'family' mentality in the team. The diabetes walk was a sign the girls have embraced the concept.

## Bruins March Against Diabetes

FROM PAGE 3

drea Livick and her teammates. In the e-mail, Kelly asked her teammates to join Taylor Livick's cause and walk with her on May 2.

"The e-mail almost made me cry," Andrea Livick said. "It made me feel like my kid was special."

Every member of the Lake Braddock girls' lacrosse team took part in the walk with the Livicks. The final total for the event reached 70 friends, lacrosse players and relatives.

"Family members support each other on and off

the field," co-captain Colleen Garrott said. "Not a single person hesitated to come out here and do this for her."

Attending the walk wasn't the only way the team and Taylor Livick's friends helped her. Andrea Livick said her cousins helped raise money through a lemonade stand and Taylor Livick's friends held a car wash as well.

Andrea Livick said the unofficial amount of money raised neared \$3,000 by the time of the walk.

"It's just great to know she has a family that is looking out for her," Andrea Livick said.



PHOTO BY STEVE GOSSIN

Up To Bat

Pre-school students at Cherry Run Elementary play baseball on May 4.

## New Learning Methods Do Grow on Trees

Allergy symptoms aside, Neil Schneider, 10, of Springfield is learning that people have many reasons to be thankful for trees. They look good, give shade and sometimes fruit, provide a natural playground, and they help clean the air. But Neil's private school in Northern Virginia has found a way to use trees in the classroom. At Oakwood School, trees are used as part of multi-sensory teaching methods to help students learn to read, especially students with dyslexia or other learning issues.

Oakwood School in Annandale is a small private school for bright children who have learning differences. Some of the students have been diagnosed with dyslexia. One of the effects of dyslexia is that the brain does not always "capture" an image accurately, and it can make reading difficult.

Multi-sensory teaching and practice is needed to counterbalance the effects of dyslexia. The student needs to use more than just sight to learn to read and then to read independently. Oakwood specializes in providing a setting where students routinely experience multi-sensory learning in grades K-8. In a reading class, students apply this phrase to help discriminate between the letters b and d, "you know it's a d if you can make a c and grow a tree". This reminds students that the letter d is made of the letter c and a tall stick that grows up like a tree. The students practice by saying it, hearing it said, writing on many different substances such as on paper and in pudding, playing interactive games and tracing letters in text to check if the students have correctly identified the letter.

When a local nursery sponsored a contest to win a tree by writing an essay about why trees are important, most entries were about how trees help our ecology. However, Neil wrote in his essay, "Trees help us learn. Trees helped me learn to point the letter d in the right direction. It works!" This novel essay won the school an oak tree. On April 28, Neil's oak tree was planted on his Oakwood School campus and Neil helped place the tree in a spot where every student can see it and learn from it in a fun way.

### SCHOOL NOTES

**David Kagulu-Kalema** of Burke was named to the high list, Episcopal High School's academic honor roll, for the third quarter of the 2009-10 school year. This honor denotes an average of 90 or above in five or more academic courses for the quarter. A senior, Kagulu-Kalema is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kalema-Musoke.

Several students from West Springfield High School won awards from the Naval Order of the United States during the recent Virginia History Day competition in Williamsburg. Virginia History Day winners include:

❖ **Nicholas Milef** of West Springfield High School, second place in Senior Web Site for The X-Ray Machine.

❖ **Shelby Locke, Claire Lennon and Cayla Chamberlin** of West Springfield High School, third place in Senior Web Site for The Inspiration Behind Photography.

❖ **Emily Nagel** of West Springfield

High School, second place in Senior Individual Exhibit for Braille: An Innovation That Is Here to Stay.

❖ **Connor Chroman** of West Springfield High School, third place in Senior Individual Documentary for Assassins of the Sea. Chroman's entry also won the senior award for the best entry dealing with naval history from the Naval Order of the United States.

**Avi Golub**, a senior at West Springfield High School, has recently received the 2010 Pamplin Leader Award. The Pamplin Leader is a one-year, \$1,000 tuition scholarship to Virginia Tech. It is presented annually to a top student from each public high school in Virginia. It was established by Robert B. Pamplin, Sr. (VT Class of '33) and Robert B. Pamplin Jr. to acknowledge students with a record of outstanding academic achievement that is balanced with a commitment to community service and leadership experience.

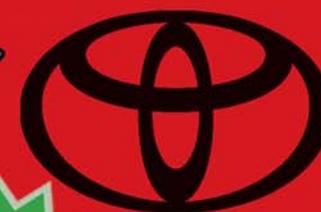


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