

Springfield CONNECTION

Franconia ❖ Kingstowne ❖ Newington

Rising Star

SPORTS, PAGE 14

Andy Najar guards the ball against A.C. Milan star Alexandre Pato. Najar faced off against the Italian soccer giants on May 26 at RFK Stadium.

TV Appearance For Music Director

NEWS, PAGE 3

Remembering Our Veterans

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CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 14 ❖ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 16

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

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Legion, VFW Posts Mark Memorial Day



PHOTO BY CHLOE MULLINER/THE CONNECTION

Veterans, families gather to remember and honor fallen military heroes.

BY CHLOE MULLINER
THE CONNECTION

American Legion Post 176 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 7327 conducted a Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 31 to commemorate our fallen service men and women.

"We try to have a fellowship kind of thing, where we've known each other for years and many of us are close friends, but we want to pay our respects to our deceased comrades," said Wayne Yancey, post commander of the VFW. "They made the ultimate sacrifice."

The American Legion and VFW are active in the community and raise money toward care packages and relief funds for veterans and their families. Members of the American Legion have served in the military during a wartime period, while members of the VFW include those who have served

Veteran Ted Byers and his son, Chip, are both members of the American Legion Post 176.

"There is no higher sacrifice than giving your life."

— Ted Byers

overseas during U.S. conflicts. The VFW also has a branch called the Ladies Auxiliary, which includes women who are related to those who have served.

"Memorial Day is all about remembering our veterans," said Linda Bond, president of the Ladies Auxiliary. "Those who have died, those who are currently over there and those who are fortunate to come home."

Taking place at American Legion's Springfield Post, the ceremony began with the American Legion Color Guard's presentation of colors. Each color guard member was dressed in a uniform representing a different wartime period in America's history. Veterans in the audience were then recognized and several members gave speeches stressing the importance of Memorial Day.

"Facts have a way of not allowing us to forget," said Jeff Harrison, first vice-commander of the American Legion Post 176, as he recalled the number of military deaths in each war since the Revolutionary War. "We cannot forget this aftermath of broken bodies, minds and families."

Formed in 2000, the Linton Hall Fife and Drum Corps was invited to perform at Monday's ceremony. The drum corps is made up of students ranging from second to eighth grade who attend Linton Hall School. Dressed in vivid blue jackets, they played

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Music Director To Appear on 'Today'

Reporter Jane Pauley interviews Messiah director Robert Rudolph for July broadcast.

BY AMANDA RANOWSKY
THE CONNECTION

This summer, a local church music director will receive national attention. Robert Rudolph, director of music at Messiah United Methodist Church in Springfield, will be featured on an episode of the "Today Show" as part of a series by Jane Pauley titled "Your Life Calling."

Pauley's series features the stories of people who have made career changes later in life, leaving more lucrative positions to do the work they truly loved. "She always wanted to do this series of encouragement segments to help folks understand that you're not locked into a life," said Rudolph. "Regardless of where you're at in life, if it's not working, you can always go on to do something different."

"I decided that if I was going to be poor, I was going to be poor and happy."

— Robert Rudolph

Rudolph's decision to change career paths came at the age of 50, after he had spent much of his career as a well-paid mortgage broker in Atlanta. Then, in 2006, the Atlanta housing market collapsed. "At that point the collapse was so bad that I was going to lose everything, so I decided that if I was going to be poor, I was going to be poor and happy," said Rudolph.

Rudolph had a strong background in music to back up his decision to become a church music director. He received an undergraduate degree in music education, a masters degree in church music performance, and, from Pittsburgh Seminary, a masters

of divinity. His family, however, was business-oriented and wary of the marketability of a musician's life. "I had always thought of doing church music as a profession, but the business background seemed to always



PHOTO BY AMANDA RANOWSKY/THE CONNECTION

Robert Rudolph, director of music at Messiah United Methodist Church in Springfield.

interrupt that commitment," said Rudolph. "It always seemed that I was good at what I was doing in the music world, but there was

SEE MESSIAH, PAGE 12

Maybe Next Year

School Board passes operations budget, freezes employees' pay.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County teachers will not see an increase in their pay in the fall but, but the School Board has promised to boost public schools' staff compensation for the following academic year.

Fairfax School Board members voted 8-4 to "commit" to an increase employees' pay for the 2011-12 school calendar on May 20. At the same meeting, the School Board also approved next year's public schools' operations budget, in which

SEE FUTURE, PAGE 13



Be Safe Police Sgt. Marc Jenkins and McGruff the Crime Dog visit Springfield Estates Elementary School on Tuesday, June 1, to share some safety tips with the kindergarten classes.

Republican Primary June 8

Registered voters living the 8th and 11th Congressional Districts in central and southern Fairfax County can participate in a Republican primary election June 8.

Oakton businessman Keith Fimian and Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield) are competing for the Republican nomination to Virginia's 11th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The winner will take on incumbent U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) in a November election.

Matthew B. Berry of Arlington and J. Patrick Murray of Alexandria are competing for the Republican nomination in Virginia's 8th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The winner will take on incumbent U.S. Rep. James Moran (D-8) in a November election.

Voters do not register by political party in Virginia. Any person registered to vote and living the 8th or 11th congressional districts is legally allowed to participate in the Republican primary this week.

People who wish to participate should report to their normal polling station between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

ABC Store Closed June 5-20

The Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control announced that the Springfield ABC store at Springfield Plaza Shopping Center, 6400 Springfield Plaza, will close temporarily due to remodeling. The remodeled store will have security and accessibility for those with disabilities as well as increased product selection. The store will close on Friday, June 4 at 7 p.m. and will re-open on Monday, June 21 at 10 a.m. Other ABC store locations will be open during regular hours.

Internet Safety Meeting Set

On Thursday, June 10, at 7:30 p.m., Supervisors Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) and John Cook (R-Braddock) will host a town hall meeting at W.T. Woodson High School. The meeting will focus on educating adults with the knowledge and resources needed to protect the children under their care from online dangers. The meeting will feature presentations from Internet safety expert and Enough Is Enough (EIE) President Donna Rice Hughes and a Fairfax County Police Officer from the Child Exploitation Unit.

The program will cover the essential safety basics adults need to know to protect children from online threats of

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

AAA Mid-Atlantic representative John Townsend, Virginia's Public Transportation director Thelma Drake, Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large), Virginia Transportation Secretary Sean Connaughton, Federal Highway Administration representative Irene Rico and others help break ground on the new Capital Beltway HOT Lanes' operations center.

Ground Broken, Questions Linger

Officials remain vague about how to track carpools in HOT lanes.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

When the Capital Beltway's four High Occupancy Toll [HOT] lanes open in late 2012, the privately run freeway will be the most technologically advanced road in the country, according to Timothy Steinhilber, general manager for the project.

He spoke at an official groundbreaking for the HOT Lanes operations center May 26. Steinhilber works for Fluor Corp. and Transurban Group, the two companies who are constructing and will own the private express road on Interstate 495.

Steinhilber was not the only person to talk about the Capital Beltway HOT lanes project being a "first."

Virginia's Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton spoke about the HOT lanes being the first open road tolling facility in Virginia. Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) said it was the first time public transit would be available on the Beltway.

In fact, the local HOT lanes project is the first of its kind in the United States. During the presentation, Irene Rico of the Federal Highway Administration called Virginia a leader in finding innovative solutions to persistent shortage of public money for transportation projects.

But going first also may also mean that several questions remain unanswered about the how the HOT Lanes will work and perform from the public's

perspective.

THE PROJECT, currently under construction, will add two lanes of private road to the Beltway in each direction for 14 miles from the interchange with Interstate 395 in Springfield to north of the Dulles Toll Road exit in McLean

Special off ramps for the HOT Lanes will be in place at most exits, with the exceptions Little River Turnpike and Arlington Boulevard, along this stretch of the Beltway when the project wraps up during the winter of 2012. Fluor and Transurban are also replacing several bridges that cross over the Beltway so they can accommodate the four extra lanes of interstate.

Buses, vanpools and any vehicle with at least three people will be exempt from paying a toll to use the private road. Fluor and Transurban plan to make money by charging vehicles with one or two people in them a toll that will be based on how long they stay in the HOT lanes and how congested the traffic is on the road.

Tolls will rise as high as they need to in order to keep traffic moving at 45 miles per hour. Since there is no cap on how high the toll could be at any given time, officials don't know exactly how high it could reach.

WHILE OFFICIALS talked about "world-class expertise and technology" during the ground breaking for the road's operations center, they still don't give a clear answer on how they will discern carpools from paying customers in the HOT lanes when they open.

According to material provided at the event, all toll booths at the HOT lanes entrances will be electronic. This allows approximately four times the number of

SEE HOT LANES, PAGE 12

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

FROM PAGE 4

pornography, sexual predators and cyber bullies. It will also instruct on how to keep kids safe on social networking and gaming sites and mobile devices. The event will have footage from Enough Is Enough's award-winning multi-media Internet safety program, Internet Safety 101. The footage will include personal stories from children, parents, victims and a convicted sex offender. It will also provide advice from clinicians, child safety advocates, law enforcement and technology insiders.

This event is open to parents, educators and other concerned adults in the community. Some of the material is not appropriate for young children.

NEWS BRIEFS

remain 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; and Sunday hours remain 1-5 p.m. Regional branches include Centreville, Chantilly, City of Fairfax, George Mason, Pohick, Reston, Sherwood and Tysons-Pimmit.

* Community Branches: Monday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tuesday, 1-9 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday, 1-9 p.m.; and Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday hours remain 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and community branches are closed on Sunday. Community branches include Burke Centre, Dolley Madison, Great Falls, Herndon Fortnightly, John Marshall, Kings Park, Kingstowne, Lorton, Oakton, Patrick Henry and Woodrow Wilson.

The renovated Thomas Jefferson, Martha Washington and Richard Byrd branches will reopen in June and July with the new hours.

New Library Hours July 1

The Fairfax County Public Library will change its hours as a result of countywide budget reductions. The new hours will take effect at branches July 1. Regional and community library branches, with the exception of Access Services, which is located at the Fairfax County Government Center, will alternate morning and evening hours four days a week. Although the change represents a reduction in the overall number of hours the library is open each week, the new schedule allows branches to extend their evening hours from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Here are the new hours:

* Regional Branches: Monday, 1-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Wednesday, 1-9 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday hours

Workhouse Arts Center Calls for Photo Entries

The Workhouse Arts Center is accepting entries for the Second Annual Juried Photographic Competition Exhibition. The selected works will be featured in an exhibition from July 21-Aug. 15, upstairs in Gallery W-16. Both professional and amateur photographers, 18 and older, are invited to submit up to three photographic images for consideration. Entry forms can be found at www.WorkhouseArts.org or at the Workhouse in Gallery W-16. Entries must be post-marked no later than June 5. An awards reception, open to the public, will be on July 25, from 2-4 p.m. in Gallery W-16. David Adamson, an internationally renowned master printer, will be the juror for the competition.



Haiti Relief

Nadia T. Mitchem, senior officer, Corporate Partnerships American Red Cross National Headquarters receives an \$8,000 check from local McDonald's franchisee Ashley Welburn for the American Red Cross Haiti Relief and Development Fund at a ceremony on May 25 at the American Red Cross Disaster Operations Center in Washington, D.C. Welburn owns and operates the McDonald's restaurant located at 5600 Franconia Road, Alexandria.

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OPINION

Together, We Can Make an Impact

Turn out for the cure.

BY AMBASSADOR NANCY G. BRINKER
FOUNDER AND CEO, SUSAN G. KOMEN
FOR THE CURE

For nearly three decades, millions have walked or run to honor a loved one and to both raise awareness about breast cancer and to raise funds to discover the cures of tomorrow and fund breast health services that might save the lives of their neighbors today.

We can be proud of how far we've come. What started out as 800 women walking around a shopping mall in Dallas, Texas has grown to include more than 1.5 million people walking or running in more than 140 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure events worldwide this year. People are walking in Richmond and Rome; Cleveland and Cairo. It has truly become a global movement.

ALL THIS WALKING has paid off too. In the U.S. we have entered into a new era of awareness, early detection and personalized medicines. This new era is saving lives and providing hope of one day putting an end to the suffering for good.

Yet for all of our successes, this hope is not universally shared. In capitals across the globe, women and their families do not yet fully understand this disease or appreciate the benefits of early detection. And they live in communities with health care systems which are unable to adequately screen or treat the disease.

Here too, in the heart of our nation's capi-

tal, many women do not fully understand the disease, are confused about early detection, and must navigate a significantly fragmented health care system that is unable to properly serve many areas of our community, particularly for those who are uninsured or underinsured.

Together, we can make an impact, both here and abroad. On June 5 on the National Mall, we will host the 21st running of the Susan G. Komen Global Race for the Cure. Up to 75 percent of all the funds raised by the Komen Global Race will stay right here to help local women. The rest will go to support our efforts to share the lessons we have learned educating low-resource women in the U.S. with women in low-resource countries of Asia and Africa and Latin America.

And let me be honest — we have a lot of work to do.

In recent years Komen has sought to raise awareness about breast cancer, particularly in low-income and underserved communities, and to break down barriers that have prevented some women from getting the care they need. And we've had some great successes, such as drastically decreasing the time women at some clinics have to wait in order to get a mammogram.

Yet we are far from satisfied. Komen just finished a comprehensive review of the National Capital Area, and what we found has given us a renewed call to action. Despite our success in raising awareness, women diagnosed with breast cancer in Washington, D.C. are still more likely to die from the disease than women in the rest of the country.

While there are many reasons for this, two

saddened that their sacrifice did not end when their service did, but the good news is that we can work to make their lives better. Many just need help to break down barriers and connect them to needed support.

I had the privilege of meeting one such hero recently. Over the winter, Joe, a veteran from the Iraq/Afghanistan Wars who was living in the woods in Fairfax, came into Fairfax County's Hypothermia Prevention Response Program, a partnership between the government, nonprofits and the faith community to provide shelter, hot meals, services, and companionship for our area's homeless.

Even though he was homeless, Joe was attending NOVA under the GI Bill. His goal was to attain an associate's degree and then become a certified electrician. Through the Hypothermia Program, he was able to find indoor places to study for his various classes. Working with FACETS' staff, Joe was urged to meet with a mental health worker, which he

credits with helping him overcome issues related to post-traumatic stress.

Today, Joe is out of the woods—literally and figuratively. He is living in supportive housing where he continues to have access to needed social services. In addition, he has earned his degree and is ready to work.

There are many other veterans like Joe who have goals and dreams. They volunteered to serve our nation and have fallen on tough times.

That's why during this time of remembrance, it's important to not let these veterans become fallen heroes. We can and must reach out to them, offering them a chance to fully participate and succeed in the democracy that they helped protect.

As we honor our veterans, I hope people will have more compassion for our nation's homeless heroes. It's time we welcome more of them home.

Amanda Andere
Executive Director
FACETS

For the Cure, June 5

Late Registration: Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill Congressional Rooms A & B (Follow the signs from the lobby) 400 New Jersey Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, June 2, 3, 4,
11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
See www.globalraceforthecure.org

things popped out at us.

WE LEARNED that awareness is not enough — women need to truly understand breast cancer, including how it's detected and treated. We found that myths and misconceptions are still widespread. Many women are afraid of screening, thinking it is painful and that a cancer diagnosis equals a death sentence. Others are confused by media reports with conflicting messages about who should get a mammogram and how often. This confusion is not limited to the health care consumer, but is also prevalent among health care providers.

Notably, we also found that the region's overly fragmented health care system produces substantial barriers to accessing care for major segments of the population. Many women cannot access affordable screening because there is too little funding for programs that provide free and low-cost mammograms. These women face economic and transportation barriers that keep them from seeking help.

No woman should have to die just because of where she lives or where she was diagnosed. While we've come a long way, we are not yet at the finish line. We must keep running. Will you join us?

Connolly Cut Tax Rate

To the Editor:

Rob Paine was accurate in his letter ["Herrity Walking the Walk?" Connection, May 20-26, 2010] questioning Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) for supporting a 13 percent property tax increase in Fairfax County — but he was all wrong when he tried to paint U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) with the same brush.

The writer ignored the fact that when Connolly was chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, he was responsible for the two largest real estate tax rate cuts in the county's history. As documented in the minutes of the county board meetings, Connolly was the driving force behind a 13-cent reduction in the property tax rate for Fiscal Year 2006 and an 11-cent cut in the rate the following year. Overall, those documents show that Connolly cut the real estate tax rate five times during his

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THE CONNECTION

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Michael O'Connell
Editor / 703-778-9416

Justin Fanizzi
Community Reporter
703-224-3032
jfanizzi@connectionnewspapers.com

Julia O'Donoghue
Education & Politics
703-778-9436
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Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editors
Steve Hibbard, Michael O'Connell,
Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Robbie Hammer, Louise Krafft,
Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,
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Production Manager:
Jean Card

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver

**CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS,
L.L.C.**
Peter Labovitz
President/CEO

Mary Kimm
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon
Executive Vice President
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Help Homeless Heroes Too

To the Editor:

On Memorial Day, it's important to remember the millions of people who have served our nation, protecting and defending those less fortunate as well as our principles and way of life. As the head of FACETS, a nonprofit serving vulnerable and homeless people in the greater Fairfax area, I know first hand how tragic it is when veterans are not remembered. That's because we serve many heroes who have become homeless.

It's hard to fathom that so many brave soldiers are now living in shelters, motels, cars and even the woods. In fact, about 25 percent of our clients are veterans and this number is growing. Lately, we have seen an increase in the number of veterans that are severely mentally ill and older seeking help. Most of these veterans also have deteriorating health conditions and access services through the Veteran's Administration. I am

LETTERS

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Jennifer.edge@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Connection Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. at Springfield Golf and Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Speaker, Dr. David Robarge, chief historian of the CIA. \$17. 703-815-4204.

THURSDAY/JUNE 3

Fairfax County's Independent Living Program for Older Adults. 12:15 p.m. at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Free strength and balance classes followed by a health seminar on Brain Fitness. Registration required at 703-324-7210 or

TUESDAY/JUNE 8

Telephone Support Group for Caregivers of Older Adults. 7 p.m. Discussion topic: Long-Term Care and Medicaid Waiver. 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 or 703-324-7948.

THURSDAY/JUNE 10

Fairfax County's Independent Living Program for Older Adults. 12:15 p.m. at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Free strength and balance classes followed by a health seminar on Stroke Prevention. Registration required at Jennifer.edge@fairfaxcounty.gov.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 9

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THINGS TO DO



FILE PHOTO

Audience members bring lawn chairs, picnic baskets, blankets and books while they listen to music at the Braddock Nights Concert Series.

Summer of Fun Awaits

Braddock Nights Concert Series returns for the 16th consecutive year.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

It is not often that a community has to look no further than its own backyard to find top-flight entertainment at no cost. However, the residents of the Braddock District can boast not only to having it, but to having it for an entire summer, every summer.

The 2010 Braddock Nights Summer Concert Series kicks off Friday, June 4 and once again, an array of artists spanning nearly every conceivable genre of music is slated to perform free concerts each week. This summer, several new acts will be incorporated into a roster of old favorites that event planners are sure will please crowds at Royal Lake and Lake Accotink parks.

"People love the series because they come to a casual park setting, introduce their children to the performing arts and see and meet friends," said event organizer Sousan Frankenberger of the Fairfax County Park Authority. "With music for all members of the family, it is truly a community event."

The Braddock Nights Summer Concert Series began 16 years ago, according to Frankenberger, when Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) was still the Braddock District supervisor. The idea was to provide district residents with a slate of musical acts from myriad genres and cultures each

Braddock Nights

Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/braddock-nights.htm for a full list of acts and performance schedules at both venues. In case of inclement weather, call 703-324-7469 after 6 p.m. on the night of the show.

Friday night to provide a relaxing end to the workweek. So, each year, Frankenberger scours the Internet and in search of musical acts and accepts requests from local artists wishing to be a part of the series. After an exhaustive search, Frankenberger passes a list of desired acts to Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) and to the series' charity group, Friends of Braddock Nights, for approval.

This year, the mission remains the same, as Braddock Nights staples and new acts that Frankenberger recruited will play at both parks every Friday night. According to Chet McLaren, Braddock Nights organizer for Lake Accotink Park, a host of full ensemble bands comprises a great deal of the shows at the park, as

residents in that area favor that type of music. So, fulfilling people's wishes, the U.S. Army and Navy Bands, City of Fairfax Concert Band, Fairfax Symphony Orchestra's Dixieland Band and other groups were booked. In addition, Alte Kameraden German, the City of Fairfax's German Band, will once again return to close out the concert series.

"The highlight of the thing is the last one of the series," McLaren said. "The Alte Kameraden German Band has closed the summer concert series since year

"With music for all members of the family, it is truly a community event."

— Sousan Frankenberger,
series producer

SEE BRADDOCK, PAGE 10

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 3

Springfield Days Kick-off

Reception. 6-8 p.m. at Safford Chrysler Jeep Dodge of Springfield, 6801 Commerce St., Springfield. Light hors d'oeuvres and live music by The Reunion Music Society Jazz Orchestra. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Springfield Days FamilyFest at Springfield Mall.

4-10 p.m. 6710 Springfield Mall, Springfield, Games, rides, food and more with the Cole Shows Amusement Company. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

"Mindgame." 8 p.m. Spot-LYTE Lorton Youth Theatre Ensemble, Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. For mature audiences. An author of "true crime" stories enters a mental institution to interview a serial killer. 703-584-2973 or www.workhousearts.org.

Daytime Book Discussion

12:15 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. South of Broad by Pat Conroy. Adults. 703-339-4610.

FRIDAY/JUNE 4

Springfield Days FilmFest. 7:30 p.m. at The American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield. Featuring the best of Annandale High School student filmmakers. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Springfield Days FamilyFest at Springfield Mall.

4-10 p.m. 6710 Springfield Mall, Springfield, Games, rides, food and more with the Cole Shows Amusement Company. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

MSG: The Acoustic Blues Trio.

7:30 p.m. at Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Sandra Y. Johnson Quintet.

7:30 p.m. at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy, Alexandria. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Lee High School Senior One

Acts. 7 p.m. at Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield. Tickets \$3 for one night, \$5 for both Friday, June 4 and Saturday, June 5. Free snacks. kmurray51@yahoo.com.

"Mindgame."

8 p.m. Spot-LYTE Lorton Youth Theatre Ensemble, Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. For mature audiences. An author of "true crime" stories enters a mental institution to interview a serial killer. 703-584-2973 or www.workhousearts.org.

Friends of Burke Centre Book

Sale. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Titles and material for all ages. 703-249-1520.

Kingstowne Farmers Market.

4-7 p.m., at Kingstowne Town Center.

SATURDAY/JUNE 5

Springfield Days Fitness Fest

at South Run RECenter, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. 1.5 mile Family Fun Run at 8:30 a.m., adults \$20, children \$15.

703-455-7056. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. exercise class and physical therapy demonstrations, zumba lessons, blood pressure and spinal screenings, raffles and more. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Springfield Days at Springfield

Mall. 6710 Springfield Mall, Springfield. Entertainment stage and exhibitors from 1-5 p.m., with The Bob Meyers Trio featuring vocalist Terry Dearmore, The Reunion Music Society Jazz Orchestra and the RMS Jazz Orchestra. Springfield Art Guild Show and Sale, from 1-5 p.m. PetFest and Paws-on-Parade at 3:45 p.m. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Movie in the Park &

OutdoorFest at South Run Recreation Center, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. Costumed interpreters, historic children's games, nature walks and talks and a meet and greet with farm animals from 2-8 p.m. Screening of "Fantastic Mr. Fox" after dark, approximately 8 p.m. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Springfield Days: FamilyFest at

Springfield Mall. 12-10 p.m. 6710 Springfield Mall, Springfield, Games, rides, food and more with the Cole Shows Amusement Company. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Backyard Koinonia Family Fun

Fest. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. A fundraising event to benefit the Koinonia Foundation, with children's games, food, music, and more. Donations of funds and canned or dried foods accepted. 703-971-5151 or admin@franconiaumc.org.

Kingstowne Library

Anniversary. 12-3 p.m. at the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. With a face painter and balloon animal maker, as well as an "SRP Zone" where youth services staff will feature books on the library's Summer Reading Program book list. View photos from the past 10 years or record remembrances and good wishes in a memory book. 703-339-4610.

Lee High School Senior One

Acts. 7 p.m. at Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield. Tickets \$3. Free snacks. kmurray51@yahoo.com.

"Mindgame."

8 p.m. Spot-LYTE Lorton Youth Theatre Ensemble, Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. For mature audiences. An author of "true crime" stories enters a mental institution to interview a serial killer. 703-584-2973 or www.workhousearts.org.

Artnotes: Lynn Mackey.

7 p.m. Gallery W-16, Second Floor, Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Pianist Mackey performing Chopin, John Cage and more. 703-584-2973 or www.workhousearts.org.

Explore the Night.

7:30 p.m. at Pohick Bay Regional Park, Gunston Road, Lorton. Meet at the Pohick Bay camp store for an exciting program about our local nocturnal wildlife. After a short talk, we will venture into the park in search of owls, foxes, and other night prowlers. Free. Reserve at 703-339-6104.

Meadowood Trail Day.

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Meet at Lower Potomac Field Station Office, 10406 Gunston Road, Lorton. Choose a

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

tenure on the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Paine's letter also conveniently sidestepped U.S. Rep. Connolly's record of independence and fiscal responsibility in the House of Representatives where he has worked to energize the Northern Virginia economy by bringing federal contracts and private sector jobs into the region, saved the jobs of Fairfax and Prince William teachers to maintain quality education in our schools, secured funds for vital transportation projects like the completion of the Fairfax County Parkway and Rail to Dulles and defied his own party leadership by voting against the \$154 billion spending bill, arguing that unused and repaid TARP funds should be used, instead, to reduce the federal deficit.

Jennifer Heinz
Springfield

It's a Shame

To the Editor,

It's truly a shame that we have both voters and political candidates that don't seem to understand something as simple as Fairfax County real estate taxes. The annual re-assessments are based on the recent sales price of similar homes in the same neighborhood. The county supervisors must adjust the tax rate to compensate for substantial changes in the average assessed value of our homes.

Letter writer Rob Paine ["Herrity Walking The Walk?," The Connection, May 20-26, 2010] and candidate Keith Fimian are both claiming his opponent, Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), raised our property taxes with his vote to increase the tax rate to compensate for the drop in assessments. In actuality, the average real estate tax owed decreased rather than increased due to a drop in county spending. This is easily verified by accessing the county's website and examining the recent yearly budgets. Any homeowner having to pay more tax this year is simply lucky his home dropped in value less than the county's average.

I suspect that candidate Fimian understands this perfectly well as he has a degree in business administration, but instead, is trying to mislead voters for political gain — a severe character flaw in my opinion.

Lester Via
Springfield



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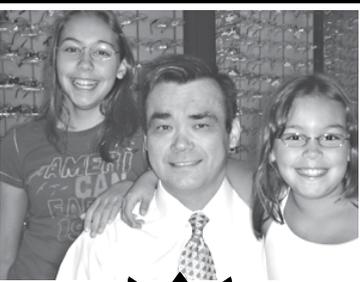


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THINGS TO DO

Braddock District Nights

FROM PAGE 8

one, so it's something that over time has become expected."

Over at Royal Lake Park, the music offerings are much more eclectic, with artists from many different genres gracing the stage. The series begins with Memphis 59, a roots-rock band and also includes folk artist Debi Smith, country/rock act Melodime and blues group Rick Franklin and His Delta Blues Boys, among many others. In addition, like Lake Accotink Park, Royal Lake will also offer several acts that perform music from around the world such as Cuban salsa group TimbaSon La Original and Andean band Mystic Warriors.

"I'm looking forward to the new program that [Frankenberger] has set up for us," said Royal Lake venue organizer Tom Frenzing. "We have some very good talent coming in

and a couple people returning from past years. There are a lot of people looking forward to this event."

According to Frankenberger, all of the performers are paid, and all costs are covered by private donations from the Friends of Braddock Nights and a host of corporate sponsors. These donations, she said, make it possible to keep admission free and in turn, all people, from young children to senior citizens, are invited to come and bring chairs, picnic blankets, food, drink and even pets and enjoy a show each week. This environment, Cook said, is essential in community building and is a highlight for him every year.

"Braddock Nights is a great community event that brings people together for an evening at no cost," Cook said. "It's quality music and people just enjoy coming out. It's a win-win all around."

FROM PAGE 8

3-mile nature hike on Meadowood Trail, light trail maintenance involving pruning and landscaping or new trail construction. Lunch, water, snacks, tools and materials provided. Bring a water bottle, sunscreen and work boots or study shoes. 703-339-3463 or Jeff_McCusker@blm.gov.

Friends of Burke Centre Book Sale. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Titles and material for all ages. 703-249-1520.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to use a computer and navigate the Internet. Call to reserve. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Kingstowne Library 10th Anniversary. 12 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Family entertainment, memories, and socializing as Kingstowne Library celebrates its 10th birthday. 703-339-4610.

Burke Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 noon, at 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke.

SUNDAY/JUNE 6

Springfield Days 15K/5K Race. 7:30 a.m. at Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. 5K \$25-\$35, 15K \$35-\$45. Register at www.MetroRunWalkSpringfield.com.

Springfield Days FamilyFest at Springfield Mall. 12-9 p.m. 6710 Springfield Mall, Springfield, Games, rides, food and more with the Cole Shows Amusement Company. www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Gretchen Peters in Concert. 6 p.m. Gallery W-16, Second Floor, Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Singer-songwriter Peters with pianist Barry Walsh. 703-584-2973 or www.workhousearts.org.

Learn to Know and Love Snakes. 12 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Age 6 and up. Stories, discussion and a walk to learn about snakes. Reserve at 703-768-2525.

MONDAY/JUNE 7

Read to the Dog. 4:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Read to a Reading Therapy Dog. Call to register for one 15 minute slot. Age 6 to 12 with adult. 703-339-4610.

TUESDAY/JUNE 8

Lunch Bunch. 12 p.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Bring

lunch and join us for stories. Age birth-5 with adult. 703-971-0010.

Second Tuesday Evening Book

Discussion. 6:45 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. "The Lemon Tree: an Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East" by Sandy Tolan. Adults. 703-339-4610.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 9

Still Surfin'. 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Park, 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia. A professional Beach Boys tribute band. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

Older Adults Book Group. 2 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Meet next door at Kingstowne Center for Active Adults. 703-339-4610.

Practice Your English. 10:15 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for people learning English. Adults. 703-339-4610.

Wakefield Farmers Market. 2-6 p.m., at 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY/JUNE 11

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. 6 p.m.-12 a.m. on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Rusted Root performs at 8 p.m. General admission seating is available for all performances at the Bud Light Main Stage. Six stages will be located throughout the festival site. All shows are free with daily tickets to the event. 703-324-3247 or www.celebratefairfax.com.

Samovar Russian Folk Music Ensemble. 7:30 p.m. at Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

Doug Parks and the Lonewolves. 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. A four-piece ensemble performing blues and American roots music. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

Torch Lighting and Welcome

Reception, 7:30 p.m. Film Screening: "Keepers of the Flame," directed by Eddie Kamae, 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$5-10. The Workhouse Film Institute Cinematic Tourist Series: Destination Hawaii, a weekend-long cultural celebration of Hawaii, in honor of Kamehameha Day. From June 11-13, this three-day

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

celebration showcases the history and traditions of the islands, featuring authentic food, music, dance, art and much more. All cinematic tourist events will be held in the Performance Tent at the Workhouse, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. For more information, call 703-495-0001 or visit www.workhousearts.org.

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m., at Kingstowne Town Center.

SATURDAY/JUNE 12

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. 10 a.m.-12 a.m. on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Carolina Liar performs at 3 p.m. and KC & The Sunshine Band at 8 p.m. General admission seating is available for all performances at the Bud Light Main Stage. Six stages will be located throughout the festival site. All shows are free with daily tickets to the event. 703-324-3247 or www.celebratefairfax.com.

Canoe the Marsh With a Naturalist. 8 a.m. at Pohick Bay Regional Park, Gunston Road, Lorton. For age 16 and older. \$25 per person. Space is limited to 12 people per trip. Reserve at 703-528-5406.

Naturalist-Guided Kayak Trips. 9 a.m. at Belmont Bay at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. For age 16 and older. All equipment and instruction provided. \$30. Register at www.meetup.com/Northern-Virginia-Conservation-Trust.

Yu-gi-oh Tournament. 2 p.m. at NOVA Comics, 6324 Springfield Plaza, Springfield. Sign-up begins at 1:30 p.m. Age 13 and up. Presented by NOVA Comics and the DC Anime Club. www.novacomics.com or 703-912-6682.

Second Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Each Second Saturday Art Walk will feature opening receptions where guests can meet Workhouse studio artists. 703-584-2973 or www.workhousearts.org.

Meet Me at 5. 5 p.m. The Quad, outside of Building W-5, Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Unveiling of a collaborative 3' x 6' mosaic which depicts the number five. Proceeds from the sale will fund improvements to Building W-5, building events and exhibitions. 703-584-2973 or www.workhousearts.org.

Big Kahuna Marketplace. 1-5 p.m. at The Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Free workshops, demonstrations, food, crafts, music and dance of Hawaii. For more information, call 703-495-0001 or visit www.workhousearts.org.

Kamehameha Luau. Authentic Hawaiian luau, buffet style at The Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Tickets range from \$21-40 and include welcome reception, dinner, live hula performance and film screening. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., dinner begins at 7 p.m., performance by Halau Hula O Ke Anuenue Punahale at 7:30 p.m. and film screening of "Na Kamalei - Men of Hula," directed by Lisette Kaulena Flanary at 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 703-495-0001 or visit www.workhousearts.org.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to use a computer and navigate the Internet. Call to reserve. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Gems and finds for all readers. All ages. 703-339-4610.



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The dignity of labor depends not on what you do, but how you do it.
 —Edwin Osgood Grover

NEWS

HOT Lanes Operations Center



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGUE/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) and Virginia's Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton help break ground at the opening ceremony for the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes operations center.

FROM PAGE 4

cars to travel through the tollgate compared to a traditional cash system.

All vehicles using the HOT lanes would be required to have a transponder in the car. Paying customers will be able to use an E-Z pass in the lanes, though what type of transponder carpoolers will use remains fuzzy.

"Detailed planning is underway, but current plans include a new switchable transponder to provide travelers a convenient way to switch between HOV and toll-paying modes," said the brochure passed out at the operations groundbreaking ceremony.

More than 80 sensors will be located along the

road, allowing workers on the HOT lanes operations center off Interstate 395 in Alexandria to adjust tolls as often as every five minutes if needed.

Fluor and Transurban will also install 84 closed circuit cameras that can automatically detect an accident or other irregular incident. The companies will have incident response crews on hand at all times to help motorists with such problems.

BUT THE AMOUNT of support staff, cameras and sensors needed could change, since the private companies announced they are considering extending one HOT lane in each direction a few more miles north on Interstate 495 to the George Washington Parkway.

Speaking at a McLean Citizens Association meeting two weeks ago, Transurban public affairs employee Jen Aument said the proposed extension would not allow HOT lanes access from Georgetown Pike or the parkway.

Rather, officials have decided an abrupt ending of the HOT lanes north of the Dulles Toll Road could disrupt traffic and cause confusion in that area. A more gradual approach, dropping to just one lane, might help with traffic flow.

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) and Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) will host a June 9 meeting to discuss the potential extension of the HOT lanes in more detail.

OVERALL, it remains uncertain whether Virginia will end up subsidizing some people's travel in the Beltway HOT lanes for decades to come.

If the number of carpools in the HOT lanes tops 24 percent of the overall vehicles for 30 minutes or longer, Virginia is required to start paying Fluor and Transurban the equivalent of 70 percent of the toll rate the companies would have charged a general rider.

Under the terms of the contract, this arrangement will stay in place for the next 40 years or until the private companies total \$100 million in profit.

Virginia taxpayers have already contributed \$400 million to the \$2 billion project. The federal government has also supplied funding. The private companies ended up contributing \$389 million in their own capital overall.

Messiah United Music Director

FROM PAGE 3

always a fear that that was not always going to be the case."

Rudolph joined the staff of Messiah United Methodist Church in October 2008. Since then, he's expanded the music program to include more than 400 people in 14 different music groups. "Part of the success is that this church was a good match for me, and I was a good match for this church," said Rudolph.

"He's just a tremendously gifted musician with a great range of musical interests," said Rev. Ralph Rowley, senior pastor at Messiah United Methodist Church. "He has been absolutely an amazing music director."

"I've always been oriented toward getting folks to be the best they could at what they're doing," Rudolph said of his directing style. In addition to introducing new styles of music to the church, such

as contemporary and bluegrass, Rudolph created a multi-dimensional music group for youth called The Messiah Project.

"The comment I most hear about being here at this church is not about the technical prowess that we have achieved, but the excitement that the musicians enter into their music with, because it's so expressive and so energized and so full of life, and as a listener it comes across that way," said Rudolph.

Rudolph was honored when his story was chosen for Jane Pauley's series. His coworkers, too, were pleased with the experience. "I was very impressed with the crew from the 'Today Show.' They were very professional with themselves," said Rowley.

"It's a nice honor for him, and it's goodwill for the church," said Fran Underwood, the associate director of music at Messiah United Methodist Church.

Rudolph's episode will air on the "Today Show" sometime in July. The date has not yet been announced.

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Local Posts Honor Veterans

FROM PAGE 3

patriotic songs that embodied the American culture and presented a military drill with white wooden rifles and American flags.

"It's an opportunity to teach young kids the value of our American heritage and its music," said Georgia Grave, the director of the drum corps. "What it does is instills the spirit of our country and the value of our democracy."

While several speakers and attendees of the ceremony expressed sadness in that Memorial Day's significance is sometimes forgotten in the excitement of the start of summer and mistaken as a day of celebration, they gathered to emphasize the importance of showing respect and honoring our fallen heroes.

"Because there's so much going on, we forget sometimes," said Pamela Johnson, whose father and cousin are both veterans. "We wouldn't be here if it weren't for certain wars that were fought. Freedom is a very important thing, and it's something we take for granted a lot of times."

"I've seen first hand the sacrifices that our military personnel make and realize the risks they take and have taken over the years," said Becky Berning,



Veterans Jack Payne and Willie B. Jones sit eating refreshments after Memorial Day ceremony.

PHOTO BY CHLOE MULLINER/THE CONNECTION

a military dependent. "I just feel like I need to take a moment and think about that."

The ceremony ended with a wreath laying and a moment of silence dedicated to the heroes that have died and those that are still missing.

"There is no higher sacrifice than giving your life," said Ted Byers, commander of the Sons of the American Legion and a veteran of WWII. "An affair like this is a sort of reminder."

Future Pay Hike for FCPS Staff?

FROM PAGE 3

employee compensation was frozen for the second year in a row.

"If I can't commit to giving our employees a raise in 2012, I don't know what I can commit to. I can't imagine what it would be like to make our employees go three years without a raise," said School Board member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill).

If Fairfax County does not increase teachers' pay in the next budget cycle, the local school system will start to lose employees to surrounding localities with better benefits, said School Board member Dan Storck (Mount Vernon), who sponsored the resolution.

"If we go without a pay increase for our staff next year, we will harm the quality of our education," he said.

A system-wide pay increase for public schools' staff is not cheap. By declining to give the automatic "step increase" in staff pay this year, for example, the School Board saved approximately \$40 million to cover the cost of popular programs like elementary band and strings and foreign language immersion.

"This is going to be difficult. We are going to have to cut things that are dear to us to give this pay increase," said School Board member Tina Hone (At-large), who still supported Storck's motion.

"I can't imagine what it would be like to make our employees go three years without a raise."

— School Board member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill)

But a few School Board members felt uncomfortable making such a promise to employees given the economic forecast for county revenue next year. Even without an increase in teacher pay, several School Board members anticipate they would have to cut more programs to balance the budget for the 2011-12 calendar year.

"When this board increases compensation for staff, this board will have to lay off staff and cut programs to do it," said School Board member Jim Raney (At-large), who voted against the measure.

SOME MEMBERS of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors also criticized the School Board for passing the measure.

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) called the School Board irresponsible for making a promise to increase their staff's pay before the Fairfax

government has a clear idea of what next year's financial picture will be.

County tax revenue historically accounts for 75 percent of the school system's overall funding in a given year and the supervisors, not the School Board, is the group responsible setting local taxes.

"I am for giving teachers a pay raise. Most people are for giving teachers a raise. But I don't know what the situation is going to be like next year. What else am I going to have to cut to do that?" said McKay.

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Najar Shows Promise for United

Springfield resident Andy Najar, 17, is bright spot for D.C. United this season.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

When asked what's been the biggest challenge in his short professional soccer career with D.C. United, 17-year-old Springfield resident Andy Najar could only shrug his shoulders.

"I don't know," he said through his limited English. "I just want to work hard for the team and for the fans."

Perhaps so much has changed for the young Honduran forward in the past year that pinpointing one area of difficulty is a bit daunting.

A year ago, Najar was an All-Met striker for Edison High School in The Washington Post's seasonal salute to local athletes. He also led the Eagles with a school-high 22 goals.

Today, he's a rookie forward in America's top professional soccer league, Major League Soccer. Instead of finishing his junior year of high school, Najar dropped out to pursue his career.

Small in stature (he weighs 150 pounds and stands only 5-foot 7-inches), but described as "fast and explosive" by United head

"He's a very exciting young player who gets better everyday."

— Curt Onalfo

coach Curt Onalfo, Najar is trying to make an early impact in the MLS.

In March, Najar signed an entry-level contract with D.C. United, making the jump to the first team roster after spending time as a member of D.C. United's U-18 and U-16 academy teams.

"[The academy was] very good to me and I appreciated the opportunity," he said.

Najar is only the second player signed from D.C. United's academy teams — goalkeeper Bill Hamid from Annandale is D.C. United's first "homegrown" player.

THE TEAM is optimistic about Najar's ability to perform in the MLS, but critics aren't ready to slap the "next one"



PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/THE CONNECTION

Former Edison High School soccer player Andy Najar is now a member of D.C. United, a team in America's top soccer league, Major League Soccer.

label on him, a mistake made with another former United youngster, Freddy Adu.

"He's got all the mental qualities to do well at this level," Onalfo said. "Having said that, he's learning and he's going to have moments where he's playing well or he needs guidance."

Guidance is exactly what the team is providing him right now, along with a hefty load of playing time.

On April 29, Najar scored his first professional goal against FC Dallas in a 4-2 win in the U.S. Open Cup.

"That was so exciting for me," he said.

But in May, Najar suffered a setback with an ankle injury. Since then, he has re-

turned to match-fit status and has become a valuable young player for D.C. United.

In a MLS league match with Chivas USA on May 29, Najar scored his first MLS goal during United's 3-2 victory.

"I'm working hard for the team," he said.

So far this season, Najar has logged 83 minutes for D.C. United.

"Because of injuries, he's had opportunities where he may not have had them," Onalfo said. "We're pleased with how he's been incorporated so far."

What might have been one of the biggest steps in Najar's growth occurred on May 26 in a friendly match with Italian soccer giant A.C. Milan. In the game, Najar had the chance to play against 2004 and 2005 FIFA World Player of the Year, Ronaldinho [Ronaldo de Assis Moreira].

In the first half of the match, Najar dis-

played his inexperience, but also his potential as a pro soccer player.

On defense against Milan's Alexandre Pato, Najar endured some humility as the Brazilian striker "nutmegged" Najar in front of 30,000 fans, a flashy move where a player passes the ball between a defender's legs.

Moments later Najar's inexperience seemed distant as the Honduran footballer raced down the pitch and fired a shot from 33-yards out, just missing the A.C. Milan net by mere feet.

D.C. UNITED went on to stun Milan, one of Serie A's best teams, with a 3-2 victory.

Najar's play has caught the eyes of the Barra Brava, one of D.C. United's enthusiastic flag-waving, song-singing fan groups, and also his elder teammates.

"He's been a great kid from the start," said Baltimore native and D.C. United forward Santino Quaranta. "He's been first-class, and he's been a lot of fun to be around."

But Najar has more to learn about the MLS and professional soccer than set pieces and adjusting to the lifestyle, Quaranta said.

"You just want to teach him how to respect the game," Quaranta said. "You want to make sure he has fun, but make sure he has a respect level for the older guys."

As D.C. United struggles to correct a 2-8 record, Najar's play remains a bright spot during a trying start to the season.

"He's a very exciting young player who gets better everyday," Onalfo said.

Following D.C. United's victory over A.C. Milan, Quaranta and other United stars went to thank their fans for their support after a big win and a turbulent start to the season.

Standing next to them was Najar. Safe to say, he's fitting in at his new job.

WEEK IN SPORTS

Cooley Football Camp June 5-6

Washington Redskins tight-end Chris Cooley will offer his annual Old Spice Chris Cooley Football Camp on June 5 and June 6, from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at Fairfax High School.

The camp is open to all boys and girls from ages 7-14.

Cooley will be on site to direct the activities and provide instruction to campers. The camp also features a selection of the top prep and collegiate coaches in the Washington, D.C. area.

The cost of the camp is \$199. Additional information can be found at www.chriscooleycamp.com or by calling 513-793-CAMP

All-Region Baseball Team Selected

The 2010 Northern Region All-Region team was announced on May 31 prior to the conclusion of the region baseball tournament.

The following players were selected to the first team: Catcher Mike Perez (South County), first baseman Cam Walter (Centreville), second baseman Chris Russo (McLean), shortstop Ryan Lindemuth (Lake Braddock), third baseman Kenny Towns (Lake Braddock), third baseman Aaron Scoville (Westfield), outfielder Tom Edwards (Washington and Lee), outfielder Matt Kilby (T.C. Williams), outfielder Connor Bach (Centreville), outfielder Riley Beiro (McLean), designated hitter Bobby Klein (Lake Braddock), designated hitter Luke Bondurant (South County), utility player Charlie Morgan (West Springfield), pitcher Bobby Wahl (West Springfield), pitcher Sean Fitzgerald (McLean), and pitcher Danny Thorpe (Westfield).

Wahl, Morgan Players of Year

In addition to a strong season with the West Springfield baseball team, pitcher Bobby Wahl and utility player Charlie Morgan have one more honor to brag about.

On May 31, Morgan was named Northern Region player of the year while Wahl was named Northern Region pitcher of the year.

West Springfield head coach John James also received the coach of the year award.

Acknowledging a 'Rewarding' Career

Edison ESOL teacher Andrea de Gatica receives Hispanic Teacher of the Year Award.

BY AMANDA RANOWSKY
THE CONNECTION

"I think I have the best job in the world," said Andrea de Gatica, winner of the 2010 Victoria D. de Sanchez Northern Virginia Hispanic Teacher of the Year Award. "I love every minute of it. I love being a teacher."

De Gatica is a teacher of English as a Second Language (ESOL) at Thomas A. Edison High School in Alexandria.

"She is just amazing," said Gregory Croghan, principal of Thomas A. Edison High School. Croghan also said that de Gatica is an incredible and encouraging teacher and has done much for the ESOL program at Edison.

De Gatica's enthusiasm for education stems from her childhood in Santiago, Chile. "Mom was a teacher, and my sister is a teacher, so I was born in a family where education was very important, always," she said. "I loved seeing my mom teach. She

"The most rewarding thing is when people believe in you and support you in what you want to accomplish."

— Andrea de Gatica

was very patient, very dedicated to her profession."

"Before winning the award, I had to prepare a portfolio of people writing things about me, and when I read those, I felt like a winner already," de Gatica said. "The most rewarding thing is when people believe in you and support you in what you want to accomplish."

As someone who was continually inspired by her teachers growing up, de Gatica knows how important it is for students to

receive encouragement. "I know the frustration the students go through and the challenges they have to face," she said, citing her own experiences learning both English and French while an undergraduate student at the University of Montreal. "I know

that if I help them, education gives them freedom and options in life."

This past year, in order to give her ESOL students as much help as possible, de Gatica helped start an ESOL mentor program at



PHOTO BY AMANDA RANOWSKY/THE CONNECTION

Andrea de Gatica teaches a class at Edison High School.

Edison. The student-run program partnered ESOL students with peer mentors, who would help the ESOL students with academics. "I saw magic happen every Monday after school," de Gatica said. "Fifty-six percent of students improved their grades."

"Working with her is amazing," said senior Teresa Cruz, the public relations officer of the Hispanic Leadership Club, of which de Gatica is also a faculty sponsor. "I've

never had a teacher who is so positive every day."

De Gatica says the success of her students is more than enough to encourage her. "It's the most rewarding career," she said. "The ESOL students are the best students in the high school because they are ready to learn every day, and you can see the results right away. Seeing them graduate is the best reward."

VDOT Opens New Braddock Road Overpass

East, west lanes will share overpass, as work begins on new eastbound overpass.

BY AMANDA RANOWSKY
THE CONNECTION

On Thursday, May 27, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) shifted westbound traffic to a new overpass from Braddock Road to Interstate 495. On June 3, eastbound traffic will also shift to the new bridge. The old eastbound overpass will be demolished and, over the next 12-18 months, VDOT will build a new eastbound overpass connecting Braddock Road and Interstate 495.

"We're hopeful that people are happy that progress is coming," said Jamie Breme, public affairs manager at VDOT Megaprojects.

THE NEW OVERPASS is part of VDOT's Capital Beltway High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project. The HOT lanes will be four



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/VIRGINIA MEGAPROJECTS

From right are the old eastbound overpass and the new westbound overpass. All traffic will share the new westbound overpass beginning June 3.

additional lanes added to the middle of Interstate 495, with two lanes in either direc-

tion. Drivers with three or more people in their car will be able to use the new lanes

"We're hopeful that people are happy that progress is coming."

— Jamie Breme, Public Affairs Manager at VDOT Megaprojects.

for free, while drivers with fewer than three occupants must pay a toll to access the lanes.

The overpass itself is designed to reduce traffic at the connection between Braddock Road and Interstate 495. Currently, the westbound traffic signal from Interstate 495 north to Braddock Road has been replaced with a merge lane. The eastbound traffic signal remains in place, and a temporary traffic signal will be set up on the new overpass for eastbound traffic when traffic shifts early next week.

Once the new eastbound overpass is completed, the traffic signal will be removed, reducing congestion in both directions between Braddock Road and Interstate 495.

For updates on the HOT Lanes project and land closures, go to www.vamegaprojects.com.

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I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.
-Arthur Wing Pinero

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AUCTION 1: Bakery Equipment & Trucks, bidding closes Thurs., June 3, beginning at 1 PM, bank ordered--former Mama Kayser Bakery Assets, NORFOLK, VA. Including: Ovens & Proofing Equipment, 1000s of Bread & Roll Pans, Packaging Equipment, Mixers, Freezers, Flour Silos & Systems, Ice Machines, Bread & Roll Makeup Lines, Maintenance Equipment, Vehicles, Forklift, Office Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment.

AUCTION 2: Forklift Dealership--Creditor Ordered, bidding closes Tues., June 15, beginning at 1 PM, former WHM Solutions--Bankruptcy Case #10-50293-JMS, CHESTER, VA. Including forklifts, vehicles, repair equipment, shop tools, inventory & office furnishings.

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TAX NOTICE
CITY OF FAIRFAX

REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENTS ARE DUE

Real Estate tax bills have been mailed and are due
June 21, 2010

LATE PAYMENT PENALTY

To avoid a 10% late payment penalty and interest charges, payment in full must be made in person or postmarked by close of business on
June 21, 2010

Taxes may be paid in person Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Treasurer's Office, Room 234, City Hall

IMPORTANT

Even if you do not receive a bill, you are responsible for paying real estate taxes by
June 21, 2010 to avoid late payment penalties

For Additional Information, please call 703-385-7904

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
LLI Enterprises, Inc trading as Hampton Inn Springfield, 6550 Loisdale Ct, Springfield, VA 22150. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine & Beer on premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Anisur Khan President

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Neighborhood yard sale
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117 Adoption

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116 Childcare Avail.

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21 Announcements

INVITATION TO BID
MID EASTERN BUILDERS, INC. is requesting quotations from certified minority, disadvantaged and woman-owned businesses to participate as subcontractors/suppliers on the following project: Carbon Regeneration UOSA Contract H/1 GAC 2 for the Upper Occoquan Service Authority, Centreville, VA.. Bid Date: June 8, 2010 at 2:00 P.M. For additional information contact Angie Duffer in our Estimating Department at (757) 487-5858 or fax (757) 487-5089. (EOE Employer) MEB Maintains a drug-free workplace.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
The following store will be holding a public auction on 06-16-10 starting at 12 Noon

Storage Mart 1851
11325 Lee Highway
Fairfax, Va, 22030

Unit 3120- Alaina Flynn- boxes, toys, electronics
Unit 4068-Robert Baldwin-Totes, bed, clothes
Unit 4043- MES/John Lyonnais- Boxes, office supplies
Unit 4175-St. Production/JoseThomas Vargas- Boxes, computer, ladder

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
CitySwitch proposes to construct wireless communications towers at the following locations: 154ft tower near intersection of Colchester Road and the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks, Fairfax Station; 199 ft tower next to the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks near Bren Mar Dr. and Merle Pl., Alexandria. If you have concerns of any historic properties that might be adversely affected by either tower, please write to: Amy, Trileaf Corp., 10845 Olive Blvd., Ste. 310, St. Louis, MO 63141, 314-997-6111. Please include the tower location and the location of the historic resource that you believe might be affected.

21 Announcements

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as 9019 Scott Street, Springfield, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Susan W. Kane and Victor D. Kane, Jr., dated September 7, 2004, and recorded September 8, 2004, in Deed Book 16485 at page 1188 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Thursday, June 10, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 206, Section 2-A, South Run Forest, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 6880 at page 363, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 9019 Scott Street, Springfield, Virginia 22153.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$50,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 5.125 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
David N. Prenskey
Chasen & Chasen
5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #500
Washington, D.C. 20015
(202) 244-4000



Pictured are Amsalu Geleta and Evelyn Westenhaver and Paul VI seniors Catherine Nguyen, Abigail Dawson, Matt Hogan, Paulo Umayam, Stephanie Stoops, Alina Suarez-Marill, Tess Lione, Gabrielle Pidal, Suzanne Zelnis, Madison Meruvia, Christophe Perdu, Will Mecklenburg, Kiera Sibbald, Stephanie Wilson, Michael Wang and Stephan Mecklenburg.

Bravo Theatre Honors Teenage Volunteers

Recently, a group of Paul VI seniors were recognized for their volunteer work with the Bravo Theatre Project in Springfield. Associate Pastor and Youth Minister Amsalu Geleta and Bravo Theatre Director Evelyn Westenhaver visited Paul VI Catholic High School to present a group of Paul VI Catholic High School seniors with a plaque of gratitude engraved with the students'

names. Paul VI Religion teacher Amy Sessa-Creque and the students have been volunteering with The Bravo Theatre Project at St. Mark's Lutheran Church during the past school year. The Bravo Theatre Project is a free program for underprivileged children in Springfield for dance, theater music and voice. The largest group of volunteers is from Paul VI.

Nell-Tascon Performs At NRA Celebration

Marianne Nell-Tascon, the daughter of John and Nancy Nell of Springfield, performed for an audience of more than 11,000 people at the Time Warner Cable Arena in Charlotte, N.C. on May 15. Nell-Tascon is a member of the Randolph-Macon Academy Chorus, which, in conjunction with the R-MA Band, performed an hour-long concert, 'Tribute to the United States Armed Forces,' as part of the National Rifle Association's 'Celebration of American Values Freedom Experience.' Nell-Tascon is a senior at the Academy.



COLLEGE NOTES

Matthew Smith, a resident of Springfield and a third-year Duquesne University law student, was part of the team winning the regional American Trial Lawyers Association mock trial competition in Pittsburgh. The Duquesne team competed along with 10 other teams from top trial competitions, including the University of Richmond and University of Pennsylvania. They advanced to the national championship in New Orleans.

Katie Moxter of Springfield, a junior majoring in accounting and information systems, has been chosen to be a student ambassador for the Pamplin

College of Business at Virginia Tech. Students must be a rising sophomore, junior, or senior in the Pamplin College of Business and have at least a 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) to be eligible.

Rebecca Clayton of Springfield, a sophomore majoring in civil engineering in the College of Engineering has been inducted into Chi Epsilon, the National Civil Engineering Honor Society, at Virginia Tech. Chi Epsilon recognizes the outstanding achievement of the individual student and promotes development of characteristics necessary for a successful engineering career.

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