

# It's a Classic

NEWS, PAGE 3

They weren't all Harleys showing off their front forks at the July 31 Blast From the Past vintage motorcycle show at Patriot Harley Davidson. This 1966 Triumph Bonneville shows its front end in hopes of getting enough votes to win.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION CALENDAR, PAGE 9 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 17

Neighborhood  
Night Out  
COMMUNITY, PAGE 8

Academy Work  
On Display  
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# Special-Education Teacher Is Accused of Child Abuse

**Fair Oaks woman charged with assault, two counts of felony cruelty to children.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

A special-education teacher at Deer Park Elementary has been accused of allegedly mistreating children in her care. Charged with one count of misdemeanor simple assault and two counts of felony cruelty to children was Jennah Christine Billeter, 33, of the 11800 block of Federalist Way in Fair Oaks.

Child Protective Services and Fairfax County Public Schools contacted police in early July after an allegation of mistreatment was made against Billeter. Police say their own investigation determined that, between May and July, the teacher reportedly physically assaulted and mistreated two boys, ages 4 and 5, assigned to her class.

School system spokesman Paul Regnier

said the alleged incidents occurred during the school day in the classroom. Most recently, he said, the boys were in Deer Park's summer program for autistic children. Police say they did not require medical treatment.

"Another staff member reported the alleged mistreatment of the 5-year-old in early July, the same day police were notified," said police spokeswoman Shelley Broderick. "Our investigators began speaking with other employees, and their investigation led to two other charges being brought [against Billeter]."

Broderick said one of the child-cruelty charges is in regard to the 4-year-old; the other two charges refer to the 5-year-old. Although she couldn't divulge the alleged offense dates, Broderick said, "All were separate incidents." She also couldn't disclose the specific nature of the reported abuse, adding, "It is still an active investigation."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](mailto:www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.

Regarding Billeter's two felony charges, Broderick said the teacher "was assigned to care for children, and the alleged mistreatment they received was deemed to be enough so that it fell under Virginia's cruelty-to-children statute." Both are Class 6 felonies, each punishable by as much as five years in prison.

Detectives obtained warrants for Billeter and, Sunday evening, Aug. 1, she turned herself in to authorities at the Adult Detention Center. As of press time, her court date had not yet been set.

In a letter sent to Deer Park families on Monday, school Principal Carol Larsen said she was informing them of an "unfortunate incident" that reportedly occurred in the school. Referring to the first alleged incident, involving the 5-year-old, she said Deer Park's preschool autism teacher had been charged in connection with an allegation of child abuse.

"On being informed by a staff member of an alleged incident that occurred in the



Billeter

classroom involving one student in the class and Ms. Billeter, I immediately contacted the FCPS Internal Investigations office and Fairfax County's Child Protective Services," wrote Larsen. "Ms. Billeter is now suspended pending the outcome of the internal investigation and police charges."

The principal stated that, "due to confidentiality concerns and the privacy of the child and family, I am not at liberty to discuss specific details of the [alleged] incident." She also thanked the parents for their continued support.

"We have all worked hard at Deer Park to establish a warm, caring, safe community," wrote Larsen. "When people ask in the community about our school, this has been what everyone immediately thinks of and shares. We are still that school."

Billeter began working for FCPS in 2002 as a substitute teacher and then became an instructional assistant at Halley Elementary in Fairfax Station. She worked at Clifton Elementary and Bull Run Elementary before coming to Deer Park in 2007.

Regnier said she was placed on paid, administrative leave in early July, when the first allegation was made. After her arrest on Sunday, it was changed to unpaid leave.

**"Ms. Billeter is now suspended pending the outcome of the internal investigation and police charges."**

— Principal Carol Larsen, Deer Park Elementary

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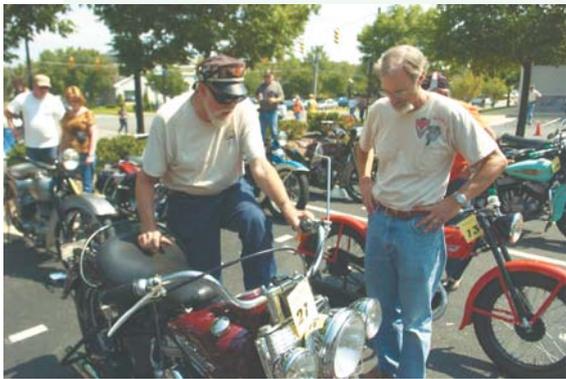




This 1940 Harley Davidson UA still looks good as a work in progress.

## Hot Chrome, Hot Wheels

Vintage bikes display their finery at Blast From the Past vintage motorcycle show.



Above, King Troensegaard shows the finer points of his beloved 1931 Harley Davidson Panhead to fellow club member Ed Bauer

Right, Ed Bauer stands over his restoration project, a 1940 Harley Davidson UA.



Looking awesome is this 1961 Harley Davidson Panhead Chopper.

PHOTOS BY  
CRAIG  
STERBUTZEL



DONATED PHOTO

Ashley Elmore, a FCPS teacher and reality TV star.

## Teacher Finds Fame

Ashley Elmore, 30, will appear on ABC's new spin-off 'Bachelor Pad.'

Ashley Elmore, a 30-year-old teacher from Robinson Secondary, was one of the contestants on "The Bachelor" season 14 on ABC. She was recognized for wearing a pilot's costume to get Jake's attention.

ABC has ordered "Bachelor Pad," a new spin-off of the reality dating series that will feature former contestants from past seasons of "The Bachelor" and "The Bachelorette" living together in a Big Brother-style house, The Hollywood Reporter reported the prize will be \$250,000. The show has been picked up for six episodes and will air on Monday, Aug. 9.

Elmore graduated cum laude from Virginia Tech with a B.S. in marketing management. She received her MBA from Duquesne University with summa cum laude honors. She is currently a Ph.D. student at Old Dominion University. Elmore was a top 10 contender in the Miss Virginia Pageant and the youngest person ever to win the Toyota and WJLA Channel 7 Working Woman of the Year award in 2006. Elmore's parents, reside in Pennsylvania and her sister Erin Elmore is an attorney in Philadelphia. Erin Elmore was on "The Apprentice" season three with Donald Trump.

## No Smoking in Bus Shelters?

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) has asked Fairfax County staff to draft an ordinance to prohibit smoking in bus shelters owned by the locality. "At a time when we are doing everything we can to encourage the use of transit, imagine how unpleasant breathing smoke in a crowded bus shelter would be, certainly not something that would make you want to use transit," wrote McKay in a proposal to his fellow board members.

## Pineda Dell Services' COF

Richard Pineda has been appointed to chief operations leader of Dell Services' Federal Government Division based in Fairfax. Pineda was most recently general manager of the company's Department of Defense Division. In his new position, he will be responsible for oversight of the company's business operations and service delivery to its federal customers.



**Richard Pineda**

Since joining Dell Services in March 1997, Pineda has been instrumental in the growth of the organization's consulting, business process outsourcing and information technology services. He also aided the growth of the company's presence in the federal marketplace in areas of financial analysis, federal travel reengineering, and information technology project management.

Before joining Dell Services, which was previously known as Perot Systems, Pineda occupied key managerial consulting positions in the banking and management consulting industries.

A member of the American Society of Military Comptrollers, Pineda served on that group's board for three years and is a member of the National Defense Industrial Association. Pineda has a bachelor of science degree in finance from Virginia Tech and a master of business administration from The George Washington University.

## Fairfax Man Killed in Aug. 3 Auto Crash in Centreville

An 18-year-old Fairfax man was killed in a single-vehicle crash Tuesday, Aug. 3.

According to the Fairfax County Police Department, Benjamin Sarley of Hampton Forest Way was driving a 2002 Subaru WRX north on Compton Road at a high rate of speed at approximately 9:26 p.m. Sarley lost control of the vehicle and crossed over the double-yellow line into the path of an oncoming car. Police believe he overcorrected to the right side, trying to avoid the car. The vehicle left the roadway and struck a tree on the driver's side at the road's intersection with Luton Hill Way.

Sarley was pronounced dead at the scene and two male passengers in the car, 21- and 24-years-old, were transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital and treated for non life-threatening injuries. All three occupants were wearing seatbelts.

## 'Lock, Take and Hide'

While City of Fairfax residents continue to enjoy a low crime rate, thefts from vehicles are on the rise regionally. So the City of Fairfax Police Department is initiating a "Lock, Take and Hide" campaign to help citizens to help prevent these thefts.

Many of the thefts are from unlocked vehicles or those with items left in plain view, thus becoming easy and tempting targets for thieves. The police campaign will include brightly colored signs reminding people to lock their cars and take their keys and belongings with them or, if valuables are left in the vehicle, to place them out of view. Brochures and other reminders also will be available.

Those interested in participating should call the City of Fairfax Police Department Community Services Section at 703-385-7966.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

**From left, Todd Mueller, Woodson High; Ryan Coleman, Westfield; and Javier Brionez, Lake Braddock take their job as film-festival hosts seriously.**

## Students Showcase Creativity

**Academy students show what they've learned with year-end projects.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**J**ust before the end of the school year, students attending the Fairfax Academy showcased their signature projects as a prelude to the academy's annual awards program. Each culminating project was a piece of original work produced either by individuals or groups of students.

They included film and animation; dance choreography; theatrical scenes written, staged, and performed by students; music compositions; thematic photography portfolios; language translation and traditional artworks in Korean and Chinese; graphic designs; and original, fashion-design collections.

Students whose base school is Fairfax, Robinson, Lake Braddock or Woodson high schools were among the participants. For example, Fairfax senior Taylor Pittman displayed pictures she took for her Professional Photography Studio class.

For her project, she asked people what they found beautiful. "An older couple said each other was beautiful," said Pittman. "An 8-year-old girl said 'puppies' and a mother said her children. One person said beauty is in many different forms and you have to look for it."

Calling the showcase a great idea, she said, "It gives everyone an opportunity to show what we've been working on all year long." This fall, she'll go to



**Academy student Nicole Yin shows the display of what the students learned in Chinese class.**

the Corcoran College of Art and Design in Washington, D.C. to study either photography or graphic design.

Lake Braddock junior Javier Brionez was one of three students officially hosting the film festival showing the works of academy students in the Professional Television Production class. He called the class "something I wouldn't get anywhere else. It's an amazing experience. We get to use the best, professional equipment and we have an entire studio all to ourselves."

Agreeing, Westfield High senior Ryan Coleman said the equipment is "phenomenal" and Mr. [Dave] Ruby is a really great teacher. This event gives everyone a chance to have their work appreciated."

**"We get to use the best, professional equipment and we have an entire studio all to ourselves."**

**— Lake Braddock junior Javier Brionez**

SEE ACADEMY, PAGE 5

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# Academy Shows Its Work

FROM PAGE 4

Robinson senior Ramez Hashlamon took the Professional Graphics Studio class that focuses on computer graphics and digital media. “We did graphic design and 3D animation, professional-level programs used in digital-media editing to prepare students to enter the TV and graphic-design industry,” he said. “This class’s level of technology is much higher than in regular high school.

Fairfax High senior Gabrielle Montagne and her assistant, Fairfax junior Sunny Turner, did a display of anime in action for their Fashion Design class. “We chose an inspiration and built a collection that best-represented us,” said Montagne. “I designed five outfits and Sunny helped create three. She did the sewing illustrations and computer work.”

“It’s exciting and thrilling to have everybody see my vision, but also a relief because we’re done,” said Montagne. “I’d like to eventually be an art teacher.” Turner said the class taught her to “get the best people and the right ideas to help you [do the project] — slackers never help.”

Taking Chinese at the academy was Oakton sophomore Nicole Yin, who created a display of things the

students had done in class. They included making dumplings, learning how to use chopsticks, calligraphy and reading, writing and speaking in Chinese. “We also described cartoon characters with Chinese characters to learn how to use the vocabulary,” said Yin.

Fairfax senior Kim Anh Tran took second-year Chinese. “We learned about the terra cotta warriors in China, calligraphy and the different types of masks,” she said. “Each style represents a different personality. We also learned about Chinese culture, and I’m eventually going to major in Chinese at George Mason and then go into international business.”

Overall, the showcase featured live performances, film screenings and miniature galleries hosted by students. Visitors strolled through the viewing area and also got to speak with the students who created each project.

Nearly 100 second-year students completed signature projects as part of Fairfax Academy’s Creative Leaders project initiative, in partnership with the Apple Federal Credit Union Education Foundation. Projects were reviewed by industry professionals, and awards and scholarships were given to students whose projects they deemed the best.

## State Budget Built Around Tenuous Medicaid Funds

The Virginia General Assembly was counting on the U.S. Congress to allocate extra financial support for Medicaid benefits to state governments. But the U.S. Senate has not approved the Medicaid extension as of Aug. 1.

Without the extra federal funding, programs that serve people with disabilities and their families in Virginia could undergo far more severe cuts than some members of the General Assembly originally intended.

During budget deliberations last spring, state legislators passed an austere spending plan for assisting people with disabilities because they were confident the U.S. Congress would soften the blow by providing extra Medicaid money.

Some said they would not have voted for such drastic cuts to programs for people with disabilities had they known the federal assistance might not arrive.

With no additional financial help, Virginia will have to cut the budget for housing and employment programs that serve people with intellectual disabilities by 5 percent.

Some group homes or employment programs – such as those that help people with intellectual disabilities secure jobs in grocery stores and mail rooms – may go out of business, since this cut would result in a lower reimbursement rate for their services, said George Braunstein, executive director of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board.

Fairfax County would also not be able to award any new people an “MR waiver,” which allows individuals with intellectual disabilities to receive services in the community for independent living. According to Braunstein, approximately 900 people in the Fairfax and Falls Church area are on the waiting list for such a waiver.

Braunstein said the amount of respite time those caretakers for people with disabilities currently in the system – including parents and other family members – receive would go from 720 hours per year to 240 hours per year.



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**PARK AUTHORITY SEEKS  
PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application  
Acquisition of Lily Ruckstuhl Property**

The Fairfax County Park Authority is accepting public comment on the acquisition of parkland in the Providence District. The Park Authority is in negotiations with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust to acquire seven acres of residential land located on Idylwood Road in the Falls Church area of Fairfax County, identified on the Real Property Identification Map as Tax Map Nos. 40-3 ((1)) 59, 61A, 64 and 65. The Park Authority has applied for a federal grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) administered by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to provide a portion of the acquisition cost. As part of the grant application, the Park Authority is required to solicit public input on the use of federal funds to support this acquisition.

After the conveyance, the new park will go through the Park Authority’s regular master planning process to determine its possible uses and potential site amenities. There will be public meetings throughout this planning process to facilitate public involvement in the selection of recreational facilities for the new park. The Master Plan for the new park parcels will also have to undergo a public facility review by the Fairfax County Planning Commission in accordance with Virginia Code Section 15.2-2232 to determine its conformance with the Comprehensive Plan.

Public input on the proposed acquisition and grant application should be forwarded to the Fairfax County Park Authority. Public comment on the acquisition of this parcel will be accepted from July 31, 2010 through August 30, 2010. Please direct written comments to David R. Bowden, director, Planning & Development Division, Fairfax County Park Authority, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406, Fairfax, Virginia 22035. You may also e-mail your comments to: [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov).

For more information about the acquisition or the LWCF grant application, please visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/ruckstuhl.htm> or you may contact Mike Lambert at 703-324-8520 or [Michael.Lambert@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Michael.Lambert@fairfaxcounty.gov). For more information about the LWCF, please visit [http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational\\_planning/vof.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/vof.shtml).



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## Why Not Take 5 Percent Off?

While some of us are not sure how it got to be August, never mind time to start thinking about going back to school, the first day of school is more than a month away, Tuesday after Labor Day, Sept. 7.

Virginia families can take advantage of what amounts to a three-day coupon for five percent off many back-to-school items. Sales tax is suspended for the coming weekend, Friday through Sunday, Aug. 6, 7 and 8 (restrictions apply).

During this three-day period, purchases of qualifying school supplies selling for \$20 or less per item, and purchases of qualifying clothing and footwear selling for \$100 or less per item will be exempt from sales tax.

The tax holiday should encourage more families to spend their back-to-school dollars in local stores rather than online. This is an excellent time to support local businesses, many suffering from the recession as well as competition from online businesses that offer tax-free shopping all the time. Local businesses that don't get their money from the federal government need local shopping support now more than ever.

Remember that many families in the area are struggling. There are many options to help.

❖ FACETS in Fairfax, which provided more than 300 students with backpacks filled with supplies last year, is collecting school supplies until Aug. 13 at 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax. Volunteers will gather for Back to School parties to stuff their new backpacks with supplies. Contact Deborah Heller at 703-352-

**Back-to-school sales tax holiday a reminder of other back-to-school rituals; buy some extra supplies for needy students.**

3268 or dheller@facetscares.org.

❖ The Fairfax Bar Association Paralegal Section, with the Fairfax Law Foundation, is collecting for its annual Back-to-School Supplies Drive, for children at Mondloch House II, a Fairfax County homeless shelter for families. Send donations by Aug. 26 to Fairfax Law Foundation, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 216, Fairfax, VA 22030.

### EDITORIAL

❖ Our Daily Bread's Back to School program helped more than 350 receive the supplies they needed, 108 more children than in 2008, and they expect the demand for assistance this year to be greater than ever.

See [www.our-daily-bread.org/Back\\_to\\_School\\_Program.html](http://www.our-daily-bread.org/Back_to_School_Program.html).

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL** shopping for supplies is one of many important things to take care of before school starts. Students need up-to-date immunizations. Early in fall, flu shots will also be available. Add to the list of "safety" items: talk with your students about what they are doing online (hint: it mostly isn't shopping).

But probably the most important thing parents can do to ensure a successful school year is to make contact with your child's teachers,

### AUGUST SALES TAX HOLIDAY:

#### SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND CLOTHING

**When:** First full weekend of August (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) each year. The 2010 holiday will take place on Aug. 6-8.

**What's Exempt:** During this three-day period, purchases of qualifying school supplies selling for \$20 or less per item, and purchases of qualifying clothing and footwear selling for \$100 or less per item will be exempt from sales tax. Retailers may also choose to absorb the tax on other items during the holiday period, but they are responsible for paying the tax on those items to the Department of Taxation. [www.tax.virginia.gov](http://www.tax.virginia.gov), click on "Sales Tax Holidays"

make sure they know who you are, how to contact you and that you care. Use the online tools to track your child's progress (but don't go crazy monitoring every blip).

One of the best ways to kick off this regular contact with your child's school is to attend back to school night. Most back to school events for parents are already scheduled; mark your calendar.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Doesn't Add Up

To the Editor:

Letters by School Board members Elizabeth Bradsher (Springfield), Kathy Smith (Sully), Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill) and Tessie Wilson (Braddock) on the vote to close Clifton Elementary School provide revealing examples of a need for change when comparing their assertions with facts.

❖ "I must take issue ... that the ... Board has not engaged our community on ... closing schools" (Smith) "unprecedented amount of information ... available" (Gibson/Wilson) "All information and data was (sic) afforded to Clifton residents by FCPS, there was complete transparency of data." (Bradsher)"

Indeed, there was a "community engagement" committee in place through May. FCPS staff responded then to many, but not all, committee requests. For instance, despite many requests, members got no access to staff's sensationalistic (and not fully correct) "Clifton ... Water Issues Update" before its April 14 posting. Transparency?

Further, after the committee's

final presentation to the board on May 10, staff made change after change to data and recommendations. The community repeatedly requested background, but the only meaningful engagement after May 10 occurred when a community member made an unannounced visit to a staff demographer.

❖ "Before making decisions, exceptional leaders listen carefully to all sides" (Smith) "the Board supposedly ignored the "wishes of the community" (Gibson/Wilson) "I heard the many voices of the Clifton community during the past months." (Bradsher)"

The above committee conducted community meetings in April with 132 citizens from 24 elementary schools. This group identified 17 "pros" and 78 "cons" to close Clifton. In the June 28 public hearing, one citizen provided tepid support for closure of CES, one addressed an attendance "island" for another school and every single one of the 150 others supported a CES renovation. Did these four board members not listen carefully enough to discern a pattern in

community input?"

❖ "(CES) lacks a fire suppression system, is not compliant with ... current (FCPS) educational specifications, and (will have) continued well water remediation needs." (Bradsher)

A renovation of CES would address all of these issues. FCPS staff reported 10 minutes before the board's July 8 CES closure debate/vote that CES' on-site wells can provide a safe, long-term supply of water. Maybe Ms. Bradsher forgot.

❖ "FCPS (Staff) ... indicate a decrease in (CES) enrollment to ... 298." (Bradsher)

About one year earlier, FCPS staff had forecast enrollment increasing from today's 369 to 396, or 33 percent higher than the 298. The 298 is based on a small kindergarten class of 31, but next year's kindergarten class already looks to be nearly 50.

The FCPS forecast shows the next seven years with 45 or less in kindergarten, when there has never been even two years of such small classes in the past. The second smallest kindergarten class in CES (34 in 1998) increased to 59 by sixth grade, but the FCPS fore-

cast shows the 31 kindergarten class of 2009 at that same level in sixth grade. Does this sound like a credible basis to close the only school in a community that has had one for 140 years?

❖ "A renovation for CES was estimated to cost \$11,000,000 or \$35,000 per student ... (versus) other elementary schools ... at \$22,800 (per student)." (Bradsher)

There are lots of reasons why these numbers are wrong. Perhaps most importantly, the staff has arguably "gold-plated" the CES estimate with un-needed space. They show 58,000 square feet to accommodate 312 students at a renovated CES, and only 57,000 square feet for a new 550-student school on the Liberty Middle School site. Is it credible that a school to accommodate 76 percent more students would be essentially the same size?

The cost per student would go down dramatically if CES were renovated because the actual enrollment would be well above the 298 Staff forecast. Therefore, when apples are compared to

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

apples, the cost of a CES renovation is quite similar to the cited comparable renovations and lower than other recent renovations. In 2010 alone, no less than four elementary schools are undergoing renovations with costs per student more than \$30,000 — Mount Eagle, Vienna, Sherman (Franklin) and Great Falls.

Throughout this “community engagement” process, representatives of the CES community have offered different “win-win” solutions to the board, whose Strategic Governance statement says, “As trustees of the system, working on the community’s behalf, the School Board is obligated to assure that the community’s values and expectations are reflected in the work of the school system ... (through) a transparent governing process.”

I wonder if Ms. Smith, Mr. Gibson, Ms. Wilson, or Ms. Bradsher (or Staff) have read or reflected upon this crucial expectation recently? If not, no one can afford that.

**Peter M. Gugino**  
Fairfax

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## COMMUNITY



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Middleridge Civic Association members Tim Harazin, Rick Jones, event chairwoman Catie Morales, Al Obuchowski and Sandy Obuchowski are pictured holding the 2006 Resolution the Middleridge Civic Association received from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors congratulating the Middleridge community 'for its community spirit and for being an integral partner with law enforcement officials and first responders to keep Fairfax County safe.'

# Neighborhood Party

**Large crowd turns out for Middleridge National Night Out event.**

**O**n Tuesday Aug. 3, police and first-responders converged on Middleridge Park. Fortunately, the visit wasn't due to an emergency, it was the Middleridge Civic Association's Ninth Annual National Night Out, a neighborhood-based crime and drug prevention event.

Community members are proud to state that Middleridge hosts the largest NNO event in Fairfax County. With live entertainment, raffles, free food, games for the children and face painting, it is no wonder that the event is so popular. On hand were representatives from the police, the fire and rescue department, and the department of health, there with the goal of enhancing their partnership with the community.

Fairfax County Police Chief David Rohrer, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-Bulova) and Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) stopped by the event. Bulova has close ties to Middleridge, she used to live in the community and her son's family now lives there. Her daughter-in-law Gretchen Bulova has been involved in Middleridge's NNO since its inception.

— DEB COBB



**Katie Checkosky, 9, of Middleridge has been to every NNO in Middleridge. Tonight she rides the 'Gyro' a human-powered, adult-sized gyroscope. 'It was really fun,' says Checkosky.**

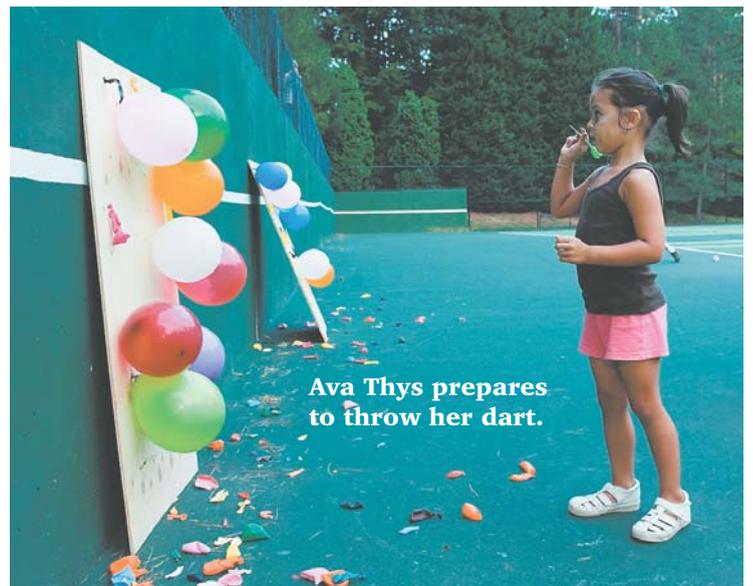
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Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) and Fairfax County Police Chief David Rohrer take a moment to speak with Heather Merryman, who is getting her face painted by volunteer Stephanie Morales.



**Isabella Reymann concentrates as she throws her ring to try and land on a bottle. Her mother Cara grew up in Middleridge, and returned to live in the community when she and her husband started a family. They live two blocks from her parents (Isabella's grandparents) who still live in Middleridge.**



**Ava Thys prepares to throw her dart.**

# CALENDAR

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.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 5

**Wolftrap Childrens Theatre in the Woods.** Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. 10 a.m. PROJECT Trio: From Hip-Hop to Bach, 11:15 a.m. Wolf Trap Opera Studio: Instant Opera! Free workshops follow the 10 a.m. performance; reservations required at 703-255-1824. \$8-\$10. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Alex Band.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Thursday Theater.** 11:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Bring a lunch and watch movies, we supply the popcorn. Call for titles. Ages 1-6 with adult. 703-644-7333.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 6

**The Lydia Finale: A Goodbye & Farewell Tour, River City Extension and Analog Rebellion.** 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 at the door. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**John Eddie.** 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15 advance, \$18 at the door. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Junior Ranger Day.** 12-3 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Fun activities for children as they learn about the performing arts, Wolf Trap, and the National Park Service. Activities include a variety of ranger-

led programs and a rubber stamp scavenger hunt. [www.nps.gov/wotr/forkids](http://www.nps.gov/wotr/forkids) or 703-255-1827.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 7

**SPCA of Northern Virginia Dog Wash.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Webers Pet Supermarket, 11021 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Dog washing, nail trimming and ear cleaning to help raise funds for rescued animals.

**Wolftrap Childrens Theatre in the Woods.** Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. 10 a.m. PROJECT Trio: From Hip-Hop to Bach, 11:15 a.m. Wolf Trap Opera Studio: Instant Opera! Free workshops follow the 10 a.m. performance; reservations required at 703-255-1824. \$8-\$10. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

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

**Nathan and The Gang Bang, Nunchucks and The Waves** at 1 p.m., Mary Fahl at 7 p.m., Passafire and Mojo at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association** at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Line dance lessons at 7:30 p.m., couples specialty dance at 8 p.m., open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. \$5-\$12. [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org) or 703-860-4941.

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

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.

Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. 703-978-5600.

## DAV - Disabled American

**Veterans.** 10 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Monthly meeting of the Disabled American Veterans 703-644-7333.

**Charity Car Wash and Show.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Primetime Sports Bar & Grill, 11250 James Swart Circle, Fairfax. Car wash, car and bike show, basketball dunk contest and two versus two competition, raffles and giveaways, food, music and more. Proceeds go to a local charity to benefit animals affected by the BP oil spill. 703-352-0260.

## SUNDAY/AUG. 8

**Virginia Ballet Company: "Precedence."** 4:30 p.m. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College Annandale, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Combining contemporary dance styles with classical ballet technique. Tickets \$15, online at [www.virginiaballetcompany.org](http://www.virginiaballetcompany.org). 703-249-8227.

**Hippiefest.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$55-\$471. 703-938-2404 or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Happy Feet Cloggers Performance.** 2 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Ave., Fairfax. Learn about the history of clogging with the Happy Feet Cloggers. An outreach program of Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center's exhibition: City of Fairfax: Celebrating the Arts. Light

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 12

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# W.S. All-Stars Make Strong Postseason Run

**Summer Baseball Wrap-up: Fairfax Bulls victorious; Post 176 loses at states; Saunders defeats Nationals.**

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

**M**anager Charlie Phillips' group of 10-11-year-old baseball players, who made up the West Springfield Nationals All-Stars team, put together an impressive summer postseason showing over the past several weeks in capturing the District 9 championship before winning a couple of games at the Virginia state tournament.

The Nationals' season ended on July 26, when they lost an 8-7 nail-biter to Dulles in a quarterfinals round game of the state tourney. Dulles ultimately advanced to the state finals before losing to Chantilly, 2-1.

"We were probably as good as anybody there," said Phillips, of how his West Springfield squad stacked up against the other state contenders.

West Springfield had won two of three games in the initial pool play portion of the state tournament, earning the right to advance to the quarterfinals meeting against Dulles. The bracket from the quarterfinals onward was single-elimination play. As a result, the tough, one-run setback to the Dulles team ended West Springfield's sea-

son and hopes of moving onto the semifinals. Phillips' team, at states, had played four games in four days.

**PRIOR TO STATES**, the Nationals had captured the District 9 tournament by winning all six of their games, including an 8-2 title game win over Dale City. West Springfield's only close game at districts came earlier in the tournament in an 11-10 pool play victory over its West Springfield All Stars' brethren, the Americans.

In that playoff meeting with its in-league rivals, the Nationals built an 11-2 lead before the Americans stormed back to get within 11-10, which ended up being the final.

"There were mixed emotions [about the win] because we knew some of their guys," said Phillips. "You could have next door neighbors on separate teams. Those kids [on both teams] play with and against each other. It was an interesting mix."

Over the course of the West Springfield Nationals All-Stars' postseason (district and states combined), they went 8-2 overall. Phillips said pitching and solid team defense were keys to the West Springfield team's winning ways.

"We got better defense and better pitch-

**"We were probably as good as anybody there."**

**— Charlie Phillips, 10-11 Nationals' All-Stars manager**



PHOTO COURTESY OF W.S. NATS ALL-STARS

**West Springfield's 10-11 Nationals All-Stars swept through the recent District 9 tournament with a perfect 6-0 record.**

ing than we got last year," said Phillips. "Surprisingly, we didn't hit as well."

A year ago, many of the same players were part of the West Springfield 9-10 All-Stars that captured the District 9 championship before struggling at states where they went 0-3.

Phillips was an assistant coach in 2009 with the 9-10 All-Stars, which won a 28-18 District 9 title game slugfest over Dumfries to earn a state tournament seeding.

The following ball players made up this summer's outstanding West Springfield Nationals' 10-11-year-old All-Stars: Jack Basse, Matt Carroll, Jesse Elliott, Nick Karlinchak, Isaak Lyons, Jimmy Morgan, Chris Meyers, Jacob Myers, Rami Nabhan,

Andrew Peter, Brett Stallings and Matt Stallings.

## Bulldogs Excel At Summer Classic

The Fairfax 11-under select Bulldogs' baseball team capped its spring-summer season with a championship at the recent six-team Doc Bonaccorso Summer Classic, which took place July 23-26 at Barcroft Park in Arlington.

Fairfax, under Manager Jeff Hoeth, defeated the Alexandria Heat, 9-3, in the

SEE HIGHS AND LOWS, PAGE 12



**The U-16 Cardinal boys' basketball team, made up of players from throughout Northern Virginia, finished the season with an overall record of 40-12.**

## Cardinal AAU 11th at Nationals

**A** team from Northern Virginia representing Cardinal AAU Basketball placed 11th at the 16-under boys Division 1 AAU National Championships in late July in Orlando. More than 150 elite level teams from across the country participated in the week-long championship tournament.

The Cardinal team is comprised mostly of players from Northern Region public high schools. The players are: Mo Alie-Cox (South County), De'Quan Doyle (Mount Vernon), Daniel Dixon (Langley), Jack Earley (Yorktown), TJ Huggins (TC Williams), Lance Robinson (South County), Aaron Rodenas (Chantilly), Gordon Rogo (McLean), Troy Thomas (Flint Hill), Austin Vasiliadis (Langley) and Kevin Walters (Gwynn Park, Md.). Larnc Robinson and Bernie Conrow coach the squad.

The solid showing in Orlando ended a successful season for the Cardinal that began in March, following the high school season. In addition to numerous Washington area events, the team competed in events in New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, South Carolina, and Florida. The locals completed their season with a tournament record of 40-12, including championships at the Potomac Valley AAU regional qualifier, Fairfax Stars' Battle of the Beast, and two elite events in South Carolina earlier in July.

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3702 KEEFER CT	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$309,000	Townhouse	0.03	FOXFIELD
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## FAITH NOTES

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

**Congregation Adat Reyim, 6500 Westbury Oaks Court, Springfield,** offers several events open to the public in August. Contact [adatreyim.org](mailto:adatreyim.org) or 703-569-7577.

❖ **Shabbat Wine and Cheese Reception.** Friday, Aug. 6, at 7 p.m. Enjoy an array of fine cheeses, Kosher wine and other Shabbat fare, and stay for Shabbat services at 8 p.m. We welcome new and current members, and individuals and families who are looking for a new synagogue experience.

❖ **Congregation Adat Reyim Lunch and Learn.** Saturday, Aug. 7, at 12 p.m. Discussion about Jewish prayer and the Shema, including how the Shema prayer was formulated and why, its place in the prayer service, how it came to prominence, and some ancient and modern thoughts on its meaning.

❖ **Preschool and Religious School Open Houses.** Sunday, Aug. 8, at 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and on Monday, Aug. 16, at 5:30-7:30 p.m. Join us for refreshments and learn about Adat Reyim's preschool and religious school programs. We offer classes for ages two through high school. Interfaith families and all preschool children welcomed.

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive in Clifton hosts "SonHarvest County"** Vacation Bible School Aug. 16-20, from 9 a.m.-12:15 p.m. For ages 4 through sixth grade. \$35 per child or a maximum of \$75 per family. Register at [www.lordoflifelutheran.com](http://www.lordoflifelutheran.com) for the registration form or 703-323-9500.

Interested in the Catholic Faith? **St. Leo the Great Catholic Church** is having an inquiry meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 11, at 7:30 p.m., for those interested in learning more about Catholicism. The meetings are held in the St. John Room of the Parish Center, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. [carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com) or 703-273-5369.

**Temple B'nai Shalom, 7612 Old Ox Road in Fairfax Station,** is having a Tot Shabbat/Ice Cream Social for New and Prospective Members on Friday, Aug. 20, at 7 p.m. TBS is a Reform Congregation established in 1986, and a member of the Union for Reform Judaism. Contact [tbsjoin@tbs-online.org](mailto:tbsjoin@tbs-online.org) or 703-764-2901.

**Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road in Fairfax,** will have a free showing of the family movie, "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs," Wednesday, Aug. 25, at 7:15 p.m. 703-383-1170 or [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

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5326 Sammie Kay La.	\$595,000	Sun 1-4	Kathy Stark, Weichert 703-569-7870

Chantilly			
26189 Rachel Hill Dr.	\$465,000	Sun 1-4	Donny Samson, Samson Properties 703-864-4894
4502 GASTON ST	\$599,900	Sun 1-4	Dianne Lemanski, Keller Williams 703-754-0097
26101 Iverson Dr.	\$599,999	Sat 1-4	Trisha Cooper, RE/MAX 540-903-8525

Clifton			
12415 Henderson Rd.	\$715,000	Sun 1-4	Cathy DeLoach, Long & Foster 571-276-9421
12610 Knollbrook Dr.	\$1,125,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Hermandorfer, Long & Foster 703-503-1812

Fairfax			
11503 Rothbury Sq	\$465,000	Sun 1-4	Ingrid Barrett, ERA 571-216-2313
4794 CATTERICK CT	\$555,000	Sun 1-4	Joe O'Hara, Washington Fine 703-350-1234
10502 James Wren Way	\$575,000	Sun 1-4	Bill Bisson, RE/MAX 703-250-8500
12302 CANNONBALL RD	\$589,000	Sun 1-4	Donna Stoll, ERA 703-742-6900
4025 Verret Drive	\$624,900	Sun 1-4	Spencer Marker & Co., Long & Foster 703-830-6123
4128 HALSTED ST	\$640,000	Sun 1-4	Mindy Link, Coldwell Banker 703-380-2706
12796 FOX KEEP RUN	\$749,900	Sun 1-4	Etie O'Connell, Keller Williams 703-636-7300
11402 VALLEY RD	\$1,399,000	Sun 1-4	Sepideh Farivar, Weichert 703-760-8880

Fairfax Station			
7912 Willfield Ct	\$699,900	Sun 1-4	Connie Maternick, Jobin 703-969-0426
6812 Old Stone Fence Rd	\$824,900	Sun 1-4	Matt Quinn, Quinn's Realty & Est. Serv. 703-532-5632
8286 Armetale La.	\$849,900	Sun 1-4	Ann Witherspoon, Long & Foster 703-503-1836
11530 Litling La.	\$985,000	Sat 1-4	Les Owen, Wm. G. Buck & Assoc. 703-447-0590
10910 Rice Field Pl	\$1,149,990	Sun 1-4	Helen Grozbean, Century 21 571-233-4287
11107 Hampton Rd.	\$1,690,000	Sun 1-4	Fran Rudd, ERA 703-980-2572

Lorton			
6714 Red Bird Woods Ct		Sun 1-4	Rhonda Walker, Long & Foster 703-635-4588
7441 Cullum St.	\$315,000	Sun 1-4	Kathy Stark, Weichert 703-201-9656
7785 Grandwind Dr.	\$509,990	Sun 1-4	Sam Song, Weichert 703-819-9362
9023 Jameson St.	\$650,000	Sun 1-4	Ashley O'Brien, RE/MAX 571-332-1816

Burke			
9213 Honey Creeper Ct	\$379,950	Sun 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli, Weichert 703-862-8808
5811 Shana Pl.	\$424,900	Sat 10-1	Debbie Kent, Cottage Street 703-740-7654
5655 Mount Burnside Way	\$450,000	Sat 1-4	Barb White Adkins, RE/MAX 703-339-4500
7206 Drifter Ct.	\$554,950	Sun 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli, Weichert 703-862-8808
5911 Freds Oak Rd.	\$689,000	Sun 1-4	Marsha Wolber, Long & Foster 703-618-4397

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8305 Miss Anne Ln.	\$545,000	Sun 1-4	Linda Maxwell, Long & Foster 703-452-3912
8611 Sinon St.	\$594,900	Sun 1-3	Colin Concannon, LBT Residential 703-717-5685

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Karen Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-Mail the info to [kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com) All listings due by Tuesday at 3 pm.

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## SPORTS

# Highs and Lows of Baseball

FROM PAGE 10

championship game played on Monday, July 26. The finals were originally scheduled to take place a day earlier, but rainy weather forced the one day postponement.

In all, the Bulldogs went 5-0 at the Classic. They won two games apiece against both the Heat and the Alexandria Bandits, while also beating the Herndon Storm.

For the season as a whole, Fairfax, a member of the Old Dominion Baseball League, finished with an impressive 8-4 record.

Members of the Bulldogs are: Thomas Aguila, Mitchell Clarke, Jack Denny, Kyle Hoeth, Ryan Kelly, Matthew Maribojoc, Brian Peirce, Chris Pitura, Randy Prosperi, Josh Rector, Thompson Rick and Jack Weaver. Filling in as tournament substitutes were Sam Roux and Joey Kronlage.

## Saunders Earns Win Over Washington Nationals

West Springfield High graduate and current Major League pitcher Joe Saunders, who was recently traded from the Anaheim Angels to the Arizona Diamondbacks, went the distance in Arizona's 6-1 win over the Washington Nationals on Tuesday night in Arizona. The southpaw and former Spartans' pitching ace allowed just one run and five hits over nine innings to improve his record to 7-10 with a 4.28 ERA. It was just his second start for Arizona since coming to the club prior to the July 31 trade deadline.

Saunders, who was 6-10 with a 4.62 ERA for the Angel this season prior to being traded, struck out seven and walked two in the outing versus visiting Washington.

The only run he allowed was a solo home run off the bat of Ryan Zimmerman with two outs in the top of the first inning.

In his first start with the Diamondbacks on July 29, Saunders, in a no-decision at Philadelphia, allowed two runs over seven innings with four

strikeouts and no walks in a game eventually won by the Phillies, 3-2.

Saunders, a former Virginia Tech pitcher who was drafted by the Angels with the 12th overall pick in the 2002 first year player draft, has crafted a nice career for himself in the Major Leagues. He won 17 games for the Angels in 2008 and 16 for them last year.

## Springfield Post 176 Eliminated

What has been a terrific season ended for the Springfield Post 176 American Legion baseball team last week when the locals fell to Chesapeake Post 280, by an 8-7 score, in a state playoff game that took place in Danville on July 28.

Springfield, which a few weeks ago captured its eighth American Legion District 17 (Northern Virginia) crown in the last 21 years, finished the summer season 20-10.

The night before its season-ending loss to Chesapeake, Springfield fell into the loser's bracket of the eight-team, double-elimination state tourney with a 6-4 first round loss to host Danville Post 325 on Tuesday, July 27. That game, due to rain, got started late Tuesday night and did not conclude until 1:45 a.m. on Wednesday morning.

Springfield had little time to regroup following that loss to Danville before it played again at 1 p.m. on Wednesday against the Chesapeake squad. Springfield received a solid outing from starting pitcher Brennan Miller, who allowed three runs and seven hits over eight innings of work against Chesapeake. He fanned seven and walked one in an outing in which he threw 117 pitches, 79 for strikes.

At the plate for Post 176, strong games came from John Ponton (3 hits, 2 RBI); Joe Townsend, who doubled and reached base four times while scoring two runs; and Nathan Slater (2 RBIs, 2 runs).

Springfield, under successful longtime Manager Al Vaxmonsky, qualified for states by winning the District 17 tournament championship game, 13-6, over Vienna Post 180 on Friday, July 23.

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## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

refreshments served. 703-385-8414.

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. 703-644-7333.

### MONDAY/AUG. 9

**Tracy Bonham, Bleu and Common Rotation.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12 advance, \$15 at the door. jamminjava.com.

**Hooked on Sea Life.** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Discover the largest snail in Virginia, watch a sea horse play hide and seek and see more ocean animals with Andrew Wilson of Under the Sea. 703-293-6227.

### TUESDAY/AUG. 10

**George Thorogood & The Destroyers.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$51-\$471. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

**Wolftrap Childrens Theatre in the Woods.** Wolf Trap Foundation for

the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. 10 a.m. Dance Institute of Washington: West Side Story, 11:15 a.m. Rocknocos: Painting the Town PINK! Free workshops follow the 10 a.m. performance; reservations required at 703-255-1824. \$8-\$10. www.wolftrap.org.

**Fairfax Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax.

**Atomic Tom and The Potentials.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 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. A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park. 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. 703-644-7333.

**Fuzzy and Furry Friends.** 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories

and activities about hamsters and guinea pigs. Age 4-5 with adult. 703-644-7333.

### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 11

**The Guggenheim Grotto, Todd Carey and Josiah Leming.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

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

**Paint a Mosaic Plate.** 2:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Decorate your own summer-themed plate. Presented by Clay Cafe Studios. Glazed and fired plates returned to the library two weeks later. Age 12-18. 703-644-7333.

### THURSDAY/AUG. 12

**Legally Blonde.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$46-\$184. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

**Wolftrap Childrens Theatre in the Woods.** Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. 10 a.m. Dance Institute of Washington: West Side Story, 11:15 a.m. Rocknocos: Painting the Town

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woods, gour-

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ceilings, 2-storey

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Station home. Hrdwd flrs on

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w/ gas fp. Bonus rm can be

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bdm. Upper Lvl Master

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formal living room and den. The finished lower level is a walk out with

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