

Her Dream Job

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Renee Miller is the
new principal of
Clifton Elementary.

Last Parkway Link Opens

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Teen Science Competitor

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The End Of The Road

Twenty-three years after it opens, Fairfax County Parkway gets its final segment.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Elected officials gushed with delight at a ribbon cutting ceremony for the final 2-mile segment of the Fairfax County Parkway on Sept. 13. The federal government covered the cost of this final leg of the project, which included six new bridges and four traffic signals.

Starting this week, drivers coming from western Fairfax on the parkway will be able to travel into the Mount Vernon area without having to take a time consuming detour through Kingstowne or Lorton. The opening of the parkway's last link — a stretch of highway between Rolling and Fullerton roads in West Springfield — will also make the thoroughfare's east-west connection across Interstate 95 more useful.

Opened in segments over the last 23 years, the parkway winds through the western portion of the county touching several communities, including Mount Vernon, Newington, West Springfield, Fairfax Station, Burke, Fairfax, Chantilly, Herndon and Reston.

The 35-mile road is the county's only significant north-to-south arterial besides the



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

"People were really looking forward to having this done."

Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large)

Local officials cut a ribbon on Monday, Sept. 13 marking the opening of the final section of Fairfax County Parkway.

Capital Beltway. With the final segment in place, it allows citizens to drive from the Mount Vernon area near Fort Belvoir Army Base to Reston and Herndon on a single thoroughfare.

"People were really looking forward to having this done," said Fairfax County

Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large).

THE MODERN DAY parkway traces its roots to regional plans in the 1950s and 1960s for an "outer beltway," according to several elected officials. Some of the parkway's current path is the same as that

mapped out by planners for this second highway loop.

Officials resurrected the idea of building at least the Fairfax portion of this road, originally called the Springfield Bypass, in the

SEE LAST, PAGE 15

Is Local Teen 'America's Next Top Young Scientist'?

Fairfax Station teen to Compete for the title of 'America's Top Young Scientist' in October.

BY NICK BOTERO
THE CONNECTION

Alex Mataloni, 14, of Fairfax Station has been invited to the Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge being held in New York City on Oct. 5. Now a freshman at South County Secondary School, Mataloni received the invitation for his submission of a demonstrative video he sent to the challenge in May. "I found out about the competition through my eighth grade science teacher," he said.

Jesse McHei, Mataloni's eighth grade science teacher remembers him well. "He was a great student, inquisitive and excited about science," she said. "He raised thought-provoking questions in class and was always working through the practicality of the lesson." The class was an introduction to physical science, providing students with the basics of chemistry and physics with a hands

on approach.

Initially, Mataloni's video was an assignment for the class. "I wanted the students to do an extension of our class work, something involving technology. I really liked the idea of making the students make concise videos," said McHei. She recalls the class' response after seeing Mataloni's video. "The class was just amazed. It was so fantastic. It brought together science with his personality. It caught your attention and was funny. The class wanted to see it again right after it was over."

At the end of the class, the students encouraged Mataloni to enter it into the Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge. He submitted the video in May and two months later was informed that he was one of 10 finalists invited to travel to New York City for a chance to be named America's Top Young Scientist in October.

The contest asks all participants to send

in a 2-minute video that demonstrates an innovative solution to one of four predetermined problems. Mataloni chose wind resistance structures in response to the devastation hurricanes bring to areas vulnerable to harsh weather conditions.

"Instead of rebuilding homes or redesigning them, I proposed to put a dome shaped tensile fiberglass enclosure around them," he said.

In the video, after using diagrams to explain how air molecules behave in different heat temperatures, Mataloni then demonstrates how tensile fiberglass acts as a perfect wind resistant protector by covering a miniature house about 6 inches tall with it and connecting it to a piece of wood. He then puts the wood into an enclosed pipe and holds up a leaf blower less than a foot away on full blast. The tensile fiberglass holds up and the miniature house stays intact. He then explains that the solution is both environmentally safe and economically favorable.

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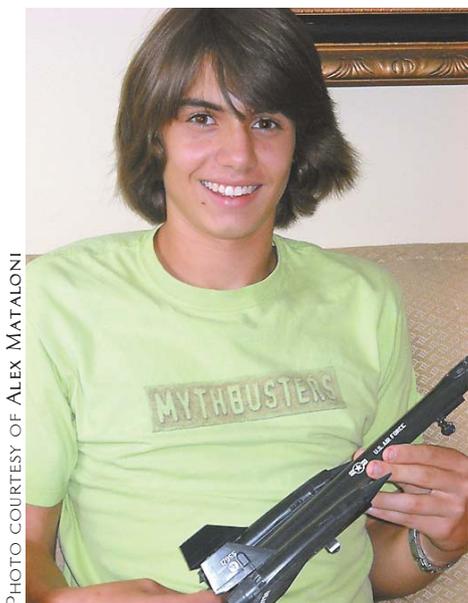


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX MATALONI

Local young scientist Alex Mataloni wears a shirt of his favorite television show and holds one of the model planes he put together.

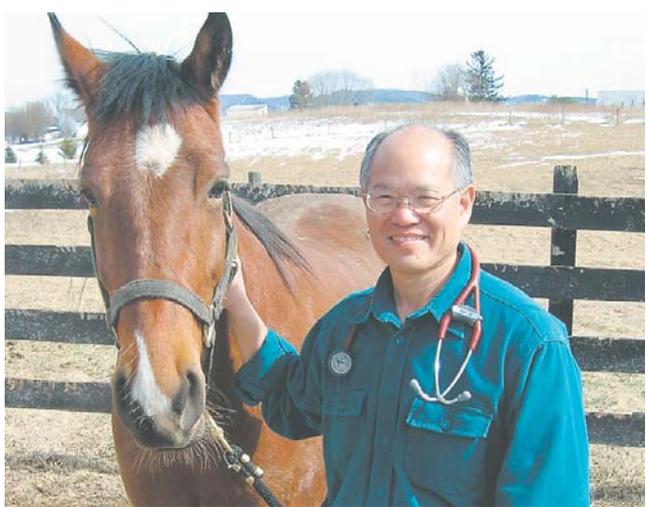


PHOTO COURTESY CLIFTON HORSE SOCIETY

Dr. Herb Yee makes a 'house' call.

Horse Society Scholarship Winners Serve Community

Each year, the Clifton Horse Society (CHS) presents a scholarship to a Virginia Tech veterinary student in equine medicine. The 2009-10-scholarship recipient, Dr. Herb Yee, will work in southern Maryland as a veterinarian specializing in equine dentistry following his May graduation. The 2008-09 recipient, Dr. Leslie Rhodes, joined the Haymarket Veterinary Service in Haymarket, after she graduated.

Part of CHS' Awards and Grants program, the annual scholarship and is presented to a student at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (VCRCVM) at Virginia Tech with a primary interest in equine medicine. The student must also demonstrate excellence in this field of study.

To learn more about CHS Scholarships, Awards and Grants Program that helps veterinary hospitals, rescue organizations, publicly operated equestrian facilities, riding programs for people with disabilities and other recipients, see the CHS website at www.CliftonHorseSociety.org.

Clifton Dems Meet Sept. 19

The Democratic Women of Clifton will conduct their next general meeting on Sunday, Sept. 19, from 3-5 p.m. at the Clifton Community Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. The program will include representatives from the Fairfax County absentee ballot program, who will speak about absentee balloting procedures. The club will also have a special women's issues presentation and will have a visit from U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11). All Democratic women from Northern Virginia are invited. For more information, go to www.DemocraticWomenofClifton.org. or send an e-mail to CliftonWomenDems@aol.com.

Learn Disaster Preparedness

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area. CERT instructs Fairfax County residents in basic disaster response skills. Three CERT courses beginning in mid-September, two standard CERT classes, and a CERT class geared for county employees. To receive a certificate, a individuals must attend all modules. The training is free of charge and the courses have no prerequisites. The courses are open to all citizens over 18, who either live or work in Fairfax County. For more information, visit <http://www.FairfaxCert.com>. To sign up for one of the standard courses, e-mail Dana Powers at Dana.powers@fairfaxcounty.gov and specify class preference. Classes will meet at the Fire and Rescue Academy located at 4600 West Ox Road, Fairfax, Classes begin at 7 p.m. and run until about 10:30 p.m.

Miller Finds Her 'Dream Job'

New principal takes helm at Clifton Elementary

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Ultimately, the long-term future of Clifton Elementary is out of the hands of its new principal, Renee Miller. But she and her teaching staff have this year, at least, to make as positive an impact as possible on the futures of their students.

"I believe education is the most noble profession because we are touching the future," she said. "We have an opportunity to help people grow to become our future leaders."

Miller, of Little Rocky Run, replaced Principal Arthur Polton, who retired after more than 35 years with Fairfax County Public Schools. Even though she knew it was a possibility the school would close, she eagerly applied for the job.

"I wanted to be a part of this school and community because I've always been in love with Clifton," said Miller. "It's a high-achieving school with an outstanding staff and a supportive community."

She and her husband Greg, a retired Air Force pilot, now an Air Force consultant, have three children. Brendan, 29, works for Fairfax County; Geoffrey, 19, is studying microbiology at the University of Oklahoma; and Allison, 17, is now a freshman there.

Miller was born in California, but raised all over the U.S., since her dad served 36 years in the Army. She went to high school in Lawton, Okla., received a bachelor's in English from Utah State University and a masters of education in Administration and Supervision from the University of Virginia.

During her first year in college, she decided to go into teaching. "I took a couple education classes and loved them," she said. "I've always loved working with children and have a passion for people and helping them reach their full potential."

Miller later taught elementary school in Utah, Manassas, Fairfax and Springfield. She also taught first grade for two years in Canberra, Australia. "There, I learned a lot about balanced literacy instruction, which is now used by FCPS," she said. "It's reading and writing workshops, plus word study, every day, in the language arts program."

As a teacher, she said, "I loved seeing children 'get it' — the excitement and the sparkle in their eyes when they understood a concept — and I still do. I love the pride they feel and hearing them say, 'I can do it.'"

Eventually, though, Miller's career turned toward administration. "As a principal, you're not only leading children, but staff, and helping them learn and grow professionally," she said. "I have a talent for taking good things and making them great, and I did that as a GT center teacher, classroom teacher and as an assistant principal. So I went into administration because I believed I could have a greater impact there and help more people reach their full potential."

From July 2006 until June of this year, she was assistant principal at Rolling Valley Elementary, in addition to simultaneously being acting principal of



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Renee Miller

Hunt Valley Elementary, from April-June. Then came the job at Clifton, and Miller said her depth of experience will be an asset. "I've worked with every elementary grade level, except second, and taught in middle and high school," she said.

Miller was "ecstatic" when she got the nod to lead Clifton. "This is a dream school and a dream job," she said. "Living so close, I know so much about the school and the community. It's a great community of learners, and I'm so impressed with the staff. They've been extremely welcoming; parents and students

attended two meet-and-greets, and the teachers have been very gracious. They want to continue implementing best practices in their classrooms."

"The first day of school, all 366 students were present. I've never had that happen, before," she said. "Everyone's focused on making this the best year yet at Clifton Elementary. My number-one goal this year is to provide a safe and positive year of learning for students and staff — because we should all be lifelong learners."

For an extra boost, the school will have a pep rally this week. Robinson's cheerleaders will perform and the Girl Scouts will give Clifton an award for sponsoring a troop. Although the school mascot has always been the cardinal, it's never before had a cardinal mascot in costume, until now, when Cliff the Cardinal makes his debut.

The school color is red, so this year's theme is "Rockin' the Red." There'll be one pep rally each quarter to motivate the students to keep learning, demonstrate positive behavior and just have fun.

"We've ordered red wristbands saying, 'Clifton E.S. — Rockin' the Red,'" said Miller. Students will also receive spirit wear T-shirts emblazoned with that slogan. "I want our students and staff to shine," she said.

"We're also focusing on developing greater collaboration among staff and across schools nearby and in our cluster," she said. "Because our grade-level teaching teams are so small, it would enable, for example,

"This is a dream school and a dream job."

— Renee Miller, Clifton Elementary principal

SEE MEET, PAGE 7

NEWS

Braddock Park Renovations Underway

The Fairfax County Park Authority has begun repairing and renovating the parking lot at Braddock Park. Repairs are also being made to an access road, which is adjacent to Braddock Road in Clifton. Workers will remove of asphalt and resurface of all access roads and parking areas within the park, which is located at 13451 Braddock Road.

The estimated cost of the project \$317,000 and the work is being paid for through the 2004 Park Bond. Finely Asphalt of Manassas Park, the project's contractor, aims to renovate 300 parking spaces and approximately 500 feet of access road. The company will be accessing the work site from the main entrance.

The Park Authority anticipates periodically restricting parking at Braddock Park during the renovations. All of the work will be completed in phases, with no more than half of the parking spaces being unavailable to park users at any given time. The Park Authority expects the work to be completed in October.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/SEPT. 16

NVAVA Volunteer Management Workshop. 9:30 a.m. at West Springfield Government Center Community Room, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield. "The Benefits and Challenges of Engaging New Volunteers". Open to all who manage volunteers. 703-407-6256 or membershipchair@nvava.org.

The Little Rocky Run and Johnny Moore Creek Draft Plan Forum. 6:30 p.m. at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The Little Rocky Run and Johnny Moore Creek watersheds are located in the southwestern part of Fairfax County and drain south directly to the Bull Run/Occoquan River system. The Johnny Moore Creek watershed is located in the Watershed Protection Overlay District, a major source of drinking water for the county. Fairfax County is seeking public input in the development of the watershed management plan for these watersheds. The forum is open to the public. Registration 6:30-7 p.m., meeting 7-9 p.m. watersheds@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-5500, TTY 711.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 19

What's Next? Transitions Fair for Women. 3-6:30 p.m. Springfield Holiday Inn Express, 6401 Brandon Ave., Springfield. Learn from experts and explore businesses and community services that provide women options as we look towards taking next steps. \$35-\$40. laurie@nextstepsconsulting.net.

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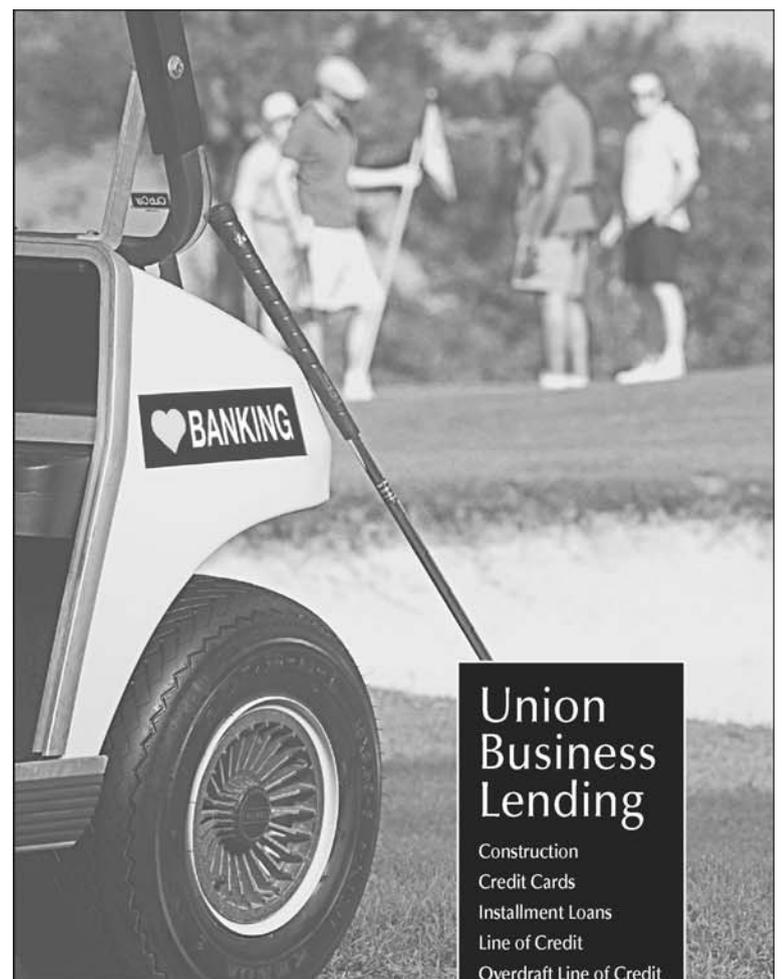
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Early Morning Run

Challenge 10k Race raises money for South County athletics.



The South Fairfax Chamber Challenge also included a 1-mile fun run. Julie Phillips from the Lorton/Lakeridge Gold's Gym helps the participants warm up before the start of the Fun Run.



Ellie Kyle accepts her prize as the second place female athlete in the 19 and under division.



Ricky Flynn is the first to cross the finish line at the second annual South Fairfax Chamber Challenge 10k race coming in at 32 minutes and 51 seconds. The Sept. 12 race benefited the South County Secondary School's athletic and academic programs.

PHOTOS BY GINA URICOLI/THE CONNECTION

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Meet New Principal

FROM PAGE 4

our third-grade teachers to talk with third-grade teachers at other schools about teaching, learning and student assessment.”

Miller values staff input because “the staff knows the school, community, students and culture that’s already here.” She also noted that the teachers have happily embraced change, including a whole, new schedule this year that she created.

“Our intervention-and-enrichment block is 30 minutes daily and is called RED – Reach Everyone Daily,” said Miller. “We provided time for the most highly qualified staff members to work with the students who have the greatest need. The other kids will get enrichment – individual projects, more challenging activities or studying a topic in greater depth.”

Previously, band and strings teachers used to pull children out of class for music, so classroom teachers didn’t have all their students and it fragmented the school day. Now, though, there’ll be a fine-arts block during which all students will go to band, strings, art, music and PE. during the same block of time.

“And while the kids are doing this special block, the teachers can plan together,” said Miller. “Things are the same time every day, but at different times for different grade levels. So we took a lot of disruption out of the school day, which makes it easier for both students and teachers and makes a lot of sense educationally.”

Delighted with her new job, part of her affinity for Clifton is because of its history, and her own. “I’m actually a DAR,” she said. “My father’s family emigrated here from Germany in 1753 and founded the town of Critz, in southwestern Virginia. They were naturalized as British citizens because it was before the Revolutionary War.”

Furthermore, one of Miller’s ancestors was a colonel in the Revolutionary War, witnessed the surrender at Yorktown and served in the Virginia House of Delegates. So, she said, “That historical feel is a tie to Clifton. Since I was an Army brat and an Air Force spouse, I don’t have a hometown, but I have roots in Virginia.”



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OPINION

One Thing Commonwealth Is Doing Well

This is no time to trade \$240 million a year for uncertainty.

“Government is supposed to do a couple of things well, and selling Jim Beam and Grey Goose isn’t one of them,” Gov. Bob McDonnell was quoted as saying this week.

Consider how well-endowed Virginia’s transportation infrastructure could be if only it were run like the state-owned liquor stores.

When you buy a bottle of spirits from a Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control store, 50 percent or more of what you pay goes directly to the state, funding schools, public safety and other key state functions. Other states collect less than 10 percent. This system delivers more than \$240 million a year to fund core state functions.

By contrast, Virginia has privatized the widening of the Beltway, turning over 100 percent the toll revenue to a private company more or less forever (50 years). And the tolls will likely amount to more than \$10 per car to ride in the “High Occupancy Toll” lanes during rush hour. (To be fair, the private company is widening the Beltway, building the new HOT lanes and rebuilding the aging bridges along and

over the Beltway in the process, although the state could have done that by selling bonds based on projected toll revenue.)

Instead of collecting tolls, or at least writing a contract that shares the revenue, from public-private highway partnerships to provide a long-term stream of revenue for transportation, or raising the gas tax, Gov. Bob McDonnell wants to use the money from selling off the state’s very lucrative liquor business. (To be fair, McDonnell’s Democratic predecessors signed off on the public-private transportation deals.)

But turning the liquor business over to private companies won’t generate nearly the same revenue for Virginia, won’t generate more than a drop in the bucket for the state’s transportation needs, and will take away critical funding for other services, including education and public safety.

McDonnell wants to trade the annual revenue of \$240 million-plus for a one-time infusion of \$500 million by auctioning off 1,000 retail liquor licenses. That will be an increase of more than 600 stores selling liquor. Most of

the money that now goes into the state coffers would be turned over as profit for the private businesses.

McDonnell proposes to make up some of the difference by adding fees to alcoholic beverages served in restaurants, which any restaurant owner can tell you is about the last thing they really need in this economy.

And any one large business would be allowed to buy as many as 25 percent of the total number of licenses, meaning the market could be dominated by a few big box stores.

The Virginia Federation of Retailers say that McDonnell’s plan doesn’t allow enough opportunity for small retailers, and the Virginia Wine Wholesalers oppose the plan because they expect large retailers will bypass local wine.

For McDonnell, his single term in office will be a success no matter what the consequences.

Here are his goals: Shrink the size of state government. Lower taxes, or at a minimum, don’t raise them. Privatize, privatize, privatize.

Will there be adequate funding to provide an education worthy of the state that is “home of the internet?” For public safety, for neediest citizens, for people with disabilities, or even for some transportation relief? Not his problem.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Blind Opposition

To the Editor:

In many local editorials, Keith Fimian (R) and his Tea Party supporters have often broadcast a barrage of name-calling, baseless smear campaigns, and fear tactics to members of the public. Fimian and his supporters seem to be under the impression that, if they continuously repeat lies and spread inaccurate information, the public will unquestioningly believe them. But I believe that Fimian has resorted to this “low road” because he and his Tea Party allies, have nothing useful — nothing of substance — to bring to the table.

The leaders of the Republican Party have offered no new, concrete ideas to solve the challenges facing the country. Their only solution consists of constant, blind opposition to any real action that the Democratic Party and President Obama has attempted. Tea Party candidates, Keith Fimian among them, say they want to take their country back, but the important question is: back to what? Back to the reckless economic policies of George Bush, or back to a time when corporate Wall Street bankers and oil companies set a special-interest agenda?

I hope that voters do their homework before they go to the polls this November. I hope they remember what Republican leadership has done to the country — led to economic downturn and the

suppression of the individual voices of voters. I hope they remember that Tea Party candidates like Fimian are empty shirts, interested only in reinstating the failed policies of the Republican Party instead of solving the problems of the day.

Marvin Lautzenheiser
Springfield

Wall Street Reform Bill

To the Editor:

I would like to announce my support for U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) and applaud his vote for the Wall Street reform bill.

Gerry Connolly understands the strain placed on consumers from Wall Street financiers, and I’m pleased to see him support a piece of legislation that the country needs to rebuild the economy.

At a time when the economy is slowly recovering from the worst recession since the Great Depression, this new law protects Americans from questionable Wall Street practices. For everyday Americans, the benefits are significant. (Many Wall Street firms have conducted closed-door deals, have paid their executives unjustifiable salaries paid for by all Americans and were a major factor in the economic crisis. Now, those on Wall Street will

have to conduct their operations within the public’s view, and must adhere to a policy of transparency in their internal procedures.

Thanks to U.S. Rep. Connolly, the Wall Street reform bill puts a stop to taxpayer-funded bailouts. The bill assures that taxpayers will not pay for the mistakes of Wall Street; the companies will. (When Connolly voted for this bill, he was clearly looking out for the best interest of the economy and American consumers. Add this effort to his others—enforcing Pay-As-You-Go legislation and fiscal responsibility, supporting an extension of the Bush tax cuts, and voting against costly spending bills—and it becomes obvious that Connolly is helping America work toward a strong economic recovery

Laura Stokowski
Fairfax Station

Reject Fimian

To the Editor:

I am sincerely appalled by 11th Congressional District candidate Keith Fimian’s (R) extreme views on women’s rights. Fimian opposes a woman’s right to choose in all circumstances, even in cases of rape and incest. Fimian wants to put his own radical ideology before the health of a woman and interfere with matters that should be kept between a woman and her doctor. If Fimian had his way, safe abortion procedures would be out-

lawed.

Fimian is on record as opposing oral contraceptives. I strongly believe that no one has a right to tell you what you can and cannot do with respect to your personal life. I cannot imagine why anyone would oppose the use of birth control by married adults, as it is a safe, responsible course of action for family planning.

Republicans, especially those tied to the Tea Party like Fimian, harp about the size of government. However, they advocate for government interference into private family matters. If they are concerned with government overreach, they should be criticizing people like Fimian, someone who wants to move well beyond the public sphere of government and into the personal, private lives of citizens. The government has no business legislating against these and other private matters.

Fimian’s radical social agenda is frightening. I encourage 11th District voters to reject Fimian’s extreme views on Nov. 2.

Howell L. Thomas
Fairfax

What Taxpayers Deserve

To the Editor:

In her letter “Public Funds for

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THE CONNECTION

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EDUCATION

Back to School

Friendly greetings and stories of summer filled the halls at Clifton Elementary's Back to School Open House. Clifton has four new classroom teachers this year, including third grade teacher Cheryl Menotti, pictured above, with student Megan Palmer and her dad, Chris Palmer.



PHOTO BY MELANIE LESSARD

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ENTERTAINMENT

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/SEPT. 16

Book Discussion Group. 6:30 p.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. "Persuasion" by Jane Austen. Adults. 703-971-0010.

Practice Your English. 7 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.

Springfield Writers' Group. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Share your work, give and receive feedback in a supportive setting. Adults. 703-451-8055.

Lorton Book Club. 7 p.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" by Stieg Larsson. Adults. 703-339-7385.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 17

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m. at Kingstowne Town Center, 5955 Kingstowne Center, Alexandria.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 18

Canoe the Marsh with a Naturalist. 8 a.m. at Pohick Bay Regional Park, Gunston Road, Lorton. Age 16 and up. \$25 per person. Reserve at 703-528-5406.

Gallery After Hours: Art Out Loud. 7 p.m. In the Performance Tent, Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The drawings of Workhouse Studio Artist, Mary

Gallagher Stout and the eclectic alternative rock of Big Green Cherry. 703-584-2900.

Miss Greater Springfield Princess, PreTeen and Teen Competitions. 1:30 p.m. at Greenspring Village Square Auditorium, 7440 Spring Village Drive, Springfield. Competition open to girls age 5-17. Tickets \$12. 703-690-1203 or www.missgreater.springfield.com.

City Dwelling Nature Seekers. 8:30 p.m. at the Heart in Hand Restaurant, 7145 Main St., Clifton. CD release party for a folk/rock band that includes former Clifton resident Matt Booth. 703-203-0858 or mattbooth1@mac.com.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 19

Poetic Art Exhibition and Reception. 2-4 p.m. in Gallery W-16, Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The work of art will inspire the poet's words, or the poem will inspire the artist's creation. Free. Exhibition remains open through Oct. 10. 703-584-2900.

Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program 30th Anniversary Jubilee and Clifton's Peachy Keen Day. 4-6:30 p.m. at Trummers on Main, Clifton. Tickets \$60. Register at www.nvtrp.org/jubilee.

Lorton Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton.

South County Crew Learn-To-Row Day. 1-4 p.m., at Sandy Run Regional Park. Any South County High School student is welcome to attend. Crew is a varsity (lettering) spring sport, no experience required. For more information, call 703-690-2981 or see the SC Crew website at



City Dwelling Nature Seekers performs Saturday, Sept. 18, 8:30 p.m. at the Heart in Hand Restaurant, 7145 Main St., Clifton. This is a CD release party for a folk/rock band that includes former Clifton resident Matt Booth.

sc-crew.org.

MONDAY/SEPT. 20

Bee-Bim Bop! 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories and songs for ages 2-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

Lunch Bunch. 12 p.m. John Marshall

Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Bring lunch and join us for stories. Age 0-5 with adult. 703-971-0010.

Woof, Woof: Doggie Tales. 10:30 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Age 13-23 months with adult. Registration not required. 703-339-

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Read to the Dog. 4:30-5:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Read to a reading therapy dog. Register for one 15-minute slot. Age 6-12 with adult. 703-339-4610.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT. PAGE 14

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

Private Schools" [Connection, Aug. 19-25, 2010], the writer infers that we Clifton parents are selfish, not willing to part with our hard earned dollars to pay for private school and expecting tax payers to foot the bill for our children's education. The writer makes the unfounded assumption that we want and could afford private education for our children. I don't know any parent who considers Clifton Elementary School (CES) to be on par with a private school for class size and variety of activities offered through school funding. I was lucky enough to send my children, through a countywide lottery selection to the county public magnet school where they received language immersion, small class sizes and extra programming. CES is like every other public school in Fairfax, working within the budget constraints of the county.

What sets the Town of Clifton apart and why many of us chose to move to Clifton is because it is a town like where we grew up, has a town center and has the feel of community that we wanted for our children and ourselves. Many of us believe in public education, and we pay high property taxes for that education. Many of us can't afford private schools and are working hard to save for our children's college education. CES is a part of the Clifton community. The injustice on the part of the School Board is in making a hasty decision with questionable data to close CES without being able to give the Clifton families with elementary age children a clear answer to where their children will be going to school, leaving them in limbo. As Fairfax County taxpayers, these Clifton families deserve that much.

Miriam Meyer
Clifton

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

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

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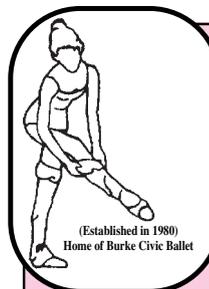
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Bruins Run Strong at Monroe Meet

Lake Braddock girls, boys' teams earn third place finishes.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The Lake Braddock Secondary School varsity cross country teams might not yet be in midseason form, but the Bruins certainly looked to be headed in the right direction with their showings, both on the girls' and boys' side, at last Saturday's early season Monroe Parker Invitational meet run on Burke Lake Park's hilly 2.98 mile course.

The Bruins' girls and boys' squads both earned impressive third place finishes in their respective races at the annual showcase event.

Most of the Northern Region's schools took part in the annual showcase event that gives teams an early season sense of where they stand among their region foes and respective district opponents.

Saturday's races began at 8 a.m. with the freshmen boys' race, followed by the freshmen girls. Next was the JV boys' and girls' races during mid-morning. Then, to cap off the festive day of high school cross country, the varsity races — first the boys' race at around 11:15 a.m., followed by the girls' race at 11:45 a.m. — took place.

It was an outstanding late summer day for the running extravaganza with comfortably warm temperatures and lots of sunshine spreading across the beautiful racing course and park grounds. A large crowd turned up to take in the morning's competition.

Because Saturday's races took place on the ninth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, tribute was paid to those Americans who lost their lives on that infamous morning. Prior to the varsity races, a moment of silence took place, allowing all of those on hand — the athletes, coaches, spectators and race organizers — to briefly reflect on the day's solemn meaning.

On hand for the Sept. 11 tribute was the Lake Braddock Secondary School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, led by Lt. Col. Dwight Lomax, a senior army instructor from Woodbridge. The four-student group, attired in their handsome military uniforms, raised high both the United States and Virginia flags for the ceremonies. The playing of the national anthem followed.

"It's a great opportunity to come out here, socialize and be a part of this great community event," said Lomax.

Then it was time for the morning's main event — the varsity races.

"It's the fastest Sophie has ever run here."

— Lake Braddock co-head coach Mike Mangan, on girls' runner Sophie Chase

THE LAKE BRADDOCK GIRLS' team (122 points) received an outstanding outing from sophomore Sophie Chase, who finished first overall in a field of 182 girls' runners. Her winning time

was 17 minutes, 32 seconds. Edison's Myah Hicks finished second and Jefferson's Lisa Junta was third.

"It's the fastest Sophie has ever run here," said Mike Mangan, the Bruins' co-head coach. "She did a great job and went out under control. She pushed real hard in the middle and end [race portions] and was just awesome."

Chase, as a freshman last year, helped the Bruins put together a marvelous postseason run with a second place team finish at the Patriot District Champi-



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock's Sophie Chase, who finished third at the Virginia State AAA Championships last year, earned first place honors at last Saturday's Monroe Parker Invitational meet at Burke Lake Park.

SEE LAKE BRADDOCK, PAGE 13

Stallions Get Into the Win Column

South County rolls over Washington-Lee.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Some of the bitter taste resulting from South County's season opener football loss to Chantilly two weeks ago was lessened a bit following the Stallions' 42-7 bounce-back victory over Washington-Lee (Arlington) last Friday night.

The Stallions (1-1), playing their home opener, overwhelmed the Generals, members of the National District, with a 28-point second quarter that put the home team ahead at halftime, 35-0.

South County quarterback Jacob Josephs tossed for one touchdown and ran for another in the breakout second quarter. The scoring toss was a 14-yard strike to Ronny Vandyke to make the score 14-0. Later in the half, the QB scored on a 30-yard run. For the game, Josephs completed seven-of-12 passes for 107 yards and the touchdown, while also rushing for 115 yards and two

scores on nine carries.

On top of his scoring catch, Vandyke, a senior wide-out on offense and a member of the secondary on defense, scored two defensive touchdowns in the first half, a 17 yard interception return for a score, and a seven yard fumble return.

Also scoring a touchdown in the win for South County was junior running back Andrew Rector, who scored from 12 yards out in the second quarter. The Stallions also received solid games from senior running back Joe Winbush (six carries, 42 yards) and junior Ryan Taylor (three catches, 44 yards).

South County had lost its season opener at Chantilly, 28-13, on Sept. 2. That was a difficult loss for a Stallions team that made the playoffs last year and wanted to get off to a fast start this season with a week one quality win. And while it didn't happen, the Stallions, under head coach Pete Bendorf, came out strong against a lesser talented

W-L squad in week two.

South County will be on the road on Thursday night, Sept. 16 against the Annandale Atoms (1-1), who are coming off a 35-0 home win over Falls Church.

THE FAIRFAX REBELS pulled off a big early season upset by defeating visiting Robinson Secondary last Friday night, 20-12.

With the win, Fairfax, which had lost its season opener a week earlier to Woodson, 29-14, improved to 1-1. It was the program's first win under new head coach Kevin Simonds, who served as a Fairfax football assistant coach and the head JV coach from 2004 through 2009.

"Robinson is a very well known, well coached program that has sustained [its winning ways] for many years," said Simonds, who said he was more pleased for his players than for himself in notching his first win as head coach at the school. "You know you will get a good fight from Robinson. You have to go in a game like

that knowing you can be successful and win."

The Rebels and Rams (1-1) were tied at halftime, 6-6, and Fairfax held a slim 13-12 lead after three quarters. The game's only touchdown came in the final quarter on a 66-yard scoring run by Marcus Bailey with about 4 minutes left. Following the point-after kick by senior Kevin Playuk, Fairfax led 20-12 and went on to the win.

Bailey, on the touchdown, scored off a misdirection play. A similar play had nearly broken free for Fairfax and Bailey earlier in the game, but a Robinson lineman had made a terrific tackle to stop it.

"It was one of those plays you keep in the back of your mind [to use again]," said Simonds. "Marcus came to me after that first one and said, 'Give it to me again, we can break it.'"

When the coach went to it again late in the game, Bailey took it all the way for the score that gave the Rebels a little more

SEE SOUTH COUNTY, PAGE 13

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SPORTS

Lake Braddock Cross Country

FROM PAGE 12

onships, a team title at the Northern Region Championships and a third place showing at the Virginia State AAA Championships. Chase finished third, second and third, respectively at those three playoff meets.

The talented Lake Braddock runner had plenty of outstanding support from her teammates at Saturday's Monroe showcase. The Bruins had three runners, including Chase, finish among the top 30 runners. While Chase was the lone Lake Braddock runner to earn a top 15 medal, the team received fine outings from senior Tara Landy (18th overall) and senior Anna Markowitz (26th). Rounding out the Bruins' top six finishers were senior Casey Laedner (41st), senior Jessi Bourneuf (46th), junior Courtney Lawson (58th) and senior Jessica Fisher (59th).

In the team standings, Lake Braddock finished behind champion Thomas Jefferson (44 points) and second place West Potomac (86). The third place Bruins finished ahead of fourth place Langley and fifth place West Springfield. In all, 23 girls' teams competed in the varsity race.

Earlier in the morning, Lake Braddock ninth grader Hannah Christen finished second place overall in the freshmen girls' race where the Bruins took third place team honors.

The South County girls' varsity squad finished 10th place overall. Sophomore Mary Cate Scully (34th) was the Stallions' top finisher. Other solid runs for South County came from senior Alyssa Campbell (64th), junior Briana Mumford (71st), junior Tara Dalrymple (76th) and junior Ashna Aggarwal (82nd).

ON THE BOYS' SIDE at Monroe, third place Lake Braddock tallied 141 team points in the boys' varsity race. The boys' team champion, among a field of 30 schools, was West Potomac (84), which finished ahead of second place South Lakes (116). The Bruins finished ahead of fourth place Jefferson (175) and fifth place Hayfield (206).

Leading Lake Braddock were seniors Sam Rubenking, who was second place overall with a time of 15:26, and Luke Sohl, who finished fifth at 15:37. The individual boys' champion was Chantilly sopho-



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

South County junior Dylan Morgan finished 16th place in the varsity boys' race at last Saturday's Monroe Parker Invitational.

more Sean McGorty, who timed at 15:17. Rubenking took second, ahead of Annandale's Ahmed Bile (third place) and Woodson's Paul Gates (fourth place).

Lake Braddock received good outings from senior Luke Levan (25th), junior Will Greenwood (48th), sophomore Nick Tuck (61st) and senior CJ Tragakis (75th).

South County, 14th place in the team standings, was led by junior Dylan Morgan, who finished 16th overall. Lee High School, 16th in the team standings, was led by senior Abraham Jacob, who earned a top 15 medal with his sixth place finish. Also for the Lancers, senior Jackson Henry finished 38th overall.

Lake Braddock Secondary School cross country coaches, from left, are 2003 Lake Braddock graduate Steve Hoogland, co-head coach's Jeff Custer and Mike Mangan, and Jason Switzer.



South County Wins

FROM PAGE 12

breathing room at 20-12.

"He has a third gear when he's being chased," said Simonds, of the 5-foot-11 inch, 200-pound Bailey, who can play either fullback or halfback. "After the touchdown he came up to me and told me, 'I told you coach.' It wasn't a sense of arrogance, but confidence."

Fairfax senior quarterback Spencer MacLeod completed seven-of-nine passes on the night for 104 yards. Two of his completions went to Sam Bechert (52 yards receiving).

MacLeod tossed a five yard scoring pass to Chris Robic (three catches, 38 yards) to open up the game's scoring at 6-0 in the first quarter. Later in the game, MacLeod scored on an 8-yard run in the third quarter. For the night, he rushed for 54 yards, second on the team to Bailey's 74.

Robinson scored both of its touchdowns on one yard runs by senior running back Jared Velasquez (23 carries, 89 yards), the first score coming in the second quarter and the latter one in the third quarter. Velasquez also caught two balls for 50 yards from quarterback Mike LoPresti.

Robinson, a week one winner over T.C. Williams, will host Marshall (1-1) on Thursday, Sept. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Marshall won its first game under new head coach Bill Laphorn last Friday night, defeating visiting Stuart, 17-8, to even its record at 1-1. The Statesmen, who trailed 8-7 at halftime, scored 10 points in the fourth quarter to win. Marshall rushed for over 200 yards as a team. Arthur Kaplow, a junior fullback, led the ground attack with 113 yards on 21 carries.

The Lancers were shut down by local rival and host team Hayfield, 28-0, last Friday night. The Hawks (2-0), who saw their season end with a playoff loss to Lee last year, scored a touchdown in each quarter on way to the victory.

Lee quarterback Quinntez Diggins completed four passes for 59 yards, and Lancer running back Donovan Taylor rushed for 67 yards. But the Hayfield defense, for the most part, shut the visiting team down.

Hayfield received a huge game from running back Justin Marshall, who ran for 121 yards on 21 carries with a second quarter touchdown run. Fellow back Steve Lynch added 74 yards on the ground. Hawks QB Jason Stewart (6-of-11, 142 yards) threw a pair of touchdowns to receiver Hayden Knudson (three catches, 98 yards). Also catching three balls for the Hawks was Wesley Scott (44 yards receiving).

Lee will travel to Woodson for a game on Thursday night. The Cavaliers are coming off a lopsided loss to Lake Braddock.

Hayfield, under head coach Roy Hill, was a week one winner over Marshall, 32-14, on Sept. 2. The Hawks will travel to Washington-Lee on Thursday, Sept. 16, for a 7:30 p.m. game.

Robinson Football Drops to 1-1

After blowing out T.C. Williams 35-2 in the season opener, Robinson head football coach Mark Bendorf stood on the field at Parker-Gray Stadium and warned the Rams about the team they would face the following week.

Turns out Bendorf knew what he was talking about.

Robinson lost to Fairfax 20-12 on Sept. 10, dropping the Rams' record to 1-1. Robinson led 12-6 early in the third quarter, but Fairfax took the lead for good with a touchdown and extra point in the final minute of the period. The Rebels added a touchdown in the fourth. Robinson looks to bounce back during its home opener against Marshall at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 16.

Against Fairfax, Jared Velasquez led Robinson with 89 yards rushing and two touchdowns in 23 carries. He also caught two passes for 50 yards. Joe Meier rushed six times for 18 yards. Mike LoPresti completed 2 of 9 passes for 50 yards.

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 10

TUESDAY/SEPT. 21

Lullaby Stories. 7 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Evening stories and activities. Pajamas and stuffed animals welcome. Age 1-5 with adult. Registration not required. 703-339-4610.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Practice and improve your English. Adults. 703-451-8055.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 22

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

Practice Your English. 10:15 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.

Llama Llama Misses Mama. 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Stories and activities. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-451-8055.

Travel Club. 1 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Bring lunch and enjoy lively discussion. Adults. 703-451-8055.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 23

Friends of Burke Centre Book Sale. 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

Authors Sandra Burt and Linda Perlis. 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. The authors of Fodor's Washington, D.C.

with Kids and Raising a Successful Child. Books available for sale and signing. 703-249-1520.

Little Red Riding Hood and the Frog Prince. 6:30 p.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Kaydee Puppets present "Little Red Riding Hood" and "The Frog Prince" All Ages. 703-971-0010.

Practice Your English. 7 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.

Fall Into Giving breakfast hosted by Our Daily Bread, Inc and the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce to help businesses located throughout Fairfax County become involved in helping struggling families in the community. Fairfax County Board Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) to speak. Admission: \$25 gift card to grocery or discount store, to be donated to families in ODB's Holiday Program. 7-9 a.m. at Rowland Conference Center, Fairfax County Department of Health, 10777 Main St., third floor. RSVP to info@ccfc.org. For information call 703-273-8829 or visit www.our-daily-bread.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 24

Friends of Burke Centre Book Sale. 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m. at Kingstowne Town Center, 5955 Kingstowne Center, Alexandria.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 25

Louise Bourgeois: The Spider, The Mistress and The Tangerine.

7:30 p.m. in Gallery W-16, Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A cinematic journey inside the life and imagination of an icon of modern art. 703-584-2900.

Friends of Burke Centre Book Sale. 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

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

SUNDAY/SEPT. 26

Canoe the Marsh With a Naturalist. 8 a.m. at Pohick Bay Regional Park, Gunston Road, Lorton. Age 16 and up. \$25 per person. Reserve at 703-528-5406.

Lorton Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton.

Elisabeth von Trapp Concert. 7 p.m. at Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. The granddaughter of Maria and Baron von Trapp, with a repertoire that ranges from Bach to Broadway, Schubert to Sting. 703-971-5151 or www.franconiaumc.org.

MONDAY/SEPT. 27

Read to the Dog. 4:30-5:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Read to a reading therapy dog. Register for one 15-minute slot. Age 6-12 with adult. 703-339-4610.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 28

Sweet Dreams. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Nighttime stories and songs. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

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Last Parkway Link Now Open

FROM PAGE 3

1970s.

As Fairfax County chairman in the 1980s, Jack Herry became one of the road's biggest champions.

"He had the vision to see that road. He did a lot of good things," said Elaine McConnell, who served as Springfield District Supervisor from 1984 to 2008.

THE FAIRFAX PARKWAY may be popular today but there was fierce opposition to it in the early days of its construction, said several elected officials.

Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield) remembers accompanying his father, Jack Herry, to a public hearing about the parkway's construction at West Springfield High School in the 1980s.

"There were 500 people there who wanted his head because he wanted to build the parkway," said Pat Herry.

Bulova, who joined the board in the 1980s, said many residents worried that the parkway would encourage growth in their semi-rural parts of the county. Several of the residents and businesses that were forced to relocate because they were in the path of the road were also unhappy.

"We started taking people's backyards and a lot of people had to sell their homes to us," said McConnell.

The parkway's construction also progressed slowly, with a few miles, often disconnected from other parts of the roadway, being built at a time.

"I spent, like, 15 years of my life on the parkway. I had one member of my staff who worked only one the parkway for eight to 10 years," said McConnell.

Given the size of the construction project, a couple of snafus occurred along the way. At one point, the plans for the highway called for it to go right through the shopping center on the corner of the parkway and Huntsman Boulevard, said McConnell.

The former supervisor worked with the Virginia Department of Transportation to move its path slightly west, since the shopping center, particularly its grocery store, was desperately needed, she said.

According to McConnell, a real estate developer also already started pouring foundations for a new housing development before the county discovered

that the homes would be in the parkway's path. Fairfax had to compensate the builder for his losses, she said.

Finally, an oil spill and the responsibility of clean up stalled the final segment of the parkway from being constructed for the better part of the past decade, said Herry.

THE DEPARTMENT of Defense's decision to move the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency to federally-owned near Interstate 95 in Springfield ultimately pushed the project into completion. Approximately 8,500 employees are moving from offices in the Reston area to new space on the Springfield site and the finished parkway will help with traffic absorption in the area.

Though the final leg of the roadway has opened, not all aspects of the project have wrapped. Federal stimulus money is paying for a \$27-million interchange at Boudinot Drive and a \$23-million interchange at Rolling Road and the Franconia-Springfield Parkway will get under way in the next few weeks.

"If there ever was a shovel ready project, this was it," said Bulova.

Herry said there is also an outstanding matter with northbound access from Rolling Road to the Fairfax County Parkway. Three lanes of traffic are expected to merge into a one-lane ramp, according to the supervisor.

"Everybody recognizes this is a problem," said Herry, who has secured money from the county to plan for the ramp's expansion. He said a larger ramp will cost \$25 million overall.

There are other parts of the parkway's original design that officials would like to see come to fruition. For example, McConnell would like the thoroughfare to be widened from four to six lanes along the entire 35-mile route.

Initial plans also called for separately graded intersections, so that there was no need for stop lights along the road. McConnell said there was particularly fierce opposition to building interchanges along the roadway, since it would have required the government to seize more private land.

Video Propels Teen to Contest

FROM PAGE 3

Mataloni said he got the idea while watching a travel documentary about Denver International Airport. "They used a fiberglass enclosure that was as solid as concrete. When a hole gets poked in it, it stays the same size. The dome shape of the enclosure I proposed is aerodynamic which would hold up really well against hurricane winds," he said. "It's my first time entering in a competition like this, I still can't believe I've gotten this far."

The Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge is a nationwide competition conducted annually since 1999 that accepts entries from students in grades 5-8. The organization then narrows all entries down to 10 finalists who then travel to New York City to compete in three separate competitions that test their scientific problem solving and improvisational innovation skills.

The first competition involves communicating with other scientists to find a comprehensive solution to a given problem. The second phase requires the con-

testants to work with scientific instruments to demonstrate that they are able to identify and operate the appropriate tools given a specific task. The third and final phase of the competition is the Innovation Challenge. Contestants are given a box of 3M products including scotch tape, post-it notes, and common medical supplies that must be used to come up with a solution to a common household problem. Contestants are evaluated on their performance at each stage of the challenge. The contestant who receives the most points receives the grand prize of a \$50,000 U.S. Savings bond, a trip to the 3M World Headquarters, a trophy commemorating their achievement, and, of course, the title of "America's Top Young Scientist".

Mataloni has been interested in science as long as he can remember, especially aeronautics. Having flown alongside his uncle in a small plane through the Kentucky sky during his childhood, he has had a passion in aeronautics for a long time. "I want to work with planes and create new designs for aircraft. I want to be a pilot too," he said.

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ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Tap dancers from South Riding Dance Academy please the crowd with their festive costumes and routine.



Fraternidad Cultural Pachamama, a Bolivian folklore group was, founded in Washington, D.C. in 2000.

Rhythm of the Globe

International Children's Festival comes back to Wolf Trap.

On Saturday, Aug. 28, The Arts Council of Fairfax County gave a preview of the upcoming International Children's Festival, Sept. 18 -19. The audience was treated to dances from around the globe, from Bolivian Folk Dance and Indian Classical Dance to Egyptian and Persian Dance, to a classic cancan. Children in the audience tried to mimic the moves of the performers – while some of the more enthusiastic tried to join the groups performing on the stage.

Families from the Washington Metropolitan area will be able to enjoy the art of music, dance, performance and crafts at the Festival held at Wolf Trap. Youth performers from Mexico and Poland, as well as more than 60 local cultural groups, will display beautiful costumes, breathtaking performances and

40th annual International Children's Festival

WHEN: Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 18 and 19, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Rain or Shine!

WHERE: Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna

WHO: The event is open to the public. The Festival is produced by the Arts Council of Fairfax County in cooperation with the National Park Service and the Wolf Trap Foundation for Performing Arts.

COST: Free for children 2 and under, \$8 for children and seniors and \$12 for adults, weekend passes available

an appreciation of traditions and customs from around the world. The diversity of the Washington region will be reflected in the performers, shows, arts, crafts, hands-on learning experiences, audiences, and all the activities throughout the Park.

For more information about the International Children's Festival, go to internationalchildrensfestival.org.



Dancers from the Virginia Ballet Company and School stretch before their performance. From left: Jessie Strong of Springfield, Gwynneth Lau of Springfield, Layna Lamons of Burke, Sarah Friedlander of Fairfax, and Courtney Johnson of Burke.

The Fairfax Corner Grand Plaza is full of people enjoying the modern dance routine of dances from South Riding Dance Academy.



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Centreville \$565,000
Gracious Colonial on Large Lot
Well maintained, clean 4 BR, 3.5 BA home on .6 acres backing to woods. Enjoy nature and entertain from large deck off back of home. Terrific neighborhood. Convenient to I66.
Barbara Nowak 703-503-1803
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Fairfax Station \$849,990
Superstar! Refreshing design in one-level living! Sited on park-like, 5-acre lot, a 4-BR custom blend of Amer contemporary & Eng country. High-end mouldings, ceilings, skylts, hdwoods. 1st lvl: Soaring Foyer, formal DR, stunning LR w/Fireplace & deck, FR w/FP & wetbar; gourmet+Kit, Brkfst area w/Porch & 3 BR's. On its own lvl: A must-see Master retreat!
Carol Ford 703-503-4027



Springfield \$479,500
Retreat on Quiet St.
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Lake Anna \$619,900
Waterfront Home
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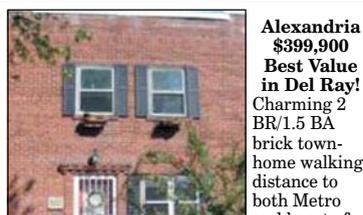
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Herndon \$299,900
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Lake Anna \$374,500
Waterfront Townhouse
End Unit with 2 bedrooms & 2 remodeled baths, steam shower in master. Outstanding water views from 3 sides. Covered boat slip w/ lift & jetski ramp.
Toni McQuair 703-795-2697



Alexandria \$399,900
Best Value in Del Ray!
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Clifton \$699,000
Stylishly chic, renovated 4BR/3BA rambler in private, picturesque setting. Inviting open living spaces are enhanced by Brazilian Tigerwood floors, stone fireplace, skylights, and designer paint. The expansive walk-out lower level features rec room w/fireplace, bedroom, bath & plenty of storage.
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Fairfax City \$488,900
Wow ... what a transformation! Sophisticated & innovative custom renovation has taken place for this Country Club Hills home! Now featuring 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, large master bedroom with huge walk-in-closet, sky-lit sun-room addition, exquisite kitchen with granite counters, maple cabinets; refinished hardwood floors and window walled living & dining rooms. Enormous walkout family room with the second of 2 fireplaces; & both baths are brand new! Completely redone to satisfy the most discriminating purchaser!
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Lake Anna \$379,999
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Clifton \$929,900
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Clifton \$935,000
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Fairfax Station \$599,900

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Fairfax Station \$795,000

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Fairfax Station \$1,175,000

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Fairfax \$349,900

1.5 acre building lot located just minutes from charming Clifton and while convenient this gently rolling lot is located in a lovely, private wooded setting with a small stream. Ancient black walnut trees dot the property and there are several excellent choices for siting a home.

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