

Burke  
**CONNECTION**



# Winter Worker

NEWS, PAGE 3

A squirrel seems unaffected by last week's snow and ice at Burke Lake Park.

## 'Teen Killed At Local Park

NEWS, PAGE 3

## Collecting Coats For Charity

NEWS, PAGE 3



# Best Wishes For The Holidays



**THE CONNECTION**  
to your community

Alexandria  
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**THE CONNECTION**

Potomac  
ALMANAC  
CENTREVIEW

## Friends Remember Babi as 'Brilliant, Genuine'

**Teen's murder in Burke park comes with more questions than answers.**

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**I**t was barely more than 20 degrees on Monday, Dec. 20, when two head-scarved women pressed their torsos into the ice-covered ground of Silas Burke Park and started to wail with uncontrollable grief for the death of 19 year-old Jahed Ahmad Babi. Babi was found dead in the park with trauma to his upper body, according to the police.

In little more than pajama pants and long-sleeved cotton shirts, the women spent several minutes stretched out across the frozen ground in front of candles, flowers and photos laid of Babi that night.

The mourning was part of a much larger vigil that lasted several hours at the park's entrance, despite the bone-chilling temperatures. Nearly 100 people came to pay their respects to the teen, whose family had originally emigrated from Afghanistan and had lived in Burke for several years.



**"My mom set him up as a good example of what I should to aspire to."**

— Abraham Wehelie

though detectives also believe the murder is also an "isolated event," according to a press release. The police have stated that Babi had "trauma to the upper body" and many those attending the vigil believed he had been shot.

At the time of his death, Babi was enrolled in classes at Northern Virginia Community College and worked at Giant Food in the Kings Park shopping center, said friends.

He had also taken a recent interest in business and information technology, said Salman Malik, a family friend.

"I remember, he won a presidential award for getting really good grades when I was in elementary school," said Abraham Wehelie, whose older brother became friends with Babi in grade school. "My mom set him up as a good example of what I should to aspire to."

Many friends also described Babi as genuine and kind, the type of person who really cared about this friends.

SEE BURKE TEEN, PAGE 5

**Family and other loved ones have set up a make-shift shrine to Jahed Ahmad Babi, 19, in Silas Burke Park. Babi, who lived up the street, was found dead in the park from a suspected murder a little after noon on Dec. 19.**

Several people who spoke during the vigil described Babi as being exceptionally smart, the type of person who still received A's even when he didn't attend class regularly. According to his friends, he graduated from Lake Braddock a year early.

A passerby discovered Babi's body in the

small Burke park located at the end of a quiet residential street on Dec. 19. Babi's family lives in a single-family home on a few hundred yards from the park's entrance, according to police reports.

The Fairfax County Police Department suspect Babi's death to be a homicide,

## Burke Shopping Center Sponsors Coat Drive



**Three merchants collect coats for local charity.**

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**P**otomac River Running already collects old shoes from customers and donates them to needy communities in Africa, so the local store was glad to participate in a coat drive sponsored by the Burke Centre Shopping Center merchants association this holiday season.

"We've had 20 to 30 jackets turned in already and one guy dropped off six coats yesterday," said Chris Jakubek, the running store's manager.

In addition to Potomac River Running, citizens can also donate new and gently-used coats through two other drop-off baskets found in The UPS Store and Five Star Jewelers, located in the strip mall on Burke Centre Parkway. The coat drive, which is already underway, will last through Jan. 3.

"We wanted to do something community oriented and we had money in our budget for the advertising," said Toby Fitzkee, owner of Five Star Jewelers and an officer in the merchants association.

**Potomac River Running manager Chris Jakubek holds up a coat that has been donated through the Burke Centre Shopping Center coat drive.**

The shopping center plans to give the coats to Ecumenical Community Helping Others, Inc. (ECHO, Inc.), a Springfield charity that assists local people in need.

Gently used coats include those that are not dirty or torn and coats that are too worn already will not be accepted, said Meg Brantley, the organization's executive director.

Brantley said ECHO always has a need for boys and girls coats. Adults may hold on to the same coat for several seasons but many children need a new jacket on an annual basis.

"Boys and girls are always growing and they lose their coats very easily," said Brantley.

ECHO has a special need for coats that would fit male teenagers.

"We find it most difficult to put coats on our boys. We usually need more small men's coats," she said.

According to Fitzkee, the Burke shopping

**"We've had 20 to 30 jackets turned in already and one guy dropped off six coats yesterday."**

— Chris Jakubek

SEE COAT, PAGE 5

# PEOPLE



Holly Senn, of the Child Life Department of the Fairfax Hospital for Children pushes the cart of toys Santa brought to the hospital to give out to the children.



Deputy D. Redmon of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, is an honorary elf, helping Santa sort toys for the children.



Santa, Mrs. Claus, Rudolph and Frosty, with some of their friends from the Fairfax County Police Motor Squad, and volunteers arrive at Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children. Santa had to forgo the motorcycle because of the impending snow.

## Spreading Holiday Cheer

### Santa and his friends Visit Inova Fairfax.

**S**anta and Mrs. Claus, Frosty, Rudolph and some of their friends from the Fairfax County Police Motor Squad and the Fairfax County Sheriff's office made a visit to the Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children on Thursday, Dec. 16.

Started as a philanthropic effort among the Fairfax County Motor Squad, Santa's Ride has become a countywide toy drive involving more than 100 volunteers from several local law enforcement agencies.

For several weeks in late November and early December, donation sites at police sta-

tions and at designated elementary schools in each of the eight districts in Fairfax County collect new, unwrapped gifts. Santa, on a motorcycle, weather permitting, with his police escort and a box truck, visits the elementary schools that collected presents and thanks the children involved, and then turns around and delivers them to the children in need. This year, Santa and his friends delivered them to Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children, the Georgetown Lombardi Cancer Center, the Ronald McDonald House, the Reston E.I.S.H. and children at Mount Calvary Baptist Church.



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Officer Estrella looks at a fire truck set with Warrick Wolf of Alexandria.



Alex Salmoran of Alexandria might be a little overwhelmed by Santa and his crew, but he was thrilled by the visit.



Skylar Stott and his grandfather Wesley Stott, of Spotsylvania, pose with some of Santa's escort.



Owen Wicks of Bristow celebrates his 15th birthday. He poses with Santa, Mrs. Claus and the crew.

# NEWS



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

Merchants say the Burke Centre Shopping Centre coat drive has been very successful.

## Coat Drive for ECHO

FROM PAGE 3

center's coat drive has been very successful so far.

At his own shop, Fitzkee had to start keeping some of the donated coats in the back storage area because the drop-off box at the front of his shop had started to overflow. ECHO has also come by to do pick up coats from the drop-off boxes three or four times already, he said.

"We have had a good response. I am pretty sure will do this again," said Fitzkee.

## Burke Teen Murdered

FROM PAGE 3

"His personality was genuine. He always thought about his friends more than himself and that was actually his problem," said Wehelie.

During the vigil, several friends referenced to Babi turning a corner over the past couple of weeks. Others made references to him making a change for the better recently, especially since he had gotten past his "court dates."

According to online court documents, Babi was convicted in abstentia in Fairfax County District Court in 2009 of misdemeanor possession of marijuana and received a \$250 fine.

Several said that it seemed unfair for his life to be taken, when he was on the cusp of moving in such a positive direction.



PHOTO BY MIKE MCKEE

## Connolly Celebrates Election Victory

On Dec. 10, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) and his supporters celebrated Connolly's re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives at Fairfax's Old Town Hall. Connolly said that principles and integrity would not be forgotten and that he would remain available at all times to his constituents. The food was devoured, the crowd appreciated the vocal stylings of Erica Ovette and the Stolen Moments.

# How would you like state of the art LASER dentistry without drills or needles?

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By incorporating laser technology into our dental practice, we are changing dentistry. It is no longer yesterday's world of painful shots, large silver mercury fillings, and fearful patients. Lasers have improved the lives of patients and their dentists.

Technology is something that makes life better. Better in this case is better clinical results, improved patient comfort, less use of anesthesia and antibiotics.

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# OPINION

## Merry Christmas, Happy New Year

We wish our readers, our clients and everyone who lives, works, studies, plays, shops or pursues their avocations here all the best over this holiday week and beyond into the New Year. Thank you for making the Connection a part of your week, a part of your year.

This is our last news edition of 2010; next week shortly after Christmas, readers will receive the Children's Connection our traditional issue devoted to the writing and artwork of local children and teens.

In the meantime, we are looking for input on New Year's resolutions. Share one or more of the resolutions you will make for 2011, or tell us about a past resolution and how you approached it, for better or worse. Do you have some tips to share for achieving your goals? Send us 50-200 words, and please share a photo as well. We'll print selections in our first issue of the New Year, Jan. 5-12, 2011.

Send your submissions to [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com).

Another opportunity to be a part of the Connection: The Pet Connection will publish on

## Seniors Active In Community

To the Editor:

Thank you very much for a joyous article on the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls ["Dance Fever," Burke Connection, Dec. 16-22, 2010].

I am writing to add that many of the seniors present at the Dec. 14 Holiday Party of the senior center without walls have provided great service to our community. In particular, let me call your attention to Grant Ichikawa, 92, resident of Fairfax County since 1955

and shown in the photo between Susie Thomas, line dancing instructor extraordinaire, and myself.

Ichikawa was one of the honored guests at the signing ceremony with President Obama on Oct. 5, for the legislation awarding the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor to him and other Japanese American Veterans of WWII.

Ichikawa served our nation as a Veteran of WWII and the Korean War. He then served as a CIA officer in several countries and was one of those evacuated out of Vietnam on April 30, 1975.

Since then, he has been involved in numerous community service programs for Fairfax County primarily to assist our nation's veterans. I should add that he has generously shared his life story as part of the Fairfax County Talk Stories

Feb. 2, 2011, send us photos of you and your pet by Jan. 20.

## Alternatives to Drinking and Driving

A recent ride-along with a Northern Virginia police officer gave Connection reporter Alex McVeigh a chance to convey some of the methods and mission to get drunk drivers off the road. (See Getting Drunk Drivers Off the Streets, in Dec. 15's Reston Connection, <http://connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=346976&paper=71&cat=104>)

Among other things on the night of the ride-along, the officer encountered an apparently drunk driver who had fallen asleep behind the wheel waiting to make a right turn, his car running, his turn signal blinking and vomit evident down the outside of the driver's side door.

It's enough to make you want to stay home.

With the season for holiday parties comes the increased incidence of driving under the influence, with drunk driving arrests up more than 70 percent compared to other times of

year. In 2010, Fairfax County Police have investigated more than 660 alcohol related accidents. In 2008 in Fairfax County, there were more than 3,100 arrests for driving under the influence.

In Arlington, 677 arrests. In Alexandria, 515 arrests. In the City of Fairfax, 181 arrests.

Don't take the risk. Plan ahead, leave your car at home, take public transportation, arrange for a designated driver, or choose to abstain if a designated driver isn't available.

But if you find yourself in the unfortunate position of drinking without a safe way home on your own this holiday season, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program has provided you with a safety net called SoberRide. Take their number with you when you head out, and be sure any young adults (must be 21 or over) in your family are similarly armed.

WRAP's 2010 Holiday SoberRide program is available now through 6 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 1, 2011. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294. You must be 21 or older. (Callers are responsible for anything over \$30.)

— MARY KIMM

[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)



On Oct. 5, Grant Ichikawa, 92, was one of the Japanese American veterans to receive a Congressional Gold Medal of Honor. Ichikawa is shown here to the left of President Obama.

sponsored by the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls. It is perhaps worth noting that Grant Ichikawa was one of the 120,000 Japanese Americans who were interned in WWII for having Japanese ancestry — an unconstitutional act for which President Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 that provided a Presidential apology and redress for Japanese Americans.

It is wonderful to see our seniors have fun at the holiday party of the senior center without walls, as

well as to remember and honor the many years of service that seniors, like Ichikawa, have provided to their families, to Fairfax County, and to our nation.

**Corazon Sandoval Foley**  
Burke

## Creationism Vs. Evolution

To the Editor:

Many argue that teaching cre-

ationism in schools violates our First Amendment rights and the principle of keeping church and state separate. If both ideas were taught in the classroom, the school would not be favoring one or the other but simply teaching two theories of how life came to be on the Earth. Did a higher being create us with a purpose for the world or did we randomly evolve?

Both creationism and evolution should be taught in public schools.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7

## THE CONNECTION

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## OPINION

FROM PAGE 6

Instead of all of the debate about which single one should or should not be taught. There should be an introduction of both theories. In this way, each individual could come to his or her own conclusion about each of the theories and which one he or she chooses to believe. It is important for students to learn and know where and how human life formed. And if parents oppose exposing their children being to such ideas, they could opt their children out of that portion of the class in the same way a child can be opted out of sex education.

The U.S. Supreme Court has decided that it is unconstitutional to prohibit a teacher's right to teach evolution, but in public schools it can be taught only as scientific fact. Teaching creationism is entirely off lim-

### LETTERS

its. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that it is unconstitutional to require teachers who teach evolution to also teach creationism. In public school science classes, educators may only teach scientific explanations for life on Earth. Creationism is can only be discussed in comparative religion classes as an example of how some religious groups believe life began on Earth. It may not however, be taught as scientific fact, like evolution is. Teaching both would open students' minds to both theories. Merriam Webster defines "faith" as: a belief that is not based on truth. Neither creationism nor evolution can be proved, which is why they are theories. So it is safe to say that believing in either one requires faith.

Ana Guerra, student  
Northern Virginia Community College

### 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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# 'I Feel Blessed To Have Survived'

**After a heart attack at 36, WJLA reporter, Robinson Secondary grad Jennifer Donelan faces 'new normal.'**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

**W**ednesday, Sept. 8, was both the worst day of WJLA reporter Jennifer's Donelan's life—and the luckiest.

At 5:45 p.m., just as Donelan was wrapping up a live-shot in Washington, D.C., she started to have trouble breathing. She felt a crushing pressure and pain inside her chest, and her left arm went numb.

Terrified and confused, the 36-year-old crime reporter asked her live-truck operator, Bruce Bookhultz, to call 911.

Within minutes, Donelan was being transported to the emergency room at Washington Hospital Center.

"I'm 36-years-old. I'm having a heart attack, but, and this is what I think about now, the stars aligned for me that day," Donelan said, now back to work at WJLA part-time as she continues daily cardiac rehab.

There were so many ways that her crisis could have turned fatal fast.

On a typical day, Jennifer would have headed home immediately after her story aired.

"By 5:30, I would usually be in my car, stuck in D.C. traffic, or at home by myself." However, she received a message that the mayor's office was going to make a statement regarding her story, so she waited for the call. "I was not supposed to be there around people who could call 911. I was where I needed to be exactly when I needed to be there. I think angels were watching over me that day," she said.

Hunched over in pain, crying and praying for the medics to get there quickly, Donelan had another "lucky" moment.

Renaldo Bell, a medic for 12 years with D.C. Fire and EMS, responded to the call that day, even though his shift had officially ended.

"Normally, I would not be on that truck that day, but I happened to have a rare opportunity for overtime, and I'm glad I took it that day," Bell said.

When he saw Donelan, Bell said he quickly recognized the signs of a heart attack.

"She presented with a lot of the classic signs. She was clutching her chest, she was in a lot of pain, she was agitated and anxious and she couldn't sit still. She also had that look of impending doom on her face," Bell said. "Her age wasn't even a factor, because I had seen that look before. We couldn't get a proper set of vitals on her, so I just told the driver to load and roll. At this point, literally every second counts." Bell administered baby aspirin and nitro-glycerin, standard protocol when treating a heart-attack victim.

"The paramedic took me seriously. He treated me like I was having a heart attack," Donelan said, adding that one of the first responders, perhaps because of her age, kept asking her if she was allergic to pollen.

**WITHIN 5 MINUTES**, Donelan was wheeled into the emergency room at Washington Hospital Center, one of a handful of hospitals in the area that has a first-rate cardiac response team ready 24-hours a day.

"They pull me into WHC, thank God, and I'm crying and I'm sweating, throwing up ... and so many things are going through my mind. I'm scared. I'm thinking I don't want to die alone, without my family," Donelan said.

The doctor immediately hooked up Donelan to an electrocardiogram (EKG), and told her what she feared most: she is having a heart attack.

"I'll never forget the look on his face. From that moment, everything changes. Things are happening so fast. They call 'Code Heart'



ence teacher, who raised Jennifer and her younger brother, John Watson with the belief that anything was possible. She graduated from Robinson Secondary School in 1992, where she was student council president, voted "most likely to succeed," and a cheerleader, among other accomplishments.

She attended the University of Virginia, where she decided her dream was to become a reporter in the highly-competitive world of broadcast journalism.

"She's always been a go-getter, always reaching for the stars, and she has grasped several," Maryanne Donelan said, adding that it's not at all surprising to her that her daughter is moving forward and determined to turn her medical crisis into a way to help others.

"She's always been very friendly, and always compassionate to other people. I remember when she first went to middle school, she walked around with an address book, getting names and numbers because she wanted new friends," said Maryanne Donelan, laughing at the memory.

"She thought of us as the Three Musketeers. 'All for one and one for all,'" said Maryanne Donelan. "We're very close, and we support each other."

She said that she never thought she would be worried about her daughter's health.

"I thought the reverse would be true. This puts everything else into perspective. I will never forget being at the hospital, and hearing them call Code Heart, knowing it was for Jennifer and that she was having a heart attack. I felt so helpless. It's not something a mother ever wants to hear," Maryanne Donelan said.

Jennifer Donelan's quest to understand the reasons behind her rare heart attack, which doctors say is probably a combination of lifestyle, stress and genetics, has also led her to focus on heart health and women.

"Someone said to me 'maybe this heart attack isn't about you, maybe it's about somebody else,'" said Jennifer Donelan. "OK, I'm good with that, because maybe I can help somebody else.' It makes me feel less sorry for myself."

Advocating for women and educating them about heart health has become a passion. "We all think pink, which is great, but we also need to go red," she said.

She said when WJLA asked her to share her story, she was concerned about revealing a secret that has embarrassed her for years.

"For the whole story to be told, I had to come clean about being a smoker. I know how much smoking did not help my situation, and I can tell you that when I was on all fours praying and crying on the street, I

**"The paramedic took me seriously. He treated me like I was having a heart attack."**

— Jennifer Donelan

## Women and Heart Health

Heart disease isn't just a man's disease. Heart attack, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases are devastating to women, too. In fact, coronary heart disease, which causes heart attack, is the single leading cause of death for American women. According to the American Heart Association, nearly twice as many women in the United States die of heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases as from all forms of cancer, including breast cancer.

Since 1984, the number of cardiovascular disease (CVD) deaths for females has exceeded those for males.

In 2006, CVD was the cause of death in nearly 500,000 women. Females represent 52.1 percent of deaths from CVD.

Sixty-four percent of women who died suddenly of coronary heart disease had no previous symptoms.

Each year, about 55,000 more women than men have a stroke. This is because the average life expectancy for women is greater than for men, and the highest rates for stroke are in the oldest age group.

In the United States in 2006, all cardiovascular diseases combined claimed the lives of 432,709 females while all forms of cancer combined to kill 269,819 females. Breast cancer claimed the lives of 40,821 females; lung cancer claimed 69,385 women.

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

## HEALTH & FITNESS

# Surviving a Heart Attack

FROM PAGE 8

vowed I would never smoke again," she said. And she has kept that promise to herself.

WJLA aired a three-part story — "The day every second counted" — on Nov. 1-3.

She also vowed to reach out to organizations like the American Heart Association

and Heart Health, and make herself available to talk about healthy lifestyles.

"I feel blessed to have survived. I feel like I need to share my story, and advocate for women and heart health," Jennifer Donelan said.

In fact, the day she was interviewed, Jennifer Donelan spoke to a group of 50 local high school students about leading healthy

lifestyles for the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a joint venture between the American Heart Association and the Clinton Foundation.

While she still worries about the angina pains she continues to have, and the specter of suffering another heart attack, Jennifer Donelan is beginning to rebuild her life and regain her sense of self.

WJLA station manager Bill Lord stops by her desk, which is covered with flowers and cards from well-wishers, to chat. "You know," Jennifer Donelan said, smiling "he's

the one who told me that the day after my heart attack, everyone in the newsroom was eating salads."

"She's educating all of us about heart health," Lord said

After spending three hours being interviewed by a reporter, one of WJLA's publicists, Abby Fenton, reminds Jennifer Donelan that she has about 15 minutes before they have to leave for her speaking engagement. As she walks out of the newsroom, one reporter calls "Hey Jen! When can we stop being nice to you?"

**GRIEF SHARE**

### Grief Share Classes

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## COMMUNITY

# Group Helps To Expand Their Horizons

JCC, JSSA team up to provide social group for young adults with Asperger's Syndrome.

BY AMBER HEALY  
THE CONNECTION

**R**obin Weisman knows her son, Corey, is an outgoing person who loves talking with his friends.

But through his involvement with Going Places!, an activity group organized by the Jewish Social Services Agency and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, Corey has blossomed into a confident, social and happy young man, eager for the group's monthly outings and to see the friends he's made there.

"He just loves it," she said. "His designated role with the group, he introduces new members because he knows so many of the people there."

Going Places! is an activities group for young adults with Asperger's Syndrome, a condition on the autism spectrum in which people may have difficulties understanding social cues and therefore have trouble interacting with others.

The club has been around for a few years, said Dawn Kaye, a clinical social worker



**Earlier this month, members of Going Places! attended a holiday dinner at Choices by Shawn restaurant in the City of Fairfax. The group gets together monthly for an outing, ranging from bowling to mini-golf to painting pottery.**

with JSSA in Fairfax. There are 25-30 people who gather for the monthly events at the JCC, and the activity each month could be any one of a number of things — in the past, the group has gone bowling or painting pottery; earlier this month, the group went to a holiday lunch at Choices by Shawn, a

restaurant in the City of Fairfax.

For the young adults, between the ages of 18 and 30, their involvement in Going Places! might be the first social club they've felt comfortable joining, Kaye said.

"It might be the first time they are meeting friends and getting together outside the

**"This group has enhanced his relationships with people."**

— Robin Weisman

group," she said. "Some have gained so much confidence, they've gotten jobs. Our group has really bonded, they look forward to getting together each month because it's a supportive environment."

Kaye said she runs a social skills therapy group with JSSA, but felt there were limits to the skills her clients to learn and master in that setting. Establishing a group where people get together and go out to restaurants, on hiking or paddling expeditions, and can feel confident and comfortable seemed the next logical step.

"The JCC provides staff and special education specialists, and each month we meet at their facility," Kaye said. But a person doesn't have to be Jewish to participate, she said. The group is non-denominational and is open to anyone with Asperger's.

The outings are organized in such a way that if someone needs to take a few minutes to sit alone, that's all right, Kaye said. Social workers accompany the group as well, so there's someone to talk to if one of the participants needs some assistance.

SEE GROUP, PAGE 14

## Family Keeps Memory of Drunk-Driving Victim Alive

**Friends, family raise money for memorial scholarship.**

BY LISA GILLESPIE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**wo years ago on a November evening, a Cameron Schlifke of Fairfax was driving to pick his friends up on a Friday night. He wasn't drinking. He was the designated driver for his college fraternity.

At a stoplight, a car slammed into the rear of his vehicle, sending him flying into another car. He was killed instantly.

Two years later, family and friends still remember Schlifke as an athletic, fun-loving and compassionate friend and son, worthy of the scholarship fund that has been set up in his name at Christopher Newport University, where he attended for three years.

On Dec. 26 at 9 p.m., Schlifke's friends and family are hosting the first bowl-a-thon to raise money for the William Cameron

Schlifke Endowed Memorial Scholarship, which will go toward a Christopher Newport University student's tuition.

"I already see his legacy," said Cameron's mother Carol Schlifke, who considers his fraternity brothers in Pi Lambda Phi family.

**SHE STILL** thinks of her son often, but counts this bowl-a-thon as a positive memory to be made. "It comes in waves," she said. Sometimes doing little things, like making egg salad sandwiches, he liked his soupy and runny, will make me sad."

The scholarship was created to share Cameron Schlifke's story and to continue on his love of learning. Friends and family hope to raise \$25,000 in the next four years so that they would be able to award a scholarship of \$2,500 each year.

Cameron Schlifke was the designated driver for his fraternity the night he was hit by Eric Fowler, who has been sentenced to five years in April for involuntary manslaughter. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 11,773 fatalities happened as a result of a driver

with an illegal Blood Alcohol Level, a third of people who died in traffic crashes.

"I was shocked and devastated," said Steven Brewer, Cameron's best friend from high school who now lives in Arlington. "It was nothing we expected, and I knew that there was never going to be anyone that could replace him. The verdict was fair because of what his family and what his friends went through."

Brewer also says he's become more aware of the problem of drunk driving. "Obviously, everyone is against it, but you don't realize how important it is until it hits home," he said.

Ann Huntzinger grew up across the street from Cameron Schlifke and plans

on attending the bowl-a-thon.

"His life wasn't wasted, but he had such love and passion for life, he would've been great with whatever he did," Huntzinger said. "To have anything that is dedicated to Cameron is a big deal to me. I know he would love for other kids to do something that they wouldn't be able to do it other-

### Bowl-a-thon

When: Sunday, Dec. 26, 9 p.m.-midnight  
Where: Bowl America-Burke, 5615 Guinea Road, Fairfax  
Cost: \$25 Unlimited Bowling, cash/check only

What: To benefit the William Cameron Schlifke Memorial Scholarship at Christopher Newport University  
Visit [www.wcsmemorialfund.com](http://www.wcsmemorialfund.com) for more information.

wise."

Judy Huntzinger, Ann's mother, has helped organize the bowl-a-thon and is active in keeping in touch with the Cameron Schlifke's fraternity brothers. The night before Thanksgiving, she, Carol Schlifke and many of Cameron's old friends got together at Spider Kelly's in Arlington to reminisce and catch up.

"The fraternity boys have been so supportive and are always e-mail and texting," Judy Huntzinger said. "Some people knew Cameron when they were graduating, and he was coming in and some knew him closely. This scholarship fund is one more way for us to stay connected and remember his life."

## POLITICS



Looking on as President Obama signs the Telework Enhancement Act in the Oval Office are: Office of Personnel Management Director John Berry; General Services Administration Administrator Martha Johnson; Health & Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius; U.S. Rep. John Sarbanes (D-Md.); House Federal Workforce Subcommittee Chairman Stephen Lynch (D-Mass.); Deputy HHS Secretary William Lynn; U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11); and Labor Secretary Hilda Solis.

## President Signs Telework Act

Connolly attends signing of bill he co-sponsored.

**U**.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) joined Federal Workforce Subcommittee Chair Stephen Lynch (D-Mass.) and U.S. Rep. John Sarbanes (D-Md.) in the Oval of-

fice of the White House Thursday, Oct. 9, when President Obama signed the bipartisan Telework Improvements Act into law. Connolly, Sarbanes, and U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) sponsored the legislation.

### HOME SALES

Address .....	BR	FB	HB	Postal City ..	Sold Price ..	Type .....	Lot AC .....	Subdivision .....
5913 OAKLAND PARK DR .....	5	3	1	BURKE .....	\$665,000 .....	Detached .....	0.23 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
9422 WOODED GLEN AVE .....	4	2	1	BURKE .....	\$625,000 .....	Detached .....	0.23 .....	WOODED GLEN .....
6513 RAFTELIS RD .....	5	3	1	BURKE .....	\$540,000 .....	Detached .....	0.19 .....	CHERRY RUN .....
6031 RIDGE FORD DR .....	4	3	1	BURKE .....	\$533,000 .....	Detached .....	0.65 .....	BURKE STATION SQUARE .....
9328 MAINSAIL DR .....	4	2	1	BURKE .....	\$530,000 .....	Detached .....	0.20 .....	INDIAN OAKS .....
6106 MEADOWPOND CT .....	5	3	1	BURKE .....	\$515,000 .....	Detached .....	0.20 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
5921 VERNON'S OAK CT .....	4	2	1	BURKE .....	\$482,000 .....	Detached .....	0.29 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
5502 BURLEY CT .....	4	2	0	BURKE .....	\$480,000 .....	Detached .....	0.21 .....	LAKE BRADDOCK .....
10715 BURR OAK WAY .....	4	2	1	BURKE .....	\$480,000 .....	Detached .....	0.21 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
6912 COURAGEOUS CIR .....	4	2	0	BURKE .....	\$478,000 .....	Detached .....	0.19 .....	LONGWOOD KNOLLS .....
9755 OATLEY LN .....	4	2	1	BURKE .....	\$467,500 .....	Detached .....	0.27 .....	CHERRY RUN .....
10036 PARK WOODS LN .....	5	3	1	BURKE .....	\$465,000 .....	Detached .....	0.13 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
6144 SHIPPLETT BLVD .....	4	2	1	BURKE .....	\$465,000 .....	Detached .....	0.22 .....	BENT TREE .....
5734 WOODEN SPOON CT .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$430,000 .....	Detached .....	0.22 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
9203 CORK PL .....	4	3	0	BURKE .....	\$430,000 .....	Detached .....	0.29 .....	SOUTHPORT .....
9612 ASHBOURN DR .....	4	2	0	BURKE .....	\$420,000 .....	Detached .....	0.26 .....	LAKE BRADDOCK .....
9374 TUCKER WOODS CT .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$395,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.07 .....	WOODED GLEN II .....
6021 CLERKENWELL CT .....	4	3	1	BURKE .....	\$374,900 .....	Townhouse .....	0.06 .....	CARDINAL GLEN .....
10079 APPLE WOOD CT .....	3	3	1	BURKE .....	\$339,998 .....	Townhouse .....	0.05 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
10210 ROBERTS COMMON LN .....	3	3	1	BURKE .....	\$339,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
10025 BEACON POND LN .....	3	2	0	BURKE .....	\$335,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.06 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
9510 DRAYCOTT CT .....	4	3	1	BURKE .....	\$334,900 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 .....	CARDINAL GLEN .....
9945 HEMLOCK WOODS LN .....	3	2	0	BURKE .....	\$328,000 .....	Duplex .....	0.11 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
6015 TICONDEROGA CT .....	3	3	1	BURKE .....	\$325,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.06 .....	HERITAGE SQUARE .....
6322 BUFFIE CT .....	4	2	1	BURKE .....	\$324,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 .....	OLD MILL COMMUNITY .....
9694 POINDEXTER CT .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$317,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.03 .....	HILLSDALE .....
10085 APPLE WOOD CT .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$309,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 .....	BURKE CENTRE .....
6315 TEAKWOOD CT .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$305,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.05 .....	OLD MILL COMMUNITY .....
6019 BONNIE BERN CT .....	3	3	1	BURKE .....	\$265,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 .....	BURKE STATION SQUARE .....
9203 SPRUCEWOOD RD .....	3	1	1	BURKE .....	\$260,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 .....	KEENE MILL WOODS .....
6134 OLD LANDING WAY #76 .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$250,000 .....	Townhouse .....	.....	WOODWALK .....
6088 OLD LANDING WAY #52 .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$245,000 .....	Townhouse .....	.....	WOODWALK .....
6486 FENESTRA CT .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$245,000 .....	Townhouse .....	.....	KEENE MILL WOODS .....
9702 ASHBOURN DR .....	3	2	2	BURKE .....	\$230,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.03 .....	GREENFIELD FARM .....
4926 TIBBETT LN .....	3	2	1	BURKE .....	\$229,450 .....	Townhouse .....	0.03 .....	LAKE BRADDOCK .....
5538 CROSSRAIL CT .....	3	2	2	BURKE .....	\$217,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.03 .....	GREENFIELD FARM .....
6425 FENESTRA CT #106A .....	2	2	0	BURKE .....	\$170,000 .....	Patio Home .....	.....	KEENE MILL WOODS .....

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To search for a home online, visit [www.HomesDatabase.com](http://www.HomesDatabase.com).

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**Give Together**  
A Family Volunteer Day

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service  
Monday, January 17, 2011  
Shift 1: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Shift 2: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
GMU - Fairfax Campus

Families of all shapes and sizes can volunteer at projects with Fairfax 4-H, FACETS, Herndon Senior Center, the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, Operation Military Kids and the Orphan Foundation of America – in the convenience of one, central location.

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Spaces are limited and pre-registration is required at [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).

Projects best suited for elementary-aged children.

**Volunteer Fairfax**

Special thanks to the Connection for its support of volunteerism.

## COMMUNITY

# Holiday Heroes

**Firefighters help collect toys for 3,000 area children.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
THE CONNECTION

**A**s a young firefighter in Fairfax County, Capt. Willie Bailey saw a desperate need in many of the homes he visited during the holidays and decided to do what he could to help.

"I went into homes where there wasn't even a single piece of Christmas candy," said Bailey, founder of the Firefighters and Friends holiday toy drive. "I started out 13 years ago helping 50 kids and today we will serve more than 3,000."

Bailey's 2010 drive culminated Dec. 15 at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Station on Richmond Highway, where volunteers helped representatives from schools and non-profits throughout the county pick out toys for the children they serve.

"The generosity of the community is exceptional," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large), who volunteered with the toy distribution. "Many people think that Fairfax County doesn't have needs but many still struggle."

Joining Bulova were retired county

firefighters, soldiers from Fort Belvoir and Scouts Mikael Severeid and Josh Von Holtz from Troop 1865.

"These boys worked odd jobs throughout the year to raise over \$1,800 for this drive," said Troop advisor Erik Severeid, whose son Mikael alone raised \$1,345. "This was money they earned. They didn't ask for it."

Other dignitaries on hand to thank the firefighters and volunteers for their efforts were Supervisors Jeff McKay (D-Lee) and Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon).

"Nothing can be better this holiday season than to see what takes place here today," McKay said. "You are the heroes of the holiday season."

Hyland also praised the success of this year's drive.

"It's remarkable that so many jurisdictions



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/THE CONNECTION

**Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large), center, helps Lt. Col. Dwayne Bowyer and Sgt. Miguel Perez of Fort Belvoir bag toys at the Firefighters and Friends toy distribution Dec. 15.**

have stepped up to the plate to make Christmas a special time of year for so many young people," Hyland said. "If we could package the smiles of the children you are helping, the world would be a better place."

Bulova expressed her gratitude to the

supporters of the holiday toy drive.

"It's amazing what you have done," Bulova said. "Thank you to the business community and the non-profit organizations for looking out for everyone in our community."

## CALENDAR

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

### THURSDAY/DEC. 23

**"Merry, Happy.... What?"** 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Hub Theatre, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. When Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa roll around Molly always feels left out. No one else celebrates the same holiday that she does. A light-hearted story for the whole family. \$10. www.thehubtheatre.org or 703-674-3177.

**Todd Wright's Eighth Annual Christmas Spectacular.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

### FRIDAY/DEC. 24

**Good For The Jews: Putting The Hat In Hanaukah Tour with Rob Tannenbaum and David Fagin.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

### SUNDAY/DEC. 26

**Poor Man's Lobster, Funkmnkyz and The Arctic Groove.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

### MONDAY/DEC. 27

**"The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Virginia Ballet Company and School's 61st season of the classic ballet. \$30 adults, \$20 for children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

the classic ballet. \$30 adults, \$20 for children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

**Tales to Tails.** 4 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Sign up to read to the reading therapy dog. Age 6-12 with adult. 703-293-6227.

**Where's My Face (Dubstep and Electrohouse) with Viking, DJ M.A.F., Konstellation and Hubsmove.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

### TUESDAY/DEC. 28

**"The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Virginia Ballet Company and School's 61st season of the classic ballet. \$30 adults, \$20 for children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

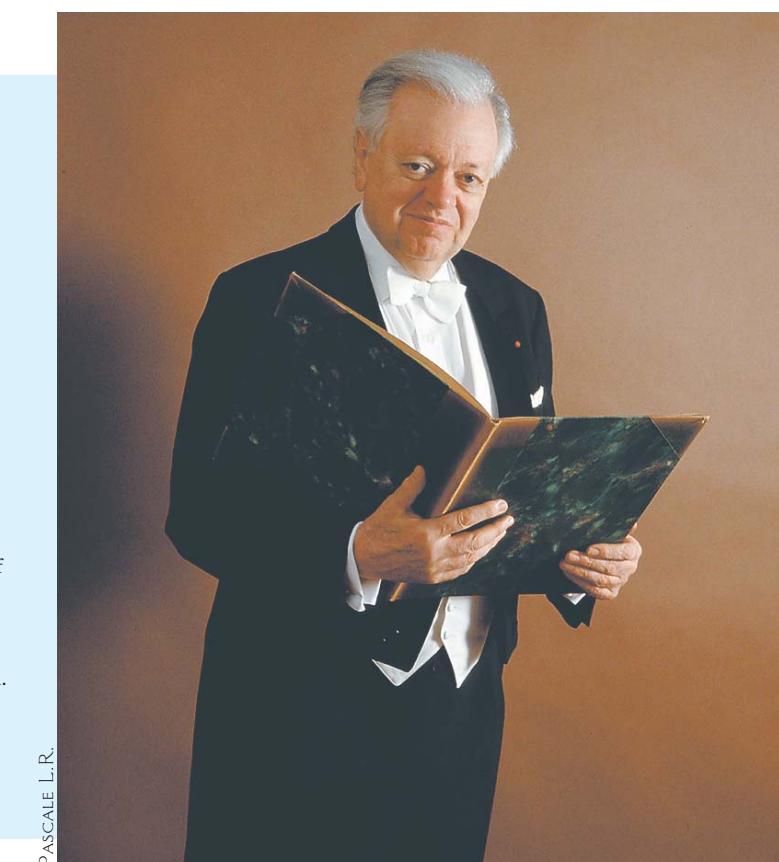
**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227.

**Inova Blood Drive.** 1:30-7 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Photo ID required. Adults. Appointments preferred at 1-866-256-6372.

**The Dinobabies and Marly Dumaz.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 29

**"The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community



PASCAL L.R.

College Annandale Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Virginia Ballet Company and School's 61st season of the classic ballet. \$30 adults, \$20 for children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

**Wintertime Fun with Kaydee**

**Puppets.** 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Kaydee Puppets presents Jack & the Beanstalk and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. All ages. 703-293-6227.

**Spectacular Science.** 2:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Come for

## German State Philharmonic At GMU

**The Deutsche Staatsphilharmonie appear Saturday, Jan. 29 at 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The German State Philharmonic, conducted by Philippe Entremont, left, on its first tour of the U.S., performs Strauss' "Till Eulenspiegel's lustige Streiche" and Brahms' Symphony No. 4, Op. 98. Entremont also joins Sebastian Knauer on piano for Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos, No. 10 in E-Flat major, K. 365. Tickets are \$30-\$60, available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.**

indoor fireworks, bubbling potions and more spectacular science. Presented by Mad Science of Washington. Age 6-12. 703-644-7333.

**Berrett and Harrison and Cara Salimando.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



## COMMUNITY

### Bulldogs Roll Over Muckdogs

The West Springfield Bulldogs were recently crowned Old Dominion Baseball League 10U Fall National Champions. Having lost to the Northern Virginia Muckdogs in the first round of the tournament, the Bulldogs kept on fighting, eventually meeting them again in the championship game. This time, they defeated the Muckdogs in a late inning come from behind victory 11-10 in extra innings. This was the Bulldogs' first season in travel ball.



### Books and Pajamas

and distributed to children in shelters, group homes, foster care, and orphanages through The Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive, a partnership of the nonprofit Pajama Program and Scholastic Publishers. Virginia Chapter President Donna Karlinchak visited the class at Kiddie Country to thank them for their thoughtfulness and help them to understand what a difference they will make in the lives of less fortunate children.

#### CALENDAR

##### FROM PAGE 12

227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

##### FRIDAY/DEC. 31

**Fourth Annual Rocknoceros New Years Eve Party.** 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

##### Family-Friendly New Year's Eve.

8:30 p.m.-12 a.m. in "The Space," at the corner of University Drive and North St. in Fairfax. Live music, free snacks and discounts at local restaurants. 703-383-1170 or [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

##### SATURDAY/JAN. 1

**Mambo Sauce and The Movement.**

10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

##### SUNDAY/JAN. 2

**The Shield Brothers "Danger Danger" Release Show and The Getaways.** 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Give what you have.  
To someone it may be better than you dare to think.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

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## COMMUNITY



More than 90 Jewish and non-Jewish students at George Mason University took part in the first Shabbaton, Shabbat & Speakers on Dec. 3 in Fairfax.

# George Mason Meeting Explores Jewish Traditions

Students learn about faith, shared history.

**O**n Friday, Dec. 3, more than 90 George Mason University students, of whom about 50 percent were Jewish, attended the first-ever Shabbaton, Shabbat & Speakers, which took place at the Fairfax campus.

The evening's goal was to empower the university's Jewish students and to expose non-Jewish students to Judaism and to the beauty of Israel. The evening began with

student-led Shabbat services that were followed by Shabbat 101, a session led by Sue Aft, wife of Congregation Adat Reiyim's Rabbi Bruce Aft, and Becca Elliott, GMU Hillel's student president, that explored Shabbat through the senses of taste and smell.

Following a Shabbat dinner, the event hosts treated guests with surprise gift cards to a local coffee shop and stress balls as a way to survive finals week.

The evening concluded with three breakout sessions with guest speakers. Marvin Klemow of Fairfax led a discussion on technology in Israel. Klemow has been associated with Israel Aerospace Industries, Israel's most sophisticated high-tech company for 40 years. He was vice president of its Washington, D.C. office for 32 years and then served as a consultant for eight years. Joelle Kelenson, school-aged services coordinator at the JCC of Northern Virginia with a master's degrees in Judaic studies and science and social work from Columbia University, spoke about Kabbalah and Israel.

Michaela Cohen, Northern Virginia's community shlicha (emissary), a community funded program and the Israel Fellow on campus, spoke about Israeli Jewish holidays such as Mimuna, a traditional holiday of the Moroccan Jews that celebrates the end of Passover; Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel Independence Day; and Yom Ha'Zikaron, a holiday that honors fallen Israeli soldiers.

"It was an inspiring event that made me realize how much we, as a small Jewish population on campus, can do to make an impact," said Cohen, who has worked with the GMU Hillel for nearly two years.

# Group Has Youths Going Places!

FROM PAGE 10

"Some people with Asperger's have difficulty relating to other people," said Mollie Katz, a JSSA spokesperson. "One part of the disability is that people with Asperger's might not be very strong in recognizing body language, facial expressions or tone of voice. It can be difficult to try and connect with other people or to understand humor or irony."

With each outing, the members of the group get more confident in their interactions, Kaye said.

The program is getting some outside recognition as well.

In November, Going Places! was named a Merit Finalist for the 2010 Mutual of America Community Partnership Award, which recognizes community organizations and partnerships that have "made a difference" to those people it has served, according to the announcement released on Nov. 18.

Two weeks ago, Going Places! also received a grant that will allow the group to attend a number of cultural events next year, said Melissa Hochberg, a resource specialist at the JCC who helps coordinate the group's outings.

"We'll be going to see 'Sheer Madness' at the Kennedy Center next year, and to Wolf Trap," along with other outings that are favorites among the group, like mini golf and bowling, she said.

Going Places! has been so successful among young

adults that it has led to the creation of two other groups, one for teenagers and another for adults over 30 years of age, she said.

The young adult group came first because the support system and activities offered by schools disappear when a person turns 21, and there aren't many other places to turn for people with Asperger's for support, let alone where they feel safe, Hochberg said.

She's also started a book club that meets for a half-hour before each monthly outing. While currently only about 10 people are participating in the book club, it is another thing that participants can talk about with their family and friends, she said.

There's been a tremendous response among the group, and participants often send in comments after the monthly event saying what they liked about the outing. But more importantly, many emails from participants and their parents thanking JSSA and JCC for starting the group in the first place.

Parents like Robin Weisman know that the group is making a difference. They can see it in the faces of their children.

The group has "expanded his horizons," she said of her son Corey. "He's open and social. He takes his commitments seriously and he likes the social setting. This group has enhanced his relationships with people. He stays in touch with some of them by email between outings. I think he's building a good life for himself."

## 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.

**Jubilee Christian Center**, 4650 Shirley Gate Road in Fairfax, will have a Christmas Eve Service on Dec. 24 at 8 p.m., with refreshments. 703-383-1170 or [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

**Burke Presbyterian Church**, 5690 Oak Leather Drive in Burke, will offer three worship services on Friday, Dec. 24. "The Miracle" is a Candlelight Service for Families at 5 p.m. The Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols is at 7:30 p.m., and the Candlelight Message and Communion at 10 p.m. [www.BurkePresChurch.org](http://www.BurkePresChurch.org) or 703-764-0456.

**RCCG Victory Temple**, 6621 Electronic Drive, Suite G in Springfield, will host "A Night with the King: A Christmas and Carol Service", featuring The New Birth Choir and Clarity Pictures Ministries, on Friday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. 703-459-9434.

**During the month of January, the Rev. Dr. Beth Braxton of Burke Presbyterian Church** will be speaking on Sundays about the Christian faith as seen through the lens of other world religions. Braxton spent time visiting the worship services of four religious groups: Hindu, Buddhist, Islam and Judaism and has interviewed each of the clergy of those faith communities. In her sermons she will have video clips

of those interviews. Between the 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services will be an education hour at 10 a.m., in which leaders from these four faith communities will answer questions about their theology and practices. The services are Jan. 2 – Hinduism; Jan. 9 – Buddhism; Jan. 16 – Islam; Jan. 23 – Judaism; and Jan. 30 – Christianity. Burke Presbyterian Church is located at 5690 Oak Leather Drive in Burke adjacent to the Kohls department store. Visit [www.BurkePresChurch.org](http://www.BurkePresChurch.org) or phone the office at 703-764-0456.

**Interested in the Catholic Faith?** Classes will be held at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in the Guadalupe Room in the Parish Center, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Contact Carolyn Smith at [carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com) or 703-273-5369.

**The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax**, 2709 Hunter Mill Road in Oakton, offers services on Saturdays at 4:30 p.m., in addition to Sunday services at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. [www.uucf.org](http://www.uucf.org).

**The Parkwood Baptist Church**, 8726 Braddock Road in Annandale, Bible Study Fellowship will study of the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. The Day Women's Class meets at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, and offers a children's program for ages 6 weeks-6 years. [rdmarotto@cox.net](mailto:rdmarotto@cox.net).

SEE FAITH NOTES, PAGE 15

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## POLITICS

# Cuccinelli: 'Christmas Came Early This Year'

Fund raiser turns into celebration for Virginia attorney general after health care decision.

By JEANNE THEISMANN  
THE CONNECTION

**L**ess than 48 hours after federal district Judge Henry E. Hudson ruled that the provision in the health care reform law requiring individuals to purchase insurance is unconstitutional, Virginia's Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli, architect of the controversial litigation, was savoring his first-round victory at a private fund raiser Dec. 15 in Northern Virginia.

"Christmas came early this year," Cuccinelli told a group of friends and supporters at the home of Susan and David Hirschmann.

After addressing a crowd that included U.S. Rep. Adrian Smith (R-Neb.), U.S. Rep. Sam Graves (R-Ga.), Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources Doug Domenich, Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) and RNC state committeeman Morton Blackwell, Cuccinelli spoke about the media whirlwind following the Dec. 12 decision.

**"The shock of actually winning is fun."**

— Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli

"The last 48 hours have been tightly scheduled talking to a lot of different folks," Cuccinelli said. "Some of them are hostile, some are friendly and some are actually objective as I'm trying to explain to people why we are carrying the case forward."

While many were surprised at the outcome, Cuccinelli was not.

"The shock of actually winning is fun," Cuccinelli said. "I don't mean my shock, I mean other people's. We're not shocked at all. We analyzed this closely before we ever made a move on it. Everybody else just presumed the outcome."

Despite the international spotlight on the case, Cuccinelli has taken a back seat in the courtroom to Virginia's solicitor general, who will argue the case when it is expected to go before the Supreme Court in 2011-12.

"Our solicitor general is one of those guys where people frequently say 'that's the smartest person I've ever been in a room

with,'" Cuccinelli said of E. Duncan Getchell. "And because he's not the attorney general, he can spend more time with the details planning for the curveballs. I would love to argue it and am capable of arguing it, but he's the one who knows the case law and history, which is critically important."

In addition to the health care case, Cuccinelli talked about other significant issues his office has tackled.

"Like the health care case, the EPA case is about protecting the constitution," Cuccinelli said of the pending suit against the Environmental Protection Agency's move to regulate greenhouse gasses. "It's also about the rule of law and the economy. Typically, we are trying to support Virginia's good business environment."

**ANOTHER SUCCESS** for Cuccinelli was allowing absentee ballots that arrive after Election Day to be counted.

"Protecting the voting rights for our military members deployed abroad is impon-



JEANNE THEISMANN/THE CONNECTION  
Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli addresses supporters at a Dec. 15 gathering in Northern Virginia.

tant," Cuccinelli said. "We have registrars who don't get absentee ballots out on time so now for the first time we allow people's votes that arrive after Election Day to be counted."

According to Cuccinelli, the races to watch in 2011 will be in Northern Virginia.

"I believe we're going to have a great candidate in Janet Howell's district — Caren Merrick," Cuccinelli said. "In the Prince William-Loudoun swath we're going to get a new senate seat and that open seat is going to be very interesting regardless of where it lands."

Cuccinelli, who has remained in the area since taking office earlier this year, was happy to be back where he considers home.

"I get mocked in other parts of the state but this is where I grew up," Cuccinelli said. "This is where I went to school, this is where my kids have grown up and where they're going to school. My wife did the same thing. We're those rarities — we actually grew up here and stayed here and we're very happy with that."

## FAITH NOTES

FROM PAGE 14

**Franconia United Methodist Church**, 6037 Franconia Road in Alexandria, needs volunteers for the Phoenix Rising Meal Program at. Help prepare meals for the homeless Thursday, Dec. 23, 6:30 p.m., and deliver the bags Friday, Dec. 24. Contact 703-971-5151 or [www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org).

**Congregation Adat Reyim**, an independent Jewish congregation, offers services Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7:40 p.m. Hebrew School is Sundays at 9:30 and Mondays at 5:30 p.m. Hebrew High is Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Preschool is Monday-Friday at 9:30 a.m. Adat Reyim is located at 6500 Westbury Oaks Court in Springfield. For more information, contact us at 703-569-7577 or visit [www.adatreylim.org](http://www.adatreylim.org).

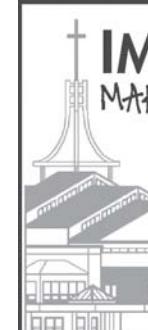
**Burke Presbyterian Church**, 5690 Oak Leather Drive in Burke, worship services are Saturday Coffeehouse at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. [www.BurkePresChurch.org](http://www.BurkePresChurch.org).

**One God Ministry Church**, 4280/4282 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, now has a Web site with news, events, training, conferences, fellowship programs and more. Sunday School is at 10 a.m., Sunday Worship Service at 11 a.m., and Wednesday Prayer Service at 7 p.m. Women, Men, and Youth Bible Studies are on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. A Spiritual Gifts Service is the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m. One God Ministry has ministries for youth, men, women, couples, music and singles. 703-591-6161 or [www.onegodministry.org](http://www.onegodministry.org).

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# Bruin Girls Face Tough Opponents Early in Season

**Local girls' and boys' teams wrapping up their pre-holiday schedules.**

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

The early season record is not what the Lake Braddock Secondary girls' basketball team would want at this point in its pre-holiday, early season schedule, but the Bruins could be a better team in the long run for having played stiff competition over the season's first month.

"We've played some pretty tough non-district opponents so far, including Westfield," said Lake Braddock head coach Leigh Kampman, whose team was 1-4 going into this week's action.

"We are 1-0 in the [Patriot] District right now, and I believe these first few games against tougher opponents will only help us in the end."

—Lake Braddock head coach Leigh Kampman

The district win came on Dec. 10 when the Bruins defeated visiting W.T. Woodson, 58-54. Natalie Butler, a 6-foot-2-inch sophomore forward, led Lake Braddock with 15 points in the win. Other scoring contributions came from junior guard Hannah Aboulhosn (8 points), freshman guard/forward Marcia Altman (7) and sophomore guard Morgan Stearns (7). Logan Russell, a senior forward, and senior guard Maggie Collins both scored five points in the win, while Caroline Young, a senior guard/forward, and senior forward Shelby Sheridan scored four each. Freshman guard Allie Snow scored three in a Lake Braddock at-

tack which saw nine different players get into the scoring column.

For Woodson (3-3), Keara Finnerty, a sophomore guard, scored a game-high 22 points, while sophomore forward Taylor Hayes was also in double figures with 18 points. Also for the Cavaliers, Bryce Debolt, a sophomore guard, scored six points and both Amy Sitts, a junior forward, and sophomore forward Katie Hayes scored four.

Lake Braddock trailed Woodson, 15-9, after one quarter and still trailed by six, 44-38, at the end of three quarters. But the Bruins put things together in the final quarter, outscoring Woodson, 20-10, to earn the comeback win.

Lake Braddock had opened the season with a pair of losses — 41-29 to visiting Centreville on Dec. 3, and a 53-39

defeat at Herndon on Dec. 7 — before earning its first win over Woodson. But following the victory over the Cavaliers, the Bruins lost their next two games, 41-31 over visiting Westfield, the defending Concorde District champions, on Dec. 14, and 44-23 at Robinson (5-2) Friday night, Dec. 17. In the loss to the Rams, Russell was the Bruins' leading scorer with seven points. Robinson, meanwhile, had big games from Tyler Hansen (17 points) and Megan Green (11).



**Lake Braddock girls' basketball coach Leigh Kampman, center, instructs her Bruins during their game at local rival Robinson last Friday night.**



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Caroline Young (30) of Lake Braddock defends during her team's game against the Rams.**

Lake Braddock is working hard to improve. Kampman has had her squad focus on playing solid defense night-in and night-out.

"Every game we focus on the positives and try to build off of them," said Kampman. "We have different people step up at different times, depending on the match-ups. We really emphasize playing a team game and have focused a lot of our attention on our defense. As I always tell my team, 'Defense should never have an off day.'"

Lake Braddock was scheduled to play its final game prior to the Christmas holiday on Tuesday, Dec. 21. Over the holidays, Lake Braddock will take part in the Lady Rebels Winter Classic at Fairfax High School from Dec. 28-30.

"I would like to see us win the tournament so we can carry that momentum into district play," said coach Kampman.

Woodson, meanwhile, will participate at the Mardela Tournament in Mardela Springs, Md., Dec. 29-30. The Cavaliers, under head coach Pat Neri, have wins this season over Washington-Lee, Fairfax High and Lee High. The losses have come to Robinson, Lake Braddock and Mount Vernon.

In Woodson's win over Lee, a 57-34 home triumph on Dec. 17, Finnerty scored 30 points. Hayes scored 13 for the Cavaliers and Katie added nine points. For Lee (0-4), Megan Cox scored 11 points.

Woodson was scheduled to host T.C. Williams on Tuesday, Dec. 21 in its final game before the holidays.

The Lee High boys' basketball team, a

young squad this season, was 0-3 going into this week's non-district home game versus Oakton on Dec. 21.

"I think that our guys are playing hard right now, but we need to get game experience in that we are such a young team," said veteran Lancer head coach Michael Harris, whose squad has just two seniors — guard Jalen Boswell and forward Eric Shirley. "This is the youngest and most inexperienced team since I have been here."

Last Friday night at Lee, the Lancers fell to Patriot District opponent Woodson, 73-52. Boswell scored 16 points for Lee, while Maseer Ghorab, a junior guard, scored 21 points. Woodson (3-3) had strong games from senior guard John Schoof (18 points) and junior guard Brandon Stepka (13).

One of the Lancers' strengths early in the season has been its impressive free throw shooting. Through their first two games, Lee had converted 51 of 63 shots (81 percent) from the charity stripe.

Harris realizes it's a long season and said his inexperienced team will get better as the season moves on.

"I think in the long run we'll be fine as time goes on this season," said Harris.

The Lancers will travel to Richmond on Dec. 28 to play a game against John Marshall High.

This season, Woodson's has posted wins over Robinson, Fairfax and the Lancers. The Cavaliers' defeats have come to local private school powers Paul VI and Bishop O'Connell as well as district foe Lake Braddock.

Schoof scored 22 points in Woodson's season opening 78-67 home win over Robinson on Dec. 1. Mark Noe, a junior guard, contributed 12 points and freshman guard Daniel Noe 10 points in that Cavaliers' victory. For the Rams that night, Mike Rice, a senior forward, scored a game-high 26 points, while teammates Robert Pillow, a junior guard, and Ian Evanchow, a senior guard, scored 18 and 12 points, respectively.

In its home loss to Paul VI, 60-51, on Dec. 3, Schoof led the Cavaliers with 14 points while Andrew Boehling and Stepka both scored nine. Paul VI's balanced scoring attack consisted of big games from Stan Robinson (16 points, 9 rebounds), Patrick Holloway (15 points), Coleman Johnson (12 points, 7 boards) and Tilman Dunbar (9 points). The Panthers of Paul VI were 4-2 going into this week.

In Woodson's loss to O'Connell, 69-46, on Dec. 18, Stepka tallied 11 points to pace the Cav's offense. O'Connell built a 33-20-halftime lead before outscoring Woodson, 17-9, in the third quarter to take total control. Woodson, was outscored by just two points in the final quarter.

## SPORTS

# VISTA Patriots Seek Players

The VISTA Patriots FC, an NCSL U19 (U17, 18, and 19) boys team, is seeking experienced players born on or after Aug. 1, 1991. The team is looking for five or six players to fill some available spots on the team, which is composed of players residing in Northern Virginia from the Centreville, Chantilly, Burke, Manassas, Springfield and the Fairfax Station areas.

The Patriots accommodate athletes with multiple commitments. The team has a history of developing players with an emphasis on team play, respect for others and good sportsmanship. The club was nominated

and honored twice by the coaches, referees and ODSL officials as winners of the Randy Rawls Sportsmanship Award. Bill Walter, a former collegiate player who holds a USSF National License, coaches the Patriots. Tryouts started Dec. 11-12 and will take place throughout the winter up to the start of the NCSL Spring 2011 season. Players and parents that are looking for a respectful and fun soccer atmosphere for a reasonable time commitment and cost should contact either Jack Dulan, the Patriots Team Manager, at [dulang@cox.net](mailto:dulang@cox.net); or coach Bill Walter at [billybobandktr@aol.com](mailto:billybobandktr@aol.com) or by phone at 571-259-1000.

# Chantilly Classic Offers Best Of High School Basketball

Chantilly High School, over the holidays, will once again host the Pohanka Chantilly Classic Holiday Basketball Tournament. The dates of the event, in its 18th year, will be Tuesday, Dec. 28; Wednesday, Dec. 29; and Thursday, Dec. 30. All games will take place at Chantilly High School, located at 4201 Stringfellow Road, in Chantilly.

The Pohanka Classic, which includes both boys' and girls' tournaments, is regarded as one of the most storied holiday tournaments in the Washington, D.C. area. This year's tournament will feature 16 schools from Virginia, Maryland and the District in an exciting and intense three-day chase for the title. Last year's tournament featured some of the best and most exciting basketball in its history.

Guest opponents will include South County and Hayfield secondary schools.

On the boys' side, the defending Pohanka champion Chantilly Chargers return All-Northern Region center John Manning, along with senior teammate Jake Weigand. One of the Chargers' top obstacles to successfully defending last year's holiday tournament title will be Hayfield, a traditional Northern Virginia powerhouse. Led by long-time California high school coach Ron Palmer, the Hawks bring a relatively new-

look team this season, having to replace all five starters from last year's team, which didn't lose until February.

In addition to Chantilly and Hayfield, the boys' bracket features improving programs South County and Thomas Jefferson (Alexandria), as well as Deep Run and Mills Godwin, traditionally two of the Richmond area's finest programs. Wilson High School from Washington, D.C. also makes its Pohanka Chantilly Classic debut. Rounding out the boy's field is Mountain View High School from Stafford.

The girls' tournament also features an exciting array of teams, such as Northern Region teams Langley and Annandale, and Paul VI of Fairfax.

The following schedule is for the opening round games on Tuesday, Dec. 28: Georgetown Visitation vs. Loudoun County (girls, 9 a.m.); Hylton vs. Annandale (girls, 10:45 a.m.); Mills Godwin vs. Paul VI (girls, 12:30 p.m.); Mills Godwin vs. Mountain View (boys, 2:15 p.m.); Deep Run vs. Wilson of Washington, D.C. (boys, 4 p.m.); Hayfield vs. South County (boys, 5:45); Langley vs. Chantilly (girls, 7:30); and Thomas Jefferson vs. Chantilly (boys, 9:15).

For information on games played on Wednesday and Thursday, call 703-448-4909 or check the website.

# Charity Bowling on Jan. 30

Fairfax Adult Softball (FAS) hosts a bowling tournament each year, benefiting Northern Virginia Special Olympics and Fairfax County Park Authority field improvements. The 11th annual tournament will be Jan. 30, at the Bowl America Shirley in Alexandria. It is time for Fairfax Adult Softball to solicit raffle prizes and tournament sponsorships in hopes of raising the maximum amount of funds for the Special Olympians. FAS is hoping local companies, organizations and individuals will be kind enough to become a sponsor of the bowling event.

Two types of sponsorships are available to choose from:

Raffle prize/Goods Sponsorship - FAS conducts a big prize raffle auction at the event. The more raffle items FAS receives, the more tickets are sold and the more money is raised for the Special Olympians.

Lane Sponsor- For just \$100, one can sponsor a lane for the FAS event and be a hero for Northern Virginia Special Olympics. The Lane Sponsorships are split into three levels: Spare sponsor for \$100, Strike sponsor for \$500 and Turkey sponsor for \$1,000.

For more information on the Jan. 30 event and sponsorships, contact Christine Frece at the FAS office at: [office@fairfaxadultsoftball.com](mailto:office@fairfaxadultsoftball.com).

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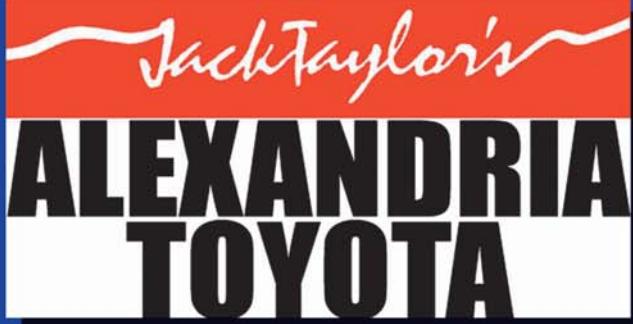
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