

# Holiday Hug

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PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Warrick Wolf of Alexandria gets a big hug from Rudolph, who was visiting patients at Fairfax Inova Hospital with Santa Claus and his friends.



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# Best Wishes For The Holidays



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT

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## 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-



**Cameron Schlifke**

DONATED PHOTO

### 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.wesmemorialfund.com](http://www.wesmemorialfund.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."

## Real Estate Rebound in 2012?

Though area real estate experts and economists discount the danger of a “double dip” recession in the Washington region, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates proposal to curb defense procurement is perhaps the greatest danger to Northern Virginia’s economic future, according to John McLain, deputy director of the George Mason University’s Center for Regional Analysis.

Speaking at an annual news briefing conducted by the Washington region real estate industry, McLain said that if Gate’s plan is successful to shave \$100 billion, or 10 per cent a year for five years in defense procurement, it would result in a \$3 billion a year “blow to our economy. That’s a risk for our economy,” McLain said.

This loss, he said, would far overshadow the \$500 million a year impact of President Barack Obama’s plan to reduce federal salaries by 2- percent over the next two years.

Though McLain pointed out that Gates will leave office next year and his program may not be successful, a large number of other proposals to cut defense spending exist and that though history has shown other plans to cut DOD have failed, this time they could be successful.

He said some businesses are making plans for alternative products to offset defense procurement. “They know that we can’t keep expanding government spending 10 percent a year as we have for the past 10 years.

McClain said the region added 43,000 jobs in the past seven months, more than job growth in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

He said that home ownership is likely to remain strong in Northern Virginia because family ownership is far greater than in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, where greater numbers of single people live.

The very core of the region’s economic resistance to the impact of the national recession had been the fruits of the enormous federal procurement that flows in to region and most particularly to Northern Virginia, McClain said.

McClain and other speakers at the briefing do not see 2011 as the “come back” year in this region from the recession and think that the general real estate market will begin to return in 2012.

Indeed, for most of the year, 2010, housing sales in Northern Virginia outstripped 2009 6,486 to 6,067. But the sales tailed off in November, despite low interest rates, because of the end of the federal tax deduction program.

Vin Nguyen, chairman of the board of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, said he sees 2011 unfolding very much like 2010 if the interest rates remain low.

— NICHOLAS HORROCK

## Felony Hit-Run Charged

City of Fairfax police have charged a 38-year-old Penderbrook man with felony hit and run. He is Christopher J. Patterson of 12100 block Penderview Lane. On Sunday, Dec. 19, at 4:26 p.m., officers responded to Main and Poplar streets after learning of a traffic crash that injured a child. According to police, the child was in one of the two vehicles involved in the crash and was taken by a family member to a medical facility for treatment.

The driver of the other vehicle allegedly fled the scene, say police, but was subsequently identified following investigation and found at a home in the area. Besides the felony offense, Patterson was also charged with violating his restricted license. He was held in the Adult Detention Center on \$10,000 bond.

## Holiday Alcohol Precautions

The City of Fairfax Police Department reminds all drivers that, with the official arrival of the holiday season, it’s

SEE NEWS BRIEFS. PAGE 5

## NEWS



Brothers, from left, Greg, Jason and Adrian Tatem make beaded snowflakes.

# Making the Season Bright

## FACETS, community play Santa to local children.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen money’s tight and people are just happy to have a roof over their heads, Christmas presents are often a luxury they just can’t afford. But thanks to FACETS (Fairfax Area Christian Emergency & Transitional Services), nearly 200 children last week got some help with their gifts.

For its 10th year, FACETS organized and hosted Holiday Sibling Shops so that children in need would be able to provide presents for their brothers and sisters. All year long, the nonprofit group helps families living in transitional or permanent supported housing, and the sibling shops are always eagerly anticipated and fun for all.

Last week’s events were at the Ragan Oaks Community Center near Fair Oaks, at Robinson Square near GMU and at Barrios Circle in Centreville. They were also holiday parties where the children ate snacks, made Christmas crafts, selected presents for their siblings and helped wrap them.

“Throughout November, FACETS collected donations from individuals, corporations and faith communities,” said Amy Marlow, FACETS assistant director of development. “They gave gifts for babies through kids age 18.”

The items collected included things such as footballs, dolls, games, toys, books, cologne, makeup and \$25 gift cards to stores such as Game Stop. Then about 80 children came to the sibling shop at Fair Oaks, another 80 went to the one at Robinson Square and some 15-20 were at the Centreville party.

“We thank all the community members and organizations who donated these hundreds of toys,” said Marlow. “What’s really special about these parties is that the kids get to come and pick out the gifts for their siblings, which is empowering for them to do and lets them experience the joy of giving to their

family.”

The Ragan Oaks party was on Monday, Dec. 13, and the atmosphere was festive. Children munched on cookies, gumdrops and popcorn, as well as special, sesame-seed-coated doughnuts made by a community resident from Sudan. And while they snacked, adult volunteers helped them create crepe-paper Christmas wreaths and beaded snowflake ornaments.

“This is also about the community coming together and having fun,” said Marlow. “Most of the children’s parents are here, and everyone lives in this apartment complex, so it’s really neighborhood-based. We want to take this spirit of the holidays and express it all year ’round, because the need continues.”

Because of the tough economy, she said, FACETS is serving about 20 percent more children this year than last year. “FACETS serves 5,000 individuals a year throughout Fairfax County,” said Marlow. “It provides emergency services for families and adults in danger of becoming homeless. Ragan Oaks is an affordable-housing community, and families here are living on about \$18,000 a year for a family of four.”

Fairfax residents Kati and J.P. Hesford organized last Monday’s party and brought the craft materials, most of the snacks and the wrapping paper. The party for preschool and elementary-age children was from 5-6 p.m., with middle- and high-school students having their own, holiday celebration from 6-7 p.m.

A mother of four, Shannon Tatem was there helping her two youngest boys choose presents for their older siblings. “It’s a good concept,” she said. “I like the idea of the kids exchanging gifts for each other; otherwise, they wouldn’t be able to. And they had fun, too.”

Each child received a number and was then called to pick out presents, so their siblings didn’t see what they were getting. “There’s also a serious purpose to these events,” added Marlow, gesturing toward the tables full of new toys. “Having these types of gifts donated to these families allows the families to stretch their money for basic needs like food, rent, utilities and transportation. It’s also a relief for the parents because it helps them to maintain financial stability when they’re struggling to make ends meet.”

# NEWS

## Connolly Celebrates

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.



PHOTO BY MIKE MCKEE

## NEWS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 4

essential to take the time to consider the options available before drinking and deciding to drive. Making arrangements to rely on a designated driver, calling a cab, or spending the night all are alternatives that police recommend to help prevent tragedies resulting from impaired driving.

The police also strongly encourage people to take advantage of WRAP's SoberRide campaign. Free taxi rides (up to a \$30 fare) began Dec. 17 and will be offered through Saturday, Jan. 1, 2011 at 6 a.m. To participate, call 1-800-200-8294 (TAXI), or #8294 for customers of AT&T wireless telephones. People must be at least 21 years old to use SoberRide.

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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.



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.



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

# Spreading Holiday Cheer

Santa and his friends Visit Inova Fairfax.

Santa 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 F.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.

# Cuccinelli: 'Christmas Came Early This Year'

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

By JEANNE THEISMANN  
THE CONNECTION

Less 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 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 impor-



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 interest-

ing 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."

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# OPINION

## Merry Christmas, Happy New Year

**W**e 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.

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

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

### Saving Lives, Saving Money

To the Editor:

Recent editorial ["October: Breast Cancer Awareness Month", Connection, Oct. 13-19, 2010] includes several points that deserve special emphasis because they can shape both our attitudes and our behavior regarding breast cancer.

The first point is: "...there is just one person in charge of your health care, and that person is you." While that statement may seem obvious today among educated people with sufficient health insurance, it still comes as a revelation to many who lack access to health care and regard illness and wellness passively – as forces we react to instead of managing. However our health care reform legislation evolves, a primary objective must be that we take ownership of our own health – knowing our risk factors, getting regular preventive check-ups, and adopting good nutrition and lifestyle choices.

That leads to a second point worth emphasizing: "...early detection really can save lives." The national Prevent Cancer Foundation based in Alexandria ([www.preventcancer.org](http://www.preventcancer.org)) advocates and funds research and outreach on early detection and prevention programs for treatable cancers, among them prostate, colon, cervical, skin, and breast cancers. As a member of their Board, I know the importance of

routine check-ups including regular mammograms. Today a mammogram can detect barely visible tumors that a woman might not be able to "feel" for another decade.

Editor Mary Kimm had a more aggressive tumor, but she was aware from earlier exams that her symptoms merited a return visit to her doctor. She used her knowledge to be her own advocate, and she was treated in time as a result. According to the Virginia office of the Every Woman's Life program, the survival rate for breast cancer is 98 percent if diagnosed at an early stage, but only 26 percent if diagnosed at a later stage. Likewise, the survival rate for invasive cervical cancer is 92 percent if diagnosed early and only 15 percent if diagnosed late.

"A woman's race or economic status in the United States should not affect her chances of surviving breast cancer, but they do." This point is worth repeating, because in Virginia poor women must go to one of 26 health care centers in the state to be screened for breast or cervical cancer if they wish to have the cost of a positive diagnosis covered through Medicaid. Given their lack of accessibility to a diagnostic center, limited resources, and fear of unknown outcomes, these women are often not diagnosed until they have a late stage cancer. Beyond the devastating personal impacts, the cost to the state is substantial: early

stage breast cancer treatment is about \$28,000 as opposed to almost \$44,000 for late stage cancer. The disparities for cervical cancer are greater: \$11,700 as compared to \$38,500 for late stage treatment.

In 2009 as a legislator, I introduced HB2200 to establish a non-reverting, interest-bearing fund for underserved Virginia women diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer. The bill passed unanimously, and was signed into law. Now, The Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Fund (BCCPT) may receive private donations that may not be diverted to other state funds and are matched two-to-one by federal funds established under a law passed in 2000. Once the Virginia fund reaches a self-sustaining threshold, the legislature can remove the requirement that poor women must be screened at one of the 26 centers.

Instead, they can receive their screenings close to their homes, and qualify for treatment if diagnosed under the current Every Woman's Life program. We will at a minimum, double the number of women treated early for these two diseases.

If you would like to help Virginia women achieve the promise of early detection and treatment for breast or cervical cancer during October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month – or at any time – you may send a check made out to The Department of Medical Assistance Services "and write "BCCPT Fund"

in the memo line. Contributions should be sent to: The Department of Medical Services, Fiscal Division/BCCPT, 600 Broad St. – 8th floor, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Together we can save lives, save money, and savor a cause worth celebrating.

Margaret Vanderhye  
McLean

### Creationism Vs. Evolution

To the Editor:

Many argue that teaching creationism 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. 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

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## THE CONNECTION

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

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 limits. 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 ex-

planations 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 at Northern Virginia  
Community College



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# Little Italy Comes to Fairfax Corner

**New Italian restaurant latest eatery from Great American Restaurants.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

But Ozzie's wasn't opened hastily, and a great deal of research went into the food.

"We ate at different, Italian restaurants around the country and picked things we liked and thought our guests would like, too," Norton said.

The restaurant was named after Chris "Ozzie" Osborn, vice president of kitchen operations for the whole company. He created GAR's signature rolls made of fried dough balls and was instrumental in developing his namesake's menu.

"We do a limited number of things, but they're all great," he said. "My favorite is our Bolognese sauce. It's really full-bodied and has terrific flavor. It pairs

up wonderfully with the pappardelle pasta."

Osborn has also a fan of the Veal Milanese. "It's rich and buttery, simple but elegant," he said. With GAR since 1981, Osborn said, "This is all new food for us, top to bottom."

He said fine-tuning the details just right was time-consuming, but worth it. "I'm as

much a civil engineer as a chef," said Osborn. So he was involved in designing the kitchen flow, selecting the equipment, orchestrating how each meal's made, developing production schedules and "fielding the right team of people" to work there.

His greatest satisfaction, he said, was "seeing it all

SEE NEW ITALIAN, PAGE 11

## To Go

Ozzie's Corner Italian is open Sunday-Monday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; and Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-midnight. Lunch and dinner are served daily. Call-ahead seating is recommended; 571-321-8000.

Ozzie's Corner Italian has been open less than three months, but it's already a big hit with the customers. It's also another success for Great American

Restaurants (GAR), which now operates 11 restaurants and one bakery in Northern Virginia.

Featuring casual Italian cuisine in an atmosphere reminiscent of New York's Little Italy, Ozzie's is the company's first Italian restaurant. It's at 11880 Grand Commons Ave. in the Fairfax Corner shopping center, not far from GAR's Coastal Flats restaurant.

"Coastal Flats does so well, we felt we could risk cannibalizing some of its business and do something good here," said GAR Chairman Randy Norton. "We also love to be near movies and to have the possibility of a strong, lunch business, and we have that with the [Fairfax County] Government Center nearby."



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From left, waiter Tony Elmore holds plates of Arancini and Veal Milanese; Leanne Bocchetti, Tiramisu Ho Ho; and David Webb, Sunday Salad.

## CALENDAR

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

### THURSDAY/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](http://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](http://jamminjava.com).

### FRIDAY/DEC. 24

**Good For The Jews: Putting The Ha! In Hanaukkah Tour with Rob Tannenbaum and David Fagin.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

### SUNDAY/DEC. 26

**Poor Man's Lobster, Funkmnyz and The Arctic Groove.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://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](http://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 Hubsmoke.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://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](http://www.virginiaballetcompany.org) or 703-249-8227.

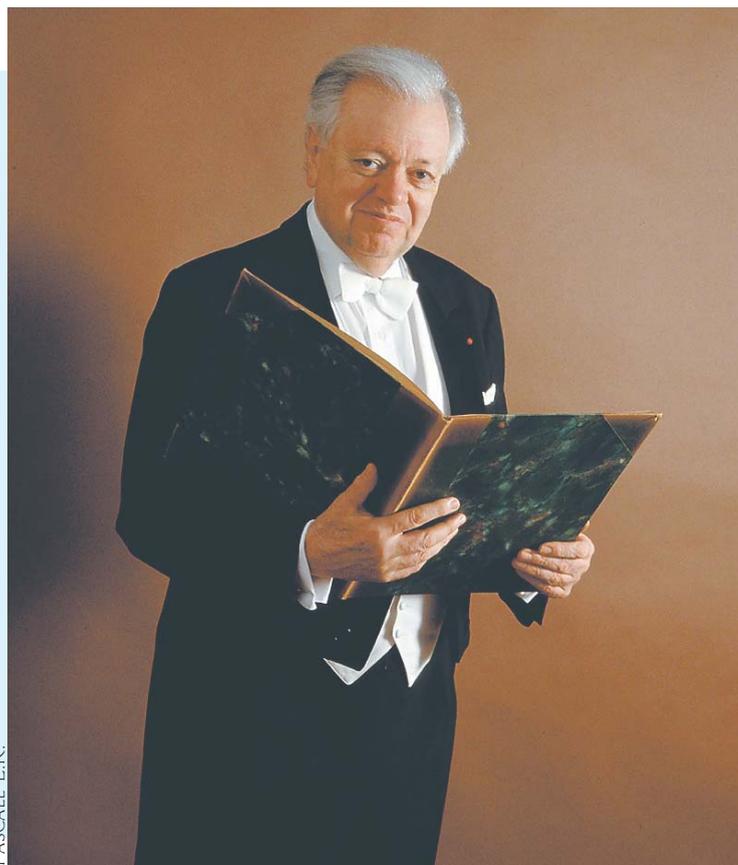
**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227.

**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 Dumarz.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 29

**"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



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Company and School's 61st season of the classic ballet. \$30 adults, \$20 for children, students and seniors. [www.virginiaballetcompany.org](http://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 indoor fireworks, bubbling potions and more spectacular science. Presented by Mad Science of

## 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 Eulenspiegels 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](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

Washington. Age 6-12. 703-644-7333.

**Berrett and Harrison and Cara Salimando.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

## DINING

# New Italian Restaurant Opens

FROM PAGE 10

come together – from a concept to putting it on paper, making plans and seeing the finished product. And through it all, you don't know exactly how it'll work until you do it."

All the pasta is made in house, and Norton says the Crazy Lasagna is, by far, the most popular entrée. "It's not made in advance and cooked in a big pan," he said. "It's assembled to order and made with pappardelle pasta, which is a long, wide noodle. It has meatballs on it and is served in a skillet."

Ozzie's Brick Chicken, at \$15, is also a big seller. A wood-grilled, boneless half chicken comes with lemon-rosemary sauce, garlic mashed potatoes and grilled rapini, in the broccoli family.

Another customer favorite is the Beef Short Rib Ragu, for \$21. "The meat is extremely tender and flavorful," said Norton. "There are onions and mushrooms, and it all goes together very well on the polenta we serve it on."

Seafood includes a hickory-grilled, fish of the day, plus crab, salmon and bass dishes. And the most popular appetizer is the Arancini — fried risotto balls stuffed with fontina cheese and Italian sausage and served with marinara sauce. "Our first Sat-

urday, we sold 195 of them, which surprised us all," said Norton.

Also a menu star is the \$16 Sunday Salad with Meatballs. "In old, Italian homes, families would get together Sundays for a big meal," explained Norton. "They'd take what was left in the refrigerator and throw it into a salad. We thought it was a lot of fun, and people love the meatballs."

Topping the dessert selections is Tiramisu Ho Ho for \$7. "It's not the typical tiramisu, but our own version," said Norton. "It's rolled up and has more subtle flavors, plus more dark chocolate and caramel than anything else."

Another unusual dessert is prunes stewed in red wine, cinnamon and sugar and served with mascarpone cheese and candied pecans. "We saw them in a little, Italian restaurant in New York City," said Norton. "There's a really great combination of flavors."

The ambience is 1900s Little Italy. "We looked at old movie clips and stills and tried to recreate the look," said Norton. "So the bar top is white marble and the mosaic floors are authentic to the period. There are iron columns in the entryway and custom-made, bronze lighting fixtures."

Most eye-catching of all, though, are the murals painted by an artist in Maine. Colorful and realistic, they stretch across one

wall and over the kitchen archway to the other side. The scenes depict the annual, street festival of San Gennaro in Little Italy, as well as Sonny's wedding from the movie, "The Godfather." Painted in are Osborn, plus Norton's three grandchildren.

The restaurant seats 250 and offers three dining areas, including one that's raised. "It's unusual for us," said Norton. "But it's more intimate and creates a different dining experience from Coastal Flats. I think people will try us because they have confidence in our brand and, hopefully, they'll come back."

Dining there recently for a "girls' day out" lunch was Frances Carson of Little Rocky Run. She had the Roasted Chicken Salad with Artichokes and said it tasted "like a good, Mediterranean salad. I'm Italian, and it's something different from the usual salad. I also love the atmosphere and Italian flair."

Diane Owens of Fairfax came with her daughter, Jennifer Connors, also of Fairfax, and both enjoyed the Roasted Chicken Panini. "I wanted something good to eat, and the cheese and chicken tasted good," said Connors. "I'd recommend Ozzie's to others; it has a nice ambience and a good menu." Added Owens: "It's comfortable here, and I'd come again because the food and service were both good."

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

### THURSDAY/DEC. 30

**Natalie York and Molly Hagen.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

### FRIDAY/DEC. 31

**Fourth Annual Rocknocos 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. Cosponsored by Jubilee Christian Center, Woody's Ice Cream and other local businesses. 703-383-1170 or 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.

### MONDAY/JAN. 3

**Fred Eaglesmith.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

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# Where Music and Technology Merge

## Fairfax Academy students perform at fifth annual MCTFest.

BY CHELSEA MUTH  
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax Academy's fifth annual MCTFest turned Northern Virginia Community College's Richard J. Ernst Cultural Center into an intimate, independent music house Friday, Dec 10. Backed by a roaring fire, students performed for three hours, raising funds for the high school academy's Music and Computer Technology program.

Parents, friends, teachers, and classmates from the Academy's many feeder schools mingled, noshed on snacks, and enjoyed a wide range of musical sets from MCT, a program designed to explore how technology can serve the music industry.

"We're Band Number One," introduced the lead singer of the first band. "This is Song Number One," he said. The four MCT students — on drums, guitar, vocals, and bass — broke into a confident indie rock piece. Throughout the night, more than a dozen of MCT's 60 students took the stage, either solo or in collaboration. All original compositions, the students' music ranged from rock, to folk, to metal, to classical.

Fairfax Academy administrator Dave Saunders ex-

plained why this event was such a rare treat.

"When you walk into their classroom, it's just a classroom of computers and keyboards," he said. "It's full of music, but its silent because they're plugged into headphones."

The only headphones at MCTFest were worn by the Academy's film program, there to document the event.

Woodson High School junior Arjun Baxter was eager to debut his two-person band, the Showerheads.

"We're a blend of hard metal and blues and light airy vocals," said Baxter. He met his band-mate Nate O'Leary at baseball practice. It wasn't until the two turned up in the same MCT class that they realized their shared love of music. After school, they began teaming up to write songs and perform.

"There are no other programs like this at the secondary level," said MCT teacher Chris Johnson. "We're really forging new ground." Johnson, a composer, pianist and conductor, has been teaching the course for 10 years.

Computer bound, MCT students learn to write music for video games and film. They meet professionals and learn about the business and entrepreneurial side of music production. They compose and occasionally jam in class. The MVCC Annandale Symphony, conducted by Chris Johnson, has premiered almost a dozen MCT student compositions.

According to Dave Saunders, MCT is the most popular program at Fairfax Academy, a collegial out-

**"There are no other programs like this at the secondary level."**

— Chris Johnson, Music and Computer Technology teacher



PHOTO BY CHELSEA MUTH/THE CONNECTION

**Band Number One warms up MCTFest with 'Song Number One.'**

SEE DIGITAL, PAGE 13

## Fairfax Man Pleads Guilty of Sexual Offense

### Victim was 13-year-old girl.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

A 52-year-old Fairfax man is facing some 57-71 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to trying to entice a 13-year-old girl to have sex with him. He is Joshua Nabatkhorian of the 4000 block of Hunt Road, and he entered his plea Dec. 3 in U.S. District Court in Alexandria.

In a statement of facts accompanying his plea agreement, he formally acknowledged that, had his case gone to trial, the prosecution could have proved its allegations against him. According to the document, from Oct. 26-Nov. 4, 2009, he used a cell phone to send at least 26 text messages of a sexual nature to the teen, who was a family friend.

Nabatkhorian referred to her as his "beautiful slave," "wild girl" and "loyal disciple" and told her she must obey all his commands. But around Nov. 4, the girl stopped responding to his messages.

Three days later, her mother found the messages on the victim's phone and notified Fairfax County Police. She then allowed police to use her daughter's phone and take over her online persona.

Nabatkhorian continued to send more than a dozen messages to that phone, from Nov. 5-12, even though the teen was still not answering him. And from Nov. 12-17, he communicated — not only via telephone text messages — but with e-mail, plus online instant messages. However, unbeknownst to him, he was actually expressing his feelings to an undercover police detective posing as the teen.

According to the statement, at all times, Nabatkhorian believed he was still speak-

ing to the 13-year-old girl.

He said he wanted the teen to be his girlfriend and told her, "Do not trust anybody, even your best friends. This is our secret love."

On more than a dozen occasions between Nov. 12-15, Nabatkhorian asked if they could be alone together. And on Nov. 15, stated the document, he discussed the specific, sexual activities he wanted to do with her.

He also attempted to persuade her to meet him at a shopping center near her Fairfax home. He told her he wanted to take her to an apartment so they could have sex, and they agreed to meet Nov. 17, 2009, at 1 p.m., at the shopping center.

However, according to the statement, on Nov. 16, Nabatkhorian instead reserved a room at the Ritz Carlton in Pentagon City for the night of Nov. 17. On the reservation, he requested a red rose on the pillow, chocolate-covered strawberries and champagne in the room.

Also on Nov. 16, the teen asked him dur-

ing a chat session to explain what he wanted to do when they were alone together. Nabatkhorian then detailed several sexual positions that he wished to explore with her during their meeting. That same day, around 1 p.m., Nabatkhorian arrived at the Fairfax shopping center for what he'd thought would be a romantic rendezvous and was instead greeted by police, who arrested him. Authorities found the underwear, condoms and perfume in his car.

The case was later turned over to the federal government for prosecution. According to the plea agreement filed Dec. 3 in U.S. District Court, Nabatkhorian could be given anywhere from 57-71 months behind bars (approximately 4-1/2 years to nearly six years) when he's sentenced, Feb. 11, 2011. Since his conviction is for attempting to entice a minor to have sex with him, he must also register as a sex offender.

## COMMUNITY

# Legislators Tackle Tank Farm

Recent oil spills have raised alarms about storage facility.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**E**lected officials are pursuing new regulations and tighter restrictions from the state and federal governments for a gasoline storage facility near the southeast border of the City of Fairfax and Fairfax County.

The facility, often called the tank farm, has long drawn the ire of local residents. An oil leak from the farm, where several companies store gasoline, contaminated a large swath of the Mantua community in Fairfax County during the early 1990s.

More recently, a tanker truck associated with the farm overturned corner of Pickett Road and Main Street/Route 236 and spilled approximately 4,000 gallons of oil into a local sewer drain at the end of August.

Most of the oil was cleaned up, though not before it made its way into a local creek that runs through Mantua.

A smaller spill, again involving an accident with a tanker truck, occurred about a month later in September. Earlier in 2010, the tank farm also had problems with an underground leak, during which 14,000 gallons of diesel fuel escaped into the ground.

"We are brainstorming about what we can do to make that tank farm safer. It is just not OK for these things to be happening. It is located right in the middle of a dense residential area," said Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large).

**U.S. REP GERRY CONNOLLY** (D-11) is seeking the assistance of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to clamp down on the facility.

"Any owner of a tank farm with this many oil spills should have either cleaned up its act or shut down, but this tank farm continues to endanger our neighborhood," wrote Connolly in a letter to Lisa Jackson, the Environmental Protection Agency's administrator, on Nov. 18.

The congressman lives in Mantua and was president of the local Mantua Citizens Association in the early 1990s, when the farm's oil leak contaminated his neighborhood.

The congressman asked Jackson to investigate the tank farm and "take all possible steps" to prevent future oil spills. If possible, the Environmental Protection Agency should try to shut the tank farm down permanently.

"The negligence of the tank farm's owner continues to endanger the health of everyone who lives near the tank farm, in addition to the health of the Accotink Creek watershed," wrote Connolly in his letter.

"We are brainstorming about what we can do to make that tank farm safer."

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

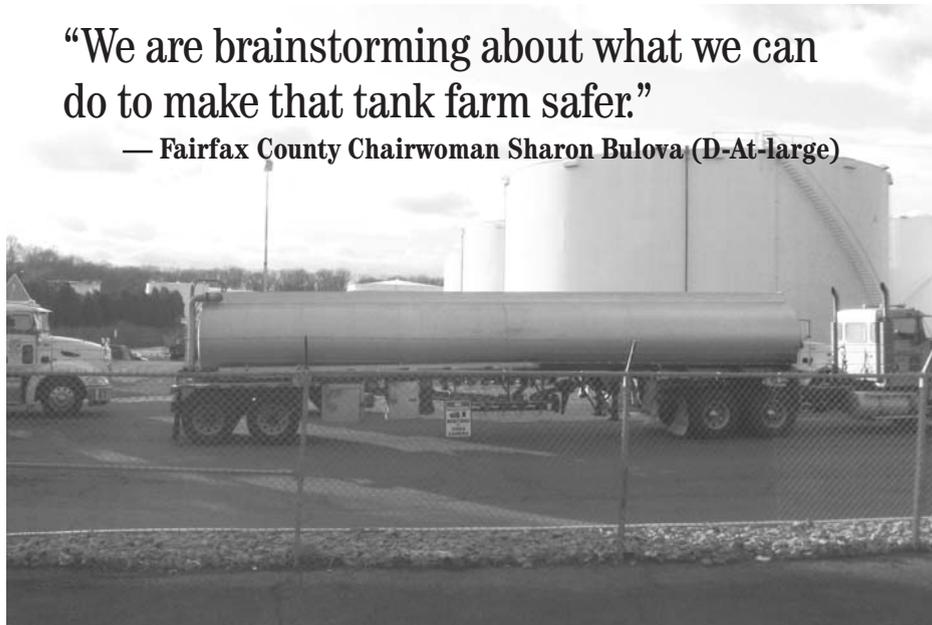


PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

**Local legislators are pursuing tighter regulation of a large gasoline facility in Fairfax.**

He also welcomed any suggestions for legislation he could introduce on Capitol Hill that might help get the tank farm shuttered.

According to City of Fairfax tax records, the tank farm is made up several parcels, which are each owned by different corporations. The owners of record are: TransMontaigne Products, Product Services Inc. of Denver, Colo.; Citgo Petroleum Corp., of Tulsa, Okla.; TransMontaigne Operating Company, L.P.; American Oil Company; and TRMI Holdings Inc., in care of Motiva Enterprises L.L.C.

Jim Hinkle, current president of the Manuta Citizens Association, said he was appreciative of Connolly's efforts, particularly the congressman's focus on wanting to shut down the tank farm permanently.

"We have just had multiple spills recently. During one, some of the oil ran over into our neighborhood and into people's backyards," said Hinkle.

"The fact that they have had these multiple accidents means that they need to concentrate more on what they are doing over there," he said.

Del. David Bulova (D-36) also plans to introduce legislation during the 2011 Virginia General Assembly session that would give the community more safeguards against the tank farm.

David Bulova's first bill would call for increased penalties on tanker truck drivers that speed or engage in other reckless behavior. Bulova said several of his constituents regularly complain of tanker trucks driving too fast and running red lights along Little River Turnpike/Route 236.

"The tank farm is less than quarter of a mile away from Frost [Middle School] and Woodson [High School]. When we have an accident, it can put the students in jeopardy," said David Bulova.

The delegate also submitted another bill that would require all above-ground storage tanks at tank farms in Virginia to be upgraded.

After the Mantua spill in the early 1990s, the state required all new tank farms to use the latest technology but, ironically older tank farms, including the one in the City of Fairfax, were not obligated to purchase new equipment, he said.

According to David Bulova, the above-ground tanks at the Fairfax facility have not been improved significantly since they were first installed in the 1960s and 1970s. They also only get inspected once every 10 years.

"The capacity for those storage tanks is a million gallons or more," said David Bulova.

**VIRGINIA'S DEPARTMENT** of Environmental Quality is also in negotiations with the tank farm owner to impose new penalties when a leak, spill or other type of incident occurs, said Sharon Bulova.

In addition to fines, the tank farm would have to make expensive upgrades to its equipment if there was another accident.

According to Sharon Bulova, the tank farm should move all of its valves above ground, which would make it easier to tell if a leak or a spill occurs. Currently, some of its valves are below ground.

"It is a costly thing for them to make that sort of change," said Sharon Bulova.

Both county and city officials think the tank farm should be responsible for reimbursing the localities for clean up and emergency response related to an oil spill, she said.

The City of Fairfax has committed to trying to maximize the taxes and fees it can impose on the tank farm.

That money would then be used to pay for state-of-art equipment needed for tank farm-related hazards and accidents. The city would also use the revenue to step up enforcement at the facility, said Mayor Robert Lederer.

"We are looking at what the city's ability is to maximize user fees at the tank farm," he said.

"We want to make the tank farm as safe as possible," said Lederer.

## Digital Music

FROM PAGE 12

let for Fairfax students looking for specialized courses, unavailable at their high school. Juniors and seniors can select courses from one of several specialized academies. Academy students commute mid-day to satellite campuses.

"I take the bus every day with nine other Woodson kids," said Baxter. "I use my free period to come, so I have no lunch period per say. But there's a lot of freedom. It's more like a college experience."

The MCT program is comprised of three audition-based classes. Students from high schools across the county, with varying musical backgrounds, must demonstrate sight-reading and listening abilities.

"Academies do a great service for students, because they serve a niche which isn't served otherwise," said Saunders. "These students are truly dedicated to working towards a career."

"We get to know people in the industry," said student Ana Fernandez, about her class. "It's a lot more than just producing music." Fernandez, a James Madison High School senior, served as general manager for MCTFest.

Beyond composition and performance, Academy students organized Dec 10's event in its entirety, arranging ticket sales, event logistics and audio tech.

"This is one of the best classes we've had—creative, energetic, and intelligent," Johnson said.

Profits from MCTFest will go toward the purchase of new equipment for the digital music lab.

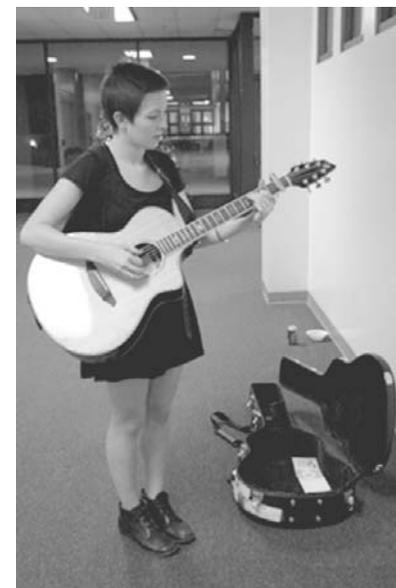


PHOTO BY CHELSEA MUTH/THE CONNECTION

**Singer-songwriter Lydia Mullins is a Fairfax High School junior and Fairfax Academy MCT student.**



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.

On 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 Reyim'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 shlichah (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 3

"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 the 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."

### Get involved

For more information about Going Places!, contact Melissa Hochberg at the Jewish Community Center; melissah@jccnv.org or 703-537-3040.

### 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).

# NEWS



DONATED PHOTO

**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. Frank Wolf (R-10) sponsored the legislation.

### HOME SALES

**NOVEMBER 2010**  
\$1,475,000 ~ \$112,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
12209 WILD HORSE DR	4	5	1		FAIRFAX	\$1,475,000	Detached	0.68		DARTMOOR WOODS
3782 THARPER WAY	4	5	2		FAIRFAX	\$1,250,450	Detached	0.90		FAIRFAX FARMS
3827 FARRCROFT DR	5	4	1		FAIRFAX	\$949,500	Detached	0.17		FARRCROFT
3987 WOODBERRY MEADOW DR	4	4	1		FAIRFAX	\$805,504	Detached	0.18		KENSINGTON MANOR
12829 SHADOW OAK LN	5	4	1		FAIRFAX	\$803,000	Detached	0.27		CENTURY OAK
3926 POPLAR CREEK CT	5	4	1		FAIRFAX	\$745,000	Detached	0.20		HIGHLAND OAKS
3982 PORTLOE TER	4	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$704,140	Detached	0.10		KENSINGTON PARC
4231 MASON OAKS CT	4	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$699,000	Detached	0.22		MASON OAKS
4022 WALTERS CT	5	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$590,000	Detached	0.24		SINGING PINES
10526 JAMES WREN WAY	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$588,000	Townhouse	0.04		CHANCERY SQUARE
10450 COURTNEY DR	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$555,000	Townhouse	0.05		CRESTMONT TOWNHOUSES
4027 QUIET CREEK DR	4	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$516,500	Townhouse	0.04		STONE CREEK CROSSING
9816 HAMPTON LN	5	3	0		FAIRFAX	\$475,000	Detached	0.31		FAIRMONT ESTATES
4003 ROSEMADE DR	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$475,000	Townhouse	0.06		FAIR RIDGE
3140 FLINTLOCK RD	5	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$470,000	Detached	0.25		MOSBY WOODS
3414 PARK HILL PL	4	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$454,950	Detached	0.24		COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
4735 GREAT HERON CIR	3	2	2		FAIRFAX	\$443,000	Townhouse	0.05		GREENS AT FAIR LAKES
12801 MOUNT ROYAL LN	4	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$439,900	Detached	0.25		GREENBRIAR
4712 WARM HEARTH CIR	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$427,000	Townhouse	0.07		GREENS AT FAIR LAKES
10725 NORMAN AVE	4	3	0		FAIRFAX	\$425,000	Detached	0.55		NETHERDALE
3921 CLARES CT	3	2	2		FAIRFAX	\$425,000	Townhouse	0.04		PENDERBROOK
4027 DOGBERRY LN	3	2	2		FAIRFAX	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.04		BIRCH POND
4100 MEADOW FIELD CT	3	2	2		FAIRFAX	\$415,000	Townhouse	0.07		FAIR RIDGE
4311 THOMAS BRIGADE LN	3	2	2		FAIRFAX	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.04		CARR AT CEDAR LAKES
4266 SLEEPY LAKE DR	3	2	2		FAIRFAX	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.04		FAIR RIDGE
4603 MARSHALL HALL LN	3	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$365,000	Detached	0.23		GREENBRIAR
10828 FAIRCHESTER DR	4	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$364,000	Detached	0.32		FAIRCHESTER
10318 SAGER AVE	3	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$360,000	Detached	0.25		NR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4446B BEECHSTONE LN	3	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$359,900	Townhouse	0.03		EAST MARKET II
4323 STEVENS BATTLE LN	3	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$352,500	Townhouse	0.03		CEDAR LAKES
3312 OLD LEE HWY	3	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$350,000	Detached	0.73		EAST FAIRFAX PK
4480 MARKET COMMONS DR #204	2	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$348,900	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors	0.23		ELAN AT EAST MARKET
4015 ROBERTS RD	4	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$348,000	Detached	0.23		HALEMURST
3813 RICHARD AVE	4	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$343,000	Detached	0.25		FAIRVIEW
4115 MARBLE LN	4	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$340,500	Detached	0.21		GREENBRIAR
3413 NEWBURY RD	4	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$340,000	Detached	0.33		COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
4651 RED ADMIRAL WAY #157	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$332,000	Townhouse	0.05		WILLOW OAKS
10612 RAILROAD CT	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.05		RAILROAD SQUARE
3925 PLUM RUN CT	3	2	2		FAIRFAX	\$315,000	Townhouse	0.03		FOXFIELD
10925 FAIRCHESTER DR	3	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$310,000	Detached	0.25		FAIRCHESTER
4681 RED ADMIRAL WAY #144	3	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$305,000	Back-to-Back	0.17		WILLOW OAKS
4118 HOLLY ST	4	1	0		FAIRFAX	\$299,000	Detached	0.17		WESTMORE
4490 MARKET COMMONS DR #206	1	1	0		FAIRFAX	\$273,500	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors	0.17		ELAN AT EAST MARKET

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For more information on MRIS, visit [www.mris.com](http://www.mris.com).  
To search for a home online, visit [www.HomesDatabase.com](http://www.HomesDatabase.com).



**A Family Volunteer Day**  
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

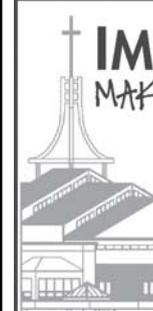
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**Spaces are limited and pre-registration is required at [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).**

Special thanks to the Connection for its support of volunteerism.



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Fairfax Baptist...703-273-1820  
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Greater Little Zion...703-764-9111  
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Judah Praise Fellowship Christian...703-758-1456  
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Bancroft Bible Church... 703-425-3800

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St. Leo the Great Catholic... 703-273-5369  
St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church...  
703-978-4141  
St. Paul Catholic Church... 703-968-3010

**Coptic Orthodox**  
St. Mark...703-591-4444

**Disciples of Christ**  
Fairfax Christian Church... 703-385-3520

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Church of the Apostles  
703-591-1974  
Truro Episcopal...703-273-1300

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Chabad Lubavitch...703-426-1980

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Christ Lutheran...703-273-4094  
Kings of Kings...703-378-7272  
Lord of Life...703-323-9500

**Methodist**  
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# Start of Season Proves To Be a Challenge for Some

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 completion 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."

The district win came on Dec. 10 when the Bruins defeated visiting W.T. Woodson, 58-54. Natalie Butler, a 6-foot-2-inch sopho-

more forward, led Lake Braddock with 15 points in the win. Other scoring contributions came from junior guard Hannah Aboulhossn (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).

**"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



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

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUZEL/THE CONNECTION

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.

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



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

# 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. Try-outs 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; or coach Bill Walter at 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.

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