

WINTER FUN
inside



Winter Fun

No Sun?
Why Not Swim?
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Velasquez
Commits To
William & Mary
SPORTS, PAGE 10

Sarah Friedlander of Burke is the lead veil dancer in The Virginia Ballet Company's presentation of the Polovetzian Dances from Alexander Borodin's opera 'Prince Igor.'

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WINTER FUN

Fun In the Pool, If Not The Sun

It may not be beach weather, but that doesn't mean you can't swim indoors.

BY CHELSEA MUTH
THE CONNECTION

This time of year, Speedos appear only in conversation, in talk of New Year's resolutions and far-off beach vacations. They are definitely not spotted in public. Unless, that is, you're headed to the Burke Racquet and Swim Club. Inside the chlorinated facility, the training ground for five past U.S. Olympians, countless swimmers suit-up to work out and get energized.

From aquatics classes to competitive swim teams, Burke Racquet and Swim Club's 56,000 square foot facility has buoyed swimmers since 1985. BR&SC's team of therapists, staff, and instructors welcome anyone, novice and world champion alike, who wants to dive into the pool.

"Currently, about 250 swimmers train at Burke Racquet and Swim," said Pete Morgan, general manager and head coach of the nationally acclaimed Curl-Burke swim team.

Morgan, a University of Virginia graduate who has coached Olympians, nationally and abroad, has been with BR&SC since day one. Coaching the original Curl Swim Club – founded by



PHOTO BY GINA URICOLI/THE CONNECTION

Swimmers do practice drills during their three hour practice on Tuesday, Jan 25, at the Burke Racquet and Swim Club.

instructor Rick Curl – Morgan brought the nationally recognized team to BR&SC in 1985. Renamed Curl-Burke, the swim club now has six training locations, the largest of which is BR&SC.

Competitive swimmers aspire to the likes of Olympic alumni Mike Barroman, Tom Dolan, Ed Moses, Mark Henderson and Roque Santos. Athletes looking for serious swimming turn to the youth-based Curl-

Burke Swim Club, with 11 training groups, from entry-level to Olympian, or Curl-Burke Masters, a program for more senior swimmers interested in maintaining fitness. Annual tune-up classes and clinics bolster Curl-Burke Swim Club and Masters.

Beyond Curl-Burke, BR&SC offers lessons for less competitive swimmers. Youth, preschool, and "Mommy & Me" classes teach children foundational skills. Adult classes include Back to Basics, a refinement of basic stroke technique, and Transitions IJ, "an individualized program to bridge the gap between physical therapy and full range of activity."

Apart from swim lessons, the 25-yard, 12-lane pool still brims with aquatic recreation. Swim membership, which includes group fitness classes, caters to triathletes as well as senior citizens.

"We've got a ton of folks that pursue their own lap swimming for their fitness workout," said Morgan.

Aquatic Director Kim Spina runs reclining stroke and exercise programs, as well as private sessions. Daily aquatics classes — Aqua-fit, an ongoing program for members and guests, and Hydro-Fit, available for walk-ins — are "low impact, high inten-

sity" aerobic sessions, which "use the resistance created by water to produce a workout more physically challenging than many land classes."

This season the club introduced an Aqua Zumba class. As described by Morgan, Aqua Zumba "takes a popular dance class into the water, using the same kind of music for

water adapted movement."

If swim teams and aquatics fail to excite, BR&SC has an ultimate option for fun: the pool party. The club hosts exclusive hour-long pool parties on Saturdays, as well as a once, monthly "Kids Night Out." On "Kids Night Out" the club takes kids off their parents' hands from 5-10 p.m. Children enjoy swimming, as well as pizza, snacks, rock climbing, and tennis. With pizza, a pool, and no parents in sight, what more could a child ask for?

"To me, aquatics are so much fun," said Morgan. "The suspension that you get in the water relieves the wear and tear on the limbs. I truly believe it's the sport for a lifetime."

"The suspension that you get in the water relieves the wear and tear on the limbs."

— Pete Morgan



Curl-Burke Swim Club's Head coach Pete Morgan explains the next set of drills to his swimmers in the pool. The club practices at the Burke Racquet and Swim club located at 6001 Burke Commons Road.

Flying High

Mark Morris Dance Group returns to Center for the Arts.

By AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

When the Mark Morris Dance Group takes the stage at George Mason University's Center for the Arts on Friday, Feb. 4, it will be a homecoming of sorts, both for the dance troupe and some individual performers.

The world-renown company is based out of New York City, but has a close relationship with the university, said Dan Joyce, an associate professor in the School of Dance at GMU and a former 10-year member of the Mark Morris Dance Group, or MMDG as it is frequently called.

"We're very lucky that this is one of their frequent stops," Joyce said. "We're able to bring a more sophisticated show to an audience."

The School of Dance and MMDG have a mutually beneficial relationship: Members of the company, and sometimes Morris himself, often provide workshops or master classes leading up to their performances at GMU for students in the dance program, and sometimes those same students end up joining the company professionally.

At least two of the dancers in the performances on Feb. 4 and 5 are GMU alumni — Rita Donahue and Billy Smith.

Joyce has fond memories from his 10 years in the group, including traveling the world and working with Morris on several film and opera projects.

"It was really wonderful to travel all over the place and do high-level work in beautiful venues," he said.

But when one of his colleagues at GMU had an opportunity to work with a professional dance company, she asked Joyce to fill in for her and teach some classes within the dance program. It was an opportunity to put down some roots and sleep in the same bed for more than two nights in a row, Joyce laughed.

"It was really wonderful to travel all over the place and do high-level work in beautiful venues."

— Dan Joyce, associate professor at GMU, former member of the Mark Morris Dance Group

And now, he gets to work with students who might dream about joining a group like MMDG, students who can learn from Morris himself or one of his dancers, an opportunity almost unheard of outside a major metropolitan area.

The nice thing about GMU, Joyce said, is that students there are close enough to Washington to see major dance companies when they pass through town, but have enough peace and quiet and what Joyce considers a kind of isolation to study their craft.

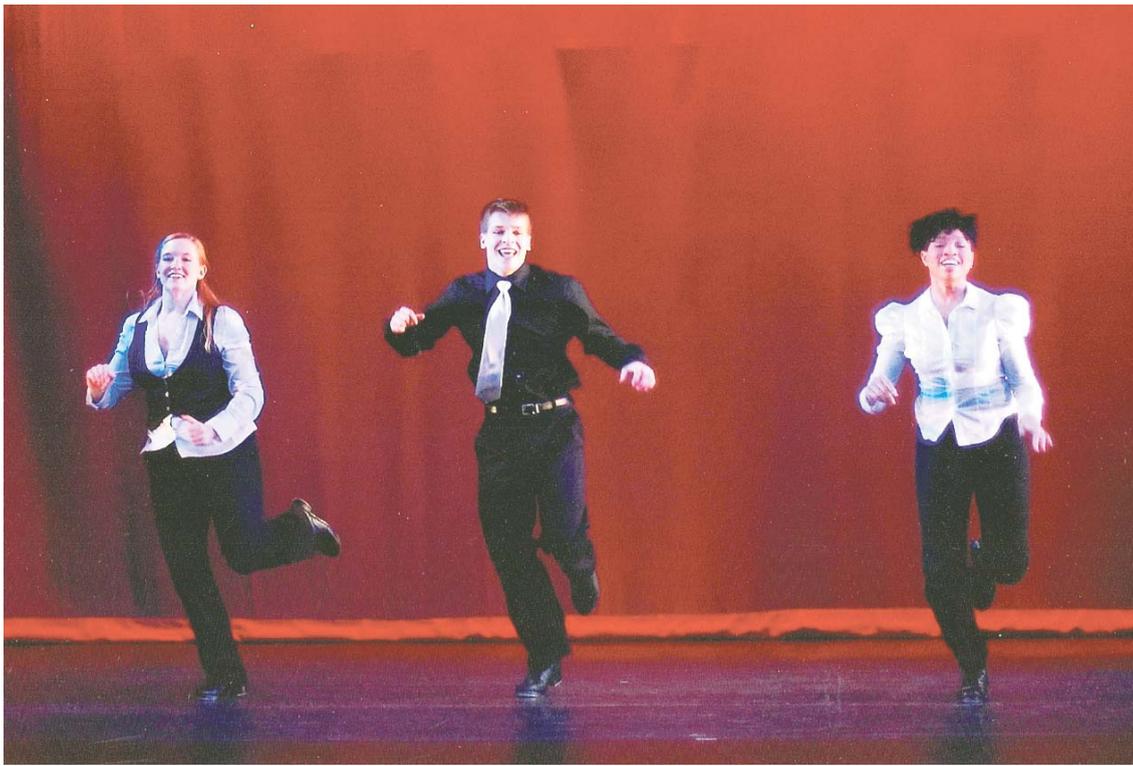
"For the dancers who get that one-on-one time with him, in one of the master classes, that's incredible," he said. It's an advantage for those who later go on to audition for MMDG, because while others might be awestruck over being in the presence of a legend, GMU students may have already met Morris and worked with him.

For this visit to GMU, MMDG will be performing four pieces: The Washington area premiere of "Petrichor," set to the music of Heitor Villa-Lobos, originally performed at the Cutler Majestic Theater in Boston last October. The group will also perform three pieces from Morris' repertory: 1990's "Going Away Party," a piece set

SEE LOCAL DANCERS, PAGE 7

Dancers from the Mark Morris Dance Group perform 'Petrichor.'

PHOTO BY BRYAN SNYDER/MMDG



Performing are, from left, Jenna Stegmann, Michael Hibbs and Jodeci Milhouse of Center Stage Dance Co.



PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Layna Lamons of Burke is a slave girl and her dancing partner, John Finnegan of Fairfax is Kumon the slave trader.

Dance, Dance, Dance

Variety of styles to be presented at Jan. 29-30 gala.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

When the Fairfax County Dance Coalition (FCDC) formed in 2008, it was mainly to advise Northern Virginia Community College's Annandale campus on its stage renovations. But the coalition decided to take things a step further.

"We have a lot of excellent dancers trained in Fairfax County, but they go elsewhere for careers because there's nothing here for them," said FCDC President Sherri Shortell. "So we want to make this county a place where they can work; we want Fairfax County to become a center of dance excellence."

Toward that end, the Coalition is presenting its first annual gala, "A Celebration of Dance," Saturday, Jan. 29, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 30, at 2 p.m., in the theater of NOVA'S Annandale Campus at 8333 Little River Turnpike.

"We're trying to let the general public know there are professional dancers and dance companies right here," said Shortell. "So we thought the best way to do that was to have a performance."

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. To buy them, or for more information, visit www.dancefairfax-gala.org, or contact any of the participating dance organizations.

Nine companies will entertain, including: BalletNova, Classical Ballet Theatre, Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Co., Dream in Color

Foundation – Impact Dance Co., Encore Theatrical Arts Project, Lasya Dance Co., The Ballet Arts Ensemble of Fairfax, Center Stage Dance Co. and the Virginia Ballet Co.

"We're a very eclectic group, with dance styles ranging from ballet to contemporary, jazz, hip hop, Indian and tap," said Shortell. "It's a great show. There's definitely something for everybody. A lot of us haven't seen what the other groups are doing, yet, so it'll be exciting to discover what everyone else is bringing to the table."

Representing the City of Fairfax are Center Stage Dance Co. and The Ballet Arts Ensemble of Fairfax. Directed by Shortell, Centre Stage's seven dancers — five females and two males, ages 15-30s — will perform three numbers.

They'll be tap dancing to "Cool World Stomp" while decked out in tuxedos. "It's a very exciting, upbeat piece with intricate steps and dancers entering and exiting throughout the song," said Shortell. "It changes tap styles so the audience will see both rhythm and Broadway tap."

To Janet Jackson's smash hit, "Rhythm Nation," Center Stage's tappers will don black leather, switching to street clothes to perform the show's only hip hop number, "What I Do," by Chris Brown.

Shortell's dancers have been rehearsing since September, and she says the toughest

part has been meshing the rehearsal schedules of students and adults. But directing them gives her great satisfaction.

"I founded Center Stage in 1990 and have taught the adults in the company since they were little children, so it's wonderful to have that continuity," she said. "They're all more than just my dancers — they're more like a family. And my son, Alex, who's almost 17, is performing, so that's a joy, too."

Also proud of his group is Benn Savage, who's headed the dance school, The Center for Ballet Arts, for 18 years, and its performing company, The Ballet Arts Ensemble of Fairfax, for 15 years.

The dance company is part of the nationwide dance organization, Regional Dance America. "There are 23 companies its Southeastern Region and we're the only dance company in Virginia in that region," said Savage. "This gives my dancers the opportunity to get work in the professional world."

His dancers will perform the ballet number, "Sarabande," at a dance festival in April in Montgomery, Ala., and he's thrilled about it. "They send scouts to these festivals," he said. "So there are opportunities for scholarships to major dance schools and for trainee and apprenticeship programs with major ballet companies."

Savage is also pleased about the dance

"We want Fairfax County to become a center of dance excellence."

— Sherri Shortell, president, Fairfax County Dance Coalition

gala at NOVA. "I'm excited about the Dance Coalition show because it gives my kids a chance to perform this dance in a theater before going to the festival," he said. "We have about 46 dancers in the company, mostly female, ages 12-20, but two men will also perform in 'Sarabande' and it's important for people to see men dancing, too."

The Ballet Arts Ensemble will dance two, different numbers in the gala. For Saturday's show, some eight or nine dancers will perform a contemporary, modern-dance number, "Holding on. Letting Go," choreographed by Stephanie York.

"She's a talented, young choreographer, and this gives her an opportunity for other people to see her work," said Savage. "It may even launch her career as a choreographer. She does intricate choreography requiring strength and technique, and the dancers are doing it quite well."

On Sunday, 13 of his dancers will perform "Sarabande," professionally choreographed by Richard Rholdon of New Orleans. "It's done en pointe — most-demanding technically in dance — and is reminiscent of old, French Court dances to beautiful, rich, textural music," said Savage. "This gala will give us a chance to show our versatility. I'm glad we get to do both numbers and that my kids get to perform alongside all the other participants."

Each company has 10 minutes to dance. Regarding the rest of the program, BalletNova will do a classical ballet piece, "Grand Tarentella," and Classical Ballet

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WINTER FIIN Gala

FROM PAGE 4

Theatre will perform, "Paquita." The Virginia Ballet Co. will do Polovetzian Dances from "Prince Igor."

Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Co. will perform a contemporary number, "The Theory of Sound," and a Broadway, Bob Fosse-style dance called "I Gotcha." Dream in Color Foundation - Impact Dance Co. will do a contemporary jazz piece, "Redemption," and the Lasya Dance Co. will perform "The Flow," a traditional Indian dance with varying tempos.

The dance companies are all nonprofits, so the Coalition is currently trying to broaden the scope of the affordable venues here available for their performances. So, said Shortell, "We'd ultimately like to build a performing-arts center somewhere in Fairfax County." Meanwhile, they're looking forward to the upcoming gala.

"All the directors have worked hard together to put this on - it's been wonderful," said Shortell. "Instead of being competitive, it's really been inspirational and a joy working with them. And this way, all of us get to introduce our students to each other's styles; I'm so glad I'm involved. It's going to be an excellent show; I hope people will come see what Fairfax County has to offer."

Correction

The article "FCPS Releases Its Recommendations" [Connection, Jan. 20-26, 2011] contained incorrect information. Kristy Stoddard's name was misspelled and her position was misidentified. She is the White Oaks Elementary School PTA president. Jennifer Broderick and Jennifer Echard are the co-presidents of the Oak View Elementary PTA.

COLLEGE NOTES

Lauren Gertscher has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2010 semester at Radford University in Radford. Gertscher is a criminal justice major in the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences. She is a 2007 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Anthony D. Gai, a resident of Burke, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2010 semester at Alfred University. He is a sophomore in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Students must earn at least a 3.3 grade point average to qualify for dean's list. A graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary School, Gai is the son of David and Mia Gai of Burke.

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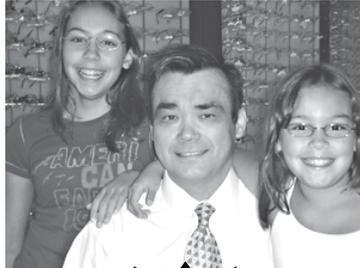
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OPINION

Risky \$400M Proposal Should Be Trashed

BY SUPERVISOR PAT HERRITY
R-SPRINGFIELD

Fairfax County staff has recommended moving forward on a proposal to spend more than \$400 million to buy a waste-to-energy facility currently owned by Covanta Energy, a private sector company that has owned and operated the plant since 1988.

The county is recommending the purchase instead of accepting Covanta's offer to extend the lease for another 20 years at similar terms to the last 20 years. County staff's own analysis shows the lease option to be a better deal for the county for the next 20 years than their own optimistic projections under a purchase. We need to trash this risky \$400 million purchase and let the private sector continue to successfully own and operate the plant.

I am also concerned about how this process has played out. The Board of Supervisors has been discussing this purchase for months, but all of that dialogue has taken place behind closed doors. While the closed door sessions were legal, this purchase will dramatically expand the size and scope of our government and put an enormous amount of risk onto taxpayers and we need to engage our citizens in an open and transparent way.

Public information meetings are being scheduled, but I believe a decision of this magnitude deserves a formal public hearing in front of the entire board and will be proposing that at the Jan. 25 Board of Supervisors meeting.

I have vocally opposed this purchase for many reasons.

Covanta has operated the plant successfully for the past 20 years and has been an outstand-

Supervisor decries lack of transparency in incinerator purchase decision-making process.

ing corporate citizen, sponsoring numerous community based organizations and participating in community events throughout the county

Covanta has also been recognized with many awards for their work including the 2010 Virginia Governors Environmental Excellence Award. In addition, they also provide Fairfax County with one of the lowest tipping fees (the price paid to drop off trash) in the region, ranging from \$26 to \$33 a ton.

COMMENTARY

Based on that history, it is hard for me to comprehend why our county government would make a purchase of this magnitude at the same time our citizens are demanding that governments at all levels return their focus to core government functions. Owning and operating a trash incinerator is not a core government function and should be left to the private sector.

SUPPORTERS OF this purchase argue "it gives us more control," "we can do it better" and "we might have lower tipping fees 20 years down the road." Those are not compelling reasons for the county to end an agreement that has worked well over the past 20 years and put \$400 million worth of risk onto the backs of the taxpayers — enormous amounts of risk for very little return, if any at all.

Because we are issuing debt to purchase the plant, it adds to our total debt thereby competing with our other capital needs. When in-

terest costs are included, the plant would cost more than \$800 million, even before any of the needed capital improvements are included. Why would we spend our scarce capital improvement dollars on a trash incinerator when we have such huge capital needs in public safety and school construction and renovation?

Issuing \$400 million worth of debt to make this purchase could have catastrophic consequences for our county as it has for other counties across the country. Seven years ago, Harrisburg, Pa., borrowed money for its trash incinerator and that decision brought the city to the verge of bankruptcy. The amounts of trash that were promised never materialized, so the incinerator didn't bring in enough money to pay off the bonds. As a result, the city's finances have been ruined and Harrisburg now pays among the highest tipping fees in the country. Fairfax County and its citizens could be exposed to the same risks.

There is a better option. Covanta has agreed to extend the lease which would give us the same control over trash that we have had for the last 20 years, competitive tipping fees and the ability to renegotiate again in 20 years. County staff's own analysis shows the lease option to be a better deal for the county for the next 20 years than their own optimistic projections under a purchase. This can be done without the risk of spending \$400 million of our scarce capital dollars to purchase the plant.

I will continue to push for a lease extension instead of purchase and for an open and transparent process including a public hearing.

Things Heat Up

BY SEN. DAVE MARSDEN
D-37TH DISTRICT

This week is typically the busiest week of the session and it did not disappoint. Each day consisted of more than 20 events, meetings and legislative hearings.

I spent a great deal of time rewriting bills I had previously introduced to meet the needs of various individuals and groups who wanted to improve the bill or insure that it did not have unintended consequences. Lobbyists and representatives of non-profit public interest groups were very helpful in doing some of the work while my staff, legislative services (who wrote the initial drafts) and I were in constant communication to insure that the bills did what was intended. Sounds easy but language is a funny thing, it can have unintended meanings or trigger conflicts with other parts of the Code of Virginia. The result was two successful bills getting through committee.

The first successful bill dealt with rewriting the code to clarify the services and placements available to foster care youth who could not be returned home or placed with relatives (kinship care). Five agencies and individuals were

involved in discussions over several days to get it right.

The second successful bill was passed easily in my Local Government Committee, but now, the Virginia Association of Counties (VACO) wants to amend the bill on the floor of the Senate. It does not look like we can agree or work something out. Compromise is not always possible. The bill will not work if I amend it the way they would like. I have to fix this by Monday or the bill gets voted on as is. Perhaps the House of Delegates will see it VACO's way when the bill is sent over there and amend it accordingly. This will create a difference in the Senate version of the bill and the House version. A conference committee of delegates and senators will then be appointed to resolve the differences. If they cannot agree, the bill will die.

My defeat this week was an attempt to reimburse the State Police for costs they incur for records they reproduce for attorneys as a result of civil subpoenas they have filed. Attorneys and their clients would have to pay for what they now get for free. The Courts of Justice Committee is made up of attorneys, so this bill was killed. Not surprising.

During second week of 2010 session, General Assembly gets busy.

The most interesting issue brought to my attention this week was that automobile dealers can be required to renovate and modernize their facilities by auto manufacturers. Fair enough, but they also require the dealers to use renovation construction materials from vendors the manufacturers have chosen. These are often from overseas firms that have charged up to five times more than U.S. suppliers. This has to stop. We need to create law that gives our auto dealers the right to meet the requirements of manufacturers through U.S. (Virginia?) suppliers that will help reduce renovation costs, support jobs here at home and keep the costs of cars down.

I also met this week with groups and individuals concerned about insurance coverage for children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. I support requiring Virginia insurance companies to provide this coverage so that Virginia's children can receive treatment prior to starting school. This will give them the best chance to succeed in the classroom and to live independent and productive lives as they grow up. I have introduced a bill this year to allow parents or grandparents of children diagnosed

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WINTER FIIN

Local Dancers Come Home

FROM PAGE 3

to the music of Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys; 1999's "Silhouettes," set to the music of Richard Cummings' and 2008's "Excursions," a piece choreographed to music by Samuel Barber.

When possible, Morris said he likes to use live accompaniment instead of recorded music, calling it an "equal partner in every show we do." The piece "Going Away Party" uses recorded music, "because it is a particular recording session that produced these wonderful performances and it is nearly impossible to replicate."

Morris got his start studying Spanish dance at the age of 9 and quickly added ballet and folkdance.

"It's something I do well and allows a close relationship with music," he said. "Dance continues to be fun and interesting and challenging to me."

Music itself is an inspiration to Morris, who said he makes up dances in response to what he hears.

He does have his favorites, however. His favorite piece of choreography is "Romeo & Juliet: on Motifs of Shakespeare," his danced version of Shakespeare's classic tale set to the music of Prokofiev.

"It's my best work to date," he said. "I like watching my work performed by the brilliant dancers in



GMU alumni William Smith III and Rita Donahue will be performing with the Mark Morris Dance Group on Feb. 4 and 5.

the company. I also love to watch dancing generally."

Returning to GMU is a pleasure for Morris.

"We've been involved with GMU for a long time," he said. "We've been appreciated and supported by the university and the community. We have a regular following, we participate with the dance department. We like it there."

Morris believes there's "something good" happening at the School of Dance at GMU, a belief that has been proven "by the number of good dancers who come out the other end. ... Dance is taken seriously and rigorously, which is unusual."

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WINTER FINN

Great Wines for Next to Nothing

Recommendations for delicious wines for about \$10.

BY MIKE POTASHNIK AND DON WINKLER
I-WINEREVIEW

A lot of people make New Year's Resolutions they can't possibly keep, like "I'm going to stop drinking good wine, and save my money for a 96 inch LCD, LED, HD, 3D TV." Well, to mix metaphors, now you can have your cake and drink it, too, while watching that new TV. All you have to do is find good quality wine that costs almost nothing.

From our travels and writing this past year, we came across many producers who offer delicious wines at terrific prices. Two which we especially like and are happy to share with readers are located in neighboring countries in South America.

One is Concha y Toro Chile's single largest winery, the other is Doña Paula, a large commercial winery in Argentina. Concha y Toro produces a series called Xplorador; Doña Paula's series is called Los Cardos.

Concha y Toro Xplorador

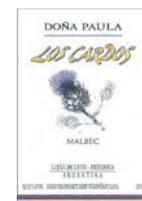
Last year in Santiago we sat down with Concha y Toro's chief winemaker, Marcelo Papa, to taste through almost the full range of wines. We reported the results of that tasting in The Wines of Chile on www.i-winereview.com. However, we never reported on Concha y Toro's line of entry level wines, Xplorador. Xplorador wines have suggested retail prices under \$10 a bottle, which usually translates into something less at your local neighborhood store.

How, you ask, can a respectable winery like Concha y Toro make such inexpensive wines? There are lot of reasons, of course, but the main one is that the fruit for these wines is sourced mainly from Chile's Central Valley where the yields are high. Then, under the direction of winemaker Tito Urzia, that fruit is fermented and aged in large stainless steel tanks, not expensive, small French oak barriques. Don't kid yourself. This process isn't going to produce Chateau Margaux. But you can get perfectly good, drinkable wines.

Nothing complicated, not particularly nuanced, just pure, plain good fruit. This makes them easy drinking, either as an aperitif or with a meal. The **Xplorador 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon** is a fruit forward Cabernet Sauvignon showing mostly red plum and berry fruit on the nose with just a hint of brambles and earth. It's a straight-forward, uncomplicated wine, but it's also surprisingly tasty, balanced and easy to drink. The **Xplorador 2009 Merlot** is a wine that definitely needs to be drunk with food. It has nice red plum fruit on the nose and palate, but it also has a green herbal note that can nicely comple-



Don Winkler and Mike Potashnik of i-WineReview.com, a McLean-based publication.



ment the right kind of food (think brussel sprouts, asparagus, and other vegetarian fare). The **Xplorador 2010 Malbec** shows cherry and raspberry aromas and vibrant fruit on the palate. It's quite delicious, albeit lighter than the typical Malbec coming out of Argentina.

Doña Paula Los Cardos

Doña Paula was established in 1997 by Chilean entrepreneur Ricardo Claro of the Claro Group with the purchase of 40+ year old Malbec and Chardonnay vineyards in Luján de Cuyo. The estate now consists of 1,878 acres of vineyards in the Tupungato and Luján de Cuyo regions. David Bonomi is chief winemaker, and Edgardo Del Popolo is viticulturalist.

Los Cardos is Doña Paula's entry level wines which sell for \$10-12. The fruit for most of the wines comes from the Finca El Alto in Ugarteche (Luján de Cuyo) and the high altitude (1100 m) Finca Los Cerezos in Valle de Uco, the zone closest to the Andes and therefore the coldest and best suited for early-ripening varietals, especially Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay. **Doña Paula 2010 Los Cardos Sauvignon Blanc** shows good varietal character with an opulent style. It has an effusively fragrant nose of grapefruit and nettles and a citrus, pear and herbal palate of very good intensity. This is a very good wine and an excellent value!

Doña Paula 2009 Los Cardos Chardonnay is in the ripe, New World style with a nose of smoke, ripe citrus, and honeydew. It's ripe on the attack with good integration of fruit and oak and shows good acidity on the finish.

Fresh plum and blackberry waft from the glass of the dark ruby purple **Doña Paula 2009 Los Cardos Malbec**. There's a sweet, tangy attack of blackberry fruit with notes of underbrush, tar and earth and good purity of fruit on the finish with firm, ripe tannins. This wine offers everything, and at a very reasonable price.

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WINTER FIIN

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/JAN. 27

"Annie." 7:30 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School Little Theatre, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Tickets \$12. www.lbmusical.webs.com.

Jonas Sees In Color, Poema, Queens Club, Mercury In Summer and The Baby Grand. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Ari Hest with Bess Rogers. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Indie-folk. \$18. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 28

Mason Jazz Concert. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

L.A. Theatre Works "The Real Dr. Strangelove." 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$18-\$36, available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

"Annie." 7:30 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School Little Theatre, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Tickets \$12. www.lbmusical.webs.com.

Independent Living Project. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Fridays from Jan. 28-March 11. 703-249-1520.

Callers and Brainfang at 7 p.m. and Murphy's Kids, Irresponsible and Feed God Cabbage at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

David Jolley and Eduard Laurel. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Russian pieces from Reinhold Glière, Alexander Scriabin, and Alexander Glazunov. \$35. 703-938-2404.

SATURDAY/JAN. 29

Deutsche Staatsphilharmonie. 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 on its first tour of the U.S., performing 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.

"Annie." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School Little Theatre, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Tickets \$12. www.lbmusical.webs.com.

Musical Tribute to Jim Tucker featuring The Lost Highway Band, Laurie Jones & SB2 and MHR at 5 p.m. and Passafire and Three Legged Fox at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

John Eaton. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road,

Watters, trombone and Dr. Dickinson, trombone. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Baby Signing. 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to sign words and letters. Tickets distributed 30 minutes before program begins. Age 2 with adult. 703-249-1520.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 2

Bands without Borders Featuring Brother Shamus, The Weathervanes and Half Brother. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna.

To the Rescue

The Lab Rescue Club of the Potomac will host an Adoption Event on Sunday, Jan. 30 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Petco, 9230-B Old Keene Mill Road in Burke. See Labs of all sizes and colors, and talk with fosters and volunteers about dog ownership or choose the right dog to join your family. If you bring all members of your family including canine, you may be able to adopt the same day. www.lab-rescue.org.



Vienna. Big band and jazz music. \$25. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/JAN. 30

Faculty Artist Series: Mira Yang, mezzo-soprano. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Robbie Fulks and Timothy Bracken. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Lab Rescue Club of the Potomac Adoption Event. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Petco, 9230-B Old Keene Mill Road in Burke. Talk with fosters and volunteers about dog ownership or choose the right dog to join your family. www.lab-rescue.org.

MONDAY/JAN. 31

Faculty Artist Series: Harry

jamminjava.com. **Buckwheat Zydeco.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Louisiana zydeco music. \$24. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/FEB. 3

An Evening with Todd Wright and Cal Everett. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/FEB. 4

Mark Morris Dance Group. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The D.C. area premiere of "Petrichor," set to the music of Heitor Villa-Lobos, plus "Going Away Party," "Silhouettes" and "Excursions." A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins 45 minutes prior to the performance on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets \$22-\$44, available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

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PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Robinson running back Jared Velasquez rushed for more than 1,300 yards in both his junior and senior football seasons with the Rams.

Velasquez Runs to William & Mary

Robinson Star was District Player of the Year on both offense and defense last fall.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Jared Velasquez, the Robinson Secondary School senior who became one of the Northern Region's best all-around football players in recent years, made a verbal commitment on Tuesday, Jan. 25 to play the sport on scholarship at William & Mary College (Williamsburg) next school year.

The decision will become official on Wednesday, Feb. 2, the official annual NCAA signing day for high school athletes nationwide.

Velasquez, a 6-foot, 192-pound running back/defensive safety for the Rams, chose William & Mary over James Madison University, the other school he considered accepting a scholarship offer from. He made his official visit to William & Mary last weekend, and had made his way to Harrisonburg to visit JMU for an official stop the weekend before.

Other schools in the running for Velasquez included West Virginia University and the University of Richmond, both of whom offered him scholarships as well.

Velasquez, a former youth football player within the local Braddock Road Youth Club, attended a William & Mary football game this past fall season in which the home team

Tribe defeated Richmond soundly. William & Mary, under longtime head coach Jimmie Laycock, is an annual NCAA Division 1 (smaller school) playoff team. The Tribe is a part of the Colonial Athletic Conference.

William & Mary has been recruiting Velasquez since his junior year at Robinson. "They've always been there [in the recruiting picture]," said Velasquez, the region's top running back who, as a senior last fall, rushed for 1,300-plus yards and

"I love playing safety and love playing on defense and hitting people more than I love playing on offense."

— Jared Velasquez

led the Rams to a 9-4 overall record and a trip to the Division 6 region playoff semifinals. "JMU got in the picture late. I took both [official] visits [to the two schools]. I thought William & Mary was more of a fit academically and athletically."

He has been impressed with Laycock, who completed his 31st season at the helm of the Tribe last fall, and his coaching staff during the recruiting process.

"He's a really good coach and he's not going anywhere soon," said Velasquez, a solid academic student (3.4 GPA) who said

he is considering studying engineering or pre-med in college. "I love the coaches there, they're good guys."

VELASQUEZ is being tabbed to play a defensive secondary position for the Tribe. In high school, along with being a standout running back, he was a three-year starter in the Rams' defensive secondary, playing at strong safety as a sophomore and free safety the following two seasons. As a senior he was the Region's Defensive Player of the Year. He earned First Team All-Region accolades, in fact, at defensive back, running back and as a kick returner. He was the Concorde District's Player of the Year on both offense and defense.

Velasquez indicated he would be right at home focusing on the defensive side of the field in college.

"I love playing safety and love playing on defense and hitting people more than I love playing on offense," said Velasquez, a Fairfax resident. "Being back there, you see the whole field."

"They see him as a safety and that's where their needs are," said Robinson head coach Mark Bendorf, who credited his standout player with doing his homework on those schools recruiting him and taking his time in making a decision. "Jared was very thorough [in the selection process]. All four universities were recruiting him as a defensive back. He will also be a kick returner

SEE RAM, PAGE 12

Robinson Wins Home Meet

The Robinson gymnastics team won a home meet on Jan. 20, edging second-place Lake Braddock by 3.525 points.

Robinson finished with the top score of 130.825 points despite not having an individual event winner. Amanda Famiglietti finished second on the vault with a 9.175 and second on the beam with an 8.75. Kyla Mauro was third on the beam with an 8.7 and Jessi Marco was third in the all-around with a 33.7.

Lake Braddock finished second with 127.3 points. Caitlin Liberatore won the bars with an 8.95, won the floor with a 9.15 and finished third on the vault with a 9.15.

West Potomac finished third with 119.625 points, followed by Edison (118.45), Thomas Jefferson (113.2), Lee (103.525) and Annandale (77.875).

Eagles Top Duals, Hayfield Third

The Edison wrestling team has won three of the last four National District championships. With the 2011 district tournament approaching, the Eagles reminded opponents of their recent dominance.

Edison went 7-0 during the National District Duals on Friday and Saturday at Hayfield Secondary School. Head coach Scott Racek said the Eagles have room for improvement but he was pleased with their effort.

"For the most part, to win seven is good," the coach said. "I've got no complaints about that. ... It's hard to be disappointed going 7-0."

Wade Jacobson (135 pounds), Jeremy Wagner (140), Brock Jacobson (119) and Kevin Uruena (112) have been standouts for Edison.

"I've got nine seniors in this lineup," Racek said, "so we should be pretty good."

Host Hayfield finished 5-2, losing to Edison and Mount Vernon. Head coach Roy Hill, who has been with the Hawks program for more than two decades, said he isn't pleased with how part of his team is performing.

Chris Stone (160) went 7-0 during his third competitive event since returning from injury, bumping up to 171 to hand Mount Vernon's Dusty Floyd his only loss of the weekend. Brennan Reeder (152) went 6-1 during his first competition back from injury.

The National District tournament is Feb. 5 at Stuart.

— JON ROETMAN

OPINION

Week Two in Richmond

FROM PAGE 6

with autism or a developmental disability to create a third party trust that would allow \$2,000 tax deduction per year from taxable state income to provide for respite care and other needs as the child gets older. We provide these incentives for college savings, why not for these young people and their families who are in such great need?

The controversial bills will start coming before legislative committees this week. A lot of darned if you do ... darned if you don't votes will take place. Will update you next week.

Ardinoto, Hafkemeyer To Wed

Mr. and Mrs. Djohan Ardinoto of Vienna are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter, Devina, to Lt. Jeffrey Lee Hafkemeyer. Hafkemeyer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Hafkemeyer of Burke.



Devina Ardinoto and Jeffrey Lee Hafkemeyer

The bride to be, a graduate of Robinson Secondary School, will complete her bachelor of arts degree from George Mason University in the spring. She is an assistant manager with Ann Taylor. The prospective groom, a graduate of Robinson Secondary School, has a bachelor of arts in history from The Virginia Military Institute. He is a field artillery officer in the Army, currently stationed with the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky.

A July wedding is planned in Fairfax.

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6321 Brocketts Crossing \$719,950 Sun 1-4 Tom & Cindy and Associates Long & Foster 703-822-0207
 5670 Clouds Mill Dr. \$939,000 Sun 1-4 Tom & Cindy and Associates Long & Foster 703-822-0207

Fairfax

4135 Fountainside Ln #202 \$309,000 Sun 1-4 Mary Beth Eisenhard Long & Foster 571-261-1400
 12730 Dogwood hills lane. \$439,900 Sat 2-5 Pascale Karam Long & Foster 703-472-3749
 3911 Green Look Court. \$449,900 Sun 1-4 Diana LeFrancois Century 21 703-930-6682
 10923 Adare Dr. \$649,900 Sun 1-4 Lena Restivo Weichert 703-855-7341
 9201 Briary Ln. \$665,000 Sat 11-1 Deborah Larson Long & Foster 703-905-7269

Centreville

13210 Maple Creek Ln. \$489,900 Sun 1-4 Jim Agnew Avery-Hess 888-420-4554

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Steve Hogan at 703-778-9418 or E-Mail the info to shogan@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Tuesday at 3 pm.

SPORTS

Ram Williamsburg Bound

FROM PAGE 10

[for the Tribe].
 “It was important for Jared to know how [the recruiting schools] saw him fitting into their [plans]. In the case of William & Mary, they told him in certain terms that he was their highest recruited player. They did a good job recruiting him. [The CAA] is an outstanding league with teams like Richmond, JMU, William & Mary and Delaware.”

Velasquez, who played three varsity baseball seasons as a centerfielder for the Rams, said his best high school football memory is Robinson’s week five, 10-7 win over local rival Lake Braddock last fall. Velasquez rushed for 138 yards and scored his team’s lone touchdown that game. It was the Bruins’ lone loss of the season until they fell in the state AAA championship game to Battlefield High. Lake Braddock quarterback Michael Nebrich, perhaps the

lone player in the region with more star power than Velasquez last season, will be playing the sport at Connecticut next school year.

“That was insane,” said Velasquez, marveling at the memory of Robinson’s midseason victory over Lake Braddock. “We made memories as teammates that night.”

AT RUNNING back his senior season, Velasquez rushed for 1,340 yards. He scored 20 offensive touchdowns. On defense, Velasquez totaled 72 tackles, forced two fumbles and intercepted three balls. On special teams, he was the region’s top playmaker as both a kick and punt returner.

Velasquez, who rushed for 1,309 yards and scored 16 touchdowns his junior season, was a team co-captain last fall and earned Team MVP honors. Over his junior and senior seasons, Robinson won 19 total games.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/JAN. 27

Fairfax County Park Authority Monticello Park Public Comment Meeting. 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Bonnie Brae Elementary School, 5420 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. The Park Authority has initiated a

public master planning process for Monticello Park, 5315 Guinea Road in Fairfax. The park consists of primarily a large lawn area and is classified as a local-serving park. 703-324-8662 or Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY/JAN. 29

Journey through Grief. 2 p.m. Haven of Northern Virginia, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Free workshop. Snow day is Saturday,

Feb. 5. Registration is required at 703-941-7000, www.havenofnova.org, or havenofnova@verizon.net.

Town Hall Meeting with Del. David Bulova (D-37) and State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34). 10 a.m., at Fairfax City Hall Council Chamber, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. An overview of issues currently before the General Assembly. Constituents can participate Bulova’s 2011 Constituent Survey at www.davidbulova.com.

#1 Weichert Agent in Burke & Fairfax Station



Call Kathleen today and ask for a copy of her “Satisfied Client List”



Burke/Burke Centre \$539,950
Open Sunday 1/30 1-4

Fabulous fenced yard w/deck & patio overlooking woods, updated eat-in kit w/granite counters & white cabs, loaded w/hrdwd flrs, sunny family rm w/fireplace & built-ins, fin walk-out bsmt, gas heat, 4 spacious BR, immac condition, replaced roof, siding, garage doors, water htr & more.



Burke \$369,950
Open Sunday 1/30 1-4

Fabulous home backing to woods w/gorgeous remodeled kitchen w/SS appls & granite counters, lovely hardwood flrs, dramatic MBR w/vaulted ceilings & 2 walk-in closets, sunny fin walk-out bsmt w/fireplace, 2 decks, fenced yard, new Pella windows & HVAC, fresh paint & model-perfect cond.



Burke \$449,950
Luxury 2-Car Garage TH

Huge 2,500 sq ft home in immac cond w/ sunny country kitchen w/granite counters & breakfast bar, new carpet & fresh paint, 9-ft ceilings, spacious MBR w/dramatic cathedral ceilings & 2 walk-in closets, deck overlooks trees, fin walk-out bsmt, gas frplc, 3 BR, 3.5 BA, walk 1 block to shopping & more.



Burke \$419,950
Private Fenced Yard

Immac Home w/4 BR & 3 full baths, oversize garage, newer deck, new carpet, lovely hardwood flrs, fresh paint, gorgeous new MBA w/double sinks, granite counters & porcelain tile, spacious MBR w/walk-in closet, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, replaced roof, siding & front door. Walk to school.



Burke/Cherry Run \$469,750
Premium Wooded Lot

Immac home w/large fenced yard w/deck, 4 spacious BR, fin walk-out bsmt w/plenty of storage, updated eat-in kit, fresh paint, lovely hardwood flrs, updated baths, new driveway, walk & stoop 2010, walk to school, replaced siding, windows, garage door & more.

Kathleen Quintarelli
703-862-8808

See Interior Photos at:
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RNs/LPNs

Medical Chart Review HEDIS Project

Seeking experienced RN/LPNs for project starting end of February 2011 for 11 weeks reviewing medical charts for HEDIS project. Must have medical record review, data collection, chart abstraction experience, and home computer with Microsoft Product compatibility including Internet Explorer. Must be willing to dedicate a minimum of 20 hours a week and travel locally to provider offices in Northern VA, DC and/or MD. Virtual abstractors and over readers are also needed. Interested applicants please email resume to service@unival-med.com or fax to 800-382-8611.

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St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, a JK-12 coed, Episcopal day school, is hosting a free Educator Open House. Learn about teaching at our school and finding jobs at independent schools. We welcome educators of diverse backgrounds and experiences.

Saturday, February 5 - 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Presentation begins at 9:30 a.m.
1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22304

For info and to register: Visit
www.sssas.org/educator
Questions? Call 703-212-2284

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Fast growing international group is seeking an individual to manage their Alexandria, VA office and provide administrative and secretarial support to its Senior Officers. The applicant should have a college degree or 3 - 5 years of administrative experience supporting Executive Management. The applicant should be computer literate and have excellent interpersonal and communications skills, both verbal and written. This position will offer a competitive compensation package, based on experience. We offer excellent benefits including health and dental insurance, paid holidays, and a Simple IRA plan.

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Please fax your resume to
703-451-9291 or email to
business@virginiaeyecare.com.

RECEPTIONIST

Entry-level position, Full-time M-F 8:30 am-5 pm, in Old Town Alexandria insurance/commercial real estate office. Responsible for phones, mail, photocopy, supplies, computer scanning and other computer-related tasks, provide support for office staff, maintain appearance of receptionist area/conference room/break room plus other duties as needed. Individual must be friendly, dependable, have a positive attitude, be able to multi-task and prioritize work. High school diploma or equivalent required. Starting salary is \$25,000; pay is commensurate with experience. Previous applicants do not need to re-apply.

Resumes may be emailed to:
scunningham@clarkeandsampson.com
or faxed to 703-739-8967;
please include your salary requirements.

JOB FAIR

Wednesday, February 16th, 2011

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

St. Coletta Adult Day Program

207 S. Peyton Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

St. Coletta of Greater Washington, Inc. is a non-sectarian, nonprofit organization that serves individuals with intellectual disabilities, autism, and secondary disabilities. Our adult day program offers adults with intellectual disabilities opportunities to participate in vocational and life skills training, community integration, recreational activities, and consultative services in order to achieve greater independence.

We are actively recruiting for:

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21 Announcements
21 Announcements
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21 Announcements
21 Announcements

TEMPORARY CLOSURE NOTICE
Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area
10406 Gunston Road, Lorton, VA
The Bureau of Land Management - Lower Potomac Field
Station will temporarily close access routes and areas
to public use. Meadowood Special Recreation Manage-
ment Area will be closed:
Wednesday, February 2, 2011
From **SUNRISE** to 4 pm
FOR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY
Additional information is posted on kiosks and
trailheads.
For more information, call (703) 339-0410 ext. 3

Department of the Army Is Issuing A Notice of the Intent to
Sign a Finding of Suitability to Transfer for Property at
United States Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, Virginia
In accordance with Department of Defense guidance on reach-
ing a Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST), notice is hereby
given that the Department of the Army intends to sign a FOST.
The Department of the Army intends to publish a Draft FOST
on January 27, 2011. The Army will be accepting public com-
ments on the Draft FOST from January 27, 2011 through Feb-
ruary 26, 2011. The property subject to this Draft FOST is a
single 2.5 acre parcel (Woodlawn) which consists of grass veg-
etation and a two-lane asphaltic roadway used for ingress and
egress for the Friends Church and an access control point for
Fort Belvoir's North Post.
The Draft FOST is available for public review at locations listed
below:
Directorate of Public Works, Fort Belvoir, Virginia; the John
Marshall Public Library; Kingstowne Public Library; Lorton Pub-
lic Library; Sherwood Regional Library; City of Fairfax Regional
Library; Van Noy Library; Washington Post-Fairfax Edition;
Springfield Connection, or on the Installation website at:
<http://www.belvoir.army.mil>.
Interested parties may submit written comments on the Draft
FOST by Saturday, February 26, 2011, to Commander, U.S.
Army Garrison, Fort Belvoir, 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100,
ATTN: Directorate of Public Works, Fort Belvoir, Virginia
22060-5116 or e-mail comments to [environmental-fb-
dpw@conus.army.mil](mailto:environmental-fb-dpw@conus.army.mil). For more information, contact Mr. Pat-
rick McLaughlin, Chief of Environmental and Natural Resource
Division, at 703-806-4007.

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