

Motorcycle Masterpieces

COMMUNITY, PAGE 15

'GT500,' a sculpture by Drew Graham, reflects the passion people have for their vehicles and the passion he has for his art. The work is on display at Patriot Harley Davidson in Fairfax through Memorial Day weekend.



Mall To Get Makeover

NEWS, PAGE 3

Fuel Release At Tank Farm

NEWS, PAGE 3

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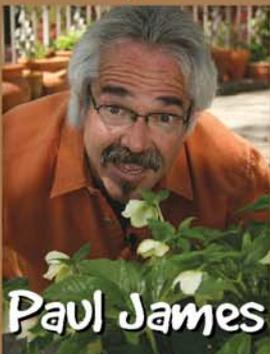
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University Mall Going Upscale in 2012

Mall owners plan \$30 million makeover.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

For the first time in nearly four years, the \$30 million makeover of the University Mall in Fairfax is getting some traction.

"After four years of planning and numerous meetings with county staff and citizens, it looks as though we'll receive approvals soon and be able to start with the long-awaited expansion and renovation of University Mall later this year," said Richard Wolff, president and CEO of George H. Rucker Realty Corporation (GHRRC), owner of the mall.

The 125,000 square-foot mall, built in 1978, will be converted from a series of interior-facing brown brick buildings to a 200,000 square-foot urban "streetscape" center, with an outdoor courtyard, striped awnings, art deco architectural features, such as three circular towers, bronze and glass storefronts, and a white articulated roofline that meets "green" standards. To enhance the feeling of being outdoors, the developer is adding an open courtyard with a fountain, covered tables, benches and trees.

Located near the campus of George Mason University, between Ox and Braddock roads, the mall's main draw has been the University Mall Theaters, a second-run dis-



Rucker Realty Corporation, the owner of University Mall, is planning a major facelift for the shopping center located at the corner of Ox and Braddock roads.

count theater, a Giant food store and a hub of restaurants such as Fat Tuesday's, Otani Japanese Steak House, Brion's Grille and Saxby's Coffee house.

Wolff and his team of architects and developers presented the latest version of the University Mall renovation during a meeting hosted by Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) at Oak View Elementary School on Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Cliff Keenan, vice president of the Country Club View Civic Association — the 450-home neighborhood nearest to the University Mall — said GHRRC has addressed most

of his and his neighbors' concerns, which included traffic congestion, light pollution and storm water detention.

"I think it's safe to say the entire community favors the re-development of University Mall."

— Cliff Keenan, vice president of the Country Club View Civic Association

"I think it's safe to say the entire community favors the re-development of University Mall ... and I do think the developer has addressed the primary concerns we had, including the storm water retention system that is planned," said Keenan, who has lived in Country Club View since 1978.

"As I told the Planning Commission, a lot has changed in this area of Fairfax since then, everything, that is, except University Mall," Keenan said. "We are all concerned about the potential impact this will have on traffic, but that is a growing problem regardless of the re-development of the mall. All in all, we look forward to this project finally moving to reality and will do what we can to support it." Wolff assured residents at the meeting that any lingering concerns, such as noise

SEE UNIVERSITY, PAGE 14

Release of Fuel Detected at Tank Farm

Mantua residents call for shutdown after 800 gallons of fuel recovered from drain.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

More than 800 gallons of an unidentified petroleum product have been recovered in the past week from a drain at the Pickett Road Tank Farm.

It's the latest incident in a series of recent spills, leaks and accidents that have local residents and political leaders again demanding the permanent closing of the industrial site, which stores nearly 1 million gallons of petroleum on a 90-acre farm located on the eastern border of the City of Fairfax.

"Evidence of yet another spill highlights the need for tougher accountability at the tank farm," said U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), who lives in the nearby Mantua subdivision. Connolly has written to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson, urging a full investi-

gation.

"The tank farm has an abysmal record when it comes to oil spills and without some strong remedial action, we must continue to be concerned about a future incident that could pollute surrounding neighborhoods and the Accotink Creek watershed," said Connolly.

The recent incident came to light on Feb. 16, when personnel from TransMontaigne Operating Company, owners of most of the industrial property, observed a small area of sheen on the surface of a detention pond.

"Additional checks of the area were made throughout the evening and the product was seen to be accumulating at an increasing rate," said a Feb. 17 report by City of Fairfax Fire Chief David Rohr.

By 10 p.m. on Feb. 16, 20-30 gallons of residue had been recovered. "Preliminary testing shows that the specific gravity of the material is similar to jet fuel or kerosene," said Rohr's report. But Rohr noted that jet

fuel has not been stored at the TransMontaigne facility for several years. "While TransMontaigne have taken the lead on remediation, it is entirely possible that (their) terminal is not the source of the product ... Based on the characteristics of the product found yesterday, there is no indication of a current leak."

On Feb. 25, City of Fairfax Assistant Fire Chief Andrew Wilson sent out an e-mail updating Mantua community leaders and city officials on the product found at the tank farm. What caught the attention of some Mantua residents was this statement: "The contractor removing the product and water from the site reports that, after separation from the water, approximately 800 gallons of the material have been recovered over the last two weeks."

"The continuous series of accidents show that it is way past time to shut it down, clean it up and move it out."

— John Jennison, former president of the Mantua Citizens' Association

"Eight hundred gallons is a lot of product. For that to migrate to a well, there may have been a spill in the thousands," said John Jennison, a former president of the Mantua Citizens' Association. Mantua, a neighborhood of 1,500 homes, is located about a mile downstream from the tank farm in Fairfax County.

"The product found in this incident remains unidentified, and has physical characteristics that are not consistent with any currently stored at any of the terminals," Wilson said in the e-mail. He noted that additional testing would be done to determine the source of the product.

Mantua residents, along with local political and government leaders, have been lob-

SEE NEW FUEL, PAGE 14

Dancing Extravaganza Takes to NOVA Stage

Twenty-fifth Annual Jazz and Tap Festival comes to NOVA.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

When Alan Green says the 25th Annual Jazz and Tap Festival is going to be something special, he means it. He's president of the Fairfax-based Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Company, which is presenting the event.

"It's an extravaganza of jazz dance styles, from Broadway to concert jazz to tap to hip-hop," he said. "There's a broad range of exciting dance performances, all with fantastic choreography."

Show times are Saturday, March 5, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 6 at 4 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College's Annandale campus theater. Tickets are \$18 in advance at www.dance-festival.org or \$20 at the door.

At least 75 dancers from nine different dance companies will entertain, as well as international jazz-dance sensation, Rasta Thomas. Joining Dancin' Unlimited will be

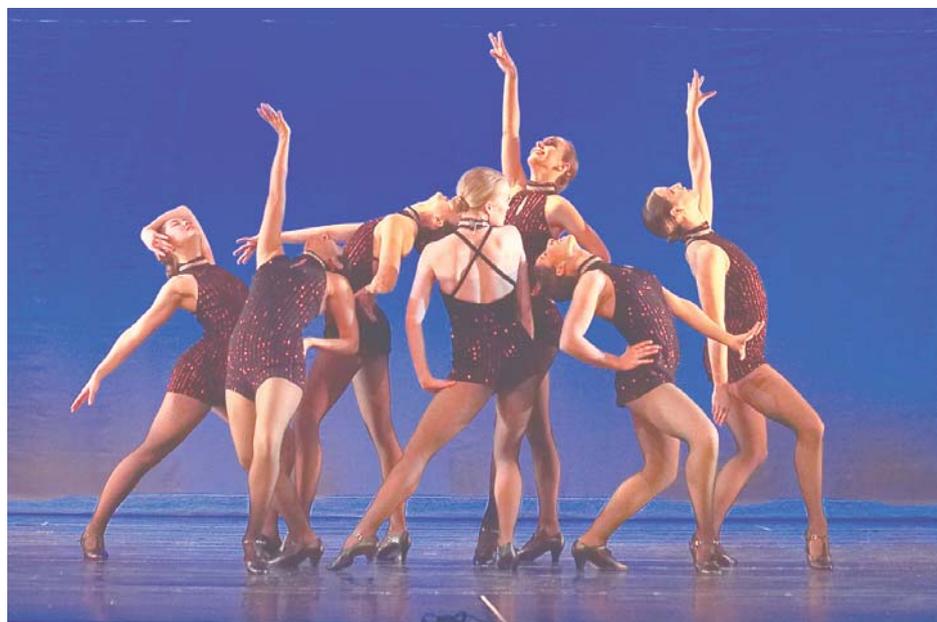


PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA HELMS

Members of the Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Company of Fairfax will perform the weekend of March 5 and 6 along with several other local dance groups at the 25th Annual Jazz and Tap Festival.

Center Stage Dance Co., Encore Theatrical Arts Project, Capitol Movement, iMpulse, MetroTap, MYTE, Urban Impact and FootWORX.

"Jazz is America's only indigenous dance form," said Green. "It started in New Or-

leans and later influenced vaudeville, [jazz choreographer] Bob Fosse and Broadway musicals."

Furthermore, he said, "Dancin' Unlimited is the only professional jazz dance company on the whole Eastern Seaboard. There are

"This program is a Fairfax County treasure."

— Alan Green

less than six in the world. All our dancers have to audition and must have extensive ballet experience and their technique has to be exquisite."

Marilyn York is Dancin' Unlimited's artistic director and founder, and Green said her innovative choreography has something for everyone, making it enjoyable for the audience and artistically fulfilling for the performers.

"We want the audience to experience the power of live jazz dance, along with the range of dance arts known as 'show dance,'" said York. "This is art that honors the original, street-dance techniques with energy and inspiration."

The Jazz and Tap Festival is the longest-running dance festival in Northern Virginia and is partly supported and funded by the Arts Council of Fairfax County. Green started lining up the other participating dance companies last fall, and his own company has been rehearsing since September.

"Some of the show's highlights will in

SEE JAZZ, PAGE 10

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If this sounds like it may be what you've been waiting for, I want you to know that at our office, we understand and appreciate that your fears are real and completely legitimate. Fear and anxiety are normal, and something that you can't always control. You don't have to feel embarrassed, just get started. We welcome you to visit our office by calling us or checking out our website.

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NEWS

Five Years Prison For Fairfax Man

Not only will Joshua Nabatkhorian have to spend the next five years in prison, he'll also have to register as a sex offender. The 53-year-old Fairfax resident was sentenced on Friday, Feb. 25, in federal court for attempting to entice a 13-year-old Fairfax girl into having sex with him.

When he pleaded guilty Dec. 3 in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, details of his offense were presented in an accompanying statement of facts. It was revealed that, 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.

However, around Nov. 4, 2009, the girl stopped responding to his messages.

Three days later, her mother found the messages on her 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 messages to that phone, also communicating via e-mail and online instant messages. However, unbeknownst to him, he was actually expressing his feelings to an undercover police detective posing as the teen.

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." He said he wanted to kiss her all over and that he worshiped her.

On more than a dozen occasions between Nov. 12-15, 2009, Nabatkhorian asked if they could be alone together. On Nov. 15, he graphically described five sexual positions he wanted to perform with her.

He told the girl he wanted to take her to an apart-

ment so they could have sex, and they agreed to meet Nov. 17, 2009, at 1 p.m., at a shopping center near her home. Nabatkhorian also made romantic plans; on Nov. 16, he reserved a room at the Ritz Carlton in Pentagon City for the night of Nov. 17, requesting a red rose on the pillow, chocolate-covered strawberries and champagne in the room.

But when he arrived at the Fairfax shopping center for their romantic rendezvous, police instead apprehended him. The case was later turned over to federal authorities for prosecution.

Last Friday, U.S. District Court Judge Leonie M. Brinkema sentenced Nabatkhorian to five years incarceration, followed by 20 years supervised release. He must also pay at least \$12,160 in restitution and register as a sex offender. The FBI and Fairfax County Police investigated this case, and Assistant U.S. Attorney John Eisinger was the prosecutor.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Arrest Made in Jan. 14-15 Church Burglary

City of Fairfax police have arrested a 21-year-old Fredericksburg man in connection with a burglary that happened between Jan. 14-15 at Christ Lutheran Church at 3810 Meredith Drive. According to police, investigation revealed that the suspect allegedly forced entry into the church, broke a key box to gain entry to offices and stole a projector, three sets of headphones and alcohol.

Officers from the Criminal Investigations Division

SEE NEWS BRIEFS. PAGE 7



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Fairfax County Staff's Misplaced Priorities and Misleading Facts Will Cost YOU Money

The staff of the Fairfax County government seem desperate to buy a trash incinerator owned and operated by Covanta Energy. They want to control the market for trash disposal and they are using highly speculative and unrealistic assumptions to persuade the Board of Supervisors to agree with them.

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FROM PAGE 6

then charged Gregory Allen Madden of 3500 block Timber Ridge Drive with burglary and grand larceny. He was held without bond in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. Madden was also charged, Feb. 15, with burglary and grand larceny in connection with a recent break-in at the Dolce Vita Restaurant.

Abduction Case Moves On

The case against an Alexandria man accused of an abduction in the City of Fairfax is moving forward in the legal system. He is Charles Robert Barbour, 47, of 900 block of Wolfe St.

On June 16, 2010, around 7:15 a.m., police responded to the parking lot of the 7-Eleven store at 10911 Main St. for a report of a man attempting to abduct a child. The mother of a 7-year-old boy told officers that Barbour allegedly approached her son while he was standing beside the family's vehicle, grabbed the child's hand and tried to take him away.

But the mother held onto him, while calling out for help, and a woman nearby who witnessed what was happening came to her aid. Together, say police, they were able to wrest control of the boy from the suspect and get him back into the vehicle.

Responding officers saw Barbour in the parking lot and immediately took him into custody, charging him with abduction. Last Thursday, Feb. 24, he appeared in Fairfax County's Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court and, at that time, his case was certi-

fied to the grand jury for possible indictment.

Third Drop-Off Site for 'Meals for Young Minds'

Kiwanis Club of Fairfax is accepting certain food items for its "Meals for Young Minds" program at three different locations during the two days of the Chocolate Lovers Festival, on Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6, in the Old Town Fairfax. Residents can drop-off non-perishable items, such as oatmeal, small cereal boxes, granola bars, fruit cups, juice boxes, and nutritious canned goods, at the following locations: Saturday, March 5, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., during the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast, at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive; Saturday, March 5 and Sunday, March 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St.; Saturday, March 5, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Fairfax Courthouse, 4000 Chain Bridge Road. The items must be non-perishable and easy for elementary school-aged children to prepare and use.

Through "Meals for Young Minds," Kiwanis Club of Fairfax purchase shelf-stable foods and prepare "food kits" for about 40 city elementary school children. These children receive free or reduced breakfasts and lunches at school during the week — but often spend weekends hungry. These food kits would provide three meals a day for those days when they are not in school. For more information visit www.chocolatefestival.net or call 703-385-1661.

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OPINION

Some Adult Discussions on Deficits, Debt

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner says U.S. is at 'critically important moment.'

BY MARK R. WARNER
U.S. SENATOR

With all of the current discussion about short-term federal spending resolutions and potential gridlock in Congress, you might think we have lost the opportunity for serious action on our longer-range deficits and debt.

I remain convinced that our country is at a critically important moment: We simply must seize this opportunity to get our fiscal house in order for the long term, and since last summer this has been one of my top priorities.

Partnering with my Republican colleague Saxby Chambliss of Georgia, we are working to try to turn the recommendations of the President's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform into legislation.

Our current national debt stands at more than \$14 trillion. If adopted in full, the commission's recommendations would gradually reduce that debt by \$4 trillion over the next 10 years.

Unfortunately, the current debate is centered on deep cuts in short-term, discretionary and nonmilitary spending, which only makes-up about 12 percent of the overall federal budget.

The spending proposal recently adopted by the House of Representatives slashes funding for workforce training programs that are so important to many people across southwest and southside.

It targeted federal support for the multi-state, multi-year Chesapeake Bay cleanup effort, and the House budget makes deep cuts in federal funding to Northern Virginia's Metro mass transit system.

The simple fact is, drastic and even painful cuts to these individual programs alone will not fix our larger structural budget problems.

Is History Repeating?

To the Editor:

Great opinion piece you did ["Make It a Real Happy Valentine's Day" Connection, Feb. 10-16, 2010], but it might add a bit more historical flavor, at least as you contemplate working with Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30) and others to pressure the Virginia General Assembly to re-think its previously "bad form" in not supporting that earlier ERA passage process, to realize that that failure on the part of Virginia several decades ago was actually somewhat in keeping with its previously even worse "bad form" when it took our Commonwealth until 1954 to join just about all of the other 48 states in approving the adoption of the ba-

That's why Senator Chambliss and I have been working with a growing number of our Senate colleagues to address these fiscal challenges in a more comprehensive and responsible way. We must work together to control government spending, simplify our tax code, and begin to gradually eliminate our deficits.

That is the only way we will fix our nation's balance sheet over the long term.

The deficit commission's recommendations, while far from perfect, represent a courageous first step in tackling our national debt in ways that will make our nation competitive for the 21st century:

- ❖ The commission laid out a plan to accelerate healthcare savings in Medicare and Medicaid, and it provides a responsible roadmap to strengthen Social Security for the next 75 years. The commission's plan protects Social Security, and does not use Social Security funds to balance the budget.

- ❖ It dramatically simplifies a tax system in serious need of an overhaul. It proposes closing loopholes and phasing out some deductions while lowering overall tax rates for individuals and corporations.

- ❖ It puts everything on the table, including entitlement programs and defense spending. We believe that this has to be part of the discussion, too.

As you might imagine, various political op-

portunities and special interests already are mobilizing to short-circuit our work on this legislation, which demonstrates why this is such a difficult challenge. It also shows why Washington's typical political response has always been to kick this can down the road, and push the tough choices to another day:

portunities and special interests already are mobilizing to short-circuit our work on this legislation, which demonstrates why this is such a difficult challenge. It also shows why Washington's typical political response has always been to kick this can down the road, and push the tough choices to another day:



U.S. Senators Saxby Chambliss of Georgia and Mark Warner of Virginia.

COMMENTARY

ponents and special interests already are mobilizing to short-circuit our work on this legislation, which demonstrates why this is such a difficult challenge. It also shows why Washington's typical political response has always been to kick this can down the road, and push the tough choices to another day:

- ❖ These choices do not get any easier simply by delaying action. Every day that we put off these difficult decisions, an average \$4 billion is added to the national debt.

- ❖ Every dollar that we spend simply paying the interest on our nation's staggering debt is disappearing into a fiscal sinkhole. These are resources that cannot be targeted toward creating jobs, expanding the U.S. economy or addressing any of our other shared priorities.

While there are plenty of recommendations in the commission's plan that I would not have chosen, this much is crystal clear to me and the other members of our bipartisan coalition: We simply cannot postpone this difficult discussion any longer.

Warner, a co-founder of Nextel and former Virginia governor, is a member of the Senate's Banking, Budget, Commerce and Intelligence committees. He can be reached at www.warner.senate.gov.

they didn't finally pass resolutions supporting women's right to vote until 1984 and 1988, respectively.

One correction to offer to you, recent research by the Lorton Heritage Society, in concert with the Lorton Arts Foundation's Workhouse Museum Committee, has determined that Alice Paul was not, in fact, among the 72 suffragists who were incarcerated by the Wilson Administration at the Workhouse facility in Lorton in 1917. Paul was only imprisoned at various times (during that 1917-19 time-period when the Women's Suffrage Movement was at its most active in our Nation's Capital prior to the eventual ratification of the SBA Amendment) at the D.C. Jail and at its old Workhouse annex; however, Lucy Burns, Paul's closest friend and co-conspirator/leader of the modern

Suffrage Movement, was imprisoned and tortured at Lorton. The understanding of most suffrage-movement historians is that Paul and Burns were deliberately not imprisoned together in the same facilities so that they could not "collaborate" in their pressure tactics and strategy planning against Wilson and his sycophants in the Congress at the time.

Neal McBride
Officer, Lorton Heritage Society

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BULLETIN

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/MARCH 3

Kids Can Cope: A Children of Divorce Group. 6 p.m. JSSA, 3018 Javier Road, Fairfax. Eight interactive group sessions for ages 9-12. Thursdays through April 21. Register at 703-896-7901

Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 1:30 p.m. The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Held in a heated indoor pool, designed to work on balance and core muscles in order to prevent injuries and falls. Classes are held Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. \$10 per class. Register at 703-667-9800.

Welcome Club of Northern Virginia Monthly Luncheon. 1 p.m. Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax. Monthly 3-course lunch with program. This month various styles of Hawaiian dance will be demonstrated along with discussion of the islands' history and culture. \$29. Register at www.welcomeclubnvirginia.com.

SUNDAY/MARCH 6

Healing and Hope after the Loss of a Spouse or Partner. 2 p.m. Washington Regional Transplant Center, 7619 Little River Turnpike, Suite 900, Annandale. With Robin L. McMahon, Ph.D. specialist in providing psychotherapy services for life transitions, especially traumatic loss and grief. lisa@wrtc.org.

Ostomy Support Group of Northern Virginia. 1:30 p.m. PCC Physicians Conference Center, Inova Fairfax Hospital, Gallows Road, Fairfax. Geronima Cortese-Jimenez on Complementary and Alternative Medicine. 703-802-3457 or www.ostomysupportofnova.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 8

The Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke Dementia Care Givers Support Group. 12 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. The group will meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Learn and share with others experiencing similar challenges. 703-451-8626 or eileen.thompson1@gmail.com.

SUNDAY/MARCH 13

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Fundraising Rally. 6:30 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College, Richard J. Ernst Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Free. Adults only. 703-255-0070 or www.novafca.org.

County Budget Meeting

Fairfax County Budget Department staff will give a presentation on the recently advertised 2012 County Budget at the Provide District Council public meeting on Tuesday, March 15, from 7:15-8:45 p.m., at the Dunn Loring Administrative Center, at the corner of Gallows and Idylwood roads in Training Room 1. To ask a specific question, e-mail Denise Rodgers, chair of the PDC, at PDCouncilChr@yahoo.com or Providencedistrictcouncil@yahoo.com.



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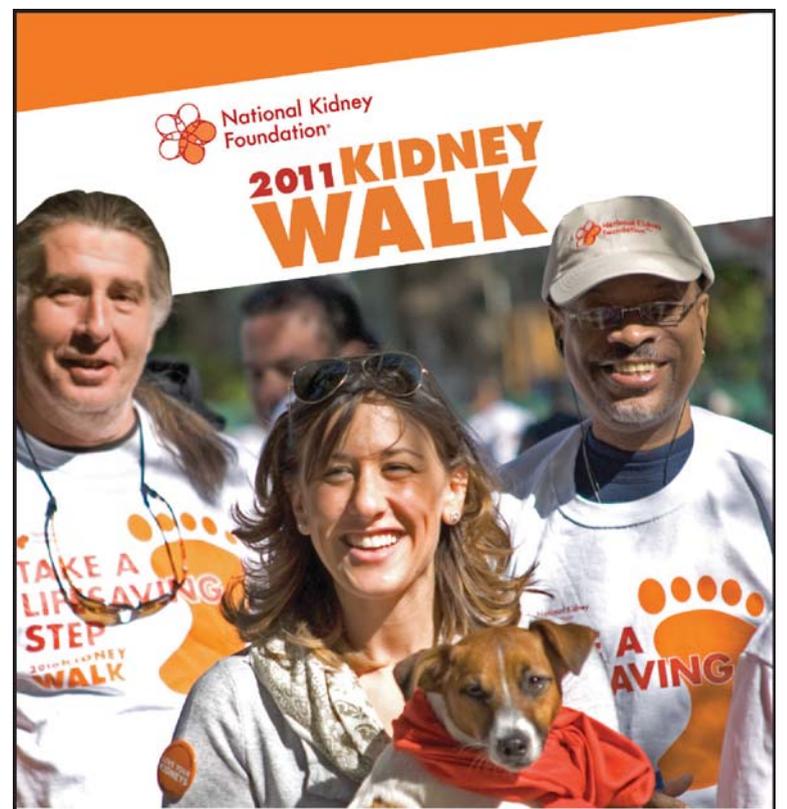
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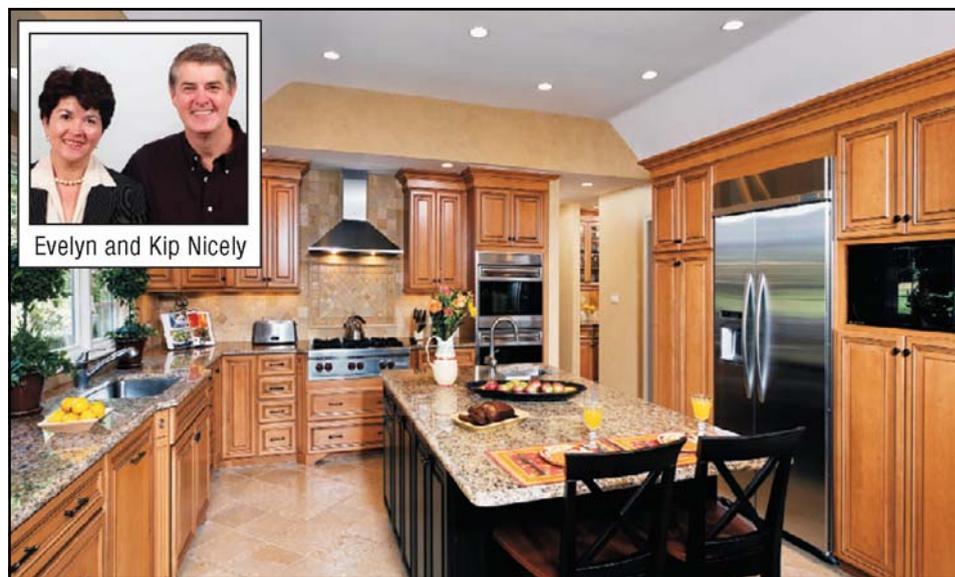
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ENTERTAINMENT

Jazz Music, Dance This Weekend

FROM PAGE 4

clude concert jazz dance pieces such as 'Visions,' which our group performed at the Jazz Dance World Congress in Chicago in 2009," said Green. "Dancin' Unlimited will also dance to 'Keys to Imagination' and 'The Theory of Sound.'"

UNDER THE direction of Raynor van der Merwe, Chantilly's Encore will perform four, Broadway-style numbers, "Too Darn Hot," "Brass Band," "Walking Papers" and "Fascinating Rhythm."

City of Fairfax-based Center Stage, directed by Sherri Shortell, will do a quartet of tap numbers, "The Jumpin' Jive," "Chameleon," "First Love" and

"What I Do." Another local group, iMPulse of Fairfax Station, will perform three jazz dances, "Mario Partay," "Common Pleasure" and "Bridge over Troubled Water."

"Because jazz dance is so engaging, a live performance is an intense experience," said Dancin' Unlimited Vice President Lea Edwards. "It tends to get people moving in their seats, and the dancers feed off the audience's energy."

This show, said Green, will be a full two hours brimming with more than two dozen performances. "This program is a Fairfax County treasure," he said. "Nowhere else is there a show like this, with so many different dance companies performing jazz-based dances."

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 3

Peter Shaffer's "Equus." 8 p.m. George Mason University TheaterSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A psychosexual crime drama about a disturbed 17-year-old. This production contains explicit scenes and nudity. \$12 adults, \$8 students, seniors and groups. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Tracy Bonham, Jim Boggia and Bleu. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

"Seussical the Musical." 7 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Senior and junior high school youth perform a story about Horton the elephant's endeavors to protect the people of Who-ville, who live on a tiny speck of dust, in an amalgamation of many of Seuss's most famous books. Admission is free, but all seats must be reserved at Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org. Donations accepted.

Leon Redbone. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 4

Atomic Tom and Hotspur at 7 p.m., **Atomic Tom and Andy Zipf** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Peter Shaffer's "Equus." 8 p.m. George Mason University TheaterSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A psychosexual crime drama about a disturbed 17-year-old. This production contains explicit scenes and nudity. \$12 adults, \$8 students, seniors and groups. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

"Seussical the Musical." 7 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Senior and junior high school youth perform a story about Horton the elephant's endeavors to protect the people of Who-ville, who live on a tiny speck of dust, in an amalgamation of many of Seuss's most famous books. Admission is free, but all seats must be reserved at Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org. Donations accepted.

SATURDAY/MARCH 5

Fairfax 2011 Chocolate Lovers Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The SPACE at Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax.

www.chocolatefestival.net.

Bobby Long and Kaleb Griffin Band. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Tango Buenos Aires: "Fire and Passion of Tango." 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Dancers, vocalists and instrumentalists trace the history of the Argentine Tango. Tickets are \$23-\$46 at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Peter Shaffer's "Equus." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. George Mason University TheaterSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A psychosexual crime drama about a disturbed 17-year-old. This production contains explicit scenes and nudity. \$12 adults, \$8 students, seniors and groups. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

25th Annual Jazz & Tap Dance Festival. 8 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus Theatre, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Rasta Thomas, director of the Bad Boys of Dance, with Capitol Movement, Center Stage Dance, Encore Performers, Impulse, MetroTap, MYTE, Urban Impact, and FootWORX. \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. www.dance-festival.org.

"Seussical the Musical." 7 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Senior and junior high school youth perform a story about Horton the elephant's endeavors to protect the people of Who-ville, who live on a tiny speck of dust, in an amalgamation of many of Seuss's most famous books. Admission is free, but all seats must be reserved at Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org. Donations accepted.

Bobby Long and Kaleb Griffin Band at 7 p.m., Native, Caspian and Chiaroscuro at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Pianist John Eaton: The Fabulous '40s. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 6

Peter Shaffer's "Equus." 2 p.m. George Mason University TheaterSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A psychosexual crime drama about a disturbed 17-year-old. This production contains explicit scenes and nudity. \$12 adults, \$8 students, seniors and groups. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

That 1 Guy. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Fairfax 2011 Chocolate Lovers Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The SPACE at Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain

Bridge Road, Fairfax. www.chocolatefestival.net.

Tango Buenos Aires: "Fire and Passion of Tango." 4 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Dancers, vocalists and instrumentalists trace the history of the Argentine Tango. Tickets are \$23-\$46 at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

25th Annual Jazz & Tap Dance Festival. 4 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus Theatre, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Rasta Thomas, director of the Bad Boys of Dance, with Capitol Movement, Center Stage Dance, Encore Performers, Impulse, MetroTap, MYTE, Urban Impact, and FootWORX. \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. www.dance-festival.org.

"Seussical the Musical." 3 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Senior and junior high school youth perform a story about Horton the elephant's endeavors to protect the people of Who-ville, who live on a tiny speck of dust, in an amalgamation of many of Seuss's most famous books. Admission is free, but all seats must be reserved at Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org. Donations accepted.

Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association. Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Line dance lessons at 7:30 p.m. Couples specialty dance at 8 p.m., open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. Couples and singles welcome. \$5-\$12. 703-860-4941.

TUESDAY/MARCH 8

Along Those Lines Mardi Gras Spectacular with Static Cinema, Kurtis Parks Band, Big Paper Airplanes and Playground Etiquette. 6:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

20th Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Paul VI Catholic High School, 10675 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. Pancakes and other breakfast fare, entertainment, games, face painting, live music and fun for the entire family. Adults \$6, under age 6 \$4, under age 4 free. campusministry@paulvi.net.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 9

California Guitar Trio 20th Anniversary Tour. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Wolftrap.org.

Tony Lucca, Jerad Finck and Brad Rhodes of Melodime. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

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SCHOOLS

Andrew Rosenberger of Fairfax, majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering, has finished the new cadet training week with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

Justin Marut of Fairfax, majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering, has finished the new cadet training week with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

Esther Park of Fairfax, majoring in environmental science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, has finished the new cadet training week with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

Geon Jung Kim of Fairfax, majoring in university studies at Virginia Tech has finished the new cadet training week with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

Drew B. Morgan of Fairfax received a master of business administration in business administration and management from Boston University in September.

The Behrend College awarded **Michael Desroches** of Fairfax a Lawrence and Elizabeth Held Scholarship. Desroches is a sophomore business major and graduate of W.T. Woodson High School.

Katie Buell, a senior from Fairfax majoring in English in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

Steven Bell, a sophomore from Fairfax majoring in mining engineering in the College of Engineering, and is a percussionist, has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

Rachel Bui, a freshman from Fairfax majoring in engineering in the College of Engineering has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

Rayshun Peng, a sophomore from Fairfax majoring in computer engineering in the College of Engineering and plays the alto sax, has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

Stephanie Offutt, a junior from Fairfax majoring in civil engineering in the College of Engineering, has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

Rebecca Johnson, a sophomore from Fairfax majoring in music in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and plays the clarinet, has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

Scott Luxenberg, a senior from Fairfax majoring in both computer science and computer engineering in the College of Engineering, has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

Katy Reinsel, a junior from Fairfax, Va., majoring in both communication and psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and College of Science and plays the clarinet has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

Jason Witter, a freshman from Fairfax majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering and plays the trumpet, has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

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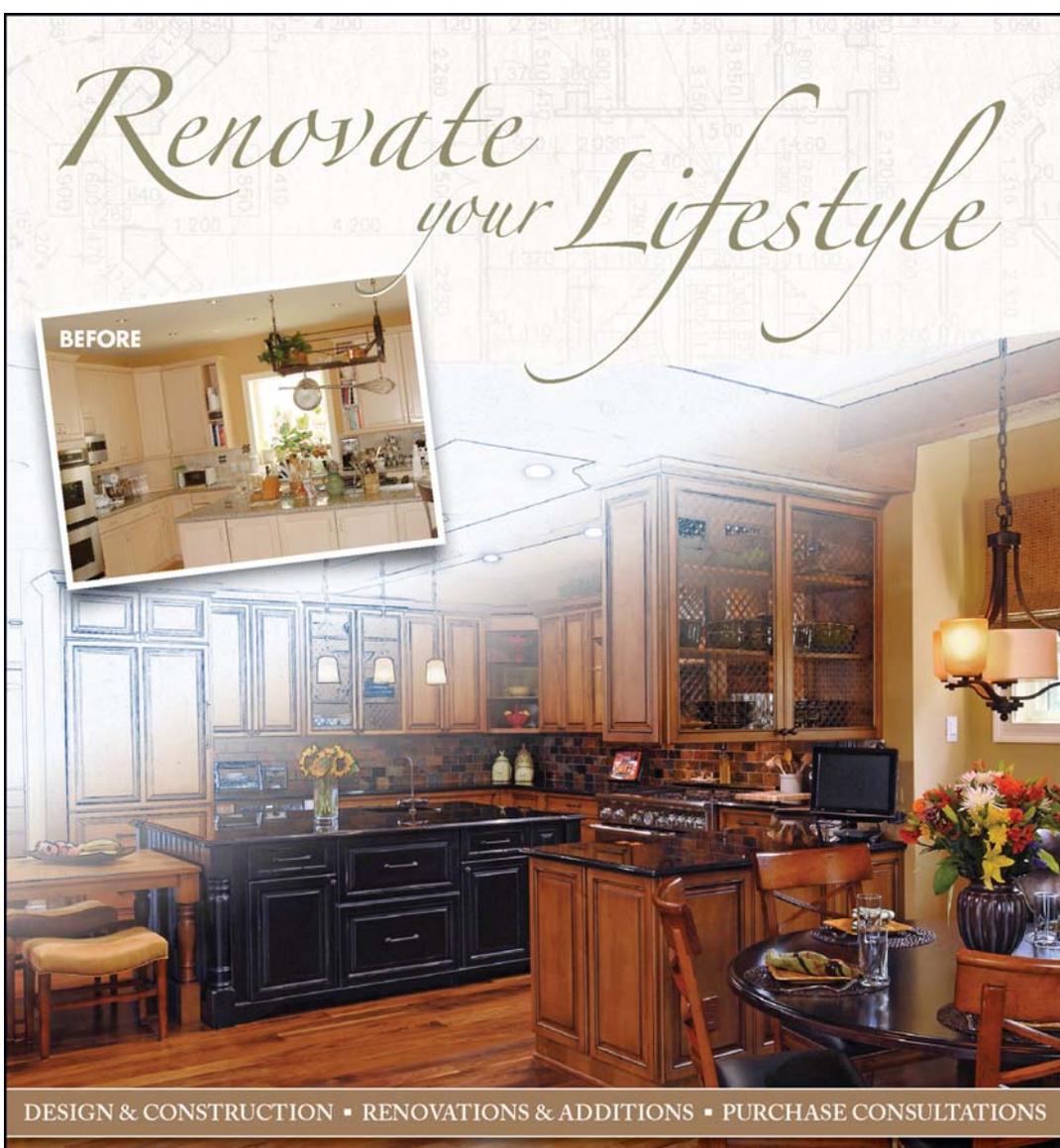

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Natalie Nohra (15), a freshmen guard for Robinson, goes up strong to the basket during the Rams' Northern Region semifinals playoff game versus T.C. Williams.



Robinson's Megan Green scored seven points in the season-ending loss to the Titans.



Lake Braddock junior guard Dylan O'Connor goes up for a basket during the Bruins' two-point region playoff loss at Langley.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Banquet To Honor Local Athletes

Three to be inducted into Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame.

The Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame will conduct its 21st Annual Banquet on Sunday, March 6 at the McLean Hilton Hotel, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Festivities will begin with a social gathering at 2:30 p.m., with dinner at 4 p.m. The awards ceremony will follow, honoring local area youth and high school players, coaches, officials, and cheerleaders, along with other guests and the new Hall of Fame inductees.

The event draws celebrities and supporters from all over the area. For general information, contact Mark Meana at 703-281-0153 or at Santrak@aol.com. For ticket information contact Betty Powell at 703-273-3216 or at bpowe1@AOL.com.

This year's Hall of Fame Inductees are: Will Montgomery (Washington Redskins, Virginia Polytechnic University, Centreville High, Southwestern Youth Association; Bill Yoast (Hammond High School, T. C. Williams High); and George Casey (Vienna Youth Incorporated).

The Football Official of the Year to be recognized will be Arnold Palmer of the Fairfax County Football Officials Association.

Other awards will go to: Betty Powell (Fairfax County Youth Football League), who will receive the Karl Davey Community Achievement Award; Lee Ann Pender, director, Office of Administrative Services within Fairfax County Public Schools who will receive the Tom Davis Meritorious Service Award; and William Barry Thompson III, Fairfax Police Youth Club, who will receive the Gene Nelson Commissioner of the Year Award.

The Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame, on the night of the banquet, will present \$1,500 Scholarship Awards to graduating high school seniors for football and cheerleading.

The Hall of Fame will also recognize the following high school players, coaches; youth players and coaches; cheerleaders; and scholarship recipients: High School Football Players of the Year: Marcus Harris, Stone Bridge High (Liberty District); Anthony Taylor, Washington-Lee High (National District); Michael Nebrich, Lake Braddock Secondary (Patriot District); Jared Velasquez, Robinson Secondary (Concorde District); Kevin Hogan, Gonzaga High (Private Schools); and Dominique Terrell, Osbourn High (At-large).

High School Coaches of the Year: Mickey Thompson, Stone Bridge (Division 5) and

Region Action Is Red Hot

Robinson girls make it to semifinals; Bruin boys take down defending champ Chantilly.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Robinson Secondary's girls' basketball team reached the semifinals round of the 16-team Northern Region tournament before seeing its season end with a loss to T.C. Williams.

On the boys' side, Lake Braddock got as far as the second round (quarterfinals) before losing a heart-breaker to four-time Liberty District champion Langley.

The first two rounds of both the boys' and girls' tournament games were played at the lower seeded team's home site. Then, for the tournament semifinals and finals, all games took place at Robinson Secondary.

The Robinson girls, who reached the finals of the Concorde District tournament two weeks ago, won their first two games at regionals, a first round victory over visiting South County, 53-50, on Feb. 21, followed two days later by a quarterfinals round win over host Stone Bridge (Ashburn), 56-46, on Feb. 23. That put the Rams into the Final Four where, playing on their home court, they lost a tough 58-52 contest to T.C. Williams on Feb. 25.

The Friday night contest against the Titans was close throughout as Robinson trailed just 18-15 after one quarter, 31-29 at halftime, and 43-39 after three quarters. T.C., the Patriot District champions, went on to win by six points.

Dhyamond Crenshaw scored 13 points for Robinson in the loss, while teammate Tyler

Hansen scored 10. Megan Green and Brigitte Kuter both contributed seven points, while Lauren Denham tallied six and Natalie Nohra five.

Robinson, with the loss, ended the season with a 16-6 overall record.

The Lake Braddock boys nearly defeated Langley, last year's region runner-up, in a quarterfinals round meeting played on Wednesday, Feb. 23 at the cozy, loud Saxons' gymnasium in Great Falls.

Langley trailed the always-tough Bruins by 16 points in the first half before rallying for a 58-56 win. A late basket by Brenden Dwyer with 40 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter put Langley ahead for good and sent the Saxons into the semis and a meeting with Annandale, this year's surprise team from the Patriot District.

IN THE WIN over Lake Braddock, Dwyer led the Saxons with 13 points and senior David Adams scored 12. Three Bruin seniors finished in double figures scoring — Matt Zanellato (16 points), guard Cory Bonds (16), and center Bobby Freedman (15). Tyler Snow, a junior forward, added five points for Lake Braddock. Langley, which trailed at halftime 38-25, outscored the Bruins 33-18 in the second half for the win.

"It was really exciting," said Langley junior guard Daniel Dixon, of the incredible, come-from-behind win. "At halftime, we didn't really feel we would lose, even though we were down by 13. We regrouped and came out fired up. Our [home] fans were really big that game."

"We started pressuring them [defensively] and the momentum shifted," said Langley junior guard Tristan Evans, of the victory. "People made big plays and Brenden made the shot to put us up by one."

Lake Braddock, which two weeks ago got as far as the semifinals of the Patriot Dis-

trict tournament before losing to T.C. Williams, opened regionals with a first round game at Chantilly on Feb. 21. In that contest, the Bruins upset the defending region champion Chargers, 54-52.

Lake Braddock led 14-10 after one quarter. But by the end of the third quarter, the home team Chantilly squad held a 40-33 advantage. But the Bruins rallied, outscoring the Chargers 21-12 in the final eight minutes to earn the huge win. Lake Braddock's Snow (10 points) scored the game-winner in the final second to break a tie.

The Fairfax boys lost their first round region tournament game at Mount Vernon High on Feb. 21 by a score of 77-63. The Rebels, who a week earlier had fallen to Langley in a semifinals game of the Liberty District tournament, finished 13-12 this sea-

"At halftime, we didn't really feel we would lose, even though we were down by 13."

— Langley junior guard Daniel Dixon

SEE RED HOT, PAGE 13

SEE HALL, PAGE 13

Every Day in Every Way

Theater of the First Amendment welcomes play by local, award-winning playwright.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

This is a real story about a relationship between two mature, smart people who happen to be different races, yet the play is not about race," said playwright Jennifer L. Nelson, about her newest work, "24, 7, 365." It is her new play running for five performances at the Harris Theater at George Mason University starting March 10.

Writing "24, 7, 365" was a "search to understand what makes people happy; and there seem to be no easy answers" for Nelson. Pursuing answers through her writing, she crafted a story about African-Americans' attitudes about race, class and social activism. With a local touch, the characters are two Washington, D.C., couples who set out on a weekend camping trip for a birthday celebration. In one memorable night together with "a large bottle of vodka" and the addition of a "misunderstood hip-hop poet" the couples experience laughter, complications and illumination.

Nelson said the show is "funny and without being pounded over the head with race, audiences can see the characters as just people, as wonderful and muddled as the rest of us." Juanita Rockwell directs the production.

Nelson is a past recipient of a Washington area Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding New Play in 1997 for her "Torn From the Headlines" as well as a recipient of a National Endowment of the Arts/Theatre Communications Group Early Career Director Fellowship. She is also the founding producing artistic director of the African Continuum Theatre Company.

An unusual feature about the production is that it will have been performed at three vastly different venues in the Washington, D.C., area in the past month. After a February 2011 world premiere performance at the Atlas Performing Arts Center in Washington, D.C., came several performances at the Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas. Now, "24, 7 365" comes to Fairfax. Nelson is "excited to see what if any difference there will be in audiences" at the

Craig Wallace and Fatima Quander star in the Theater of the First Amendment's production of '24, 7, 365.'

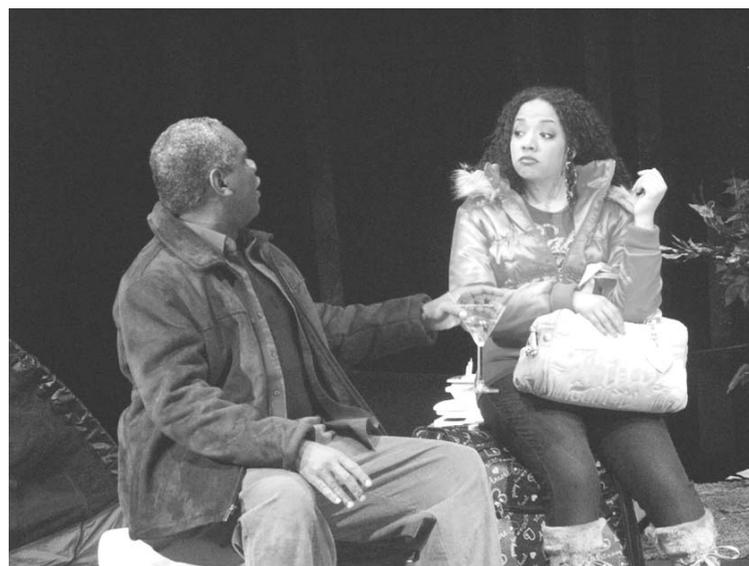


PHOTO BY TODD MESSECEE

three locales.

With the production of "24, 7, 365" Kevin Murray, managing director, George Mason University Theater of the First Amendment announced receipt of a \$50,000 season sponsorship grant from Boeing. Murray indicated that the grant was "a significant corporate sponsorship, largely responsible for the success" of the theater's current season. In addition to Boeing's Season Sponsorship grant, the production is supported in part by contributions from the Arts Council of Fairfax County, the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Where and When

Performances of "24, 7, 365" take place March 10, 11 and 12 at 8 p.m.; March 12, at 2 p.m.; and March 13, at 4 p.m., at George Mason University's Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets are \$25-\$30. Call 888-946-2468 or go to

Describing what she would like audiences to come away with after seeing "24,7,365" Nelson hoped "people will see something they can relate to and will leave thinking about why the characters did what they did because that may help us understand ourselves and others.

Red Hot Action in Region

FROM PAGE 12

son. The Rebels got behind early against Mount Vernon, champions of the National District. They trailed 16-10 after one quarter and 38-30 at the half. After three quarters, the Majors' lead had increased to 14 points. Sophomore guard Zack Burnett scored 16 points to pace Fairfax, while senior guard Turkel Anwar (15) and senior forward Aaron Ware (10) played well.

Mount Vernon went on to lose in the fol-

lowing round to Annandale, a surprise team that ultimately reached the region finals before losing to T.C. Williams this past Monday night at Robinson.

Edison eliminated the Fairfax girls (16-7), who enjoyed a good season, 65-48, in first round action on Feb. 21. The Rebels fell behind 14-7 after one quarter to the home team Eagles. Fairfax played Edison even over the next two quarters and trailed 44-32 going into the final quarter before the Eagles increased their lead over the final eight minutes to earn the win.

Hall of Fame Inductions

FROM PAGE 12

Mark Cox, Battlefield High (Division 6). The Fairfax Youth Football Players of the Year: Kyle Hamrock (Braddock Road Youth Club); Jelani Shakir (Fort Belvoir Youth Football); Zachary Braskamp (Reston Youth Football); Kyle Phox (Springfield Youth Club); Gus Nyers (Manassas Youth Football); Brandon Lessard (McLean Youth Football); Garrett Snedeker (Chantilly Youth Association); Benjamin Davenport (Lee-Franconia Football); Devon Patterson (Gainesville/Haymarket Football); Jack Caldwell (Braddock Road Youth Club); David Im (Herndon Optimist Club); Glenn Rushing (Fort Hunt Youth Football); Sean Fitzgerald (Vienna Youth Inc.); Christian Abenes (Fort Belvoir Youth Football); and Nick Donlon (Southwestern Youth Associa-

tion). Youth Football Coaches of the Year: David Curtis, anklebiter division (Alexandria Youth Football); Todd Casey, American Division (Vienna Youth Inc.); James Passmore, Central Division (Herndon Optimist Club); and Mike Anderson, National Division (Fairfax Police Youth Club).

Cheerleaders of the Year: KC Buckley (Vienna Youth Inc.); Annie Cowman (Vienna Youth Inc.); Tristen Davenport (Gainesville/Haymarket Football); Meghan Henry (Herndon Optimist Club); and Kathleen Winkert (Dulles South Youth Sports).

High School Scholarship Awards: Lisa Kinston, cheerleading (West Potomac High); Andrew Weidinger, football (Lake Braddock Secondary); Scotty Nicoll, football (Westfield High); and John "JP" Theodorakos, football (Herndon High).

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University Mall Facelift

FROM PAGE 3

pollution that comes from trash bins and loading docks and parking, have been addressed.

As part of the negotiations with residents, Wolff said the owners are preserving the 50-foot buffer of mature trees, the dumpsters will be 200 feet away from any property lines, and they are installing state-of-the-art storm water retention tanks. GHRRC, which will also manage the project, is installing security cameras in various locations throughout the site as well as security guards on the ground.

Wolff also said the expansion will not be a problem for parking.

"The mall has a vast parking lot that never fills up," Wolff said. "We're adding 75,000 square feet, but it's only about 40,000 square feet of [new] footprint."

County zoning requires four parking spaces for every 1,000 square feet of commercial space. University Mall currently has seven spaces per 1,000 square feet, and even with the additional footprint, it will have five parking spaces per 1,000 square feet, Wolff said.

"If something doesn't work, we'll be there ... We're a community developer; we see our projects through from development to management, and this will be an inviting retail center for shoppers and neighborhood residents," Wolff said.

THE LATEST PLANS call for demolition of one existing retail and office building, replaced by two new buildings — a 5,000-square-foot space for retail or restaurants and a 20,000-square-foot, two-story building dedicated to office space on the top floor, and a hardware center on the bottom.

Teddy Bear Day Care will move to a new 16,000 square foot office building, where Children's Medical Associates will be housed on the upper floor. The childcare center will also have 6,000 square feet of play area and a stockade fence for privacy. The developer is providing a 1,000-square-foot rent free community space.

Other leases that have been negotiated are for Wendy's fast food restaurant, a Verizon or T-Mobile

store, Josie's Yogurt and a 6,000 square-foot Italian restaurant,

The Feb. 23 meeting marked a positive turning point for the redevelopment project.

"The response from citizens at this meeting was very gratifying," Wolff said, referring to the round of applause the nearly 50 residents gave him after his presentation. "And, believe me, there were previous meetings when they didn't clap. It's nice to have citizens stand up and ... give us kudos for actually listening to them, which we have done."

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is expected to make its final decision on the project at an April meeting, the exact date is still to be determined, and Wolff said he expects construction to begin in the fall of 2012, with completion no later than mid-2013.

"Everybody wants to see this get done," Cook said. "All of us, the GMU community, the county, and community residents. We're all on the same page, and this project is going to be a great addition for everyone."

"It's about time," said Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), who also attended the meeting and whose constituency includes residents of the nearby North Hill community. "It's a great project, a good location and frankly, long overdue."

William Barfield, chairman of the Braddock District Council of Community Associations, which includes 130 home owners groups and community organizations, said members of the association are overwhelmingly in favor of the updated University Mall.

"The members of my association are excited about these new plans, and look forward to it opening. I've lived here for 30 years, and have been shopping at the mall for that long," said Barfield, who lives in the Country Club View neighborhood. "I love it. It will be attractive and pedestrian-friendly."

"[Developing] this shopping center has been a moving target for several years, but I think we're finally on track," Wolff said.

For more information on leases and plans for University Mall, go to http://ghrrc.com/Univ%20Mall%2014_11%20Revised.pdf/.

New Fuel Release at Tank Farm

FROM PAGE 3

bying EPA officials since an epic oil spill 20 years ago that continues to impact the groundwater in the area.

"The latest discovery of yet another petroleum product accident further evidences that the oil tank farm needs to be relocated to a more appropriate location," said Jennison. "The continuous series of accidents show that it is way past time to shut it down, clean it up and move it out."

IN THE PAST year, there have been several accidents involving the 18-wheeler tanker trucks that transport fuel in and out of the tank farm. In August

2010, a tanker truck overturned at the corner of Pickett Road and Main Street/Route 236, leaking more than 4,000 gallons of oil into a local sewer drain. Earlier in 2010, an underground leak dispersed 14,000 gallons of diesel fuel into the ground.

"When the tanker overturned last August, the creeks were black with fuel, and you could smell it from our neighborhood," said Scott Stephens, who has lived in Mantua for 14 years. "What concerns the neighborhood is the amount of tankers going in and out of there. We have schools, like Frost Elementary, that are just a mile from here. This is just a big accident waiting to happen. In this day and age, we have to think about the facility being a target for terrorist attacks."

COLLEGE NOTES

George Ghareeb of Fairfax was inducted into the Florida Theta Chapter of the Alpha Chi Honor Society during a Sept. 21 ceremony at Clearwater Christian College in Clearwater, Fla. Ghareeb is a 2008 graduate of Fairfax Baptist Temple Academy and child of Tony and

Souzan Ghareeb. He is a biology major and will graduate from Clearwater Christian College in 2011.

Joseph Skopowski of Fairfax, majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering, has finished the

new cadet training week with the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

Dylan Tomjack of Fairfax, majoring in university studies at Virginia Tech, has finished the new cadet training week with the Va. Tech Corps of Cadets.

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COMMUNITY

Art of Motorcycles

Art exhibit at a Harley dealership encourages contemplation of motorcycles as canvas.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

Motorcycles might not be a canvas most artists would consider for their masterpieces, but to bikers, their ride is an expression of their personality.

Last weekend, a handful of artists used old Harley Davidson gas tanks for their submission to Art Whino's "Live Fast" exhibit at Patriot Harley Davidson in Fairfax, bringing together artists and bikers in a new way that may have seemed odd at first but the artists agree made perfect sense in the end.

"Before this show, I knew absolutely nothing about motorcycles," said James Walker, a Northern Virginia resident, who said his dogs helped inspire his wilderness-themed tank, "Time is All We Have."

"I definitely learned a lot in the few short hours I spent at the show's opening reception," which was on Saturday night, Walker said. "It certainly seems like each bike is a work of art."

The artists were given a gas tank, salvaged by artist and Patriot employee Jessica Zadlo

from owners who were upgrading or replacing old parts. Each was given about a month to work on their piece for the exhibit, and told to come up with something that was inspired by or a reflection of motorcycle culture or the artist's thoughts on it.

Walker has one of two 3-D tanks in the exhibit. "I collaged pieces from old writings and journal entries creating a palimpsest of fleeting thoughts and memories," he said.

"I also incorporated found objects, like sticks, leaves, bones, old paint brushes, in various states of decomposition, showing the inevitable and fleeting nature of time. I juxtaposed all of this with the vibrant and life-affirming imagery of the dogs, voracious and living life to the fullest, at warp speed."

Another tank that went in an unexpected direction was "Outlaw," a piece by Fort Belvoir-resident Drew Graham.

In this piece, Graham took some lightweight but sturdy, high-quality plywood and cut out the phrase "Live Fast, Ride Faster," along with some pin-striping and an engine block. The brightly colored piece hangs off the wall because he likes people to "interact" with his art, Graham said, and maybe

"The personalization that goes into most motorcycles, it's all an art form."

— Jessica Zadlo, Patriot employee and Art Whino artist



PHOTO BY AMBER HEALY/THE CONNECTION

Well-known pin-striper Dave 'Letterfly' Knoderer spent some time adding eagle heads to a motorcycle he first worked on last summer, owned by Shelly Kraus.

even have the sense that the piece is coming into the viewer's space.

He used a scroll saw to cut out the finer details and used a jigsaw for the larger pieces, and as he considers himself more a sculptor influenced by graffiti and other "low-brow" art styles, it was a fun challenge to try and come up with something a little different from his fellow artists.

Graham had a second piece in the exhibit, a large tattoo-style heart with a pair of pistons on top, pierced with a sword and complete with a gas pump dripping blood on the bottom.

The drops of blood are not a political statement, but a reflection of the passion bikers have for their vehicles and he has for his art, Graham said.

"This is all about passion, even the bright green on the backdrop," he said of the piece, called 'GT500.' "I wanted it to be expansive and high energy. This is the farthest I've had something come off the wall because I like the idea of art being a little in your face."

Like Walker, Graham has an appreciation for motorcycles as art now, although as a cautious motorcyclist himself when he was a teenager, he understands the draw of the open road. "Every motorcycle is a piece of art in itself," he said.

Reston resident Rodger Schultz took his tank and ripped it apart.

"I didn't get the idea from anywhere, I just wanted to do something different," he

SEE ART, PAGE 16

Full Up with Charity

Our Daily Bread hosts annual fund raiser at Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

With the experience of being a single mother in the 1990s, Judy Barnes of Fairfax knows how stressful it is to juggle bills and stretch a dollar to feed young children.

Originally from Indiana, Barnes and her husband, Wayne, moved to the area a year ago and began looking for ways to participate in the community.

"We were involved with the homeless and hungry through our church in Indiana, and we were looking for place to volunteer here," Judy Barnes said. "God just expects us to help each other. No one should go hungry. I like the fact that Our Daily Bread has community and faith involvement. We are very excited to be here."

The couple joined more than 300 other community members who came together Thursday, Feb. 24 at the new Stacy

Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax for Our Daily Bread's third annual "Empty Bowls" fund raiser.

"This is our flagship event, and this is the biggest crowd we've had yet," said Laura Taborek, president of Our Daily Bread's Board of Directors. "We help families avoid homelessness by providing them with essentials like food, so they can pay their rent or utilities. We live in a wealthy community, but there are more and more distressed families who need help. By supporting this event, people are helping us make a real difference for our neighbors in need."

Empty Bowls, a popular annual event, is an international grassroots program designed to help local organizations like Our Daily Bread fight hunger.

The "empty bowls" concept is simple and symbolic. Each year, local potters, artists, students and others create handcrafted



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

From left, Lisa Whetzel, Our Daily Bread executive director; Ray Farnood and father, Bashir Farnood, owners of Vespucci's Italian restaurant in Fairfax; and Heather Webb, ODB communication manager, display some of the handcrafted bowls. Vespucci's Italian restaurant supplied the traditional pasta fagioli soup and bread.

SEE OUR DAILY, PAGE 16

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COMMUNITY

Art at Patriot Harley Davidson

FROM PAGE 15

said.

Schultz was given his tank with the other artists, about a month before the exhibit. He was working on concepts when he decided to accompany his father-in-law on his cross-country move. However, some unforeseen health problems in his father-in-law transformed his three-day road trip in to a three-week adventure, and by the time he returned to Reston, he had only a few days to turn his gas tank into a piece of art.

So, he said, he destroyed it. He took the tank to a junkyard and “squished it,” then found someone who taught him how to weld. The result is Harley, a lightning bug whose wings are made from the squished remnants of the tank, welded onto an old fire extinguisher, complete with thin copper antennae. The wings also include Harley guitar picks.

“It all came together somehow,” Schultz said. “I’m totally happy with how it turned out. I mean, it was my first welding experience. I bill myself as an experimental artist, so there you go.”

He was also impressed with how the show came together, blending the tanks with other canvas-based, motorcycle-inspired art mixed in throughout the dealership.

“That was really cool,” Schulz said. “I didn’t know if it would fit, but it was great. I think I sat on just about every bike in there.”

Nils Westergard, a Falls Church resident studying art at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, combined his appreciation for Hunter S. Thompson and Shepard Fairey in his collage, “Harley,” which features a picture of a man on a motorcycle wearing a Harley T-shirt on top of newspaper sprayed with black spray paint.

“I don’t have any connection to motorcycles, and I know very little about the finer points of the culture, but I saw it as a good chance to explore something unfamiliar,” Westergard said. “What I do know

is that they love their freedom, which they manifest in taking their motorcycles out on the open road. Harley is an American icon of this.”

While he was unable to make the trip up from Richmond for the show this past weekend, Westergard said he hopes those who saw his piece “get the same energy, the same vibe, I get when I think of someone taking out their motorcycle for pure enjoyment. It’s a gasoline, oil and power thrill. A little dark, a little dangerous, which makes it all the more appealing.”

COMING IN from Oxen Hill, Md., was Juan Pineda and his vibrant red tank, ‘The Art of Rebellion.’ His tank took the iconic image of a hammer and sickle and replaced the hammer with a can of spray paint, joined by a cluster of three white stars on either side of the tank and a hand-made ceramic gas cap featuring seven white stars and a World War II-style eagle in the middle.

“I thought about going with an iron cross on the gas cap, but it didn’t balance right,” he said. “I was really inspired by WWII images and wanted to meld the symbols together.”

The idea of rebelling against the norm is closely associated with motorcycles, especially the counter-culture of the 1960s, and Pineda said he wanted to bring that into his concept for his tank.

Pineda took the opportunity of the opening reception Saturday night to get some tips from a man whose something of a legend in the motorcycle art world, Dave “Letterfly” Knoderer, a Florida-based artist who makes somewhat regular trips to Patriot to hand-paint pin-stripes on motorcycles.

“I’ve always been drawn to motorcycles, cars, hot rods, anything that goes fast and uses gasoline,” he said.

“It’s so cool to see the 3D sculptures and the way the tanks turned out,” Zadlo said. “The personalization that goes into most motorcycles, it’s all an art form,” she said. “There were a lot of light bulbs going off. I think people get it now.”

Our Daily Bread Fund Raiser

FROM PAGE 15

bowls that guests purchase for a donation of \$25 as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. Attendees receive a simple meal of soup and bread, donated by local businesses.

According Diane Hill, ODB development manager, more than 400 bowls were glazed for the event this year. “We are still doing the final tallies, but our event raised approximately \$17,000 in cash, with our in-kind donations still being tallied up,” she said. “The cash generated is more than two times what we raised at the 2010 event and our attendance was our best ever, close to 300 people.”

In addition to purchasing ceramic bowls, guests listened to music by the Fairfax Saxophone Quartet and had the chance to bid on more than 50 silent auction items, including luxe spa gift baskets and a signed ceramic bowl made by Washington Redskins tight end Chris Cooley #47.

“It’s very affirming to have so many community supporters come to this community event,” said Lisa Whetzel, Our Daily Bread’s executive director. “We have wonderful volunteers, and our donors this year have been particularly generous.”

With more than 60 families on its food program waiting list, and one in four Fairfax County children who qualify for free and reduced-price lunches, the

funds raised from the event make a significant impact, Whetzel said.

She noted that even though Fairfax County is repeatedly ranked among the wealthiest counties in America, many families are homeless. “We hear from an overwhelming number of residents who struggle to feed and house their families,” said Whetzel. “We still receive far more food and financial aid requests than we can handle.”

In Fairfax County, the request for food stamps have jumped more than 150 percent, requests for emergency assistance are up more than 75 percent and more than 1,600 in the area’s classrooms are homeless, Connolly said.

“By being here tonight, and being active throughout the rest of the year, you are letting those in need know they are not alone and this is a community that cares,” he said. “One person at a time, one family at a time, we are making a difference.”

Our Daily Bread

Our Daily Bread is a volunteer-based organization focused on easing the plight of low-income residents in Fairfax County. The non-profit, operating in Fairfax since 1984, draws volunteers from local faith-based groups, community organizations, local businesses, schools and universities. For more information, go to www.our-daily-bread.org.



DONATED PHOTO

Grady Nelson 'Bud' Fox Jr.

Grady Nelson 'Bud' Fox Jr. Dies

Grady Nelson "Bud" Fox Jr., 44, of Manassas died on Wednesday, Feb. 23, surrounded by his loving family at home. Fox died following a two year battle with cancer.

Fox loved spending time with his family, coaching and watching his boys playing baseball, football and basketball. He had a great sense of humor and loved to laugh. He also loved to play his online computer games with his children. Fox enjoyed his work and all his colleagues through the years and all the friends he made over the years while coaching his children.

Fox's family includes his beloved wife of 21 years, Christine Fox; three sons, Sam Fox, Ben Fox and Nate Fox all of Manassas; his little dog, Bella; his mother, Marguerite Fox of Fairfax; three siblings, Carol Osborne of Fairfax, David Fox and wife Jenny of Montclair, Va., and Janet Bruce and husband Glenn of Manassas; and brothers and sisters in law and nieces and nephews.

The family received friends on Monday, Feb. 28, at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center St., Manassas. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Tuesday, March 1, at 10 a.m., at All Saints Catholic Church, 9300 Stonewall Road, Manassas with Rev. Gregory Thompson officiating. Interment followed at Stonewall Memory Gardens, Manassas. A celebration of Fox's life followed the interment at The Marque, 13550 Heathcote Blvd., Gainesville.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the Fox Children's College Fund, c/o Jeanette Snyder, Edward Jones Financial, 13912 Greentrails Court, Centreville, VA 20121 in loving memory of Grady Fox Jr.

Condolences may be sent to www.piercefh.com.

COLLEGE NOTES

Amanda Duncan, a senior from Fairfax majoring in both political science and English in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, has gained membership to the Marching Virginians at Virginia Tech.

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Michael Rocco Juliano and Patricia Smith Juliano trading as Rocco's Italian Restaurant, 1357 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA. 22101. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a catering and mixed beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Michael Juliano, Owner

ABC LICENSE
Piero's Corner of Fairfax, LLC trading as Piero's Corner of Ristorante Italiano, 9959 Main St, Fairfax, VA 22031. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine & Beer on and off Premises/Mixed Beverage (151+) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Gian Piero Mazzi, Partner

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21 Announcements

Conway, SC

Gordon Lee Cook, Col. USAF (Ret.), died Monday, February 21, 2011 at Grand Strand Regional Medical Center, Myrtle Beach, SC, at the age of 67.

Gordon's 26 year military career as an Air Force pilot included a tour in Vietnam as well as assignments flying C-123, C-141 and C-5 aircraft. Gordon was also an avid golfer, military history buff, and known for his wry humor. However, the true passion and joy of his life was his family. As a young family, Gordon loved taking Marilou and his daughters, 'his girls', to Disneyland and later Disney World. This grew into a family vacation ritual that was shared throughout their adulthood. When the grandchildren came, this joyful tradition continued. Gordon would encourage and attend Alyssa's performances, help design and build Andrew's Lego creations, and babysit and enjoy Matthew. While his own daughters and their families were his pride and joy, Marilou remained the love of his wonderful life.

He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. Gordon will be remembered for all of this and for his deep commitment to God and country.

Gordon is survived by his wife, Marilou Cook, his two daughters: Kristin Joy Hudenburg and husband Michael John Hudenburg of South Riding, Va. and Col. (S) Laura Lee Lenderman and husband Lt. Col David Michael Lenderman of Scott Air Force Base, Illinois; and three grandchildren: Alyssa Joy, Andrew Michael, and Matthew Cyr Hudenburg, all of South Riding, Va. He is also survived by his father and step-mother, Bernard and Charlene Cook of Corpus Christi, Texas; and sisters, Janet Aiello of Brewster, NY and Charla Kay Hoernemann of Middletown, Ohio. He is preceded in death by his mother, Doris Olive Cook.

Funeral services will be held at 4:00 PM Saturday in the Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel. Burial will be in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

The family will receive friends from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM Saturday in the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, please take time to celebrate Life with those you love, support our troops, or find a way to honor our veterans who have served and are serving this great Nation.

Sign a guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Tess, LLC trading as Tess, LLC, 7203 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a wine and beer on premises, mixed beverages on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Thomas Chay, member

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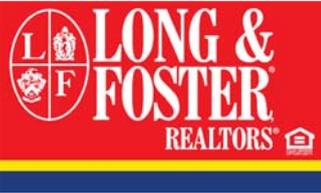


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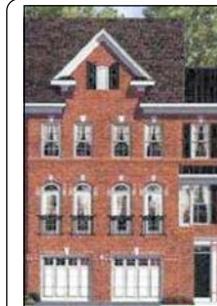
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Fairfax \$329,900

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

703-425-8000