

Looking for Doubles

COMMUNITY, PAGE 6

David Kyle of Lorton
takes his turn rolling the
dice during the Feb. 26
Monopoly Tournament to
raise money for Habitat
for Humanity of Virginia.

Renovated Lodge Re-Opens

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New School Boundaries

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Dr. Pamela Marzban

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Acacia Lodge Re-Opens

Clifton mayor calls Historic Clifton Lodge 'pillar of community.'

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Bobby New stood in the doorway of the restored Acacia Lodge in Clifton and greeted his fellow Masonic brothers with hugs, back slaps and handshakes.

"Come one in and take a look around," said New, the Worshipful Master of the lodge.

"Brother, you did a good job," said Arsenio Cabanas, who has been a member of the lodge for a year.

On Saturday, Feb. 26, New gave community tours of the refurbished landmark, which had been shuttered for two years after severe flooding in 2006.

"Today feels like we're coming home," New said. "We have managed [the renovation] from afar for over two years and there is nothing like coming home to a warm, cozy and inviting place. Our lodge gives us a renewed sense of commitment in 'Making Good Men Better.'"

"This is a great historic building, an important part

of our community, and it's good to see it opening again," said former Clifton Mayor Jim Chesley, who stopped by with his wife, Jennifer.

"This has been a long-awaited renovation," said New, who has been a Mason for 10 years. "We have had our setbacks, but we're finally ready to open our doors. We will be having our first meeting here in two years on Thursday."

"It's an exciting time for us," said lodge secretary Dave Morris of Fairfax Station. "Few lodges get to go through a renovation like this."

For two years, lodge members overcame financial and practical challenges as they rebuilt the historic Clifton landmark after two severe floods in 2006 and 2008 severely damaged the interior.

"Our floors just buckled from the weight of 4 feet of standing water," Morris said.

Built in the 1870s, the structure was originally used as a mill on Pope's Head Creek. The building was moved to its current location on Main Street in 1920 and has been home to Acacia Lodge ever since. In

1985, the lodge was designated an historic landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The Acacia Lodge, like many historic landmarks, was sited below the floodplain, and the one-story building was vulnerable to flood damage. In 2008,

"This is a great historic building, an important part of our community, and it's good to see it opening again."

— Former Clifton Mayor Jim Chesley

SEE MASONS, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Senior Deacon Scott Springer and Worshipful Master Bobby New welcome back Masonic brothers to the newly renovated lodge. They are standing on the building's new front porch.

School Board Votes To Move 21 School Boundaries

FCPS would implement changes over the next two school years.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County School Board voted 9-3 to shift the attendance areas of 21 elementary schools during a meeting held Feb. 24. The change will cause approximately 1,700 children to switch schools over the next two school years, according to the school system's own estimates.

The School Board pursued these boundary changes to alleviate severe overcrowding at a handful of elementary schools that serve communities near the intersection of Route 50 and Interstate 66. With this vote, the School Board also reassigned students who currently attend Clifton Elementary, which will close next year, to three other campuses.

The approved boundary changes force the school system to expand capacity at five schools so the campuses can accommodate the additional students being sent their way.

The School Board approved new building additions at Greenbriar East, Union Mill and Fairfax Villa elementary schools. Staff

will also move an eight-room classroom trailer to Centreville Elementary School and make interior changes at Fairview Elementary School.

The capacity enhancements associated with the boundary change will cost a total of \$15.1 million.

Rising six-grade students at all schools, except for Clifton, will be able to stay at the current campus for their final year of elementary school. The School Board made no changes to middle and high school boundaries as a result of this vote.

The School Board adopted the entire final staff recommendation for new school boundaries, with one slight adjustment. Instead of moving from Fairview to Oak View Elementary School, some communities along Fairfax Station Road will transfer from Fairview to Bonnie Brae Element-

tary School.

"This community was scheduled to be moved from Fairview to Oak View and Bonnie Brae. Now, they will all be moving to Bonnie Brae," said School Board Member Tessie Wilson (Braddock).

AS WITH MOST boundary changes in recent years, several of the affected communities — those where students are being moved — were unhappy with the re-districting proposal. Twelve Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and Parent Teacher Organizations (PTOs) at the 23 schools included in the boundary study

signed a petition asking the School Board to postpone its vote on the matter.

School Board Member Patty Reed (Providence) put forward a motion to delay the vote until April, so that staff could take into account annual enrollment data the comes out at the end of March.

"Would you allow your surgeon to rely on one-year old medical data? ... Let's check

our work just like they do in school," said Reed.

The motion failed, though Reed received the support of Tina Hone (At-large), Ilryong Moon (At-large) and Sandy Evans (Mason).

Wilson, who voted against the amendment, said she did not expect to see a huge swing in the school population at the affected schools, since there had only been an increase of 32 students at all of the schools combined this school year.

School Board member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill) added that he did not necessarily think it was appropriate for PTAs and PTOs to take sides in a boundary dispute.

"I am always a little skeptical of PTAs getting involved in a boundary issue," said Gibson.

YET SOME FAMILIES may receive fewer services as a result of boundary changes.

Some communities are moving from schools where students attend kindergarten for a full day to schools where students attend kindergarten for a half day. These families include those moving from Eagle View to Willow Springs; Greenbriar East to Greenbriar West; Poplar Tree to Virginia

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Speaker Calls Global Warming a 'Hoax'

'Truth About the Global Warming Hoax' heats up RWC monthly lecture.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Is global warming an inconvenient truth, or a "flavor of the month" fraud used as a massive and successful fund-raising tool?

According to Dr. Stefan Gorzula, a consulting ecologist and management specialist, it's the latter, despite the evidence supplied by most mainstream scientists.

"That's essentially what this entire scare of global warming and climate change is about," said Gorzula, who spoke to about 65 men and women attending the Republic Women's Club of Clifton lecture series on Tuesday, Feb. 28.

According to Gorzula, his dose of "common sense," is an antidote to the "fear-mongering and media hysteria" over the hot-button global warming issue. "It's also probably why I didn't get invited back to speak at George Mason University's Earth Day lecture," he told the crowd, drawing laughter.

"I thought he was fascinating and engaging," said Alice Butler-Story, vice president of members for the RWC. "It's an issue where we need to hear both sides."

"We wanted to have him as part of our lecture series, because our series is about getting information straight from the source about climate change instead of getting it (filtered) from the media, where you don't get the full story," said RWC president Lin-Dai Kendall, who presides over 105 members and the fastest-growing Republican women's groups in Northern Virginia.

Andrew Schaaf of Clifton, who attended the lecture with his wife and two children, said he was particularly interested in hearing Gorzula's comments. "He goes against the conventional wisdom, and talks about issues like politically-correct corruption," said Schaaf.

According to his website [<http://www.his.com/~mesas/gorzulaaddress.htm>] Gorzula has 36 years of experience in river basin management, wildlife conservation, environmental and social impacts of development projects and environmental legislation. He has spent 24 years living and working in developing countries in Latin America, Africa,

and Asia. He currently lives in Springfield.

He is a member of the Crocodile Specialist Group of the IUCN. On behalf of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), he has carried out surveys and developed management plans for caimans, boas and anacondas in Guyana and pythons in Ghana.

"Climate change and global warming are topics that should be treated with extreme caution," he said,

"That's essentially what this entire scare of global warming and climate change is about."

— Dr. Stefan Gorzula

SEE RWC, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

From left, Alice Butler-Story and Lin-Dai Kendall, the vice president and president of the Republican Women's Club of Clifton, respectively, stand with speaker Dr. Stefan Jan Gorzula.

History Comes To Life at Fairfax Station Museum

Railroad Museum program recalls early Civil War skirmish in City of Fairfax.

BY CHELSEA MUTH
THE CONNECTION

June 1, 1861, 02:00 hours: Lt. Col. Richard Ewell and ex-governor William Smith were sound asleep. Bunked at Gunnell House and the adjacent Fairfax Hotel, both leaders were guests of downtown Fairfax.

Smith, then civilian, was in Fairfax visiting his hometown rifle company and its captain, John Quincy Marr. Ewell was the newly appointed commander of the Fairfax Court House's Confederate soldiers. None of its three cavalries had yet seen action.

Ewell and Smith awoke to Union gunfire and a skirmish to mark Civil War history. One week after Virginia had seceded from the Union, Federal troops ambushed Fairfax Court House. Along Little River Turnpike, Marr became the first Confederate officer killed in combat.

"I ran out in a blue coat," said Chris Godard, reviving Ewell's memory 150 years later.

"Not wanting to be confused as a Yankee," Godard said, to the audience at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, "I threw it in the bushes."

Godard's research-based character transcended biased reports and newspaper accounts. "I could've been anyone — a crazy man running down the street in a night shirt," Godard said, as Ewell. "But I see one of my soldiers. I tell him, 'Get in the ranks. Left! Right!' And he won't do it."

Godard paused for effect. "I look at him and give him a few choice words."

The audience laughed.

"'Sir,' he said, 'I don't know who you are, and I don't want to take orders from you.'"

Living historians Godard and David Meisky, resurrected Ewell and Smith for the Feb. 9 Fairfax Station Railroad Museum's forum, "The War comes to the Court House, night of June 1 1861." Members of the living history group Lee's Lieutenants, the scholars brimmed with facts from museums, diaries and other primary sources.

This window into Fairfax's past was made



PHOTO BY CHELSEA MUTH/THE CONNECTION

Confederate leaders Richard Ewell and William Smith are remembered for their actions in Fairfax, on July 1, 1861.

possible by the museum's volunteer force, Friends of Fairfax Station, Inc., whose founding members saved the historic depot from demolition in 1973. Now refurbished with model trains, antique clippings and a dummy dispatcher, the old Southern Railroad Depot was the last operating depot in

Fairfax County. During the Civil War, Clara Barton sent thousands of soldiers to the depot for transport to nearby hospitals. The depot conveyed the founders of Fairfax and fueled its lasting economy.

SEE RAILROAD, PAGE 15

NEWS



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Dr. Stefan Jan Gorzula talks to the audience about the global warming

RWC Lecture Series

FROM PAGE 4

adding that the “short-term fluctuations” in global climate are not a new discovery. What is new, he said, is that global warming has replaced “nuclear winter, acid rain and saving the whales as the must-have buzz phrase” for many scientific grand applications.

“Redistribution of wealth as a politically-correct solution to climate change is cute, but it won’t work,” he said.

The next speaker in the RWC lecture series is Matthew Spalding, a constitutional scholar with the Heritage Foundation, who will discuss his latest book, “We Still Hold These Truths: Rediscovering Our Principles, Reclaiming Our Future.” In the book, Spalding said he details America’s core principles and shows how they have come under assault by modern progressive-liberalism. For more information on the dates and times of the lecture series, go to the RWC’s website, www.cliftongop.com.

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COMMUNITY



Paige Henderson, 11, of Fairfax Station reads the orange Chance card she drew on this turn.



Roberta Paul of Lorton draws a yellow Community Chest Card. Mary Bashore of Dale City is to her left. Although Paul is an avid Monopoly player, she did not make it to the second round of the competition.



Ron Kowalski, far left, explains the rules for round two of the competition. Kowalski and business partner Susan Borelli, of Ron and Susan Associates, organized the event to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Virginia.



Dillon Krein of Lorton received a payment from Brendan Kelly of Lorton. Next to Krein sits Grant Thompson of Lorton, ready to roll the dice.



From left, Isaiah Glasbrenner of Richmond, Bob McLean of Springfield, Mike Atlan of Washington, D.C., and Ryan Pittman of Waynesboro were matched up for the first round of the Monopoly Competition. Pittman is a former champion of the competition. This is Glasbrenner's first Monopoly competition, he found out about the event on the Internet.

Roll the Dice Tournament raises money for Habitat for Humanity.

More than 100 Monopoly enthusiasts gathered at the Glory Days Grill in Lorton, on Saturday, Feb. 26, to raise money for Habitat for Humanity of Virginia.

In three, 75-minute rounds, the players followed competition rules to see who was the master real estate manager. Twenty tables of players were winnowed down to

eight tables and then to a final round of eight players.

The winner of this year's competition was Bernard Sloan of Centreville, who walked home with \$500 in prize money.

Organized by Ron Kowalski and Susan Borrelli of Ron and Susan Associates, the event was expected to raise \$5,000 for Habitat for Humanity of Virginia.

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY DEB COBB



From left are Paige Henderson of Fairfax Station, Abdul Asif of Warrenton, Stuart Copan of Lorton and John Pionzio, far right. 'Watch a 50-year-old man be beat by a table of teenagers,' Copan said. Henderson will be 12 later this month.



The second-story addition houses the lodge's official meeting room, storage area and office space.

Masons Re-Open Lodge

FROM PAGE 3

when the second flood swamped the entire first floor, lodge members decided that it was time to completely renovate the structure.

"To preserve the building, we had to put it on a lift and move it and then install a new foundation," New said. The process of shoring up the foundation was arduous, and resembled the way beachfront homes are rebuilt after devastating hurricanes. First, workers poured concrete into the foundation to reinforce it, and then floodgates were installed to let water in and then drain out after severe storms. The Masons, who served as general contractors, also repaired beams and floorboards, constructed a ramp for handicapped accessibility and installed a new front porch.

After the building was moved back to the foundation, a second-floor was added. Two handicap-accessible bathrooms were added to the first floor, and the new second floor contains the formal meeting room, as well as office and storage space. Throughout the two years of construction, the Masons met at the Henry Lodge in Fairfax.

To raise the necessary funds for the \$150,000 renovations, members and others interested in maintaining the historic lodge created The Acacia Foundation in 2007, a non-profit charity for the lodge.

Clifton Mayor William R. Holloway told New he considered the lodge, built and chartered in 1877, "the first pillar of the community."

But what, exactly, is a Freemason?

For centuries, Freemasons have been shrouded in mystery and misconceptions. In popular fiction, like Dan Brown's "The Da Vinci Code," they have been vilified as cult-like conspirators. But the truth is more modest.

FOUNDED IN THE 1600S by British stonemasons, the men-only fraternity conducts closed monthly sessions to teach ethics, and raise money for charity, especially medical care. The Shriners are one of the oldest Masonic fraternities, and they support well known Shriners Hospitals and Burn Centers for children across the United States.

"Being a Mason is about being a good man, good husband, good father and someone who leads by example," New said. "We don't care about your political or religious affiliations, and our members come from every walk of life. We have attorneys, judges, business men and just about every other trade."

New said the 119 members of the Acacia Lodge have a commitment to community life. The members volunteer at many community events, such Clifton Days in October and the Clifton Homes Tour and Town Yard Sale in the summer.

Like New, most Masons have a long history of family involvement, including New whose father, brother and uncle are all Freemasons in Virginia. New, who has been the lodge's Worshipful Master or president for almost two years, lives in Prince William County with his wife, Rae, and three children, Michael, Nathan and Emily. He is the COO for his family-owned Digital Forensic Company.

Scott Springer of Springfield is the lodge's Senior Deacon or vice president. He said his grandfather was a Mason and he joined the lodge to honor him. "I like the camaraderie, the close-knit feeling. This is a quaint little country lodge with a lot of history," Springer said.

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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.

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-



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

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.

General Assembly Goes Into Overtime

BY SEN. DAVE MARSDEN
D-37TH DISTRICT

We went into overtime, although only for one extra day. The budget conferees from the House of Delegates and the Senate could not agree on reconciling their differing budgets until Sunday at 2 a.m. Compromise prevailed and we are able to present a spending plan for the rest of this fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and for next fiscal year ending on June 30, 2012. The budget was balanced as it always is. We should be leaving Richmond late on Sunday night, Feb. 27, after a final vote on the budget having previously debated and passed 887 bills out of 1,882 that were introduced.

The most important issue that I was involved with this year was a budget amendment I submitted to study the closing of a Juvenile Correctional Center. This facility is budgeted at \$13

State legislators wrap up 2011 session after approving a balanced budget.

million per year. For \$3-5 million less, we will be able to establish 10-12 state of the art, best practice re-entry programs for 120-140 youths in our 24 local juvenile detention centers that are currently underutilized and have approximately 600 vacancies.

COMMENTARY

In short, we can dramatically improve our juvenile recidivism rate, save money, reduce the size of government while moving government services closer to people and providing localities with new jobs and money to help with local detention center overhead.

One of the most enjoyable events of the session is the mock session held by the Senate

Pages. These are 13-14 year olds who serve in the Senate to assist Senators and staff with a myriad of functions. I covered the event in the role of reporter and one of the bills they introduced, debated, and passed was a controversial one that was passed by both the real Senate and House that dealt with a physical education requirement of 150 minutes per week in public schools.

Teddy Ludke, Chesterfield County, and Jay Kaul, Henrico County, did a great job of presenting the bill in the Mock Page Session. They convinced the other Pages of the need for this bill. With rising rates of childhood obesity, at

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THE CONNECTION

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OPINION

Legislators Achieve Balanced Budget

FROM PAGE 8

attention deficit disorder, and adult diabetes they felt, and the other pages agreed, that something must be done. Criticism of this bill was similar to what I heard from the community in Fairfax County, that it would cost money to provide this 150 minutes of physical education and that it would interfere with student choices of elective courses like band and the fine arts. Both Teddy and Jay's bill, as well as the real one, would not be in force until the 2014-15 school year. This will give the Department of Education, and the local school systems the time needed to make the appropriate adjustments and plans to make this happen without interfering with the aspirations and needs of our students.

One of the other controversial issues we dealt with involved a problem that was addressed by a bill of Del. Kay Kory (D-38) of Fairfax County. It involved mandatory notice to parents of a violation of public school rules by their child if it "is likely to lead to a suspension or expulsion." I believe the problem her bill was attempting to address is a valid and serious concern. I voted against this bill because it creates an impossibly vague standard for school administra-

COMMENTARY

tors and teachers that would require extensive paperwork. School employees would be placed in the situation of having to err on the side of caution and have to notify parents in writing of any number of violations because of the term "likely." We have cut education dramatically over the past few years and while this bill passed, I think we are putting a real burden on people who need to be educating our children, not getting caught up in endless paperwork. Myself, and others will be working to craft a better solution to the parental fear that their children will suffer disciplinary actions without having the benefit of their parent's support and council.

We adjourned on Sunday, Feb. 27, at 7:45 p.m. There were handshakes and hugs all around, Democrats and Republicans alike, saying goodbye and wishing each other well. As I sought out my four committee-chairpersons, I realized that I am the first Senator to have served under four women chairpersons in the Senate. Three were African American, and the fourth was Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30), who is retiring this year after serving as chairman of the Agriculture Committee. Yes Virginia, we have come a long way.

MILITARY NOTES

Army National Guard Pvt. Diana S. Piraquive has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. She is the daughter of Nydia Piraquive of Larne Lane, Lorton. Piraquive graduated in 2010 from

Hayfield Secondary School.

Army Pvt. Michael S. Annino has graduated from the Basic Field Artillery Cannon Crewmember Advanced Individual Training course at Fort Sill,

Lawton, Okla. A graduate of Woodbridge Senior High, he is the son of Michael F. Cranston of Lagrange Street, Lorton, and Gina M. Annino of Alexandria. His wife, Kiley, is the daughter of Megan L. Canady of Woodbridge.

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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 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 Orleans and later influenced vaudeville, [jazz

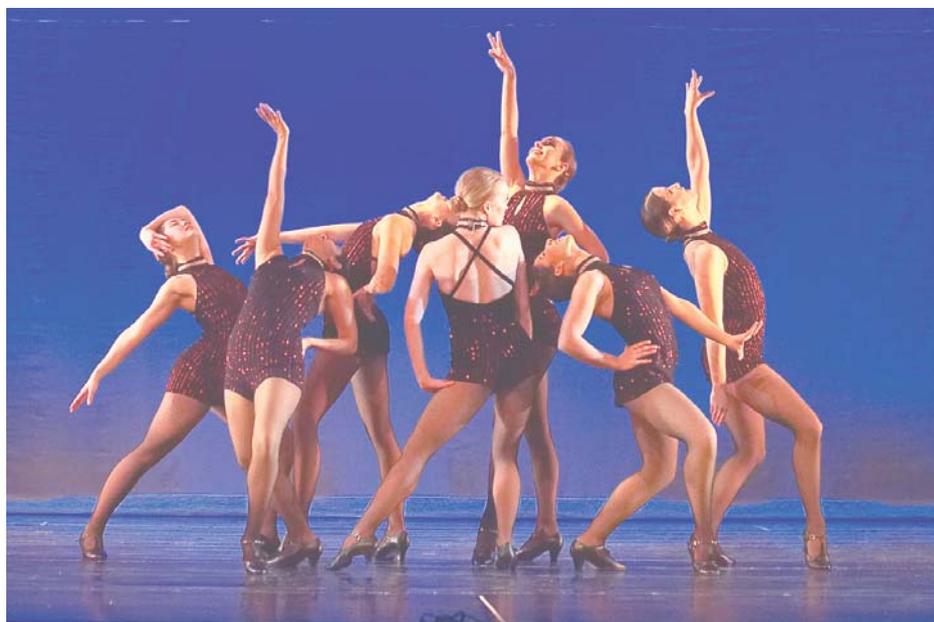


PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA HELMS

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.

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 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.

"This program is a Fairfax County treasure."

— Alan Green

"Some of the show's highlights will include 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

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

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.

Moms Club of Springfield Fund Raiser. 7:30 p.m. Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. Pampering, shopping and food for moms, with proceeds benefiting the Fairfax Hospital for Children NICU, PICU and children's cancer center. tjwilson0720@yahoo.com.

FRIDAY/MARCH 4

Epitome of the Weak, All Out Chaos, Upper 90, The Chuck Fenech Band,

Rising Chaos, Silence the Blind, Abandoning Arborland and Proper Addiction. 5 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. All ages. \$10 advance, \$12 day of show. www.Jaxxroxx.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.

SATURDAY/MARCH 5

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.

SUNDAY/MARCH 6

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.
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.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 9

Rotting Christ, Melechesh, Hate, Abigail Williams, Lecherous Nocturne and more. 6:15 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$22 advance, \$25 at the door, \$50 VIP tickets with a Meet and Greet with Ensiferum and Finntroll. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

THURSDAY/MARCH 10

Jennifer L. Nelson's "24, 7, 365." 8 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Attitudes about race, class and social activism are put under a humorous microscope. \$25. cfa.gmu.edu.

FRIDAY/MARCH 11

Celtic Woman: Songs from the Heart. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500

Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Irish classics, contemporary covers and original compositions. Tickets \$34-\$79, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.Celticwoman.com.

Kix and more. 8 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Age 21 and up. \$27 advance, \$30 at the door. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

Jennifer L. Nelson's "24, 7, 365."

8 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Attitudes about race, class and social activism are put under a humorous microscope. \$30. cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/MARCH 12

Second Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Meet each building's featured artist, a reception in W-16 from 6-7 p.m. and more. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

Jimmy Lange Boxing. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$35-\$500, through www.ticketmaster.com and 703-573-SEAT.

Northern Virginia's Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra.

8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Directed by Jim Carroll, with

percussionist Joe McCarthy, percussionist Roberto Quintero and jazz vocalist Sara Jones. Brazilian bossa nova, Argentine tango, Afro-Cuban beats from Harlem and more. \$20-\$40. Tickets are half price for youth through grade 12 when accompanied by an adult. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Jennifer L. Nelson's "24, 7, 365."

2 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Attitudes about race, class and social activism are put under a humorous microscope. \$25. cfa.gmu.edu.

Oldies But Goodies (OBG) Cocker Spaniel Rescue.

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Springfield PetSmart, 6535 Frontier Drive, Springfield. Meet cockers of all ages available for adoption. All dogs are spayed or neutered. Volunteers will be available to help potential adopters and answer any questions on the dogs. www.cockerspanielrescue.com or 703-533-2373.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 14

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.'

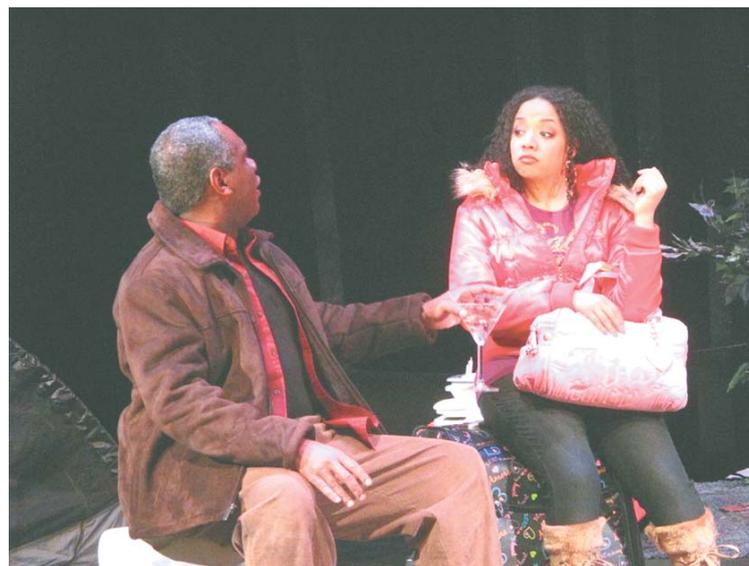


PHOTO BY TODD MESSECEE

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.

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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.

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. The youth league website is at www.FCYFL.org.

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).

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 Bru-

ins 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 District 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.

BONDS SCORED 15 points, Zanellato had 12 and Freedman 10 for the winners. Chantilly senior guard Jamie Danehower

"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

SPORTS

South County Girls Finish Third at State

Lee's Karissa Jenkins wins two events at double-A girls' postseason meet.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Local girls' track and field teams and athletes were well represented at last weekend's Virginia State AAA indoor season championships, which took place Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25 and 26, at the Boo Williams Sportsplex in Hampton.

Third place South County Secondary was the top girls' team finisher from the Northern Region at the state meet. The Stallions finished with 28 team points, finishing behind first place Western Branch (92) of Chesapeake and second place Cosby (37) of Midlothian.

Lake Braddock Secondary (18 points) tied for eighth place overall with two other teams — Bethel of Hampton and Osbourn Park of Manassas. Robinson Secondary (17) tied for 11th place with West Potomac, also from the Northern Region.

Other Northern Region teams that finished in the top half of the 54-team championship meet field included: 18th place Edison High, 21st place Hayfield, and 25th place Herndon.

While there were no individual girls' champions from the Northern Region at states, there were several second place finishers. Those athletes to earn second place medals were: South County senior Sarah Chandler (long jump), Hayfield senior Renee Reives (shot put), Lake Braddock sophomore Sophie Chase (1,600 run), Robinson junior Genamarie McCant (500 dash), and Edison High's Myah Hicks (1,000).

Other area athletes to earn top six place finishes at states included: Robinson's Chioma Onyekwere (fourth in 300 dash, fifth in shot put); W.T. Woodson's Kerchina Johnson (sixth in shot put); South County's Loren Dyer (fifth in triple jump); South County's Sheyda Khodaei (sixth in long jump); Lake Braddock's Chase (4th in 3,200); and Lake Braddock's Hannah Christen (sixth in 3,200).

The West Springfield 4x800 relay team, made up of Caroline Alcorta, Maddie Wittich, Lauren Blackburn, and Jessica Simmons, finished fourth. In the same relay, Thomas Jefferson High's foursome of Ronit Malka, Sarah Nielsen, Lisa Junta, and Stephanie Marzen finished sixth.

South County's 4x400 relay team of Sheyda Khodaei, EnNijah Majors, Loren Dyer and Sarah Chandler was third in the state. Also, the Stallions' 4x200 relay team of Khodaei, EnNijah Majors, Dyer, and Felicia Majors was fifth place.

On the boys' side at states, Lake Braddock and Robinson tied for 16th place with 10 points in the team standings. Sixty-one teams in all competed. Atlee High (57) of Mechanicsville was the team champion, ahead of second place Lakeland (36) of Suffolk and third place First Colonial (31) of Virginia Beach. Douglas Freeman (27) of Richmond was fourth, ahead of Northern Region school and fifth place finisher Chantilly (26). Other teams from the Northern Region that competed included seventh place Annandale, eighth place Oakton, 10th place South Lakes and 29th place Woodson.

Robinson senior Joey Muzzio won the high jump event with a finals jump of 6-07. He finished ahead of Clark Thornhill (6-05) of Douglas Freeman.

From Annandale High, Ahmed Bile, a junior, won the 1,000 race with a time of 2 minutes, 28.14 seconds, besting second place finisher Jeremy Greenwald (2:28.88) of Grassfield (Chesapeake).

Annandale High's John Jenkins took second place in the 55-hurdles. Woodson's Paul Gates finished third place in the 3200, while

Lake Braddock's Luke Sohl was seventh in the same event. Lake Braddock's Sean Daugherty was fourth place in the pole vault. Annandale's Joel Hoisington was sixth in the shot put. Hayfield's Cody Whitlow was sixth in the long jump. And Lake Braddock's Sam Rubenking was sixth in the 1600, while West Springfield High's Colin Taylor was seventh in the same event.

Lee High School competed at the state AA championships meet, held last weekend at the Tolsma Track Center in Lynchburg. The Lancer girls finished in seventh place among 37 teams with 30 points.

Lancer senior Karissa Jenkins captured first place finishes at states in two events — the long jump with a finals mark of 17-04 (ahead of Heritage High's Jasmine Sheffield); and the triple jump with a finals mark of 38-03.25 (ahead of Jamieeka Baker of Rustberg High). Jenkins, along with her two first place finishes, was also a seventh place finisher in the 55-hurdles.

In girls' shot put, Lee High senior Daquaa Scott took second place with a finals mark of 41-02.75. The event winner was Rochelle Evans (41-08.50) of Christiansburg High.

For the Lee boys, senior Dillon Sowers finished seventh place in the 1,600 race, while teammate Dalton Byerly, a senior, was eighth place in the 1,000 race.

Red Hot Action in Region

FROM PAGE 12

scored 17 points while teammate John Manning, the Chargers' talented 7-foot center, finished with 14.

The Bruins nearly eliminated Langley as well in their next game but fell just short of doing so. For the season, Lake Braddock fin-

ished 14-11.

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 season.

Hall of Fame Inductions

FROM PAGE 12

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

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).



PHOTO BY SYDNEY SAWYER

Front row, from left, Kacey Nicayenzi, Taran Kooner, Mason Joiner, Trystan Martin and Noah Falke; and back row, Coach Chris Joiner, Thomas Chemmanoor, Lucas deVos, Hayden Aspesi, Sam Labahn and Allen Scott. Not shown: Wesley Ravich.

Cardinals Black Wins Sportsmanship Award

Each season the coaches in the ODSL vote for a team in their division that exhibits the best sportsmanship. In addition to the coaches' votes, sportsmanship points are averaged from each referee report card. Also, points are subtracted for yellow and red cards accumulated during the season. The prestigious award is named

after Randy Rawls, one of the leagues original founders and its first president. The award honors the winner's sense of fair play, something for which Rawls was renowned as he sought to bring soccer opportunities to the youth of Northern Virginia. The Cardinals Black team is coached by Chris Joiner and assisted by Paul Labahn.

Countries are well cultivated, not as they are fertile, but as they are free.
—Baron de Montesquieu

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

SUNDAY/MARCH 13

Young Artist Competition Finalist Recital. 7 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Blvd., Fairfax. Northern Virginia's most talented high school instrumentalists compete for a \$2000 scholarship to further their musical education in a free public recital as part of the City of Fairfax Band's Young Artist Competition. Application materials are available at www.fairfaxband.org. Free. 703-757-0220.

Ladies Auxiliary Fashion Show. 1 p.m. VFW Post 1503, A Hall, 14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City. \$15, includes lunch and door prizes. Proceeds benefit Cancer Aid and Research. www.vfwpost1503.org.

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel: "Northern Stars." 7 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Works by Edvard Grieg, Jean Sibelius, Carl Nielsen, Johannes Brahms and more. \$19-\$38. Tickets are half price for youth through grade 12 when accompanied by an adult. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Jennifer L. Nelson's "24, 7, 365." 4 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Attitudes about race, class and social activism are put under a humorous microscope. \$25. cfa.gmu.edu.

Oldies But Goodies (OBG) Cocker Spaniel Rescue. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Springfield Petsmart, 6535 Frontier Drive, Springfield. Meet cockers of all ages available for adoption. All dogs are spayed or neutered. Volunteers will be available to help potential

adopters and answer any questions on the dogs. www.cockerspanielrescue.com or 703-533-2373.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 16

The Frogs are Hopping at Hidden Pond. 4:30 p.m. Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. Listen to frog sounds and see what they look like up close in their natural habitat. This program is suited to three to six-year-olds. \$4 per child. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or 703-222-4664.

THURSDAY/MARCH 17

Kataklysm, All Shall Perish, Decrepit Birth, Conducting From The Grave, Abysmal Dawn and more. 5:15 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$15 advance, \$17 at the door. www.Jaxxroxx.com.

Further. 8 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Former Grateful Dead members Phil Lesh and Bob Weir. Tickets \$49.50. Charge at 800-551-SEAT or www.livenation.com. www.furthur.net.

SATURDAY/MARCH 19

Arts and Craft Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Garfield Elementary, 7101 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. More than 65 vendors selling handcrafted items, children's craft activities and raffle. Free admission. 703-866-5523.

Artists' Reception for "Lighthouses in Two Dimensions." 3-6 p.m. Artists' Undertaking Gallery, 309 Mill St.,

Occoquan. Watercolors by Alex Wisniewski of Oakton, and woodturning and woodburning by Bob Horowitz of Falls Church. The exhibit will be open March 7-April 4, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. 703-494-0584 or www.theartistsundertaking.com.

SUNDAY/MARCH 20

Northern Virginia NTrak N-Gauge Train Display. 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax. \$3 adults, \$1 children. 703-250-7109 or www.fairfax-station.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 25

Ladies Auxiliary Silent Auction and Dinner Dance. Auction from 5-8 p.m., dinner dance begins at 6 p.m. VFW Post 1503, 14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City. With Doc Scantlin and His Imperial Palms Orchestra. Dinner Dance tickets \$45. Proceeds benefit Cancer Aid and Research. 703-670-4124 or www.vfwpost1503.org.

Mason Dance Company 2011 Gala Concert. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Featuring work by Ohad Naharin, Lar Lubovitch, Robert Battle and Susan Shields. Tickets \$20 adults, \$12 students and seniors, available at the Center for the Arts Box Office, open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/MARCH 26

Mason Dance Company 2011 Gala Concert. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Railroad Museum Event

FROM PAGE 3

“How many people drive down 123 and 236 in Fairfax and never realize what took place there?” said Godard, voicing his motives for reenactment. Godard and FOFS share a goal to build appreciation for Fairfax’s heritage. Along with Meisky, they emphasize the power of interpreting history.

“I came down looking for Capt. Marr,” Meisky told the museum audience, recalling Smith’s version of June 1, 1861. “He’s been shot and no one knows where he is,” said Meisky, whose character commandeered his hometown rifle company.

“Men, you all know me, will you follow me?” said the historian. The leaderless troops rallied behind Smith, described Meisky. The ex-governor then helped Ewell regain command. “I ran over to Ewell and told his men, ‘This is Lt. Ewell and he is here as commanding officer of Fairfax Court House and its troops.’”

ACCORDING TO Meisky and Godard, this pivotal night of combat allowed Ewell and Smith to prove their leadership. They marched the troops back to the Court House and sustained combat until the enemy retreated. The skirmish, involving a bout of



PHOTO BY CHELSEA MUTH/THE CONNECTION

The Railroad Museum’s dummy dispatcher gives a less animated demonstration of the depot’s historic roots

friendly fire, left one Confederate killed, five captured and two wounded.

“From the very beginnings of this country, history has been made in our very backyards,” said Jon Vrana, vice president of the Railroad Museum. “Holding living history events and civil war forums brings those events alive.”

This year is the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. As part of sesquicentennial celebrations, downtown Fairfax will relive the night of June 1, 1861. On June 4, Godard and Meisky, appearing as Ewell and Smith, will lead troops down Main Street, once more.

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4622 Aspen Hill Ct.....	\$599,900....Sun 1-4	Dana DeSarno.....Samson.....571-212-7770
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Fairfax		
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CAMPS & SCHOOLS

County Redraws School Boundaries

FROM PAGE 3

Run; as well as Centreville and Centre Ridge to Union Mill.

School Board Member Kathy Smith (Sully) proposed an amendment that would have given the receiving schools full-day kindergarten. The motion failed, with just Moon and Evans supporting Smith.

The school has been trying to "phase in" full-day kindergarten, with a goal of having it at every elementary school over the next few years. School communities that are perceived to be the neediest — those with a larger percentage of poor students and non-native English speakers — are in line to receive full-day kindergarten before more affluent communities.

But the School Board has not added full-day kindergarten to any new campuses over the last two years because of a constrained operating budget.

Several School Board members opposed Smith's resolution because they thought school communities should have to wait their turn in line. Some were also uncomfortable with making a monetary commitment to full-day kindergarten at these schools without knowing what other program cuts they might have to make.

"It looks like queue jumping and that is not fair," said Reed.

"By associating \$500,000 with this, we put these schools in preferential position at the expense of other programs. It is a little bit much to come to the till now," said Hone.

Some communities and School Board members also asserted said the School Board's boundary adjustments did not do enough to address the overcrowding problem.

Though the crowding at a few schools would not be as severe, 21 percent of campuses included in the study would still be over their building capacities after the boundary changes are made, said Reed.

Reed also added that 36 percent of elementary schools involved in the study would now have student populations of over 900 children, even though the school system aims to keep elementary schools at a smaller size.

"There are things that are still not right," said School Board member Brad Center (Lee).

Initially, Fairfax schools staff proposed dealing with overcrowded schools along the Route 50 corridor by building a new elementary school adjacent to Liberty Middle School. All students from Clifton Elementary, which school staff said deemed too expensive and difficult to renovate, would have been sent to this new school under the original proposal.

But plans to build a new elementary school at the Liberty site proved unpopular with the community last year.

The Liberty property was not located in the vicinity of where the overcrowding was taking place. The community had also expressed some concerns about whether the naturally occurring asbestos on the site would be disturbed during construction.

Unable to find a suitable site, the School Board abandoned the idea of constructing a new school and decided to handle the overcrowding issue through additions to existing schools. This shift in approach likely meant that fewer students ended up moving schools than would have under the original plan, according to school staff.

Though there were no clear plans about what building additions would be approved or where the boundary shifts would take place eight months ago, the School Board felt confident that eventual solution would be cheaper if it did not include a renovation of Clifton Elementary. So School Board members pushed forward with a vote to close Clifton in July, despite no clear plan or cost estimates being in place at the time.

School staff has subsequently said that several school construction and renovation projects have been accelerated due to the savings achieved by shuttering Clifton and an alternative high school in Falls Church.

FAITH NOTES

The Messiah United Methodist Church Festival Chorus will offer "Requiem" and "Revelations" by Bradley Ellingboe, on Sunday, March 27 at 3 p.m. at Messiah UMC, 6215 Rolling Road in Springfield. 703-569-9862, ext. 205.

The Truro Parish Choir presents the Duruflé Requiem as part of the Good Friday worship services on Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Truro Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. The Requiem, op. 9, by Maurice Duruflé is a work in which most of the thematic material comes from chant. The choir will be accompanied by organist Andrea Boudra. 703-273-1300.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive in Clifton, offers three levels of ESL Classes every Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. Cost for semester is \$35, including student book. To register, come to the next class. www.lordoflifelutheran.com or 703-323-9500.

Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road in Fairfax, will have a new Bible Study on Tuesdays through March 8 at 9:45 a.m. entitled "Discovering Who We Are in Christ." \$15. Child care available. Register at 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

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

SCHOOL NOTES

Maria Ali, Kyle Belfort, David Harris and Adrianna McQuillen, seniors at Lake Braddock Secondary School, were named semifinalists in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program. They are three of 16,000 semifinalists nationwide who will compete at a chance to become one of 8,400 finalists to receive a National Merit Scholarship in the spring.

Fatima Mubarak, a senior at James W. Robinson Secondary School, was named a semifinalist in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program. Mubarak is one of 16,000 semifinalists nationwide who will compete at a chance to become one of 8,400 finalists to receive a National Merit Scholarship in the spring.

Fairfax Station resident Sam Lausier has successfully completed the Freedom Alliance Military Leadership Academy, a summer camp based on the curriculum of the U.S. Army.

Threshold, the literary magazine of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology received a Best of Show Award in the Literary Magazine category for staff, editors and Emily Orser, adviser. The awards were presented at the Journalism Education Association-National Scholastic Press Association fall convention in Kansas City, Mo.

Sentry, the middle school yearbook of Robinson Secondary received a Best of Show Award in the Junior High Yearbook category for Katie DePaolis, editor, and Pat Hinman adviser. The awards were presented at the Journalism Education Association-National Scholastic Press Association fall convention in Kansas City, Mo.

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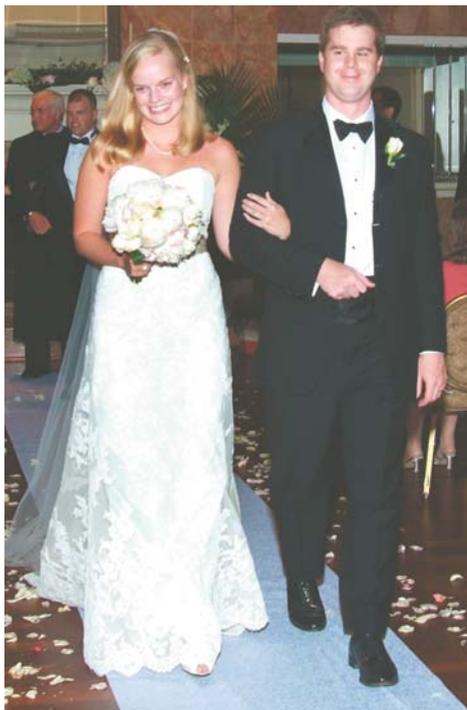
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PEOPLE



Kelley Ann Otstott M.D. marries Alexander Steven von Elten on May 22.

Otstott, von Elten Marry in Fairfax.

Kelley Ann Otstott, M.D., daughter of Lt. Gen. (Retired) and Mrs. Charles P. Otstott of Fairfax Station, married Alexander Steven von Elten, son of Dr. and Mrs. Steven von Elten of Warrenton, at the Country Club of Fairfax on May 22, at 5:30 p.m. The Honorable Dennis J. Smith officiated. A cocktail hour, dinner and dancing followed the ceremony.

The bride graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Georgetown University and the University of Virginia, School of Medicine. She is currently a resident in Pediatrics at Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, Hawaii. She is a captain in the Army Medical Corps.

The groom graduated from St. Paul's School in Concord, N.H., and the University of Virginia with degrees in economics and a juris doctor. He has been accepted for a direct commission as an officer in the Army Judge Advocate General Corps.

The couple resides in Honolulu, Hawaii.

BULLETIN BOARD

TUESDAY/MARCH 8

The Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke Dementia Care Gives 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.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 9

NARFE Springfield Chapter Meeting. 1:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield. With a presentation by R. Dennis Bevans, career federal employee and author of "Fast Track Bureaucrat - An Insider's Story of Service, Survival, Success, Solutions." Guests welcome. 703-313-9387.

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21 Announcements

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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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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

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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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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.

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

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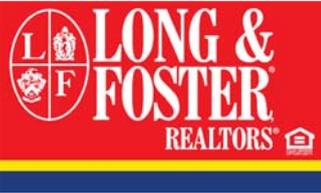


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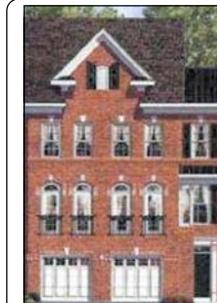
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