

Oak Hill & Herndon CONNECTION

inside



Girl Power!

A+, PAGE 9

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/THE CONNECTION
OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13



Early Morning Understanding

NEWS, PAGE 3

Honoring Saviors Of Herndon's Streets

NEWS, PAGE 3

More than 7,500 Girls on the Run participants take to the streets of the campus of George Mason University during Sunday's 5K race.

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**Police Seek
Witnesses to
Fatal Crash**

A Herndon man died after he was struck while standing outside of his car. Shortly after 10:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 15, the man was driving a 1999 Mazda 626 east on Route 7. At the intersection of Dranesville Manor Drive, the car apparently experienced mechanical difficulties and stopped in the right travel lane. The driver activated the emergency flashers and got out of the car.

A 39-year-old Alexandria-area man, driving a 2005 KIA AMANTI, was also traveling east on Route 7 and failed to stop before striking the rear of the Mazda. After striking the car, the KIA then struck the man standing outside the Mazda.

Kyle Alec Rowley, 19, of 1126 Stuart Hills Way in Herndon, was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver of the KIA was flown to a local hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

Neither speed nor alcohol appear to be a factor in this crash.

Electronic sign boards are being put in place at the site of the crash asking witnesses to call police.

The crash is still under investigation and police are asking anyone with information to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

**Hunter Mill
Backyard Earth
Fest on Saturday**

Celebrate and learn at the Hunter Mill Backyard Earth Fest on May 21 at Frying Pan Farm Park from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Exhibitors from throughout Fairfax County (ranging from 4-H clubs to Master Gardeners, Nature Centers and government agencies) will be showing off ways for individuals and families to help globally by thinking and acting locally. Activities include an hourly geocaching adventure, a sneak peak at Virginia's first hybrid trash truck, a scavenger hunt and eco-friendly crafts.

Live entertainment will be provided by the Reston Teen House Band and the Noon Tzu Chi Foundation. Speakers from Fight the Bite and Northern Virginia Soil and Water will also be presenting.

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PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

From left, Senior Police Officers Charles Pond and James Rider of the Herndon Police Department and Herndon Police Chief Toussaint Summers Jr. at the 20th annual awards for Excellence in Community Service and Public Safety May 12. Pond and Rider were two of five Herndon officers awarded for their efforts in getting drunk drivers off the streets.

Honoring Saviors of Herndon's Streets

Five officers awarded for efforts in combating impaired drivers.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Five officers from the Herndon Police Department were recognized for their outstanding work keeping drunk and impaired drivers off the streets May 12 at the 20th annual awards for Excellence in Community Service and Public Safety. The awards were presented by the Fairfax Alcohol Safety Action Program and the Mothers Against Drunk Driving of Northern Virginia.

"I'm proud of our department every single day, but especially proud of how they manage to keep our streets safe," said Herndon Mayor Steve DeBenedittis. "I always try to attend this ceremony to show these officers how impor-

tant their work is."

Senior Police Officers Charles Pond and James Rider were two of the awardees from Herndon who were able to attend the ceremony. Capt. Brad Anzengruber said it "seems like both of these officers come here every year to win this award, they always lead our department in DUI arrests."

Pond has been with the department for nine years, serving in the traffic section and as the Accident Investigation Unit reconstruction officer.

"He's done an outstanding job throughout the years, and I believe he's won this award almost every year he's been here," Anzengruber said.

Rider has been with the department for five years, winning the award four times.

"He's one of our most pro-active

officers, he loves traffic enforcement," Anzengruber said.

Private Jay Choi, Senior Police Officer James Passmore Jr. and Private First Class Andrew Perry were also recognized at the ceremony, but were unable to attend.

Herndon Police Chief Toussaint Summers Jr. said that while the numbers of impaired driving arrests are impressive, it is impossible to count the lives saved by getting those drivers off the streets.

"Obviously it's very important in our town to keep drunk drivers off the streets, and our officers do a great job doing that alongside their regular duties," Summers said.

"The amount of lives they have saved and the number of families they've kept safe is impossible to calculate."



PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Sheikha Farhanahz Ellis of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society speaks to an audience during a prayer breakfast May 14 at Great Falls Assisted Living in Herndon.

Early Morning Understanding

Ecumenical Council hosts interfaith prayer breakfast.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Faith community members from Great Falls, Reston, Herndon and beyond gathered at Great Falls Assisted Living in Herndon Saturday morning for a morning of interfaith dialogue.

Reverend Nancy Childress of the Great Falls United Methodist Church helped organize the event on behalf of the Great Falls Ecumenical Council, a group of eight local churches. She invited Sheikha Farhanahz Ellis of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society to speak on how people of all faiths can come together through the power of prayer.

"It's about getting more information and admitting that you don't know what you don't know," Childress said. "There's militant branches of Christianity like there is any other, and while you can't defend them, you usually find it's people who haven't been fully educated."

ELLIS SERVES AS A CHAPLAIN at George Mason University, as well as the chairman for Interfaith and Community Outreach at ADAMS. She spoke of prayer as a way to unite multicultural communities.

She spoke of the similarities between the Quran, the Christian Psalms and other religious texts when it comes to loving one another and loving God.

Such unity, she said, can only serve to strengthen any faith community.

"We are facing the strengthening of our individual and congregational religious beliefs by the acknowledgement of the existence of the other traditions," she said.

More than 20 people attended the breakfast, and most said they felt that due to recent events, understanding between faiths is more important than ever.

"The council is made up of Christian churches, but I know Reverend Childress feels that Christians, Jews and Muslims need to know and understand each other," said Beverly Bradford, a member of St. Francis Episcopal Church in Great Falls. "I have a lot of admiration for the courage it took for people to come out here and listen this morning."

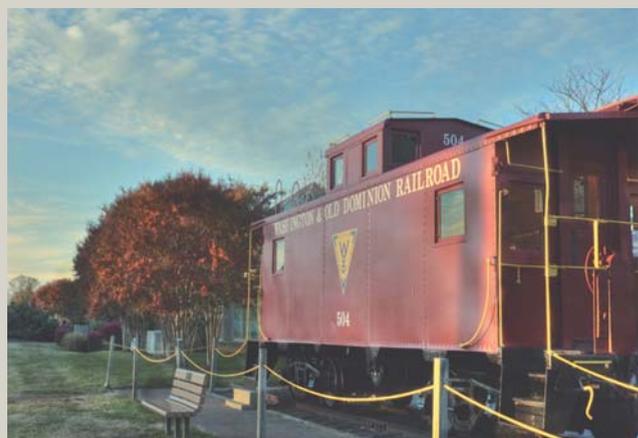
BUILDING BRIDGES was a theme of the morning, and while many guests spent the breakfast sharing their thoughts on everything from upcoming church fundraisers to summer vacation plans, Charles Stevenson said he hoped this was just a first step.

"I'm very pleased to see something like this put together, I think it really helps to build bridges," said Stevenson, a member of Loudoun Interfaith Bridges, which is an organization of faith groups.

Linda Pesce Wins People's Choice Award

ArtSpace has announced "Autumn Glow" by Linda Pesce as the People's Choice Award Winner for the At Home in Herndon: Herndon Town Calendar Photography Exhibit.

'Autumn Glow,' by Linda Pesce won the People's Choice Award at the ArtSpace's At Home in Herndon: Herndon Town Calendar Photography Exhibit.



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NEWS



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONSERVATORY BALLET
Georgina Greenleaf pictured at the
Conservatory Ballet's Spring Dem-
onstration on May 8.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PR AT PARTNERS
Georgina Greenleaf, 16, is a tenth
grader at Herndon High.

Summer at Bolshoi

Herndon's Georgina Greenleaf goes to Moscow.

Herndon resident Georgina Greenleaf, 16, has been selected for the prestigious National Security Language Initiative for Youth Program (NISLI-Y) — funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs — to spend six weeks this summer studying Russian language, culture and ballet at the renowned Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Moscow. NSLI-Y — which provides merit-

based scholarships to qualified U.S. high school students to learn less commonly taught languages and cultures in foreign countries — has earmarked scholarships for a dance-related program for the first time with this summer's program with the Russian American Foundation and Bolshoi Ballet Academy.

Georgina is a tenth grade student at Herndon High. She has been a student for more than 13 years of Julia Cziller Redick, Director of the Conservatory Ballet in Reston. Georgina has performed at the Kennedy Center as a supernumerary with the New York City Ballet and the American Ballet Theater, and with the Conservatory Ballet at the Wolf Trap Children's Festival.



PHOTO BY KELLY HORNE

Readers Are Leaders at Herndon Elementary

Readers Are Leaders, a mentoring program that pairs Herndon High School girls lacrosse team members with second graders from Herndon Elementary School, focuses on helping the younger students with reading fluency, comprehension and word work.

WEEK IN HERNDON

FROM PAGE 2

Wagon rides (\$3 per person) and the antique carousel (\$1.75) will be open.

For more information call 703-437-9101. Frying Pan Farm Park is located at 2709 West Ox Road in Herndon.

Annual Blessing of the Bikes is May 21

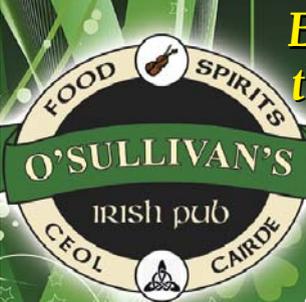
Saint Joseph Catholic parish is sponsoring the third annual Blessing of the Bikes for motorcyclists of all faiths on Saturday, May 21, at 10 a.m. at the church located at 750 Peachtree Street in Herndon. Franciscan Father Timothy Harris, T.O.R., owned a motorcycle prior to entering the seminary in 1999 and started the annual event after a parishioner approached him. The date was chosen to coincide with the start of the traditional riding season. The blessing will start with a song, followed by Scripture and prayer. Father Harris then will walk among the riders and their bikes to bless them with holy water.

Twenty-five cyclists showed up the first year. The organizers have started reaching out to motorcycle organizations and publications to invite all riders to this free event. According to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, 227 motorcycles were registered in Herndon as of 2009; 16,000 in Fairfax County; and over 185,000 statewide. For more information, contact Fr. Timothy Harris, T.O.R. at 703-880-4337.

One Arrest, Seven Summonses

Fairfax County police officers from around the county conducted a sobriety checkpoint to deter and apprehend intoxicated drivers on Friday, May 13 from 11:30 p.m. until 2:30 a.m. Saturday. All motorists were stopped and drivers were checked to assure that their abilities to drive had not been impaired by alcohol or drugs.

Approximately 695 motorists passed through the checkpoint in the northbound lanes of the Fairfax County Parkway near the intersection of Walnut Branch Road. One arrest was made for DWI; seven summonses were issued for miscellaneous traffic offenses and two people were charged with minor criminal offenses. Ten auxiliary officers and eight police officers participated in this operation.



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- **Friday, 5/20/11: Tommy Gann 9:30pm-1:30am**
- **Thursday 5/26/11: Sanford Markley 8pm-12am**
- **Friday, 5/27/11: Brian Frank 9:30pm-1:30am**
- **Saturday, 5/28/11: Hall Vote 9:30pm-1:30am**

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Reminder on Preparedness

While images of most natural emergencies — hurricanes, floods, tornadoes — seem remote from the D.C. suburbs, last month more than a dozen tornadoes touched down in our area.

Many households in our area have suffered through multiple-day power outages related to snowstorms and thunderstorms.

Virginia's annual hurricane preparedness sales tax holiday is next week, May 25-31, 2011. During this seven-day period, purchases of "hurricane and emergency preparedness equipment" will be exempt from the Virginia sales tax.

As long as they cost \$60 or less each, items including batteries, flashlights, tarps, rope, duct tape, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, bottled water, first aid kits, and many others,

will be tax-free. Portable generators priced at \$1,000 or less are also included.

This is one of three tax holidays in Virginia; a three-day sales tax holiday for school supplies and clothing begins on the first Friday in August, and the four-day holiday for Energy Star qualified products is in mid-October.

For good information on emergency preparation, see www.readyvirginia.gov; for details on the sales tax holidays, see www.tax.virginia.gov.

Father's Day Photo Gallery, and More

Father's Day is Sunday, June 19, and once again the Connection will publish a gallery of

Father's Day photos.

Send in photos in jpeg format as soon as possible, including the full names of all the people in the picture, hometowns, the approximate date and location the picture was taken, the ages of the children and sentence or two about the people and/or event.

PROMS AND ... While Connection photographers and writers will likely attend some proms as schedules permit, we also urge parents and students to document their proms (or alternative activities) and send in photos in jpeg format, and also including who, what, where, when and why.

We're also interested in other events at your school, church, synagogue or mosque, milestone events, etc.

Email photos to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TJ Model Worth Exploring

To the Editor:

The Teacher Appreciation Week [Connection May 4-10] mentions: "Many teachers in Fairfax have had to take second jobs to pay their bills and provide for their children, which takes time away from their ability to do extra-curricular work (like sponsoring clubs or mentoring) for FCPS."

A possible solution may be for Fairfax residents to explore the plan Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJ) has used for many years. TJ provides students academic assistance, clubs, activities, "sports", and "curricular" during the TJ school day before the buses leave. TJ teachers are paid for their extra-curricular work through extended day contracts.

As a parent who has had the pleasure of knowing TJ students and families for many years, I would say TJ's extra-curricular plan is worth exploring on the TJHSST website or the TJ Colonial Athletics link: http://www.colonialathletics.org/library/files/ColonialAthletics_org/files/Clubs-Activities%20List.pdf

Briefly, most of TJ's "165 clubs and activities are offered during 8th Period." "This embedded time allows students the opportunity for academic assistance, explore a new interest through a club or socialize with friends in a supervised activity." A 2010-2011 sample includes such activities as athletic injury clinic, weight lifting, basketball, Swim Dive, crew, ballroom dancing, chorus, band drum line, student council, Hip Hop Roots, Math Team, Model United Nations, School newspaper, Latin Club, Spanish Club, Russian Honor Society, Namaste Victory celebration for World Cricket cup and more. Within school hours, TJ clubs and activities create a sense of community, build school spirit, and with an opportunity to attend approximately 2-4 clubs a week, it is seamless to beef up a college application.

The philosophy is for all TJ students to have access to clubs and activities during the school

day before the buses leave.

This helps students without "rides" to participate and likely keeps many cars off our roads. The 8th Period Coordinator position (US-20 salary scale with contract length of 11 Months (219 days) makes certain the system works. We certainly could consider such opportunities for more FCPS high school students and teachers instead of just one school. Many students who must care for younger siblings, are employed after school, play sports or have various other conflicts cannot attend clubs, but have a solution with TJ plan. We applaud TJ's eighth period program and believe access to such academic assistance, instruction and clubs should be equitable.

Could such 8th period academic assistance increase TJ students' grade point averages through improved comprehension as students engage with teachers on a more individual and frequent basis?

❖ Many of our schools compete with TJ for recognition in clubs and activities; does TJ's 8th period provide an advantage over other schools in our district and state?

❖ Are other high school students in FCPS at a disadvantage in college applications when only TJ students are provided clubs and activities during the school day?-

❖ Would the smaller student class size at TJ make a positive difference for other students and show appreciation for our teachers at other high schools?

I imagine our TJ Colonials will speak up and provide well-organized insight, yet, it is worth the time for parents of "base" schools throughout Fairfax to explore our Governor's school TJHSST websites and the TJ Partnership Fund to learn more, ask questions and appreciate a teacher who volunteered to stay after school to help a student or sponsor a club.

Janet Jameson
Great Falls

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 18

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group. 6:30 p.m. Reston Police Station, 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. 703-204-4664 or 703-723-4657.

THURSDAY/MAY 19

Committee for Dulles Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. Crowne Plaza, 12200 Centreville Road, Herndon. With representatives of Air France, Airbus, and MWAA members. \$50, non-members \$70. 703-430-8749 or www.committeefordulles.org.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 25

Fall Prevention for Seniors: Know the Facts. 10 a.m. Great Falls Assisted Living, 1121 Reston Ave., Herndon. Improve one's quality of life and prevent falls. With Dr. Tino Vilches on medication management and Drs. Gordon Culp and Joan Gillard on vision. Light refreshments served. Reserve at 703-421-0690 or 703-475-3044.

Bereavement Workshop: "Journey through Grief." 2 p.m. Haven of Northern Virginia, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Registration required at 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org.

THURSDAY/MAY 26

Lupus Support Group. 12 p.m. at Reston Hospital Center, The West Wing, 1850 Town Center Parkway, Reston. lh@ascendcomm.com or www.lupusgw.org.

Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce

Legislative Series. 8 a.m. Dominion Virginia Power, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. "Redistricting: How it will affect your business for the next 10 years." With Senator Janet Howell (D-32nd District) and Delegate Ken Plum (D-36th District). andrap@restonchamber.org.

Committee for Dulles: Rail to Dulles and Beyond. 7:30-11:30 a.m. Executive Conference Training Center, 22685 Holiday Park Drive, Dulles. An update on Loudoun County's planning for rail, new detailed descriptions of projects in the works, and a discussion of the challenges and opportunities that await. \$50. 703-430-8749.

SUNDAY/MAY 29

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group. 6 p.m. Sunrise of Reston, 1778 Fountain Drive, Reston. 703-956-8934.

THURSDAY/JUNE 2

Herndon Farmer's Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Lynn Street in downtown Herndon. Thursdays through Oct. Seasonal fruits, vegetables, flowers, meats, eggs, jams, plants and baked goods. All items are homegrown or baked by the vendors at the market. www.herndon-va.gov or 703-787-7380.

PEOPLE

Herndon Student Called 'Nobel Prize Potential'

Senior Siddharth Venkat of Herndon is the first recipient of the Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award in the College of Science at Virginia Tech University. He will graduate this month with a bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics.



Siddharth Venkat

Venkat has been pursuing research projects with various faculty members in the physics department since his sophomore year. Under the tutelage of Eric Sharpe, assistant professor of physics, Venkat has conducted research on string theory. In addition, he has been studying systems far from equilibrium, which as Department Head Beate Schmittmann says is "one of the most important current challenges in science." His advisor for the latter research is Associate Professor of Physics Michel Pleimling.

"In my eyes, Sid is a phenomenon," Schmittmann said. "He is the one student in a couple of decades who is so gifted and focused that he will develop into an absolutely supreme scientist with Nobel Prize potential."

Venkat's research has been published in the leading international journal Physical Review, and he received one of the prestigious Sigma Xi Undergraduate Research Awards for 2010. Venkat took senior-level physics classes as a

sophomore and has taken a number of graduate-level classes since then. He is on track to graduate with a perfect grade point average of 4.0.

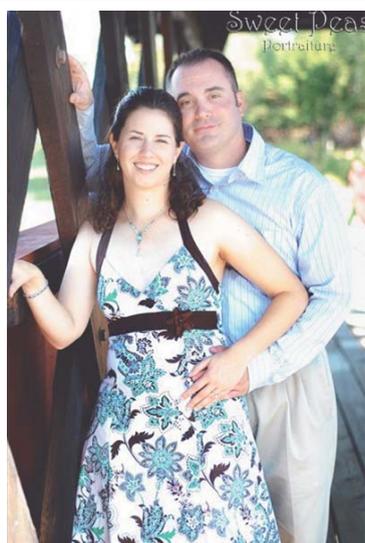
"To have progressed so far so quickly is an extraordinary academic accomplishment, rivaling the top undergraduates at Ivy League Schools," Schmittmann said.

"Sid shows extraordinary maturity for his young age," Pleimling said. "He should be the best prepared physics student who ever left our department."

Venkat says he plans a future career in theoretical physics.

Lauren Bernhard and Ray Decker to Wed May 21

Lauren Bernhard and Ray Decker will celebrate their marriage Saturday, May 21, at St. Mark's Church in Vienna. Lauren is a graduate of Herndon High School in 2001 and James Madison University in 2005. Ray is from Dale City, Va. and a graduate of James Madison University in 2005.



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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

What The Future Holds

Students pursue college and careers after high school.

By JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Sarah Locke applied to Howard University, George Mason University and a few other colleges. In the end, however, she just couldn't see herself going anywhere besides The United States Military Academy, better known as West Point.

"I also looked into R.O.T.C or enlisting but this seemed like a better deal to me. I like the structure," said Locke.

West Point is not for the faint of heart. The academy is highly competitive, with just a 12.65 percent acceptance rate.

Out of the 1,300 people who start out each academy class, only 1,000 or so will make it through the four-year program, according to its website.

Just 10 days after her graduation from high school, Locke will have to report on June 27 for the beginning of Cadet Basic Training at West Point, also called "Beast Barracks."

Women tend to outnumber men in higher education, but West Point is an exception to that rule. Females usually make up just 15 percent of the cadets in each class, according to the academy's website.

Locke said she was inspired by her mother, an African American who was among the first 62 women to graduate from West Point in 1980.

Pat Walker Locke was already in the U.S. Army as an enlisted soldier when West Point opened its doors to women in the late 1970s. At the time, Pat Locke — who was from inner city Detroit — had never heard of West Point, but her battalion leader had encouraged her to apply for a slot at the school.

"There are more women there now than when we were there ... and people are trying to help you instead of keep you out," said Pat Locke, who is extremely pleased to see her own daughter attending the service academy.

"She was so excited. She was running around the house dancing when I got the letter," said Sarah Locke, who attends Mount Vernon High School.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA typically sends a large cohort of students to the military service academies each year.

Virginia's 11th congressional dis-

trict, which includes Fairfax and Prince William counties, had 49 students accepted to academies in 2011, the most of any congressional district in the country. Virginia's 10th congressional district, which includes northern and western Fairfax County, ranked second in the number of students attending military academies next year.

Several of the students attending one of the academies next year have a family connection to the military already.

"I was influenced by my dad, who is over in Iraq right now," said Jason Ko, a Robinson Secondary School senior who will be attending West Point next year.

In Fairfax County, the number of students attending service academies also appears to be on the rise. In 2005, a total of 40 students from Fairfax County Public Schools attended the five academies. By 2009, that number had increased to 54.

"That is just the kind of lifestyle that is appealing to me," said Lisa Marie Junta, a Springfield resident who is a senior at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

Perhaps it shouldn't be surprising that Northern Virginia high school students interested in joining the military would pursue a career through a service academy that provides a college education.

A much larger percentage of Northern Virginia high school students attend four-year colleges in general. Last year, more than 60 percent of high school graduates in Arlington and Fairfax counties enrolled in four-year college programs, compared to just 46 percent of Virginia high school graduates overall.

Graduates from the Fairfax County Public Schools overwhelmingly choose to go to school within the commonwealth, which rivals California as having the best public higher education in the country. In 2009, 75 percent of Fairfax high graduates attending college choose to enroll in the Virginia school, according to a school system report.

U.S. News and World Report regularly ranks the University of Virginia and College of William & Mary among the top 10 public undergraduate programs in the United States. The schools' stellar reputation has been double-edged sword however, creating an incredibly competitive admissions envi-

ronment in which several high-achieving Northern Virginia students are vying for admission.

Steep Competition

This year, the University of Virginia saw record-breaking 24,005 applications for its freshman class. William and Mary had 12,820 applications, according to a New York Times database.

The commonwealth's most prestigious universities ended up with similar admission rates of 32.2 percent and 34.6 percent respectively. Private colleges such as Carnegie Mellon (30.4 percent), Connecticut College (31.5 percent) and The George Washington University (32 percent) have comparable admission rates.

Several well-regarded public schools have higher admissions rates including Georgia Tech (48 percent), University of Texas - Austin (45.6 percent) and the University of Wisconsin - Madison (49.7 percent). A select few, like UCLA (25.28 percent) and the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill (29.2 percent), have lower admission rates than the most selective Virginia universities.

STILL, several Northern Virginia families complain about their children's ability to get admitted to the commonwealth's top tier schools. At three Fairfax high schools, fewer than 10 students were admitted to UVa. this year, according to data released by the university.

Yet UVa's own data also shows that students applying from Northern Virginia localities were accepted at higher rate than average.

The school acceptance rate for applications from Fairfax County (45 percent), Arlington County (43.1), City of Alexandria (40.1 percent) and the City of Fairfax (39.5 percent) was much more generous than the normal 32 percent.

In fact, it is often the next tier of Virginia public schools where students face more trouble getting accepted than average applicant.

For example in 2009, Fairfax County Public Schools reported that the school system's graduates were often accepted at a lower rate than the average applicant to George Mason University (59.5/63.3), James Madison University (50.2/59.3) and Virginia Tech

2011 University of Virginia Acceptances By High School

The following data are based on information provided by the University of Virginia's Office of Institutional Assessment, Fairfax County Public Schools, Arlington County Public Schools and the City of Alexandria.

School	Number of Students Accepted To UVa.	Number of Seniors (April 2011)	Percentage of Seniors Accepted To UVa.
Thomas Jefferson High School	223	425	52.4%
H.B. Woodlawn High School	16	93	17.2%
McLean High School	50	406	12.3%
James Madison High School	53	454	11.6%
South Lakes High School	37	357	10.3%
Marshall High School	25	286	8.7%
Lake Braddock Secondary School	51	588	8.7%
Langley High School	41	487	8.4%
Oakton High School	44	532	8.2%
Robinson Secondary School	50	624	8.0%
Fairfax High School	39	496	7.8%
Centreville High School	39	507	7.7%
Washington-Lee High School	33	431	7.6%
West Potomac High School	32	422	7.5%
Yorktown High School	31	444	6.9%
West Springfield High School	32	525	6.1%
South County Secondary School	25	442	5.6%
Chantilly High School	32	587	5.4%
Westfield High School	35	669	5.2%
Herndon High School	21	450	4.6%
T.C. Williams High School	29	632	4.5%
Lee High School	18	399	4.5%
Edison High School	16	370	4.3%
Annandale High School	23	557	4.1%
Wakefield High School	12	291	4.1%
Hayfield High School	16	443	3.6%
Mount Vernon High School	6	346	1.7%
Falls Church High School	5	300	1.6%
Stuart High School	0	305	0%
Woodson High School	0*	449	0%*

* The University of Virginia sent data to The Connection Newspapers that indicated no students were accepted into its undergraduate program from Woodson High School this year. Members of the Woodson community have said this is not the case, pointing to at least six students who have reported they will attend the school in the fall.

(51.1/66.7).

One reason that the Northern Virginia community may perceive a shortage of slots at the commonwealth's most selective college, UVa., is because a large share of the students admitted come from one school, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

Nearly 18 percent of all the students admitted to UVa. from Fairfax and Arlington this year attend Thomas Jefferson. The university accepted 223 Jefferson students into its freshman class next year, which is more than half of the number of students in Jefferson's 425-person

senior class. The next largest cohort of accepted students came from the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School in Richmond, where 75 seniors were admitted. Madison High School in Vienna was next, with 53 students.

A fair number of Jefferson graduates choose to attend UVa. Ninety-three students in the 2010 freshman class came from Jefferson, according to the university.

But some parents believe Jefferson students are also more likely to get into other prestigious schools that it is difficult for students from base high schools to access.

From 2005-2009, Fairfax schools sent approximately 100 of its students to Ivy League universities every year, less than one percent of the number of seniors than normally apply to college.

Out-of-State Decisions

Despite the strong reputation of the Virginia's public universities, many Northern Virginia students still decide to go out of state for school.

Fairfax graduates who are going outside the commonwealth tend to stay close by, according to a school system report.

The popular destinations for seniors include Pennsylvania, North Carolina and New York in 2008 and 2009. West Virginia University (95 students), Pennsylvania State University (73 students) and East Carolina University were the most popular out of the state schools two years ago.

Some Fairfax seniors may also need to go outside of Virginia to get what they need. For example, one of the most popular out-of-state schools for Fairfax residents is Brigham Young University, the flagship college of the Mormon Church in Utah.

"I applied to other colleges but I have very high standards. I don't want to have to deal with some of the things I have had to deal with in high school," said Katelynn Crompton, who is attending another Brigham Young University, located in Idaho.

Crompton, a West Springfield senior, said she also looked at the Brigham Young in Utah and Brigham Young in Hawaii.

"It wasn't that hard of a decision," said Crompton.

Forgoing College Altogether

Several students also decided a four-year college is not the right choice for them, even in a highly-educated community like Northern Virginia.

Beth Clapsaddle is one of the 30 percent of Fairfax County students that has decided to pursue an associate's degree instead of a traditional four-year college. She has won two scholarships to the New York Conservatory for the Dramatic Arts, where most of her classmates will either have already attended college or worked professional in the performing arts world already.

"I know it sounds silly but I really want to be on Saturday Night Live. I want to become part of Sec-

ond City in Chicago," said Clapsaddle, who has been active in the theater and music departments at West Springfield High School.

The New York City-based program will take two years, during which Clapsaddle will live on her own, since there are no student dorms connected to the conservatory.

The high school senior said her parents have been surprisingly supportive of her decision to forego college, though it may have helped that she landed a scholarship to a well-known prestigious arts program.

"I told them that I would really be excited to go away to college," she said.

High School Is The End of The Line

Though Northern Virginia has a higher-than-average rate of students attending four-year and two-year college programs, there are also a fair number of students for whom education stops after high school.

"I want all kids who can excel to the highest level to get to highest level but not all of our students are going to go to college," said School Board Member Brad Center (Lee). Center said one of his own son's is considering going into automobile repair,

which would require some more school but not college-level coursework.

"I do want all kids to get some kind of education after k-12 but it doesn't need to be college," said Center.

Yet students who are Black or Hispanic in Northern Virginia are much more likely to graduate high school with "no plans" for further education — including trade school or apprenticeship programs.

While only 11.7 percent of all Arlington County students graduate high school with no plans, 17.4 percent of its Black students and 18.6 percent of its Hispanic students fall into that category. And only 38 percent of Hispanic students and 53 percent of Black students that graduated from Arlington high schools last year planned to attend a four-year college.

In Fairfax County, the situation is similar. Eleven percent of Hispanic students and 7.3 percent of Black students who graduate from high school have "no plans" for pursuing higher education. Hispanic (26.5 percent) and Black (48.1 percent) students are also far less likely to be attending a four-year university or college.



Floris Elementary School team, first row, from left: Daniela Lacalle, Kammie Lin, Karen Yang, Lillian Wang, Sophi Vlattas, Maddi Vlattas, and Alexis Romano. Second row, from left: Jessica Allen, David Lin, Virginia Turner (team coach), Suresh Aiyyer, Sharon Sadler (team coach), Sahana Aiyyer (girl on the run), Krystal Romano, Cheryl Mitchell, and Cheryl Romano. Runners not pictured: Eileen Eidelburg, Jenna Feldman, Kaela Pollack, Lulu Lin, Meagan Kiss, Riley Cutler, Shreya Raghuram, Sitara Uppalapati, Srinidhi Krishnan, Srinidhi Nemani, Sydney Tuller, and Yasmine Akhtar. Coaches not pictured: Doreen Peters and Maddie Humphrey.

Girl Power!

Girls on the Run 5K celebrates healthy eating, fitness.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
THE CONNECTION

Months of training paid off as thousands of young girls from throughout the region — accompanied by running buddies, parents and friends — took to the streets of George Mason University May 15 for the Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia 5K race.

"This is an incredible event," said celebrity chef Spike Mendelsohn, who ran the race alongside 7,500 other participants. "There is such a happy vibe here and it's exciting to be a part of it."

Also participating in the race, which drew an additional 2,600 spectators to the GMU campus, were local politicians and dignitaries.

GOTR of Northern Virginia is a nonprofit organization that uses running as a mentoring tool to educate young girls on self-esteem and healthy eating and lifestyle choices. The 10-week program, which currently serves more than 6,500 girls in 200 schools, combines lessons that help adolescent girls in grades 3 through 8 build confidence and

develop healthy lifestyles with training for a 5K race.

"These amazing girls are the future powerhouses of our nation," said Mendelsohn, who works closely with First Lady Michelle Obama and the Let's Move healthy eating initiative in schools. "We need to start teaching healthy eating and lifestyle choices at a young age and this organization perfectly complements that."

The 3.1-mile race, sponsored by United Healthcare, Inova Hospital, Verizon, Running Brooke, Washington Gas and George Mason University, ended with a finish line festival that included rock music provided by Studio Rock of Northern Virginia, hair coloring and healthy food and training booths.

"This gives a whole new meaning to the term 'running for office,'" laughed Del. David Bulova (D-37) following the race. "I wish everyone could experience this because there is nothing more inspiring than seeing what these young girls have accomplished out here today."

For more information on Girls on the Run, visit www.girlsontherunofnova.org.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ELDEN STREET PLAYERS

From left, Ian Brown, Andra Dindzans, Kevin Walker and Susan D. Garvey in a rehearsal photo.

Elden Street Players Presents 'LifeX3'

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

"A comedy with sharp edges," said Theresa Nichols Baker of The Elden Street Players' next offering, a community theater premier of "LifeX3" by award winning Yazmina Reza. Meg Miller, director of "LifeX3," called it "witty, building on the comedy of everyday living especially when the unexpected happens. After all, sometimes things just happen, quickly sliding everything down hill."

Playwright Reza is known for her barbed wordplay. This show's premise is in its title as an unplanned event between two couples is played out in three shifting ways. The evening begins when "one couple unexpectedly drops by for dinner and there is nothing in the house to eat and only wine around," said Miller. "We all can identify with how little things in life throw us off, wrecking real life havoc."

"My vision for the production focuses on the nuances of the characters as the actors make them come very alive to emotional life," said Miller. Based upon open auditions, she cast actors who "just clicked with rapport" forming the couples at the heart of the intimate ensemble, one-act 90 minute play.

Andra Dindzans plays one of the key female characters. She is "the wife who feels held back because of family obligations. However, she has a strength and calm demeanor even with her underlying disillusionments," said Dindzans.

As for Kevin Walker, her stage husband, "he is just not aggress-

When & Where

Elden Street Players, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Sunset Business Park, Herndon. Performances: June 3 - June 25, 2011. Fridays-Saturdays 8 p.m., Sunday June 12 at 3 p.m., Sunday June 19 at 7 p.m. and Thursday June 23 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$16-\$19. Call 703-481-5930. Note: Contains mature themes.

sive enough trying to further his career. That is so frustrating. It leads her to dabble with the possibility of an affair." Walker said his character was "just focused on the purity of his job as a researcher; he was just not good at being forceful."

The unanticipated guests include Walker's co-worker played by Ian Brown. He said his character is "an intellectual and emotional bully who cares not for others feelings. Little unexpected things have such a domino effect that often makes him appalling to others," said Brown.

Susan D. Garvey, stage wife to Brown, said there are "so many intriguing, subtle differences in each character and within each couple as they divulge their complex layers." She described her character as one with great depth "reflecting on her life even while bristling at her husband's dismissive comments." Then again, she smiled broadly with eyes twinkling when she spoke one of her acerbic lines in response to Brown flirting with Dindzans, "You think you are so witty, but you are so obvious."

ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 19

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Plague of Doves by Louise Erdrich. Adults. 703-242-4020.

"Les Misérables." 7 p.m. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, 6560 Braddock Road Alexandria. Imprisoned for stealing a loaf a bread, Jean Valjean becomes an honest man and mayor of a prosperous town, but violates his parole. Snacks inspired by the musical sold before and after the show. \$10. makhatcheres@fcps.edu.

FRIDAY/MAY 20

Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival Preview. 6:30 p.m. College Board, 9th Floor, 11955 Democracy Drive, Reston. Art auction and preview. Honorary chairman, Sharon Bulova. Refreshments included. \$75 per person. 703-471-9242.

Student Art Show. 5-8 p.m. The Auburn School, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite 101, Herndon. Live music, refreshments and more. 703-793-9353 or www.theauburnschool.org.

"Les Misérables." 7 p.m. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, 6560 Braddock Road Alexandria. Imprisoned for stealing a loaf a bread, Jean Valjean becomes an honest man and mayor of a prosperous town, but violates his parole. Snacks inspired by the musical sold before and after the show. \$10. makhatcheres@fcps.edu.

SATURDAY/MAY 21

20th Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Reston Town Center, 12001 Market St., Reston. With over 220 artists, showcasing works in ceramics, decorative fibers, drawing and pastels, furniture, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, wood and more. Children's Art Tent, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission. www.northernvirginiafineartsfestival.org.

National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Celebrating the service provided every day, often under challenging circumstances, and showing how EMS providers are dedicated to saving lives and limiting suffering. Partnering with the Park Authority, EMS providers will be available with displays, educational materials, blood pressure screenings, and apparatus displays. 703-877-3702 or fire-rescue.PA-LSE@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Cub Run Recreation Center, 4630 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. 703-817-9407.

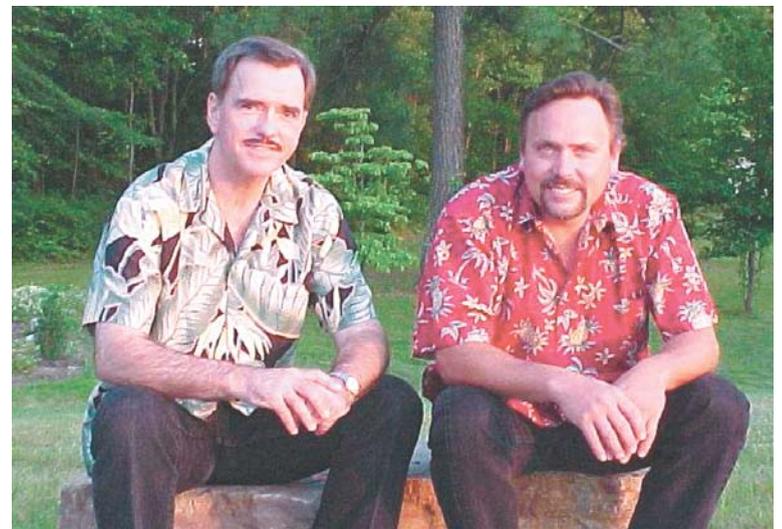
Oak Marr Recreation Center, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. 703-281-6501.

Creative Life: Writing and Illustrating for Children. 2 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Cosponsored by the Society of Book Writers and Illustrators - Mid-Atlantic. Adults. 703-689-2700.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. Adults. 703-242-4020.

Voce Chamber Singers. 7:30 p.m. St. John Newmann Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. "Flower Songs", directed by Ken Nafziger. \$8-\$25. 703-277-7772 or www.voce.org.

Walk for Hope 3-mile & 1-mile



The Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series presents Jimmy Gaudreau and Moondi Klein on Saturday, May 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road in Herndon. Vocals and instrumentals by two legends of bluegrass music. Tickets are \$15. www.jimmyandmoondi.com.

Walkathon. 8 a.m. Connections for Hope, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite 103, Herndon. Proceeds benefit Connections for Hope, Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic, Just Neighbors, Reston Interfaith, Literacy Council of Northern Virginia and Vecinos Unidos Neighbors United. \$15-\$40. 703-793-9521 or www.connectionsforhope.org.

Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-12 p. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon. Clothes, household items, furniture, crafts and more. Proceeds will be used to send 35 youth to a week of service in York, Pa. and Middletown, Ohio. office@trinityherndon.org.

Hunter Mill Backyard Earth Fest. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Hourly geocaching adventures, a look at Virginia's first hybrid trash truck, scavenger hunt and eco-friendly crafts. Live entertainment by the Reston Teen House Band and the Noon Tzu Chi Foundation. Admission free. Food available for purchase, wagon rides \$3 and the antique carousel \$1.75. 703-437-9101.

"Les Misérables." 7 p.m. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, 6560 Braddock Road Alexandria. Imprisoned for stealing a loaf a bread, Jean Valjean becomes an honest man and mayor of a prosperous town, but violates his parole. Snacks inspired by the musical sold before and after the show. \$10. makhatcheres@fcps.edu.

SUNDAY/MAY 22

Mighty Moms & Daughters. 10 a.m. Artistree Studio, 1141 Elden Street #218, Herndon. Chair massages, treats and making art. For mothers and 9-12 year-old daughters. \$75 per mother/daughter pair. mightygirlart.blogspot.com.

Voce Chamber Singers. 7:30 p.m. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. "Flower Songs", directed by Ken Nafziger. \$8-\$25. 703-277-7772 or www.voce.org.

20th Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Reston Town Center, 12001 Market St., Reston. With over 220 artists, showcasing works in ceramics, decorative fibers, drawing and pastels, furniture, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, wood and more. Children's Art Tent, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission. www.northernvirginiafineartsfestival.org.

MONDAY/MAY 23

English Conversation. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for non-native speakers. Adults. 703-242-4020.

TUESDAY/MAY 24

ESL Advanced. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Practice English in a group with a volunteer facilitator. Adults. 703-689-2700.

Mystery Writers Salon. 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Local mystery writers talk about their books and the writing life. Adults. 703-689-2700.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 2 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Adults. 703-242-4020.

Sarah McQuaid. 7:15 p.m. The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon at The Tortilla Factory, 648 Elden Street, Herndon. Singer, songwriter and guitarist. \$11, \$10 members. DAHurdSr@cs.com, www.sarahmcquaid.com or 703-435-2402.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 25

Happy Birthday, Library! Preschool Storytime. 11 a.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Stories and rhymes celebrating the Herndon Fortnightly Library's birthday. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-437-8855.

Toddler Tales. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Stories and activities. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-242-4020.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 3 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Adults. 703-242-4020.

SATURDAY/MAY 28

Remembrance Cabaret for Virginia Tech victim Reema Samaha. 7 p.m. Westfield High School Auditorium, 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Singers, dancers, bands, and actors from around the community, plus a silent art auction. Refreshments and bake sale available. Proceeds benefit the Reema J. Samaha Memorial Scholarship for students at Westfield and Herndon High Schools, and the Angel Fund. 703-919-3934 or www.reemasamaha.org/funds/funds1.htm.

Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series: Jimmy Gaudreau and Moondi Klein. 7:30 p.m. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. Vocals and instrumentals. \$15. www.jimmyandmoondi.com.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. Adults. 703-242-4020.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

HOME SALES

In April 2011, 66 homes sold between \$907,000-\$125,000 in the Herndon and Oak Hill area. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$907,000-\$340,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision
1069 CEDAR CHASE CT	5	4	1		HERNDON	\$907,000	Detached	0.54	CEDAR CHASE
13100 MEADOW HALL CT	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$725,000	Detached	0.26	MEADOW HALL
3012 RAYJOHN LN	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$725,000	Detached	2.48	FOX MILL ACRES
13001 THISTLETHORN DR	4	4	1		HERNDON	\$720,000	Detached	0.21	ASHBURTON MANORS
2529 FALLON DR	5	3	1		OAK HILL	\$700,000	Detached	0.28	MONROE MANOR
13334 SCOTSMORE WAY	4	3	1		OAK HILL	\$700,000	Detached	0.27	CHANTILLY HIGHLANDS
12857 WILLIAMS MEADOW CT	5	3	1		OAK HILL	\$686,000	Detached	0.26	MONROE CHASE
12918 CINNAMON OAKS CT	5	3	1		HERNDON	\$677,000	Detached	0.37	CINNAMON OAKS
1014 TYLER ST	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$650,000	Detached	0.45	VAN VLECKS
2513 BRANDING IRON CT	4	4	1		HERNDON	\$645,000	Detached	0.23	SYCAMORE RIDGE
12901 TARRAGON CT	4	3	1		OAK HILL	\$630,000	Detached	0.41	CINNAMON OAKS
13506 COPPER BED RD	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$625,000	Detached	0.73	COPPER CROSSING
13204 TUCKAWAY DR	4	3	1		OAK HILL	\$607,000	Detached	0.25	FRANKLIN FARM
129 ANTHEM AVE	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$595,500	Townhouse	0.08	DARLINGTON OAKS
13343 SCOTSMORE WAY	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$585,000	Detached	0.20	CHANTILLY HIGHLANDS
3104 HANNAH'S POND LN	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$568,000	Detached	0.23	FRANKLIN FARM
12619 TERRYMILL DR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$540,000	Detached	0.23	HASTINGS HUNT
12410 BENNETT RD	6	3	0		OAK HILL	\$540,000	Detached	2.12	NAVY
12348 FOLKSTONE DR	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$520,000	Detached	0.96	FOLKSTONE
2650 CHISWELL PL	5	2	1		HERNDON	\$509,000	Detached	0.44	FOX MILL ESTS
236 HERNDON STATION SQ	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$500,000	Townhouse	0.04	FORTNIGHTLY SQUARE
12900 LYME BAY DR	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$493,500	Detached	0.28	FOX MILL ESTS
3324 THORNGATE DR	4	2	2		HERNDON	\$485,000	Detached	0.31	FRANKLIN FARM
2609 PURITAN CT	4	2	2		HERNDON	\$485,000	Detached	0.26	FOX MILL ESTATES
13449 LAKE SHORE DR	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$480,000	Detached	0.20	SPRING LAKE ESTATES WEST
12308 EXBURY ST	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$450,000	Detached	0.25	DRANESVILLE ESTATES
12404 SHALLOW FORD CT	4	2	2		HERNDON	\$439,000	Detached	0.23	CRESTBROOK
1613 FOLLEY LICK CT	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$436,000	Detached	0.22	KINGSTON CHASE
2509 PETER JEFFERSON LN	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$435,000	Townhouse	0.05	MCNAIR FARMS WEST
1332 SHALLOW FORD RD	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$420,000	Detached	0.22	CRESTBROOK
13099 PARK CRESCENT CIR	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$415,000	Townhouse	0.03	WOODLAND PARK
2609 CLAXTON DR	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$405,000	Detached	0.30	FOX MILL ESTS
13101 PARK CRESCENT CIR	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$405,000	Townhouse	0.03	WOODLAND PARK
896 BALLOU ST	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$400,000	Detached	0.28	HERNDON STATION
12748 BRADWELL RD	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$389,500	Detached	0.31	FOX MILL ESTS
13623 BECKINGHAM DR	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$386,000	Townhouse	0.04	WELLESLEY
13205 ASHNOT LN	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$385,000	Townhouse	0.04	MCNAIR FARMS LANDBAY 12
1351 ICY BROOK DR	4	2	2		HERNDON	\$379,900	Detached	0.24	WESTFIELD
2009 BLUE RIDGE CT	5	3	1		HERNDON	\$376,500	Detached	0.38	REFLECTION LAKE
2450 ROLLING PLAINS DR	3	3	0		HERNDON	\$376,000	Townhouse	0.04	MCNAIR FARMS LAND BAY 2
13730 COPPER KETTLE PL	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$375,000	Townhouse	0.05	COPPERMINE CROSSING LAND
2386 WOODLAND POND LN	3	3	1		HERNDON	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.03	WOODLAND PARK
3325 THORNGATE DR	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$369,000	Detached	0.29	FRANKLIN FARM
13506 NICKLEBACK CT	3	2	2		HERNDON	\$368,500	Townhouse	0.04	MCNAIR FARMS WEST
2556 CHASE WELLESLEY DR	4	3	0		HERNDON	\$362,500	Townhouse	0.03	WELLESLEY
848 COLVIN CT	4	2	1		HERNDON	\$350,000	Detached	0.24	CHELMSFORD
13511 APPLE BARREL CT	3	2	1		HERNDON	\$340,000	Detached	0.14	FRANKLIN FARM

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OAK HILL/HERNDON CONNECTION ♦ MAY 18-24, 2011 ♦ 11

SPORTS

Guyer Hits Homer in First Major League At-Bat

Herndon High graduate, ironically, sent back to Durham following debut weekend for Tampa Bay Rays.

BY RICH SANDERS

THE CONNECTION

Herndon High graduate and professional baseball player Brandon Guyer did not stay up for long after being promoted to the Major Leagues by the Tampa Bay Rays late last week. But, during his initial, brief stint as a big leaguer, Guyer left quite an impression.

Guyer, originally a fifth round draft selection by the Chicago Cubs back in 2007, was called up to Tampa from triple A-affiliate Durham last Friday, May 6. He played left field that night for the Rays in their game at Baltimore - a 6-2 Tampa win in which Guyer, in his first Major League at-bat, smacked a second inning, two-run home run off of Orioles left-handed pitcher Zach Britton.

It marked the first time in Rays' history that a player homered in their first Major League at-bat. For the night, Guyer, hitting in the No. 6 spot of the line-up, went 1-for-3 with the homer, two RBI and two strikeouts.

Guyer did not play the following day (Saturday) in Tampa's 8-2 win in Baltimore. Then, prior to the Rays' Sunday afternoon, Mother's Day game against the Orioles, he learned he had been sent back down to the Durham Bulls. Tampa Manager Joe Maddon said the move was made in order to add more depth to the Rays' pitching staff at the present. But the skipper also told MLB.com that Guyer will be back up in due time.

"He's definitely going to be back here," said Maddon. "He fits our way of playing baseball very well."

But for the time being at least, Guyer will have sweet memories of his first Major League at-bat and the homer he hit in front of 20,694 spectators at Camden Yards. The home run ball came on a 3-1 pitch



Brandon Guyer played three varsity seasons for the Herndon High baseball team. The Hornets were 45-17 during that time, including a Concorde District title in 2002. He is the program's all-time home run leader.

with teammate Evan Longoria on second base. The ball went into the left field stands and gave the Rays a 3-0 lead.

"For being pretty nervous, I felt locked in," Guyer, 25-years old, told MLB.com. "I think the ball I hit the home run on was a ball. Ball four. But I felt pretty locked in and I'm glad I could help the team get a win. I was so ecstatic, I wanted to make sure I didn't trip. I was just trying to put the ball in play. And for me to hit a home run, it's pretty cool."

Guyer, who is having a terrific year at Durham, was informed of his call-up to the big leagues last Thursday. It was, naturally, a dream come true for the Rockville, Md. resident who grew up in Northern Virginia.

"I'll just remember the feeling I got when I got the call," said Guyer. "And also knowing how good of a time I've had. It was a short time, but it was great. Nothing compares to being a big leaguer. It's what I worked my whole life for. Hopefully, I'll just continue to work hard, which I'm going to do. I'm determined to get back up here."

"I had a little taste of [the Major Leagues] in Spring Training," said Guyer, who bats and throws right handed. "It was my first big league Spring Training. So after that, I realized I want to be up here to stay. And having this opportunity makes it that much more that I want to be up here to stay. That's what I'm set on doing and that's what I plan on doing in the future."

The Cubs traded Guyer to Tampa Bay last January. At Durham this season, prior to his call-up, Guyer, over 28 games and 104 at-bats, was hitting a sparkling .356 with six home runs and 18 RBIs.

Last year as a member of the double-A Tennessee Smokies (Cubs affiliate), he hit .344 with 13 homers and 58 RBIs.

WHILE AT HERNDON HIGH, Guyer, a 2004 graduate of the school, was a standout baseball and football player. He was a 3-year varsity football player and also spent three years on the varsity baseball team.

He rushed for over 1,000 yards as a tailback for the Hornets in both his junior and senior seasons. As a senior, he set the single-game touchdown record for Herndon when he scored seven touchdowns during a 285-yard rushing performance on homecoming night (Oct. 4, 2003, Herndon 44, West Potomac 26). Guyer helped Herndon break a six-year Northern Region playoff drought, leading the Hornets to a 7-4 season. He was a third team all-state pick as a junior and a second team all-state pick as a senior.

"The strangest part of Brandon's history at Herndon, he was a great defensive linebacker," said former Herndon football coach Tommy Meier, in a 2006 Connection Newspaper article.

Guyer did play defense for Herndon, but only in certain situations when Meier wanted to take advantage of Guyer's breakaway

speed and powerful approach.

But Guyer's true passion was baseball. At Herndon, where he played third base, he became the Hornets' all-time career home run hitter (13). He also holds Herndon's single-season home run record with eight in his senior year. Guyer led Herndon to a 15-5 season as a senior and was also a part of the Hornets 19-4 Concorde District championship squad in 2002 — the last time Herndon won a district title. In all three of Guyer's years on the Herndon baseball team, the team posted a 45-17 record. As a senior, Guyer chipped in 23 RBI, a .483 batting average and was walked 19 times.

"If [pitchers] threw it in there, he always had the potential to take it a long way," said former Hornets' baseball coach Al McCullock, of Guyer's home run hitting power. "Near the end of [his senior year], they didn't pitch to him too much." He finished his baseball career

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

On Monday, May 23, the Mike Windsor Memorial Golf Tournament will be held to benefit the Brain Tumor Institute at Children's National Medical Center. The Tournament, to be held at the International Country Club in Fairfax, will begin at 11 a.m., followed by cocktails and an Awards Dinner at 5:30 p.m. A silent auction will be held during the dinner. The tournament is in honor of Michael B. Windsor, a long time native of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area who spent over 40 years in the Commercial Real

at Herndon ranked at No. 172 by Baseball America as a prospect for that year's Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft. He was a second team all-state pick as a senior and was named the team's Most Valuable Player as well as Herndon High School's best athlete.

"He got better and better as he went along," said McCullock, who watched Guyer nail two home runs as a sophomore, three as a junior, and eight as a senior. "I am not too sure that he didn't start taking baseball a little more serious between his sophomore and junior year. All of the sudden, after his junior year, he really saw the light. I don't know if we've had a harder worker."

Guyer went on to play baseball at the University of Virginia from 2005-07. As a junior he batted .370 with a team-high eight home runs, 51 runs scored and 84 hits as well as 43 RBI. He earned First-Team All-ACC honors in 2007.

Two years earlier as a Cavalier freshman, he started 55 games for UVA. Guyer, always known as a power hitter, started 16 games as a designated hitter for the Cavaliers. He finished fifth on the team in batting average (.282), and recorded 30 RBI, 57 runs, 15 doubles, two triples and four home runs. Guyer also recorded a 15-game hitting streak from April 23 to May 21. As a sophomore Guyer improved his average to .339 and started 59 games and crushed a team-best seven home runs, leading Virginia to a 47-15 overall record.

Guyer was named to the Connection Newspapers' 'Greatest of All Time' top 100 athletes from the Northern Region in the summer of 2006. He was No. 98 on the list.

—BJ KOUBAROULIS CONTRIBUTED TO THIS STORY.

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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

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"No change? I can live with that."
And so I shall, for another two months – until my next set of scans which will be a Bone Scan and an MRI of the brain. When I lie through them, it will have been six months since the last set. This six-month interval (three months longer than they had been scheduled/occurred for the previous two years when they were "ordered," as part of my treatment protocol, every three months) is the new year-three schedule as agreed upon last December when my year-long participation in a Phase II Study officially ended. My CT Scan, which this column is reacting to, is now scheduled for every four months rather than the previous every three months as previous columns have explained.
In effect, no news (so to speak), is certainly good news, especially when you're a cancer patient and/or a terminal patient.
"Good news" as in the tumors haven't grown and/or moved is as good as it gets, realistically speaking. Of course, shrinkage or disappearance of the tumors would be even better news, but having been told on day one by my oncologist that he "couldn't cure me," that he "could only treat me" creates a different reality by which you must learn to live; at least I have. Expectations change. And since my original prognosis was "13 months to two years," and this is month 26, I'm unlikely now to look a gift oncologist in the mouth; I will look him in the eye and listen to what he says. And though I don't doubt the accuracy of his original diagnosis/prognosis, I'm happy to report that this most recent scan confirmed that I am surviving/not getting worse – despite the apparent odds.

So what happens next? Uncertainty, for sure. More or less of the same? Deterioration? Continued remission? No guarantees. Just knowing – and trying to understand – that I've now outlived my prognosis. Thank God! I don't view any of this as a challenge though, as in an affront. I view it more as a challenge like a hurdle, an obstacle to overcome so I will persist and persevere in my routine. Perhaps I can become an even better eater, a better pill-taker, a better exerciser. After all, I come from good peasant stock (as my father used to joke) with very encouraging immediate family history: both my parents lived into their mid-80s. If I help myself, maybe my genes will help me.

Nevertheless, I live in time intervals: from one scan to the next, from one doctor's appointment to the next, from one lab result to the next, waiting for the medical shoe to drop. There are limits to what I can control but unfortunately there are no limits to how much I can worry. Certainly I'm used to the ebb and flow of information, results, anxiety, etc., but it never goes away, it only goes into your subconscious where unfortunately it doesn't remain too long.

But hopefully I will remain a bit longer. And as the two- or four- or six month- intervals between miscellaneous scans pass, life will continue to go on – not exactly as it did before I was diagnosed but, given where I am today and how well I'm doing, comparatively speaking, I'd like to invoke the memory – and share the quote and sentiment from the legendary New York Yankee great, Lou Gehrig, in his retirement-from-Baseball speech: "Today, I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the Earth."

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY KELLY HORNE

Celebrating People Fair

Third graders at Herndon Elementary recently celebrated HES People Fair. The students researched, wrote, and presented reports about famous people. They sang songs, dressed up, and gave speeches to students, parents, and teachers.

Community Meeting on Metro Area Study

As Metrorail's new Silver Line progresses westward, the Town of Herndon continues its preparations for the opening of Herndon's Metrorail stop by hosting a community meeting, Monday, May 23, 7 p.m. in the Ingram Council Chambers, 765 Lynn Street, Herndon. The Herndon stop on Metrorail's Silver Line is expected to open in 2016. The stop will be located in the median of the Dulles Toll Road, adjacent to the existing park-and-ride garage on Sunrise Valley Drive. A pedestrian bridge will connect the station to land within the Town of Herndon, on the south side of Herndon Parkway.

The meeting will be hosted by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB), the consulting firm

selected by the Herndon Town Council to facilitate the Metro Area Study.

VHB has been working with the Town Council, Planning Commission, citizens, businesses and staff to develop a plan that will guide future development in the proposed Metro area and identify new prospects for economic growth. At the meeting, attendees will hear about progress to date; learn about transportation impact; and participate in a Q&A session at which specific issues may be addressed.

For more information on the project, including the May 23 community meeting, visit www.herndon-va.gov or contact the Department of Community Development at 703-787-7830 or metro.plan@herndon-va.gov

SCHOOL NOTES

The application deadline for the summer round of admissions for Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) for the class of 2015 (ninth grade) is Wednesday, June 1. Only public and private school eighth grade students who moved into a participating school district (the counties of Fairfax, Fauquier, Arlington, Loudoun, or Prince William or the City of Falls Church) after Sept. 30, 2010, may apply at this time. June 1 is a firm deadline to which no exceptions will be made for any reason.

Applications must be received no later than June 1. Students applying during the summer round must already have completed Algebra 1 during eighth grade.

Additional information regarding eligibility and residency requirements for applicants can be found at www.TJAdmissions.org. All applicants must take the TJ Admissions Test on Monday, June 6. Applications are available at the Thomas Jefferson Admissions Office, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Suite 2600, Falls Church.

The office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact the TJHSST Admission Office at 571-423-3770.

The deadline for submitting applications

to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) for the class of 2014 (tenth grade) and the class of 2013 (eleventh grade) is Wednesday, June 1.

This is a firm deadline to which no exceptions will be made for any reason. Applications must be received no later than June 1. Public and private school students who live with a parent or legal guardian in a participating school district (the counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Loudoun, or Prince William or the City of Falls Church) and who meet applicable eligibility requirements may apply to TJHSST.

Applicants to the eleventh grade are only eligible to apply if they have not previously applied to TJHSST.

Additional information regarding these requirements can be found at www.TJAdmissions.org. Sophomore applications are available at all public high schools of participating school divisions and at the Thomas Jefferson Admissions Office, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Suite 2600, Falls Church.

Junior applications were only available from the TJHSST Admissions Office if requested prior to Friday, April 29.

The Admissions Office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact the TJHSST Admissions Office at 571-423-3770.



Refined policy has ever been the parent of confusion, and ever will be so, as long as the world endures. Plain good intention, which is as easily discovered at the first view as fraud is surely detected at last, is of no mean force in the government of mankind. Genuine simplicity of heart is a healing and cementing principle.

—Edmund Burke



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11:00 AM the Connection, Contemporary Worship Service
11:00 AM the Garden, Traditional Worship Service

other weekly services

5:30 PM Saturdays: Relax & Renew, Casual Worship Service
6:30 PM Wednesdays: Chapel, Prayer Service

Holy Week and Easter Services:

4/21-Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service at 7:30pm
4/22-Good Friday Service at 7:30pm
4/23- Saturday Easter Vigil Service at 5:30pm
4/24- Easter Sunday Traditional Worship at 8:30 and 11am
Contemporary Worship at 11 a.m.

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FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

The Vajrayogini Buddhist Center will offer a Monthly Meditation Class at 1 p.m. on June 4 at Brown's Chapel, 11450 Baron Cameron Ave. in Reston. Weekly Meditation Classes are 7 p.m. at The Griffin Center, Suite 5, 3800 Fairfax Drive in Arlington. Classes are free to members, \$12 non-members. www.meditation-dc.org or 202-331-1790.

Hope Fellowship Church will temporarily be meeting at Woody's Golf Range, 11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Sunday Worship Services for this new Southern Baptist church are at 10:45 a.m. The public is invited to join a growing Bible believing, multi-ethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. 703-599-3527 or www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org.

Knitters needed the first and third Wednesdays of the month, at 7 p.m., at **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church's Shawl Ministry is offering free knitting instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. E-mail shawl@saint-timothys.org or visit the Pastoral Care page at www.saint-timothys.org.

Nondenominational **Christian businessmen** meet for prayer, Biblical discussion and fellowship 7 p.m. Fridays at Anita's, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and 12 p.m. Thursdays at 555 Grove St., Suite 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.



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