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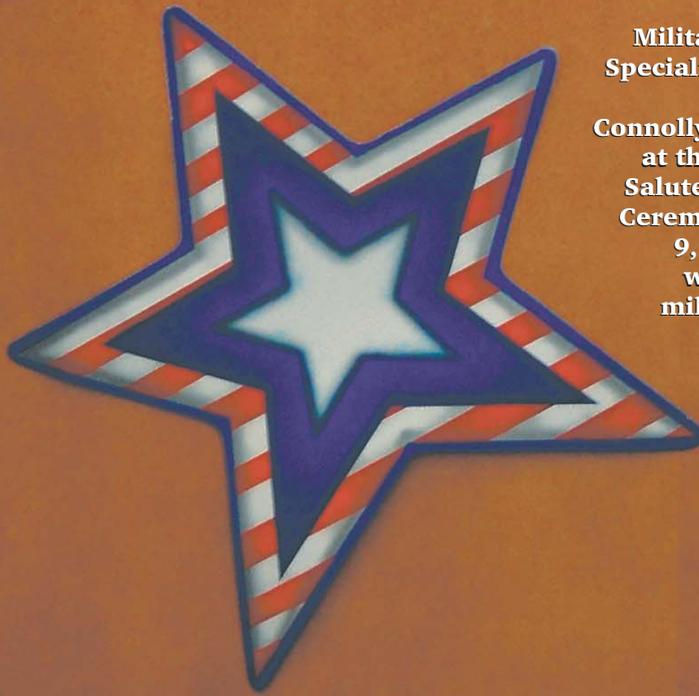
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No Family Strife Here

NEWS, PAGE 3

Sharing a Cup of Coffee

PEOPLE, PAGE 6



Military and Veteran Affairs Specialist 2nd Lt. Joe Weeren, with U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's (D-11) office, spoke at the first Our Community Salutes Enlistee Recognition Ceremony on Thursday, June 9, for Robinson students who are enlisting in the military after graduation.



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These Grads Choose To Serve

Burke mother organizes first recognition ceremony for Robinson Secondary enlistees.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

On Valentine's Day, many moms receive candy hearts or chocolates. But Christine Zinser, a Burke mother of five and local Realtor, got a stunning declaration from her 17-year-old son Philipp.

"My son was asking me to go to the local recruiting station to sign papers that would allow him to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps right after high school graduation," Zinser said.

Her three older children had all gone to prestigious colleges.

"We are not a 'military family,' so I was expecting Philipp to tell me the colleges he was interested in. Instead, he's asking my permission to join the military. I was really taken aback at first," Zinser said.

Her fear eventually gave way to a sense of pride that her youngest son was willing to serve and protect his country. "He will most likely be in combat before many other students are out of their sophomore year in college. He is volunteering to make a tremendous commitment, and our family is very proud of him," Zinser said.

She assumed that the students who had chosen to enlist would be included in the Senior Awards Ceremony at Robinson Sec-

ondary School. She quickly found out that was not the case.

"I didn't think that was right, especially since the school's namesake is an enlisted man himself," she said.

Robinson Secondary School was named in honor of Sgt. James W. Robinson Jr., the first Virginia resident to receive the Medal of Honor for "gallantry and heroism in the Vietnam conflict." He died in April 1966, after putting himself in the line of fire to save several other soldiers.

Zinser immediately began searching for a way to recognize and honor the choice some students were making to enlist. She first contacted Fairfax County Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock), who offered space to hold the ceremony.

She found a website called "Our Community Salutes," a non-profit organization created in 2009 to recognize high school seniors and their parents who plan to enlist in the military immediately after graduation.

"I couldn't believe it. I immediately called the organization and shared my story. My goal was to form a Northern Virginia chapter to ensure the 2012 enlistees in Fairfax County and their families would get the recognition my son and his classmates would not get. I was so happy, I was crying," she said.

Encouraged to plan a ceremony for Robinson enlistees, she and Philipp attended an OCS ceremony in New Jersey. "We got an idea of how they were held. We realized we needed a color guard, chaplain, military speaker, emcee, copies of the Congressional Record and ceremonial flags that were flown over the Capitol, among other things."

Once she shared her idea to host a ceremony for the 2011 Robinson enlistees, everything started to click into place. U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's (D-11) office agreed to help and send representatives. Capt. Julian C. Kilcullen, the executive recruiting officer for the U.S. Marine Corps, stepped up to be the keynote military speaker at the ceremony.

"I didn't think that was right, especially since the school's namesake is an enlisted man himself."

— Christine Zinser

SEE ROBINSON, PAGE 17



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Christine Zinser hugs her son, Philipp, who is enlisting in the U.S. Marines.

Dem's House Not Divided

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Democrats say no sign of party infighting in Braddock District primary, Cook disagrees.

If the sound and fury swirling around the primary for the Fairfax County Braddock District Board of Supervisors seat signifies anything, local Democratic Party leaders are not acknowledging it.

The latest chess moves in the primary, which determines who gets the chance to unseat Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) in the general election, has ignited a blaze of blog hysteria, with connect-the-dot conspiracy theories, and questions about whether newcomer Chris Wade is a Republican wolf in Democrat's clothing.

In the past 10 days, Marc Greidinger, a civil rights attorney who called himself "the real Democrat" in the race dropped out. A day later, Janet Oleszek, a former Fairfax County School Board member with Sen. Chap Petersen's (D-34) backing, dropped in.

Wade, a local businessman who was the fresh-faced Democratic front-runner in April, endorsed by Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) is

getting slammed for his Republican votes in two primaries and pressured, some claim, to drop out.

Taking a page from President Barack Obama's (D) playbook, high-profile Demo-

"My campaign is in sharp contrast to the circus side-show presented by the Democratic Party in the last two weeks."

— Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock)

crats are playing it cool, brushing it off.

"I think it's better to let the voters of the Braddock District decide who the Democratic nominee is rather than a few bloggers who don't live in Fairfax County," said Rex Simmons, chairman of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee. Simmons said the

FCDC would remain neutral in this primary. So will U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), who said he has not made an endorsement in the Braddock supervisor's race and has nothing to say, at the moment, about the primary or Wade's Republican votes.

Del. Scott Surovell (D-44), who preceded Simmons as FCDC chair and practices law with Petersen in the City of Fairfax, agreed that a two-way primary race is not indicative of party squabbling.

"I'm not someone who believes party leaders should decide who the nominees should be. If someone wants to run for office, they should run for office. As elected officials, I don't think it's our job to push people out of the race. Our party is strongest when our candidates are selected by the people who vote in the primaries, and the primaries tend to weed out the weakest candidate," Surovell said in an interview on Tuesday.

Bulova, who served as the Braddock Dis-



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Chris Wade, Democratic Party candidate for Braddock District seat on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

trict supervisor for 20 years before winning the chairmanship, said the fact that two candidates are running in the primary is not surprising.

"Of course there is interest in this race.

SEE BRADDOCK, PAGE 20

BURKE CONNECTION ♦ JUNE 16-22, 2011 ♦ 3

PHOTOS BY GINA URICOLI/THE CONNECTION

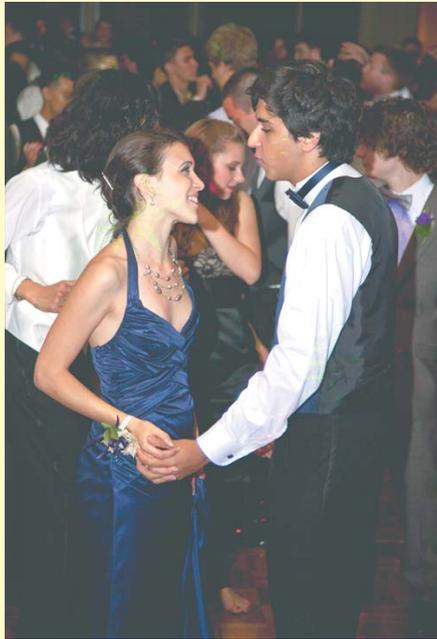


Binh Tran and Amber Gutierrez smile on the dance floor at the Lake Braddock Prom.

Students hurry onto the dance floor at the Lake Braddock 2011 Prom, which took place Friday, June 10, at the Reston Hyatt.

Last Dance

Lake Braddock students hit the dance floor for 2011 Senior Prom.



Andrea Vinas and Bob Sayed dance at the Lake Braddock Prom.



Kaitlyn Brooks, Eman Adetunji, Jacob Sterner, Robyn Gianiny, Andrew Weidinger, Melanie Brodner, James Bruhn, and Alexa Winkler arrive to prom night. The Lake Braddock prom took place Friday, June 10, 9 p.m., at the Reston Hyatt Regency.



The 'Cupid Shuffle' is always a crowd pleaser as proved by Rachel Todd, Jody Flores, and Sheila Ampomah at the Lake Braddock Prom.



Students raise their hands as the popular DJ Khalead song 'All I Do Is Win' plays on prom night.

EDUCATION

Activists Say Discipline Reform Not Far Enough

School officials should have to contact parents before questioning students.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Public Schools forced Nick Stuban to transfer from Woodson High School to Fairfax High School after the 15-year-old sophomore admitted to buying synthetic marijuana from a drug dealer at school.

The teenager had only been attending Fairfax High for a few days when he decided to take his own life last January.

According to his parents, the realization that he would permanently separated from his close friends at Woodson contributed to Nick's despair and ultimately his suicide. Their son had also spent two months banned from stepping on any Fairfax school property, which left him feeling unusually isolated, they said.

Since their son's death, the Stubans have joined the local advocacy group Fairfax Zero Tolerance Reform in calling for changes to the way the school system handles discipline

matters.

The family and organization would like Fairfax schools to show more mercy and flexibility in how they treat students who are first-time offenders who make nonviolent mistakes.

On many fronts, Fairfax schools gave the Stubans and other activists what they requested on at a School Board meeting on June 9. Board members passed broad and sweeping provisions to the system's official discipline policy guide called "Students Regulations and Rights."

Among other things, the School Board unanimously voted to broaden the spectrum of discipline options beyond the forced school transfer to which Nick and other students caught with drugs were subjected. Loss of privileges, community service, after-school detention or Saturday school will also be considered now when doling out a punishment.

"This amendment was intended to give

SEE SCHOOL. PAGE 15

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Connecting over a Cup of Joe

Coffee Connections helps adults with disabilities connect with community.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

I'm 22. What do I do?" That's the question Donna Goldbranson, a Burke mom, hoped to answer when she launched SPARC (Specially Adapted Resource Clubs) in 2006.

An Army wife, whose 20-year-old daughter, Kristin, has severe disabilities, Goldbranson served on several Fairfax County boards to explore ways to support severely-disabled young adults when they "age out" of the school system at 22.

Under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), schools must provide children with disabilities special education, intervention and related services until they turn 21.

"After that, what happens? These are children who continue to grow and have so many things to offer the community. They are energetic and enthusiastic, but suddenly, at 22, they don't have access to many resources, yet they still want to play a vital role,"

she said.

With the help of Fairfax County Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) and the county's Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, Goldbranson helped kick off the first Coffee Connections on Friday, June 10.

More than 30 adults attended the first monthly gathering, at Braddock Hall in Burke, which included music, games, T-shirts and information about how to get more involved in the Braddock District.

"We want everyone in our community to be vital and active, and Coffee Connections is a way for us to learn about other opportunities and play an active role in our community instead of being isolated," she said. "We're a small part of the big community, but we like to do all the things adults without disabilities like to do."

Fairfax County Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) said he considered the first night of the program a success.

"I am really proud of the great partnership that this is, and I am hopeful that it really does help to create in the long run, the type of community where all members are included," Cook said. Sponsors of Coffee Connections included Saxby's Coffee and the Department of Family Services' Disability Services and Planning Devel

"We want everyone in our community to be vital and active."

— Donna Goldbranson

SEE COFFEE, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Donna Goldbranson chats with SPARC member Kathy at the recent Coffee Connections meeting at Braddock Hall in Burke. Goldbranson, founder of SPARC, is a Toastmaster and speaks on issues surrounding adult services for individuals with disabilities.

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PEOPLE

Coffee Talk

FROM PAGE 6

opment.
 “To my way of thinking, events like this really help us meet the needs of our club members in a community-based setting,” Goldbranson said.

Goldbranson, who is a member of the program committee for Jill’s House, a respite facility founded by the McLean Bible Church, said exposing young adults with disabilities to other community resources is an important part in developing their full potential.

“They have so many talents. They want to go places that are welcoming, such as concerts, movies or sports events, where they can have one-on-one relationships with other people in the community. It’s beneficial for everyone,” Goldbranson said.

Evan Braff, with Fairfax County’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, said interaction between those with disabilities and those without enhances everyone’s life.

“Once you interact with these kids, you realize they are a lot more similar than different. People are afraid of what they don’t know, but everyone has different strengths and abilities,” Braff said.

“It’s a great social opportunity. I’m tickled with the showing and everyone had



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Elizabeth gives best friend, Heather, a hug at the first Coffee Connections meeting held at Braddock Hall in Burke.

fun,” Goldbranson said.

Coffee Connections meets the third Friday of each month. For more information on times and location, contact Ann Sharp at 703-425-9300 or ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov. To find out more about SPARC, go to www.sparcontheweb.org.

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OPINION

Amazing Teens

Time to celebrate their talents and accomplishments, and to keep them safe.

It's a time to celebrate the amazing accomplishments of area teens.

They're graduating from high school, many after completing college level work in Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs, for more than a year, earning scholarships and entry to college.

Some are accomplished athletes, ending high school careers as leaders on the field, demonstrating the benefits of practice and discipline, understanding more about what it means to work in a team than many adults ever will.

Some have excelled in theater, learning stage management, teamwork of different kind, complex tasks including lines, music, and more. High school students excelling in theater were celebrated Sunday, June 13, at the Kennedy Center, with awards going to (among others) Madison, Marshall, Mount Vernon, Westfield and Falls Church high schools in Fairfax County; Wakefield in Arlington; Walt Whitman in Montgomery County.

Local high school students pursue all sorts of music with passion. They are involved in many other arts, including photography, painting, sculpture.

There are teens who devote themselves to community service. Students in McLean have packaged literally tens of thousands of meals for the hungry. Others volunteer at homeless shelters, work on environmental projects, help in hospitals, animal shelters and nursing homes. Some have raised money for relief ef-

forts in Haiti or Japan or the Gulf Coast.

It's not surprising that some of these teens are celebrating in a variety of ways. You can see photo slide shows of many area proms at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.

Now the word of caution.

Many, many high school students consume alcohol, usually to excess.

EDITORIAL

Responding to the 2009 Fairfax County Youth Survey, nearly half of high school students reported drinking alcohol. Twenty-three percent of high school seniors reported binge drinking in the two weeks before the survey, and 39 percent of them had consumed alcohol in the previous 30 days. Among 10th graders, 22 percent had consumed alcohol in the previous 30 days.

Twenty-two percent of students said they had used marijuana.

While those numbers are eye-opening, consider this: Twenty percent of students reported they had driven a car when they had been drinking. See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/youthsurvey

It's easy to forget, when high school students present themselves with maturity, with discipline, with intelligence, that they are, in fact, high school students. Their brains are not fully developed. They are not fully equipped to make what could turn out to be life and death decisions, especially in group settings. They still need guidance, protection, reminders, safeguards and safety nets, mostly from their parents.

During the summer, nearly twice as many teenagers die in traffic crashes than at other times, according to the Washington Regional Alcohol Program www.wrap.org. There have been some devastating examples of this locally.

The most important thing for parents to do for their teenagers is to talk to them. Even if your teen tries to deflect what you're saying, the information is still working its way into his or her brain.

Tell them you love them. Tell them it's been too much work to get them to this point to risk losing them. Tell them not to text and drive. Tell them not to drink and drive. Tell them not to get in a car with anyone driving who has been drinking. Tell them you'll come pick them up anytime that they need a safe ride home.

WRAP offers tips, facts and strategies on their website.

Correcting a Mother's Day Error

Because of an internal communications error, The Connection didn't receive many of the Mother's Day photos submitted to us by readers until late last week. We're so sorry we missed Mother's Day, but you'll find those photos at <http://bit.ly/iCiJcS>.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM, ON
TWITTER @MARYKIMM

Myth-Busting the Fairfax County School Board

Springfield School Board candidate decries board members' 'done deal' message.

BY ELIZABETH SCHULTZ

I'm a product of my environment: Virginia born, lived throughout the U.S.A, Bicentennial on the Mall, Mr. Gorbachev "tear down this wall," grew up in a military and Catholic family and it all comprised a package deal: God Bless America and Apple Pie. Work hard. Play fair. Be responsible. Pick yourself up by your bootstraps.

That strong foundation has been put to the test in the last 18 months, which have been fraught with a heavy dose of unpleasantness while experiencing up close the inner-workings of this Fairfax County School Board.

The Clifton Elementary case has transcended the attempt by a majority of this School Board to close a well preserved, highly achieving community anchor and only school in a 40-square-mile area. It has become the latest litmus test on whether this School Board works hard, plays fair and conducts itself in a responsible and just manner.

In our country, we believe "Innocent until proven guilty." In the extreme, even a person incarcerated on Death Row and scheduled for execution is released if exonerated by DNA or

other evidence. The state does not proceed with the death sentence merely because the date is on the calendar. Evidence reverses the verdict and, forgiving the bad pun, stops the process dead in its tracks.

In Fairfax, though, the School Board repeats Clifton's "declining population" myth with impunity. They neglect to share there are more student at the school this year than last, which is substantially more than their projections, or that 29 percent of the students were left off future enrollment projections by calculating only two of the three Zip codes in the attendance area.

The School Board also persists in telling the public that Clifton Elementary was "too expensive to renovate" at \$11 million. However, voters will be asked to approve bonds this coming November for six elementary school renovations and, at an average of \$14.95 million each, every last one is more expensive than FCPS' estimate for Clifton. The "too expensive" message is also a myth.

The Virginia Supreme Court, which hears only about 1 percent of the cases presented, just declined to accept the appeal filed by

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SEE OPINION, PAGE 9

OPINION

FROM PAGE 8

ceeded for the sake of justice well beyond the boundaries of Clifton and with courage on behalf of their children's peers, fellow residents and taxpayers around the county.

It is for this reason that I have been inextricably drawn to helping this cause. It is a right v. wrong issue. It's simply American to persist in the face of injustice. The School Board's action and lack of leadership on Clifton is now, as predicted, impacting other communities, depriving others of stability, depleting financial resources which are desperately needed for renovations elsewhere — including the needlessly overlooked West Springfield High School — and ensuring turmoil for students, families, teachers and taxpayers.

The language in the nearly \$253 million November 2011 Bond Referendum assures us that this School Board will say one thing and do another; they said publicly they "won't pursue Bonds for school renovations as a result of closing Clifton, there is room in surrounding schools to move Clifton students and students won't wind up in trailers."

Yet, the School Board has included \$13.7 million in construction money on the November 2011 Bond related to Clifton's closure, renovations are underway and foundations for trailers are already being set. The School Board keeps repeating the "more expensive, declining enrollment" line as though, if they repeat it often enough, we will believe them. At stake are billions of taxpayer dollars, the stability of communities and the welfare of students. It's time to believe in better.

Elizabeth Schultz of Clifton is currently running for the Springfield District seat on the Fairfax County School Board.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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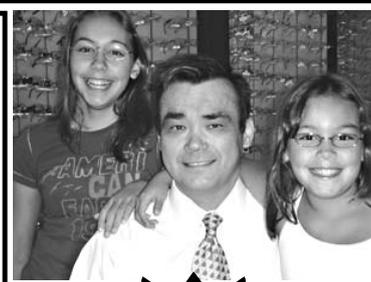
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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 16

- Company of Thieves, Empires and Sleeper Agent.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
- Afternoon Reading Group.** 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, Conference Room 103. "Half the Sky" by Nicholas Kristof. Adults. 10360 North St., Fairfax.
- English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, Meeting Room 116k. Practice English with Gloria Monick. Adults. 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke.
- Southside Johnny and The Asbury Jukes and The Smithereens.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Rhythm and blues-tinged rock. \$40 in-house, \$22 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 17

- The Kennedys.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.
- Skatefest 2011.** 2 p.m. Wakefield Skate Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale. Presented by Fairfax Surf Shop and Wakefield Skate Park. Proceeds benefit the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C. www.skatefestfairfax.com.
- Fairfax Saxophone Quartet.** 7:30 p.m. Plaza Performances, Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Classic jazz. Weather permitting. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic basket. Free. 703-757-0220 or www.fairfaxband.org.
- "Aladdin Jr."** 7:30 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performed by local fifth and sixth grade students. \$10 adults, \$5 age 13 and under. cfa.gmu.edu.
- Elvis!** 7:30 p.m. Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Tribute artist Jeb Duvall with the Tennessee Quartet bring back 'the King.' www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/maps/royallake.htm.
- Movies Under the Stars.** 7:30 p.m. Pinn Community Center, 10225 Zion Drive, Fairfax. Family-friendly movies shown every Friday. 703-250-9181, tty 711.
- RAIN-A Tribute to The Beatles.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$40 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 18

- Michelle Shocked: Roadworks 2011 Campfire Girl.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.
- 31st Annual Spring Mosby's Confederacy Bus Tour.** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Truro Rectory, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Sponsored by the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society. With tour Leaders Don Hakenson, Gregg Dudding, Eric Buckland and Tom Evans. The bus will leave the Truro Rectory to visit various Mosby sites in Loudoun County, Fauquier and Prince William Counties, including Mt. Zion Church, Middleburg, Markham, Warrenton, Warrenton Junction and Catlett Station. The tour will stop at a fast food restaurant for lunch. \$65 members of the Stuart-Mosby Society, \$75 non-members. 703-971-4984.
- Supervisor John Cook's Big Braddock BBQ.** 3-6 p.m. Lake

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19

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Home Life Style

Bringing the Indoors Outside

By JOHN BYRD
THE CONNECTION

One of the advantages of Northern Virginia's generally mild climate is that homeowners can use their outdoor spaces with impunity—often socializing outside until the first frost. Clearly, this is one reason why local indoor/outdoor solutions are increasingly well-furnished, highly-equipped and often wired living rooms that just happen to be surrounded by trees and fresh air.

Case in point: the recently completed screen porch and decking system to a Reston home situated on two acres peacefully nestled into a wooded set-aside.

The spacious five-bedroom home the owners had purchased in 1997 already included a 330-square-foot screen porch linked to a great room on the south corner of the rear elevation and a 780-square-foot deck on the opposite corner that segued from the sun room. The two outdoor platforms were not linked but thoughts of forming a larger whole were well underway when Troy Fenley and team entered the scene. Fenley, now at Sun Design Remodeling in Burke, was completing several interior rooms for the Reston residence when the owner asked him to chat about some ideas for finishing the outdoor space.

"What came up very early was that [the homeowner] not only wanted to enlarge and link the outdoor platforms," Fenley said, "but he also envisioned stone planters, a masonry water feature, a safety zone for a wood-burning fire, a sizeable outdoor kitchen and the capacity to entertain 50 to 75 people at a time. I concluded that handling the structural requirements for that much weight would be a top priority."

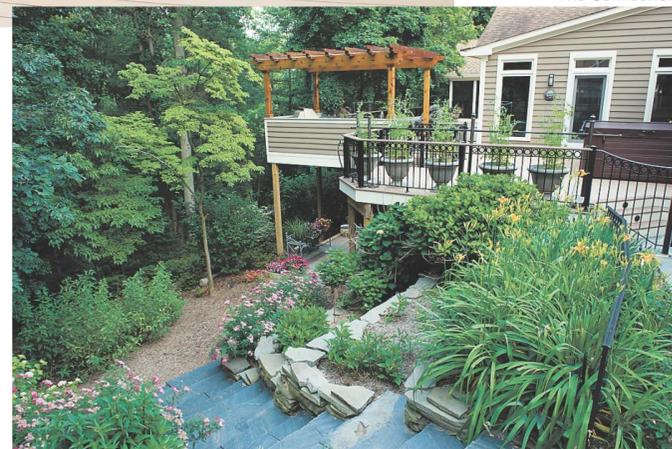


The state-of-the-art outdoor kitchen of this Reston home features a gas grill, a wok, warming drawers and a clean-up sink as well as stainless steel cabinetry embedded in a stone-faced support. The glass canopy protects the chef from passing rain clouds.

PHOTOS BY
DEV COBB/
THE CONNECTION

As the conversation evolved, so, too, the project's scope and heft. The screen porch was to be expanded from 330 to 525 square feet. There was to be a stone-faced gas fireplace in one corner, several rotating overhead fans, and a flat screen television in an opposite corner. A wrought iron table would seat eight. Moreover, there would be intricate detailing throughout, and it was all to be maintenance free.

"The owner told me that he was finished with wood," Fenley said. The porch interiors, railings and the deck itself needed to be constructed of materials that wouldn't rust or rot, or even require much painting or cleaning.



"The owner told me that he was finished with wood."

— Troy Fenley,
Sun Design Remodeling

Since the deck is 15 feet above grade, an early step was to calculate expected loads from 15 250-pound planters, an L-shaped outdoor kitchen made of stone, large crowds of bouncing guests and (looking ahead) a water feature weighing several tons. Taking all that into account, Fenley and team devised a structural solution that called for a steel frame undergirding attached to four vertical steel columns which are, in turn, mounted on concrete caissons.

A spiral stair now connects the upper deck to the lower deck, which includes a hot tub and access to landscaped gardens. The owner, who recently threw a party for

50 that included a musical combo, attests that traffic flows smoothly in all directions.

For all its fine detailing, though, the new complex is also a study in cutting edge, low-maintenance technologies. Exposed wooden deck flooring has been replaced with cellular PVC planks completely resistant to rotting. The new railings are powder-coated aluminum custom-fabricated to specification. The convincingly "old school" material used in the pristinely classic crown molding and fine trimwork is not wood—but PVC.

The state-of-the-art outdoor kitchen—which occupies the deck's northeast corner—provides for every gourmet consideration. Responding to the owner's detailed use requirements, the final design features an open work-zone defined (vertically) by a four-post cedar trellis topped by glass-canopy and (horizontally) by an L-shaped solid granite food prepara-

tion surface.

The kitchen includes a Viking gas grill, a wok, warming drawers and a clean-up sink as well as stainless steel cabinetry embedded in a stone-faced support.

The owner says the new setting is used most of the year. This year - with the corner hearth blazing

cheerfully and the TV on - he anticipates fall afternoons taking in the game — maybe even the playoffs.

Sun Design Remodeling frequently holds workshops on home remodeling topics at their office in Burke, see www.SunDesignInc.com.

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PHOTO BY JUSTIN KRILL

The solution included double the size of the screen porch—which now includes stone-faced gas fireplace, rotating overhead fans and a flat screen TV. A perfect place to take in the game—well into the fall.

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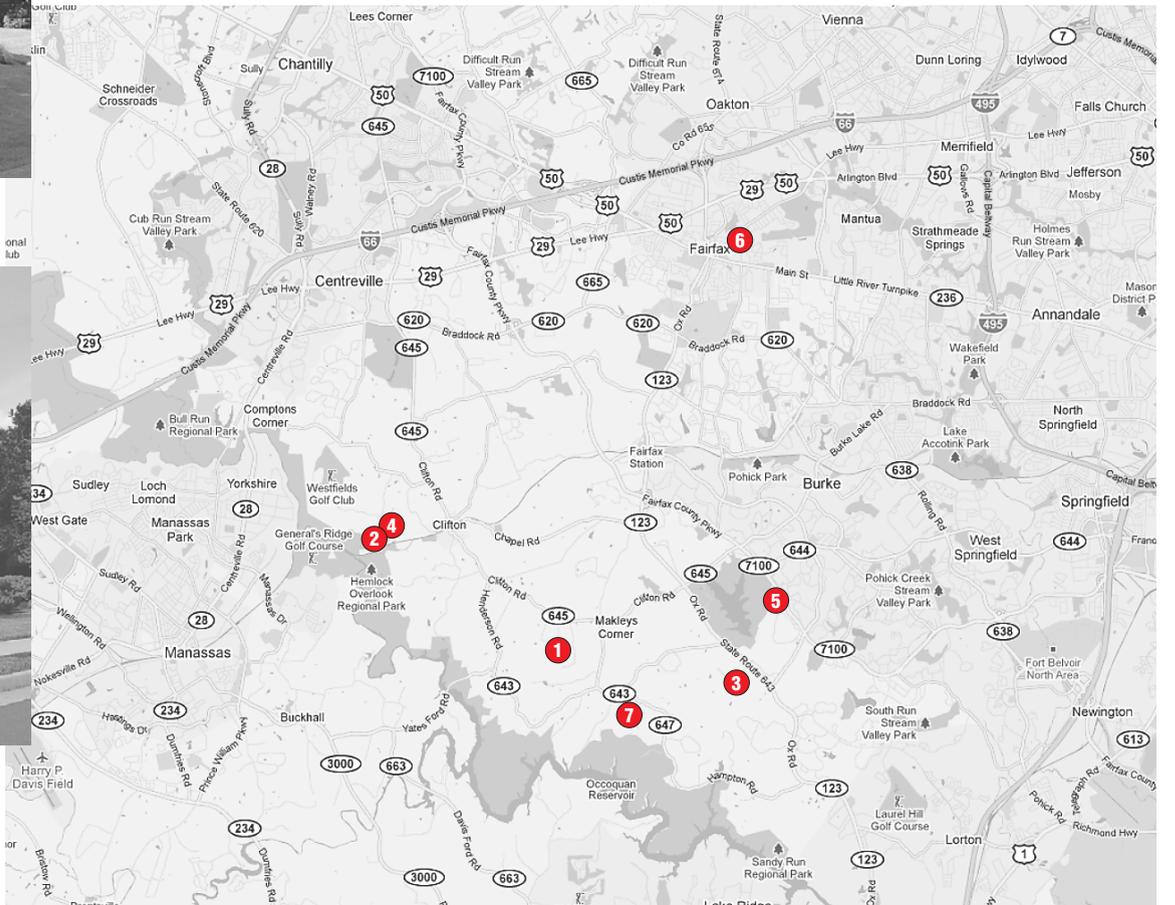
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EDUCATION

School Reform Not Far Enough

FROM PAGE 5

the hearing office more tools in the tool box. Absent any policy, the only tool the hearing office had was sending the student to another school. We intend to show more mercy," said School Board Member Tina Hone (At-large).

THE SCHOOL BOARD also voted 8-4 to try and provide more academic support to students who are on out-of-school suspension.

Like Nick, students can be out of school for several weeks when facing discipline charges. Families said these students fall behind in coursework and often have trouble recovering academically from the long absence.

"We need to change the whole tone and approach. ... We should be trying to provide opportunities for students, not barriers," said School Board Member Patty Reed (Providence).

Those School Board members opposed to amendment were concerned about what it might cost the school system to provide academic services to all students on long-term suspension. School Board Member Jane Strauss (Dranesville) said approximately 100 children are out on long-term suspension at any one time.

In spite of some substantial victories, the Stubans and other disciplinary reform activists are far from satisfied. They are upset the School Board demurred to provide stringent requirements for parental or guardian notification before students are questioned in a disciplinary matter.

Parental notification is no way near to being where it needs to be," said Steve Stuban, following the School Board meeting last week.

The new student regulations require principals to make "reasonable effort" to notify parents or guardians "at the earliest opportunity" if a child is involved in a disciplinary matter. But this language didn't provide enough protection for families and children caught in the disciplinary process, according to several activists.

For example, Nick Stuban was questioned twice in a period of two weeks without his parents knowledge, said Steve Stuban.

Initially, school officials at Woodson had asked Nick Stuban if he was considering buying marijuana or someone else at school. He signed a written statement that he had not bought marijuana, though identified a student he thought was selling the drug.

Days later, Woodson officials approached Nick Stuban again, asking the teenager if he had bought

synthetic marijuana, a legal substance. He confessed and signed a second written statement stating that he had bought synthetic marijuana, before his parents ever got a chance to speak to their son about the incident.

Steve Stuban said he and his wife should have been contacted before officials interviewed Nick Stuban and certainly before his son was told to write a confession. According to Steve Stuban, he probably would never even have known about the first round of his son's questioning if Nick had never been questioned a second time.

"The first time Nick was questioned about soliciting marijuana and he identified a drug dealer. They didn't tell me about that until several days later until after they had questioned him again ... They didn't think I should know about that right away? My child had potentially put himself in a dangerous situation by fingering a drug dealer and I didn't find out until several days later," said Steve Stuban.

"At that point, they put his safety at risk," he said about his son.

The School Board voted down a stronger motion on parental notification the Stubans and other activists preferred.

Offered by School Board Member Ilryong Moon (At-large), the amendment would have explicitly required a parent or guardian be notified before a student was questioned regarding a disciplinary matter. The motion made exceptions for situations where any students might be in imminent danger.

After Moon's motion failed, School Board Member Sandy Evans (Mason) proposed an amendment requiring school administrators to tell students that they are entitled to remain silent and refrain from self-incriminating themselves during questioning on discipline matters. No other member of the School Board voted for Evans' motion.

That the proposal came forward provides insight into the level of distrust between some members of the community and Fairfax school officials.

"Have we come to the point where we are considering Mirandizing kids in our schools?" said Hone.

School reform activists said many parents are already warning their children not to talk to administrators about drugs, alcohol and other types of infractions when they are questioned.

"You will need to protect the rights of your children by making it clear through written communication that if your children is caught for an infraction that starts the discipline process, school officials must wait until you are present before questioning your child," wrote Sue Anderson on her blog.

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SPORTS NOTES



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Both the Bruins, left, and Deep Run played a highly-charged, well played game in last Friday's state semifinals at Westfield High School.

Season Ends at State Semifinals

Lake Braddock boys were Northern Region soccer champs this spring.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock Secondary's outstanding boys' soccer season ended with a 2-1 loss to Deep Run (Central Region) in a State AAA semifinals game which took place last Friday evening, June 10, at Westfield High School.

In an intense contest that saw the Bruins get hit with a controversial red card, Lake Braddock's hopes of reaching the following day's state title game ended with the round of four setback. Deep Run, a member of the Colonial District, went on to lose in the finals to North Stafford, 1-0.

"I thought we played very good in the semifinals," said Lake Braddock head coach Jo Soos, whose team ended the season with a 16-5-1 record. "I think everyone is very disappointed [in the loss]."

Lake Braddock's Matt Fraedrich scored the Bruins' lone goal in the season-ending loss, his eighth score in 11 postseason games this spring. But Lake Braddock could not break through for more scores in the game.

Four of the team's shots on goal caromed off the goal post.

"It's not like we didn't have our chances," said Soos. "Unfortunate results, we played well, but for whatever reason the bounces didn't go our way. I'm proud of the way we played."

LAKE BRADDOCK'S POSTSEASON was bittersweet as the Bruins, who won nine games by shutout this season, lost in the finals of the Patriot District tournament but went on to take the Northern Region title. At districts, Lake Braddock reached the championship match by defeating Lee and T.C. Williams. Then, in the district title game on May 20, the Bruins lost a 2-1 decision to West Springfield High in a game played on the Spartans' home turf.

But Lake Braddock stormed back to put together a remarkable four-game stretch at the 16-team regionals where it won games over Madison and Oakton, both by 2-0

scores, to qualify for the semifinals. There, with a state-qualifying berth on the line, the Bruins won in dramatic fashion over Washington-Lee High, 3-2, in the game played June 1 at Robinson. In the region finals at Madison High School in Vienna two days later, the Bruins defeated Langley, 2-1 for the region crown.

At the eight-team state tournament, Lake Braddock won an opening round 2-0 decision at home over Indian River (Chesapeake) on June 7 to advance to the semifinals and the meeting against Deep Run.

Soos said the primary key to Lake Braddock's success this season was its players dedication to putting the team first.

"There is very little [individual] ego on this team, if any at all," said Soos. "They were able to develop

a pretty high level of respect for each other throughout the season."

Despite capturing the region title, Lake Braddock did not have any players named to the First Team All-Region squad. The team's lone All-Region representatives were senior midfielder Christian Kosko (Second Team) and Fraedrich (Honorable Mention).

"We played well, but for whatever reason the bounces didn't go our way."

— Lake Braddock head coach Jo Soos

The 12th annual Tim Harmon Memorial 5K Run/Walk will be Saturday, June 25, at 8:30 a.m., at the Fairfax County Government Center. Prizes will be awarded to the top three male and female overall finishers and the top age-group finishers. More than 100 medals and trophies will be presented, and door prizes will also be awarded.

Register online at www.prraces.com or in person on race day, from 7-8:15 a.m. Entry fee is \$25; registered participants receive custom T-shirts. For more information, call 703-383-8441, e-mail peggy.cook@fairfaxcounty.gov or see www.timharmon5k.org.

Corey Aferiat, a Chantilly High graduate and Fairfax resident, had a solid season for the Muhlenberg College (Allentown, Pa.) men's lacrosse team this spring. Aferiat, a junior, started 10 games at attack for the Mules, scoring eight goals and 11 points. He was named Centennial Conference Offensive Player of the Week after scoring three goals against then-No. 11 ranked Gettysburg. It was Muhlenberg's first win ever over Gettysburg. Aferiat is tied for 13th in program history with 51 career points and is eighth all-time with 22 assists. Muhlenberg picked up a pair of wins over top 25 teams in 2011, but missed out on the conference playoffs after finishing 5-9 overall.

Registration is open for the 2011 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics (NVSO), which will take place Sept. 17-28. Over 25 indoor and outdoor events, from track and field to scrabble and chess, are offered. Senior adults 50 years of age and over, who live in a sponsoring jurisdiction, are eligible to participate. Registration information is available at local senior centers, community centers, senior residences or by calling 703-228-4721. Details and registration forms are also available online at www.nvso.us. Deadline to register is Sept. 1. The fee is \$10 plus \$1 per event. There are additional charges for golf, miniature golf, bowling and fencing. Seniors may compete in more than one event. Each event is divided into age categories and some by gender. Winners will be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals after each event. The events will take place at various locations throughout Northern Virginia.

New events in 2011 are badminton, volleyball, cycling and a 1,600 meter run. Events are track and field, swimming, diving, tennis, table tennis, golf, miniature golf, ten pin bowling, Wii bowling, pickleball, racquetball, scrabble, bocce, cribbage, fencing, chess, duplicate bridge, backgammon, bunco, horseshoes, men's 3 on 3 basketball, men and women's basketball free throw, team line dancing, yo-yo tricks, eight ball pool, Frisbee throw and softball hit and throw.

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PEOPLE

Robinson Grads Opt for Military Service

FROM PAGE 3

"When Christine contacted me, she had so many ideas about this. And there were so many e-mails that went back and forth between us in such a short period of time that you would have thought we were married," Kilcullen joked at the ceremony.

"She is pretty amazing. She had this idea, and put this ceremony together in just three weeks" Kilcullen said.

She reached out to another Robinson mom, Carolyn Kellam, whose son was also enlisting.

"When she first called me, I thought 'uh oh, she's mad' because my son recruited her son," Kellam said at the ceremony, when she presented Zinser with a bouquet of flowers. "I agreed they needed to be recognized. I can't get through the 'Star-Spangled Banner' without crying, so I was behind this 100 percent."

Kellam arranged for the soloist from Fairfax County Police Department and organized the baked goods and decorations, Zinser said.

Capt. Ken Spiro, U.S. Navy (ret.), whose children graduated from Robinson and had worked with Zinser to establish the Robinson Ice Hockey Club, agreed to emcee the event.

Zinser was on a roll. She printed and mailed invitations to the Burke Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5412.

"Cmdr. David Meyers spread the word, and I contacted the American Legion Post 176, and veterans groups showed up to support the event. Members of the Burke Historical Society learned about the event and spread the word to its members as well, who came out in full force. Friends and neighbors and, literally, the community came out to support these young enlistees and their families."

ON THURSDAY, June 9, more than 75 people crowded into the Braddock District Hall for the first "Our Community Salutes" ceremony. The ceremony lasted about an hour, and recognized the following Robinson students: Junsuk Choi, Daniel Kellam, Sam Lausier, Ji John Lee, Won Gyu Lee, Philipp Zinser, Adam Dein (U.S. Marine Corps); David Maeng (U.S. Navy); Kevin Haas and Jade Vitale (U.S. Air Force).

"The challenge put before you today is to display nothing but consummate loyalty and professionalism," Kilcullen said to the enlistees.

"It's not an easy decision to make. Family members naturally have some concerns, but we certainly applaud them," said Cook at

the ceremony.

"When Danny asked us to sign, it was difficult," said Kellam, "The mom in me is scared to death but the citizen in me is very proud." Two days after he graduates, Daniel Kellam will be going to Parris Island for basic training.

Luc Lausier's son, Sam, told his family he wanted to join the U.S. Marine Corps to challenge himself and become the "best of the best."

"We're very proud of him," Luc Lausier said. "For someone so young to feel the call of duty is pretty amazing. This is a child who, like a many children in the area, has the opportunity to do anything he wants to do with his future. It's impressed me that he has this type of commitment. I think all these young men and women feel that they are serving their country for all the right reasons."

Zinser, a Realtor with Long & Foster in Burke, said her goal now is to continue the OCS program annually. "We need the help of the community to continue what has been started and ensure the 2012 Fairfax County graduates who are enlisting and their families receive the recognition they deserve," she said. To learn more about Our Community Salutes, visit www.OurCommunitySalutes.org



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) told the enlistees he was proud of their decision to volunteer and serve in the military. For more photos of the June 9 ceremony, go to www.connectionnewspapers.com.

FAITH NOTES

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.

Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road in Fairfax. The Children's Ministry Department will hold Vacation Bible School, with a theme of "Pandamania," at the church on Friday, June 24 at 7 p.m., Saturday, June 25 at 12 p.m. (includes lunch), and Sunday, June 26 at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. VBS is for ages 3 years-6th grade, and costs \$5. Register by June 19. 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

St Mary of Sorrows Church, 5222 Sideburn Road in Fairfax, is hosting a White Elephant Sale on Friday, June 3 from 5-8 p.m., Saturday, June 4 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sunday, June 5 from 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. 703-323-0345.

A new Women's Bible study, "Discovering Who We Are in Christ - Part III," will be at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road in Fairfax, 9:45 a.m. Tuesdays through May 31. \$15. Child care available. Register at 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

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.

Interested in the Catholic Faith? Classes will be held at St. Leo

SEE FAITH NOTES, PAGE 20

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CAMPS & SCHOOLS



Robinson Secondary School students Lucas Caplan, Anna Howard, Jennifer Horan, Jenna Delph and Roberto Solorzano enjoy themselves on Friday evening, June 10, at the school's prom.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Robinson Secondary School conducted its annual Senior Prom on Friday night, June 10, at the Dulles Hyatt Regency, with hundreds of students and dates enjoying the music and festivities.

Late Night In Dulles

Robinson students dance night away at 2011 Senior Prom.



A Robinson couple enjoys each other's company during a slow song.



Taking a breather from the dance floor are Robinson Secondary School students Nicole Elgamil, Miae Bok, Winnie Liu, Alex Swords and Hannah Fair.

Robinson Secondary conducted its annual Senior Prom at the Dulles Hyatt Regency on Friday evening, June 10, with hundreds of students and dates enjoying the music and festivities.



Victor Garcia and Katy Peterson show off their dance moves on the dance floor during Robinson Secondary's annual Senior Prom.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Road, Springfield. Barbeque, children's games, live music and more. 571-502-5292.

"Aladdin Jr." 3 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performed by local fifth and sixth grade students. \$10 adults, \$5 age 13 and under. cfa.gmu.edu.

Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library. Fairfax County Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips. Adults. 10360 North St., Fairfax.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m. Kings Park Library Lobby. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke.

Father/Daughter Dance. 6-9 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Dancing, games, prizes, food and more. For ages 4-10 years. Pre-registration required. \$20 per person. www.fairfaxva.gov/ParksRec or 703-385-7858.

RAIN-A Tribute to The Beatles. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$40 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 19

Movie Premiere: "Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County." 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Cinema Arts Theatre, 9650 Main St., Fairfax. Captain John Singleton Mosby was given a small group of rangers from his former commander, Gen. J.E.B. Stuart, to conduct independent

partisan operations into Northern Virginia. These rangers would eventually become the 43rd Battalion, Virginia Cavalry and would grow from nine to around 2,000 men. Local historians take you to forty-two locations in Fairfax County where "Mosby's Rangers" conducted combat operations and describe what happened at each. Through on-site video, hundreds of historical photos and an accompanying map, this documentary presents a visual history of the Civil War. DVDs of the movie, including a map of all the operations, will be available. Admission \$8. www.cinemaartstheatre.com, 703-978-6991 or Chuck Mauro at 703-709-9539.

David Berkeley and Seth Glier. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 1-4 p.m. Pohick Regional Library Lobby. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke.

The Monkees. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Celebrating their 45th anniversary. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

MONDAY/JUNE 20

Andrew Belle with Trent Dabbs and Bobbie Allen. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Chess Club. 3:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, Meeting Room 1/2. Learn the rules and strategy of the game. Age 6-14. 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke.

TUESDAY/JUNE 21

Eric Lindell and Cris Cab. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library Lobby. Fairfax County Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips. Adults. 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke.

Book Discussion Group. 1:30 p.m. Kings Park Library Meeting Room. "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" by Jamie FoRoad Adults. 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke.

Play Ball. 2:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, Meeting Room 116/117. Discover the science in sports. Presented by Maryland Science Center. Ages 6-12. 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke.

Book Discussion Group. 6:30 p.m. Kings Park Library Meeting Room. "The Zookeeper's Wife" by Diane Ackerman. Adults. 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, Meeting Room A. Conversation group for people learning English. Adults. 10360 North St., Fairfax.

Evening Book Discussion Group. 7 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, Meeting Room 1. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" by Stieg Larsson. Adults. 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 22

Vanessa Carlton. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Creepy Crawlies. 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, Meeting Room A/B. Stories, songs and finger plays. Ages 3-5 with adult. 10360 North St., Fairfax.

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Braddock District Primary

FROM PAGE 3

Democrats are eager to see a Democrat back in that seat. I would be surprised if only one person ran. And whoever wins, I expect that the Braddock residents will get behind the nominee," Bulova said.

Petersen refutes suggestions that a fissure exists in the local Democratic Party because two candidates are vying in the primary.

"It's great to get new blood, and if they both want to run, that's what the primary is all about," Petersen said.

"Whatever happens, my hope is that Democrats can stay united after the primary and field the best possible candidate against a very tough incumbent."

When Wade first announced his candidacy in early April, Greidinger said Wade was a "very nice smart young man, however he's a Republican and should be running as a Republican. He's never voted in a Democratic primary, but he wants the job."

At the time, Wade deflected the issue, but has acknowledged since then that he voted in two Republican primaries — the 2008 Republican presidential primary between John McCain and Mike Huckabee, and the 2005 state Republican primary, when Petersen lost his bid in a four-way primary for the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor of Virginia.

Wade, a 39-year-old a manager at the MorganFranklin Corporation in McLean, said he considered himself an Independent before joining the Braddock District Democratic Committee nearly a year ago.

"First of all, I would say I'm a Democrat, and I joined the (Braddock District) Democratic Committee in 2010, and I've always agreed with Democrats on social issues," Wade said during an interview at his home Tuesday evening, June 14.

He said he is not fazed by the uproar over his primary votes. "I did it because, at that time, I felt like I woke up that day and that's what I wanted to do. ... I've said that in 2008, the math was in favor of President Obama, so I chose to vote in the Republican primary ... and I know that doesn't make Democrats happy, but I considered myself an Independent. This [campaign] is about the issues, not about my voting history."

When presented with the fact that Repub-

licans are making his primary votes an issue, Wade said: "I would say that, if I could make an equivalent, those guys could have me listed as a Yankees fan for all I care. I grew up in Boston, I'm the biggest Red Sox fan. ... I'm running for supervisor because I feel like we need people who have new ideas and a new perspective."

He said that he wanted to make it clear that "I have not been recruited by any elected officials. I think some people think this [my candidacy] is a Democratic strategy, and it's not true," Wade said.

After attending Braddock District Democratic meetings for several months, Wade said that members asked him to run for Cook's seat in January. He said they saw his energy and enthusiasm and considered his international business experience and Fairfax County Chamber of Com-

merce work as attractive assets for a candidate.

"Here's what I think about all this. I would say I'm taking a unique path, meaning you don't see many business people with promising careers decide to run for office, you don't see people who consider themselves independent and, you know, got active in the last year, run for office," Wade said. "But the thing is, I think, personally, that's exactly what our country needs at all levels. Because there's a freshness to that and, frankly, a lack of cynicism that is needed and which voters want. I would say at the end of the day, when I go walking and knocking on doors, Republican or Democrat, they want someone who solves their problems."

"Chris Wade is a very solid candidate. He's a strong family man and businessman. He's held several leadership positions as a member of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce. He's been a coach, a Sunday school teacher and has strong community ties. He's a fine candidate and some I can support," Bulova said Monday.

On Thursday, June 9, Wade's campaign sent out a news release announcing the endorsements of Del. Vivian Watts (D-39), State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37), Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) and Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason.)

"Chris has considered himself an Independent and shares the values of a Democrat," Bulova said. "And frankly, we have a big

tent. The Fairfax County Democratic Party doesn't require a litmus test of our candidates. Our elected officials consist of Democrats who are more conservative, less conservative and more liberal, and there's room for all of us."

But what Bulova calls a "big tent," Cook calls a "circus tent."

"My campaign is in sharp contrast to the circus sideshow presented by the Democratic party in the last two weeks," Cook said in an interview Sunday. "In all seriousness, it's an insult to people in Braddock District that the Democratic nomination process has become a contest to see which faction gets its puppet for the nomination. You had Marc Greidinger, a Democrat with substantive ideas, and they toss him aside."

Greidinger did not return several calls for comment.

"The fact is both parties had him down as a Republican in the database," Cook said. "I don't know, maybe we both made same mistake. ... He's not ready. This is the amateur hour and it's a disgrace."

"You have to start somewhere," Bulova said in response to Cook's argument that Wade was not ready. "He's paying his grassroots dues by walking door to door and participating in community activities, as a citizen and parent. When it comes time for people to vote, they will look at Chris, at what he has to offer and what he will bring to the job. He's an excellent candidate."

Oleszek, who has lived in the Braddock District for more than 40 years, said she takes Wade at his word that he's a Democrat. "I consider the other candidates my competitors, not my opponents."

Oleszek said her experience makes her the candidate to beat Wade in the Aug. 23 primary, and Cook in the Nov. 8 general election. In 2003, she was elected to the School Board with more votes (87,759) than any other Democratic School Board candidate in Fairfax. In 2007, Oleszek challenged incumbent Republican State Sen. Ken Cuccinelli for the 37th District seat. After a recount, she lost by 101 votes out of 37,185 votes cast.

"The requirements to run for office are very clear and I have met them," Oleszek said.

"Essentially it boils down to this," Simmons said. "Voters in the Braddock District have a good choice between two good candidates. One is a successful businessman and the other is an experienced person in government, and former School Board member. The trend is in our direction in a lot of the elections. Democrats are already united in defeating John Cook."

"I think some people think this [my candidacy] is a Democratic strategy, and it's not true."

— Chris Wade

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FROM PAGE 17

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.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road in Oakton, offers services on Saturdays at 4:30 p.m., in addition to Sunday services at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. www.uucf.org.

FAITH NOTES

The Parkwood Baptist Church, 8726

Braddock Road in Annandale, Bible Study Fellowship will study of the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. The Day Women's Class meets at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, and offers a children's program for ages 6 weeks-6 years. rdmarotto@cox.net.

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Fairfax Station **\$1,249,000**
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Gerry Staudte 703-309-8948



Fairfax Station **\$649,000**
Stately colonial on almost an acre, quiet cul de sac location. Updated kitchen and baths, hardwoods on upper two levels! Beautifully landscaped yard with swimming pool! For more information go to www.hermandorfer.com
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Aldie **\$349,900**
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