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CONNECTION

A Son '26 Forever'

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Mark Ryan McGinly graduated from Madison High School and Bucknell University. Just 26 years old, he was killed in his office at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

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REMEMBERING 9/11

Drew, Sean, Patty, Bill and Mark McGinly in a 2000 family photo.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCGINLY FAMILY

A Son '26 Forever'

Vienna father mourns son Mark Ryan McGinly who died at World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Mark Ryan McGinly, a son of Vienna, was just 26 years old on Sept. 11, 2001, working in New York City at Carr Futures as an industrial metals trader. He was on the 92nd floor of the North Tower of the World Trade Center when the first plane hit. Those below the 92nd floor were able to escape; those on the 92nd floor and above were not. The stairways were blocked by falling dry wall from the 92nd floor and above.

"On 9/11, I was in Chicago on business and a friend of mine from Connecticut called to tell me his son in London was on the phone with Mark when the first plane hit and everything went dead on the phone," recalled Mark's father, Bill McGinly. "So, we knew for sure Mark was in the building. There were no calls from Mark but others in the office did make calls out."

The Carr Futures office occupied about 80 percent of the 92nd floor and the plane slammed into the side of the building that Mark's office occupied. The final calls his colleagues made came from their offices on the east side of the office, the furthest offices from the impact.

Bill McGinly will be at Ground Zero in New York City for the 10th anniversary program, as he has for every anniversary. He's read names of the victims of the World Trade Center attack. He and his wife Patty wear wristbands of sterling silver inscribed with Mark's name. The bracelets were made by a New York jeweler who donated three bracelets to the family of each victim who died at Ground Zero. McGinly says he is not a jewelry person, but that bracelet he will never take off.

Patty will not make the trip to New York for the same reason she will not talk to reporters about Mark's death.

"Mark was just a fun-loving individual," said Bill McGinly. "He had great balance in his life. He liked to have fun but he was serious about work."

"I was always amazed at how many friends he had and how close they were. He'd make friends in any environment, anywhere he went."

"I asked him once how it was he had so many friends. I remember him telling me, 'Dad, if you want to have friends, you've got to be a friend.'"

Brian Cramp, best friends with Mark for 12 years, will join Bill McGinly and son Sean at the World Trade Center this year. Cramp was in Colorado Springs on a business trip when his wife called him on Sept. 11 and told him to turn on the television. When Cramp couldn't reach Mark by phone, he turned around and drove 26 hours across the country, straight to the McGinly home.

"Mark was a class act," said Cramp. "He was a good friend, he cared about his friends."

"There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think of Mark. He was a true son, brother, friend and hero to many," said Cramp.



Mark Ryan McGinly graduated from Madison High School and Bucknell University. Just 26 years old, he was killed in his office at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

MARK WAS THE MIDDLE CHILD of Bill and Patty's three sons. Drew, three years younger than Mark, graduated from the naval academy in 2000 and became a carrier-qualified flier one year from Mark's death on Sept. 11, 2002. Sean, the oldest child and a Los Angeles filmmaker, paid homage to his brother — and 31 other brothers — with his HBO documentary, "Brothers Lost."

In the first six months after Mark McGinly's death in the World Trade Center attack, spontaneous donations in the memory of McGinly amounted to \$85,000.

And that was before Mark's family had formulated a manner in which to keep Mark's name and memory alive. In spring of 2002, friends of the McGinlys put together a golf tournament at Westwood Country Club to raise funds for "26 Forever," the Mark Ryan McGinly Memorial Scholarship. The tournament was followed by a dinner and live and silent auctions.

SEE REMEMBERING, PAGE 19



PHOTO BY PAM BROOKS/THE CONNECTION

Pentagon, Sept. 11, 2001.

Honoring Those Who Died

Sept. 11 ceremonies in our area.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 11

Great Falls Freedom Memorial Committee Annual 9/11 Ceremony. 7 p.m. Great Falls Village Green, 768 Walker Road, Great Falls.

Remembering especially the six citizens of Great Falls who died when Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. Choir members from Christ the King Lutheran Church, Great Falls United Methodist Church, and St. Francis Episcopal Church will join to pay tribute in song to those who died. Open to all. In case of rain, the ceremony will be held at the Great Falls United Methodist Church. eheberg@cox.net.

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. 9:45 a.m. On the grounds of the Freeman House, 131 Church St, N.E., Vienna. With speaker Colonel David A. Lapan, USMC. Sponsored by American Legion Post 180 in cooperation with the Town of Vienna. 703-938-9535.

9/11 Memorial Service. 11 a.m. Antioch Christian Church Sanctuary, 1860 Beulah Road, Vienna. The public is invited to a service of remembrance and hope. Each guest will receive a special edition book titled "Never Forget." www.antiochdoc.org.

Reston Association Tribute to Reston Victims and Servicemen. 1 p.m. Freedom Grove near Brown's Chapel, Reston. Remembering and honoring all those who died in the events of 9-11. In tribute to the memories of four Reston residents, Norma Cruz Khan and Leonard Taylor who were aboard American Airlines Flight 77 that crashed into the Pentagon, Marine Lance Corporal Tavon L. Hubbard of the Command Element, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, and Army Staff Sgt. Nathaniel J. Nyren of the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Division, four stones will be placed at Freedom Grove. Following the ceremony, there will be a musical tribute in the small pavilion at Brown's Chapel. Presentation of the Colors, live music and more. www.reston.org.

Film Screening and 9-11 Commemorative Program. 2 p.m. Sponsored by Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center at The Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. To commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, local broadcast journalist Mike Walter will show and discuss his documentary film, Breaking News Breaking Down, examining the reactions and reflections of journalists. Free. 703-385-8414.

The 10th Anniversary Patriot Day Ceremony. 7-8 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater at Fairfax City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. 703-385-7850.

Tenth Annual AARP-Wiygul Classic Car Show. 10 a.m. Downtown Herndon at the intersection of Lynn and Station Streets. There will be a 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony as part of the Classic Car Show. Car show hours are 7 a.m.-3 p.m. www.aarpdulles.org/_mgxroot/carshow2011/WebRegisForm.pdf.

REMEMBERING 9/11

Honoring Victims, By Name

Vienna Forensic Pathologist recalls work after Pentagon attack.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Dr. Doug Arendt of Vienna, a captain in the U.S. Navy, was driving to his office at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology on the Walter Reed campus the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. He was thinking of the morning conference meeting at which the staff pathologists discussed pathology reports of the previous day. He was also thinking that it was a beautiful, sunny September day.

Once inside his windowed office, Arendt, an oral and maxillofacial pathologist and forensic pathologist, looked out on the trees, imagining them turning colors. His mind went back to the morning meeting. Then the news came. A plane had hit one of the Twin Towers in New York. A small commuter plane, he thought. All of a sudden, the news reported it was an airliner. Then, a second airliner struck the other tower. Staff at the institute found a television. As they watched, sirens began wailing in the background. The Pentagon, too, had been hit.

"All of a sudden, word came from downstairs from the director that we may be under attack," Arendt said.

"My feelings were confusion, disbelief, fear. What's going on, I thought.

"Then, I began to think 'we're going to have a big identification mission.'"

As the day wore on, more information started filtering in. Everyone on campus was restricted to it under high security. "We weren't going home. We had to be ready to be mobilized. We knew we'd have a big forensic mission at the port mortuary." A core team of different specialists, based through the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System at the military's port mortuary at Dover Air Force Base, held the charge to provide identification services for military mishaps. Arendt was a member of that cadre.

ARENDR AND HIS COLLEAGUES were not part of the recovery team at the Pentagon. Under ordinary circumstances, the team would have been a part of the recovery process. Instead, the teams had to be ready to go for receipt of the remains and processing.

"We knew we'd be mobilizing the team and that the team would be expanded," said Arendt. His role was to be in charge of two of the teams which, basically, were the comparison and antemortem teams. Because many civilians from the striking aircraft were involved, the teams needed medical records from physicians outside the military system. Up to Sept. 11, comparisons at Dover were made manually. That changed on Sept. 12.

SEE VIENNA DOCTOR, PAGE 19



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Dr. Doug Arendt, oral and maxillofacial pathologist and forensic pathologist, in his Vienna office.





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OPINION

Remembering Local People Who Died on 9-11

Excerpts from <http://pentagonmemorial.org/learn/911-pentagon>:

“Sept. 11, 2001 was a warm, sunny day in Washington, D.C. That morning, five hijackers passed through security at Dulles International Airport at approximately 7:35 a.m. They boarded American Airlines Flight 77 bound for Los Angeles. At 8:20 a.m., Flight 77 departed Dulles International Airport 10 minutes delayed. When the plane took off, it had 64 people on board: a crew of six plus 58 passengers, including the five hijackers with their weapons.

“The last routine radio communication with American Airlines Flight 77 occurred at 8:51 a.m. It seems likely that between 8:51 and 8:54

EDITORIAL

a.m. over eastern Kentucky, the hijackers made their move and took over the plane.

“Immediately following the takeover, Flight 77 made an unauthorized turn to the south. At 9 a.m., the plane turned eastward from a point near the junction of West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky.

“Tracking Flight 77 would not have been easy, even if controllers had been able to identify which plane to follow. Its transponder, a transmitter that broadcasts the course, speed, and altitude of the airplane, was turned off at 8:56 a.m. For air traffic controllers, the lack of a transponder signal meant they could not find the Boeing 757 until it crossed the path of a ground-based radar.

“At 9:33 a.m., Flight 77 turned south and

headed for the Pentagon. Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport tower passed to the Secret Service Operations Center in Washington, D.C. the alarming word that ‘an aircraft is coming at you and not talking with us.’ A minute later, the plane turned south below Alexandria, circled back to the northeast, and flew toward Washington again.

“At 9:37:46 a.m., American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon.

“The Pentagon’s on-site firehouse responded immediately to the crash. Firefighters from nearby Reagan National Airport and Arlington County Fire Department arrived within minutes.

“One-hundred-and-eighty-four lives were lost at the Pentagon that day.”

Local People Who Died in Sept. 11, 2001 Terrorist Attacks

The following list of people who lived in Connection Newspapers coverage area and died in the Sept. 11 2001 terrorist attacks, is compiled from multiple sources, including news reports, and is likely not complete. The Pentagon Memorial website offers photos and biographies of most people who died at the Pentagon. <http://pentagonmemorial.org/explore/biographies>

- Spc. Craig Amundson, 28, Fort Belvoir, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Lt. Col. Canfield D. Boone, 54, Clifton, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Charles Burlingame, 51, Herndon, employed by American Airlines, died on AA Flight 77
- Rosa Maria Chapa, 64, Springfield, employed by Defense Intelligence Agency, died in Pentagon
- Eddie A. Dillard, Alexandria, employed by Philip Morris, died on AA Flight 77
- Capt. Robert Edward Dolan, 43, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Navy, died in Pentagon
- Charles A. Droz III, 52, Springfield, employed by EM Solutions Inc., died on AA Flight 77
- Gerald P. Fisher, 57, Potomac, Md., employed by Booz Allen Hamilton, died in Pentagon
- 1st Lt. (Ret.) Richard P. Gabriel Sr., 54,

- Great Falls, employed by Stratin Consulting, died on AA Flight 77
- Diane M. Hale-McKinzy, 38, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Stanley R. Hall, 68, Centreville, employed by Raytheon, died on AA Flight 77
- Brady K. Howell, 26, Arlington, employed by U.S. Navy, died in Pentagon
- Lt. Col. Stephen Neil Hyland Jr., 45, Burke, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Bryan C. Jack, 48, Alexandria, employed by Department of Defense, died on AA Flight 77
- Steven D. Jacoby, 43, Alexandria, employed by Metrocall, died on AA Flight 77
- Ann Judge, 49, Great Falls, employed by National Geographic Society, died on AA Flight 77
- Norma Cruz Khan, 45, Reston, employed by Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Assn., died on AA Flight 77
- Terence M. Lynch, 49, Alexandria, employed by Booz Allen Hamilton, died in Pentagon
- Ada L. Mason-Acker, 50, Springfield, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude, 53, Fort Myer, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Mark McGinly, 26, Vienna, employed by

- Carr Futures, died in World Trade Center
- Patricia E. Mickley, 41, Springfield, employed by Department of Defense, died in Pentagon
- Khang Ngoc Nguyen, 41, Fairfax, employed by Navy contractor, died in Pentagon
- Barbara K. Olson, 45, Great Falls, attorney, died on AA Flight 77
- Maj. Clifford L. Patterson Jr., 33, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Capt. Jack D. Panches, 51, Clifton, retired from U.S. Navy, died in Pentagon
- Lisa J. Raines, 42, Great Falls, employed by Genzyme Corp., died on AA Flight 77
- Todd H. Reuben, 40, Potomac, Md., attorney, died on AA Flight 77
- Charles E. Sabin, 54, Burke, employed by Department of Defense, died in Pentagon
- Marjorie C. Salamone, 53, Springfield, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Cmdr. Robert Allan Schlegel, 38, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Navy, died in Pentagon
- Mark E. Schurmeier, 44, McLean, employed by Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., died in World Trade Center
- Janice M. Scott, 46, Springfield, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon

- Michael L. Selves, 53, Fairfax, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Diane M. Simmons, Great Falls, died on AA Flight 77
- George W. Simmons, Great Falls, retired from Xerox, died on AA Flight 77
- Lt. Col. Gary F. Smith, 55, Alexandria, retired U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Norma Lang Steuerle, 54, Alexandria, died on AA Flight 77
- Lt. Col. Kip P. Taylor, 38, McLean, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Leonard E. Taylor, 44, Reston, employed by XonTech Inc., died on AA Flight 77
- Sandra C. Taylor, 50, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Sandra D. Teague, 31, Fairfax, employed by Georgetown University Hospital, died on AA Flight 77
- Karl W. Teepe, 57, Centreville, employed by Defense Information Agency, died in Pentagon
- Meta L. Waller, 60, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Ernest M. Willcher, 62, North Potomac, Md., employed by Booz-Allen Ha.m.ilton Inc. died in Pentagon
- Maj. Dwayne Williams, 40, Lorton, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- Vicki C. Yancey, 43, Springfield, employed by Vredenburg Co., died on AA Flight 77.

VIEWPOINTS



Cindy Stewart, Vienna

“I am more anxious about big crowds and using mass transportation. However, I find myself more conscious of the preciousness of life — of the ordinary and soothing routines that comprise each day. I also value in a deeper way the connection to family and friends and the blessings bestowed upon me.”

How has your world changed since 9/11?



Diane Abel, Vienna

“I was in New York watching the finals at the U.S. Open on Sept. 10 with a good friend. We took the train home on Sept. 10. The next day I was cleaning, watching TV, and saw the plane going into the Twin Towers. I went back to the U.S. Open again last year but I just can’t go this year, it being the 10th anniversary of 9/11. I wouldn’t say it’s scary but it’s a feeling.”



Brian Cramp, Vienna-raised

“September 11th affected me on a very personal level. I lost my long-time friend Mark Ryan McGinly. Mark was on the 92nd floor of the North Tower of the World Trade Center. What I’ve learned since Sept. 11 is to not take life for granted. Each and every day I tell my family and friends how much I love and miss them.”

— DONNA MANZ



Ingrid Knowlton, Reston

“The security, all the security, everywhere. For me, it’s being prepared for an attack the best you can, and stressing the importance of it to your children without frightening them. You have to be prepared the best you can but you can’t stop living your life.”

THE CONNECTION

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Back to School in Oakton

A+ students! Backpacks ready and hair combed just so, Cedar Pond students wait for the bus during the Vienna neighborhood's annual back-to-school "bus stop" breakfast.

PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION



Dylan Hughes, 10, of Vienna, gets a big welcome from Silvio, a longtime Fairfax County Public Schools bus driver, as he shows off his new patrol belt for the first day of fifth grade at Oakton Elementary School.

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FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna, is hosting a Memorial Worship service for the 10-year Anniversary of 9-11 on Sunday, Sept. 11 at 11 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The public is invited to this service of remembrance and hope. Each guest will receive a special edition book titled "Never Forget." www.antiochdoc.org.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill

Road in Oakton, seeks female actors for production of "Mother Wove the Morning", a play by Carol Lynn Pearson. All ages and types needed. Play will be performed Oct. 21-22 and proceeds benefit The Fistula Foundation. Auditions will be held on Tuesday, Sept 13. Schedule an audition appointment at www.uucf.org or scbenett@cox.net 703-281-4230.

Epiphany United Methodist Church, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, has an Adult Sunday School class that will begin studying John B. Cobb's book Spiritual Bankruptcy: A

SEE FAITH, PAGE 9




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FAITH

FROM PAGE 8

Prophetic Call to Action on Sunday, Sept. 11. Coffee at 9:30 a.m., class at 9:45 a.m. office@epiphanyumc.com or 703-938-3494.

Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, will mark the beginning of the Sunday School year for all ages on Rally Day, Sunday Sept. 11. To celebrate, the Church will host a Rally Day BBQ on the front lawn following the 11 a.m. service. Members and visitors are invited to join in the fun, including burgers and dogs and all the fixings. www.gflutheran.org.

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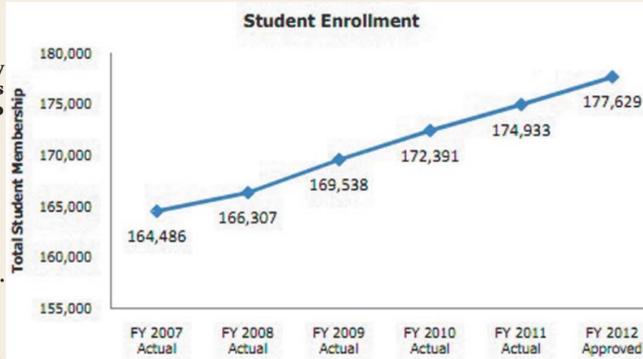


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Fairfax County Public Schools is projected to have 177,629 students this year, a 2,696 increase over last year, which will require 629.9 new positions.



CONTRIBUTED

Fairfax County Heads Back to School

New year brings employee raise, full day kindergarten, but issues still remain.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

As the 2011-12 school year begins, 177,629 students are projected to attend the 194 Fairfax County Public Schools. This represents an increase of 2,696 from Fiscal Year 2011, leading to a requirement of 629.9 new positions. FCPS is the largest school system in Virginia and the 11th largest in the country.

According to a Feb. 26 Fairfax County School Board report, Virginia ranks seventh in the country in per capita income, but 38th in state support for K-12 education. Since Fiscal Year 2009, state support has been reduced by almost \$1 billion, from \$5.6 billion to \$4.8 in Fiscal Year 2012.

Despite these numbers, Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale says this year FCPS was able to give employees a 1 percent cost-of-living salary increase after a two-year salary freeze.

The county's Capital Improvement Program for FY2012-2016 kicks off this year, and the new plan calls for acceleration of their renovation schedule, because of the closing of Pimmit Hills Alternative High School and Clifton Elementary schools, as well as lower construction costs. According to FCPS, they have saved \$31 million in capital improvements over the past three years, and Dale said he expects that trend to continue.

"We're fortunate we got the votes from the Board of Supervisors to continue with the CIP," he said. "With the economy down, we've gotten some very low bid prices which allows us to do more projects."

THIS YEAR is the first school year where all 138 elementary schools will be offering full day kindergarten. Before this year there were 36 schools, mostly in the Dranesville district that did not offer full day kindergarten.

Dale called the countywide full day kindergarten "a great accomplishment that will benefit the entire system."

Since students aren't being split over morning and afternoon kindergarten, new staff was hired at many of the schools, 152.2 positions overall. According to FCPS's FY2012 budget, the total cost for implementation is \$8.2 million. But the implementation also saved around \$900,000 with the elimination of the no-longer-needed kindergarten School Age Child Care program as well as the sav-

ings of eliminating half-day bus runs.

Ann Malekzadeh, whose daughters attend Colvin Run Elementary School in Great Falls, was a vocal proponent of full day kindergarten.

"We're very excited the school board found a way to make sure we all have full day kindergarten," she said. "A lot of kids are excited they'll be able to be in school with their older siblings all day long, and my daughter is excited about being able to actually eat in the cafeteria, which kindergartners couldn't do when they were split."

Several community groups still have issues to work on in future years, and many of them say those issues will be key in this November's school board elections.

FAIRGRADE, part of the Fairfax Education Coalition (FEC), is still working to fight the phasing out of upper-level, high school honors courses for English and Social Studies. This year, FCPS will give high schoolers a chance to take World Studies and English classes online. These courses are called honors courses.

"We're offering these classes as a scaled-back option for students, so they don't have to take an AP exam or attend classroom courses," Dale said. "For those who take it, the online courses will allow them to customize their opportunities." Catherine Lorenze of the FEC and FAIRGRADE, says these new online options do not solve the problem.

"I think it's a very last-minute solution that had zero input from the school board," she said. "We're asking for honors versions of these classes, not AP Light."

Start Later for Excellence in Education Proposal (SLEEP) hopes to make school start times later, saying that early start times are causing high school students to suffer from sleep deprivation. Phyllis Payne of SLEEP says that early hours are interrupting natural sleep patterns and school with earlier start times show higher car crash rates for 16-18 year olds than ones with later times.

"I don't think the school board will truly address this problem this year, but hope administrators do something immediately to help the students who literally can't function with the status quo," she said. "Some students who are dropping out, frequently tardy or absent and/or suffering from depression or other illnesses need relief sooner rather than later."

BACK TO SCHOOL

School on Cutting Edge

Named best public school in the country for the past four years, Thomas Jefferson offers students chance to expand their boundaries.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

A silver sculpture featuring two circles and two triangles bisecting each other is a familiar sight about a half-mile south from the intersection of Braddock Road and Little River Turnpike. It's the logo for Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. While the sculpture itself might catch drivers' eyes, it's the work being done in the school that has the attention of educators from around the country.

Thomas Jefferson has been named the best public school in the nation for the past four years by U.S. News and World Report. Founded in 1985, the school's population is made up of six local jurisdictions. Eighty percent of the school's approximately 1,850 students come from Fairfax County, with Loudoun, Fauquier, Arlington and Prince William counties and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church making up the remainder.

"We offer a unique curriculum tailored to emphasize science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)," said Principal Evan Glazer. "We pull in students from across the region because we offer a curriculum no other school can. Say there are two students in Herndon who are interested in robotics. They wouldn't have a place to study that locally, but here we can take them in with other students from around the area who also might be interested."

THE SCHOOL has 13 different labs within its walls, with applications as diverse as the students' interests. One lab could easily be mistaken for an auto body shop, with car parts strewn about. It's the school's Energy Systems lab.

Just down the hall, the Oceanography and Geophysical Systems lab is abuzz with aquariums and terrariums containing a host of animals and plants to study. Further down, in the Biotechnology and Life Sciences lab, thousands of dollars of genetic imaging equipment is there to satisfy students with questions about the building blocks of life.

"The mindset we have here isn't just to help students pass their tests, but to get them excited about the joy of investigation and discovery, the critical aspects of learning," Glazer said.

In addition to normal sources of funding, the Thomas Jefferson Partnership Fund helps fund programs at the school through donations, corporate partnerships and capital campaigns.

Other technology organizations and companies have taken notice of the aptitude of Thomas Jefferson students. The Siemens Foundation, a nonprofit which provides STEM education grants and scholarship, named two members of TJ's Class of 2011 with their annual Advanced Placement Award, and not for the first time.

"Thomas Jefferson is an example of a school that is really working and educating its students, we almost always have an [Advanced Placement award] winner from there every year," said Jennifer Harper-Taylor, president of the Siemens Foundation. "It's a phenomenal platform for moving students forward and immersing them in partnerships with top research labs and organizations."

While the school's name features the term "science and technology," the humanities also have a place



Students from Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology perform an experiment during a Fairfax County Public School summer course on Biotechnology.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

at Thomas Jefferson. For example, freshmen spend their early time at TJ in a Biology, English and Technology course that helps them form a multidisciplinary approach.

"With Biology, they learn how to do the research, the Technology teaches them about the instrumentation needed to collect and analyze information. The English part teaches them to communicate what they find, to the right audience, in a coherent way," Glazer said. "And it's great socially, these freshmen who are coming from all over get to spend three-eighths of their schedule with the same 70 to 80 person group."

This combining of the disciplines has proven successful for many of TJ's alumni. A.J. Smith, who graduated in 2009, is currently

studying Computer Science and Music Composition/Film Score at New York University.

"At Thomas Jefferson, I was able to really create a connection between music and technology, two things I love," he said. "I also learned to love the theater while at TJ, learning to step outside myself and take over somebody else's mind for a bit."

Smith is well on his way, he recently won a talent competition using a blend of computer-programmed music and his own singing and playing.

GLAZER SAYS the school is also dedicated to working with other Fairfax County Public Schools with their outreach efforts, and students constantly travel off-campus to

work with other schools, such as Dogwood Elementary School in Reston, Centre Ridge Elementary School in Centreville, Garfield Elementary School in Springfield and more.

"As a regional school, we're not only educating the 1,850 students who attend school here, we want to provide outreach that inspires the community," Glazer said. "People don't come to Thomas Jefferson as a destination, but to inspire the communities they come from with a love of STEM."

Every year the school has a "One Question" that students, faculty and staff try to answer with their work throughout the year. This year's question, "How can we, the TJ community, take action to help prepare students to confront difficult moral and ethical decisions, both now and in the future?" was submitted by senior Andrew Martin.

"I'm inspired every single day by the students and the teachers here, they're constantly on the cutting edge of whatever they're working on," Glazer said.

This year's \$252.7 million school bond referendum that will be on the ballots for the Nov. 8 election includes \$84.6 million for a renovation of Thomas Jefferson.

"Our building is way past due for improvements and our community is very excited and grateful at the prospect of being able to attend classes and work in a school that is up-to-date and designed for our unique needs," said Denise Bunting, president of the Thomas Jefferson PTSA.

More information on Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology can be found at www.tjhsst.edu.

Teaching the Love of Learning

High schools' principals reflect on challenges, priorities this year.



Dr. John Banbury, Principal, Oakton High School

"This school year, Oakton High School will emphasize real-world and interdisciplinary connections to foster a greater sense of purpose for our students. This goal will require a cultural shift for the entire community of Oakton High School: we must focus on the ultimate goal of learning rather than grades as ends in themselves.

On the evenings of March 20-22, we will host an Exhibition of Learning wherein students will showcase their work to our community. We invite you to join us for this open house in support of our focus on relevant, twenty-first century education. Look for more details to come."



Mark Merrell, Principal, James Madison High School

"With any new school year the challenge is to get the year off to a positive start and to help with the transition of new students into the school. With physical space limited, and the student population hovering around 2,000 we continue to face the challenges of large classes and the inability to place students in some classes due to our space limitations.

Our single most important priority is to continue to provide a challenging curriculum for our students and to seek to maximize their achievement in all courses. We continue to seek and provide new opportunities for students by offering new courses such as AP Economics, Chinese, and Oceanography.

We are excited about the start of school, and based on my conversations with students and staff the past few weeks they are excited and enthusiastic about the start of the new year as well."



Jay W. Pearson, Principal, George C. Marshall High School

"Marshall enters a new school year with two significant changes. Over the summer, work started on the building expansion and renovation project. Students, parents, and staff will see a change in their routines with the addition of 26 trailers behind the building and the relocation of some staff members to new locations around the building. Everyone will need to be flexible, adaptable, and patient as the project moves forward.

A second change for the coming school year is a new bell schedule. After eight years with Lunch and Learn, population growth and the renovation necessitated a change. Students now have four 45-minute Learn periods each week and a separate 30-minute lunch each day.

Our teacher collaboration is now held on Wednesday, not Friday. Change is never easy. However, I am confident students, parents, and staff will adjust as we remain focused on high levels of achievement for all of our students."

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WELLBEING

Who Makes Cancer Research Possible?

An invitation to get involved.

BY JEAN CARD
THE CONNECTION

How does a relatively shy person ask friends and family, let alone complete strangers, to donate their hard-earned dollars? We are all asked many times over to give to worthy causes. How do you ask people to make your cause their priority? I'm trying to figure that out right now.

In February, I was diagnosed with Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia (APL). It was quite a ride, but today I am in remission with fantastic prospects for a "normal" future. I am incredibly lucky.

It started with a lot of unexplained bruising ... actually two matching bruises on the back of my hands. A couple of weeks later, my partner Stuart pointed out a massive bruise that covered my entire lower back; so on a Monday morning I went in for a routine blood test.

That evening, I received a phone call from the advice nurse. After what seemed like a million questions, she had me go to the emergency room, with the following admonishments: I was not to drive myself, I was not to use anything sharp and I was under no circumstances to fall down. I had almost no platelets, the type of blood cells that clot, and so was at risk of severe, potentially life-threatening bleeding.

I was sent home that night with an appointment for a bone marrow biopsy in the morning. Everything seemed to go fine with the biopsy; we stopped for some lunch and by the time I got home, I was gushing blood from my biopsy site. While I was in the process of calling to find out what to do, the triage nurse from the oncology practice called to say they were booking a room for me in the hospital for transfusions. My platelets had dropped even more and I had absolutely no immunity to anything (my kind of leukemia features white blood cells that do not mature properly to provide natural protection to infection). I would probably be home that evening, she said, but pack a bag, just in case it ends up being overnight. One day shy of four weeks later, I left the hospital.

When I left the hospital, because I was immunocompromised I saw very few people, beyond my family; I saw friends a couple of times when I had confirmed my counts were good and they definitely felt healthy; had to limit what I ate (nothing fresh and uncooked); and avoided a lot of places, especially crowds. I was home from work for almost six months.

I am incredibly lucky. I responded to all treatments as expected and tolerated much of the chemotherapy with relatively mild side effects — at least as far as anything I have to compare it to. But there are many, many families still looking for their luck: the discovery that will make treatment easier, or more effective,

or less scary.

In the case of APL, it turns out a form of super-charged vitamin A is the miracle drug. My mother and I have had more than one conversation about how it's possible for someone to figure that out. Who comes up with an idea like that? Who keeps coming up with the ideas to try this or that, in this or that combo, for this or that duration?

And it seemed like I had the most bizarre, specific chemotherapy treatment (it appears all cancers have their own bizarre, specific treatments ... I didn't know that before). Four days of one medication intravenously, every other day. A month later, four days, in a row, of the same medication, at half the dose; then a month later, three days, in a row, of a different medication. And finally a month later, two days, in a row, of the original medication at the original dose. All the while, still taking my super-charged vitamin A.

And now I have an equally bizarre, specific maintenance routine. For four 90-day cycles I will take nine pills (five in the morning, four in the evening, with food) for the first 15 days. For all 90 days I will take another medication once a day (four pills, on an empty stomach) and once a week I will take another medication (12 pills, because it only comes in a small dosage, also on an empty stomach). Who figures this out so that I can have the best prospects for a leukemia-free future?

I guess I don't really care who, I just care that someone does. I care that they have money to fund research. I care that amazing ideas keep happening. I care that miracles keep coming our way.

So, here I am, asking for your hard-earned dollars: My team, The APL Dumpling Gang (named after a favorite childhood movie), will

be walking in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's annual Light The Night walk at Reston Town Center on Oct. 1.

I hope you'll support my "gang." I know we all get lots of requests for a variety of causes to support ... so no pressure to make this particular one your priority. But, if you are looking for a place to put that \$5, \$10, or \$25 donation, please send it our way.

Or, just as important as finding new miracles, share one you already have at no cost: donate blood or platelets. I always knew it mattered, but until I was watching bag after bag going into my body, helping save my life, I didn't really know. Visit <http://www.redcrossblood.org/gcp> or www.inova.org and click Get Involved and then Blood Donor Services.

Learn more about the event or The APL Dumpling Gang at www.lighththenight.org, click on Donate, and search Jean Card or APL Dumpling Gang.

And if you'd like to know more about my personal adventures with leukemia, e-mail me at jjcard@connectionnewspapers.com.

Jean Card is production manager at Connection Newspapers. She lives in McLean.

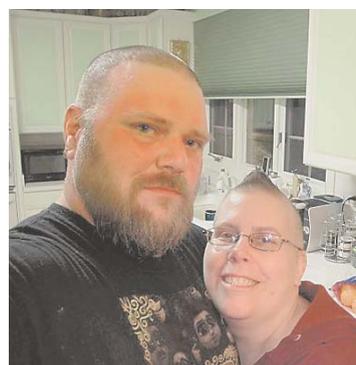


PHOTO BY STUART MOLL

Stuart Moll and Jean Card. "Stuart cut his waist-length hair to support me, while I took the opportunity to play around as my hair thinned dramatically during chemotherapy treatment for leukemia. Happily, all the gray went first, and has yet to come back."



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COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Children Serve Lemonade for Flood Victims

Several Vienna children set up a lemonade stand Sunday, Sept. 4, to generate donations for Hurricane Irene flood victims. "The kids have wanted to set up a lemonade stand for a while, and they decided they wanted to help people impacted by the recent hurricane," said mom Sandra Williams. Alina and Bennett Williams (center) set up the free lemonade stand in Cedar Pond, and handed out drinks to thirsty neighbors, including Wolfi Gottshalk (left) and Tatiana Spengler (right). "We made the lemonade ourselves. Everyone liked it," said Bennett Williams, 5, who enters kindergarten at Oakton Elementary School on Sept. 6. The young entrepreneurs served generous neighbors and other children for several hours.

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Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

**The Brothers Cazimero with
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www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 8

**Murphy's Kids, Future and Teddy
and the Purple Funk.** 8 p.m.
Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E.,
Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

**"A Funny Thing Happened On the
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Musical comedy about mistaken
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703-615-6626 or zbleck@aol.com.

**Vienna Arts Society Monthly
Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Vienna Art
Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW,
Vienna. With a demonstration of still
life oil painting by Jill Banks. Free
and open to the public. 703-319-
3971 www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Judy Collins with Shawn Mullins.
8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the
Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road,



"On the Half Shell," pen and ink by Teresa Ahmad. There
will be an Awards Reception on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 6-
8 p.m. at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. N.W. in
Vienna, for "Square It!," a display of original art judged
by Lynn Goldstein. The exhibit will be on display through
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703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

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SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 15



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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 14

North Center St, Vienna. Grilled rib-eye steak, baked potato and salad. \$9. 703-938-9535.

Banjo Man. 10:30 a.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

We Were Kings CD Release and Dance Party, Big Hurry and Breaking Borders. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

"A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum." 8 p.m. James Lee Community Center, 2855-A Annandale Road, Falls Church. Musical comedy about mistaken identity and young love. \$6-\$15. 703-615-6626 or zbleck@aol.com.

"Don't Dress for Dinner, or Pajamas for Six." 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tyson's Corner. A farce by Marc Camoletti about mistaken identity and infidelities with more twists than a corkscrew. Tickets \$25. www.1ststagejtsos.org/jeeves or 703-854-1856.

Koi and Bonsai Show. 12-4 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Koi displays, judging, informational

seminars, pond and koi vendors. Bonsai will also be on display. Free and open to the public. 703-255-3631.

Eddie from Ohio with Martin Sexton. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. From folk to alternative to 1940s jazz. \$35 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

Ongoing Book Sale. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Adjacent to the information desk on first floor. 703-293-6227.

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Learn and play. Age 5-18. 703-938-0405.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 10

Virginia Indian Festival and Showcase for Native Arts. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Members of seven native tribes present a cultural demonstration of the arts and their ancient way of life. Tribal dancing, rhythmic drumming, pottery, crafts, food, hands-on activities and more. Use chopping tools to help build a dug-out canoe,

hit the mark at the archery range or throw spears with the atlatl. Admission \$5. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend/ or 703-759-9018.

Championship Boxing. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Jimmy Lange to fight Raul Muñoz for WBU title. Tickets \$35-\$500, available at www.ticketmaster.com and 703-573-SEAT.

James Madison High School Marching Band Tag Day. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Instrumentalists, drum line and color guard members will walk through neighborhoods in the Madison school district handing out Tags with details about this year's competitions and concerts. Money raised on Tag Day helps pay for competition and travel fees, instruments, uniforms and more. Contributions can be mailed to James Madison High School Band Parents, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna Va. 22181. www.jmhsband.org.

Kids Show: The Dignity Dudes. 10:30 a.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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Moss at 7 p.m., River City Extension and Mokey Dorris at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

"A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum." 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. James Lee Community Center, 2855-A Annandale Road, Falls Church. Musical comedy about mistaken identity and young love. \$6-\$15. 703-615-6626 or zbleck@aol.com.

"Don't Dress for Dinner, or Pajamas for Six." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tyson's Corner. A farce by Marc Camoletti about mistaken identity and infidelities with more twists than a corkscrew. Tickets \$25. www.1ststagejtsos.org/jeeves or 703-854-1856.

Ferns for Beginners. 10 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Tour Meadowlark's fern collection and learn about their life cycles, propagation, and identification. Free with paid admission. Reserve at 703-255-3631 ext. 0.

Koi and Bonsai Show. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna.

Koi displays, judging, informational seminars, pond and koi vendors. Bonsai will also be on display. Free and open to the public. 703-255-3631.

Sing-A-Long Sound of Music. 7 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. A screening of the classic Julie Andrews musical, complete with subtitles so that the audience can sing along. Tickets from \$15-\$38. www.wolftrap.org.

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. Cosponsored by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service. 703-242-4020.

Ongoing Book Sale. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Adjacent to the information desk on first floor. 703-293-6227.

Working Moms of McLean, Falls Church and Arlington. 11 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Working moms get together to meet new moms and interact with our children. 703-356-0770.

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Vienna Football Rivalry Has New Look This Season

Both Madison and Oakton have new head coaches.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The Madison versus Oakton High football rivalry took on a new look this past Friday night, Sept. 2 as the two Vienna-area opponents met in the annual Outback Bowl game to open up the new season.

Both teams, which have known good success over the years in their respective districts — Madison in the Liberty, Oakton in the Concorde — feature new head coaches this season. Jason Rowley, a longtime Oakton assistant under former head coach Joe Thompson, is now at the helm of the Cougars' program. At Madison, former assistant Lenny Schultz has taken over the Warhawks' program following the off-season departure of Gordon Lieb, now the head coach at Paul VI High in Fairfax.

Both Schultz, a 1983 Madison High graduate, and Rowley, a 1994 Oakton graduate, are naturally looking to put their marks on their respective programs.

In Friday's opener, Oakton overcame an early deficit and went on to defeat the visiting Warhawks, 55-17, to retain possession of the Outback trophy.

"It was an exciting night for the entire Oakton High School community," said Rowley, a former Oakton offensive lineman and linebacker who played under Bob Herb for two years and Pete Bendorf for one. "Joe [Thompson] was here a long time and did an excellent job. I was with him his entire tenure. Now there is a sense that this is something new. It was great to see the student body out there [on Friday]. It was an exciting night of football all around."

Both teams played with heart, passion, and energy to give fans a preview of what lies ahead.

THE BEGINNING of the game reflected everything the Madison coaches and players have worked for over the summer. On the third play of the game, Madison junior running back Jacob Hall broke to the out-



Oakton quarterback Tuck Masker threw two touchdown passes in the Cougars' season opening win over Madison Sept. 2.

side and sprinted down the sideline for a 56-yard touchdown to begin the scoring. Then in a bold move, Coach Schultz called for an onside kick that Mo Salarkia recovered for Madison in Oakton territory. When the ensuing drive stalled, Nick Dorka added a 44-yard field goal to give the Warhawks an early 10-0 lead and put Oakton on its heels.

Oakton, however came back strong with two first-quarter scores of its own — the first on a 15-yard scoring pass from senior quarterback Tuck Masker to senior receiver Stephen Lambrides, and the latter the result of an electric 76-yard punt return by junior Andy Boone. On the key special teams play, Boone utilized outstanding blocks from teammates Brian Burns and Jack Hollingsworth in helping him get to the end zone. Burns followed the score with his second point after touchdown kick and Oakton led 14-10.

"I think Andy Boone's punt return for a touchdown set the momentum for us," said Rowley. "He took a chance. The ball hit the ground; he went back and scooped it up. Our players stayed with [the return], we got good blocking and Andy stayed in the lane."

Madison regained the lead, 17-14, in the second quarter on a four-yard scoring run by Hall. But the Cougars scored consecutive touchdowns — the first coming on a 24-yard scoring run by junior running back Mike Wandey, and the second score on a 23-yard pass play from Masker to senior receiver Ryan Santoro — as Oakton built a 27-17 halftime lead.

"It was an exciting night for the entire Oakton High School community."

—Oakton High Coach Jason Rowley

Thereafter, it was all Oakton in the second half as the Cougars scored two touchdowns in both the third and fourth quarters. Oakton got second half scoring runs from Wandey (7 yards out) and junior Kyle Downer (5 and 70 yard runs). The Cougars also scored a defensive touchdown as a result of a 48-yard interception return by senior linebacker C.J. Reimann.

"Their [physical] size just caught up to us," said Schultz, of Madison's difficult sec-

ond half. "They are a bigger and better team than us right now. But we'll get there. Oakton is an experienced team with a good, young coach."

Both Wandey (175 rushing yards) and Downer (112) had big rushing games for Oakton. Madison, with junior quarterback Dan Powers running the offense, also had success on the ground behind Hall (75 yards), Nick Hoy (64) and Grant Hofmann (41).

"Madison certainly took the game to us early," said Rowley. "They had a good game plan and got up 10-0. But we never panicked. All things considered, I thought we came out and played a solid football game. We didn't play as well as we could play but we played hard."

COACH ROWLEY said the Oakton-Madison rivalry is a friendly one.

"The town of Vienna really loves the rivalry," he said. "It's a friendly rivalry. For us at Oakton, we certainly root for Madison every other week of the season. My wife's a teacher at Madison."

Schultz, the Madison coach, said the Warhawks have shown good improvement over the course of training camp and on into the start of the season.

"We keep getting better every day," he said. "I'm proud of the way we fought [in the Oakton game]."

Schultz, who was a fullback/defensive end for Madison teams that won consecutive Great Falls District titles in the early 1980s, loved the experience of his first game as Madison's head coach on Friday.

"It was awesome and it's a great feeling to have a big part in what your kids are doing," he said. "I want to put my stamp on things."

Schultz said Mark Gjormand, the football team's associate head coach, has been a tremendous influence and support to him this fall. Gjormand is Madison's baseball coach in the spring and has led the Warhawks to vast success over the years on the diamond.

"He's built a top-ranked program in baseball and we want the same thing in football," said Schultz. "We're working to get there."

Madison will play its home opener this Friday night against visiting Woodson. Oakton, meanwhile, will host South County this Friday.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

NoVa West Lacrosse is accepting registrations for the 2011 Indoor Lacrosse League, which opens play Oct. 7. The league is accepting both team and individual registrations but space is limited. Register at <http://www.novawestlax.com/register>. The league is held indoors at the Purcellville Sports Pavilion.

The Herndon High girls' field hockey team will host its 16th Annual Herndon Invitational Field Hockey Tournament Friday, Sept. 9

and Saturday, Sept. 10. Friday evening's game action will run from 5 to 10 p.m., while Saturday's games will begin at 9 a.m. and run throughout the day with final games set to start at 3:30 p.m. There will be eight teams competing: Marshall; Stonewall Jackson (Manassas); Tabb High (Bay Rivers District); Yorktown; host Herndon, under the direction of head coach Phyllis Rojko Pearce; Lake Braddock; Osbourn Park (Manassas); and Wakefield. The tournament format will be pool play

leading up to a championship round bracket. The cost to attend the tournament is \$5 for one day and \$9 for a two-day pass. Proceeds from the tournament will go towards the Herndon Field Hockey program. For more information on the tournament, go to <https://sites.google.com/site/herndonfhtournament>.

The annual Parker Monroe Invitational high school cross country event will take place on Saturday,

Sept. 10 at Burke Lake Park. There will be both girls' and boys' races throughout the morning/early afternoon. Most of the teams throughout the Northern Region will be on hand for the Invitational, which is the official kickoff meet of the fall season.

Potomac Inline Hockey in Chantilly has opened youth league registration for the fall season that starts on Sept. 8. Registration can be done online at

www.potomachockey.com. Email youth@potomachockey.com or call 703-961-8280 for full details. Potomac Inline Hockey is also offering free year-round, learn to play lessons for youngsters who are interested in playing inline hockey. Lessons are held on Saturday mornings from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at The Box in Chantilly. Registration can be done online at www.potomachockey.com. Contact youth@potomachockey.com or call 703-961-8280 for full details.

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REMEMBERING 9/11

2, 4, 6, 8; Who Do I Appreciate?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



My parents. Why? Aside from all the obvious reasons; the trigger, most recently, was the television coverage of the Little League World Series on ESPN in August and seeing the parents in the grandstands watching their children play baseball. Not that any of the teams I played on ever made it to a Regional-type Championship, but I had my share of success – as a poised, right-handed, non-power pitcher. I made All-Star teams and pitched for City Championships on and off throughout my “wonder years.” And my parents accommodated that pursuit: planning meals early or late, depending; being driven to and from (and/or making the necessary pick-up, delivery and return-home arrangements); providing the required hardware (bats, balls, gloves, spikes, hats, uniforms, etc.) and most importantly, having a father who, whenever possible, was happiest being my primary practice partner: playing catch by the side of the house or hitting me grounders and fly balls while I stood up against the backstop at my Junior High School.

My father loved to watch me play baseball. (My mother was “too nervous about watching me,” she always said, and rarely attended – which I certainly understood.) My father more than made up for her absence, however. Whenever his work schedule allowed, there he was, front and center in the grandstands, encouraging me from a distance when I was pitching, and up close and personal between innings when I wasn’t, when he would come over to the team’s bench to talk with me – and offer more encouragement. Everybody knew Barry Lourie: the coaches, my teammates, even some of my opponents, and maybe a few of the umpires. (However, he never crossed the line; he wasn’t one of “those” parents.) If I was pitching, my father was sitting in the stands. I could always count on him being there.

Watching the Little League World Series these past few weeks evoked memories of a well-spent youth, centered around baseball. There was success and failure, the pursuit of a common goal, the melding together and camaraderie of a team, and most importantly, the involvement of my parents, especially my father. And 45 years later, baseball remains one of the most important aspects of my life. Throw in a cancer diagnosis and deceased parents – for a little context, and you see the past and your present priorities clearer than you ever have.

The “Baseball, Ray ...” speech by Terrance Mann (James Earl Jones) spoken in the movie, “Field of Dreams” sums up the emotion and connection of baseball between the generations far better than I ever could. Suffice is to say: It mattered to my father, it matters to me (if I had children, no doubt it would matter to them), and the longer I survive a terminal diagnosis/prognosis (stage IV lung cancer), the more I remember – and savor – the moments that matter to me. A significant portion of these moments included baseball and/or my father, all of which came rushing back to me while watching the kids – and parents, at the 2011 Little League World Series.

If I saw my father sitting/standing on the grandstands watching me pitch once, I must have seen him there 100 times – literally, from my age nine through 18; every spring beginning with Little League, through High School and during the summers as well on miscellaneous Babe Ruth League teams.

I was there. He was there. We were there. No wonder I miss him.

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

Vienna Doctor Helps in Mass Fatality Identification

FROM PAGE 4

By the evening of Sept. 11, the team was mobilized. Arendt knew he needed 21st century technology — computers, programmers and imaging equipment — to facilitate the identification process.

“In my mind, I knew what I wanted to do,” said Arendt. “I was thinking, ‘how am I going to do what I want to do without knowing if we would have the needed equipment and manpower?’”

Arendt came home to Vienna briefly on Sept. 11 and left early in the morning of Sept. 12 for Dover Air Force Base, gearing up for the arrival of bodies. Before he left the Institute on the day of the attack, Arendt had contacted a network of medical specialists and computer architects. Schick Technologies donated computer X-ray sensors and provided training to the Dover specialists. The initial teams trained a second set of teams to relieve the first.

As Arendt drove up to Dover Air Force Base, he was stunned by the security there. “For the first time in my life, there was a half-track with a machine gun pointing at me when I drove up.” The pathologist captured that pivotal moment in a photograph.

Every day until the identification process was closed, Arendt drove from Vienna to the Dover Tri Service Port Mortuary at 4:30 in the morning. He arrived home at 9 p.m.

At the Port Mortuary, the forensic team

accepted 192 deceased from the Pentagon attack. Of those, 126 were identified from the Pentagon, and 60 of the 62 American Airlines passengers were identified. The hijackers were identified. The two passengers not identified were children.

Arendt takes no credit away from first responders who risk their lives, but, he wants people to understand the critical role of players in mass fatality identification. “Port Mortuary people are the forgotten people,” said Arendt. “Mass fatality identification is hard on them and their families. They deserve so much credit for what they do, and, usually, these people aren’t usually recognized for what they do.” He called himself just one of hundreds of people, a network of dedicated specialists, doing their jobs to identify victims. “The specialists do whatever is humanly possible to give closure to families, to give them confidence they are burying their loved one.

“They feel guilty if they can’t make an ID.”

SINCE THE DAY on Sept. 12, 2001 that Arendt found unused space at the port mortuary and turned it into a computer center, the Dover Tri Service Port Mortuary has embraced technology. “They took a lot of the lessons we learned at 9/11 and they’ve built a state-of-the-art facility at Dover since. I’m proud I was a part of that movement to

help them move in that direction.”

One difference between the Pentagon mission and others Arendt had participated in was that the Pentagon disaster was more personalized. “Other missions, you fly in, do your job and then leave.

“But, living here you see the photos and the bios every day, maybe you know their families, and you’re on a mission to identify their remains. You couldn’t disassociate yourself. Seeing the pictures and the remains, it was more like it was one of your own loved ones.”

When Arendt retired from the U.S. Navy in 2008, he set up his oral and maxillofacial pathology laboratory on Church Street in Vienna, not far from his home. Although he focuses primarily on oral pathology in his clinical medical laboratory, he has, on occasion, been called in by prosecutors in Virginia to do forensic work in criminal investigations.

Throughout his naval career, Arendt was called upon time and time again to perform forensic analysis of remains. The pieces of his personal history are greater than the sum of its parts.

“All I saw makes me constantly lecture my children, ‘find something in every day that’s good. Eat dessert first. Life is so short, unpredictable. It’s special, it’s worth being alive. Don’t waste your life. Grab at something every day.’”

Remembering Mark Ryan McGinly

FROM PAGE 3

The fundraiser golf tournament was last held in 2006, and over the five years it was held, the tournament and accompanying events raised \$550,000. Recipients of the scholarship were those applicants who epitomized the character and attributes of Mark. A good student who never told his friends he was in the National Honor Society. A good athlete who captained his sports teams in high school and college. Cramp was on the selection committee.

Recipients were like Mark, said his father. “It’s for the kids struggling away every day, making a contribution to their school. The amazing part is that Mark was only 5’9”, 5’10”, and he played basketball.”

“The scholarship was a good thing to do for a best friend,” said Cramp. “It was a way to perpetuate how he lived his life. I understand what the McGinly’s are going through.”

In 2011, the McGinly scholarship gave out \$50,000 to graduating seniors going on to higher education.

“We stopped because it was really tough on us,” said Bill McGinly. “It was too much to maintain, the emotional part of it was.”

Mark McGinly played youth sports in Vienna, in high school and in college. He played on Madison’s championship golf teams in 1990 and 1992, and captained the team in 1993. He played golf at Bucknell



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Bill McGinly reminisced about the short life of his son Mark Ryan, killed in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11. Bill wears a sterling silver bracelet, created and donated by a New York City jeweler, inscribed with Mark’s name. His wife, Patty, wears one, as well.

University all four years and was captain of the team in 1997.

ALTHOUGH THE “26 FOREVER” memorial scholarship is being closed out, Mark McGinly’s legacy lives through a McGinly family-sponsored endowment at Bucknell University where Mark graduated, and at Madison High School. Madison’s golf team sponsors an annual golf tournament in Mark’s name that benefits the athletics department at the school.

At Westwood Country Club in Vienna, in the patch where the flags stand, a plaque is inscribed in memory of Mark McGinly, the teen who played on the club’s junior team. Whenever Cramp is in Vienna, he tries to stop by the memorial at Westwood.

Living in New York City, Mark didn’t have a special girl but did have a lot of girls who were special, his father said. Mark’s old friends tell Bill McGinly when they are stumped about something to do, they frequently ask, “what would Mark do.”

Bill McGinly noted that Mark’s friends have built lives, started families, all the things that Mark never lived to do. Cramp is married with two young children and the raw pain of losing a best friend in a terrorist attack has colored Cramp’s world.

“Each and every day I tell my family and friends how much I love and miss them. I just wish I had one last opportunity to say it to Mark.”

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