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Santa Comes Roaring

NEWS, PAGE 16

Santa Claus arrives at INOVA Fairfax Hospital for Children on Dec. 14. He will deliver toys collected from police stations, government agencies, elementary schools and some businesses throughout Fairfax County to patients. The event is part of the 25th Annual Santa's Ride for Children.

Helping Neighbors, Respectfully

NEWS, PAGE 8

The Gift Of Giving

NEWS, PAGE 4

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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 15 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 17

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NEWS



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova addressed attendees at the Inauguration Ceremony held at the Fairfax County Government Center on Dec. 13.

County Officials Inaugurated

All local elected officials will take office on Jan. 1, 2012.

The inauguration ceremony on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the Fairfax County Government Center for the 15 recently-elected officials was filled with all the pomp and circumstance of any official celebration.

“Almost three years ago when I addressed you for the first time as your chairman, it was to a backdrop of troubled and uncertain times,” Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-a-large) told the crowd of several hundred spectators in her inaugural address. “The world and our nation were reeling from a breakdown in our lending and financial institutions that was unprecedented in most of our lifetimes. Fairfax County, along with all state and local governments in the U.S., was seriously affected by this downturn,” she said.

In addition the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County constitutional officers, and the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District directors all took their oath of office.

FAIRFAX CIRCUIT Court Judge Jan L. Brodie administered the oath of office to Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and 14 other elected officials, who each swore to support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The ceremony also included musical performances by harpist Christine Van Dyke from Fairfax County’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, the Frost Middle School Advanced Symphonic Orchestra, Langley High School Madrigals, South County Secondary School Chamber Orchestra and Captain Matthew Lopez of the Northern Virginia Firefighter’s Emerald Society Pipe Band.

The colors were presented by the Fairfax County Public Safety Honor Guard and PFC Laura Redman of the Fairfax County Police Department sang the national anthem. The evening concluded with a reception.



Fairfax County Board of Supervisor Chairman Sharon Bulova is sworn in by the Hon. Jan Brodie, Judge of the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, for a four-year term as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Sworn In

In addition to Bulova, the district supervisors installed were:

- ❖ John C. Cook, Braddock District
- ❖ John W. Foust, Dranesville District
- ❖ Michael R. Frey, Sully District
- ❖ Penelope A. Gross, Mason District
- ❖ Pat Herrity, Springfield District
- ❖ Catherine M. Hudgins, Hunter Mill District
- ❖ Gerald W. Hyland, Mount Vernon District
- ❖ Jeff C. McKay, Lee District
- ❖ Linda Q. Smyth, Providence District

The constitutional officer installed was:

- ❖ Raymond F. Morrogh, Commonwealth’s Attorney

The three directors of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District installed were:

- ❖ Johna Good Gagnon
- ❖ George W. Lamb
- ❖ John W. Peterson

Stan G. Barry, sheriff, was not available and will be sworn in at a later date.

The ceremony will be rebroadcast on Fairfax County Government Channel 16 at 8 p.m. on Dec. 21 and 24.

“The ceremony was beautiful and I especially enjoyed the high school musical performances. What a great way to begin this four-year term,” Bulova said after the ceremony.

All elected officials will take office on Jan. 1, 2012.

— VICTORIA ROSS

Supervisors Reflect on Inauguration Ceremony



John Cook (R-Braddock)

“I was pleased to be there and thank the people of the Braddock District for the opportunity to serve. There are a number of important, long-term issues we need to address, and I look forward to being actively involved in the discussion. And, of course, I look forward to continuing our important work helping Braddock neighborhoods reach their full potential and pursue their dreams.”



Pat Herrity (R-Springfield)

“It was both a nice and historic ceremony. The fact that this was the first time an entire Board of Supervisors was reelected made the event enjoyable, relaxed and historic. The performances by the musicians from our county schools were outstanding and added a lot to the ceremony.”



Jeff McKay (D-Lee)

“It’s always very moving to see our democracy in action. I think of all the places in the world where people risk their lives to vote and I say a small prayer of thanks.”

Iyanna Sapp (center) helps volunteers Peggy Bullocks (left) and Mary Ferguson (right) make bows for gifts at FACETS annual Holiday Sibling Shop at Robinson Square Community Center on Wednesday, Dec. 14. "This shows you how much children appreciate the gift of giving, and not just receiving," said Bullocks.



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/ THE CONNECTION



Diane Sapp of Fairfax celebrates the season of giving with daughter Iyanna, 9, at FACETS Holiday Sibling Shop party held at Robinson Square Community Center on Wednesday, Dec. 14.

The Gift of Giving

FACETS' Hosts Holiday Sibling Shops for local children.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

The old adage "Tis better to give than to receive" was put into action last week when FACETS, a local non-profit, hosted its 11th annual "Holiday Sibling Shops," giving needy children the chance to shop for Christmas gifts for their siblings.

FACETS (Fairfax Area Christian Emergency & Transitional Services), helped make the season brighter for more than 200 local children who are homeless or live in transitional housing by hosting "shopping" parties that let children pick out presents for their brothers and sisters.

"Seeing children experience the joy of the holiday season, and the sense of pride and accomplishment they get from giving a gift is beautiful. It's really what the season is all about," said Mary Ferguson of Fairfax, one of the volunteer gift-wrapping "elves" at the Dec. 14 party for residents of Robinson Square community in Fairfax. "Several children helped me make bows, because they wanted to be elves too."

"Families who are poor or trapped in the cycle of poverty often struggle with the need to maintain their dignity," said Amanda Andere, FACETS executive director. "The holidays and gift-giving add to the pressure. These events help empower children to experience the joy of giving and make the season special."

DURING THE MONTH of November, FACETS collects donations from individuals, corporations and faith communities who provide hundreds of gifts for children of all age groups. Amerigroup, a healthcare company based in Vienna, partnered with FACETS this year and donated refreshments, crafts and gift wrap, said Sara Knopp, the company's community relations representative.

"Seeing children experience the joy of the holiday season, and the sense of pride and accomplishment they get from giving a gift, is beautiful. It's really what the season is all about."

— Mary Ferguson, one of FACETS volunteer gift-wrapping "elves"

"I've never seen such a special event. The children's faces just light up when they pick out a present for their brother or sister," Knopp said.

Nearly 100 children attended the festive party at Robinson Square Community Center near George Mason University on Wednesday, Dec. 14, one of four parties hosted by FACETS last week.

Children ate pizza, popcorn and cupcakes, made holiday crafts and listened to holiday music in the party room until a Christmas elf called their number to pick out a special gift.

"Wow, look at all this stuff," said Demetrius Mason, 4, when his gift consultant took him back to the shopping rooms. Several tables overflowed with soccer balls, books, handbags, perfume, cosmetics, dolls, stuffed animals, gift cards and other gifts, and Demetrius was having a hard time deciding on a gift for his 9-year-old sister, Elise.

"This is a really great event," said mom Angie Mason. "Gifts are so expensive, and frankly, we wouldn't be able to do this without FACETS."

Mary Supply Foxworthy, assistant director of development for FACETS, said the donated gifts allow low-income families the opportunity to give a gift, and have money for basics, such as rent, food, clothing and transportation. "This is a great community event, and gives parents a chance to have some holiday fun with their children."

ROBINSON SQUARE is one of several affordable-housing communities in Fairfax County that FACETS provides services to, including educational, life skills and career counseling programs to help families break the cycle of poverty. Founded in 1988, FACETS helps approximately 5,000 individuals each year meet their emergency shelter, food, and medical needs, helping them gain safe, sustainable and permanent housing. To learn more about FACETS and ways to volunteer or donate, visit www.Facetscares.org.



Michelle Hopper and Shaquitta King of Amerigroup and Ian Pich of FACETS served as "gift-shopping" elves, helping children pick out gifts for their siblings during FACETS Holiday Sibling Shop held at Robinson Square Community Center on Wednesday, Dec. 14.



Sara Knopp and Adrian Adams, of Amerigroup, display the cupcakes given to children at FACETS annual Holiday Sibling Shop at Robinson Square Community Center on Wednesday, Dec. 14. Amerigroup, a healthcare company based in Vienna, partnered with FACETS to provide the refreshments, crafts and wrapping paper for the annual event.

Police Encourage SoberRide

The City of Fairfax Police Department reminds all drivers to consider all options available before drinking and making the decision to drive during the holiday season. Making arrangements in advance to rely on a designated driver, calling a cab, or spending the night all are alternatives police recommend to help prevent tragedies resulting from impaired driving.

Police encourage local residents to use the SoberRide program offered by the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP). SoberRide allows for free taxi rides (up to a \$30 fare) from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m., starting Friday, Dec. 16, and continuing through Sunday morning, Jan. 1, 2012.

To take advantage of the program, call 1-800-200-8294 (TAXI) or #8294 for customers of AT&T wireless telephones to request a cab ride as an alternative to driving after drinking. People must be 21 or older to use SoberRide.

Adopt a Shelter Animal

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter has launched "Operation Empty Cage" as part of its "Home 4 the Holidays" adoption push. One goal is to empty the shelter's cages by finding a home for each animal available for adoption.

As part of this event, the shelter — at 4500 West Ox Road in Fairfax — will offer free spay/neuter for the first 100 dogs and cats adopted from it until Dec. 31. Animals available for adoption at the shelter may be seen Tuesdays through Fridays, noon-7 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call 703-830-1100.

Community Choir Coming to Clifton

Do you like to sing? Have you been looking for a way to show off your voice in your own community in the New Year? A community choir is coming to Clifton, and we are looking for people of all ages to join. Our music selection will range from folk to modern to pop, and all styles in between. If you are interested in making your new year more in tune with the musical side of you, then come see what we are about. Email Helen Santoro at helentsantoro@gmail.com for more info, including info sessions and starting dates."



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Share Your New Year's Resolutions

What were top events, accomplishments of 2011 in your opinion?

This is the last regular edition of the Connection for 2011. Between Christmas and New Year's, we'll deliver the Children's Connection, an annual tradition, with pages filled with the artwork and writing of local students.

Meanwhile, we are preparing for the first issue of 2012, sharing views of what were the most important happenings of 2011 and what to look for in 2012. We'll also share a variety of New Year's resolutions. We invite our readers to help in this endeavor.

For some, local elections were likely the top

event of 2011. For advocates of families of the fallen, like the Tragedy Assistance Program (TAPS), the end of 2011 brings the end of the Iraq war and the complex emotional and practical issues that come with that. For non-profits and charitable organizations, 2011 brought greatly increasing numbers of people in need. For your family, the top events of 2011 might have included the birth of a child or a graduation or the completion of a marathon.

Share your joys and milestones with us, not only from the year that's past, but also your expectations of 2012.

Answer one or all of these questions:

1) What were the (one, two or three) most significant happenings of 2011 for you in your community? Why?

2) What do you think our readers should

know to watch for in the coming year (up to three issues)? Or what do you think the top (one, two or three) happenings of 2012 will be locally? Why?

3) What is your New Year's Resolution? (Feel free to share more than one)

Please include your home address with your responses, we'll only print your town name. And we'd also love to have a photo of you, your family and/or events or places in your community that you reflect upon in your answer.

Please send photos and answers via email. For McLean, Vienna/Oakton, Great Falls, Reston, Oak Hill/Herndon, Springfield, Burke, Fairfax, Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton, send to Kemal Kurspahic, kemal@connectionnewspapers.com.

For Arlington, Alexandria, Mount Vernon, the Centre View area or Potomac, email to Steven Mauren, smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Free, Safe Ride Home from Holiday Celebrations

Once again, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program will provide a safety net for those who might celebrate the holiday season with alcohol and unexpectedly need a safe ride home.

WRAP's 2011 Holiday SoberRide program will operate each night from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. The program began Friday, Dec. 16,

and will continue until Jan. 1, 2012.

To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294 (TAXI). You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service. All requests for SoberRide service must be called to and dispatched from 1-800-200-8294. Callers will be responsible for any amount over \$30.

WRAP's SoberRide has helped to ensure lo-

cal residents have a safe way home on high-risk holidays, keeping likely impaired drivers off the roads. Since 1993, WRAP has provided nearly 53,000 safe rides home. SoberRide operates during the December/January holiday season, St. Patrick's Day, Independence Day and Halloween.

For details, see <http://wrap.org/soberride>

A Nonpartisan Redistricting Opportunity

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)

I have repeatedly advocated nonpartisan redistricting. I believe that our current redistricting system is at the heart of political gridlock in Washington and Richmond. Thanks to power software, today politicians pick their voters instead of voters picking their politicians. We also have a system designed to minimize public input and maximize incumbent protection. However, in January, a federal judge will have an unprecedented opportunity in Virginia.

Most people wouldn't know it, but the General Assembly is actually still in special session, but just in recess while we "consider" redistricting. The Governor signed legislation redistricting the General Assembly on April 29, 2011, but Congressional redistricting was never completed.

The last time we were actually physically in the State Capitol for a session was July 29, 2011. The House and Senate had previously approved competing bills regarding redistricting. On July 29, 2011, neither party had reached an agreement. Nothing was passed. We still sit today staring each other down with lame duck members of

each chamber in office until Jan. 6, 2012.

The House of Delegates approved legislation that was effectively proposed by the incumbent congressman ("the Republican Plan"). Most observers believe it will preserve the status quo in Virginia. It contained some strange creatures — e.g. the Fifth Congressional District stretched from I-66 to the North Carolina border.

The Senate proposed a plan ("the Senate Democrats Plan") which creates a "minority influence district" in the Richmond suburbs. Most observers believe it would endanger Congressman Randy Forbes. I have not carefully analyzed them, but it is my understanding that competitive seats are largely absent from both plans.

In terms of the 44th Delegate District, both plans would put the entire 44th District inside the 8th Congressional District. If you would like to see the plans, you can view them on the Division of Legislative Services Redistricting Website which you can access through Google or my blog.

Article II, Section 6 of The Constitution of Virginia requires redistricting to occur "in the year 2011 and every ten years thereafter." The Constitution does not state what happens if it does not hap-

pen "in the year 2011." From my point of view it is an unprecedented opportunity.

The following is expected. First, we will return to Richmond on Jan. 6, 2012 and all be sworn in. Then, the Senate will meet to approve its rules and committees and will deadlock 20-20 on "organizing" themselves. The Lieutenant Governor will vote to break the tie and give the Republicans a working majority in the Senate. The Democrats will complain and say that is illegal.

The House and Senate will then pass the Republican Plan and the Governor will promptly sign it. All that will occur in about 10 days. Then, it will go to court and a federal judge will then need to rule:

1. Whether to adopt the Republican Plan (assuming it meets the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965); or

2. Whether to have a three-judge panel adopt its own plan.

From my point of view, this is an unprecedented opportunity. Many of us have endorsed the concept of non-partisan redistricting. Although the State Senate has passed legislation and it was nominally endorsed by Governor McDonnell during his campaign, it has died every year in committee. This situation presents an op-

portunity for a federal judge to actually do congressional redistricting on a non-partisan basis.

The work has already been done. Several Virginia Colleges held The Virginia Redistricting Competition last fall designed to produce maps created to maximize competition or simply focus upon non-political criteria. Fifty-five teams of students submitted entries. Four different teams were given awards for the Congressional District maps. (They don't look anything like the present maps).

Gov. McDonnell also created a Bipartisan Redistricting Commission. It even included a Mt. Vernonite — Former State Board of Elections Chairman Jean Jensen. They produced three possible congressional district maps.

The bottom line is that the work has been done. If the Court wants to take a step that was truly in Virginia's best interest, they should reject the legislatures' partisan self-interested work product and adopt one of the independent proposals. That is the only action that would be in Virginians' best interest.

You can email me at scottsurovell@gmail.com. You can also stay informed by reading my blog, The Dixie Pig, at scottsurovell.blogspot.com. It is an honor to serve as your State Delegate.

CRIME

Activities reported by the Fairfax police department through Dec. 16.

ASSAULT ARREST

Shoppers Food Warehouse, 9622 Main St. Dec. 9 at 4:14 p.m. the victim, a 15-year-old female, reported that she had been bumped and threatened by a male subject who yelled ethnic slurs at her, criticizing her clothing. As the result of investigation the subject was identified and a warrant was obtained charging him with assault—victim selected because of race or religion. On December 11 at 10 a.m. a 57-year-old male of the 400 block of Orchard St., N. W., Vienna, met with an officer at police headquarters and was transported to the Adult Detention Center where the warrant was served and he was released on his own recognizance.

FRAUD

Main Street Bank, 4029 Chain Bridge Road. On Nov. 4 the checking account holder reported that she had been informed that on Oct. 24 a male subject had attempted to cash a check on the account at the bank, but had left when told the check would have to be verified. The check subsequently was determined to be fraudulent. As the result of investigation by the Patrol Division, the subject was identified as a 25-year-old male of the 2500 block of Red Maple Drive, Abingdon, Md., and on Nov. 30 felony warrants were obtained charging him with forgery and uttering a forged check. It was determined that the suspect is incarcerated in York, Pa., and a detainer has been placed on him.

3700 Block of Richard Ave. On Dec. 13 at 10:28 p.m. the victim reported that on Dec. 9, after responding to an e-mail offering employment as a mystery shopper, she had received a money order which she was instructed to cash, keep ten percent, and wire the remaining 90 percent to a subject in California, which she did. On Dec. 12 the victim received three additional money orders with similar instructions except that the 90 percent remainder was to be wired to a subject in the Philippines. The victim subsequently found that her bank account was overdrawn since the money orders she had deposited to it had been determined to be fraudulent.

IDENTITY THEFT

3400 Block of White Oaks Court. On Dec. 10 at 10:47 a.m. the resident reported that he had been contacted by a telephone company and a collection agency regarding payment for telephone service which unknown person(s) had opened in his name in North Carolina in 2003.

LARCENY

Comfort Inn, 11180 Fairfax Blvd. On Dec. 9 at 9:03 p.m. the victim, a guest at the motel, reported that sometime after 3 p.m. unknown person(s) had taken several bags of items from her room.

Safeway, 10350 Willard Way. On Dec. 11 at 11 p.m. the victim reported that her wallet, which she had left in a shopping cart on the evening of Dec. 10, had been found in the parking lot with the cash it had contained missing.

7-Eleven, 10008 Main St. On Dec. 13 at 10:39 a.m. the manager reported that about 11 p.m. Dec. 12 an unknown male subject had been observed taking a twelve-pack of beer from the store without paying for it.

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PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION



Food for Others executive director, Roxanne Rice, works with volunteer Michael Powers of Springfield to sort intake forms from clients.



Volunteers Payton Robertson, 13; Bridgette McRoberts, 14, and Mackenzie Bliss, 14, of Fairfax help sort canned goods and stock shelves during a Friday afternoon at Food for Others.



Daniel Gerke, of Vienna, with the P3 bags he and friends assembled at his 13th birthday party. From left — Justin Lee, Jack Goewey, Peter Freck, Joey Welsh, Lee Morrison, Daniel Gerke, Clark Bowden, Johnny Corish, Jack Jones, and Johnny Rogers.



Leo Delgado hands out food staples, such as bags of potatoes, to Juan, Rocky and Nancy, who depend on organizations such as Food for Others. Located in Fairfax, Food for Others is the largest distributor of free food directly to people in need in Northern Virginia, provides the assistance needed by unemployed and low-income neighbors.

PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION



Laura Gerke, of Vienna, with Katharine Sickl, an au pair from Germany, deliver food packs to Food for Others on Friday, Dec. 8. The food packs, which will be distributed to area children who need food on the weekends, were assembled by Gerke's son, Daniel, and his friends, at his 13th birthday party.

Helping Neighbors, Respectfully

Area residents donate 23,746 hours to help Food for Others fight hunger.

By VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

When Laura Gerke of Vienna was planning her son's 13th birthday party in November, she thought about doing something a little different.

"I started thinking 'how many iTunes and Game stop cards you have?' Daniel gets so much stuff for his birthday and Christmas, and I thought this year might be an opportunity to combine fun activities with a service project," Gerke said.

When she learned about Food for Others Power Pack Program (P3), which provides food packs for local elementary children who don't have balanced meals to eat on the weekends, her idea crystallized into action.

"I talked with my son about it, and he thought it was a great idea," said Gerke. "I emailed party invitations and asked his friends to donate food instead of bringing gifts. Everyone was on board, and the parents thought it was a great idea."

The 10 boys at his birthday party brought enough food for 33 packs to donate to the Power Pack Program. "They had fun assembling the food packets, in between playing foos ball and air hockey," Gerke said.

"We wanted to plant the seed that it's not all about yourself. Daniel is well aware that his needs are met, and there are people in greater need," Gerke said. "It's hard to believe there are children right here in Fairfax County, who, when

they go home for the weekend, don't have enough food to eat."

NIKKI CLIFFORD, Food for Others' volunteer coordinator, launched the P3 program in October, and said she has been pleasantly surprised at the success of the program.

"It's incredible how the program has taken off," Clifford said. "I have elementary schools helping other elementary schools. We connect churches and youth groups with schools. The response has been fantastic."

Clifford said she receives food packs nearly every day, and has increased the organization's commitment from 50 to 75 packs a week to several Fairfax County elementary schools. She said school counselors identify the children in need, about 85 percent of whom receive free and reduced lunches.

"It's sad, but many children in our area have very little to eat between their school lunch on Friday and the breakfast they get at school on Monday morning," Clifford said. "Mothers tell me their children hoard food under their beds, and sometimes have to lock up the refrigerator to make the food last. That's just incredible to me."

Clifford said volunteers and generous donors, like Gerke, help sustain Food for Others, the largest distributor of free food directly to people in need in Northern Virginia. Last year, volunteers logged 23,746 hours, the equivalent of 11 full-time positions.

"I have the easiest job in the world, and I love coming to work.

The volunteers here are amazing," Clifford said.

Even though Northern Virginia is considered one of the wealthiest areas in the country, the poverty rate is still about 5 percent, which means more than 90,000 people are living in poverty and 30 percent are children, according to 2010 U.S. Census figures.

"We have nine wonderful full-time employees," said Lynne Galanis, Food for Others finance manager, "but it's the hard work of over 1,000 volunteers that allow us to keep our costs low and maximize our service to those in need."

FOOD FOR OTHERS began feeding the poor in Northern Virginia in December 1995, continuing an earlier program of emergency food

"Volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization, and we view volunteers as our partners in the fight against hunger."

— Roxanne Rice, executive director of Food for Others

services designed as a safety net to assure no individual in Northern Virginia should go to bed hungry.

The overall program concept continues with three primary activities: direct food assistance at the Merrifield warehouse, food distributions at 14 sites every night in low-income neighborhoods and food bank operations for organizations serving families and individuals unable to meet their basic need for food.

The organization provides food for approximately 2,000 families each month at its warehouse distribution site and twice that many families each month at its street-

corner sites.

The major difference occurring during the past 10 years is the number of volunteers and the volume of food distributions, according to Roxanne Rice, the organization's executive director, with more than 258,000 pounds distributed to local residents in the past four years.

"The organization was started by a dedicated team of volunteers, and the importance of volunteers continues to this day," said Rice, the organization's executive director. "We couldn't do what we do without extra hands provided by this dedicated group. Our volunteers bring such positive energy."

"This is wonderful organization. Everyone is here for the right reasons," said Wendell Moore, a re-

tiree from Fairfax who has volunteered at Food for Others for two years. "The front-desk job is very satisfying because you can see how you're helping people right in front of you."

Peter Spain, a retiree from Vienna, has volunteered at Food for Others for seven years. He said the rewards he gets helping others outweighs the hours he puts in.

"I don't think there's anything more basic than hunger. The cost of living here is so high, and it's very easy to find yourself in a situation where you need help," said Spain, who helps clients navigate the intake process.

"The key thing is to respect the clients. A lot of people who come through these doors never thought they would need help," Spain said.

"As a volunteer, I have an opportunity to build relationships with clients," said Michael Powers of Springfield. "You get to know them and their stories, what brought them here, and they deserve compassion. They don't need to feel like they are being judged because they need our assistance."

Rice said she recently received a note from a single mother with four children who had just lost her job. "She said her children always participated in the Boy Scout Food Drives, and she couldn't believe she needed help. We often get volunteers who were once clients, and those who were once in a position to volunteer or donate now need our help," Rice said.

Rice said the organization's volunteers represent a cross-section of the community, including workplace team-building groups; adult service organizations; university students, retired individuals; religious organizations and families and school groups ranging from grade school to high school.

"Volunteers are the heart and soul of our operations, and we view volunteers as our partners in the fight against hunger," Rice said.

TO VOLUNTEER OR LEARN more about the Power Pack Program and other programs, go to www.foodforothers.org or call 703-207-9173 to speak with volunteer coordinator Nikki Clifford. "Volunteers who are bilingual in English and Spanish are especially needed. Our goal is to provide a meaningful volunteer experience in a positive environment," Clifford said.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

HOLIDAY CALENDAR

EVERY NIGHT, UNTIL JAN. 8
Bull Run Festival of Lights & Holiday Village. Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 5:30-10 p.m. Friday-Sunday and holidays. For more than 12 years the Bull Run Festival of Lights at Bull Run Regional Park has drawn thousands of visitors from hundreds of miles away. The Bull Run Festival of Lights is held each year to celebrate the winter holiday season. Admission \$15-\$55. Carnival fees \$18-\$30. 703-631-0550.

DAILY, UNTIL JAN. 6
Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens Celebrates the Holiday Season. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Themed decorations, a gingerbread Mount Vernon, historical chocolate-making demonstrations, 18th-century dancing, and a Christmas camel just like George Washington had on the grounds during Christmas of 1787. Open Christmas day. All programs included in general admission. \$15 adults, \$7 children, age 5 and under free. www.visitalexandriava.com/MountVernon.

FRIDAY/DEC. 23
"A Christmas Carol." Lazy Susan Dinner Theatre, 10712 Richmond Hwy, Lorton. Doors open 6 p.m., performance at 8 p.m. 703-550-7384 or www.lazysusan.com.

SATURDAY/DEC. 24
Good For The Jews: Putting The Ha! In Hanukkah Tour featuring Rob Tannenbaum and David Fagin. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/DEC. 25
"A Christmas Carol." 1 p.m. Lazy Susan Dinner Theatre, 10712 Richmond Hwy, Lorton. 703-550-7384 or www.lazysusan.com.

TUESDAY/DEC. 27
"Nutcracker." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale, Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Performed by the Virginia Ballet Company and School. \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.
"A Christmas Carol." Lazy Susan Dinner Theatre, 10712 Richmond Hwy, Lorton. Doors open 6 p.m., performance at 8 p.m. 703-550-7384 or www.lazysusan.com.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 28
"Nutcracker." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale, Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Performed by the Virginia Ballet Company and School. \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

New Years Eve at Maplewood Grill

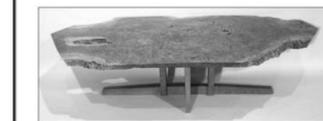
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Second Course Choice of: Asian Marinated Duck Breast - fresh raspberries/Chambord sauce/fried rice or Grilled Wild Boar Chops - pommery mustard sauce/lingonberry sauce or Surf'n'Turf - sliced beef tenderloin/jumbo lump crab cake/peppercorns sauce/tartar or Pan Roasted Grouper - paella rice/shrimp/mussels/chorizo or Gnocchi - braised rabbit/lamb sausage/broccolini/ricotta salata or Veal Oscar - jumbo lump crab/aspargus/bearnaise
Third Course Choice of: Dark Chocolate Mango Cake - mango mint salsa/mango coulis/bourbon whipped cream or Bavarian Champagne Mousse Cake - cinnamon whipped cream/raspberry sauce/raspberries

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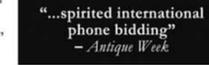
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CALENDAR

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



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Visitors to the Swiss Bakery and Market Café in Springfield on Saturday, Dec. 10 were treated to a number of holiday treats, like free samples of some traditional Swiss treats, musical entertainment and a visit from Santa Clause.

Celebrating Swissmas



Alte Kameraden, or the Old Comrades German Band, performed some traditional holiday music at the Swiss Bakery in Springfield on Saturday, Dec. 10.



Visitors to the Swiss Bakery and Market Café in Springfield on Saturday were treated to a number of holiday treats, like free samples of some traditional Swiss treats, musical entertainment and a visit from Santa Clause.

THURSDAY/DEC. 22

Jammin Java Presents Todd Wright's 9th Annual Christmas Spectacular. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English and improve English-speaking skills. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Mother Goose. 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Stories, songs and fingerplays. Birth to 23 months with adult. 703-293-6227.

Computer Basics Training. 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. One-hour session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills and navigating the Internet. Adults. 703-644-7333.

FRIDAY/DEC. 23

Jammin Java Presents Todd Wright's 9th Annual Christmas Spectacular. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/DEC. 24

Good For The Jews: Putting The Ha! In Hanaukka Tour featuring Rob Tannenbaum and David Fagin. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/DEC. 26

FunkMnkyz and Do It With Malice. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/DEC. 27

"Nutcracker." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale, Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Performed by the Virginia Ballet Company and School. \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

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

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227.

Kings Park Library Friends Meeting. 6:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Kings Park Library Friends Meeting. Adults. 703-978-5600.

Twilight Tales. 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Come in pajamas to listen to stories before bedtime. Age 3-6 with adult. 703-978-5600.

Pleeze and Squeeze. 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Come pet a reptile, as well as learn about these creatures from Critter Caravans. All ages. 703-644-7333.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 28

"Nutcracker." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale, Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Performed by the Virginia Ballet Company and School. \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

DJ Aetgy, Atom Christie, DJ M.A.F. and Konstellation. 9 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Wintertime Fun with Kaydee Puppets. 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. "The Three Pigs" and "Rapunzel". 703-293-6227.

THURSDAY/DEC. 29

"Nutcracker." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale, Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Performed by the Virginia Ballet Company and School. \$30 adults, \$20 children, students and seniors. www.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703-249-8227.

West Goes East CD Release, Taylor Carson and Breaking Borders. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English and improve English-speaking skills. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Computer Basics Training. 10 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. One-hour session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills and navigating the Internet. Adults. 703-644-7333.

Fun Flicks. 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Watch movies based on children's books. Call for titles. All ages. 703-644-7333.

SATURDAY/DEC. 31

Fairfax 4-Miler. 6:30 p.m. Starts and finishes at Pacers Fairfax, Old Town Plaza Village, 10427 North St., Fairfax. Family-friendly running event to support the Fairfax Police Youth Club. The post race party at 8 p.m. includes food and entertainment. \$35-\$40. www.fairfaxfour.com.

5th Annual Rockoceros New Years Eve Party at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.; **Deep River and Friends' Super Classy New Years Eve Blowout and Post-Show Dance Party** at 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

New Year's Eve Party. 8:30 p.m. TheSpace, Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Music, refreshments, games and family-friendly fun. Sponsored by Jubilee Christian Church. Free. www.jccag.org.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 4

The Fred Eaglesmith Traveling Show. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 6

The Michael Clem Trio: Michael Clem Birthday Show. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 7

Bandits & Beggars CD Release at 7 p.m.; **Feed God Cabbage, Dub City Renegades and Carry The One** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/JAN. 8

United States Marine Band. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free, non-ticketed. www.gmu.edu.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 11

Speakers Forum with Dr. David Applegate. 10 a.m. Ernst Cultural Center, NVCC Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. The latest scientific

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

research on earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis and floods with Dr. David Applegate, associate director for natural hazards at the United States Geological Survey. Social hour 9:30 a.m. Sponsored by Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia for adults over 55. Free admission, garage parking \$1 per hour. <http://lli.nova.org> or 703-503-0600.

FRIDAY/JAN. 13

"Aladdin Jr." 7 p.m. Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. A stage adaptation of the Disney hit. NVPlayers.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 14

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With cellist Sergey Antonov. Glazunov's Chant du Ménéstrel, Haydn's Cello Concerto in C Major, and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 11, "The Year 1905." Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. info@fairfaxsymphony.org.

Pat Sommers' Rock Shop. 1:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

"Aladdin Jr." 7 p.m. Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. A stage adaptation of the Disney hit. NVPlayers.com.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 18

International Guitar Night. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Acoustic guitarists Adrian Legg, Lulo Reinhardt, Marco Pereira, and Brian Gore. \$25. 1-877-965-3872 or www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 20

"Aladdin Jr." 7 p.m. Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. A stage adaptation of the Disney hit. NVPlayers.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 21

"Aladdin Jr." 7 p.m. Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. A stage adaptation of the Disney hit. NVPlayers.com.

SUNDAY/JAN. 22

American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. 3 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$14. www.gmu.edu.

THURSDAY/JAN. 26

Griffin House and Matthew Perryman Jones. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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Elyse Bailey (pink shirt) and Stephanie Hickey (black shirt) sell doughnuts.

Students buy doughnuts.

Sweet Way to Fight Dementia

Alpha Phi Omega sponsors Doughnuts for Dementia.

BY MAYA HOROWITZ
FAIRFAX CONNECTION

The brothers of Alpha Phi Omega (APO), a national coed service fraternity at George Mason University, sold Krispy Kreme doughnuts to raise money and awareness for dementia at the Johnson Center in November.

Doughnuts for Dementia was the brainchild of David Kaplan, community advisor for the George Mason Chapter. Kaplan graduated from High Point University in 2010, where he was active in Alpha Phi Omega throughout college. He put in more than 800 volunteer hours in his time at High Point and was named Brother of the Year in 2010.

Now at George Mason, Kaplan advises the 108-member chapter in their work with service events at animal shelters, the Salvation Army, Inova and other charity organizations.

"The reason I rushed was I enjoy doing community service and I figured it was a way to be productive," said Kaplan. "I like helping people. I want to continue to help the fraternity as best I can. You're not in the fraternity however long you're in col-

lege, you're in it for life."

Kaplan said he was lying in bed one night trying to come up with a fun joint service project between High Point and George Mason. He is close with his grandmother, Helen Miller, 81, who has dementia and he wanted to do something for her.

"Just seeing her get drastically worse over the past couple years," said Kaplan. "Where am I? Who are you? How do I eat my food?"

This was a little something I could do. I'm just hoping other people don't have to go through what we've gone through."

He noted that even with dementia, Miller still likes to get her hair colored, enjoys getting flowers and is vocal about her preference for milk over dark chocolate.

THE DOUGHNUTS ELEMENT came in because Kaplan's little brother in the fraternity's father used to be the Vice President for Krispy Kreme.

Kaplan found out that there is a discount for doughnuts bought in bulk and the idea for Doughnuts for Dementia coalesced.

Kaplan paid out of pocket the \$271.50 it cost to put on the event so that all the proceeds could go to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. Alpha Phi Omega accepted donations via a website and from

buying donuts: 521 donuts were sold in total.

Kaplan also made a promise to the chapter that he would match any money made. The total amount donated to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America was \$1244.82.

Kaplan was able to subsidize this project because he also has a job as an assistant manager at a group home for adults with intellectual disabilities and he coaches basketball at Garfield High School.

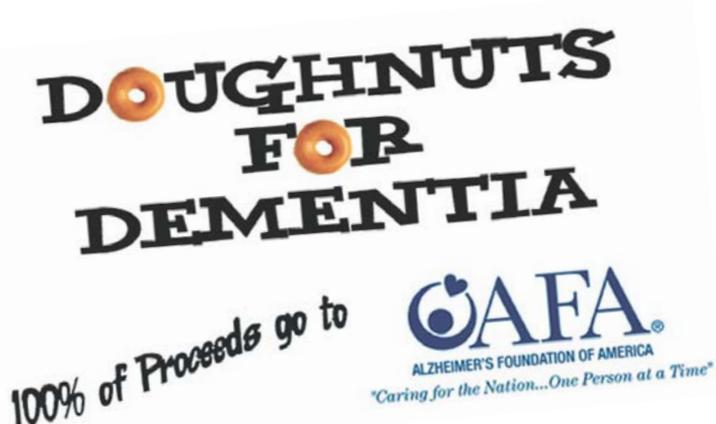
Sophomore Stephanie Hickey, a brother in the co-ed service fraternity, volunteered at the event. She said, "I did it just to get

people aware. So that they could get a better understanding about it instead of just hearing about it. I took a development psych class and learned a lot about Alzheimer's. I didn't know about the severity of it before then. It honestly scared me. I want to do whatever I can to find a cure because I wouldn't want it happening to me or anyone close to me. It's a very scary issue."

KAPLAN HOPES Doughnuts for Dementia will become either an annual or a once a semester event.

He thinks Fairfax is a great place for people interested in making a difference.

"I think Fairfax is awesome," said Kaplan. "It's one of the most fun places that people don't know of. People don't think it's fun. There are a lot of volunteer opportunities."



I took a development psych class and learned a lot about Alzheimer's.

— GMU Sophomore Stephanie Hickey

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Basketball Season is Underway

Local boys and girls teams preparing for holiday tournaments.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The Northern Region high school basketball season is currently in its early pre-Christmas stretch and coaches of the local teams are getting a feel for their squad's personnel, strengths and weaknesses. Many of the boys' and girls' teams will participate in upcoming holiday tournaments before diving into the bulk of their schedule with a steady portion of district games upon the arrival of the new year. By mid-February, coaches will hope their respective teams are playing at or near the tops of their games just in time for the start of postseason play's district tournaments.

Here is a look at some of the local teams.

SOUTH COUNTY GIRLS: The Stallions have a new head coach this season, longtime Northern Region coach Noel Klippenstein who spent the past nine years at the helm of the Marshall High girls' program within the Liberty District. Now, Klippenstein takes over a South County squad that in recent years was under the direction of former coach Chrissy Kelly.

Klippenstein is one of four coaches to have won 100 or more career games while in charge of the Marshall girls.

"Those were fun times," recalled Klippenstein, who reached the 100-career win plateau with the Statesmen faster than any coach in the program's history.

South County opened the season with a 48-38 win at Hayfield on Nov. 29 but, going into this week, had lost six straight since.

The team's lone returning starter from last year is senior point guard Angela Banks.

"Angela has been outstanding leading the team at point guard," said Klippenstein. "She has heart and is a



With South County freshman Rachel Snare defending, Robinson senior Jenna Lamb goes up for a shot during a recent girls' basketball game.

good defender."

Newcomers to the Stallions' starting lineup this season include sophomores April Henson and Gillian Gerton, and junior Kim Levinstein.

LAKE BRADDOCK GIRLS: Bruins' second year head coach Leigh Janis will guide a young Lake Braddock team through a season of growth this winter. Lake Braddock (0-5) was set to host Patriot District opponent Lee on Tuesday, Dec. 20.

"This is a building year for our program," said coach Janis. "We have a lot of new faces and young kids on the team. The fun part about coaching these kids is that they are eager to learn and strive to get better each day. I am really enjoying coaching the girls on this team. We have had a tough [early] schedule, but it has been good for us since we are in a very competitive district."

Lake Braddock's leading scorer has been

6-foot-4-inch junior Natalie Butler, a frontcourt player and team co-captain. Butler has outstanding numbers over the first several games, averaging 16 points, 20 rebounds, and nine blocks per contest. She already has a pair of triple-doubles (double figures in points, rebounds, and blocks).

"She will continue as a force to be reckoned with throughout the season," said her coach.

Another important player for the Bruins is sophomore backcourt player Marcia Altman, also a co-captain.

"Marcia has also been a key factor for us this year," said Janis. "She has had to step up in the point guard spot and has risen up to the challenge of playing an unfamiliar position."

Lake Braddock, next week, will be competing in a holiday tournament at Oakton High School. Its first game will be against Loudoun County on Tuesday, Dec. 27.

FAIRFAX BOYS: The Rebels, part of the National District, will be competing at the annual Raytheon Bulldog Bash Tournament, hosted by Westfield High School, over the holidays.

Fairfax is under new head coach Mike Barbee. The squad, going into this week, held a 1-4 overall record (1-0 in the district). Fairfax earned its first victory of the season when it won at Liberty District opponent Marshall High, 54-50.

Last Friday, Fairfax, in a non-district contest against visiting local opponent Robinson (Concorde District), lost to the Rams 71-46. This week, Fairfax was scheduled to play its second district game of the season on Tuesday, Dec. 20 at Jefferson High.

"This is my first year coaching the team at Fairfax," said Barbee. "While we would love to have more wins early in the season, we have implemented a new system both offensively and defensively this year so we are dealing with the 'growing pains' of learning how to play within it. This is something we coaches expected coming in and part of the process of starting from new so we remain very positive about the direction of the program. Our expectations are to improve each game and grow more and more comfortable in what we are doing so that we can be a competitive team and a tough out come playoff time in February."

Fairfax's leading scorers thus far are guards Zack Burnett (13 points per game, 2.5 assists) and John Robic (10.5 points per game, along with three rebounds, assists, and steals per outing).

In the Rebels' district win at Marshall, post player Kris Kostadinov scored 18 points and pulled down seven rebounds. Other good scoring contributions in the win over the Statesmen came from Robic (10 points), Matt Frank (8), and Kyle Walsh (7). Fairfax overcame a 15-8 deficit after one quarter to win that game.

Fairfax, at next week's Bulldog Bash Holiday Tournament, will play the nightcap game on the tournament's first day (Tuesday, Dec. 27) versus the host Westfield Bulldogs at 9:15 p.m. The Bulldog Bash, now in its 10th year, will take place Tuesday, Dec. 27 through Thursday, Dec. 29. Championship games on both the girls' and boys' side at the Bulldog Bash are scheduled to take place Dec. 29 at 7:30 p.m. (girls' finals) and 9:15 p.m. (boys' finals). Admission will be \$6 per day. A three-day tournament pass is also available for \$15. Free admission will be granted to children under age six, adults over age 62, and any travel or house youth basketball players wearing their uniform top and accompanied by a paying adult.

The Bulldog Bash Tournament Director is Lee Cooper. For more information on the Bulldog Bash, go to the tournament website at www.bulldogbashtournament.com or go to www.Facebook/BulldogBash.com. Westfield High School is located at 4700 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

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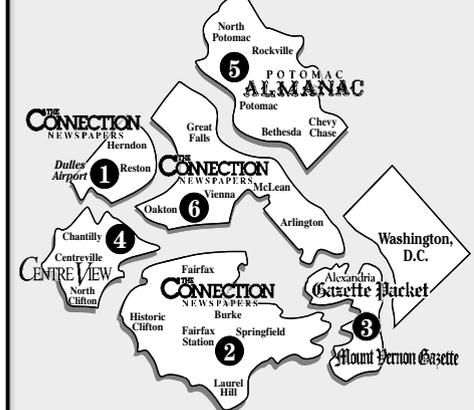
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Obituary

Donald R. Rogers
Donald R. Rogers, 78 of Woodford, formerly of Woodbridge, died Monday December 12, 2011. He had retired after 38 years as chief electrical supervisor at Ft. Belvoir and then retired again from Prince William County, as an electrical inspector. He also served as a Prince William County Sheriff Auxiliary Deputy for many years. He enjoyed drag racing and had one numerous races and trophies. Survivors include his wife, Pearl C. Rogers; a daughter, Donna Page and her husband Tom; a brother, Carol L. "Puddy" Rogers; two grandchildren, Thomas Allen "TJ" Page Jr. and Angela Christine Page; two great grandchildren, Michael Patrick Allen "Mick" Page and Kendall Leighann Page. He was preceded in death by a brother, Ralph Rogers. A funeral service will be held Saturday December 17th at 11:00 AM in the chapel of Storke Funeral Home, Bowling Green, with burial to follow in Stafford Memorial Park. The family will receive friends at the funeral home, Friday, 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Sign register book online at www.storkefuneralhome.com

NOTICE

Edward E. Gahres, MD is closing his medical practice at 5021 Seminary Rd, Ste 109, Alexandria, VA, on December 31, 2011. Patients interested in requesting copies of their medical records should call (703) 931-7515 between 10 am and 4 pm, Mon., Tues. and Thurs.

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Snookah, LLC trading as Snookah, 7104 Brookfield Plaza, Springfield, VA 22150. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer on Premises, Mixed Beverage on Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Qamar U. Zaman President
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Fairfax Water

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONNECTION RULE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION/REDEVELOPMENT

On December 6, 2011, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) held a public hearing regarding an ordinance to establish exclusive water service areas and maximum allowable rates, fees, and charges within Fairfax County for water service. At the same meeting, the BOS enacted the ordinance as Section 65-6-13 of the Code of Fairfax County. Section (a) of the ordinance provides that effective 12:01 a.m. December 7, 2011, Fairfax Water will be the provider of retail public water service within Fairfax County, Virginia, for any new construction or redevelopment of any dwelling unit and any residential or non-residential structure, unless Fairfax Water determines it cannot make water service available due to a utility-related reason.

The ordinance requires that any determination by Fairfax Water that it cannot make service available be made in accordance with policies, rules, or regulations established by Fairfax Water for the purpose of establishing when a utility-related reason exists that prevents it from supplying water. The ordinance further requires that the policies, rules, or regulations be adopted by Fairfax Water after notice and a public hearing.

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 12, 2012, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed CONNECTION RULE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION/ REDEVELOPMENT. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

A copy of the proposed rule can be viewed on our Web site at http://www.fairfaxwater.org. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed rule should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

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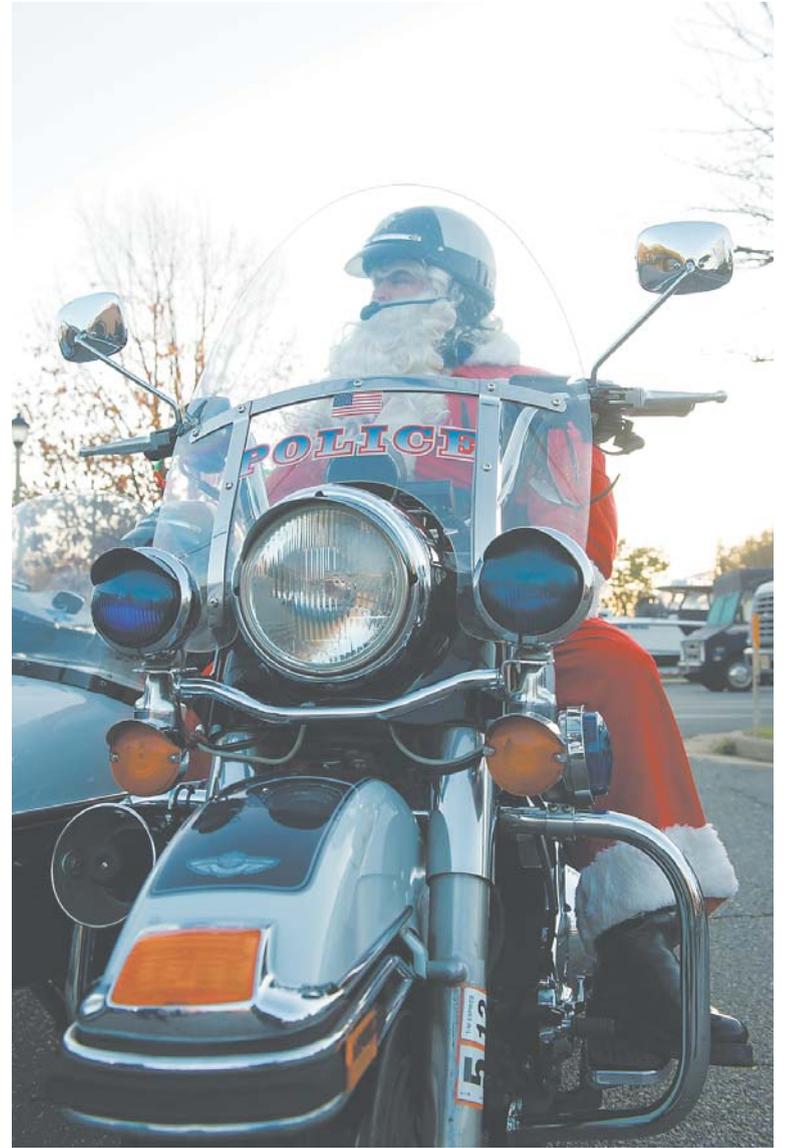
All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

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Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, Merry Claus, Frosty, and Rudolph with their escorts on Dec. 13 for the 25th Annual Santa's Ride for Children during which Claus visits seven Fairfax County elementary schools that have collected toys for the Fairfax County Police Motorcycle Squad's annual toy drive.



Fairfax County Sheriff's Office Deputy Kendall Cohenour helps Child Life Specialists at INOVA Fairfax Hospital for Children sort toys, puzzles and board games collected from police stations, government agencies, elementary schools and some businesses throughout Fairfax County on Dec. 14.

Santa Comes Roaring

25th Santa's Ride for Children visits schools, hospitals.

On Dec. 12, 13 and 14, Santa Claus traded in his sleigh for a Harley Davidson motorcycle in an effort to bring holiday cheer to area children. The Fairfax County Police Motorcycle Squad, in cooperation with the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, Fairfax City Police, Town of Vienna Police, Falls Church Sheriff's Office and Virginia State Police, escorted Santa on the 25th Santa's Ride for Children, the capstone event of a three-week long toy drive organized by the Motorcycle Squad. Police stations, government offices, nine Fairfax County public elementary schools (Mount Eagle, Bush Hill, West Springfield, Woodburn, Navy, Churchill Road, Crossfield, Union Mill and Forestville) and several local businesses and individuals collected toys for the drive.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the toys were collected from all sites, on Tuesday, Dec. 13, students from the Robinson High School Criminal Justice program sorted the toys by age group while Santa Claus and his entourage, including Mrs. Claus, "Merry" Claus, Frosty and Rudolph visited seven of the schools that donated toys to the drive, escorted by the police.

On Wednesday, Dec. 14 and Thursday, Dec. 15, Santa Claus hopped back on the Harley and delivered the toys to patients at INOVA Fairfax Hospital for Children and the Georgetown Hospital Lombardi Cancer Center. Officer David Pierce, who coordinated the event, said, "For us to be able to put a smile on these kids' faces is something great..."

Toys were also given to several local charities, including the Ronald McDonald House and the Herndon-Reston F.I.S.H. (For Immediate Sympathetic Help).



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova tries out Santa Claus's side car when Claus makes a stop at the Fairfax County Government Center on Dec. 13 during the 25th annual Santa's Ride for Children.

PHOTOS BY
DEB COBB/
THE CONNECTION



Santa Claus checks his radio before he heads out with the Fairfax County Police Motorcycle Squad on their 25th annual Santa's Ride for Children on Dec. 13. By the end of the day Claus will have visited seven elementary schools in Fairfax County to thank the students for their participation in the unit's annual toy drive.