

# Honored for Service

NEWS, PAGE 8

Lou Priebe of Springfield received the National Press Club's Berny Krug Award for outstanding contributions and volunteer service.

## Pushed to the Limit

NEWS, PAGE 3

## Second in the Nation

NEWS, PAGE 3



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Race Founder



Race Host



Weekend Festival

## Pushed to the Limit

**Food pantries seek help for county's most vulnerable residents.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

**A**t 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 7, it's already 103 degrees in Reston - the 10<sup>th</sup> straight day temperatures hover near or above 100 degrees after a derecho storm swept through the region on July 29, causing extensive power outages.

Walking slowly in the smothering heat, a young woman, pale and gaunt, enters the Embry Rucker Community Shelter on Bowman Town Center Drive. Staff member Wilber Shaw quickly fills a Styrofoam cup of cold water, and hands it to her, something he has been doing all day, along with answering the phones from those needing help.

"It's a 'code red' day," Shaw said, referring to the National Weather Service's heat index, "so we're open to anyone, not just our regular clients. In here, they can get out of the sun and stay cool and hydrated."

Although the emergency center also lost power during the storm, they are operating on a "no-turn-away" policy during the heat wave and weather emergency, said Kerrie Wilson, CEO of Reston Interfaith, which operates the Embry Rucker shelter.

"I can't tell you how proud I am of our incredible staff for how they responded and have reached out to ensure things are as best as they can be," Wilson said. "Staff were at the shelter during the storm and since, and other program staff were out checking on townhome and transitional housing clients the day after the storm."

**THE UNRELENTING HEAT WAVE**, coupled with power outages and spotty air-conditioning, took a toll on everyone, regardless of income.

But it was Fairfax County's most vulnerable residents - homeless, the elderly and those already living on the edge - who had an especially difficult time regaining

SEE HELPING, PAGE 4



**From left: Laurie Leder with children Jared and Jessica. Leder, with the USO at Fort Belvoir, delivered leftover oranges and other produce from the Farmer's Market at Fort Belvoir to the Lorton Community Action Center, on Thursday, July 5. "Not only did Laurie and her children unload the USO donation, but they cheerfully volunteered to assist us with unloading and organizing the 5,000 pounds of food from Community Area Food Bank, despite the near 100 degree heat," said Andrea Cochrane Tracey, LCAC's development director.**

### How You Can Help

Many local nonprofits report they are in dire need of grocery gift cards, so clients can re-stock their refrigerators with perishable items such as fresh produce, milk, eggs, and meat.

To donate a grocery gift card, or to find out what specific items nonprofits need, visit the following websites:

❖SHARE

A non-profit, all-volunteer organization that meets the emergency needs of the less fortunate in McLean, Great Falls, Pimmit Hills, and surrounding areas. [www.shareofmclean.org](http://www.shareofmclean.org)

❖Our Daily Bread

Call 703-273-8829 or visit [www.ODBFairfax.org](http://www.ODBFairfax.org) to make a donation to the "restocking the fridge" fund

❖Embry Rucker Community Shelter

Call 703-437-1975 or visit [www.restoninterfaith.org](http://www.restoninterfaith.org)

❖Lorton Community Action Center

Call 703-339-5161 or visit [www.lortonaction.org](http://www.lortonaction.org)

❖Food for Others

Call 703.207-9173 or visit [www.foodforothers.org](http://www.foodforothers.org)

❖FACETS

Call 703-352-5090 or visit [www.facetscares.org](http://www.facetscares.org)

❖The Lamb Center

Call 703-691-3178 or visit [www.thelambcenter.org](http://www.thelambcenter.org)

❖Safe Haven

Call 703-532-8220 or visit [www.fcfc.org](http://www.fcfc.org)

❖Please note: The above is only a partial list of food pantries and shelters. For a complete list of community food pantries and other resources for at-risk individuals, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/resources.htm> or the Fairfax County Human Resources Guide at <http://testffx.fairfaxcounty.gov>



**Michael Sherburne on left, Andy Artze center, Exus Altimus on right.**

## Second in the Nation

**Robinson students win second place in Systems Control Technology.**

**A** team from James W. Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax, recently placed second in the Nation in Systems Control Technology. The competition was held in Nashville, Tenn., at the Gaylord Resort on June 24. The competition is part of Technology Student Association (TSA) which is a National STEM Engineering program. The team members are: Michael Sherburne, Andy Artze, and Exus Altimus. The team also placed second in the Nation last year in Dallas. They also competed at the National level in 2009 in Denver and placed sixth in the Nation. The team won 1st place at the State level in 2009, 2011, and 2012. They placed 2nd in the State in 2008. They won 1st place at the Regional level in 2009 and 2011. They placed second place at the Regional level in 2012. They placed third place at the Regional level in 2008 and in 2010.

Systems Control Technology is a rigorous event. Competitors

have 15 minutes to read and come up with a solution to a problem. Then they have two hours and thirty minutes to build and program a prototype that solves the solution, followed by an interview with the judges. This year's problem at the National level was to design a distribution center that sorts packages based on size and the package's size determines which way it will go through the system. It must be able to detect the presence of a package and then be able to sort it. The system has to be able to detect the package at the loading dock and make a light flash ever five seconds to signal to truck drivers that there is a package ready for them to be picked up. The system must have an emergency turn off switch to shut down the whole system during night hours or for emergency. The team came up with a brilliant idea of using mechanical pushing arms to sort the packages, which will then fall down a chute to their respective docking location.

Michael Sherburne is the team captain and the main programmer for the competition. He also sells the prototype to the judges at the end of the competition. He is self-taught. Exus Altimus, also self-taught helps with the programming and does the building. Andy Artze does most of the building and is also self-taught.

# Helping Most Vulnerable

FROM PAGE 3

their footing after the crisis.

In the days after the storm hit, many nonprofits and food banks throughout the county reported they were slammed with a spike in demand for food and services.

"Restocking the refrigerator was likely a nuisance for most, and probably not cheap," said Lisa Whetzel, executive director of Our Daily Bread (ODB) in Fairfax. "But for low income families, such as our clients, it's a hardship."

She said one client, a mother with toddler, had just stocked up that Friday with yogurt and other fresh food, and lost it all. And clients who rely on a weekly paycheck for groceries were especially hard hit when their offices, restaurants or stores shut down because of the power outages.

She said another client, a father of four who works as a chef, tripped and broke his leg when the power went out. Because his job requires mobility, he won't be able to work for several weeks. "Our clients are so vulnerable. We will keep in contact with him to ensure that he and his family stay in their home," Whetzel said.

Several pantries and shelters, such as Embry Rucker, ODB and Safe Haven, also lost power and hundreds of pounds of food during the storm.

The Lorton Community Action Center, which serves the south county region, lost power for several days, which spoiled 1,200 pounds of meat and juice that was kept in their freezers.

"Ironically – since summer is always when our demand is the highest and donations are the lowest – while we lost food, it could have been worse," said Andrea Cochrane Tracey, LCAC's development director.

## The Community Responds

Volunteers, regardless of income, stepped up to help those less fortunate, according to nonprofits.

On Tuesday, July 3, Our Daily Bread made an email plea to the community for grocery store gift cards and other donations. By Friday, the organization had collected more than \$3,500, which will provide \$50 grocery gift cards for 68 families in Fairfax County.

"What amazing generosity," Whetzel said. "We were genuinely surprised by the level of the community's support for their less fortunate neighbors. Everyone was



food, immediate shelter, affordable housing, quality



**Greg Ballinger oversees the weekend staff at the Embry Rucker Community Shelter in Reston, which provides emergency aid, hot meals and, during the weekend, a place to stay cool.**

PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

affected by this storm and could personally relate to the hardship experienced by our clients. Our clients are extremely grateful and relieved. There is still time to donate and there is still a need."

Rob Paxton, coordinator of Safe Haven's food pantry and shelter programs, which operate inside First Christian Church of Falls Church, said volunteers and donors turned out for a "mega yard sale" on Saturday, which helped the nonprofit raise more than \$1,100.

"What was amazing was that many of the people who came were also clients of Safe Haven. It was heart-warming to see the people we help, putting money back into the program by purchasing items from the sale," Paxton said.

He said money they raised at the yard sale will provide more than 500 meals to clients.

Paxton said many of the volunteers were county employees, who took time out of their schedules to help with the sale. Eva Papaefthimiou, who works in senior housing, took a vacation day to help set up the sale on Friday and brought two co-workers to help on Saturday.

"We also had a 92-year old woman, Evelynda Castle, her friend Priscilla Holbert and another woman, Dewita Soeharjono, who worked tirelessly to make the yard sale a success. The spirit of volunteerism is heartwarming," Paxton said.

"Thankfully, the community has stepped up, as best they can, given that many of them were without power too," Cochrane Tracey said. "However, the biggest impact has been the generous donation of 5,000 pounds of food, including meat, from the Capital Area Food Bank and Fairfax County."

Greg Ballinger, who has worked at the Embry Rucker shelter for more than 25 years, said he learned an important lesson about "paying it forward" years ago.

"I remember I was complaining about something, and this old-timer said to me 'the reason you're going through this now is to pass on what you've learned to the next person.' It took a while, but it eventually clicked. We all have to get together to make it through this life ... The shelter has always made it because of the caring of the community. On the flip side, we've been here for the community too."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Congestion Relief

**At this ramp in southern Springfield, both south-bound lanes of the Fairfax County Parkway at the Rolling Road interchange opened last week, providing congestion relief during the morning rush hour. The Fairfax County Parkway is now continuous through this section and does not require an "exit" from the Parkway to stay south on the Parkway. This is the final segment in completing the 1.8-mile Fairfax County Parkway extension project, which began in 2008.**

## Cow Appreciation Day on July 13

For one day only, black and white spots, cow bells and furry ears will be appropriate attire at Chick-fil-A restaurants all across the nation. In celebration of July 13, Cow Appreciation Day (an unofficial yet nationally recognized holiday), Chick-fil-A will award a free meal (breakfast, lunch or dinner) to any customer who comes to the Springfield Chick-fil-A restaurant fully dressed as a cow. The friendly staff is planning a great day, and is looking forward to hosting local raving fans, and meeting new, and future raving fans as they share a special day of food, fun and friendship. Bring your friends and family to get a picture with the Chick-fil-A cow and join in the celebration. Joe Engert, the owner/operator of the Springfield Chick-fil-A, and his enthusiastic team have been planning surprises for the Springfield community to make it a great day at Chick-fil-A. The restaurant is located at 6681A Backlick Road, Springfield and will be serving food and fun from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Cow Appreciation Day.



**The Chick-fil-A Cow leads the parade of enthusiastic team members in self-preservation. When people eat more chicken, they don't eat beef. This Cow is sure to be showing up all over Springfield, Burke and South County to encourage people to eat chicken instead of hamburgers.**

## PEOPLE

# Springfield Resident Recognized By Army Research Center

A Springfield native was named employee of the year by the U.S. Army's Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center, or CERDEC, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., June 19.

Constance Berg was recognized as a top employee in the mid-level administrative category as the senior database administrator for CERDEC's Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate, or NVESD, located in Fort Belvoir, Va. Berg works with a team to interact directly with customers to determine operational requirements for the systems. She manages more than eight databases for NVESD personnel that store historical data from a number of sources. She offers assistance and guidance for all personnel who work with these databases.

Berg maintains relationships with NVESD's external customers while identifying and resolving hardware and software issues with the databases, servers, and workstations used to support her database programs. She also supports security, human resources, facilities and equipment management and program budget within NVESD. Berg has worked for NVESD since 1987.

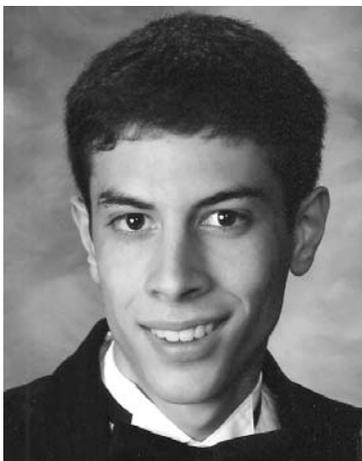
"I have been very lucky to work with some amazingly talented people through the years. This award shows that our organization really does appreciate the staff that works hard behind the scenes," Berg said.



**Constance Berg**

## 2012 Pamplin Leader

Benjamin Medina is the recipient of the 2012 Pamplin Leader Award at Lake Braddock High School. The Pamplin Leader is a one-year, \$1,000 tuition scholarship to Virginia Tech. It is presented annually to a top student from each public high school in Virginia. It was established by Robert B. Pamplin, Sr. (VT, Class of '33) and Robert B. Pamplin, Jr., to acknowledge students with a record of outstanding academic achievement that is balanced with a commitment to community service and leadership experience.



**Benjamin Medina**

### SCHOOL NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

**Jessica Marsh** has been named to the spring 2012 dean's list at Montana State University.

**Cole Mitchell** has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Randolph-Macon Academy. He is the son of Taylor and Sue Mitchell of Springfield.

**Kayla Magaha**, a student from Hayfield Secondary School, won a third place award at the Health Occupations Students of America State Leadership conference. Magaha won in the career health day category.

**Heather Flint** of Robinson Secondary School, **Nikki Paculan** of Lee High School and **Kailee Tangen** of West Springfield High

School won a fourth place awards at the Health Occupations Students of America State Leadership conference.

**Sarah Elizabeth Davis** of Springfield has been named to the fall 2011 honor roll at Gardner-Webb University of Boiling Springs, N.C. Davis is majoring in elementary education.

**Rebecca Brandt** of Springfield was named to the fall 2011 dean's list with honors at Northwestern College in St. Paul, Minn. Brandt is pursuing a degree in urban studies. She is the daughter of Randy and Julie Brandt.

**Asheq Imran** of Springfield has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at the Georgia Institute of Technology of Atlanta, Ga.

**Lindsey Gregg** of Springfield has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Mansfield University of Mansfield, Pa.

**Monica Renee Laux** of Springfield

has been named to the fall 2011 president's list at Clemson University of Clemson, S.C.

**Brittany Bullard** of Springfield was named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Mary Baldwin College of Staunton, Va.

**Mary Brophy** of Springfield has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Saint Mary's College of Notre Dame, Ill. She is the daughter of Barbette and William Brophy.

Air Force Airman **Minchul Chun** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He completed training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Chun is the son of Sungyong Chun and brother of Amy Chun, both of Tyrolean Way, Springfield, and is a 2011 graduate of West Springfield High School.

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JULY 30—AUGUST 3.....RIO (G)  
AUGUST 6—AUGUST 10.....SHREK (PG)  
AUGUST 13—AUGUST 17.....KUNG FU PANDA (PG)

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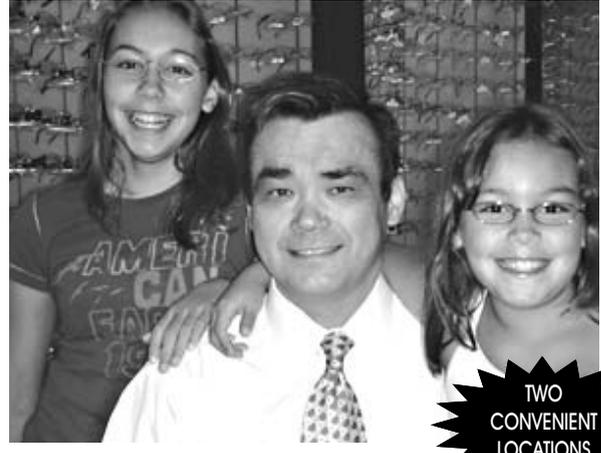


Totally adorable! This 6 month old Beagle mix pup is too cute for words. He is such a happy and loving pup and can hardly wait for someone to show him love. He will give it back a hundred times more. Biscuit and his sister, Melba were rescued from a kill shelter after being dumped there by their previous owner. They were unwanted but this never stopped them from dreaming of a forever home. Come and meet this adorable boy today and bring lots of lovin'.

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# OPINION

## Every Vote in Virginia Will Count

Top presidential donor zip codes in this area show Virginia is purple; Romney or Obama to be decided on Election Day.

If you wonder if presidential politics really matters in this area, consider that Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland hold some of the top zip codes for contributions to the two major party candidates.

Donors who live in McLean 22101 gave \$422,770 to Romney this presidential cycle, and \$232,876 to Obama. In McLean 22102, donors gave Romney \$255,444, and Obama \$193,321. In Arlington, 22207, donors gave \$193,543 to Obama and \$178,196 to Romney. In Alexandria 22314, donors gave \$172,425 to Romney and \$142,467 to Obama.

While Maryland consistently votes for Democrats in presidential races, donors who live in Potomac, Md. 20854 gave Romney \$340,885, and Obama \$291,402.

In order to vote in the presidential election on Tuesday, Nov. 6, residents must be registered to vote at their current address by Monday, Oct. 15.

Virtually everyone in Northern Virginia is eligible to vote absentee, and absentee voting in person begins Sept. 21. Here is the qualification that applies: Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for 11 or more hours of the 13 hours that the polls are open.

Any commute in Northern Virginia could potentially take four hours or more in a crisis situation. This is definitely a case where voting early is an excellent idea. Don't take the risk that the next derecho storm or earthquake

### EDITORIALS

### Some Top Local Zips, Presidential Donors

#### McLean 22101

❖ Romney \$422,770  
❖ Obama \$232,876

#### Bethesda 20817

❖ Obama \$359,656  
❖ Romney \$249,399

#### Potomac 20854

❖ Romney \$340,885  
❖ Obama \$291,402

#### McLean 22102

❖ Romney \$255,444  
❖ Obama \$193,321

#### Arlington 22207

❖ Obama \$193,543  
❖ Romney \$178,196

#### Alexandria 22314

❖ Romney \$172,425  
❖ Obama \$142,467

#### Great Falls 22066

❖ Romney \$166,457  
❖ Obama \$91,290

#### Arlington 22202

❖ Obama \$79,568  
❖ Romney \$39,740

#### Alexandria 22301

❖ Obama \$52,347  
❖ Romney \$42,095

Source: OpenSecrets.com and VPAP.org

will keep you from the polls on Nov. 6.

This area has very high rates of voter registration. Consider that Fairfax County, with a population of just more than 1.1 million people, has 711,817 registered voters. And 24 percent of Fairfax County's population is under 18, so not eligible to vote.

Arlington has a population of 216,000 and 157,236 registered voters. Sixteen percent are under 18.

The City of Alexandria has a population of 144,000 with 101,887 registered voters; 17 percent are under 18.

We're lucky in Virginia to have the Virginia Public Access Project, vpap.org. On the VPAP website, maps of Virginia's zip codes showing shades of red and blue give a quick visual sense of how purple the Commonwealth really is. Take a look.

### Compromise on E-ZPass Transponders

While the Virginia Department of Transpor-

tation initially proposed that all E-ZPass customers would pay \$1 a month for each transponder they have, on July 9 VDOT announced that if one had a transponder before July 9, 2012, no fee will need to be paid until one has to replace the transponder.

New E-ZPass customers will pay a 50-cent monthly fee for a standard transponder and \$1 monthly fee for a "Flex" transponder. The Flex transponder allows drivers to switch to a high-occupancy position if they have three or more people in the vehicle so that they can drive in the new Beltway toll lanes for free. Drivers with fewer than three passengers will pay a toll to drive in the express lanes that will vary depending on how much traffic there is.

This is certainly better than charging all E-ZPass users \$1 per month per transponder. We still wonder why the cost of transponders is not recovered in the tolls paid rather than as a separate fee whether or not drivers are regularly driving on toll roads.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Addressing the Shortfall

By JOHN COOK  
FAIRFAX COUNTY SUPERVISOR (R-BRADDOCK)

The County is currently developing proposals to address the over \$9 million shortfall in the budget for the Community Services Board (CSB). The CSB serves our neighbors with the greatest needs: those with physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities and those with significant substance abuse and mental health challenges.

The shortfall is due to a number of factors, most importantly (1) an increase in demand caused by the recession and by outreach efforts which prompted eligible individuals to apply for services they had not known were available to them, (2) the failure of both CSB and County staff to recognize the effects changes in employee benefits would have on the CSB budget,

and (3) continued inadequate funding by the State, requiring the addition of County funds. CSB services are expensive because they serve the most in need and the service needs are often permanent.

Some have said we 'can't afford' to serve this entire population, a disappointing sentiment coming from a jurisdiction as well off as Fairfax County. The culture of a people is judged, in part, by how it treats its most vulnerable. Historically, there has been a bipartisan consensus that our social safety net programs should be protected, even in times of budget reductions.

We may disagree, in good faith, on what exactly is encompassed by the safety net, or on the level of services needed. But I hope we could agree that CSB clients are people who cannot sustain themselves without assistance, which puts them in a different category

from those otherwise capable who face temporary challenges, or who, while self-sufficient, may not enjoy sufficient resources to provide certain levels of comfort and benefits some may want them to enjoy.

The County and CSB are studying several ideas. One is to encourage, and maybe in some cases mandate, that client families use private insurance benefits and copays. Another is to streamline expenses. A third is for staff to maintain more stringent oversight on the budget, which should regular auditing.

These ideas make sense, but they will not close the entire gap.

I have asked more than once that the Board of Supervisors reassess social service programs and spending for those over the level

The culture of a people is judged, in part, by how it treats its most vulnerable.

of eligibility for free or reduced school lunches (about \$42,000 per year for a family of four) to see whether those programs should be reduced, or charge a higher sliding scale fee, to free up funds for the CSB. The County is resisting and is looking only to reduce CSB services to meet available funding. So, we now have waiting lists for services for the disabled, and are reducing detox and mental health service availability. I disagree. It's time to reassess our priorities to help the CSB.

Finally, we need to promote more philanthropic giving to the non-profit organizations that partner with the CSB to serve those most in need. While we all face difficult times, a county as wealthy as ours ought to be able to care for the most in need among us.

## Springfield CONNECTION

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## THURSDAY/JULY 12

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Adults.

## SATURDAY/JULY 14

**Dog Adoptions.** 1-4 p.m. PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Every Saturday. Sponsored by Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation. [www.lostdogrescue.org](http://www.lostdogrescue.org).

**Brain Training Center's Grand Opening and Open Classes.** 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Power Brain Training Center, 3903 Fair Ridge Dr, Suite 217, Fairfax. Experience fitness, focus and fun through physical, cognitive and relaxation exercises. 703-359-7282 or info@powerbrainedu.com.

**Friends Book Sale.** 10 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria.

## MONDAY/JULY 16

**Senior Fall Prevention Classes.** 2 p.m. The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Classes designed to work on balance and core muscles to prevent injuries and falls; Instructor certified in back and hip rehab. Every Monday and Friday in a heated indoor pool. \$10. Registration required at 703-667-9800.

**Things that go Boom.** 2:30 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Sound

effects, colorful chemistry and good vibrations with Mad Science. Ages 6-12.

## TUESDAY/JULY 17

**Fantasy Creatures.** 2:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Paint and personalize a unicorn, fairy or dragon. Teens.

**Classics Book Club.** 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Adults.

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 18

**Mental Health First Aid.** 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Fairfax Government Center, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 836, Fairfax. Two-day 12-hour certification course for general public, continued on July 25. Taught by staff of Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board. Learn risk factors and warning signs of mental illness as well as information and resources to help someone experiencing a mental health crisis. \$25. 703-383-8430, TTY 711 or [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb).

**English Conversation Group.** 10:15 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Adults.

**Uno, Dos, Tres con Andres.** 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Sing and move with music and dance from Latin America. All ages.

## THURSDAY/JULY 19

**Goldy Bear and the Three Locks.** 2:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Bears, babysitting and magic in this Blue Sky Puppet Theatre show. All ages.

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# A Passion for Oklahoma, Chili and Community Service

Springfield resident Lou Priebe receives National Press Club honor.

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

“People are marvelous in their generosity, if they just know the cause is there,” said folk hero and proud Oklahoman Will Rogers.

Finding a cause to fit his generous spirit has never been a problem for fellow Oklahoman Lou Priebe.

Since moving to Springfield 42 years ago, Priebe, a public relations veteran, has volunteered, created or lobbied for dozens of organizations and causes - big and small.

He has arranged high-level presidential meetings, met and mingled with just about every notable politician and celebrity, volunteered tirelessly for his Springfield church and community, and launched a lobby to promote chili - yes chili - as the official food of the United States.

In the past six months, Priebe, 71, has been honored with several prestigious awards. In December, he was awarded the National Press Club's Berny Krug Award for outstanding contributions and volunteer service. The former two-term Board of Governor's member is currently chairman of the NPC's House and Bar Committee, where he is responsible for oversight of cuisine and decor for the 105-year old Washington institution.

“Since moving to Springfield in 1970, there have been two constants in my life,” Priebe likes to say. “One is my wife, Florence, and the other is my membership in the National Press Club.”

“He has been an ardent club supporter for nearly half a century,” said past NPC president Gil Klein, one of Priebe's many friends. “He never stops giving to the club, and he's one of those men who inspire others to give back.”

Klein jokes that Priebe is also a “professional Oklahoman,” and Priebe won't disagree. To know Lou Priebe is to recognize his love of all-things-Oklahoma.

**IN JUNE**, he returned to Enid to receive an award that dovetails with his past and present. A 1959 graduate of Oklahoma's Enid High School, Priebe received the “Pride of the Plainsman Award,” a distinction given to alumni and benefactors who have excelled in their careers. The Pride of the Plainsmen Award was presented May 21 before more than a thousand students at the annual awards assembly. Past honorees have included a Medal of Honor recipient, an astronaut, a Member of Congress, three Pulitzer Prize winners, distinguished educators and successful local business executives and philanthropists.

Priebe said he was especially honored because of the award's selection process.

“You're nominated by the community, but it's the students that select the recipients,” Priebe said. “It kind of reflects both of their standards.”

Like his hero Will Rogers, Priebe never



**Lou Priebe of Springfield at the 1982 inaugural of the first woman president of the National Press Club, Daily Oklahoman Assistant Bureau Chief Vivian Vahlberg. The event was attended by President Ronald Reagan. “I had just joked that it was good to see “the Gipper” among this group of Oklahomans as we could use him with our ailing Sooner football team that year. He said they couldn't possibly be that desperate,” Priebe said.**

met a man he didn't like.

“My father is the kind of person who, whether he's known you for decades or just a few months, will make you feel like a part of the family,” said daughter Allison Priebe Brooks, an Alexandria resident who owns the jewelry design business Queen Bee Designs.

“The good traits of both of Allison and her brother Brad all come from their mother,” Priebe said. “Brad, who is a financial advisor in Scottsdale, Ariz., is the kind of person who engenders confidence for his professional and biblical knowledge and for his authenticity.”

Priebe's loyalty to his friends and community is almost as legendary as his pride in Oklahoma.

“The thing I love about Lou is that he lives to make other people happy, although sometimes he drives me crazy with it...” said Dr. M. Bruce Shields, a renowned glaucoma specialist and a close friend of Priebe's since they met in junior high school.

Shields, who has served as the Marvin Sears Professor and Chair Emeritus of Ophthalmology and Visual Science at Yale School of Medicine, is currently a professor at Duke University.

Although they've been close friends for 60 years, Shields and Priebe have a slight difference of opinion about who deserves to be in the Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

“As I mentioned, sometimes his efforts to do nice things drives me crazy,” Shields said. “Case in point is his campaign to get me into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, which is a joke, since I haven't lived in the state since 1966 and have made no contributions to

the state. I have begged him to withdraw his nomination of me, but persistence (some might say stubbornness) is another of his traits,” Shields said, laughing.

“He is extremely modest, and plain wrong,” joked Priebe. “Bruce has written and lectured extensively on the subject of glaucoma, including his “Textbook of Glaucoma,” which has been translated in five languages.”

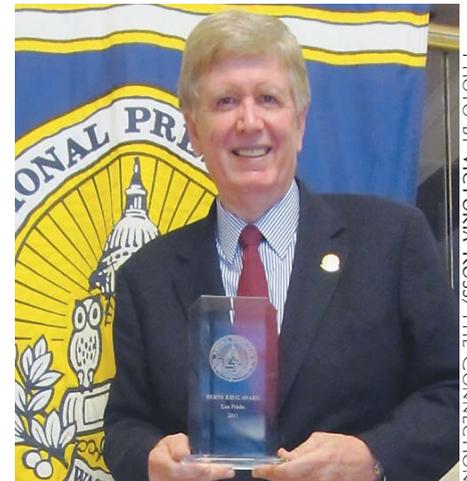
In 2006, Priebe points out, Shields obtained a patent for a new glaucoma surgical device, which is currently in clinical trials. “So I'm not giving up on getting Bruce into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. He deserves it,” Priebe said.

“Very stubborn man...But I would be remiss if I did not include that he is a devout Christian gentleman,” Shields said.

Some of Shield's colleagues, including Shields, suggest that Priebe deserves a spot in the Oklahoma Hall of Fame for his many successes and Oklahoma spirit.

**BORN IN ENID** in 1941, Priebe graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1964 with a Bachelor's degree in journalism. In 1990, the Gaylord School of Journalism and Mass Communication honored him with the Distinguished Alumnus designation. In 1981, he served as president of the 800-member Oklahoma State Society of Washington, D.C. In 2002, Priebe was inducted into the National Capital Public Relations Hall of Fame, during which then D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams paid tribute to his myriad “substantive professional accomplishments” by designating a “Lou Priebe Day.”

When asked about his accomplishments,



**Lou Priebe of Springfield received the National Press Club's Berny Krug Award for outstanding contributions and volunteer service. The former two-term Board of Governor's member is currently chairman of the NPC's House and Bar Committee, where he is responsible for oversight of cuisine and decor for the 105-year old Washington institution.**

Priebe would rather talk about anything else - usually over a bowl of chili at The Vienna Inn, a place Priebe has treated friends and family for the past 40 years.

The Inn is famous for its chili macs and chili dogs, selling more than 10,000 chili dogs each month since the Vienna institution opened in 1960. Priebe's photo hangs on the wall above one of the restaurant's booths. Not surprisingly, Priebe's love of chili became a cause when he and friends decided chili should be named the nation's official food.

In 1985, Priebe and his pals launched the chili lobby, introducing legislation to promote a Museum of Chili Culture at the Smithsonian. “There's always a good excuse to have chili...I use it for social climbing,” quipped Priebe.

In his quest to honor chili, Priebe decided his favorite dish and Oklahoma were a natural fit. So he conceived and co-chaired five Will Rogers' Humanitarian Galas to benefit the James. S. Brady Foundation.

In 1985, the first “black-tie-and-boots” chili gala was attended by former White House press secretary James Brady, who received the first Will Rogers humanitarian award. Oklahoma Governor George Nigh, and Will Rogers Jr., son of the famous folk hero, attended the gala. Priebe helped raise more than \$500,000 over a five year period to benefit the foundation.

Priebe, now an independent public relations consultant, said he has enjoyed his proximity to presidents and other high-profile Washington leaders. But it hasn't turned him into a Washington “insider.”

“There was another member of National Press Club several years ago by the name of Will Rogers who never forgot where he came from - Claremore, Oklahoma,” Priebe said. “And I've tried to never forget where I'm from, and the values of America's heartland it embodies.”

# NEWS

## DAR Recognizes Area Students

Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, recently presented several awards at local schools.

Gloria Williams, senior at Lake Braddock Secondary School, received the DAR Good Citizens Award. Gloria will be attending the University of Virginia where she will study chemical engineering. Gloria was also selected the Good Citizen Award winner for DAR District V which is composed of 28 DAR chapters in Northern Virginia. The DAR Good Citizen Award recognizes a high school senior who exhibits dependability, service, leadership and patriotism to an outstanding degree.

Cadet Kateri J. OHare of Lake Braddock Secondary School received the DAR Bronze ROTC Medal. The award is presented to one outstanding cadet in the school ROTC unit. Kateri plans to attend college in Texas.

The DAR Good Citizenship Medal was presented to one outstanding sixth grader at 11 local elementary schools. The winners have exhibited service, courage,



**Pictured are Anna Maria Fitzhugh chapter member Nancy Tarlano, a retired Lake Braddock teacher; Cadet Kateri J. OHare who received the DAR Bronze ROTC Medal, and National Defense Committee member Sandy Todd.**

honor, leadership and patriotism.

- ❖ Cardinal Forest Elementary School - Sofia O'Connor
- ❖ Cherry Run Elementary School - Peter Chamberlin
- ❖ Hunt Valley Elementary School - Isabel Hogg
- ❖ Keene Mill Elementary School - Nithin Bagel
- ❖ King's Glen Elementary School - Abby Sacks
- ❖ Orange Hunt Elementary School - Martin Trompeta
- ❖ Ravensworth Elementary

School - Talia Enav

- ❖ Rolling Valley Elementary School - Emma Jones
  - ❖ Sangster Elementary School - Meredith Nolan
  - ❖ West Springfield Elementary School - Brooke Elizabeth Higgison
  - ❖ White Oaks Elementary School - Elizabeth Moore
- Nolan Shelton of Keene Mill Elementary School received the DAR Outstanding Work in American History Medal.

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# Home Life Style



David Vogt of Case Design Remodeling, Inc. created an open kitchen and dining area in this Falls Church home. Local contractors say developing a list of everything that one might want in a dream home is a good starting point when remodeling.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.

## Home Remodeling 101

Experts offer suggestions for a timely and efficient renovation.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Whether expanding a home or just remodeling an existing interior space, building projects can be daunting, especially if the goal is to be finished by a certain date.

"If you wanted to get going on a project and your goal was to be done by Thanksgiving, the planning process and permit process is

probably as long as the building process, but you don't want to rush through those aspects of it and then wish you'd done something differently," said David Vogt of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc.

**LOCAL CONTRACTORS** say there are a few things that homeowners can do before the first nail is hammered to ensure a smooth and an efficient construction process. Creating a list of everything that one might want in a dream home is a good starting point.

"A client can benefit from doing their homework and being engaged in the selection process early on," said Vogt. "Maybe start by collecting photographs and magazine articles of things you like. That will help paint an overall picture of the feel that you want for the space."

Bob Gallagher, president of Sun Design Inc., in Burke, says a good source for ideas is the Houzz Interior Design website [www.houzz.com](http://www.houzz.com) as well as the iPad and iPhone applications. "It is phenomenal. There are many amazing photos on there."

The next important step in the process say experts is determining a budget. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry advises homeowners to decide how much they are going to spend before calling an architect or contractor. "The truth is not many people enjoy establishing a remodeling budget," said Dean Herriges, National Association of

the Remodeling Industry National President in a statement. "Many homeowners prefer to call a contractor and expect him or her to create the budget for them, which is not the best way to begin."

"I'd love for a client to have some numbers of how much they want to spend," said Jeff Pregman of Two Poor Teachers in Annandale. "I'd rather have a client that has a little bit of knowledge, a budget and a timeline so I can come in and give them everything they need."

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry recommends that homeowners decide how long they plan to live in their home before deciding how much to spend on remodeling costs. "If you are going to stay in the home for more than 10 years, you should spend as much as you are able to create the home of your dreams," said Herriges. "However, if you are planning on moving in the near future, you should take care not to over-build for your neighborhood."

Once a decision is made about who will do the construction, it is time to seal the deal. "The contract is a critical step in any remodeling project. This is the one item that holds the job together and ensures that all parties involved agree to the same vision and scope for the project," said Herriges.

The contract should detail what the contractor will and will not do, and should include a list of materials for the project, including size, color, model, brand name and product, said Herriges. Homeowners are advised to make sure financial terms, including final price and payment schedule, are spelled out in the contract.

"The homeowner could and should ask questions about the process for the project's development. They should make sure they understand the sequence of things that are being done so that decisions needed are made when they are needed," said Potomac resident Susan Matus of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. "Don't design while you are under construction. Spend the time in the beginning so that you are not making changes constantly during construction. A good remodeler will have helped you make the right decisions before the project starts."

Maintaining a good relationship with a contractor is paramount to bringing a project to fruition. "The key to a good homeowner-contractor relationship is open communication," said Herriges. "Start a dialogue over issues you have, no matter how small you think they are. Chances are the problem can be overcome."



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUN DESIGN/HADLEY PHOTOGRAPHY

Bob Gallagher, president of Sun Design in Northern Virginia remodeled the kitchen and dining area of this Fairfax Station home. Local contractors say coming up with a budget can help ensure a smooth and efficient construction process.

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This bathroom, in a Potomac home, was remodeled by Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. The National Association of the Remodeling Industry advises homeowners to develop a budget before calling an architect or contractor.

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# Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

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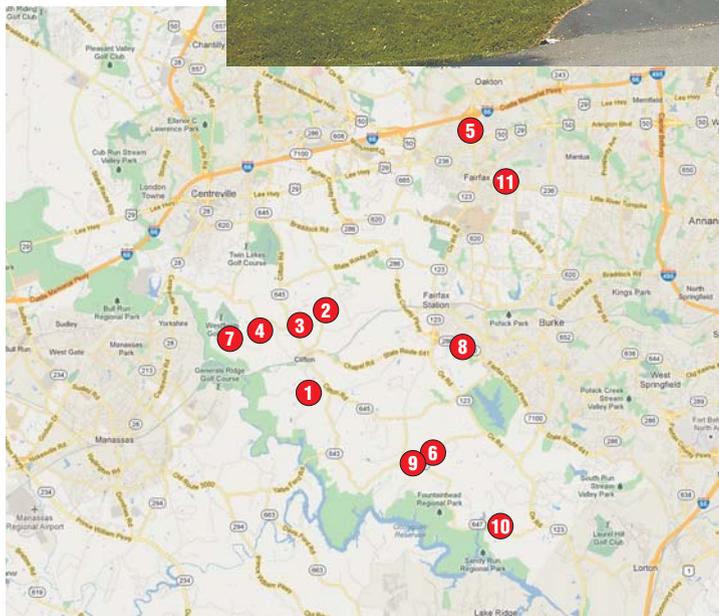


**2** 12522 Knollbrook Drive, Clifton — \$1,650,000

**5** 3502 Mavis Court, Fairfax — \$1,175,000



**11** 4098 Orchard Drive, Fairfax — \$906,000



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2 12522 KNOLLBROOK DR	5	.5	.1	CLIFTON	CLIFTON	\$1,650,000	Detached	5.00	20124	FERGUSON KNOLLS	05/15/12
3 12809 WYCKLOW DR	5	.4	.1	CLIFTON	CLIFTON	\$1,300,000	Detached	5.00	20124	WILGUSON HILLS	05/09/12
4 13308 IVAKOTA FARM RD	6	.4	.1	CLIFTON	CLIFTON	\$1,245,000	Detached	2.45	20124	BALMORAL GREENS	05/25/12
5 3502 MAVIS CT	6	.5	.1	FAIRFAX	FAIRFAX	\$1,175,000	Detached	0.50	22030	COBBDALE	05/11/12
6 7780 KELLY ANN CT	5	.4	.0	FAIRFAX STATION	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,052,000	Detached	5.02	22039	BRIARLYNN ESTATES	05/15/12
7 7412 UNION RIDGE RD	5	.4	.1	CLIFTON	CLIFTON	\$1,030,000	Detached	1.41	20124	BALMORAL GREENS	05/31/12
8 10605 FOURNIER DR	4	.3	.1	FAIRFAX STATION	FAIRFAX STATION	\$975,000	Detached	3.00	22039	HUNT AT FAIRFAX STATION	05/25/12
9 11204 DEVEREUX MANOR LN	4	.4	.1	FAIRFAX STATION	FAIRFAX STATION	\$920,000	Detached	5.00	22039	DEVEREUX STATION	05/31/12
10 10121 HAMPTON RD	5	.3	.1	FAIRFAX STATION	FAIRFAX STATION	\$911,300	Detached	5.77	22039	SANDY RUN	05/02/12
11 4098 ORCHARD DR	6	.5	.0	FAIRFAX	FAIRFAX	\$906,000	Detached	0.25	22032	HALEMHURST	05/17/12

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**“We wanted to break the link between gun running in a way that the second amendment would not be broken.”**

— Don Beyer, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia under the Wilder administration

# Guns from the South

July 1 marks lifting of 19-year restriction on handgun purchases.

BY MONTIE MARTIN  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n July 1, the 19-year restriction on handgun purchases in Virginia became null and void. The measure was signed by Gov. Bob McDonnell Feb 28, and effectively allows an unlimited number of handgun purchases to individuals in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Small businesses that support the change maintain a rise in handgun sales will lead to increases in state revenue, and that the restriction is fundamentally against the second amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Opponents of the measure argue that lifting the restriction will facilitate arms trafficking and further the image of Virginia as a rogue supplier of firearms.

The one-handgun-per-month restriction was a signature effort of the Douglas Wilder administration, and was aimed squarely at crime organizations from New York. Such organizations filtered south to Virginia for bulk purchases of handguns from local retailers. By purchasing handguns in Virginia, firearms traffickers circumvented stringent controls in New York.

According to Don Beyer, lieutenant governor of Virginia under the Wilder administration when the restriction was established in 1993, the limit on handgun purchases was seen as a practical and bipartisan solution to gun trafficking.

“We wanted to break the link between gun running in a way that the second amendment would not be broken,” said Beyer in a telephone interview. “We had a lot of bipartisan support, limiting gun purchases to one per month is not the same as taking all guns away. People thought this was a common sense approach, criminals were not buying Virginia guns in bulk and to that extent it was a very good thing.”

The restriction had an immediate impact on Virginia guns found at crime scenes out of state. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association and ATF records of traced firearms used in crimes, 41 percent of crime scene guns found in New York City in 1991 originated in Virginia. Two years after the restriction was put in place Virginia guns only accounted for 15 percent of total guns used in crime there.

The net effect of the restriction did not



PHOTO BY MONTIE MARTIN/THE CONNECTION

**Guns on display at the Nation's Gun Show. Private owners of guns in Virginia are not required to conduct background checks before selling firearms.**

hold up over time, however, and by 2006 Virginia was once again a top supplier of guns used in out of state crime. Colin Goddard, a survivor of the 2007 Virginia Tech mass shooting and spokesperson for the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, notes that guns trafficked from Virginia are caused by ever increasing exceptions to the one-handgun-per-month restriction.

“Lobby groups like the NRA started taking away pieces of the law until they could claim it was redundant. The law did not apply to private sales, collectors, and not if you had a concealed handgun permit,” said Goddard in a telephone interview. “Basically everyone was exempted except gun traffickers.”

The consequences of firearms trafficking are deadly. In December of 2011, NYPD Officer Peter Figoski was shot and killed by a Virginia handgun. Following the high-profile murder, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Boston Mayor Tom Menino brought the issue of illegal guns to the national stage during a 30-second advertisement for Super bowl XLVI. Although Bloomberg did not call out Virginia by name during the Super Bowl slot, in an emailed statement to the Connection Newspapers the mayor made his sentiments clear.

“Virginia is the number one out-of-state source of crime guns in New York, and one of the top suppliers nationally,” said Bloomberg. “If they care about innocent people and police officers being shot, they should be strengthening laws — as we have

done in New York — to keep guns away from criminals, not weakening them.”

Proponents of lifting the one-handgun-per-month restriction are quick to point out second amendment concerns. “We had a man come in looking to buy a handgun for his daughter, wife and himself because he felt his family was threatened,” said Brian Reed, a gun dealer with the Damascus Gun Shop in Damascus, Va.. “He couldn’t, because of the restriction, and he had to wait months to buy them.”

Virginia guns have been selling at record highs even with the restriction in place. According to the Virginia State Police, between 2010 and 2011 there were 321,166 firearm background checks from licensed dealers in Virginia, the largest number of checks ever. Conservative estimates put these sales into the millions of dollars.

“Between 2010 and 2011 gun stores sold \$312.5 million in firearms, and another \$312.5 million on accessories. That’s \$625 million in total sales,” said Reed. “With a five percent sales tax that’s \$31.25 million collected for Virginia.”

Annette Eliot, president of Showmasters, a family-owned gun show company, notes that many of the Virginia gun dealerships are small businesses. Although the one-handgun-per-month restriction has limited potential sales, lengthy wait times for background checks are a principal concern for firearm dealers.

“The average customer is delayed by four hours because of background checks, it’s expensive because people walk away from sales,” said Eliot. “These are small businessmen, last year dealers lost 12 percent in sales, that’s a hit.”

Delays most often occur when there is a high volume of background checks that must be processed. Customers who purchase firearms in Virginia are subject to two levels of background checks. The National Instant Criminal Background Check System, managed by the FBI, checks a national databank of convicted felons who are ineligible to purchase firearms. An additional background check conducted by the Virginia

State Police looks closely at individuals who were committed to mental hospitals, and stems from the fallout of the Virginia Tech massacre.

Background checks do not apply to private sales, however, and law enforcement officials do not know how many firearms are sold under such circumstances. “That is not something the Virginia Firearms Transaction Program is capable of tracking or capturing, nor is the FTP mandated to do so by state law,” said Corinne Geller, a spokesperson for the Virginia State Police.

Proponents of stricter firearms controls point to the “gun show loophole” as a source of illegal firearms transactions. Gun shows make space available for private citizens to sell weapons from personal collections, without conducting background checks. The one handgun per month restriction does not apply to such individuals. Applicability of the restriction to private sales, however, was never the intent of the original legislation.

“The perception was that people don’t go to gun shows to buy 50 at a time,” said Beyer. “The way the market worked at the time had to do with the radical operation of gun stores who could deal in volume.”

“Criminals don’t buy guns from private individuals at gun shows, the truth is that 98 percent of guns used in crime come from us,” said Reed. “Criminals will get guns, the solution is tougher laws for criminals.”

Although Virginia has laws in place that guard against falsifying documents when purchasing handguns, it is not required to report a lost or stolen firearm. According to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, such leniency creates an atmosphere ripe for gun trafficking via straw purchases.

In exchange for as little as \$10, or an equivalent in drugs, individuals with clean records will purchase a handgun and give the weapon to a ringleader for transportation.

“A straw purchaser is someone saying this gun is for me, then meets a person a few blocks away and gives them the gun,” said Mike Campbell, a spokesperson with the ATF, in a telephone interview. “Most people buy a gun and choose to keep it for a while, newly purchased guns used in crime scenes are more likely to have been trafficked.”

Law enforcement agencies track crime scene guns by following the supply chain, from gun manufacture to wholesaler, dealer and the individual who purchased the gun. If the owner has sold the firearm without keeping a record of the transaction, lost the gun or had it stolen, the trail goes cold.

Law enforcement officers are not involved in the political debate regarding the one handgun per month restriction. “Virginia is an island of loose gun regulations surrounded by states with more stringent controls on firearms,” said Campbell. “It’s not our job to advise states what they can and can not do with their laws. The people of Virginia are the ones who elected their officials.”

## July 1, Fewer Gun Restrictions

Legislation going into effect this week in Virginia includes multiple bills that ease any restrictions on guns.

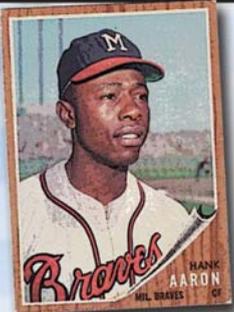
The new laws:

- ❖ Eliminate the prohibition on purchasing more than one handgun in a 30-day period.
- ❖ Add concealed handgun permits to the list of acceptable forms of identification to vote or when challenged.
- ❖ Provide that nothing in the Emergency Services and Disaster Law shall be interpreted

to limit or prohibit the otherwise lawful possession, carrying, transportation, sale, or transfer of firearms.

- ❖ Provides that no locality may participate in any gun-buyback program unless the governing body of the locality has enacted an ordinance authorizing the participation of the locality. The ordinance shall require that such firearms shall be offered for sale by public auction or sealed bids to a person licensed as a dealer.

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## NEWS

# GOP Hosts 'Super Saturday'

## Republicans rally at the Fairfax Victory Office

Record-breaking temperatures could not keep more than 100 volunteers and supporters from gathering at the Fairfax Victory Office to participate in the Republican Party's "Super Saturday" call-to-arms on July 7 targeting a dozen battleground states, including Virginia. Representing a wide spectrum of ages, occupations and ethnic backgrounds, the GOP faithful manned phone banks and braved the heat knocking on doors in a contact blitz described by party officials as the largest get-out-the-vote effort in Virginia history.

Campaign officials said they were encouraged by the recent increase in volunteers and donations. In the twenty-four hours following the Supreme Court's ruling on ObamaCare, the Party took in about \$4.6 million in online donations, with more than \$200,000 in Virginia.

Locally organized by the Republican Party of Virginia in conjunction with the Republican National Committee and Romney for President, the event featured Republican leaders and candidates.

Jay McConville, Chairman of the Fairfax County Republican Committee, introduced the day's first speaker, Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli.

"I know I feel like a piece of ba-



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

**Former Governor George Allen and his wife Susan with Maha Khaliq, a senior at GMU majoring in Government and International Politics who is working as an intern at the Republican Victory Office in Fairfax.**

con sizzling out here, and I bet you do, too. But we can't afford to lose a single day. The clock is ticking," said Cuccinelli, standing at the podium in front of the Romney for President bus in the parking lot of the Republican headquarters.

Former Virginia Governor George Allen, coming straight from an Independence Day Parade in Orange County with wife Susan, was next to add his thanks and comments. Allen is seeking to retake the US Senate seat he held

from 2001 – 2007. U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10), spoke surrounded by supporters in "Wolf Pack" t-shirts. The audience responded enthusiastically: Grabbing fresh bottles of water, they streamed back inside, heading to the phone banks and pairing up to form Door-Knocking squads.

Party officials said they plan to hold similar events once a month until the election in November.

—ANDREA WORKER



**Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli addresses the crowd at the GOP Super Saturday Rally in Fairfax.**

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# CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

## FRIDAY/JULY 13

**Little Red & The Renegades.** 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Zydeco. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

## SATURDAY/JULY 14

**2nd Saturday Art Walk.** 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Meet each building's featured artist, a reception in W-16 from 6-7 p.m. and more. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

**The David Kitchen Band.** 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Pop/Rock. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

**31st Obon Festival.** 5:30 p.m. Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lake Haven lane, Fairfax Station. Traditional Japanese folk dancing, a memorial candle ceremony, children's games and a taiko performance by Nen Daiko. 703-239-0500 or www.ekoji.org.

**2nd Saturday Art Walk.** 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The Workhouse showcases the diverse work of more than 100 visual artists in a unique historic venue. Free. www.workhousearts.org.

**New Hope Church Christmas in July Craft and Bake Sale.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 8905 Ox Road, Lorton. A day of fun, food, crafts and an opportunity to plan ahead on



**The United States Army Band "Downrange" will perform in a Lee District Nights series on Wednesday, July 25, 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Park Amphitheater, 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia.**

Christmas shopping. www.fmsc.org

## FRIDAY/JULY 20

**Tommy Lepson Band.** 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Blues/Soul. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

## SATURDAY/JULY 21

**Sunset Cruise.** 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Cruiser the shores of Lake Accotink. Beverages served. \$6. Register at 703-569-0285.

**Jah Works.** 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts

Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Reggae. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

**Flea Market.** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. VRE Commuter Rail Parking Lot, 6900 Hechinger Drive, Springfield. Sponsored by Springfield-Franconia Lions Club. Vendor fee \$20 per parking space. Proceeds benefit local charities. 703-569-3074 or http://sfhostlions.org/fleamkt.html.

**Clifton Film Festival.** 3-11 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Showcasing original films made by the surrounding community. \$5 day showings, \$10 evening showing, \$20 for 3 day showings and evening showings.

www.workhousearts.org.

## SUNDAY/JULY 22

**Canine Cruises.** 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Cruiser the shores of Lake Accotink with your dog. Limit one dog per person. \$6. Register at 703-569-0285.

**NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra.** 7:30 p.m. Performs Rhapsody in Blue with pianist Christopher Johnston. Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Adults \$15, seniors and teens \$10, children free. 703-569-0973.

## MONDAY/JULY 23

**Vacation Bible School.** 9-11:30 a.m. Fellowship Baptist Church, 5936 Rolling Road, Springfield. Activities will include a Bible Lesson, Missions Emphasis, Crafts, Snacks and Games. Free. Register at www.honoringGod.org or 703 569-5151.

## FRIDAY/JULY 27

**The ATOMIC Swing Club.** 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Swing. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

## SATURDAY/JULY 28

**Public Reception: Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition.** 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. "Open Call" for ceramic artworks. Mixed media entries acceptable, but clay must be the primary medium. Exhibit open

July 25-Aug. 26. www.workhousearts.org.

**Mariachi Los Amigos.** 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Mariachi. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

**Flea Market.** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. VRE Commuter Rail Parking Lot, 6900 Hechinger Drive, Springfield. Sponsored by Springfield-Franconia Lions Club. Vendor fee \$20 per parking space. Proceeds benefit local charities. 703-569-3074 or http://sfhostlions.org/fleamkt.html.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 3

**Dinner and Whiskey Tasting at George Washington's Distillery.** 6:30 p.m. George Washington's Distillery & Gristmill, 5513 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Reception, dinner, distillery tour and more. \$150. MountVernon.org.

**Incendio.** 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Latin. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 4

**Toho Koto Society of Koto Players/Dancers.** 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Japanese. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

**Flea Market.** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. VRE Commuter Rail Parking Lot, 6900 Hechinger Drive, Springfield. Sponsored by Springfield-Franconia Lions Club. Vendor fee \$20 per parking space. Proceeds benefit local charities. 703-569-3074 or http://sfhostlions.org/fleamkt.html.

## FAITH NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

**Clifton Presbyterian Church,** 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided. Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.

**St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church,** 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, conducts Sunday masses at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It also offers a Saturday vigil at 5:30 p.m. and a Thursday Latin mass at 7 p.m. 703-817-1770 or www.st-andrew.org.

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,** 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or www.poplc.org.

**Church of the Nativity** offers a free general bereavement support group open to all adults on the first and third Thursday of each month 7:30-9 p.m. The church is located at 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke. Call 703-455-2400, ext. 17.

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<b>Baptist</b> Community of Faith Tabernacle... 703-455-4594	Immanuel Bible Church... 703-941-4124	Evangelical Covenant Community Covenant Church...703-455-4150	St. Mark's Lutheran Church...703-451-4331	New Life Open Bible Church...703-922-7577
Fellowship Baptist Church... 703-569-5151	<b>Catholic</b> St. Bernadette's Catholic Church... 703-451-8576	<b>Jewish</b> Congregation Adat Reyim... 703-569-7577	Immanuel Lutheran Church...703-549-0155	New World Unity Church... 703-690-7925
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# SPORTS

## Verbanic Named Flint Hill School Football Coach

Coached football at Fairfax High, Westfield.

**F**lint Hill School named Tom Verbanic as the Head Varsity Football Coach for the 2012 season. Verbanic served as Flint Hill's Director of Athletic Operations and as the Defensive Coordinator for the Varsity Football team in 2011. He has been the Head Coach for the Varsity Baseball team since 2010.

Michael Wright had been the Head Coach of the Flint Hill Varsity Football team since the program was restarted in 2003. Under his leadership, the football team won four Mid-Athletic Conference (MAC) Championships, competed in the Virginia State Independent Schools Athletic Association

(VISAA) State Semi-Finals four times, and was the VISAA State Runner-Up in 2008. Wright will continue in his role as Assistant Director of Admission.

Verbanic has coached football at the high school level in Virginia for the past 33 years. He began as the Head Coach at Fairfax High School for 11 years, during which time his teams went 85-32 with five district championships and one regional championship. When Westfield High School opened in 2000, Verbanic became the team's first Head Coach, maintaining that position for ten years. During his tenure, Westfield's football team finished with an overall record of 100-28 and won six district titles, two regional titles, and



**Tom Verbanic is Flint Hill's new Head Varsity Football Coach for the 2012 season.**

two state championships (2003 and 2008).

Verbanic received the District Coach of the Year award 13 times, the Regional Coach of the Year award four times, and the Virginia State Coach of the Year award three times. Verbanic also received the East Coast

Coach of the Year in 2007 and was named Coach of the Decade for the State of Virginia (2000-2010).

Verbanic takes over a Flint Hill team that finished 2011 with a 7-3 record and placed second in the Mid-Atlantic Conference.

### AREA SWIMMING REPORT

## Fairfax Station Swims Past Fairfax

**L**ed by strong performances in the boys' and girls' freestyle events, the Fairfax Station swim team beat Fairfax, 242-178, on July 7 in an NVSL Division 2 swim meet in Fairfax.

Fairfax Station won or tied for first in eight of 10 freestyle events. In boys' action, Fairfax Station freestyle winners were: Joshua Renalds (tie, 8U 25-meter, 18.34), Connor Jacoby (11-12 50-meter, 30.93), Tyler Hazard (13-14, 29.34) and Ricky Munch (15-18, 24.05). Girls' winners were: Kelly Broderick (8U, 17.46), Emily Royce (9-10, 37.66), Theresa Boyd (11-12, 32.17) and Katie Munch (15-18, 28.54).

Fairfax freestyle winners were: Kent Coddling (boys' 9-10 50, 33.09) and Anna Ober (girls' 13-14 50, 29.59).

In other boys' action, Fairfax Station backstroke winners were: John Orsa (11-12, 36.06) and Roman Lowery (13-14, 30.6). Fairfax winners were: Daniel Welch (8U, 25.4), Peter Makin (9-10, 43.46) and Chris Megaw (15-18, 29.37).

Fairfax Station breaststroke winners were: James Anderson (9-10, 47.75), Orsa (11-12, 37.89), Lowery (13-14, 37.59) and Ricky Munch (15-18, 31.67). Fairfax's winner was: Welch (8U, 32.77).

Fairfax Station butterfly winner was: Nicholas Allan Stern (13-14, 34.03). Fairfax's winners were: Justin Singletary (8U, 21.84), Kent Coddling (9-10, 16.18), Carl Maahs (11-12, 35.81) and Austin Patteson (15-18, 27).

Fairfax Station won four of six relay events: 200 mixed age (Orsa, Anderson, Lowery, Ricky Munch, 1:54.62), 11-12 100 medley (Nicholas Chestnut, Orsa, Jacoby, Stedham, 1:05.8), 13-14 100 medley (Hazard, Crowley, Lowery, Noah Kim, 1:02.93) and Alex Saffran, Bo Ilgenfritz, Hansen and Ricky Munch, 1:54.81). Fairfax's winners were: 8U 100 free (Singletary, Adam Dembicki, Tristan Mocio, Daniel Welch, 1:28.84) and 9-10 100 medley (Peter

Makin, Richie Dudley, Coddling, Liam Weis, 1:17.65).

In girls' action, Fairfax Station backstroke winners were: Elaine Chua (8U, 21.58), Lauren Royce (9-10, 45.58) and Theresa Boyd (11-12, 36). Fairfax winners were: Sarah Ahson (13-14, 35.38) and Leah Rogers (15-18, 32.18).

Fairfax Station breaststroke winners were: Kelly Broderick (8U, 24.43), Faith Lowery (11-12, 42.53), Genevieve Munch (13-14, 39.21) and Katie Munch (15-18, 35.93). Fairfax's winner was: Isabella Manzione (9-10, 47.66).

Fairfax Station butterfly winners were: Elaine Chua (8U, 20.9), Victoria Downing (9-10, 19.59) and Faith Lowery (11-12, 35.93). Fairfax's winners were: Ober (13-14, 31.46) and Leah Rogers (15-18, 30.68).

Fairfax Station relay winners were: 8U 100 free (Maia Elisse Stern, Kelly Broderick, Katherine Klein, Chua, 1:23.24), 200 fixed age (Lowery, Royce, Genevieve Munch, Katie Munch, 2:07.28) and 11-12 100 medley (Theresa Boyd, Mia Buck, Faith Lowery, Caroline Broderick, 1:09.53). Fairfax's winners were: 9-10 100 medley (Ellie Shriver, Carlee Gaboury, Isabella Manzione, Sadie Drummond, 1:20.89), 13-14 100 medley (Sarah Ahson, Meryn Holtzlander, Ober, Ellie D'Alessandro, 1:05.4) and 15-18 200 medley (Rachel Ward, Rachel Rogers, Leah Rogers, Hannah Basl, 2:09.4).

**Hunt Valley Remains Undefeated**  
The Hunt Valley (Springfield) swim team improved to 3-0 in Division 4 with a 252-168 victory against Dunn Loring on July 7 during an NVSL meet in Vienna.

In girls' action, Hunt Valley individual winners were: Kalisi Loveridge (8U 25-meter free); Carrie Morrison (9-10 50-meter free); Jessie Zeppieri (15-18 free); Anna Heninger (8U back); Haley Seaward (9-10 back, fly); Kathleen Amann (13-14 back); Sammy Kvartunas (15-18 back); Olivia

Krein (8U breast, fly); Jenny Li (9-10 breast); Claire Meyer-Hagen (11-12 breast); Hannah Hagy (15-18 breast, fly).

Hunt Valley won four of six relay events: 8U 100 free (Ashlyn Miles, Krein, Julia Winslow, Loveridge); 200 mixed age free (Meyer-Hagen, Carrie Morrison, Amann, Hagy); 11-12 100 medley (Alyssa Nagle, Meyer-Hagen, Seaward, Bucker) and 15-18 200 medley (Katie Nirenberg, Mady Sieracki, Hagy, Sammy Kvartunas).

In boys' action, Hunt Valley winners were: Peter Lermo (9-10 free); Jared Nirenberg (13-14 free), Matthew Garstka (15-18 free); Tommy Nagle (9-10 back); Sean Mayer (15-18 back); Finn Gelbach (8U breast); Jerry Li (9-10 breast); Andrew Verdin (11-12 breast) and Luke Baird (8U fly).

Hunt Valley won four of six relay events: 8U 100 free (Gelbach, Thomas Rogers, Bennett Lind, Baird); 9-10 100 medley (Nagle, Li, Lermo, Ian Krein); 13-14 100 medley (Nirenberg, Eamon Mulligan, Verdin, Christopher Veatch) and 15-18 200 medley (Mayer, Ricky Veatch, Jackson Milroy, Garstka).

### Little Rocky Run Beats Lee-Graham

The Little Rocky Run (Clifton) swim team defeated Lee-Graham, 227.5-192.5, in a Division 2 NVSL meet on July 7 in Falls Church.

In boys' action, Myles Brown was LRR's lone freestyle winner, finishing first in the 11-12 50-meter event with a time of 28.12 seconds. LRR backstroke winners were: Daniel Rojas (8U 25 meter, 22.01), Brown (11-12, 34.56) and James Murphy (13-14, 28.42). Breaststroke winners were: Peter Rantis (8U, 29.22) and Kyle Cassidy (11-12, 38.85). Butterfly winners were: Cassidy (11-12, 35.03) and Murphy (13-14, 27.5).

Little Rocky Run won four of six relay events: 8U 100 free (Joseph Rowzie, Ethan Birkholz, Evan Parrott, Rojas, 1:21.4), 200 mixed age (Brown, Jakob Robinette,

Murphy, Jonathan Clark, 1:57.71), 11-12 100 medley (Brown, Cassidy, Scott Ruelle, Colin Boll, 1:07.47) and 13-14 100 medley (Murphy, Ryan Boll, Samuel Jackmore, Brent Rushing, 59.14).

In girls' action, LRR freestyle winners were: Ava Soong (8U, 19.72), Emily Drakopoulos (9-10, 34.35) and Rachel Anderson (15-18, 29.22).

Backstroke winners were: Hannah Charters (8U, 24.17), Drakopoulos (9-10, 40.78) and Logan Ross (15-18, 35.89).

Breaststroke winners were: Soong (8U, 25.56) and Ross (15-18, 37.61).

Butterfly winners were: Samantha Rojas (8U, 23.1), Lexi Benton (9-10, 19.54) and Abby McCranie (15-18, 30.53).

LRR won four of six relay events: 8U 100 free (Rojas, Sofia Krstolic, Brooke Canavan, Soong, 1:25.82), 200 mixed age (Katherine Bennett, Drakopoulos, Murphy, Rachel Anderson, 2:06.31), 9-10 100 medley (Rylie Kiefaber, Caitlin Birkholz, Benton, Drakopoulos, 1:18.12) and 15-18 200 medley (Anderson, Ross, McCranie, Brooke Worley, 2:12).

### Burke Station Improves to 2-1

Led by Sophie Chase, who won two individual events and helped two relays to victory, the Burke Station swim team improved to 2-1 in Division 15 with a 229-189 victory against Rolling Valley on July 7 in an NVSL meet in Burke.

Chase finished first in the girls' 15-18 50-meter freestyle (29.72) and the 50 breast (36.18), and helped the 200 mixed age freestyle (Victoria Cecchetti, Bridget Patterson, Kirsten Chase, 2:21.58) and 15-18 200 medley (Rachel Beck, Sarah Beck, Mary Pollin, 2:27.24) relay teams to victory.

Townsend Tripple (boys' 9-10 free, fly), Harvey Brashier (boys' 11-12 free, fly), Tom Gregorits (boys' 13-14 free, fly) and Elizabeth Fitzpatrick (girls' 13-14 free, breast) also won multiple events for Burke Station.

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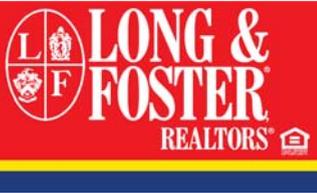
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