

Burke CONNECTION

State Champions, Again

Burke Veteran Revisits Normandy

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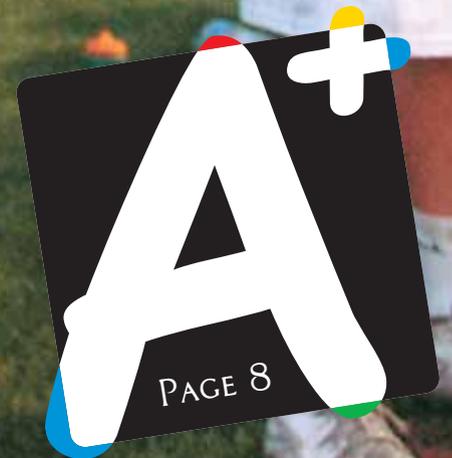
SPORTS, PAGE 14

Robinson's Joe Bynum (27) and teammates celebrate on the sidelines during the Rams' 9-7 victory over Langley in the state championship game on June 15.



Meals Tax: Tasty or Revolting?

NEWS, PAGE 4



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NEWS



PHOTO BY JAN CURLEY

Members of the French Army request autographs and photographs from Henry Stawicki at Sainte-Mère-Église.

Burke Veteran Revisits Normandy

BY THOMAS FRIESTAD
THE CONNECTION

While the visual of infantry servicemen during the Normandy Invasion is an iconic World War II visual, lesser known is that of the

Revisiting historic places, memories during 10-day trip.

combat engineers who made the infantry's progress through enemy territory possible. Veteran Henry Stawicki of Burke recently revisited Europe on the seventieth anniversary of D-Day to commemorate his former role in the 341st Engineer Regiment.

Stawicki said he and his family decided to participate on a ten-day tour of various European cities prominent in WWII history after receiving a letter from the American Battle Commission. Their tour included visits to Normandy, Paris, Luxembourg, Wiesbaden and Frankfurt.

"My family decided it would be interesting to go since it was the seventieth anniversary; there were seven of us who went," Stawicki said. "We went last year, but there weren't that many veterans there that time. The ceremony was from the city of Normandy; they honored all veterans with a special medal for knighthood."

Stawicki said, as a young man from Pittsburgh, he originally wanted to become part of the infantry after receiving a letter from President Roosevelt, informing him his neighbors had recommended him for service. However, based on test scores he achieved, he was instead assigned to the 341st Engineer Regiment. He landed on Utah Beach a few weeks after D-Day to put his skills into action during the battle's aftermath.

"The Germans destroyed
SEE NORMANDY, PAGE 11

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PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION
Soon-to-be graduates of Robinson Secondary School wait to receive their diplomas at the Patriot Center in Fairfax on June 17.

After receiving their diplomas and turning their tassels, new graduates of Robinson Secondary School throw their graduation caps in the air at the Patriot Center in Fairfax on June 17.

Class of 2014 Graduates from Robinson Secondary

The Patriot Center was packed on June 17 as the Class of 2014 celebrated their graduation from Robinson Secondary School.

Woodson High School Graduates 540 Seniors

Math teacher Dan Schaefer receives Teacher of the Year Award.

BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO
 THE CONNECTION

The class of 2014 graduated from W.T. Woodson High School, Tuesday, June 17 at Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax. Five hundred forty students walked on stage to receive their diplomas, with poise and confidence typical of high school seniors.

It was a very different story four years ago for student speaker Tianay Zeigler. Zeigler went to the wrong school on the first day of her high school career. The next day, she made it to Woodson and is thankful that she did.

“Woodson is awesome...Only Woodson has milk-and-cookie Wednesdays. Only Woodson has the Manettes,” said Zeigler, who will be attending Princeton University in the fall.

Zeigler thanked Principal Jeff Yost, whom she called Papa Yost, “I think that title fits him better than principal. He’s been here for us through thick and thin,” she said.

She acknowledged the staff at Woodson who were instrumental in keeping the school clean, safe, and hospitable.



Jennifer L. Windsor delivers the keynote address to the W.T. Woodson High School Class of 2014 on Tuesday, June 17.

“I’m going to let you graduate, but first, let me take a selfie.”

— Student speaker Tianay Zeigler

She expressed thanks to the teachers for “mentoring us, pushing us and believing in us.”

Director of Student Services Tim Hopkins, along with Yost, presented math teacher Dan Schaefer with the 2014 Parent Teacher Stu-



Johanna Foveaux, 89, and Judy Foveaux, of Fairfax, watch grand-daughter and niece Erica Andersen graduate from W.T. Woodson High School on Tuesday, June 17.

dent Organization Teacher of the Year Award.

Schaefer has worked at W.T. Woodson High School for 14 years and has served as the student government association leadership teacher for eight years. “His door is always open to anyone who needs help in math, some friendly advice, a place to hang out, or simply, a heartfelt smile,” said Hopkins.

Hopkins also presented the 2014 School Award to student government president Claudia Muratore, who has “earned the trust and esteem of faculty and her peers through her hard work, unwavering integrity and selfless desire to help others.”

Muratore is also the president of the Young Hearts Club, which raises money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

THE GRADUATING CLASS applauded when Zeigler asked them to thank their parents. “They deserve a large thank you for always being there when we needed them, for kissing our boobos better, reading over our homework, teaching us to drive with a smile on their faces,” or as she said earlier, “generally putting up with us.”

The graduates burst into laughter and applause when Zeigler concluded her speech

SEE WOODSON, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Meals Task Force Referendum co-chairs Kate Hanley and Tom Davis deliver a short presentation to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Tuesday, June 17, on the final report of the 44-member task force.

Meals Tax: Tasty or Revolting?

Supervisors digest task force's final report on hot-button issue.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

After hours of simmering debate, the Meals Tax Referendum Task Force's presentation to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Tuesday was a mere amuse-bouche, whetting the appetite of board members for the group's 170-page multi-course written report.

For the past two months, top chefs Kate Hanley (D) and Tom Davis (R), both former chairmen of the board, led a 44-member task force through four highly-charged and heated meetings.

But the group failed to come to a consensus about whether the supervisors should serve up a referendum to voters on the meals tax; instead it provided the board with an exhaustive menu of pros and cons for the supervisors to consider.

Commissioned by Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-Large), the task force was convened in April to consider whether Fairfax County should proceed with a referendum for a meals tax; if yes, what year should the referendum be held, and how should the revenue from the meals tax be used.

THE LAST TIME Fairfax County asked voters to approve a tax on restaurant meals, in 1992, the issue ignited a firestorm of protests, and threatened to melt down several political careers.

The reverberations of that epic failure — what many consider the third rail of county politics — continue to echo in the ears of county politicians.

Probably no local politician was more affected by the issue than Davis, the former Republican congressman who chaired the board during the last 1992 meals tax battle.

"It got pretty ugly," he said of the factions in the 1992 referendum crusade. The measure was defeated 58 percent to 42 percent with approximately 102,000 votes cast during a special April election.

During Tuesday's presentation, Davis and Hanley noted the task force learned from the 1992 referendum failure, and came to a swift consensus on two points:

* If the board decides to put the tax to a referendum, the referendum should be held during a general election, not a special election.

* If the board decided to approve a referendum, the money should be dedicated, meaning that voters should know how the money will be spent.

Bulova has said that a four-percent tax on meals and beverages at the county's nearly 3,000 restaurants would generate approximately \$90 million in new revenue for schools, public safety, parks, libraries and human services.

After the short presentation by Hanley and Davis, Bulova made it clear to that she would "not entertain motions" on the report during Tuesday's meeting.

"The board just received the report, and we need time to digest it," she said, opening up the issue for brief comments and questions from the board.

"Is it persuasive to voters, in your opinion, that we are not treated as cities in our ability to raise revenue?" asked Supervisor Gerald Hyland (D-Mount Vernon). "Do you think we should raise the issue that this tax will get us away from the reliance of real estate tax? Will that be persuasive to voters?"

Hanley and Davis said the task force did provide advice on how to sell the tax to voter.

"Many issues here continue to confuse voters," Hanley said.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) said she was concerned about the "enormous lack of information regarding what our constituents know about (our taxing authority)."

"Our legislative agenda has always been that we need the authority to tax in this situation. And that piece is not often discussed," Hudgins said.

Counties in Virginia are historically restricted in their authority to levy many local taxes, including a meals tax, without a referendum. Cities and towns, on the other hand, are given more leeway by the Virginia state code.

About a Meals Tax

What effect would the meals tax have on an average resident at a 4 percent tax rate?

❖ On a \$5 "fast food" meal, tax would be 20 cents

❖ On a \$50 meal at a "nice restaurant", tax would be \$2

Who would pay the meals tax?

❖ County residents who choose to dine out.

❖ Commuters, travelers and tourists who visit Fairfax County

What about tourists? How much do tourists spend on dining out in Fairfax County?

❖ According to the Virginia Tourism Corporation, tourists spend an estimated \$631.4 million eating out in Fairfax County annually.

❖ Approximately 28 percent of meals expenditures in Fairfax County are generated by non-county residents.

❖ If Fairfax County voters approve a 4 percent meals tax, revenue generated from tourists is expected to be about \$25.3 million annually.

Who else has a meals tax in Northern Virginia, and how much revenue does it raise?

❖ Alexandria has a 4 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$17.6 million in 2014.

❖ Arlington has a 4 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$34.7 million in 2014.

❖ Falls Church has a 4 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$2.7 million in 2014.

❖ Fairfax City has a 4 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$5.4 million in 2014.

❖ Herndon has a 2.5 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$2 million in 2014.

❖ Vienna has a 3 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$1.9 million in 2014.

❖ The District of Columbia has a 10 percent MTR that is expected to generate \$331.31 million in 2014.

The City of Alexandria (1975), the City of Fairfax (1985), the City of Falls Church (1977), the Town of Herndon (2003), the City Manassas (1988) and the Town of Vienna (1989) have all enacted a meals tax by local ordinance. Meanwhile, Arlington County is one of the few counties that has received authority from the Virginia General Assembly to enact a meals tax by unanimous vote of its County Board.

That's something that won't happen in Fairfax County, said Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield), who declared Tuesday there would be no "unanimous" decision when the Fairfax County board casts its vote on a meals tax referendum.

"It's a tax that targets a single industry," Herry said in explaining why he would not consider voting to put a referendum on the ballot. "It would increase the tax on prepared foods by 67 percent, and Fairfax County residents will overwhelmingly shoulder this burden, the same county residents that have seen their homeowner taxes rise by 14 percent in the last three years alone."

Across the state, a meals tax has met with mixed reaction from voters. Loudoun and Prince William county officials recently rejected the idea of a meals tax after restaurant groups successfully argued the tax would unfairly target an industry that is facing pressure to increase the minimum wage while still struggling to recover from the 2008 recession.

But voters in Henrico County, which surrounds the City of Richmond, narrowly approved a 4 percent meals tax last November.

SEE MEALS TAX, PAGE 5

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NEWS

Meals Tax: Pros & Cons

FROM PAGE 4

Political analysis concluded the success of that referendum was due, in large part, to an avid public awareness campaign that reminded voters funds generated from the tax — about \$18 million each year — were dedicated to Henrico County Public Schools.

While much has changed in Fairfax County since 1992, the mere mention of a meals tax still stirs up vehement reactions.

“I think it is a bit disingenuous to suggest libraries, schools and parks would be the primary beneficiaries of meals tax revenues,” said Herndon resident Walter Hadlock in an email regarding the tax. “There are those of us, i.e., retirees, people with no children at home ... who don’t get any direct benefit from the bulk of county services”

“The board has once again put off making a decision on whether to place this burden on our residents, caterers, grocery stores, and restaurants,” Herrity said.

ON THE OTHER SIDE of the debate, Josh Israel of Fairfax said that, although he has no children, he would be “absolutely fine with paying more to make sure that our county has even better schools, sufficient funds for infrastructure, and is able to offer more programs to make our county a better place for everyone to live.”

Therese and Bernard Martin of Reston agreed with Israel.

“Fairfax County has tried, without success, to find sources other than the property tax to pay for schools, public safety and other services desired by its citizens,” the couple wrote in a June 6 email to the task force.

“I bet that the long lines of people waiting to get into restaurants at places like the Reston Town Center won’t be tempted to get back in their cars and drive to Loudoun or Prince William County to save 4 cents on every dollar that they spend. I think the restaurant industry is ‘crying wolf,’” Therese Martin said.

After the report by Hanley and Davis, Bulova thanked the task force but did not say when the board would vote on the report.

“What’s missing (in the report) is how we discuss this with the community,” added Hudgins.

“This is still in our lap and we have to decide what we want to do with it.”

To view the report, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mealstax/

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OPINION

More Affordable Housing Needed

Anticipated job growth to exacerbate problem.

In Northern Virginia, affordable housing means more than human services or helping those who are less fortunate. It means more than housing the chronically homeless, although that is not optional.

In Northern Virginia, having enough affordable housing is critical to economic health, based on housing the workers needed at a variety of income levels. It is also critical to traffic management. If workers on the lower end of the income scale can't afford to work near their jobs, those workers will have to drive longer distances, creating gridlock and air pollution.

Consider that in the Washington Metropolitan Region, the established median rent for a two-bedroom apartment, according to HUD, is \$1,589 monthly. To afford that rent, paying no more than 30 percent of gross income, requires an income of about \$60,000 annually. And it is obvious that rents in Northern Virginia are more expensive than the region.

Consider for example, that right now in Alexandria, there are more than 8,300 workers in the accommodations and food service industry who earn on average \$470 weekly, or less than \$25,000 a year. (Employment statistics from Virginia Employment Commission.)

In Arlington, there are more than 15,400

workers in accommodations and food service, with an average weekly wage of \$491, or \$25,500 annually.

In Fairfax County, in food service and accommodations, there are more than 48,400 workers with an average wage of \$426 weekly or an annual income of just over \$22,000.

These are people working full time in jobs that are important to our economy who cannot afford market rate rents, and rents are climbing.

The George Mason University School of Public Policy Center for Regional Analysis forecasts that, based on predicted job growth, over the next 20 years this region will need an additional 344,624 single-family units and 203,674 multi-family units.

From the report:

"The region's new housing must be priced so that it is affordable to these new workers. Based on the housing need forecasts, 44.1 percent of rental units will need to have rents of less than \$1,250 a month, while only 2.4 percent of the rental demand will be for units priced at \$2,250 a month or more. About 16.4 percent of the owner-occupied units forecasted need to be valued at less than \$200,000 and only 13.5 percent at over \$600,000."

For example, the report predicts adding more than 71,000 health services workers with a median income of \$39,500; more than 45,000 hospitality workers with a median income of \$18,300; and 17,700 retail workers with a median income of \$22,500.

The units to house the current and future workforce will not materialize on their own. It will require a variety of incentives and interventions to make sure those units are part of new development.

As the Silver Line opens, it's important to remember that the coming years will bring the last great boom in building in Fairfax County. No matter what the immediate impediments, the local economy cannot thrive unless developing affordable housing is built into all of those development plans, current and future.

—MARY KIMM

EDITORIALS

Call for Pet Connection

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on July 23, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 16.

Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans. Please tell us a little bit about your pet, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name). We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, explanations of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults. Email to editor@connectionnewspapers.com.

Woodson High Graduates: Where Do You See Yourself in the Next 5-10 Years?

— ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO



"Hopefully working. I'd like to travel and have, like, a job at that point. Hopefully graduate college."

— **James Lovett plans to attend Radford University**



"I'm going to be a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army."

— **Christine Sidhu plans to attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point**



"Teaching at my art studio, Little Picasso. Maybe freelancing for graphic design."

— **Rebecca Cho plans to attend George Mason University**



"I'm going to be in the Marine Corps, serving my country."

— **Ariel Magalong leaves for the Marine Corps on July 7**



"I'm going to Indiana University to study music education for trumpet."

— **Noah Freeman (left)**

Fairfax High Graduates: Where Do You See Yourself in the Next 5-10 Years?

— THOMAS FRIESTAD



"I'm going to go to James Madison University next year and hopefully major in Nursing, and I see myself working with their Women's Specialty Department."

— **Yvanna Salas**



"I'm going to be going to Longwood University and studying Athletic Training. In five to 10 years, I want to be able to run my own physical therapy."

— **Samantha Carr**



"For plans after high school, I'll be at the University of Virginia, and hopefully after that, I'll be attending an Ivy League school for another four years. I'm going to be in the UVA Undergraduate Business School and hopefully, in graduate school, business."

— **Tom Burke**



"I'm going to the University of Pittsburgh, and I think I'm going to be in Dental School in five years. I've been interested since I was a kid; that's what I've wanted to do. I'm passionate about dental hygiene."

— **Mahesh Pallapolu**

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Graduating from Woodson

FROM PAGE 3

with the popular expression “YOLO [You Only Live Once]”, and said, “I’m going to let you graduate, but first, let me take a selfie,” which she did.

Jennifer L. Windsor delivered the commencement address to the class of 2014. Windsor is the Associate Dean for Programs and Studies at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She is on the board of trustees at Freedom House, an organization that promotes the advancement of worldwide freedom.

Windsor gave the students five pieces of advice—take risks, don’t be afraid to fail, realize that life is not linear, be kind and remember to laugh. She said that taking risks can lead to experiences that are transformative and life-changing.

She urged the graduates to get back up and try again when they fail. “If you don’t fail, you will never learn or achieve greatness. You will always stay in your comfort zone, behind the shadow of what-ifs and might-have-beens,” said Windsor. “The world needs people who are just as smart, resilient and kind as each and every one of you to help lead us all towards a better future.”

PRINCIPAL YOST then presented the graduates with their diplomas. Benjamin Taylor Carter walked across the stage on crutches, having torn his ACL during a Woodson soccer game in May. Brandon Tenggara performed a flip as he received his diploma, prompting the announcer to

describe him as an honor student and acrobat.

The last person to receive her diploma was Jennaveve Yost, who shared a tender moment with her father, Principal Yost.



Benjamin Taylor Carter on crutches and a leg brace at W.T. Woodson High School’s graduation on Tuesday, June 17. Carter tore his ACL in May during a soccer game at school.

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Gifts for New Grads

Local tastemakers offer suggestions from the sentimental to the practical.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

After the tassels have been turned and the diplomas received, it is usually time for a graduation celebration. Whether you're shopping for someone who is heading to college or venturing out into the workforce, choosing a present for the graduate in your life can be perplexing, but local tastemakers are here to help, offering suggestions for graduation presents that range from the practical to the sentimental.

Frames for displaying graduation photos or family photos that remind graduates of home can make great gifts. "We have gorgeous, heirloom-quality frames by Elias Artmetal that are made in the U.S.A. by an old established company," said John Brown, owner of J. Brown and Company in Old Town Alexandria.

Leather goods, such as a well-made key chain, journal or passport holder are also gifts that will not only be treasured, but will come in handy long after the pomp and circumstance of the big day are over.

"Nest Fragrances has a line of scents that young people love ... especially beach and bamboo."

— John Brown, owner of J. Brown and Company in Old Town Alexandria.

Reminders of the college the graduate attended or will attend can make cheerful presents. "Collegiate products make great gifts," said Randy Fabian, manager of The Dandelion Patch in Reston



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PICKET FENCE
Personalized jewelry can serve as a reminder of a graduate's special day.



PHOTO COURTESY OF J. BROWN AND COMPANY
Heirloom-quality frames, such as these by Elias Artmetal, can make ideal graduation presents.

Town Center and Vienna. "There are platters, wine glasses and koozies for not only Virginia colleges, but a lot of schools outside of Virginia. They could be a commemorative item for a college graduate or a gift for someone who is heading off to college."

Another option is a scented

candle or diffuser, which can add a touch of elegance to a first apartment or dorm room. "Nest Fragrances has line of scents that young people love ... especially beach and bamboo," said Brown.

Backpacks, overnight bags and totes make practical gifts for new graduates, perfect for a quick trip

home or a first business trip. "Fun graphic totes are a great gift for grads," said Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke. "Perfect for travel, the gym or toting things around campus, they are something every grad can use."

Fabian said that Scout bags (www.scoutbags.com), which

come in an array of colors, sizes and styles, are easy to clean and appropriate for a wide variety of lifestyles.

Don't forget jewelry, which can last for a lifetime: "Personalized items like our initial pendant necklaces make a great gift and can serve as a remembrance of the

graduate's special day," said Thomas.

For high school graduates, consider warm pajamas or cozy throws for chilly dorm rooms. Also, "Kate Spade makes nice desk sets that are a bit jazzier than your average desk, and would add a nice touch to a dorm room," said Fabian.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

FRIDAY/JUNE 20 – SUNDAY/JUNE 22

Cooking Light & Health's The Fit Foodie 5K Race Weekend. Mosaic District, 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. The Fit Foodie 5K Race Weekend Series is jam-packed with celebrity chef tastings, cooking and fitness demonstrations, yoga sessions, and a Power Systems fitness boot camp, all led by celebrity trainers and fitness experts. For tickets and registration, visit <http://www.fitfoodierun.com/>

FRIDAY/JUNE 20

Choo! Choo! 10:30-11:15 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Join us for stories, songs, and activities all about trains! Age 3-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

Keeping Up with the Kids — Learn about Flickr, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Skype. 2-3 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics with our one-on-one technology volunteer about the social networking tools that can help you stay in touch with your kids and grandkids. 703-978-5600.

SATURDAY/JUNE 21 – WEDNESDAY/JULY 2

Arts from the Turkic World Exhibit. 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. The exhibition will feature a collection of works from various Turkic countries and territories as well as the works of featured artists of Turkic descent.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21

34th Annual Spring Mosby Civil War Bus Tour. 8:30 a.m. Truro Parish, 10520 Main Street, Fairfax. Visit Green Springs (The home of Fount Beattie), the City of Alexandria, the Robert E. Lee Camp Hall Museum, the grave of Ranger Albert Minor, the site of the Rose Hill Manor House, the Broder's Site & Cemetery and much more. Cost for Stuart-Mosby Historical Society members is \$6; non-members is \$75. Reserve your seat by sending your name, address and phone number to dhakenson@verizon.net. Or Contact Don at 703-971-4984. Reservations are not complete until they receive your check. Make checks payable to: Don Hakenson and send it to: 4708 Lillian Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22310. Visit www.stuart-mosby.com.

Clifton Wine Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Children's Park, 7140 Main St., Clifton. Visit historic Clifton, with wine, food, music and arts and crafts to make it a celebration. Rain or shine. Visit www.cliftonwine.com for more.

Intermediate Origami. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn the crane base fold and make a nesting crane, star box, and Iris flower. Age 13 to adult. 703-249-1520.

Raingutter Recycle Regata. 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Islamic Center Of Northern Virginia 4420 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Limited materials will be provided, participants are encouraged to bring their own recyclable materials. Pack114@MuslimScouting.org, 703-638-8219.

Robeks Fairfax 10 Year Anniversary Celebration. 9670 Main Street, Fairfax. Free samples, giveaways, 10 percent off, raffles.

<http://robeks.com/locations.html>
CLIPUS Foundation 5K. 7 – 10 a.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. The CLIPUS Foundation is a local nonprofit started by high school students from Great Falls. Their mission is to provide underprivileged children in the area with school supplies. So far they have donated over \$500 worth of supplies - but they want to do so much more.

Burke Farmers Market. 8 a.m. - noon. 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. www.fairfaxcounty.gov

SUNDAY/JUNE 22

Sunset Cruise. 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Lake Accotink, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Sit back and listen while your tourboat guide shares interesting facts about the history of the park, the lake and the surrounding area. \$6 per person. Reservations and advance payment required. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/events.htm>

MONDAY/JUNE 23

Magic Tree House Club. 3-4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Read and talk about the fourth story Pirates Past Noon by Mary Pope Osborne. Age 6-8. 703-249-1520.

Pohick Prose Society. 7-8:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Teens talk about books. Call for title. Age 13-18. 703-644-7333.

Paws to Read. 4-5 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice reading with Grace, a trained therapy dog. Call or sign up online for a 15-minute session. Age 6-12 with adult. 703-978-5600.

TUESDAY/JUNE 24

Rythm, Chants and Space Games: Movement for Memory. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Led by John "Kinderman" Taylor this workshop integrates rhythms, and movements that help children learn concepts. Finger spelling and American Sign Language are used to teach the alphabet and motor skills. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-644-7333.

Short Book Conversations. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Read Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress by Dai Sijie and join our discussion. 703-249-1520.

Brain Games at the Library. 3-4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Have fun and win prizes with our board games and card games that challenge your thinking and build your skills. Age 8-12. 703-293-6227.

Kings Park Library Friends Meeting. 6:30-9 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Kings Park Library Friends Meeting. 703-978-5600.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 25

Keeping Up with the Kids — Learn about Flickr, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Skype. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics with our one-on-one technology volunteer about the social networking tools that can help you stay in touch with your kids and grandkids. 703-978-5600.

Young Adult Book Club. 7-8 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Book discussion for 10-14 year olds. 703-293-6227.

Dance for a Cure. 7 – 11 p.m. Empire Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road,

Springfield. A fundraiser to benefit Relay for Life of Springfield American Cancer Society. Enjoy music of the 60s, 70s and 80s. \$5 donation.

THURSDAY/JUNE 26

Reptiles Alive. 2:30-3:15 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. See how these amazing animals cling, climb and chase in the wild. Age 6-12. 703-978-5600.

FRIDAYS/JUNE 27-AUG. 29

Braddock Nights Concert Series. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield or Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Listen to musical performances in the great outdoors. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/ for location and schedule.

FRIDAY/JUNE 27

Tiny Tots Music. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Develop your child's language skills with music, songs and play. Ages 1-2 with adult. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/> under "Events."

Read! Bulid! Play! 2-2:45 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Read a story, build with DUPLOs, and play with friends. Ages 3-5 with adult. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/> under "Events."

Keeping Up with the Kids — Learn about Flickr, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Skype. 2-3 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics with our one-on-one technology volunteer about the social networking tools that can help you stay in touch with your kids and grandkids. 703-978-5600.

4th Annual Bachelors and Bachelorettes for Breast Cancer Fashion Show and Auction. 7 – 11 p.m. Waterford Springfield, 6715 Commerce Street, Springfield. Clarke Entertainment is hosting its 4th Annual Bachelors and Bachelorettes for Breast Cancer Fashion Show and Auction. Come enjoy the evening while bidding for a date with local supporters.

SATURDAYS/JUNE 28-AUG. 23

Burke Arts in the Parks. 10 - 11 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Entertain children, teach them the importance of protecting our natural resources, introduce them to live entertainment in an informal kid friendly atmosphere, and forge a connection between kids and parks. Call 703-323-6601.

SATURDAY/JUNE 28

Storytime and Rhyme. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Storytelling, music and movement with Wolf Trap teaching artist Kofi Dennis. 703-644-7333.

Teen Author Elisa Nader and Cover Art Contest. 2:30-3:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Elisa Nader, author of teen thriller Escape from Eden and a graphic and user experience designer, discusses her book and shares design tips for creating teen book covers. Age 12-18. 703-978-5600.

Burke Farmers Market. 8 a.m. - noon. 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. www.fairfaxcounty.gov

SUNDAY/JUNE 29

Rufus the Dog. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Blue Sky Puppet Theatre story of a special dog and his search for friendship. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/> under "Events."

PATRIOT DISTRICT OF NCAC BSA INVITES THE NORTHERN VA COMMUNITY TO:

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When: Saturday, June 21
Where: Islamic Center of Northern VA (Shirley Gate Mosque)
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Limited materials will be provided; participants are GREATLY ENCOURAGED to bring their own RECYCLABLE material.

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NEWS

Normandy, 70 Years Later

FROM PAGE 11

bridges, and we were there to repair them and put them back up, and also to take care of the minefields,” Stawicki said. “When I landed on the beach, I had pneumonia. They wanted to put me in the hospital, but I didn’t want to go because I wanted to travel with the people I had trained with. I survived. I was pretty healthy. In army life, they push you through a lot of hard work. I was blessed, that’s all.”

JAN CURLEY, Stawicki’s daughter, accompanied him on his recent visit abroad. She said she spoke to another veteran during the tour who enlightened her regarding the dangers combat engineers such as Stawicki faced at the time.

“He said to me ‘I was in the infantry, but I would’ve rather had a rifle in my hand than a wrench like your father,’” Curley said. “Combat engineers had to build what are called Victory Bridges for the Infantry to cross. They had five to seven days to build a bridge, and while it was under construction, they were surrounded by Germans, and were often under fire, which is why my father and his company earned five bronze stars each.”

Stawicki described his experience passing through a concentration camp after Paris had been freed from Nazi control.

“We visited a concentration camp, and the prisoners there were so skinny,”

SEE VETERAN, PAGE 13



Veteran Henry Stawicki greets French children in the village of Sainte-Mère-Église. At the height of World War II, the village was recaptured by American airborne and land troops. Their efforts helped this to be the first Normandy village liberated from Nazi tyranny.

PHOTOS BY JAN CURLEY



Henry Stawicki, pictured with the Sherman Tank, the most commonly used American tank in World War II, at the Bastogne Barracks in Belgium. More than 50,000 Shermans were produced between 1942 and 1945.

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Fairfax County’s Respite Care Volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adults a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor’s appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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21 Announcements

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Maggiano's Holding Corporation, trading as Maggiano's Little Italy, 6500 Springfield Mall (in Springfield Town Center), Springfield, VA 22150. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On; Mixed Beverage (seating capacity 151 seats or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Bryan D. McCrory, President/Treasurer/Secretary
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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28 Yard Sales

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High-end items on Craig's List. Jewelry, shoes and designer /brand name clothes, home décor and more.

Keene Mill Woods II
Community-Wide Yard Sale, Burke, VA. Saturday, June 28th, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Old Keene Mill Rd/Shipleette Blvd./Draco St./Birch Leaf Ct.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF CLIFTON JULY 1, 2014

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Town Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 1, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clifton Community Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton, Virginia. The purpose is to consider amendment and revision of the Signs regulations within the Zoning Ordinance, found in Chapter 9, Article 2 General Regulations, Section 9-14 of the Code of Town of Clifton, Virginia.
The proposed revision is available for review on the Town website <http://clifton-va.com> under the Town Council – News from the Council drop-down menu.
A hard copy may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton, Virginia. All interested parties are encouraged to attend the Public Hearing to express their views with respect to the proposed amendment and revision of the Signs section of the Zoning Ordinance.

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where better is expected.
-Thomas Fuller

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Burke Veteran: 'They Really Appreciate That We Came There'

FROM PAGE 11

Stawicki said. "We weren't allowed to feed them because they had to go on a special diet, but we could give them cigarettes, so I gave them my two cartons as we were marching through."

Curley said the visit granted her an opportunity to learn more about a major part of her father's life.

"There was a moment over there where I said to my dad, 'Wow, I didn't know about all of this growing up,' and he said, 'This is a big part of my life,'" Curley said. "I never

thought about it that way, but it was. My dad is part of World War II."

Curley said one major goal both she and Stawicki share is to educate U.S. citizens on World War II and to ensure they do not forget its role in the country's history.

"In Normandy, those people will always remember," Curley said. "I think that's the message they want to give the world: please don't forget. These men and women were heroes, and they formed what we have today. If you ask any of the French, they'll say, 'If we didn't win the war, we could all be

speaking German today."

Curley said, during her visits to Heatherwood Retirement Community in Burke, where Stawicki currently resides, she has observed a great interest in her father's stories from other residents.

"When dad arrived back there, so many of them wanted to hear stories about the trip; they're very interested," Curley said. "A lot of the women, who lost their veteran husbands years ago, never went back to Europe. It's part of their husbands' lives, so they enjoy experiencing parts of it again."

STAWICKI SAID ONE KEY DIFFERENCE he observed from landing on Utah Beach in 1944 revisiting Normandy in 2014 was the mood of the local townspeople.

"They were unhappy when I first went over there, and now they're happy," Stawicki said. "They're free; they can do what they want to do without anyone telling them what they should or should not do. They really appreciate that we came there. God willing, I'll be back again next year."

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SPORTS

Robinson sophomore Austin Henry (1) scored a team-high three goals during the Rams' victory over Langley in the 6A boys' lacrosse state final on June 15.



Members of the Robinson boys' lacrosse team rush the field after winning the 6A state championship on June 15.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Robinson Boys' Lax Wins State Championship

Rams beat Langley in 6A state final.

BY DAVID BALICK
THE CONNECTION

From 1991-2007, the Robinson boys' lacrosse team won nine state championships. They were a powerhouse that dominated Virginia lacrosse for nearly two decades. Since 2007, however, this domination has fizzled and the state title has eluded them.

On Sunday night, the Rams were able to get it back by defeating Langley 9-7 in the 6A state championship game at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

"It is unbelievable," said sophomore Austin Henry, who led the team with three goals

in the win. "We brought (the title) back to Robinson, home of the champions."

The Rams fell behind early, but scored two goals in the final two minutes of the opening quarter to lead 2-1 at the end of the first.

The key for Robinson was its force. The Rams dominated the Saxons physically and never allowed them to get comfortable on the field. Senior Joe Bynum set the tone early for the Rams with a couple crushing checks, and the rest of the team followed suit.

Langley scored again early in the second, but Robinson then strung together three straight goals and went into halftime with a 5-2 lead.

In the third quarter, Robinson came out even stronger, outscoring Langley 4-1, with goals from four different players, giving the Rams a 9-3 lead entering the fourth quar-

ter. Robinson moved the ball well throughout, with everyone getting involved in the action.

Senior goalie Nick Kondracki came up with save after save in this quarter. He looked like a brick wall, and would follow his saves with sprints up the field, showing agility to start the counter attack for Robinson.

Head Coach Matt Curran said of Kondracki: "Quite frankly, we probably don't get here without how he played in goal all season long for us."

At the start of the fourth, the lead seemed insurmountable for the Saxons, but they showed why they made it to state title game with four goals of their own, aided by a couple of Robinson penalties, cutting the lead to 9-7 with 3 minutes left in the game.

But once again, the Robinson defense and

Kondracki shut the door when they needed it most. Langley was only able to fire off two shots in the closing minutes, even though the Saxons possessed the ball for most of it. Langley simply could not find any openings in the defense and seemed to know a long distance shot was a waste of possession against Kondracki.

As the horn went off to signal the end of the game, the Robinson team threw their equipment up in the sky and rushed Kondracki to celebrate a season well done.

"It feels incredible," Curran said. "We have worked so hard and we got what we have been after. We had a great group of seniors who really helped lead the way tonight."

The seniors finished their high school lacrosse careers on the highest of all notes with a memory that will undoubtedly last them a lifetime.

Paul VI's championship girls basketball team with (back row, from left) Head Coach Scott Allen, Assistant Coach Parker Roach and Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne.



City Council Honors PVI Hoops Teams

The Fairfax City Council recently recognized Paul VI's boys and girls basketball teams for winning both the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC) and Virginia Division 1 titles. It was only the second time in WCAC history that both the boys and girls teams won the conference title in the same year.

The 2013-14 Paul VI girls' basketball team had a historic season with a 29-5 record. The girls won the WCAC regular-season and tournament champion-

ships. The Lady Panthers also set a national, high-school record by capturing their eighth consecutive Virginia Independent School division 1 state championship – Paul VI's 15th championship in the last 20 years.

They played one of the most difficult game schedules in the country by competing against nationally ranked teams in Florida, New York and Fairfax. The Lady Panthers finished with national rankings and were also ranked number one in Virginia by the Virginia Independent School



Paul VI's championship boys basketball team with adults (from left) Head Coach Glenn Farello, Assistant Coach Jason Hark and Mayor Scott Silverthorne.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF EILEEN KILEY

Athletic Assn.

The boys' team became WCAC Champions with a 56-37 win over DeMatha High and VISAA Champions by beating previously undefeated and nationally ranked Cape Henry High. Paul VI's boys also won the Alhambra Catholic Invitational Championship.

Seven different players scored 15 or more points in at least one game during the regular season, which the team finished with a 31-6 record. The team was ranked number one in the Washington Metropolitan area

and number six in the nation.

During the ceremony at City Hall, girls Head Coach Scott Allen said, "It's such a privilege to have such an outstanding team, parents and Catholic high school."

Boys Head Coach Glenn Farello praised the "wonderful community and student athletes – especially Evan Taylor, the lone senior who led us so well this year." And, he added, "It's wonderful to share this moment with the girls' team."

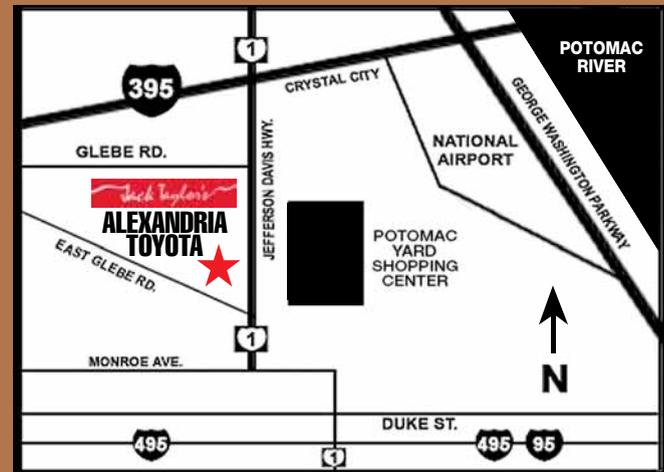
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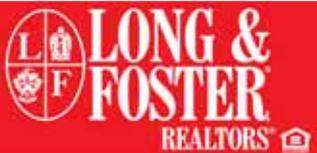
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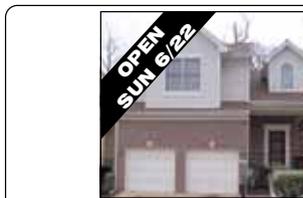


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