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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

APRIL

4/1/2015.....Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout Easter Sunday is April 5 4/8/2015.....HomeLifeStyle 4/15/2015......A+ Camps & Schools 4/22/2015.....Real Estate Pullout – New Homes 4/29/2015......A+ Camps & Schools Pullout 4/29/2015......Mother's Day Celebrations, Dining & Gifts I 4/29/2015......Spring Outlook 2015 MAY 5/6/2015......McLean Day Pullout 5/6/2015.....Mother's Day Dining & Gifts II 5/6/2015......Wellbeing Mother's Day is May 10 5/13/2015......HomeLifeStyle 5/20/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools, Proms, **Summer Planning** Memorial Day is May 25

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SCHOOL

Send school notes to vienna@ connectionnewspapers.com by Friday.

On Saturday, Feb. 21, crew team members from Langley High School will participate in their "Boats and Oars" fundraising effort throughout neighborhoods in McLean and Great Falls. Each year, the Langley High School Crew Team asks the larger community for financial support. Donations to Langley Crew (LCBC) are tax deduct-

And the team invites you to come see a regatta or two in the spring. Regattas are held Saturdays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. from March 21 until May 9 (no regatta on April 4) on the Occoquan at Sandy Run Regional Park, 10450 Van Thompson Rd. Fairfax Station.

Each year, the Northwest Federal **Credit Union Foundation (NWFCU** Foundation) awards a total of \$100,000 in college scholarships - \$5,000 each to 20 students who have demonstrated qualities of leadership, dedication and commitment in school, at home and in the community.

"These students have displayed the qualities that will make them future leaders in our community," said Chris McDonald, Chairman of the NWFCU Foundation and President/CEO of Northwest Federal Credit Union. "We are pleased to make an investment in their future – and our community's future – by helping them pay for college."
Winners of the 2014 Ben DeFelice

Scholarships from our area include:

- Alexandra Cramer, graduate of Langley High School. She will attend the College of William & Mary.
- ❖ Jamie Joeyen-Waldorf, graduate of Langley High School. She will attend Northwestern University.
- ❖ Jennifer Prosser, graduate of Oakton High School. She will attend the University of Notre Dame.
- Sydney Sampson, graduate of James Madison High School. She will attend the University of Virginia.

Andrew Hwang, of Great Falls, was named to the Dean's list for academic excellence for the spring 2014 semester at Johns Hopkins University.

Kristen Ashley Wolaver, daughter of John and Barbara Wolaver of Great Falls, and graduate of Langley High School Class of 2013, completed her freshman year at the University of Pittsburgh, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences. Kristen has accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS).

Whitney Elizabeth Wolaver, daughter of John and Barbara Wolaver of Great Falls, and graduate of Langley High School Class of 2010, earned a Bachelor of Science Degree Cum Laude in Neuroscience with a minor in Chemistry and a Certificate of Conceptual Foundations of Medicine during the spring commencement exercises in April 2014 at the University of Pittsburgh, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences. Whitney will begin the Graduate Program in Anatomical and Translational Sciences at George Washington University in August 2014.

William Gralley, son of Craig and Janet Gralley of Great Falls, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice during the spring commencement exercises at Radford University.

Grayson Smith, of Great Falls, earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in accounting, cum laude. during the spring commencement exercises at Auburn University. He is currently enrolled in Auburn's Master's of Accounting Pro-



Photos by Tim Peterson/The Connection

Suzanne Butterfield, a senior at George C. Marshall High School, helped carry out a campaign for kindness with posters aimed at raising awareness about bullying, depression and possible suicidal behavior.

Agents of Change

Students from around Fairfax County recognized for promoting peace.

By Tim Peterson
The Connection

fter a friend of South County High School senior Sakira Coleman was sexually assaulted while running on a local public path, Coleman decided to take action and started the "Fight for Your Right to Run at Night" program.

"I don't like feeling helpless," Coleman said. "This is about raising awareness."

The senior has also served as president of the school service club "Stallions Lend a Hand" and volunteered at Greenspring Retirement Community, a workload that in addition to actual schoolwork requires "no sleep ever" to maintain.

Coleman and 22 other peace-promoting students and student organizations were recognized March 15 at the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County, held at Mountain View Alternative High School in Centreville. From anti-bullying event organizers to student association presidents and volunteers in the community, the student leaders were chosen for exhibiting high moral and civic values.

"The number of ways to peace is limited only by the human imagination," said Dr. Margaret Fisher with the Peace Awards coalition as she opened the program. "Seemingly endless suffering in the world can give way when we join our strengths together."

The peace awards started in 2006 with one high school and faith-based sponsorship. The event has grown such that now each public high school and three private schools in Fairfax County may select students for the awards and there are 14 faith-based and secular sponsors.

This year schools were also able to select organizations to honor, including: the Anti-Bullying Committee of Cedar Lane School in Vienna, the Dare to Care anti-bullying group of Hayfield Secondary School in Alexandria and The Peer Mediation Program of J.E.B. Stuart High School in Falls Church.

As students were called to the stage in the Mountain View auditorium, they received a copy of Mark



Katarina Jones, a senior at Oakton High School and captain of the gymnastics team, has planned community dentistry outreach that will include going to schools and homeless shelters to spread information about brushing, flossing, fluoride and obtaining free or reduced-price dental care.

SPONSORS

The sponsors of the 2014-2015 Student Peace Awards:
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Langley Hill Friends Meeting
Northern Virginia Mennonite Church
Reston Rotary Club
St John Neumann Catholic Church
Stewart R Mott Foundation, Washington, D.C.
Temple Rodef Shalom, Falls Church

Andreas' book "Sweet Fruits from a Bitter Tree." Along with a monetary award, each student also chose a charitable organization to which \$100 would be donated in their name.

Guest speaker Vickie Shoap, restorative justice specialist for Fairfax County Public Schools, addressed the audience once the students were recognized.

"When I looked at what these students have done," said Shoap, "I was humbled and lifted. There is hope for the future."

Shoap referenced the nonviolence and civil disobedience that characterized the work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, commenting that "We're all fighting for human rights.

"We're change agents," she continued. "It's hard to talk about things that are difficult in their communities." But, Shoap said, "You're connected to a growing global community of peacemakers."

Though mostly upperclassmen were recognized with peace awards, Seungmin Lee of Rocky Run Middle School represented the next wave of peacemakers. His artwork was featured on the back of the event's program and won first place in the Fairfax Lions Club 2014 Peace Poster Contest.

Lee used colored pencils to depict a red, white and blue dove flying over a globe and a peace sign, with hands of various skin tones reaching towards it.

"It's about people sharing, understanding each other, that peace is beautiful," said Lee.

Sakira Coleman commented that although the students receiving awards have done a lot for promoting peace and reducing violence, "There's always more to do. It's nice to see we've already started."

Award winners not present included Nimra Bilal, a senior at Mount Vernon High School; Hanna Shiferaw, a senior at Quander Road School in Alexandria; and Reem Mohamed, a senior at the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.



Photos contributed

Ben Press, student representative to the Fairfax County School Board, with the board member Pat Hynes (Hunter Mill), at the School Board Leadership Program in June 2014.

Vienna Teen Elected to School Board

Madison HS student focuses on students' mental health

and workload.

By Abigail Constantino
The Connection

en Press, a junior at James Madison High School in Vienna, was elected as student representative to the Fairfax County School Board on Feb. 12. He will take over from Harris LaTeef from Langley High School on July 1.

Press said that he wants to bring the issues of mental wellness and workload to the board. "We really have to hold [ourselves] accountable for the work we assign students," he said

Press' focus stemmed from his work with Fairfax County Public School's School Health Advisory Committee and the Student Advisory Council, where he worked on a wellness policy for students and staff.

He was always interested in being a leader. He has been active in scouting leadership with his Life Scout Troop 976 in Vienna and is working towards becoming an Eagle Scout. Press was also a mentor at Cunningham Park Elementary School and has been the student representative to the Fairfax County Council of PTA. His father, Dan, said in an email that his appointment to the



Ben Press is the 45th student representative to the Fairfax County School Board. He starts on July 1.

school board is a "great opportunity...to further develop his abilities as a servant leader."

Press said that it would be interesting to make the balance between his duties to the school board, which may involve many meetings, and his school work. But even with his new role, "School work should always be number one," he said.

The student representative position is a non-voting, one-year term. Press will be the 45th student representative to the 12-member school board, serving over 187,000 students in Fairfax County.

"I'm honored and humbled by the trust put in me, and I hope to bring attention to issues students feel are important," said Press.

Leadership Fairfax Hosts Supervisors Breakfast

State of the County Address, supervisors' questions and an award ceremony top the agenda.

> By Andrea Worker The Connection

he agenda and the speakers have to be of significant interest to get some 300 people to brave local traffic and attend a meeting that started at 7:30 a.m. Leadership Fairfax (LFI) apparently succeeded in offering both in the ballroom of the Fairview Park Marriott on Friday morning, March 13, hosting its 24th Annual Board of Supervisors Breakfast. This was a chance to hear in person the State of the County from Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and to participate in an "Ask the Supervisor Questions" forum with all but one member of the board in attendance.

Before the supervisors took to the dais, there were the welcoming addresses and remarks of gratitude to supporters like Presenting Sponsor TD Bank and Coffee Sponsor Atlantic Realty Companies by LFI President and CEO Elizabeth Murphy. There was also a ceremony to honor Dean Klein, recipient of the 2015 Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award. Now in its 12th year, the award recognizes sustained contributions by public-sector employees, nonprofits, or appointees to a public board, authority or commission and is intended to honor outstanding accomplishments and lasting contributions to the quality of life in the community.

Rodney Lusk, chair of the award Selection Committee, called the choice of Klein as the award winner a unanimous one, noting that since Klein's 2009 appointment to director of the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, Fairfax County is now seen as a national leader in this effort. "Dean has spearheaded a 33 percent decrease in the number of homeless in the county," cited Lusk, "and a 288 percent increase in moving people out of emergency shelter and into permanent housing."

THE NAMESAKE OF THE AWARD and

a former chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Katherine Hanley, was next to praise Klein. She began by reading his lengthy job description. "I think the only more daunting positions one could hold would be Director to Achieve World Peace, or End Traffic Jams on I-66, but I am happy to say he's successful — and really good at it."

The final presenter was U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), who said that Klein was a true leader in his position because he brought a "clear sense of the mission, a passion for the work, and metrics — the abil-



Honoring the winner of the 2015 Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award, from left: Rodney Lusk, chair of the Award Selection Committee, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), award recipient Dean Klein, director of the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, and the award's namesake and a former recipient, Katherine K. Hanley.

Photos by Andrea Worker/The Connection



The participants of the Board of Supervisors Question and Comment panel and their moderator are, from left, Linda Smyth (D-Providence), Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), Michael Frey (R-Sully), Penelope Gross (D-Mason and vice chair), John Foust (D-Dranesville), Sharon Bulova (D-chairman), John Cook (R-Braddock), Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon), Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), and moderator Casey Veatch, principal at Veatch Commercial Real Estate and LFI class of '99.

ity to measure our efforts." Klein then accepted his award, saying he was humbled by the honor. Likening his acceptance to the Oscars — "There are too many people to thank in too short a time" — Klein did single out Connolly "for his belief that we can end homelessness in Fairfax County," Elizabeth Klein "for bringing this group together," and "all of the individuals, our nonprofits, our partner businesses and our faith community who all work together."

After the award presentation, LFI Class of '99 graduate Casey Veatch took control of the proceedings, introducing the Board of Supervisors, and acting as moderator. Veatch informed the audience that the supervisors had been given a "homework assignment" to present an inspirational quote and explain their choice. The answers were varied. Retiring Supervisor Michael Frey (R-Sully District) chose words from "that great American philosopher, Garth Brooks." Also retiring, Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) went for the more traditional with

the famous "Ask not what your country can do for you," quote from President John F. Kennedy. Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) echoed the sentiments of Clint Eastwood's 1970's Dirty Harry character, "A man's gotta know his limitations." "Getting out in the community helps us know our limitations and stay grounded," said Cook. Bulova said the past year had given her opportunities to make use of her quote: "Never let a good crisis go to waste." At the conclusion of Bulova's summary, moderator Veatch then began asking "the tough questions."

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) was asked to speak about the board's recent adoption of a Strategic Economic Success Plan. "There are several parts to the plan, but basically, we need to come up with ways to diversify our economy, rather than relying so heavily on Federal Government business. We need to review our systems and procedures to make them more business friendly and create spaces where

Memorable Achievements of 2014

Sharon Bulova's bullet points for memorable events and achievements for the county in 2014 included:

- ❖ The opening of the Silver Line Metrorail service from Wiehle-Reston East Station in Reston through Tysons and into the District, noting that the Wiehle Station is one of the busiest stations in the entire system.
- ♦ The implementation of the Express Lanes on I-95
- $\ \, \diamondsuit$ The major revitalization of Springfield Town Center
- ❖ Bicycle Master Plan − citing the addition of a heavily used Bike Room at the Wiehle Station.
- ♦ Additions and improvements to Fairfax County Parks and Recreation Facilities, with local trails that connect to national trails traversing the entire eastern seaboard from New England to Key
- ❖ Full Day Mondays standardizing the school day for the entire week in elementary schools
- ❖ The opening of the first urban-style school in the district using a re-purposed abandoned commercial building

people want to be."

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) responded to a related question. "To fuel our growth, we need to leverage our resources, what's working well for us now. We need to develop and support centers of research. We need to work on our zoning and permitting and find a way for our people to say 'yes.' And we need to keep Dulles Airport strong."

Cook called for increased technical and skills training in our school systems. "We need to better connect the education with the job with the student. And that may sometimes be outside the traditional 4 year degree."

THE SO-CALLED "DAILY DOUBLES"

were next on the questions agenda, and Veatch called on two supervisors to offer the pros and cons for each of several controversial topics.

On adding a Meals Tax in Fairfax County, Foust gave the opposing viewpoint stating that the public was against the additional tax and that it would hurt the local restaurant business. Hyland disagreed, citing similar taxes in Alexandria that have not harmed competition there. "We can't keep hitting the real estate stream for our revenue. We need to diversify," he insisted.

Bulova and Frey were handed the topic of the new Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. "We can't rest on our laurels," said Bulova, "even though we are one of the safest jurisdictions for our size in the nation." Bulova contends that the commission can enhance and improve the police department and its relationship with the community. Frey's response was that the charge of the commission is too broad to be effective, and that its workings could be "wrapped up in elections."

Frey was immediately handed another hot potato; for or against the recent vote to increase the salaries of the board's members. "I have always supported higher compensation for the board. We are a \$7 bil

See Pro & Con, Page 9

Marshall High Wins Culinary Challenge

Edison and Chantilly culinary academies take part in contest.

By Valerie Lapointe The Connection

he tables have been set and the contestants wait eagerly as the judging begins, each judge moving carefully between courses, sampling and chewing and making notes. There's sweetness in the mix for the winner, a monetary prize and a chance to have their dish installed as a permanent fixture. It could be Top Chef, but it's the third annual Feeding Academic Success Culinary Challenge sponsored by Real Food For

Three teams of four culinary academy students, one each from Edison HS, Marshall HS, and Chantilly HS met Tuesday evening to prepare grab-and-go lunch items using skills they honed in the county's academy class program. Their entree had to fit into the FCPS lunch program profile in terms of cost and caloric guidelines so that the winning entree could be considered for inclusion into the county lunch program. Under the tutelage of their professional chef mentors, the students prepared every ingredient from scratch, in the professional grade kitchens on premises at Marshall HS.

"We had to really pay attention to the caloric guidelines," said Stephen Pungello of Langley HS on the Marshall team. "We ended up having to add more chicken to get the numbers up. We were a little healthier than the guidelines required, but I think that's a good problem to have."

Most of the student contestants were drawn to the academy program as a way of wetting their feet for future careers. Pungello hopes to one day attend The Culinary Institute of America, following in the footsteps of chefs like Anthony Bourdain and Duff Goldman. Grace Zirkel, of Lake Braddock, on the Edison team has already been accepted to Johnson & Wales and credits the academy program for really piquing her interest.

"Working with a real chef was definitely the best part of the program," said Zirkel. "They treat us like we are actual employees in a restaurant and that is really motivating.'

The camaraderie between the chefs and students



Photo by Valerie Lapointe/The Connection

Marshall Academy's winning team: Alex Cerda of Marshall HS, Brian Andrade of McLean HS, Stephen Pungello of Langley HS, and Anthony Panettaey of Langley HS.

is palpable as the chefs stand behind their students offering helpful suggestions but generally letting them run the show. Clay Doubleday is the chef instructor for the Chantilly team and also one of the founders of the program.

"The reason I became a teacher was so I could be for them someone I didn't have. Kids have an idea of what they want to do, but no real way of exploring it and that is what we provide," said Doubleday, "give them options so they can make good choices, just like in the lunchroom."

Once all the votes were in, it was Marshall, the home team, who tasted sweet victory with their oriental grilled chicken salad with sesame ginger sauce and their soba noodle vegetable salad with sesame

"The real success here lies in putting students in a position to provide solutions for their peers," said Bonnie Moore, founding member of Real Food for Kids, "to use skills they have learned to solve real problems. It's that experience that makes this invaluable."





1 of 4 co-educational military schools

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OPINION

On Police Information and Secrecy

Time for change in public access to police information.

he first meeting of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission will take place next Monday, March 23, and it comes with hope for real change.

Police could take one step that would signal that they are serious about regaining public trust.

EDITORIAL Police departments in Northern Virginia should let go of their relentless pursuit of secrecy. Police departments all over the country routinely allow access to police reports, incident reports, dashboard video and many other sources of information without harm, all things that police here refuse to allow the public to see.

The first paragraph of Virginia Freedom of Information Act, passed by the General Assembly in 1968, states that all public records "shall be presumed open." But the legislation includes an exception that allows police to withhold "complaints, memoranda, correspondence, case files or reports, witness statements and

Police officials in Fairfax (and also in Arlington and Alexandria) have adopted what they call a "blanket" approach to using their exemption. That means they have decided to withhold any document they can without any analysis of whether they should, whether the case is open or closed, whether they are about a "police-involved shooting" or information requested by a family about a homicide victim.

It is only because of legal action by the fam-

ily of John Geer, shot dead by a Fairfax County police officer in the doorway to his own home in August 2013, and the resulting court order that we know

details of what happened that day. And what we now know confirms that the information released by police was incomplete and mislead-

We've learned that we cannot trust the leadership at the Fairfax County Police Department to tell the truth voluntarily on these matters. (See Editorial: "Not the First or Only Time," Connection, Feb. 11, 2015.)

Repeating what we have said in this space many times: Police wield power unlike any other entity — the power to detain and question, the power to arrest, the power to respond with force when necessary, sometimes deadly

With that power, comes responsibility — the responsibility to operate openly and with transparency, the responsibility to make available the greatest possible amount of information, especially the responsibility to provide the public with a full picture of what happened when something goes wrong.

Most Northern Virginia residents think very highly of their police. We are very safe here. People understand that sometimes mistakes happen, that sometimes force is needed, and that sometimes police will exercise deadly force. What they are unlikely to accept is secrecy that shrouds mistakes, and failure to take responsibility for explaining events of deadly

It's clear that discretion about when to withhold information cannot be left up to the police department.

-Mary Kimm, Editor and Publisher

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

of time, but even this common

sense measure was defeated by the

sub-committee that controls all

Mary Kimm is a member of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission; news coverage of police issues will continue to be the responsibility of reporters

Surrounded by History, Inspired by Legacy

Delegate reflects on freshman year in Richmond.

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY State Delegate (D-34)

t has been scarcely two months since a snowy day in January when voters in McLean, Great Falls and Sterling chose me, in a special election, to represent them in the Virginia House of Delegates. Since then, everything has moved at warp speed!oI won the election on a Tuesday and was in Richmond the following Thursday to be sworn in. The 2015 Session of the General Assembly began less than a week later.I am so honored to represent our community. When I stood on the floor of the Virginia House of Delegates, raised my right hand and swore to protect and defend the Constitution, it took my breath away.ºI was surrounded by history, by the legacy of delegates who have come before us: Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe and so many more. These were the founders of our democracy. I continue to be inspired by their legacy. During the 45-day Session, we considered over 2,000 bills.ºI that Governor McAuliffe stepped

Committee and the Committee on Privileges and Elections. The pace was non-stop.ºHowever, I carved out time almost every day to meet in my office with constituents who had travelled to Richmond as citizen advocates on matters before the General Assembly.°I joined two caucuses, groups of Delegates with a common interest in a particular issue.ºThe Military and Veterans Caucus focuses on creating jobs and educational opportunities for veterans and their families. I also joined the Renewable Energy Caucus, which is focused on the best utilization of all our energy resources in Virginia to help us lower and protect environment.ºOne important accomplishment of the 2015 Session was passage of the Omnibus Ethics Reform Bill. I believe this is a major step forward in the effort to deliver an honest, open government for all Virginians. We also passed bills to help protect students from sexual assault on college campuses that will facilitate collaboration between college staff and law enforcement and provide victims with safe avenues for reporting an assault.At the beginning of the Session, Virginia government faced the need to reduce expenditures because of a shortfall in tax collections. I am pleased

was appointed to the Finance up to protect funding for K-12 public education. All Virginian children deserve access to a quality education, no matter what their economic background. I was disappointed when the House Education Committee refused to pass my bill calling for a plan to implement full day kindergarten in Loudoun County, one of only four Virginia jurisdictions that do not provide universal full day kindergarten.ºI was also disappointed that we were unable to break through the blockade in the House of Delegates that prevents any meaningful progress toward gun safety. I introduced a bill to bar any criminal convicted twice of violent domestic abuse from having access to guns for a period

such legislation. As a new delegate, I had a very rewarding and productive experience during my first session in Richmond. I found my colleagues in the General Assembly, whether Democrat or Republican, rural or urban, to be truly dedicated to pursuing the best interests of their constituents. I was pleased at how many of my fellow delegates reached out to help a freshman learn the ropes.I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to craft bills that will help create jobs, strengthen the middle class, and work toward building the new Virginia economy

LETTERS

Desperate Measures

To the Editor:

Earlier this month, 47 United States Republican senators took an unusual, perhaps even unprecedented, step into foreign policy matters by signing an "Open Letthe Islamic Republic of Iran." But on some level this makes sense. The more portentous the issue, the more dramatic should be the reaction in protest – desperate times require desperate measures.

Wait a second ... that tactic is

familiar.... In 2013, desperate times took the form of Obamacare funding – the desperate measure back then was to play brinksmanship and permit the federal government to shut down for the first half of ter [addressed] to the Leaders of October rather than to pass an appropriations bill that continued funding for Obamacare.

> Wait a second ... that tactic is familiar.... Most of us have seen it in the supermarket checkout line. The

> > SEE LETTERS, PAGE 8

Vienna & Oakton

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SPORTS

Madison Suffers Overtime Loss to Cosby in State Semis

Warhawks senior Koshuta finishes with 32 points, 11 rebounds.

> By Jon Roetman THE CONNECTION

adison senior Kelly Koshuta stepped to the free-throw line with 4.3 seconds remaining in regulation on Friday night, needing to make a pair to keep her high school career alive.

First attempt: good. Second shot: good.

Koshuta's clutch moment at the charity stripe forced overtime against Cosby in the 6A state semifinals and was part of yet another big-time performance from the 6-foot-2 Virginia Tech signee. On this night, however, a double-double wasn't enough to lift the Madison girls' basketball team to vic-

Cosby opened overtime on a 7-0 run, outscored Madison 20-10 during the extra period and earned a berth in the state final with a 70-60 victory on March 13 at VCU's Siegel Center.

Cosby will face Bethel in the 6A state championship game at 9 p.m. tonight.

KOSHUTA scored nine points in the fourth quarter, helping the Warhawks overcome a six-point deficit, and another five in overtime. She totaled 32 points on 13-of-29 shooting and grabbed 11 rebounds.

Koshuta finished her high school career second on Madison's all-time scoring list and first in rebounding. She missed her entire sophomore season with a torn ACL.

"Playing at Madison my entire high school career has been great," Koshuta said. "This season was definitely something different. We made it further than we have ever, so that was awesome. I'm definitely going to miss it a lot."

Koshuta battled in the paint against 6foot-3 Cosby junior and Wake Forest commit Tyra Whitehead. Whitehead is the No. 31-ranked recruit in the nation for the class of 2016, according to ESPN.com, and while that might be intimidating to some, Koshuta, ESPN.com's No. 32-ranked player for the class of 2015, said she enjoys matchups with quality opponents.

"I love playing against good players because most games I get double teams and I can't really do what I usually do," Koshuta said. "I like it. I like going 1 on 1."

Cosby head coach Rachel Mead praised

"[Koshuta is] probably the best post player we've come across in high school," Mead said. "... Tyra was playing good defense 90 percent of the time, especially there at the end, and she was still scoring. It is what it is: she was a great ball player."

Whitehead finished with 17 points and 15 rebounds.

"To be honest, I thank her for it," White-



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Madison senior Kelly Koshuta scored 32 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in the final game of her high school career, a 70-60 overtime loss to Cosby on March 13 in the 6A state semifinals at VCU's Siege Center.

Madison head coach Kirsten Stone said. "She wasn't going to have it taken away. She was tough."

Senior guard Ali Trani finished with 15 points and nine rebounds for Cosby.

Cosby out-rebounded Madison 48-

Junior guard Alexis Hermes finished with 10 points for Madison.

Cosby jumped out to a 13-2 advantage in the opening quarter and led 30-19 at halftime. Madison continued fighting, cutting the Titans' lead to 38-32 entering the fourth quarter before Hermes knocked down back-to-back 3-pointers to tie the score at 41 with 5:43 remaining in regulation.

THE WARHAWKS grabbed their first lead when Koshuta's bucket with 4:06 left in regulation gave Madison a 45-43 advantage. The Warhawks held the lead for a couple minutes before Cosby's Jones tied the score at 46 with a jumper with less than 90 seconds remaining.

"[Koshuta is] probably the best post player we've come across in high school. ... Tyra was playing good defense 90 percent of the time, especially there at the end, and she was still scoring. It is what it is: she was a great ball player."

state titles.

- Cosby girls' basketball coach Rachel Mead

The following night, Cosby defeated

Bethel 46-45 in the championship

game, giving the Titans back-to-back

Madison started the season with

three straight losses, including defeats

against future region champions

Oakton and Edison. The Warhawks

responded with nine consecutive vic-

tories, went on to win the Conference

Madison junior Alexis Hermes scored 10 points against Cosby on Friday in the 6A state semifinals at VCU's Siegel Center.

6 championship and finished runnerup in the 6A North region. Madison ended the year with a 23-

7 record. "I'm truly proud of how far we've come," Hermes said, "I think people did have their doubts at the beginning of the season with those losses we came off of."

The Warhawks will lose two players to graduation — Koshuta and guard Jana Tremba. Hermes, junior guard Aidan McWeeney and sophomore guard Morgan Simpson figure to be three of Madison's top players next season.

"Hopefully," Stone said, "they get a feel that they want to be [at the state tournament] more often than not."

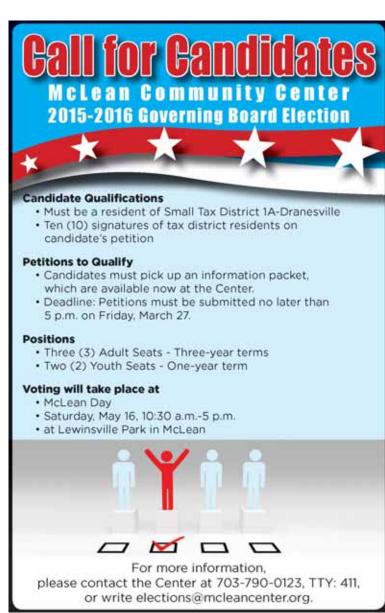
head said about her matchup with Koshuta, "because it shows that there's somebody out there that's going to push me to my limits and I'm going to have to step up. She showed me a challenge that I needed moving forward."

Whitehead wasn't the Titans' only tal-

ented player. Junior guard Jocelyn Jones, a North Carolina commit ranked No. 41 in the class of 2016 by ESPN.com, finished with 28 points and 10 rebounds.

Jones scored the first four points of overtime.

"No. 14 (Jones) wasn't going to let up,"





CALENDAR

Send announcements to north@ connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

THURSDAY/MARCH 12-SUNDAY/MARCH 22

Youth Art Exhibition I. MPA, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Opening reception March 14 from 11 a.m. - 1

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/ MARCH 21 AND 22

"Totally RED!" 3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. An Alden Production. Meet Red (who is nobody's fool) and the wolf (who tries to be cool). The story is told in classic storybook theatre style and the show will be performed by MCC tax district youth. \$12/\$10 MCC tax district residents. www.mcleancenter.org

THURSDAY/MARCH 19

Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30 - 10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Local artists gather to get to discuss art while enjoying some morning coffee.

FRIDAY/MARCH 20

Enter the Haggis. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Experimental roots-rock stalwarts push the boundaries of Celtic music with vigorous performances and inventive albums. Tickets: \$28.

St. Paddy's Day Party. 7-9 p.m. The Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. These popular 5th and 6th grader parties include music, dancing, games, snacks, videos and more. \$35/\$25 MCC tax district residents. Advance registration is required. Call 703-448-

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 maple Avenue East, Vienna, Learn and play Pokemon. Age 5-18. http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/ branches/ph/.

SATURDAY/MARCH 21

New Artist Reception. 1-4 p.m. 212 Dominion Rd NE, Vienna. New Artist Reception for Thomas Xenakis.

Rummage Sale. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Epiphany United Methodist Church, 1014 Country Club Drive NE, Vienna. All proceeds go to "Stop Hunger

SUNDAY/MARCH 22

Choral Splendor: Music of France.

4 p.m. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Reston Chorale presents works of Maurice Duruflé, Gabriel Fauré, César Franck, Louis Vierne and Charles-Marie Widor — including Vierne's magnificent Messe Solennelle as the composer intended: with two organs. Guest artist: Paul Skevington. Advance, online tickets \$20/Seniors, \$25/Adults; at door \$25/Seniors, \$30 Adults. Youth 17 and under admitted free with adult or senior. Tickets and information atwww.RestonChorale.org

Music from Oberlin at Oakton.

7:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Music from Oberlin at Oakton is a musical outreach program that is designed to give the Conservatory students an opportunity showcase their musical beyond Oberlin. Different groups of students perform in Oakton three times a year and we are kicking off our 14th season. Local alums and community gets an opportunity to enjoy superb music from the Conservatory that has received the 2009 National Medal of Arts from the

Northern Virginia Restaurant Week March 23-30

The 2nd Annual Northern Virginia Restaurant Week, being held from March 23-30, is a week-long, value priced dining experience taking place at a variety of establishments, ranging from fine dining to fast casual.

Building on the success of last year, which included more than 20 participating restaurants, the event once again brings together some of the area's favorite and new restaurants, including: American Tap Room, Big Bowl, Captain Mas Crab House, Il Fornaio, Tavern 64, McCormick & Schmick's - Reston Town Center, Mon Ami Gabi, Morton's - Reston Town Center, The Melting Pot -Reston, Mellow Mushroom - Herndon, M&S Grill, Paladar Latin Kitchen & Rum Bar, The Zone, JALEO by Jose Andre's, Mum Mum, Naked Pizza, Europa Herndon, Seasons 52, Trummer's on Main.

For more information about Northern Virginia Restaurant Week or the partnership with VHTA please contact Latraniecesa (LJ) Wilson at 703-707-9045, ljw@restonchamber.org or visit restonchamber.org/northern_virginia_restaurant_week.aspx.

White House presented by the President Barack Obama. It is a free concert open to the public and is especially great for the whole family as there are Q&A session with the performers and reception at the end.

Spring Fling Fashion Show, Luncheon and Raffle. Assaggi

Osteria, 6641 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. The New Dominion Women's Club is pleased to announce the annual "Spring Fling Fashion Show, Luncheon and Raffle" fundraiser. Bloomingdale's will showcase the latest fashion trends Community leaders and teens will serve as models. All proceeds benefit Claude Moore Farm, McLean Project for the Arts, Safe Community Coalition, and SHARE, Inc.

TUESDAY/MARCH 24

Annual Children's Printmaking

Workshop. 4-5 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society invites children ages 7 - 12 to create prints using fish, vegetables, and more at a workshop. To register, call the Children's Librarian at 703-938-

Berlin Then, Berlin Now. 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Bill Rapper, author of "Tears of Innocence" and "Berlin Breakdown" discusses the attraction Berlin continues to hold 70 years after the fall of the Nazis. Adults.

"Living the Savvy Life." 7 p.m. Caffe Amouri, 107 Church Street, SE, Vienna. Learn how to look at your day-to-day finances from a lifestyle perspective and discover the power of purposeful spending. How to "find" that additional money for retirement, for that vacation in Italy or for your crucial emergency savings account.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 25

Karla Bonoff. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. A velvety-voiced, folkpop singer/songwriter whose heartfelt ballads have been covered by Linda Ronstadt, Bonnie Raitt and Wynonna Judd. Tickets: \$27.

Creatures of the Night. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Learn about the animals of the night and how they adapt to night life. Ages 3-5 with adult.

Creatures of the Night. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Learn about the animals of the night and how they adapt to night life. Presentation by Riverbend Park. Ages 3-5 with adult. http://

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/

branches/dm/. **Toddlin' Twos.** 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Join us for an early literacy enhanced storytime featuring stories and songs. Ages 2 with adult. To register visit http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/ branches/ph/.

New Moms Meet & Greet. 12:30 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Join other new moms & babies (newborn to 6 mos.) and discover what the library and the town of Vienna has to offer your growing family. Adults http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ library/branches/ph/.

Printmaking Workshop for Kids. 4 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Discover your inner artist! Come explore the art of printmaking with local experts from the Vienna Arts Society. You can learn about different techniques and take home your own prints. Ages 7-12. More information at http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/

branches/ph/. **Small Wonders.** 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Join us for an early literacy enhanced storytime, featuring stories, rhymes, songs and activities for you and your child. 12-23 months with caregiver. More information at http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/ branches/ph/.

THURSDAY/MARCH 26

Patrick Henry Book Club. 1 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Book of the month is Charming Billy by Alice McDermott. Adults. http:/ www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/ branches/ph/.

LETTERS

From Page 6

tearful desperation overwhelming the child's face at being denied that oh-so-special piece of viting us over for dinner?

When did we as a nation be-

come so dysfunctional that we see fit to parade our tantrum tackicking, the screaming – the tics across the global stage? And should we be surprised if the rest of the world decides against in-

George Lehnigk

Oakton

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Pro & Con on Area Controversies

From Page 4

lion company with 11,000 employees. Our constituents rightly expect to see us at events on weekends and at night. The time has long since passed that we could be considered part-timers," he said. "And we need to be able to attract from the best to encourage competition for each seat." Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) voted against the proposed salary increase. "We are in tight financial times, facing cuts today, and projected harder times and cuts in 2017. In most cases we haven't been able to support 6 percent salary increases in total for the last several years for our employees. How can we justify an increase like this for ourselves?"

And the final "Daily Double:" Who should control local roads: The county or the state? "In 47 out of 50 states, local government controls local roads. We are better equipped to be more responsive," said Cook. "We certainly get all the complaints," he added. Cook warned, however, that taking control of roads would require a funding mechanism, or the consequences could be disastrous. For the opposition, Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason) noted that the start-up costs could be astronomical and that the liability issues were of great concern. "There's no proof available that local control would really improve the situation," she said, "and I am fairly certain that local taxes would have to go up significantly to cover the costs."

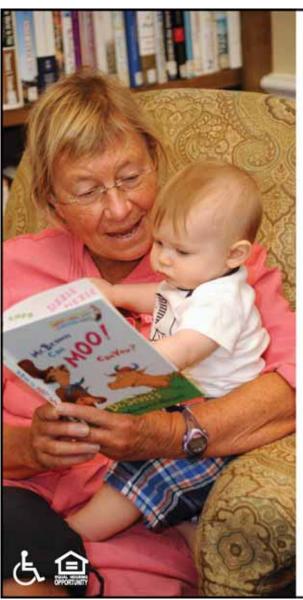
Leadership Fairfax (LFI) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1987 by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce whose goal "is to build a base of understanding about our community, educate and



Photo by Andrea Worker/The Connection

Many attended the 24th Annual Leadership Fairfax Board of Supervisors Breakfast, held at the Fairview Park Marriott. Attendees came from all walks of life and included many alumni, as well as some current class members, from Leadership Fairfax's educational programs, aimed at "creating dedicated community trustees."

inform and to ultimately engage individuals to become agents of positive change in Fairfax County and the Northern Virginia region." LFI sponsors three programs, LFI Signature Program, The Emerging Leaders Institute, and the Lifetime Leadership Program for individuals who have recently retired or are preparing to retire, with a vision to "create community trustees." The LFI class year begins in September. For more information about Leadership Fairfax and the programs and services on offer, check its website at www.leadershipfairfax.org.



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OFTC 5th and 6th Grader St. Paddy's Day Party

Friday, March 20, 7-9 p.m. \$35/\$25 MCC district residents

Concert @ The Alden

Sunday, March 29 Free Admission

OFTC Spring Break Trips

Mon.-Fri., March 30-April 3, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. For 5th-9th Graders

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Adult Spring Break Comedy Boot Camp

Monday, March 30, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. \$75/\$50 MCC district residents. Register by 3/25.

Midday Thrillers "Rear Window" (1954)

Wednesday, April 1, 1 p.m. Free. Reservations are not required.

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It always does, and there always are; especially if you have to work for a living and cancer is a part of that living. Granted, I'm extremely happy to be able to still make a living, cancer diagnosis notwithstanding, but a cancer diagnosis, particularly a "terminal" one, is hardly "notwithstanding." In fact, it is almost impossible to withstand. Oh sure, there are good days, and of course bad days, but mostly - for me, anyway, there is a daze in between. And that "between" is what's rocky about this hard place.

Since most things cost money, and money doesn't grow on trees (nor is it made from trees by the way); allocating it, when you have cancer, is complicated. Do I spend it now (whether I have it or not), as a means of reinforcing a positive but premature end? Or do I not spend it and plan for a longerthan-predicted life expectancy while depriving myself of the pleasure in the interim? Or do I rationalize the expenditure and reward myself for good behavior – so to speak, figuring that the high will be more beneficial than the low and create exactly the kind of energy my body needs to combat the cancer? Or do I minimize all of it and live my life as normally as possible? If only it were that simple.

"Normally as possible" left the building on February 27, 2009, the date I received my stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer diagnosis (my ground zero) with its "13-month to two-year prognosis." At that point, your brain stops functioning as it has for the entirety of your previous life (54½ years for me). Life, as you knew it, is sort of over; not done, but most assuredly, it will be different, and your perspective and emotional underpinnings will be changed forever – whether you expect them to

It doesn't mean, as an example, that you'll never laugh again or make selfeffacing jokes, but neither can you look at, or live, life as naively as you have. Living forward becomes way more complicated, and viewing it all, planning for it all, can only be considered through the prism of cancer. And though certainly I can boast of some success surviving six-plus years post-diagnosis, it really has been mind over matter. Even though cancer is constantly on my mind, I've tried not to let it matter. (Much easier written about than actually managed.)

Juggling emotions has been difficult enough, but managing money, allocating resources and planning a financial future while living a precarious present, is all it's cracked up to be. Yet, if I don't find a way to maintain my status quo/ balance emotionally, I may very well become a victim of my own circumstance. As much as I'd like to invoke Curly Howard (while looking in the mirror): "I'm too young to die, too handsome; well, too young, anyway" as an arbiter of reason, the reality is: cancer is the big dog and I'm just sitting here on the porch.

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



The Right Fit: Choosing a Summer Camp

How parents can ensure positive summer experiences for their children.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

hough the official start of spring is still days away and the frigidity of winter is still recent on the minds of many, Janelle Wright, a Potomac, Md., mother of two, has already mapped out the summer for her children.

Wright did research before signing up her 13-year-old daughter, Corrine, in an academic camp geared toward boosting her English composition skills, and enrolling her 12-year-old son, Teddy, in a camp for children whose needs fall just outside the norm.

Indeed, experts say social interactions, a chance to have fun and an opportunity to fill the time between family trips are just some of the benefits of summer camps.

There are camps for every child, no matter their needs.

"I spoke to the camp and shared with them up front that my son might need help socializing with other kids," said Wright. "He might need directions repeated to him. I did that so I could drive away in peace knowing that he'd be fine. It's different for



Photo courtesy of Summer at Norwoo

When choosing a summer camp, parents should consider signing up their children with friends to decrease the chance of loneliness.

my daughter because she doesn't have any challenges. I don't have to call the camp and talk to them like I do with my son."

WHETHER A CHILD is typical or falls slightly outside the norm, doing a bit of research and exercising forethought are good ideas when selecting summer programs. In fact, advanced planning and registration for summer camp is essential in the Washington, D.C., region, say educators.

"It's important to find an activity that kids already like to do. It's summer so kids should have fun," said Linda Gulyn, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington.

"Choose a camp where they won't feel lonely. It helps to sign them up with a buddy, especially in late elementary and middle school so they'll have one or two people at camp they already know. That really does matter."

If choosing a specialty camp, summer might not be the time for embarking on a new activity, however. "Summer camps may not be a time to have kids do something completely new," she said. "For example, if a child has never played golf, you might not want to invest money in a golf camp if you aren't sure your child will enjoy it. A child needs to feel like this is not school where they are struggling to learn a new activity."

The most important thing is for parents to do their research.

"Interview the camp director, said Lois McCabe, head of school for The Diener School in Potomac. "What does the day look like? How structured or unstructured is it? It is good to have a mix of both."

This is particularly true for children with special needs. "You want to make sure the camp understands the needs of special needs children," said McCabe. "You don't

want to throw them in this big unstructured environment with other kids and hope for the best. You want to make sure your child's peer groups understand your child."

SOME DAY CAMPS are structured to allow parents to choose the week their child will attend camp based on the camper's interests.

"We have a theme for every week that is packed with field trips and special events" said Fred Lowery, owner of Kiddie Country in Burke, which is running 11 weeks of camp this summer. "All of the camp activities are related to the theme. There are field trips to the Maryland Science Center, a Washington Mystics game, Reptiles Alive and Hershey Park. On site, we have everything from mad science to jugglers to swimming."

Traditional camp experiences, like opportunities for socializing with peers, are still found in specialty camps.

"As [campers] learn to identify, measure and combine ingredients, they are also learning important life skills, working together as a team and ultimately creating a delicious meal," said Jennifer Bashaw, curriculum development coordinator at Tiny Chefs, Inc. "Children leave our camps with a greater confidence in their kitchen skills and personal creativity."

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