

Springfield CONNECTION

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From left, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327 member WJ Leonard of North Springfield visit with Hayfield Secondary School Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps members junior Sasha Cunnane, freshman Bryan Landin and senior Cadet Captain Matt Bour.

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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 14 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 18

PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION



New Wegmans Dedicated on Armed Forces Day

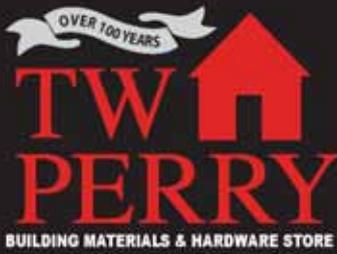
NEWS, PAGE 10

Expanding the Fountain of Knowledge

NEWS, PAGE 3

Lord and Lady Fairfax Crowned

NEWS, PAGE 4



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Expanding the Fountain of Knowledge

Mental health, excessive police force and civilian oversight dominate Ad Hoc Police Commission public forum.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Deborah Moronese of Vienna said a disagreement with her son over his use of Wi-Fi in their home prompted him to call Fairfax County Police. When officers arrived on a night in January earlier this year, Moronese said they interrogated her, followed her up to her bedroom, handcuffed her, dragged her back downstairs and screamed at her to stay seated.

"I was absolutely outraged," she said, adding that she had "no idea what they were trying to accomplish" and officers "physically, mentally berated me in front of my son." Moronese said she wasn't arrested, nor was anything resolved.

Her story was one of 20 presentations during a May 18 public forum of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission held at the Fairfax County Government Center. Citizens had the option of signing up in advance or on the night of the meeting.

The commission began meeting in March after being established by the Board of Supervisors to review police practices for use of force, the release of information and how officers interact with mentally ill individuals.

The county was facing increasing public outrage over how it handled information regarding the death of unarmed Springfield resident John Geer. Geer was shot and killed in August 2013 by Fairfax County Police Officer Adam Torres, however Torres' name and details of the incident weren't released until earlier this year.

Remarks from the public speakers followed brief reports from several subcommittees of the commission that have already held public meetings. The concerns of families coping with adult children with mental illness was a recurring theme at the forum.

Commission chairman Michael Hershman said that while the commissioners represent a great depth of experience, "We're not the fountain of all knowledge. We want to hear from the public in Fairfax County, the concerns, recommendations you might have."

George Becerra of Burke expressed concern about the composition of the commission, as well as the tight timespan in which they've been tasked with providing a report and recommendations on a breadth of issues to the Board of Supervisors.

Larry Bussey of Reston asked the commission to examine and make recommendations regarding the "disproportionate contacts of Black and Hispanic youth with the juvenile justice system." Police have "race neutral policies with disproportionate outcomes." Black youth are referred to the juvenile justice system at a rate four times higher than white youth, he said.



American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia Executive Director Claire Guthrie Gastañaga speaks to the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission on May 18.

Claire Guthrie Gastañaga, American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia executive director, addressed public safety problems from a national perspective, including the overincarceration of people with mental illness. She also spoke about the need to "shift from a culture of secrecy to a culture of transparency." Without a shift in the current paradigm, Gastañaga said, "trust is going to be something that we won't see." Yani Yancey of Reston said, "While it may be true that most people feel safe and protected by police in Fairfax County, there are more who feel the reverse every time there's another incident like the one that inspired this commission. It doesn't help that both the police department and Fairfax County's elected officials appear more concerned with covering up bad acts, bad policies and bad cops than they are with addressing bad acts, bad policies and bad cops."

Carol Bashore of Annandale has an adult son with an eight-year history of mental illness. She spoke about how valuable crisis intervention training for officers "has been invaluable to families like mine that rely on police in domestic situations when my son's behavior rises to the level we need help. Police are the first responders in a mental health crisis." When calling the police during an episode, she said it's crucial to request officers who have had that specific training. "We've been blessed to have them respond each time — each could've had a far different and very detrimental outcome," Bashore said. She continued that she was "repeatedly impressed by the calm demeanor officers who've helped us many



Michelle Evans, formerly of Burke, tells a personal story of her arrest for a domestic crime and subsequent legal challenges with Fairfax County Police. She said there's a need for civilian oversight of the Police Department and changes to Virginia Freedom of Information Act exclusions.

times have used." Bashore called for additional training for officers because "the skill of communicating with someone in a psychotic state does not come naturally."

Joanna Walker of Oakton is the mother of a 27-year-old with bipolar disorder. "We've had many experiences, some including with the Adult Detention Center and with the police," she said, "some of which could've gone better had people had more training."

Michelle Evans, formerly of Burke, said that she was abused by her husband and then falsely arrested for domestic abuse herself after she called 911. "The Fairfax County Police Department continues to revictimize me in order to protect an officer that made a litany of mistakes then perjured himself in a court of law to conceal his misconduct," she said. Evans called for civilian oversight of the police department and "drastic changes to Virginia's [Freedom of Information Act] exclusions that allow police departments to conceal and withhold information from citizens."

Mary Tracy of Mount Vernon said: "I'm here tonight because I believe our police department is not quite the poster child our leadership would have us believe. We may not have riots on the street, but there's a growing perception the police department leadership is arrogant and out of touch." Tracy recommended body cameras for officers, prohibiting arrest quotas, ensuring citizen complaints are heard and establishing a citizen oversight body.

Michael Pendrak of Annandale advocated

for additional crisis intervention training and training tools for police officers. This, he said, would help shift the paradigm "from command and control back to protect and serve."

Gordon Dean of Herndon is the father of a young woman with schizophrenia. He was critical that in the police department there are "not nearly enough officers who can safely deal with mentally ill individuals." Dean also addressed the difficulty of obtaining details from the police about events involving mental illness, even ones that occurred in their own home.

Phil Boughton of Mount Vernon told the story of Fairfax County Police officers entering his home with guns drawn, looking for his son with bipolar disorder who had failed to appear for a court date. "Right now I would invite 98 percent of them over to my house for dinner," he said, referring to officers in his local Mount Vernon district, "so that's not the problem here. The problem is there's a few of those folks who have way too much testosterone, I think they're attack dogs." Boughton is a former Navy pilot. "I didn't fly fighters over Vietnam to be threatened by a Fairfax County police officer," Boughton said, adding that one officer threatened to shoot his dog. His letter to the police chief detailing the incident was never answered. "I wanted to be sure the leadership knows that some of these [officers] are out of control."

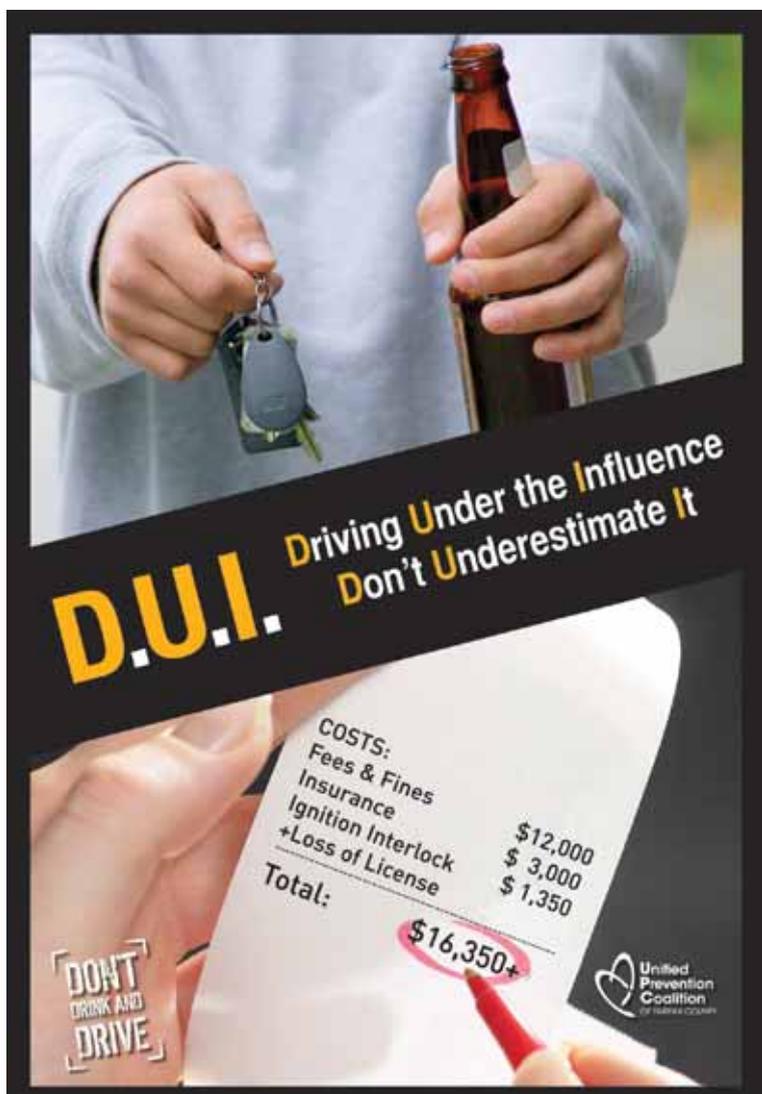
Burnette Scarboro of the Mount Vernon area of Alexandria wanted to call attention to "profiling that still exists, particularly for our African American males," she said. "I don't get to sleep until my son reaches his destination. Please don't let this be buried under the more higher profile cases that do exist."

Mariane Herndon of McLean referenced a recent public hearing on a noise ordinance. She requested that "the Police Department and Animal Control officers make it their practice to indicate statistically the breakdown of animal-related [noise] calls that they receive on an annual basis and break them down as to whether they are for domestic or wild animals."

Robert Rowan of McLean said his own experiences with Fairfax County Police have been good, but he was disturbed that the police would resist a civilian oversight board. He said that there should be a return to "the basics — We the people." Rowan continued that this is a "country of laws, not of the individual. The Police Department has to embrace that fully. The way that's done is transparency."

Heather Davies is the parent of a W.T. Woodson student, and became involved in mental health issues after a student died of suicide there. She said she's "concerned that while there's a need for diversion" for individuals with mental health problems away from jails, there also "needs to be thought put into treatment services." She suggested

SEE POLICE, PAGE 7



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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Board of Supervisors named the 2015 Lords and Ladies Fairfax on Tuesday, May 12.

Lord and Lady Fairfax Crowned

Jeffrey H. Saxe and Kyra M. Beckman named Lord and Lady Fairfax in Springfield District.

Celebrate Fairfax, Inc. announced the 2015 Lords and Ladies Fairfax at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, May 12 at the Fairfax County Government Center.

“The tradition of honoring Lords and Ladies Fairfax began in 1984 to recognize exceptional citizens of Fairfax County,” according to Celebrate Fairfax. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors selects two people from each district who have demonstrated superior volunteer service, heroism or other special accomplishments.

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity honored Kyra M. Beckman, a senior at West Springfield High School, as this year's Lady Fairfax.

“She has lived around the globe as part of a Navy family and settled in Fairfax County in 2010,” said Herrity.

Beckman, who is scheduled to go to the College of William and Mary in the fall, is involved with many organizations that help less fortunate individuals and is an “outstanding example of the impact our young residents can have on the community,” said Herrity.

The high school senior founded Spartans Against Human Trafficking in 2013 to educate students about the ways traffickers coerce their victims, so they can protect themselves and their friends. “She has led awareness campaigns, an effort to write letters to recently rescued victims both locally and

abroad, and speaks about human trafficking to a variety of organizations community-wide,” said Herrity.

Herrity nominated Jeffrey H. Saxe as Lord Fairfax for his commitment to land use through Springfield District's Land Use Committee, serving on the Fairfax Forward working group and actively participating in the chamber of commerce.

“He truly is an outstanding citizen,” said Herrity. “Mr. Saxe has worn many hats throughout his career, from working as a Fairfax County Planner to Project Manager for the Peterson Companies, to a consultant to the development community, and an active member of the community. His experience gives him a unique perspective when reviewing land use applications and his engagement has assisted the County in providing an atmosphere of transparency and approachability.”

The Lords and Ladies will be honored at a special dinner hosted by Great American Restaurants, Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, on Tuesday, June 2, 2015.

Lee: Christopher M. Soule and Elizabeth M. McGhan

“For Ms. Elizabeth M. McGhan, a healthy community begins with kids and youth,” said Supervisor Jeff C. McKay, who named McGhan's the Lee District's Lady Fairfax.

McGhan is a longtime president of the Garfield Elementary School PTA, president of Key Middle School, co-chair of Lee High School's All Night Grad Party and a bi-weekly volunteer at the Lee High School Career Center as well

as family and academic mentor to a specific Lee High School student.

“And if that weren't enough, she also manages several Springfield Youth soccer teams,” said McKay.

Of her work as PTA president, “McGhan sees the organization as a community building block where parents, teachers and administration work together to create a healthy environment for students.”

McKay named Christopher M. Soule his choice to be this year's Lord Fairfax.

“He exemplifies community service,” said McKay.

Soule has spent a decade as president of the Jefferson Manor Citizens Association, one of the largest and most active civic associations in Lee District and is an active member and a leader of the Lee District Association of Civic Organizations and is dedicated to revitalizing the Route One Corridor.

He recently joined the board of the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation, a nonprofit economic development organization that promotes redeveloping and revitalizing the Richmond Highway corridor from the beltway to Fort Belvoir, said McKay.

At Large: Kate Hanley and Lt. Col. John P. McAnaw

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova named Katherine K. Hanley, former Board Chairman, as this year's At-Large Lady Fairfax.

Hanley was first elected to the Fairfax County School Board, then the Board of Supervisors as the Providence District Supervisor and then as Board of Supervisors

SEE LORD AND LADY, PAGE 5

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NEWS

Lord and Lady

FROM PAGE 4

Chairman.

“During her tenure, Ms. Hanley worked tirelessly with other members of the Board, not only advocating for education, but also for human services and affordable housing. In recognition, a homeless shelter for families, was named after her. Recently additional transitional housing units called ‘Kate’s Place’ were built adjacent to the shelter,” said Bulova.

Hanley was instrumental in the establishment of the Revenue Stabilization fund along with a significant investment in building Fairfax County’s Information Technology infrastructure, said Bulova. “She was also a great proponent of transportation initiatives, helping to position the Silver Line for federal funding.”

After leaving the Board of Supervisors, Hanley served as Secretary of the Commonwealth, and is now on the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority, the Fairfax County Electoral Board and the Community Services Board. She has led the bipartisan election commission, the committee on the meals tax, an effort that brought together disparate, competing groups who came up with a near unanimous vote to bring a report to the Board of Supervisors, said Bulova. Bulova cited Lt. Col. John P. McAnaw’s love for history, love of country and love of service reasons she named him the 2015 Lord Fairfax.

“Lt. Col. John P. McAnaw is well known for his tireless work to preserve history in Fairfax County,” said Bulova. “His love of our past earned him a Lifetime Achievement Award from the History Commission for his decades of service as a Civil War Historian.”

The Park Authority honored Lt. Col. McAnaw by naming a Recreation area for his significant preservation efforts.

A veteran serving in leadership roles within VFW Post 8469, Lt. Col. McAnaw is the past President of the Bull Run Civil War Roundtable. He helped lead the effort to preserve Ox Hill, an important Civil War site. In addition to this, he is also a Board Member of the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum and has served as a historian for a number of local organizations in Fairfax County.

In his Kings Park West community, Lt. Col. McAnaw has served as Chairman of the Parks committee, leading numerous efforts to mobilize scouts and volunteers to build and maintain trails throughout the parkland surrounding Royal Lake.

— KEN MOORE

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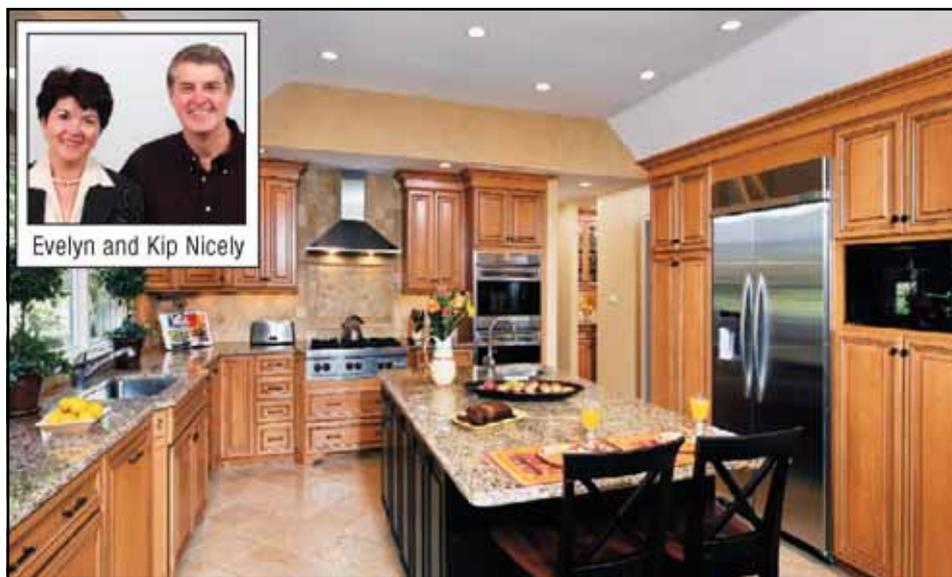
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Elizabeth Mason, founder of The Pink Armoire, which provided clothing used in the fashion show.



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From left: Emily Gregory (sponsor), Brittany Heath (Hayfield SS), Judith Cosgriff (President, Beta Delta Chapter/sponsor), Abeer El-Baz (Marshall High School), Iris Warren (Chair, Scholarship Committee).

First Year Teachers Honored

Award ceremony and fashion show at the Springfield Golf and Country Club.

BY MARISSA BEALE
THE CONNECTION

At the Springfield Country Club, the Beta Delta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society (DKG) International honored four novice teachers for excellence in their first year of teaching, presenting each of them with \$300 grants. The honored teachers were Julia Davis,

a third grade teacher at the Browne Education Campus in Washington, D.C.; Abeer El-Baz, a math teacher at Marshall High School; Brittany Heath, an English teacher at Hayfield Secondary School; and Tammy Wong, a math teacher at Metz Middle School.

“What I love the most about teaching is having the ability to make a difference in the lives of our youth,” said El-Baz, who

teaches at Marshall. “My goal is to acquire more strategies in the coming years to help my students more and more. I also want not only to be their teacher, but their mentor too.”

“Teaching is a hard profession, and I often find that our hard work is underappreciated in many aspects, so this award was a nice reminder that there are people who recognize the effort it takes to be a good teacher,” said Heath, who teaches at Hayfield High School.

In addition to receiving awards, all of the teachers enjoyed lunch and a fashion show at this annual

event. The fashion show featured clothing from The Pink Armoire, an online exclusive boutique that provides “looks for every day of the week reflecting what women really want to wear – at an affordable price.”

The Pink Armoire clothing is inside of a brightly-colored pink bus that is best described as a mobile shop.

Hand-crafted gift baskets with stocked with everything from

American Girl books, to gardening tools were raffled off at the end of the program. Entertainment included an a cappella performance of cabaret-style music by Robinson High School student, Madyson Hanton.

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PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Mary Tracy of the Mount Vernon area of Alexandria speaks at the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission on May 18. She recommended body cameras for officers, prohibiting arrest quotas, ensuring citizen complaints are heard and a citizen oversight body.

Police Commission Holds Public Forum

FROM PAGE 3

the possibility of using the Northern Virginia Training Center as a temporary drop-off point for mentally ill individuals to receive treatment rather than going to jail, or redeveloping the facility (scheduled to close in March 2016) as a location for enriched mental health services.

Cody Claxton of Vienna recommended the Board of Supervisors ban all civil forfeiture. He also called out the “excessive” use of special operations units “for domestic disturbances or to raid poker games in McLean.” He added, “We’re citizens, not targets.”

Dan Heily of Great Falls called for Internal Affairs to be a separate career service for officers and that the head of Internal Affairs be on the level of Chief of Police. As to the work of the commission, he said, “Given that so many of your members have a vested interest to protect, I suggest the following: Produce a majority report that states all procedures are fine. Then produce a minority report by those without a vested interest and have that minority report to contain improvements.”

John Lovaas, an alternate Commission member for Nicholas Beltrante, said, “It was a pretty interesting sample, people talking about interactions with officers not interested in protecting and serving but showing power.”

Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova agreed that “It was a great opportunity, I enjoyed listening, hearing these perspectives.”

Bulova said in response to the calls for a civilian oversight body, “I’m interested to hear from the members on models that have been effective in other jurisdictions. It’s something our board has been reluctant to do.”

Whether the board being provided with strong examples could turn the tide, Bulova said, “That could be the case.” She added they would seek incidences of “what would the oversight board look like, how would it work?”

After the final speaker, commission chairman Michael Hershman said the forum, “has been everything I hoped it would be. I’ve learned a lot. It’s given me, my fellow commissioners a lot to think about, a lot to work with.”

Hershman continued, saying by the end of the meeting, he hoped citizens “will walk away thinking you still can contribute.”

The next meeting of the full Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission is scheduled for Monday, June 22 at 7:30 p.m. in rooms 9 and 10 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax. All meetings are open to the public. More information, including video of previous meetings, agendas and materials presented, can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission.

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Remembering on Memorial Day 2015

On Memorial Day, take at least one minute to reflect on those who have died.

On Memorial Day, we remember all of those who have died in military service, more than 400,000 in World War II, more than 30,000 in Korea, more than 50,000 in Vietnam.

As many as 620,000 soldiers died in the line of duty in the Civil War, stunningly about 2 percent of the population at that time. To compare, while more than 2.5 million soldiers have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, that number is still less than one percent of the U.S. population.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 6,800 U.S. military service men and women have died in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On Memorial Day, there are many ways to remember the fallen, including a visit to Arlington National Cemetery, or many other local commemorations. But at a minimum, wherever you are, you can observe a moment of silence at 12:01 p.m. along with Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), or you can set your own moment at some point during the day.

EDITORIAL

More than 52,000 U.S. military service members have been wounded in action, although that number is likely to be revised upward. In 2013, the military confirmed traumatic brain injury in more than 220,000 of the more than 2.5 million troops who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The long-term consequences of many of these injuries, including mental health consequences, are unknown, but they will require a national commitment to excellence in health care and services for both active duty military personnel and veterans. Virginia's U.S. Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine continue to advocate for better service from the Veterans Administration.

Since Memorial Day 2014, with military operations winding down in Afghanistan, the Department of Defense announced the deaths of two military service members from Virginia. Sgt. Charles C. Strong, 28, of Suffolk, died Sept. 15, 2014 in Herat province, Afghanistan while conducting combat operations. Sgt. David H. Stewart, 34, of Stafford, was one of three Marines who died June 20, 2014 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

EVERY YEAR before Memorial Day, *The Connection* names the local men and women who have died in military service since Sept. 11, 2001.

Army Sgt. Lyle D. Turnbull, 31, of Norfolk, died Oct. 18, 2013 in Kuwait, from a medical emergency. Capt. Brandon L. Cyr, 28, of Woodbridge, was one of four airmen who died April 27, 2013, near Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, in the crash of an MC-12 aircraft.

1st Lt. Robert J. Hess, 26, of the Kings Park West neighborhood of Fairfax, was killed by enemy fire on April 23, 2013, Afghanistan. Hess was known as "RJ" and graduated from Robinson Secondary School in 2005, where he played football, lacrosse and was the captain of the swim team. He was a U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopter pilot who deployed to Afghanistan on April 11, 2013. His family remembers his sense of humor and his natural leadership ability.

Master Sgt. George A. Banner Jr., 37, of Orange, died Aug. 20, 2013, of injuries sustained when enemy forces attacked his unit with small arms fire in Wardak Province, Afghanistan.

Spc. Caryn E. Nouv, 29, of Newport News, was one of two soldiers who died July 27, 2013 in Ghazni Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked their vehicle with an improvised explosive device and small arms fire.

Lance Cpl. Niall W. Coti-Sears, 23, of Arlington, died June 23, 2012, while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Coti-Sears loved music, played the guitar, composed songs and entertained family and friends at holiday gatherings. Niall was very close to his grandfather, William Coti, who was a Marine. "He was always my protege," William Coti told the Arlington Connection. "He always wanted to be a Marine and he followed my example. It weighs heavily on me that this had to happen."

Chief Warrant Officer Five John C. Pratt, 51, of Springfield, died May 28, 2012 in Kabul, Afghanistan, when his helicopter crashed.

Staff Sgt. Jessica M. Wing, 42, of Alexandria, Va., died Aug. 27, 2012 in Kuwait City, Kuwait.

In February, 2012, Brig. Gen. Terence J. Hildner, 49, of Fairfax, was the highest ranking military officer to die in the war. Hildner died Feb. 3, 2012 in Kabul province, Afghanistan.

Sgt. Aaron X. Wittman, 28, of Chester, Va., died Jan. 10, 2013 from small arms fire. Sgt. David J. Chambers, 25, of Hampton, Va., died Jan. 16, 2013 from a roadside bomb. Sgt. Robert J. Billings, 30, of Clarksville, Va., died Oct. 13, 2012 when enemy forces attacked with an improvised explosive device. Staff Sgt. Jonathan P. Schmidt, 28, of Petersburg, Va., died Sept. 1, 2012 from enemy small arms fire. 1st Lt. Stephen

C. Prasnicky, 24, of Lexington, Va., died June 27, 2012, from a roadside bomb.

Aaron Carson Vaughn, 30, was one of 30 American service members and 22 Navy SEALs killed Aug. 6, 2011 when their Chinook helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan. Vaughn's family has ties to McLean and Burke. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly, and their two children.

Spc. Douglas Jay Green, 23 of Sterling, died Aug. 28, 2011. when insurgents attacked his unit using a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. Green enlisted in 2007, after attending Potomac Falls High School.

Pfc. Benjamin J. Park, 25, of Fairfax Station, died June 18, 2010 at Zhari district, Kandahar, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

May 12, 2010, Donald J. Lamar II, 23 of Fredericksburg, was killed in Afghanistan. Christopher D. Worrell, 35 of Virginia Beach, was killed in Iraq on April 22, 2010. Steven J. Bishop, 29 of Christianburg, was killed March 13, 2010 in Iraq. Kielin T. Dunn, 19 of Chesapeake, was killed Feb. 18, 2010 in Afghanistan. Brandon T. Islip, 23 of Richmond, was killed Nov. 29, 2009, in Afghanistan. Stephan L. Mace, 21 of Lovettsville, died Oct. 3, 2009 in Afghanistan.

Bill Cahir, 40 of Alexandria, died Aug. 13, 2009 of a gunshot wound while conducting combat operations in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. After Sept. 11, 2001, Cahir decided to leave his career as a journalist and join the Marine Corps. His application to become a Marine was denied because of his age, but he successfully lobbied members of Congress to get a special exemption.

Lance Cpl. Daniel Ryan Bennett, 23 of Clifton died Jan. 11, 2009, in Helmand province, Afghanistan. 2nd Lt. Sean P. O'Connor of Burke died Oct. 19, 2008 while stationed at Hunter Army Air Field, Savannah, Ga. O'Connor was an athlete in soccer, baseball and football who attended Fairfax County Public Schools and was a 1999 graduate of Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School in Arlington.

Pfc. David Sharrett II, 27 of Oakton, died Jan. 16, 2008 in Iraq. On Oct. 24, 2008, his father, David H. Sharrett, was on hand as the Oakton Post Office on White Granite Drive was renamed to honor his son. But the senior Sharrett has battled to learn the truth about his son's death, that he was killed by his lieutenant in a "friendly fire" incident. In April, 2012, Sharrett Sr. obtained documents confirming some of the details of his son's death and a subsequent cover-up.

A FEW WAYS TO PAY TRIBUTE ON MEMORIAL DAY

- ❖ **Monday, May 25, Arlington National Cemetery, National Memorial Day Observance** to honor America's fallen military service members. 10:30 a.m., prelude by U.S. Marine Band. 11 a.m., Presidential Armed Forces Full Honor Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, to be followed by an observance program hosted by the Department of Defense in Arlington's Memorial Amphitheater. Free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to be at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier or seated in the amphitheater by 9:30 a.m. Free parking and shuttle in the Arlington National Cemetery Welcome Center's parking lot from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ❖ **OBSERVE A MOMENT OF SILENCE** at 12:01 p.m. This Memorial Day, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) will lay a wreath before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery at 12:01 p.m. and urges people across the country to pause for a national moment of silence to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.
- ❖ **Alexandria - May 25, 11 a.m. - Memorial Day Ceremony** - Versace Plaza/Memorial in Alexandria, Mount Vernon Recreation Center at 2701 Commonwealth Ave.
- ❖ **Arlington - May 25 - Air Force Association's Memorial Day Ceremony, 9 a.m.** commemorative Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremony at 9 a.m., at the Air Force Memorial. - 1 Air Force Memorial Dr., Arlington
- ❖ **Herndon - May 25 - Herndon Memorial Day Observance** - Town of Herndon Memorial Day Observance, Chestnut Grove Cemetery, 10 a.m.



Remembering on Memorial Day 2015

FROM PAGE 8

Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wren, 44, of Lorton, died in Tallil, Iraq on Nov. 5, 2005. Marine Capt. Michael Martino, 32 of the City of Fairfax, died Nov. 2, 2005, when his helicopter was brought down in Iraq.

1st Lt. Laura M. Walker of Oakton was killed on Aug. 18, 2005, in Kandahar, Afghanistan. CW4 Matthew S. Lourey of Lorton died from injuries sustained on May 26, 2005 in Buhriz, Iraq. Operations Officer Helge Boes of Fairfax was killed on Feb. 5, 2003, while participating in counterterrorism efforts in eastern Afghanistan.

Among other local lives lost: Lance Cpl. Tavon Lee Hubbard, 24, of Reston; 1st Lt. Alexander Wetherbee, 27, of McLean; 1st Lt. Jeff Kaylor, 25, of Clifton; Coast Guard Petty Officer Nathan B. Bruckenthal, 24, of Herndon; Army Chief Warrant Officer Sharon T. Swartworth, 43, of Mount Vernon; Command Sgt. Maj. James D. Blankenbecler, 40, of Mount Vernon; Capt. James F. Adamowski, 29, of Springfield; Sgt. DeForest L. Talbert, 22, of Alexandria; Marine Cpl. Binh N. Le, 20, of Alexandria; Staff Sgt. Russell Verdugo, 34, of Alexandria. Army Capt. Mark N. Stubenhofer, 30, from Springfield; Marine Gunnery Sgt. Javier Obleas-Prado Pena, 36, from Falls Church; Marine Sgt. Krisna Nachampassak, 27, from Burke; Army Staff Sgt. Nathaniel J. Nyren, 31, from Reston; Marine Lance Cpl. Tenzin Dengkhim, 19, from Falls Church, Navy Chief Joel Egan Baldwin, 37, from Arlington; Maj. Joseph McCloud, of Alexandria, and Major Gloria D. Davis, 47 of Lorton.

Capt. Jesse A. Ozbat, 28 of Prince George, Va., died on May 20, 2012 in Afghanistan from a roadside bomb. Constructionman Trevor J. Stanley, 22, of Virginia Beach, Va., died April 7, 2012 while deployed to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. Pfc. Michael W. Pyron, 30, of Hopewell, Va., died Jan. 10, 2012 in Afghanistan. Maj. Samuel M. Griffith, 36, of Virginia Beach, Va., died Dec. 14, 2011 in Afghanistan. Staff Sgt. James Ronald Leep Jr., 44 of Richmond, died Oct. 17, 2011 at Forward Operating Base Kalsu in Iraq. Spc. Levi Efrain Nuncio, 24 of Harrisonburg, died June 22, 2011 in Afghanistan. Capt. Michael Wray Newton, 30 of Newport News, died June 11, 2011 in Afghanistan. Capt. Charles A. Ransom, 31,

of Midlothian was one of eight airmen who died April 27, 2011, at the Kabul International Airport, Afghanistan, from gunfire. Sgt. Sean T. Callahan, 23, of Warrenton died April 23, 2011 in combat in Afghanistan. Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Venetz Jr., 30, of Prince William died Jan. 28, 2011 in Afghanistan, after being been seriously wounded months before. Spc. Sean R. Cutsforth, 22, of Radford,, died Dec. 15, 2010 in Afghanistan. Spc. William K. Middleton, 26, of Norfolk died Nov. 22, 2010 in Afghanistan. Staff Sgt. Christopher F. Cabacoy, 30, of Virginia Beach died July 5, 2010, in Afghanistan.

If you know of someone who should be included in this list, or if you would like to share how you are honoring the memory of a family member or friend lost, or about the progress of someone injured, please let us know.

— MARY KIMM.

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Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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From left, Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander Col. Michelle Mitchell, Wegmans Alexandria store manager Mike Dempsey and CSM Scott Guillory helped dedicate the new grocery store and celebrate Armed Forces Day.



From left, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327 members Gary Kelch of Burke and WJ Leonard of North Springfield visit with Hayfield Secondary School Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps members junior Sasha Cunnane, freshman Bryan Landin and senior Cadet Captain Matt Bour.

New Alexandria Wegmans Dedicated on Armed Forces Day

Members of the Hayfield Secondary School Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps not only faced the pressure of raising the flag for the first time at the soon to be open Alexandria Wegmans. They also had to figure out the pole's hidden crank mechanism located behind a locked door.

But when their time came on Saturday morning, May 16, Armed Forces Day, the team's training and preparation helped the ceremony to go off without fault.

The group's Cadet Captain, senior Matt Bour said the experience was all about "honoring America." Bour, junior Nia Moore, junior Sasha Cunnane, freshman Bryan Landin and junior Jazmine Henderson were hand-picked from the school's 172 cadets for this ceremony.

The popular Pennsylvania-based grocery store chain is scheduled to open this Alexandria location at the corner of Telegraph and Beulah Roads in June. The third branch in Fairfax County, it will anchor an all-new shopping destination called Hilltop Village Center.

Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander Col. Michelle Mitchell was on hand to assist with the dedication. "It is fitting that Wegmans would choose to raise

their flag on Armed Forces Day, symbolizing their commitment to the community and their support of our military, veterans and their families," Col. Mitchell said in her remarks. "Whenever the flag is raised, we are reminded of our unity and our commitment to ensuring liberty and justice for all. We are honoring our country and the hard-working men and women who have served and defended it."

With the new store being a close neighbor with Fort Belvoir, Col. Mitchell said its arrival is "well-anticipated" on post and expects it to be "great for business, bringing a lot to the local economy."

Gary Kelch of Burke and WJ Leonard of North Springfield, members of the Springfield-based Post 7327 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization, were among honored guests for the morning's dedication.

"It was a very nice ceremony," said Leonard. "We like to coordinate with people like Wegmans to organize picnics and other community projects."

Kelch agreed that, "It's nice to see a community business do such an honor."

The Hilltop Village Wegmans is scheduled to open June 14.

— TIM PETERSON



From left, Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander Col. Michelle Mitchell, Hayfield Secondary School Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps members junior Nia Moore, junior Sasha Cunnane, freshman Bryan Landin, senior Cadet Captain Matt Bour and junior Jazmine Henderson, and CSM Scott Guillory of Fort Belvoir helped dedicate the new Alexandria Wegmans on Armed Forces Day.

McAuliffe Signs Bill to Get Food Trucks Rolling in Virginia

Food trucks, those compact mobile restaurants that have become wildly popular on the streets of Washington, D.C., are getting closer to expanding their tread-print in Virginia. In a May 18 ceremony held in Tysons Corner, Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D) signed a bill into law that requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to regulate food trucks operating on specific roads maintained by the state.

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) introduced HB 2042 after hearing from representatives of the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, Tysons Partnership in Tysons Corner and the Food Truck Association.

"With the passage of HB 2042, the unnecessary barrier to mobile food vending is removed while maintaining the safety of the roadways," Del. Filler-Corn said in a statement. "It is critical that we give individuals the opportunity to succeed in starting a business here in the Commonwealth, by opening doors and enabling hard-working entrepreneurs to start and grow their dream. But as we know, we must also ensure that it is done responsibly and with everyone in agreement, working together."

Seven food trucks represented the Food Truck Association at the signing.

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Rear from left, Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova, Executive Director of the DMV Food Truck Association Che Ruddell-Tabisola and Jim Corcoran, president & CEO of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce applaud as Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D) signs a bill calling for regulations for food trucks to operate on specific roads in Virginia.

Parents' Role in Educating about Alcohol and Drugs

Suggestions for talking to teens about staying safe.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Graduation, prom and the summer before heading off to college are some of the highlights of a teen's high school experience. While the season brings landmark events, it can be marred by the consequences of engaging in harmful activities.

Parents can play a pivotal role in keeping teens safe. The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County reports that teens cite their parents as the leading influence for them not to drink, and say that it is not difficult to get alcohol from their family home, older siblings or friends. Initiating a dialogue with teens about the dangers of unsafe behaviors such as drinking and drug use can be daunting for some parents.

"We know that teens who receive consistent messages from their parents about their expectations that their child not use alcohol are much less likely to use," said Diane Eckert, deputy executive director, Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County.

The season brings celebratory activities and less supervision, and therefore more opportunities to take chances, said Eckert. It's critical that parents "sit down with your teens and talk with them about your expectations," she said. "With less structure and more excitement, teens can find themselves taking more risks, so it's important for parents to be involved."

Conversations about safety during activities where teens will have more freedom can be difficult to navigate. "For sure those are hard conversations," said Amy L. Best, Ph.D., professor of Sociology and chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University in Fairfax. "Parents want to be careful not to drown out the fun times that prom and graduation also represent. It's about finding balance. Part of it is about finding ways to talk about the risks without your teen walking away feeling hyper-vulnerable and disempowered."

The dialogue should be factual and non-threatening. "Ask open-ended question about what is going on at school and with their friends," said Best. "It easier to open those conversations when you're not

Tips for Keeping Teens Safe

Help make prom and graduation night safe for teens by following these tips:

- ❖ Do not serve or allow alcohol at any party you are hosting; an adult who provides alcohol to a minor is breaking the law and risking that teen's life.
 - ❖ Know where your teenager is attending a party; verify there will be parental supervision, and that it will be alcohol-free.
 - Make it clear to your teen(s) that you do not approve of their drinking alcohol.
 - Report underage drinking parties by calling the Fairfax County Police Department's non-emergency number: 703-691-2131. Your call can be anonymous and may prevent injuries or a fatal car crash.
 - Educate your family on the risks associated with underage drinking and its proven harmful effects on the brain. The legal drinking age is 21, and students who wait until their early 20s to drink are 84 percent less likely to develop an addiction than those who start earlier.
 - Make sure your teen has a plan for the night and that you know what it is.
 - Do not rent hotel rooms for prom-goers.
 - Know who is driving — if it's a limo, check their policy on not allowing any alcohol in the vehicle and driving any teen who clearly has been drinking.
 - Encourage your senior to attend their school's All Night Graduation Celebration.
- Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County

talking about your child, and you're collecting information about what is going on at school and with their friends." Best is author of "Prom Night: Youth, Schools and Popular Culture" (2000 Routledge), which was selected for the 2002 American Educational Studies Association Critics' Choice Award.

Difficult conversations are made easier if there is a history of open, honest communication between a parent and child. While parents should make their expectations for their child's behavior clear, Best warns against lecturing or talking down to a teen. "The prom should not be the first time that these conversations occur," she said. "It's really important that kids to be able to express their feelings and have an active role in the conversation. Trust has to be built into the relationship in order for that to happen." A concrete plan for ensuring safety should be part of the conversation. "Kids are often in situations where alcohol is being consumed and they may not be the ones consuming it," said Best. "So safe driving arrangements are important."

"The good news is that a lot of kids are opting out of drinking and greater awareness around the potential for sexual assault," said Best.

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Rare Raptor Romance in Burke

A Personal Encounter.

BY DONALD SWEIG

Suddenly, there they were. Two adult Mississippi kites circling close together, low over the quiet residential intersection, just off of Burke Lake Road. Someone had told me they were back and I had gone to look for them. Excitedly, I stopped my car almost in the middle of the intersection, and grabbed my camera hoping to get some quick flight shots. Alas, no luck! The birds drifted slowly to the north over the trees, in the direction in which they had nested for the previous two years.

Mississippi Kites (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) are a common southern raptor from the Carolinas south to northern Florida and west across into Texas and Oklahoma. They are extremely uncommon in Virginia and are confirmed nesters here only in the last 20 years. There may be three or four nesting pairs in Fairfax County and an unknown but small number in Prince William County as well. There is one confirmed nesting in Maryland (at Salisbury on the Eastern shore) there are no confirmed nestings in D.C., West Virginia and New Jersey. It certainly qualifies as a rare raptor in Burke.

Hoping to get more views of the birds that I had just seen circling, I drove a short distance to the nearby intersection, from which I had viewed the kite nests the previous two years. Shortly, one of the local residents, presumably recognizing me from the year before, came out and said, "they're back, three of them." I asked if she had seen a nest. She said she hadn't and went back into the house.

AFTER A SHORT WHILE, one of the kites flew over my head and landed on a naked branch in plain view. Hoping to get a better view for a photo image, I walked slightly down the road and was surprised and delighted to find a second Mississippi kite perched on another naked branch, directly above the first one.

As I was maneuvering to try to get a photo image of both of the kites at the same time, the top bird, which turned out later to be the male, took off and disappeared over the trees. When the male kite returned a few minutes later, I managed to get a couple of flight shots and noticed it was carrying some prey, probably a dragonfly,



© Donald M. Sweig

Two Mississippi kites on branch in Burke, with male carrying food, probably a dragonfly, for pre-mating food exchange.



© Donald M. Sweig

Mating (copulating) Mississippi kites in Burke. The male is the top bird. Notice the rufous in the outer wing feathers of the male.

in its beak.

The male kite went directly to the lower branch where the female kite was perched and did a food exchange. This was clearly courtship behavior. I was pleased to have gotten some good photo images of the food exchange. The male kite immediately flew off again and when it returned for the second time, for another food exchange, I noticed only the last few seconds of the encounter. Annoyed that I had missed another opportunity for some food exchange photos, I resolved not to let that happen again.

In a very few more minutes, I noticed the male kite flying from the east toward the female perched on the branch, and I thought it was coming for another food exchange. I quickly got the perched female in the viewfinder of my camera and was surprised and amazed when the male came back not with food, but to mate. The male kite flew in and landed immediately on the top of the female, which is the mating/copulation position, using its opened wings to stabilize itself. It was all over in about 10 or 15 seconds. I

was amazingly fortunate to have gotten 6 or 8 really good photo images of the copulation encounter. (In past years I have observed other similar avian mating encounters, including Bald Eagles at Great Falls, Ospreys near Alexandria, and even Peregrine Falcons in Shenandoah National Park. But to see such an encounter, of such a rare bird in Burke Virginia, was quite special for me.)

In all likelihood the female will lay what will probably be two eggs in a nearby nest in the near future.

THE KITES will incubate the eggs for about 30-days until they hatch. The adults will then feed and care for the newly hatched birds for another month or so, until the juveniles are large and strong enough to leave the nest and fly. By late August or very early September, the adults and the juveniles will leave Burke to spend the winter in South America.

But, they will probably be flying about and soaring in the Burke area for the next 90 days or so. Keep your eye on the sky. You might well see a rare Mississippi kite.



PHOTOS BY TERRANCE MORAN/THE CONNECTION

TW Perry Springfield Team (from left): Michael Cassidy, CEO; Jose Valencia, store manager; Carie White, sales manager; Evan Fuller, operations manager; Mike Moore, VP Materials.

Grand Opening With Chris Cooley

TW Perry, a building materials dealer with locations in Virginia, Maryland and D.C. held a grand opening of their new location in Springfield. In addition to serving contractors and homeowners, TW Perry takes pride in their support of their Yellow Ribbon Fund that provides support



First in line. Christina Shea, Arlington, Chris Cooley and Stephanie Bauer, Springfield.

to soldiers receiving medical treatment at Walter Reed Hospital. TW Perry's Chairman and CEO started the Yellow Ribbon Fund to help injured soldiers during their treatments with housing, food and transportation needs. In addition, TW Perry is actively involved in a number of charities and approximately 10 percent of their personnel are military veterans.

To publicize their grand opening TW Perry invited Chris Cooley, former Redskin's tight-end, and local radio and TV sports commentator, to meet and greet the public and sign autographs. In addition to his sports background Cooley is

a ceramics artist. He is currently rebuilding his ceramic studio and will be reopening in a few weeks. Sport fans from as far away as Fredericksburg came to meet Cooley. Some brought his Redskins' jersey, footballs, helmets or caps for his signature. Cooley was warm and gracious with each person, answering questions, smiling and taking photographs and selfies. TW Perry provided a free buffet lunch hosted by Mission BBQ and vendors pitched outside tents and demonstrated their products and services.

—TERRANCE MORAN



The whole family gets in the act. Brittani Gonzales and her father Sam Gonzales of Springfield brought Wes Rumbler of Burke, to meet Chris Cooley

PEOPLE

Interstate Promotes Industry Veteran to New Leadership Position

Interstate Group Holdings, Inc. (MoveInterstate.com) announced the promotion of Mark Lundgren to vice president and general manager of its subsidiary, Interstate Van Lines. The announcement comes in the midst of strong company growth.

"Interstate continues to raise the bar in the moving industry, with practices and philosophies that ensure best-in-class service to our customers. The key to offering that high level of service is our people," said J.D. Morrissette, president of Interstate Van Lines. "Mark has exceptional experience, specifically in the areas of operations, customer care, driver performance and retention, compliance and safety, and



Mark Lundgren

Lundgren has worked at all levels of the moving industry from branch level to executive positions with Pasha, Bekins and Global Van Lines.

agency development."

Lundgren is an Air Force veteran, and a moving and relocations industry standout, with more than forty years of experience. He has been working with Interstate in a consultative position since last December. In his new role, Lundgren will oversee the operations of Interstate Van Lines. Prior to joining Interstate,

Adrian Chapman Named Chairman of Lead Virginia

Lead Virginia, the statewide leadership program now entering its tenth year of educating Virginia's leaders about the issues most relevant to the Commonwealth, has appointed new officers to its executive committee. Each officer will serve a one year term. Adrian Chapman, president and chief operating officer, Washington Gas, Springfield, Lead Virginia Class of 2006 has been named chairman. "This new leadership team of officers brings a depth of experience from across the Commonwealth that will serve Lead Virginia well as we



Adrian Chapman

visit www.leadvirginia.org.

celebrate our milestone 10th anniversary in 2015," said Susan Horne, president and CEO of Lead Virginia. "Board chair Adrian Chapman brings his special focus on leadership and stewardship through his company's values and in his role as Lead Virginia's chairman," Horne stated. For more information,

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Edison High Student Named 2015 Ron Brown Scholar

Bruke Kifle, a senior at Edison High School, is one of 28 students nationwide named a Ron Brown Scholar, a program for African-American youth, and will receive a \$40,000 scholarship to attend college.

Kifle is the only recipient from the state of Virginia. As an Edison student, he has worked as a tutor and mentor at the Edison Writing Center where he is known for positively engaging and encouraging his tutees; a Key Club, National Honor Society, and People to People Club officer; a member of the

Edison football and outdoor track and field teams; and an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma candidate. He was selected to participate in the Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS) online STEM course and participated in the VASTS summer academy; was chosen for the Carnegie Mellon Summer Academy for Math and Science; and was invited to be a founding member of the school's Mu Alpha Theta national math honor society. He volunteers as a Homework Hangout and Math Center tutor; participates in Knitting for Peace, Best Buddies, and the Big Siblings Club;

and serves at the Debre Genet Medhane Alem Orthodox Church.

"Bruke Kifle embodies every aspect of the IB learner profile," says Edison IB diploma program coordinator Melanie Morris.

Science department chair Tony Rugari says, "Bruke is a consummate scholar and gentleman. He is committed to learning and willing to work very hard to maintain his high standard for achievement. While he is devoted to scholarship, he is also devoted to being an active member of his community."

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editors@connectionnewspapers.com



PHOTO BY BRUCE WENZE

From left: Luqman Fulmer, Emily Flack, Thai Duong, Peter Scheible in Edison High production of "Annie Get Your Gun."

Meeting a Hefty Challenge

Edison High production of "Annie Get Your Gun."

BY ABBY WEI
THOMAS S. WOOTTON HIGH
SCHOOL

Shouts of "pull!" and rounds of rifle shots permeate the air. With a personable, pioneering feminist, competitions galore, and shooting champions running up and down the aisles of Thomas Edison High School's auditorium, the school's rendition of "Annie Get Your Gun" hit the stage with all the right notes. Based on the life of sharpshooter Annie Oakley, the 1946 Broadway hit follows rough tomboy, Annie, and her quest to capture the elusive Frank Butler's stubborn heart. Featuring beloved classics, "There's No Business like Show Business," and "Anything You Can Do," Annie Get your Gun accentuates and satirizes both the massive 20th century gender divide and love's fickle ways.

Emily Flack brilliantly portrayed Annie, strengthening and molding her character's personality and wit and allowing the audience to see visible and emotional transformations in her character, while keeping a consistent (though purposely fading) tangy southern accent until the curtain dropped. Flack's vocal prowess was brilliantly featured in her duet, "Anything You Can Do," with Peter Scheible (Frank). Flack and Scheible's chemistry was palpable, tense and strong, and

they were able to show off the upper register of their voices, forming the most memorable and enjoyable number of the evening.

Frank's bosses, Buffalo Bill Cody (Luqman Fulmer) and Charlie Davenport (Thai Duong) were also an enjoyable duo to watch, and their voices, though only given minimal time to shine, rang beautifully with soft touches of vibrato. Duong's flawless, seemingly effortless accent and believably suave portrayal of Charlie was also commendable. Annie's three sisters, Jessie (Emma Cronnell), Nellie (Tianna Ayala) and Lil June (Kathryn Heislup) offered refreshing comic relief throughout the show and all made dedicated character choices.

Although the set itself was minimal, the stage crew executed quick stage changes with a few bumps in the road. Interestingly, the orchestra was placed on stage behind the set (or part of it, rather) and were dressed in 20th century-esque costumes. While this made it hard to hear the music at times, it was a refreshing change to their usually invisible roles in the pit.

The cast, crew, and pit of Thomas Edison's "Annie Get Your Gun" took on a hefty musical challenge but performed a memorable show, and the night ended with sweet silence as Annie got her guy, and got to keep her 'ole gun to boot.

CALENDAR

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.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 21-24

GI Film Festival. Angelika Film Center, 2911 District Avenue, Fairfax. The nation's only military film festival. Cinematic stories of mothers, daughters, fathers, wives, brothers and more. GIFF15.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 21

Magic Tree House Club. 4:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Read and talk about story number 15 in the series, Viking Ships at Sunrise. Their magic tree house takes Jack and Annie back to a monastery in medieval Ireland, where they try to retrieve a lost.

FRIDAY/MAY 22

City of Fairfax's Rock the Block. 6-9 p.m. Old Town Square, Old Town Fairfax. Gonzo's Nose, most popular party band in the national capitol area. Perform cover songs, which range from the early 80's up until songs that hit the radio just yesterday.

SATURDAY/MAY 23

Latin Explosion 2015. 7 p.m. GMU Patriot Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Yandel, known as part of the urban music duo Wisin y Yandel, is also known for his solo efforts including the hit singles "Hable de Ti" and "Hasta Abajo". J. Alvarez, another Reggaeton artist, recently released his fourth album, De Camino Pa La Cima Reloaded, featuring collaborations with artists Tego Calderon, Wisin and Zion & Lennox. Andy Andy, known for his bachata style of music, will also hit the stage. Additional artists Alexis y Fido, Ivy Queen, Zion & Lennox, De La Ghetto, Angel & Khriz, Yowell & Randy, Messiah, Jory Boy, El Chevo and Sahara. Tickets: \$35-\$185. www.ticketmaster.com.

Screening of Big Dream. 1 p.m. GMU, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Big Dream is a documentary film that follows the stories of seven young women in technology fields around the globe. Each story takes a look at these young women's ambitions and how they overcome personal challenges to pursue careers in STEM fields. Free.

Springfield Smart Markets Farmers Market. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Springfield Town Center, at the corner of Loisdale Road and Spring Mall Drive. Fresh local fruits and veggies.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 23-24

Fairfax Swimming Pool Open House. 12-4 p.m. Fairfax Swimming Pool, 4200 Roberts Road, Fairfax. The public is welcome to visit the pool. Free moon bounce and pizza for sale on Saturday. More information and membership options at <http://www.fairfaxpool.com>.

SUNDAY/MAY 24

OAR Jazz and Wine Festival. 2-5 p.m. The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Tickets are \$50 and guests will enjoy a meal catered by Spilled Milk catering with paired wines. All funds will go to support OAR's programs. Registration: <http://www.oarfairfax.org/employment-opportunities?id=195>

Workhouse Farmers Market. 1-5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The opening day of this year's farmers markets season.

Canine Cruise. 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road,



The cardboard boat regatta, one of the most popular Springfield Days activities, will be held at Lake Accotink Park on Sunday, May 31.

Springfield. Treat your canine companion to a special cruise aboard Lake Accotink Park's pooch-friendly pontoon boat. Catch the last rays of the sun as it dips toward the distant lake shore while your dog scans for ducks, geese and other lake dwellers. \$6 per person, no charge for dogs. Limit one dog per person. Children ages 8 and older.

Main Street Chamber Players Spring Concert. 4 p.m. Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax.

SUNDAY/MONDAY/MAY 24-25

Art Guild of Clifton Show and Sale. 5-8 p.m. on Sunday. 12-5 p.m. on Monday. 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Artists will display and sell works featuring local themes across a range of media. Admission is free for Museum members and children 4 and under; \$2 children 5-15; \$4 adults 16 and older. www.fairfax-station.org, 703-425-9225.

MONDAY/MAY 25

Starkill. 6 p.m. Empire, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Starkill is an American melodic death metal band from Chicago, Illinois; The members met and began writing materials in 2008, eventually signing to Century Media Records in December 2012. Tickets: \$15-\$17.

TUESDAY/MAY 26

Tai Chi. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Come and experience the benefits of Tai Chi introduced by Dante Gilmer of Still Water Tai Chi Center. Wear comfortable clothes that allow movement. Adults.

Pokemon Club. 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Bring your Pokémon trading cards to trade or play the Pokémon game. Age 6-12.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 27

Tiny Tots. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Join instructor Susan Alverson for music, movement and song. Funded by the Friends of Burke Centre Library. Age 1-2 years with adult.

Fun with Shapes. 11 a.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Stories and activities about shapes and forms. Age 3-5 with adult.

FRIDAY/MAY 29

Arts Open House Extravaganza. 4210 Roberts Road, Burke. Come to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Memorial Day Events

SUNDAY/MAY 24

17th Annual Ride of the Patriots. 6:30 a.m. Route 29 between Draper Drive and Eaton Place. Fairfax Harley Owners Group and Patriot Harley-Davidson's gathering of the motorcycle riding community will pay tribute to America's servicemen, women and veterans and raise awareness of American POW and MIA soldiers of all wars. After assembling at the Patriot Harley-Davidson on Lee highway in Fairfax, a parade of bikers will follow a route to the Pentagon where it will join other bikers to the National Mall and the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial to pay their respect.

MONDAY/MAY 25

Memorial Day Service. 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax. Sponsored by Veterans of Foreign War Post 8469 and American Legion Post 177.

at Mason for a Celebration of the Arts, including poetry and musical performances as well as photography and arts displays. Enjoy free coffee and home-made baked treats sold by Friends of OLLI. Register by calling the OLLI office: 703-503-3384.

Riverbend Opera Company

Presents Andrea Lecoureur. 7:30 p.m. Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Tickets: \$15-\$25. Francesco Cileà's verismo masterpiece Adriana Lecoureur, set in the early 18th century. This Riverbend Opera production features a cast of 15 professional singers, accompanied by orchestral ensemble and piano. (Projected English Surtitles).

Fun Flicks. 10:30 a.m. Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Watch movies based on children's books. See "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," "Papa Get Me the Moon," "The Very Quiet Cricket" and "The Mixed-Up Chameleon" by Eric Carle.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 29-31

Workhouse Carnival and Arts Party. 5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Rides, games, music, vendors, food and family fun. Admission to the carnival is free, including the live entertainment and film screening, however rides and vendors will require additional fees and tickets. There is a \$5 parking fee per vehicle.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 30-31

Springfield Days. 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m., South Run Park, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. Springfield Days is a community wide celebration that includes a 5K run, "Pet Fest" and car

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

NEWS

Lynbrook Elementary School students present “hug pillows” they made for Fairfax County Police officers to give to children at traumatic incidents such as car accidents.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY ANDERSON

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church After School Program Supports Lynbrook Elementary School

Several Lynbrook Elementary School students spent the first few weeks of May making “Hug Pillows” as part of a weekly after-school program run by members of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Springfield.

“Our program includes homework help, craft activities, musical instrument instruction, physical activities, supper and occasionally special guest musicians who perform for the children,” Mary Anderson of St. Mark’s said in an email. “One of the purposes of our program is to encourage the kids to be good citizens in the community and one way to do that is

to help other people.”

At the last meeting of the year, students gave the pillows they created to visiting officers from the Fairfax County Police Franconia District station bicycle team. Officers can then carry the pillows in their police cruisers and offer them to children in traumatic situations like car accidents.

Each pillow contains a wooden heart and a tag that reads, “When you feel the heart inside this pillow, remember that you are cared for and loved.”

—TIM PETERSON

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

show. Visit www.springfielddays.com for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 30

Lights Out on the Bunny Brothers.

11 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Have fun learning about energy conservation with this fast-paced puppet show presented by Blue Sky Puppets. Cosponsored by Friends of the Kings Park Library. All ages.

The Mamas and the Papas: True Stories About Moms, Dads, and Kids.

7 p.m. The Auld Shebeen, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Better Said Than Done is making childcare available for an easy and entertaining date night. Tickets are \$10 per person; tickets can be purchased online at www.betersaidthandone.com or at the door. Childcare must be reserved by May 25.

Junior Robotics. 10:30 a.m. Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Presented by Bricks 4 Kidz. All the fun of building with LEGO bricks, PLUS the challenge of computer programming! Cosponsored by

Friends of Pohick Regional Library. Age 6-8.

Hard Hat Movie Night. 6:30 p.m. Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Join us after hours for family fun and a movie to kick off the next phase of Pohick Regional Library. All ages.

King Giant. 7 p.m. Empire, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Sixty Watt Shaman, Fog Hound. \$10-\$15.

SUNDAY/MAY 31

Cardboard Regatta. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Witness the cardboard boat creations race along Lake Accotink’s shoreline at 2 p.m. \$4 vehicle fee. Call 703-569-0285 or email julie.tahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit www.springfielddays.com for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 31- AUG. 30

Stars on Sunday Concert Series. 3 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Featuring a lineup of performances that showcase the diversity of talent and culture in Northern Virginia. Concerts are free to attend and are perfect for families, a special date or a relaxing afternoon of music and dance.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 4-6

Huge Summer Book Sale. Thursday: 3-9 p.m. Friday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Fiction, history, hobbies, vintage, and children’s books, in pristine condition.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 5-7

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. Friday: 6 p.m.-midnight; Saturday: 10 a.m.-midnight; and Sunday: 11 a.m.-7p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Musical performances, rides, games and food. Call 703-324-3247 or visit www.celebratefairfax.com/.

SATURDAY/JUNE 6

Spring Campfire Saturdays. 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. An evening campfire for the whole family. Adventure awaits as you explore the woodlands and lake front spots where wildlife hides and resides, guided by a naturalist. Program ends with a cozy campfire, bring whatever you like to roast, smores provided. \$8-\$10.

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

JUNE

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 6/10/2015 Father’s Day Dining & Gifts
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JULY

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SPORTS

Woodson Boys' Soccer Secures Conference Championship Berth

Cavaliers beat defending state champion T.C. Williams in semifinals.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The T.C. Williams boys' soccer team was the aggressor early in Tuesday's Conference 7 tournament semifinal match against Woodson, but had nothing to show for it at halftime.

The defending state champion Titans trailed 1-0 despite spending much of the match's first 20 minutes on the attack. In the 48th minute, however, senior captain Ramsey Benzina took a free kick from the edge of the 18-yard box, blasting the ball over a wall of Woodson defenders and into the net for the equalizer. The goal breathed life into the Titans, who to that point had come up empty on the scoreboard against a strong Woodson back line.

But moments after T.C. Williams had seized momentum, Woodson snatched it right back.

JW Clark's header in the 53rd minute proved to be the winning goal as the No. 2 seed Cavaliers secured a trip to the conference championship match with a 2-1 victory over the No. 3 Titans on May 19 at Woodson High School.

"It's a hot day and [Benzina's goal] kind of got our heads down a little bit because it's never good to get scored on when we have the lead," said Clark, a junior forward. "But our team has spirit. We came out firing. We didn't keep our heads down, we just kept on pushing and we managed to get one in."

Senior defender Matt Todd assisted Clark's goal.

WOODSON WILL HOST No. 4 seed West Potomac in the conference championship match Thursday night.

"We're ready," Clark said. "We're so ready. Coach [Andrew] Peck has done awesome things with this squad. It really feels good to get a win against the defending state champs and that really fires us up for the game."

After Clark's goal put Woodson back on top, the Cavaliers limited the Titans' scoring opportunities. Woodson senior captains Alex Furbank and Connor Werrlein, senior Eric Speer, junior captain and first-team all-conference selection Sean Garin, and Todd contributed along the back line. First-team all-conference goalkeeper Brian Breslin made multiple second-half saves.

Woodson held T.C. Williams scoreless during their regular season meeting, a 1-0 Cavalier victory.



Woodson forward JW Clark (5) scored the winning goal against T.C. Williams during the Conference 7 tournament semifinals on Tuesday.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Senior goalkeeper Brian Breslin and the Woodson boys' soccer team advanced to the Conference 7 tournament championship match with a 2-1 win over T.C. Williams on Tuesday.

"If your back line is consistent and your goalkeeper is on top of his game, it just makes everything so much easier because all you've got to do is finish one ball," first-year Woodson head coach Peck said. "[The Titans] got a free-kick goal. They really didn't have any great opportunities in front of the net because our guys were holding the back line."

Sophomore midfielder Ryan Dagley gave Woodson a 1-0 lead with a goal in the 20th minute.

THE VICTORY improved Woodson's record to 9-5-1 and sets up a conference championship match against a West Potomac program Peck guided within one win of qualifying for the state tournament last season.

The Cavaliers defeated the Wolverines 3-1 during the regular season at West Potomac High School.

"Last year's season was a huge disappointment for [the Cavaliers]," Peck said. "They lost in the first round [of the conference tournament]. Basically, they went from a first-round loss to the finals. They're peaking at the right time."



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Woodson forward Natalie Stynchula (14) scored her team-leading 15th goal of the season on Tuesday during a 2-1 victory over Lake Braddock.

Stynchula Sisters Lead Woodson to Victory

Cavaliers will face South County for Conference 7 championship.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

When it comes to set pieces, Woodson girls' soccer head coach Warren Williams has faith in a freshman.

When it comes to goal scoring, a junior has taken the lead for the Cavaliers.

Those two girls happen to be sisters, and on Tuesday, Faith and Natalie Stynchula played significant roles in helping the Cavaliers clinch a berth in the Conference 7 tournament final.

Faith Stynchula assisted Jillian Barnard's first-half goal and Natalie Stynchula added an insurance goal in the second half as No. 2 seed Woodson defeated No. 3 Lake Braddock 2-1 in the conference semifinals on May 19 at Woodson High School.

The Cavaliers will travel to face top-seed South County in the conference championship match on Thursday, May 21.

"I think we did a great job," Natalie Stynchula said. "We were all working together, as usual — connecting our passes, getting it out wide. It was a great effort for our team."

Natalie Stynchula, a junior forward, scored her team-leading 15th goal in the 47th minute, extending Woodson's lead to 2-0.

"The kid's got a nose for the goal," Williams said. "She finds the back of the net consistently. ... She gets half a step and she's willing to take that chance and that's what you want your goal-scorer to do."

In the first half, Barnard, a

senior midfielder, got Woodson on the board with a goal in the 26th minute, finishing a free kick from Faith Stynchula.

"Jillian made the right back-post run and just finished it off," Williams said. "She's a left-footed kid and we've been on her all year use that right foot. She just placed it right in and you can't ask for anything more than that."

Faith Stynchula is the Cavaliers' catalyst during corner kicks. Williams has faith the freshman defender will put the ball where it needs to be.

"The biggest thing when you have a kid taking set pieces is you want them to be consistent," Williams said, "and I know where she's going to serve every ball consistently, and that's all you want from a set piece. Now I can run my set pieces off of where she's going to place the ball."

Lake Braddock junior Ellie Weber scored a goal in the 52nd minute.

"Their No. 20 [is] phenomenal," Williams said about Weber. "She can play for me any day of the week. She's just an outstanding player."

The victory improved Woodson's record to 12-2-1. The Cavaliers will face South County in the Conference 7 championship match. South County defeated Woodson 1-0 during the regular season.

"I think we're ready," Natalie Stynchula said. "We can definitely handle it. We have a lot of work to do together, but we're building."

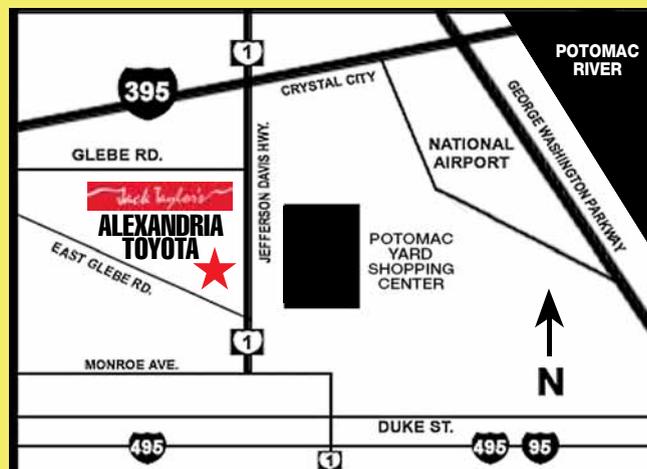
Lake Braddock's record dropped to 7-5-3.

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Public Notice - Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comments on a draft permit from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for a facility to manage hazardous waste as well as two (2) Statement of Basis (SB) regarding proposed remedies for site-wide corrective action, located on the Fort Belvoir facility in Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: May 21, 2015 to July 6, 2015.

PERMIT NAME & NUMBER: Hazardous Waste Management Permit for Storage and Corrective Action; EPA ID No. VA7213720082

PERMIT APPLICANT: U. S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir (Fort Belvoir)

FACILITY NAME & LOCATION: U. S. Route 1, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Fort Belvoir applied for a renewal permit to operate a facility that manages hazardous waste on April 21, 2014. One hazardous waste management unit (HWMU) is permitted, known as HWMU 1490, which is Building 1490 that stores hazardous waste in containers. The permit also includes RCRA site-wide corrective action activities, where Fort Belvoir may be required to submit various plans, studies, and reports in accordance with a Project Management Plan and Schedule Requirements approved by DEQ and EPA Region 3. DEQ has prepared a Statement of Basis (SB) dated October 20, 2014, on its proposed final remedies for 192 Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs), which include either No Further Action, No Further Action with Administrative Closure, or Land Use Controls and a second SB dated October 31, 2014, on its proposed final remedies for 5 SWMUs designated as A-05, A-08, A-09, A-11, and A-12, that have completed Corrective Measures Studies located on the Fort Belvoir facility. The draft permit will allow the facility to continue to operate Building 1490, the hazardous waste storage facility, and implement RCRA site-wide corrective action activities.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by hand delivery, e-mail, fax, or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may also write to the contact person at the address below to be added to the facility mailing list. The public also may request a public hearing. To request a public hearing, the request must be in writing; must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing; and must be made within the public comment period. The public may review the draft permit, fact sheet and application at the Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre Drive, Alexandria, VA 22315 or the DEQ Northern Regional Office at 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193. Copies of the permit documents are also available at DEQ Office of Waste Permitting, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Angela J. Alonso, Environmental Specialist II - DEQ Office of Waste Permitting & Compliance - P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218 - Phone: (804) 698-4328 - Fax: (804) 698-4234 - E-mail: Angela.Alonso@deq.virginia.gov

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