Springfield ONDECTION Franconia & Kingstowne & A Tax Day Protest at Springfield Springfield

News, Page I

Alarm Over Fire Code At Area Shelters

News, Page 3

West Springfield resident Peter Campbell holds signs and hands out literature at the Springfield Metro on Tuesday afternoon. Campbell, a retired psychiatrist acknowledges that he is in the 1 percent of the population which pay at a far lower tax rate than the other 99 percent of the population and would be happy to pay more if the tax law is changed.

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PAGE 8

Education Learning Fun

> Funding For Social Services

Restoring

The County Line, Page 4

Рното ву Louise

рАІD ветизвиес, У РЕВМІТ #86

PRSRT STD 0.2. Postace COUNCIL

For Dental Implant Treatment, it's a ClearChoice!

ClearChoice team of specialists brings you a dental implant solution that fits your budget ... in just one day!*

A LEADER IN DENTAL IMPLANT TREATMENT

Virtually every adult will lose a tooth, and as we get older, more Americans will suffer with missing and failing teeth. These days, however, there are dental implant solutions that either didn't exist in the past or which were difficult to access. But now, ClearChoice Dental Implant Centers are leading the way in innovative dental implant treatments. Dental Implants are a permanent solution for dental problems. And now your treatment, from our team of specialists, can often be accomplished in just one day'... and without the need for additional bone graft surgeries. In fact, dental implants can last a lifetime and have become the treatment of choice for replacement of missing and failing teeth. With more than 10,000 dental implant procedures performed, ClearChoice Dental Implant Centers have become a leader in dental implant treatment delivery.

TECHNOLOGY

Every ClearChoice Dental Implant Center includes an on-site 3D CAT Scan. The 3D CAT Scan technology costs hundreds of thousands of dollars. This technology provides three-dimensional and cross-sectional views that allow ClearChoice doctors to examine the quality and density of the bone that will anchor the dental implants; select the correct type and size of implants; determine the precise placement of implants, and avoid the nerves and sinuses. Since every smile is custom designed, each ClearChoice Center has a

specialized Dental Implant in-house lab to custom make your smile.



hey said they had specialists, lab, and high tech equipment ll at one location, but I had no lea that they could really do ll of this in just one day!*

< 3D CAT Scan





Actual ClearChoice Patient

TEAM OF SPECIALISTS

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- Kurt C., real ClearChoice patient

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"I suffered with bad teeth since I was a teenager. Imagine dealing with failing teeth so young in life. As a musician, I'm often in front of an audience. I wanted a rock star smile ... and now I have one."

Tooth loss is not your fault. Doing nothing about it is. Come see how easy it is to live the comfortable life you deserve ...

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CALL TOLL FREE **1.855.227.6436** TODAY

and receive a free 3D CAT scan (a \$700 value)





TYSONS CORNER: Stuart L. Graves, DDS, MS • Debora Armellini, DDS, MS • Samantha Siranli, DMD, PhD ROCKVILLE: Stuart L. Graves, DDS, MS • Ben Javid, DDS

ClearChoice Dental Implant Centers are locally owned and operated by licensed local dentists, and are part of a professional affiliation of implant practices operated by oral surgeons, prosthodontists and restorative dentists across the U.S. *Qualified patients can have their procedure in one day after initial workup without additional bone graft surgery. Results may vary in individual cases. Limited services available at satellite offices. †Independent Dental Implant Survey March 2011. America's #1 Choice determined by an Independent Patient Survey 2011. © 2012 ClearChoice Dental Implant Centers



Springfield Connection Editor Kemal Kurspahic 703-778-9414 or south@connectionnewspapers.com

Alarm Over Shelters' Fire Code

Fairfax County officials respond to concerns about fire code violations at local shelters.

By Victoria Ross The Connection

pring fever hit the region early this year. Last week's record-high temperatures had residents flocking outdoors to play, bike, jog and picnic.

With the promise of more summery weather this weekend, it may seem like an odd time to be concerned about freezing temperatures and hypothermia.

But on Friday, April 13, Fairfax County's Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) sent an email to leaders in the faith community inviting them to a hypothermia prevention information session on Sunday, April 22.

According to county officials, the session is an attempt to quell concerns and rumors raised by some church leaders that the County's Fire Marshal will shut down their hypothermia programs next winter because of fire code violations.

On Tuesday, county officials stressed their longstanding support of Fairfax County's Hypothermia Prevention Program, and promised to work with each house of worship to address concerns about code violations.

"I have been working with County staff to make sure safety concerns that arose during this program year are addressed before the 2012-2013 program begins," Bulova said in the email announcing Sunday's session. "I am committed to finding solutions that do not put undue burden on houses of worship but still provide adequate safety for the vulnerable population that relies on the Hypothermia Program during the winter months."

On Monday, April 16, the Rev. Keary Kincannon of Rising Hope Mission Church

in Alexandria sent out a press release stating the county will close 18 of 36 churches that host a hypothermia program. "Nine churches will not be allowed to bring the homeless in from the cold under any circumstances. An additional nine require extensive work to correct code violations that may cost hundreds of thousands of dollars," Kincannon said in the release.

Bulova said that currently

four houses of worship may be affected by their inability to comply with fire codes, not 18.

"We'll find out at the meeting on the 22nd exactly what is being suggested and what kind of costs it would/could entail. The county's fire marshal is concerned that – even with the best of intentions – space where the homeless are sleeping shouldn't be a place where they are trapped and unable to exit in case of a fire," Bulova said.

More than 1,000 residents seek shelter through Fairfax County's Hypothermia Prevention Program each year. Last year, there were no hypothermia-related deaths reported during the season.

"The Hypothermia Program is unique," Bulova said. "It is a true partnership between the faith communi-

Fast Facts about Hypothermia Prevention Program

◆During the 2010-2011 winter season, approximately 1,025 residents sought shelter through Fairfax County's Hypothermia Prevention Program, in partnership with other agencies.

 \bullet During the 2011-2012 winter season, partners opened their shelters to "no turn-away" status on Nov. 1, even if the weather was not at freezing temperatures.

FACETS' Hypothermia Prevention Season is Nov.
21 through March 17. FACETS served more than 219 clients last season.
Volunteers of America Chesapeake (VOA) Baileys

• Volunteers of America Chesapeake (VOA) Balleys Crossroad's Hypothermia Program served more than 442 clients last season and an additional 84 clients in their other winter seasonal programs for a total of 526 clients.

♦Reston Interfaith's Embry Rucker Community Shelter (ERCS) operates three separate winter programs. The ERCS Winter North County Program and winter seasonal programs served over 298 clients last season.

◆The Homeless Healthcare Program (HHP) has four nurse practitioners from the Fairfax County Health Department providing free flu shots during Hypothermia Prevention season. For more information on Fairfax County's Hypother-

mia Prevention Program, go to http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/partnerupdate/partnership-highlights-hyposeason2011-12.htm

ties in Fairfax County and county government." She said that many of the county's churches, synagogues, mosques and temples take turns providing space to provide food and shelter for the homeless population during the winter months.

"County agencies such as the Community Services Board, the Police Department, and the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness partner to make the program successful," Bulova said.

"Our shared goal is to prevent deaths, and people who are homeless deserve both shelter from the elements and a safe place to stay. Fire and building codes don't discriminate, and they are intended to protect everyone," said county spokesman Merni Fitzgerald.

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) said other localities, such as Richmond and Virginia Beach, have en-

countered the similar issues because the fire code is a state-wide set of regulations enacted by the General Assembly but enforced by local jurisdictions.

"The hypothermia program is one of the really good things we have in the county, both because it helps those in need and it's a great example of businesses, non-profits and the faith community working together," Cook said.

"We are deeply grateful to the faith community and nonprofits that partner with us in the fight against homelessness. They have given their own time, facilities and resources during the past seven years, preventing deaths from hypothermia, providing case management to hundreds of clients, and moving individuals into permanent housing," Fitzgerald said.



(From left) are Hollow Trunk board members Shriram Sundararaman, TJ; Shannon Parker, Fairfax High; Sarah Haug, Westfield High; Priya Khanna ,Westfield; Christina Kim, Fairfax; Wills Johnston, TJ; Diana Saffarini, Chantilly High; Miles Ransom, Chantilly; Noor Siddiqui, Robinson Secondary; and Maddie Welch, Chantilly.

Raising Money to Educate Children

Project LIFE 2K/5K is Sunday, April 22.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

Priya Khanna is still in high school, but she's the chairman and CEO of a nonprofit organization, The Hollow Trunk. Comprising students from Westfield, Chantilly, Fairfax and Thomas Jefferson high schools, plus Robinson Secondary, it raises money for worthy causes.

The Hollow Trunk is currently raising funds to educate poor children in India. So this Sunday, April 22, at 8 a.m., it's holding a 2K/5K Fun Run/Walk, outside the Cub Run Rec Center. Cost is \$25 for the 5K; \$20 for the 2K. Walkers are welcome in both events; registration information is at www.thehollowtrunk.com. Race-day registration begins at 7:45 a.m.

The USATF-certified course starts in the rec center's parking lot, goes down Stonecroft Boulevard, loops around Conference Center Drive and returns on Stonecroft to the start. The top three male and female finishers will receive gift cards donated by local merchants and restaurants. All participants will get commemorative T-shirts.

The Hollow Trunk was established in 2009 and, since then, has donated almost \$2,000 to the Alzheimer's Association, more than \$4,000 to the Red Cross' Haitian Relief Efforts, nearly \$1,000 to INOVA Fairfax Children's Hospital and about \$1,000 to CrisisLink, a suicideprevention and awareness organization.

The Hollow Trunk is also helping educate a young girl in Afghanistan. "We selected her through an application process," said Khanna, a Westfield senior. "We bought her a laptop and are funding four years of online education for her."

In April 2011, The Hollow Trunk launched Project LIFE (Leading Initiatives to Foster Education) to help improve educational and recreational facilities for children throughout the world.

The first Project LIFE fundraiser was last year's 2K/5K, and it yielded more than \$2,000 for the Casa Guatemala Orphanage for structural renovations and to furnish teaching and recreational supplies. This year's beneficiary will be the Social Outreach Foundation (SOF), a school that provides primary education for underprivileged children in India.

She's hoping lots of people register for the race or donate to The Hollow Trunk. "Our goal is to raise \$5,000," said Khanna.

Those unable to participate, but wanting to contribute to the project, may make tax-deductible donations. Send checks payable to The Hollow Trunk to 5428 Chandley Farm Circle, Centreville, VA 20120.

For more information about The Hollow Trunk or to become a Project LIFE sponsor, go to www.thehollowtrunk.com or email thehollowtrunk@gmail.com.

"The Hypothermia Program is unique. It is a true partnership between the faith communities in Fairfax County and county government."

— Chairman Sharon Bulova, Fairfax

County Board of Supervisors

THE COUNTY LINE **Restoring Funding** for Human Services

Residents, agencies testify to need for community services.

By Victoria Ross The Connection fter three years of deep budget cuts and declining revenue, Fairfax County is showing signs of fiscal equilibrium as property values and revenues begin a slow uphill climb.

But human service agencies in the county are still feeling pinched by three years of cumulative cuts to their budgets, shrinking state and federal dollars, and increased demand on services.

More than 30 agencies and individuals showed up to testify during last week's public hearings on the proposed \$6.7 billion fiscal year 2013 budget to deliver a unified message to the Board of Supervisors.

"The proposed cuts in human services funding are relatively small dollar amounts," said Frank Blechman, vice chair of the Fairfax County Alliance for Human Services (AHS), who testified before the board on Wednesday, April 11, "but the impact these cuts will have on programs and the vulnerable families and individuals who need them will be severe."

County Executive Anthony Griffin's proposed budget assumes no increase in current real property tax rates; however, the AHS - a non-partisan partnership that advocates for dozens of local public and private human service providers - urged board members to adopt the county's advertised tax rate 1-cent tax increase to \$1.08 per \$100 of assessed value, which would add nearly \$20 million to the budget coffers.

To avoid raising tax rates, Griffin has proposed a 2013 budget with approximately \$3 million in various human services cuts, including:

Eliminating the Adult Dental Program (Savings: \$50,000) - This program provides discounted basic dental care to low income adults. According to AHS, eliminating the program will result in 500 adults not receiving services. Instead, says AHS, they will have to seek care at the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, which has a waiting list of six months to 4 years.

Reduce home-based care funding (Savings: \$300,000) - These services are provided to low-income adults to help them continue independent living in their own homes. In fiscal years 2010 and 2011, funding for this program was cut by a total of \$1.7 million. To deal with that reduced funding, the County's Department of Family Services has tightened screening and services. According to AHS, the proposed fiscal year 2013 cut would lead to a waiting list for services.

Decreased funding for Student Assistance Programs (Savings: \$99,500) - These services, offered through the Community Services Board (CSB), provide year-round school-based alcohol and drug screening, assessment and early intervention. This reduction eliminates one position and, says AHS, will cause 81 youths to be shut out of the program.

"Funding human services is never easy," Blechman said, joking with supervisors that they could afford to demonstrate their "profiles in courage" during a non-election year by approving the county executive's advertised tax rate to fund "unmet human service needs."

"This is the year to turn the corner from survival mode to growth," Blechman said. Several supervisors indicated their sup-

port of restoring funding to human service programs. "These programs serve the homeless, the

elderly, people suffering with drug and alcohol addictions, young and old residents with serious physical and mental disabilities, victims of domestic violence, and many other county residents who need help from their community," said supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

"Because of their circumstances, many of these people live in poverty," Foust said, adding that Fairfax County has a number of active non-profits and faith-based groups providing services.

"But the sheer numbers of residents needing help means the county must play a large role in ensuring that needed services are provided," Foust said.

While Fairfax County's poverty rate is better than most — 5.08 percent in 2011° — it still translates to nearly 63,000 people living below the poverty level, according to county officials.

The Alliance for Human Services provided board members with a list of budget recommendations regarding the proposed cuts as well as restoring certain other programs cut in prior years.

AHS acknowledged that Griffin's proposed budget does include some increases in several human services programs.

"We can't stress enough how important it

Recommended Funding Increases

Fairfax County Alliance for Human Services recommended funding increases in FY 2013 Budget include:

- Partners in Prevention Fund, which funds various organizations, including Safe Dates programs run by FACETS, The Lorton Community Action Center, United Community Ministries and
- Reston Interfaith **\$400,000** $\boldsymbol{\diamondsuit}$ Additional funding for the Consolidated Community Funding Pool. During 2011, more
- than 119 000 people in 61 300 households was served - \$448,534 Restoring funding for Access Fairfax - \$75,000
- $\boldsymbol{\diamondsuit}$ Restoring funding for two Computer Learning Centers - **\$90,000**
- Restoring funding for the Department of Family Services Rent Relief Program - \$275,000 Restoring funding for seven School Health Aide
 - Substitutes \$110,997
- $\boldsymbol{\diamondsuit}$ Restoring funding for one contracted Nurse Practitioner with the Community Health Care Network - **\$130,000**
- Restoring funding and providing additional funding for the Adult Dental Program -
- \$100,000 Restoring funding for the Home Based Care program - \$300,000
- Restoring funding for Student Assistance Services \$100,000
- $\boldsymbol{\diamondsuit}$ Providing funding for residential services for young adults with autism and mental illness -\$663,721
- ٠ Therapeutic Recreation Summer Program and Adult Social Club Program - **\$35,000**
- * TOTAL \$2,828,252

the board to increase funding for community programs that serve the homeless population and other vulnerable residents. From left, Kerri Wilson of Reston Interfaith; Gerald Poje of Reston Interfaith; Kathy Homelessness; Cheryl Simpkins of United Christian Ministries; Conrad Egan, Governing Board of Office to Prevent and End Homelessness; Michael O'Reilly, Governing Board Chair of Office to Prevent and End Homelessness; Amanda Andere of FACETS; Meredith Magwire of Habitat for Humanity and Judith Dittman of Alternative House.

> Lisa Arlt Escoto of Vienna brought her daughter Elena, 5, who has a neuro-genetic syndrome that causes severe global delays, seizures and drastically limits speech.

"I was shocked to learn that the (proposed budget) does not include increased funding for the Infant and Toddler Connection," Arlt Escoto said.

She said she and her husband were working in China for the U.S. Consulate when they discovered Elena was severely developmentally delayed and required immediate intervention therapy. So the couple returned to Fairfax County to get Elena the help she needed.

"I was already feeling overwhelmed and terrified by the discovery of Elena's disability, and being unable to find private therapists who didn't have a one or two-year wait list nearly drove me over the edge," she said.

When one of Elena's doctors referred her to the ITC, Arlt Escoto said it was a lifeline for her and her daughter.^o They provided several therapy programs as well as a mom support group ... I am convinced that without ITC, Elena would not be nearly as functional as she is today." o

See Supervisors, Page 11

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

4 ♦ Springfield Connection ♦ April 19-25, 2012

Human Service Advocates testified before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors during a public hearing on Wednesday, April 11, urging

Albarado, Governing Board of Office to Prevent and End

is to approve the county executive's recommendations for increased human services funding. Anything less will further weaken the human services net that is already frayed," Blechman said.

CSB's Infant and Toddler Connection: One of Griffin's recommended increases that generated emotional testimony was the \$823,456 for the CSB Infant and Toddler Connection, which provides families screening and programs for children with possible developmental delays.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

SATURDAY/APRIL 21

Health and Safety Fair for Adults. 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Messiah United Methodist Church, 6215 Rolling Road, Springfield. Over 20 groups on health, wellness, and community safety. Classes, free health screenings and door prizes kbenton@messiahumc.org or 703-569-9862, ext. 105

SUNDAY/APRIL 22

Fairfax County Animal Shelter Low-Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic. 2-4 p.m. Mount Vernon RECenter, 2017 Belle View Road, Alexandria. \$12 per pet. Vaccines will be provided for dogs and cats only. Bring proof of current rabies vaccination. All other pets will receive a rabies vaccine valid for one year. No rabies tags will be issued at the clinic; however, 2012 dog licenses will be sold at the clinic for an additional \$10 per dog. All dogs must be on leash and cats in carriers. 703-830-1100.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 25

Helping Children Deal with Emotions. 10 a.m. Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. With Joanne Owens, Director of Care and Counseling at Immanuel Bible Church. Refreshments. \$5. Reserve at MomsOnTheRun4@gmail.com with number of children attending.

THURSDAY/APRIL 26

Fairfax County presents Does Mom Need to **Move?** 7 p.m. Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Free. Register at 703-324-5205, TTY 711, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices or caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov

TUESDAY/MAY 1

South County Federation Meeting. 7:30 p.m. South

County Secondary School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Fairfax. Southcountyfederation. Com.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 9

- NARFE Springfield Chapter Meeting. 1 p.m. American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield. Master Police Officer Jim Reid, Franconia District, Fairfax County Police Department on "Crime Prevention, Home Security, and Public Safety." Guests welcome. 703 313-9387 or jkadelg@yahoo.com. Springfield Christian Women's Connection
- Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. Springfield Golf & Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Shirley Brosius, former educator and writer, will discuss ideas to transmit values, ethnicity, and memories to family and friends. \$17. Door prizes and complementary child care. 703-590-6562 or SpringWmConn@yahoo.com

WEDNESDAY/MAY 16

College Drinking: Documentary and Discusssion. 7 p.m. Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mt Vernon Road, Alexandria. Screening of the documentary "Haze", followed by a question-and-answer session with representatives from the Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney's office, an emergency physician, representatives from the Fairfax County Police Department, the parent of a student who died following drinking at a college party and a graduate student. 703-246-3271.

THURSDAY/MAY 24

Workhouse Farmer's Market. 3:30-7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Locally grown fruits, vegetables, meats and poultry; and local foods. Every Thursday through Oct. 25. www.WorkhouseArts.org

"Bathing in Wellness"

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Wellness laboratory testing, bath, ear cleaning and nail trim!



It's a great time to make sure your canine companion is not only clean outside, but also healthy on the inside! Your furry friend will receive a wellness blood panel and get fluffed and buffed with a bath, ear cleaning and nail trim for only \$98.50.

It is important to help promote healthy skin and coat with regular bathing as well as maintaining clean ears and keeping nails trimmed, but a wellness blood panel will help to establish a good baseline of internal health, not only making sure that your pet is healthy now, but being of great benefit should your pet become ill in the future, by providing laboratory values to compare with.

What a great way to start the warm weather with a fresh, clean canine companion that also receives a clean bill of health!

Call for an appointment today!

Take advantage of this offer by the end of May and pay only \$98.50! "Bathing in Wellness" package excludes any vaccinations or other testing that may be required or recommended.

Pet Medical Center of Springfield 8054 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22153 (located in Saratoga Shopping Center)

703-455-1188 www.pmcsvet.com





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OPINION Every Day Is Earth Day

By Daniel White The Nature Conservancy

n celebration of Earth Day on April 22, I asked fellow Nature Conservancy staff from Maryland, D.C. and Virginia to offer their favorite ways of going green. Here are some responses that can help you save money, energy and maybe even the planet. To share your tips for living green every day, join us at facebook.com/dc.md.va.nature.conservancy.

THE RUN DIARY

Arlington's Kate Hougen, our marketing director, invites anyone who cares about the environment and healthy liv-

COMMENTARY

ing to join her on Team Nature: "the team shares tips like how to recycle your

running shoes, and raises money for environmental causes, join us and run for a healthier you, and a healthier planet." For more info, visit us online at nature.org/ rundc.

HANG 'EM DRY

New mother Kristin Bramell, a fundraiser in Bethesda, prefers to air-dry her laundry: "Why not save energy by using a clothesline at least for your large items? I put up a clothesline in my backyard and love to hang my towels, sheets and t-shirts outside. It takes just five minutes, and there's nothing better than that fresh, natural smell. Now that the weather's nice, I'll probably start hanging up my cloth diapers too!"

THE THRIFTERS

Philanthropy Coordinator Karen Schuyler, who lived in Alexandria prior to settling in Barboursville, shops for clothes at thrift stores: "It's very green since the clothing is being used again, thus saving the energy costs in growing and harvesting plant-based fibers, as well as saving energy in the production and transport of new factory-made garments. Most exciting

(D-LEE DISTRICT)

the

Services Board.

ter months of therapy

dren and for the ITC.

covered her speech and is commu-

nicating fluently. In fact, like most

four-year-olds, she never stops

talking and I have a new appre-

ciation for the voices of young chil-

Not only did the ITC change my

By Supervisor Jeff McKay

t's a parent's nightmare—one

day—out of the blue, your

princess, your first- born, your

two-year-old daughter, loses her

ability to speak. There's no iden-

tifiable reason and my wife and I

This story has a happy ending

because, fortunately, we live in

Fairfax County. I hope that no one

reading this ever needs one of our

human services programs, but,

should that happen, it's comfort-

ing to know that Fairfax County

has a commitment to all of its resi-

dents, regardless of their abilities.

When this mutism struck, my

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were devastated.

of all, it's like a treasure hunt and you never know what you'll find."

INSPECT YOUR GADGETS

Lyle Solla-Yates of Charlottesville manages our technology systems and suggests responsible recycling and purchasing of electronics: "Goodwill has partnered with Dell to recycle computer equipment, making them a good place to bring old equipment and to pick up used equipment that still works for a great price. When you do buy, choose greener electronics or consider a smaller device. You can do a lot more now with less machine, which can save money, hassle and the environment."

SOIL, IT'S GREEN

Brian van Eerden directs our Southern Rivers Program in Richmond and is an avid composter: "Composting helps the environment by reducing solid waste and the greenhouse gas emissions such as methane it produces in landfills. Compost is also a great lowcost source of organic fertilizer for your garden."

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SHARES

Jennifer Donovan, donor relations manager in Charlottesville, grows her own vegetables and buys from local farmers: "My family pays a fixed price per month to obtain a CSA share of organic vegetables, beef, chicken and fish. By purchasing food directly from local farmers, you are putting all the proceeds from the sale directly in their pockets. The food I buy locally also tastes much better. We really are what we eat, so eat healthy, local and fresh!"

MR. BEAN

Allegheny Highlands director Marek Smith of Lexington chooses coffee from shade-grown beans: "Growing coffee under the shade of trees in the Central and South American rainforests not only produces a richer flavor, but also helps protect critical wintering habitat for neotropical migratory songbirds such

Vhy Early Intervention Matters

as scarlet tanagers and cerulean warblers. These same bird species nest here in the broadleaf forests of our Central Appalachians, including Warm Springs Mountain Preserve in western Virginia.

ENERGY AT THE GATES

By following recommendations from a comprehensive home energy audit, Charlottesville preserve steward Tim Sanjule reduced his energy use. "Energy usage of any kind has an impact on our environment. Heating and cooling a house that is not well-insulated or wellsealed will waste your money and precious resources."

MAN ON A HEDGE

Clinch Valley ecologist Braven Beaty of Abingdon says, "If you have a creek on your property, don't mow right up to the bank. Leaving a strip of taller plants and shrubs can help stabilize the bank and provide wildlife habitat. The root systems help keep banks from eroding during high water, and the shade and structure provide shelter and food for fish. birds, salamanders, and other wildlife that need cool, moist areas to live. Try it and see if you don't notice more critters."

LAWN & ORDER

For a lawn that's green in more than color, use less water and fertilizer, says Richmond's Michael Lipford, our Virginia executive director: "A significant amount of nitrogen is put back in the soil if you leave your clippings on the grass. Don't water every day, and don't fret if the grass goes dormant when the heat of summer comes. Using less fertilizer is good for the Chesapeake Bay. Nutrients are the main problem in the bay, and a significant portion comes from residential fertilizers. Use low-nitrogen and low-phosphate fertilizers, fertilize less, and wisely - not before a heavy rain. Many stores now supply low-nitrogen organic fertilizers that can also reduce your carbon footprint."



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SEE MCKAY, PAGE 7



cost of early intervention Alarm bells went off

life, but it potentially

saved the County a far

cost our school system

and then compare that

cost to the far smaller

through the ITC, my daughter re- when I heard that the ITC was going to stop admitting early intervention clients because of state budget cuts. As a parent, an elected official, and a taxpayer, I am appalled and more than appalled—I am outraged. Not only are these budget cuts abdication

more costly intervencial decision. Early intervention is the key to tion later. Think about what intense speech managing or healing developmentherapy would have

tal disabilities. It's penny-wise and pound-foolish to abolish programs for children, and then a few years down the road, pay a much larger bill for critical services for them when they are older.

of our moral responsibility to our

children but they are a poor finan-

As an elected official, I'm in the unique position of hearing about the many excellent services we provide at the local level. As a parent who has used those services, I am profoundly grateful to our taxpayers and their support. I'm not blind to the financial

Roundups

Woodson High Athletes Support Cancer Research

The National Capital Area (NCA) chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) has nominated 18 candidates for their 2012 "Man & Woman of the Year" campaign to collectively raise \$1.1 million in just ten weeks. W.T. Woodson (WTW) baseball alumni, former summer coach, and this year's candidate, Michael Effron, will join the baseball team and girl's soccer team to host the annual WTW event to help raise money for blood cancer research, awareness, and education. The 2012 Boy and Girl of the Year, two children who have battled cancer and are serving as the face of this campaign, will also be honored at the game.

The 4th Annual Leukemia & Lymphoma Awareness Night hosted by W.T. Woodson Baseball will be held on Tuesday, April 24: WTW Baseball versus Annandale 6 p.m.; WTW Girls Soccer versus Lake Braddock 7 p.m. at the W.T. Woodson High School, 9525 Main St. in Fairfax.

Photo Gallery;

"Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's

Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The

Connection will publish them in our

what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital

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Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to

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addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about

photos, send to:

Contact: Michael Effron, 2012 Man and Woman of the Year Candidate: michael.effron@ gmail.com, 812-219-3023

Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices - such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, as well as household hazardous wastes - including fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, for free, during Fairfax County's "Electric Sunday" events. The next one is slated for Sunday, April 29, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Fairfax County needs Meals on Wheels coordinators in Fairfax. Contact Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 711, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ dfs/olderadultservices/volunteersolutions.htm.



constraints of the Great Recession and its impact on our state and local budgets, as well as individuals' budgets. However, cutting preventative programs makes no financial sense. That's like investing in a new car, not making routine repairs, and wondering why a more costly bill for an overhaul has come due.

Virginia has shortchanged our human service needs for a long time and Fairfax County has stepped into the gap and shouldered the costs of providing these services for our residents. Now we need to step up again.

My wife and I may never know why our daughter went mute. We do know, however, that every time our daughter speaks we thank our lucky stars that we can call Fairfax County home. I aim to keep it that way-for all our residents and all our children.



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Back to the Sixties

Robinson presents 'How to Succeed in Business...'

play – currently in revival – Brock. and now "How to Succeed in ondary stage.

weekends, Friday-Saturday, April 27-28; and Thursday-Friday-Satur-

dience will enjoy clever triumph- come to love triumph at last." ing over bureaucracy."

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ICELAND!, Aug. 16-22, ...

1 Lunch – CALL FOR ITINERARY

is the vocal director and is choreo-

"We have a strong, talented cast," Business without Really Try- said Rome. "We had 90 people auing" is coming to the Robinson Sec- dition, called back 75 and cast 54. Carys Meyer has a gorgeous sing-The action unfolds over two ing voice, and Morgan Miller's contrasts beautifully with hers."

The story's set in the 1962 "Mad day, May 3-4-5; all at 7:30 p.m. Men" era, with costumes and hair-Tickets are \$12 at the door and styles to match. "J. Pierpont Finch online at www.robinsondrama.org. starts as a window washer and "We've been rehearsing since takes advantage of the corporate January and things are going world and all its characters we see great," said Director Chip Rome. in 'Dilbert," said Rome. "And in the "It's fun and filled with songs and meantime, the girl gets her man. dances; there are numerous, big, So it's a real, feel-good musical, production numbers. And the au- watching the characters we've

Robinson theater student and GMU

BY BONNIE HOBBS a 25-member orchestra conducted set is a series of levels illustrating THE CONNECTION by Jackie Geldert. Suzy McCarthy Finch's climb up the corporate ladder at the World Wide Wicket Co.; t's been a movie, a Broadway graphing the show with Susan so each time he's promoted, his office is on a higher level.

Playing Finch is senior Josh Isa theater major. Describing Finch all," Israel said his character is likeable, has a positive attitude and is willing to do whatever needs doing. "But at the same time, he's very ambitious," said Israel. "He macompany to bend them to his will and rise to the top."

Israel enjoys "showing how Finch gets his way to be able to hold the power. To be this crafty guy who thinks on his feet and solves problems quickly is fun." His favorite duet with his boss, Mr. Biggley, played by Kyle Lynch. "Kyle and I

ing off each other in that song," said Israel. "There's a lot of energy on stage and I try to make him laugh.'

He said the audience will especially love the musical's finale, "Brotherhood of Man," sung by all the males because "it's pretty spectacular." The show, itself, said Israel, who'll attend NYU this fall as rael, is "a classic, romantic comedy. Everybody in the cast has a great as "the eagerest beaver of them relationship with each other, and it definitely shows on stage."

Junior Carys Meyer portrays Rosemary, who's in love with Finch. "She's a secretary at the company and is also ambitious," said Meyer. nipulates most of the people in the "She seems to be the typical ingénue, but does everything she can to try to win Finch over. She wants to be a housewife, raise a family and live in the suburbs; she goes after Finch because she sees his potential."

Meyer likes her character's Set designer is Tim Cook, former song is "Grand Old Ivy," Finch's songs, plus the fact that "Rosemary knows what she wants, but is easily swayed and influenced. features a cast and crew of 70, plus college's theater department. The have fun interacting with and play- And her emotions switch quickly

between anger, love and excite- "will have a really good time to work in the company, even other people's authority, so it's fun

"Paris Original," which she sings ing and choreography is really with the other female cast mem- good.' bers. "Something surprising happens during the song, so I play Biggley's nephew, is senior Jason completely opposite emotions Rath. "He got his job through his cally."

Calling the show upbeat, lively unhappy at work, he complains to

during it.

Playing Bud Frump, J.B.

mother, J.B.'s sister; and when he's

Education Learning Fun





8 Springfield Connection & April 19-25, 2012

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Company employees are desperate when they discover there's no coffee left during the "Coffee Break" number from Robinson's production of "How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying."

ment." Meyer's favorite song is cheering for Finch, and the danc- though he has no experience. He's to see how far I can take his sense out for his own gain. He's the 'vil- of entitlement." Rath particularly lain,' working against Finch, but I likes "The Company Way (Rethink of him as the hero because prise)" number. "Frump sings it to Finch is going about things unethi- Twimble, head of the mailroom," said Rath. "Frump's justifying to Rath likes his role because him how he's changed and de-"Frump's an adult, but so childish, serves to succeed Twimble in his and funny, she says the audience his mother," said Rath. "He wants and pouts a lot. He disrespects job. But Frump doesn't believe the business world."

what he's saying."

OVERALL, said Rath, "It's going to be a high-energy production. We do a good job of highlighting the moments in business that are weird and don't make sense, but people go along with, anyway. And that's Miller. "The audience will also love what makes this show a farce about the quick quips, the dancing and

Senior Morgan Miller portrays Smitty, Rosemary's best friend and fellow secretary. "She's outgoing and outspoken and has strong opinions," said Miller. "She's almost living vicariously through Rosemary, but enjoys helping her get what she wants. I relate to Smitty since she's strong about her objective and always knows what she's doing. And it's fun how she's a third party to the romance between Rosemary and Finch and helps orchestrate it."

Miller's favorite song is "Coffee Break" because "it's really exaggerated, which makes it funny. When everyone comes to get coffee, it's all gone, so they totally freak out and overreact." She said the audience will like watching the romance between Rosemary and Finch and the funny storyline between Biggley and Frump. "There are lots of stories going on, and that makes it interesting," said all the show-stopping numbers."



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6382 James Harris Way ...

4400 Woods Edge Ct.....

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7245 Archlaw Dr

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7529 Evans Ford Rd

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9514 Southern Cross Ln......\$459,950

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Maichart To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Erin Peck at 703-778-9449 or E-Mail the info to epeck@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.

10 Springfield Connection & April 19-25, 2012

CALENDAR

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

FRIDAY/APRIL 20

- **NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra.** 8 p.m. Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Directed by Christopher Johnston. Hebrides Overture by Mendelssohn, Symphony No. 1 by Bizet, Sleepy Beauty Waltz by Tchaikovsky, three rag times by Scott Joplin, and selections from Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite. Reception to follow. Adults \$15, seniors and teens \$10, children free. 703-569-0973.
- Terrific Trucks. 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories, songs and activities about trucks. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-249-1520.

SATURDAY/APRIL 21

Celebrate Clifton's 110th Birthday. 2 p.m. At the Gazebo, Clifton Town Park, Clifton. Bench dedication, cake, beverages and more. michellestein@cox.net. **Celebrating Japanese Art and** Culture. 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton, Bonsai and ikebana demonstrations, the art of the Edo period, vegetarian sushi making and the art of anime. Screening of the film "5 Centimeters Per Second." Traditional Japanese children's games and crafts. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

- A Skylit Drive. 8 p.m. Empire, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. 703-569 5940 or www.empire-nova.com. Mike Rose: The Magic of a Book.
- 10:30 a.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Magician Mike Rose uses magic tricks, mind reading stunts and lots of audience participation. All ages. 703-971-0010.
- Perennial Day. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Heather Hill Gardens, 8111 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Learn about perennials, take home a free plant. Tours, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. 703-690-6060 or
- www.heatherhillgardens.com. "Home." 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Studio 3 Theatre for Young Audiences, Workhouse Arts Čenter, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The story of footloose travelers, Florrie and Todd, searching for a home of their own. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 22

- Cars For A Cause. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. George Mason University Parking Lot K, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Car show, horsepower challenge. children's activities, trophies, raffles and prizes. Proceeds benefit the Isabel Warrior Princess Foundation (raising funds for a child diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma) and the Children's National Medical Center. \$15.
- www.teamunclassified.com Northern Virginia 2012 Holocaust Commemoration. 2-5:30 p.m. Gesher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Ambassador Stuart Eizenstat, readings, music, commorations and more. 703-893-4007.

MONDAY/APRIL 23

Preschool Storvtime. 10:30 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Stories, songs and fingerplays. Age 3-5 with adult, 703-339-4610. Hidden Pond Monday: Turtles, 2:30 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Discover



Molly Keeter as Glinda the Good Witch with Brittany Morgan as the Wicked Witch. Based on L. Frank Baum's book, "The Wizard of Oz" will be perforned at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road in Springfield, at 7 p.m. on April 27-28 and May 4-5. There will also be a 2 p.m. ASL interpreted matinee performance on May 5. Evening shows are \$10 adults, \$5 age six or younger and age 65 or older, with the May 5 ASL performance \$8 general admission. milevesque@fcps.edu.

who's hiding in that shell. Presented by the staff of Hidden Pond Nature Center. Age 6-12. 703-451-8055.

TUESDAY/APRIL 24

- Eclectic Readers. 1:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. The Power of Myth by Joseph Campbell. Adults. 703-249 1520.
- English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Practice and improve your English. Adults. 703-451-8055

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 25

- Learning English. 10:15 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.
- Bee Healthy! 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. A puppet show for the whole family on how to Bee Healthy. Presented by the Fairfax County Health Department. 703-249-1520
- Fun with Ones. 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St. Springfield. Books, songs and rhymes. Age 1 with adult. 703-451-8055.
- Travel Club. 1 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Bring lunch and enjoy a lively discussion. Adults. 703-451-8055

THURSDAY/APRIL 26

- **Fenwick Fellow Lecture and** Reception. 2 p.m. George Mason University, Johnson Center Instruction Room, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With Dr. Michael Chang, 2010-2011 Fenwick Fellow. on "Service at the Manchu Court: The Young Kangxi Emperor and His Personal Advisors." Refreshments served. 703-993-2491 or dhogan1@gmu.edu.
- Learning English. 7 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.
- **BC** Friends Membership Meeting. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. With Robert Dorr, author of Mission to Berlin.

703-249-1520.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, Practice vour English with other adults. 703-249-1520

FRIDAY/APRIL 27

- "Oklahoma!" 7 p.m. Edison High School, 5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Rogers & Hammerstein's musical drama. Adults \$8, students and seniors \$6. 703-924-8014 or www.edisondrama.com.
- Preschool Storytime. 11 a.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria, Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-971-0010.
- Moose on the Loose! 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, Stories and activities about moose. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.
- Friday Friend's Book Club. 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. The Day of the Pelican by Katherine Paterson. Age 8-12. 703-249-1520.
- **"Wizard of Oz."** 7 p.m. West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Based on L. Frank Baum's book. \$5-\$10. mjlevesque@fcps.edu.

SATURDAY/APRIL 28

- **Public Reception: 2012** Congressional Art. 2-4 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A touring exhibition of Virginia high school art submitted for the Annual Congressional Art Competition. The exhibit will be open
- April 13-29. www.workhousearts.org. Spring Faire. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Kirkwood Presbysterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. Jewelry, fashion, home decor, kitchen, garden, gourmet items and more. Free admission and door prizes. Sponsored by the Woman's Club of Springfield, all profits benefit Bethany House to help victims of
- domestic violence. dianaleehooper@aol.com. Community Coffee House. 6-9 p.m.
- Historic Šydenstricker Schoolhouse, 8511 Hooes Road, Springfield. Local musicians, coffee and desserts. Free admission. info@svdenstrickerschoolhouse.org
- www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

News



PHOTO BY JESSICA MCKAY

Washington Nationals Come to Greenspring

National Holiday at Greenspring: The three foam-headed Washington Nationals Racing Presidents - Tom, Teddy, and George - entertained residents and their guests at Greenspring retirement community in Springfield on Wednesday, April 11. The visit was their last appearance before the highly-anticipated 2012 Nationals Home Opener on April 12, when the team took on the Cincinnati Reds and won 3-2 in extra innings. The Presidents participated in several races at the community (Teddy never wins) and took photos with residents and their guests. Some lucky guests even won four opening-day tickets.



David McCracken of Oak Hill hands out literature to passengers debarking from the Springfield/Franconia Metro. PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

A Tax Day Protest at Springfield Metro

Virginia activists handed out literature to riders on the Springfield Metro on Tax Day, April 17. The activists, part of the Northern Virginia MoveOn joined the National MoveOn and its allies in a countrywide www.MoveOnFairfax.org.

alf dozen Northern day of grass roots action "Tax The 1%." The protesters are asking for fairness, that Congress reform the system that allows the 1 percent and corporations to pay at a tax rate less than the 99 percent of the American taxpayers. For more information visit



Supervisors Urged to Restore Funding

From Page 4

"I support a big chunk of those cuts being restored. Some are totally unacceptable, like ITC," said Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee).

McKay said that the county's Infant and Toddler Connection touched his family in a profound and personal way. When his daughter Leann was 2 1/2, she stopped talking. At the time, she was attending the Bryant Early Learning (BEL) Center day care program in Alexandria, which referred her to the ITC. Through ITC, McKay's daughter received intense speech therapy for six month, and she completely regained her ability to speak. McKay said she is as chatty now as any four-year-old.

"It was one of those eye-opening moments when you appreciate that much more where you live. It's such a small budgetary item, and I'm glad most people never need these services," McKav said.º "But it was a lifeline for us."

McKay said alarm bells went off when he learned that the ITC was going to stop admitting early intervention clients because of budget cuts, especially when referrals

to the agency are up 38 percent in the past two years.

"When I saw it on the cut list, my jaw dropped ... I am more than appalled; I am outraged," McKay said. "Not only are these budget cuts abdication of our moral responsibility to our children but they are a poor financial decision."

Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-Atlarge) said individual testimony that demonstrates the value of the county's human services programs is always compelling.

"It absolutely matters when people are courageous enough to come before us to share their personal stories and experiences," Bulova said.

"It is also important for us to identify efficiencies and delivery methods that best leverage our county investments in human services programs and services," Bulova said.

"Ultimately, our job is to listen, care and weigh all of the options, said Supervisor Linda Smyth, (D-Providence). "We always end up with more requests than money. We're in a much better place than most of the country, but that doesn't mean people are not still hurting."

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Sports

Hendrix Keeps Lake Braddock Softball Undefeated

Bruins beat South County in battle for first place in Patriot District.

> By Jon Roetman The Connection

ake Braddock's Amanda Hendrix experienced big-game nerves during the Bruins' April 17 show down with South County for first place in the Patriot District softball standings. As the innings passed and Hendrix labored, she grew angry. But when the contest was over and the freshman had managed to maintain her composure for eight innings, No. 10 felt relief from previous pressure.

Hendrix tossed a complete game during her third consecutive start in the pitcher's circle, holding South County scoreless after the third inning as the Bruins remained undefeated with a 3-2, eight-inning victory at Lake Braddock Secondary School. The southpaw surrendered 11 hits and allowed at least one South County baserunner to reach scoring position in five of eight innings, but managed to work her way out of several jams.

At the plate, Hendrix grounded out in her first at-bat, but later drove in the Bruins' first run with a sixth-inning triple into the right field corner.

"I know a lot of these [South County players] and it was pretty nerve-wracking," Hendrix said. "I kind of had to get mad in the later innings. I think I held on pretty well. ... The biggest pressure that I've experienced so far would be this game. We faced West Potomac [on April 13], which is our second-biggest rival, and then we faced South County. From here on we start over again, so we're playing a lot of the easier teams we faced. For me, the pressure has gone down immensely as of now."

Hendrix, used primarily as the team's designated player this season, moved to pitcher after starter Ashley Flesch suffered a muscle strain in her (right) pitching forearm. Hendrix threw a no-hit shutout against Annandale in her first start on April 11, and blanked West Potomac two days later. Things didn't go smoothly against South County, but she found a way to get the job done, stranding 10 Stallion baserunners while throwing 73 of 107 pitches for strikes.

"She hung in there," Lake Braddock head coach George Rumore said. "All her pitches weren't working, so we had to make an adjustment with that and she just had to be tough. With all your pitches not working, you've got to be tough, you've got to be mentally and physically tough and hang in there and that's what she did. She showed a lot of character."

Lake Braddock scored the winning run in the eighth inning without a ball leaving the infield. Three walks loaded the bases and freshman Emma Rakowski hit a two-out

grounder to the left side of the infield. South County third baseman Caitlin Maglich made a diving stop and attempted to tag the Bruin baserunner headed to third, but the ball popped loose and everyone was safe, ending the game.

Lake Braddock improved to 12-0 and sits atop the district standings with a 7-0 record. South County, which entered the game with 11 consecutive wins, dropped to 11-2, with a second-place district mark of 6-1.

While Hendrix earned the win on Tuesday, it was South County pitcher Rebecca



Lake Braddock freshman Amanda Hendrix earned a complete game victory against South County on April 17 in Burke. Hendrix has filled in for injured starting pitcher Ashley Flesch.

Martin who dominated the early innings. The sophomore right-hander took a no-hitter into the fifth inning before Lake Braddock's Katherine Plescow reached on a one-out infield single. The Bruins broke through the following inning, tying the score at 2-all with three extra-base hits. First baseman Anna Delaney led off the frame with a double to center and, two batters later, Hendrix put the Bruins on the board with a triple down the right-field line. The following batter, Jenna Edwards, tied the score with a triple to left-center. After popping out to shortstop in her first at-bat, Edwards, one of five freshmen in the Lake Braddock lineup, said she moved up in the batter's box to neutralize the late movement on Martin's pitches.

"I had laid off a few of her [junk pitches], like rise balls," Edwards said. "I saw one that was right down the middle after I moved up and I just ... hit it."

Martin pitched 6-plus innings, allowing five hits and two earned runs while walking three and striking out five. She was pulled after facing one batter in the sixth and re-entered to face one batter in the eighth. Senior Kyra Ketch suffered the loss in relief despite working her way out of a difficult spot in the bottom of the seventh, retiring three straight Bruins with two runners on base.

Singles by Martin, Elyssa Dunn and Riley Wilkinson, along with a Lake Braddock error gave South County a 1-0 lead in the second. The following inning, Stallions catcher Haylea Geer drove in a run with a double down the right-field line. But that would be it for South County, which had runners on second and third with no outs in the fifth but failed to score.

"We had a couple chances early in the game to score some runs and we didn't," South County head coach Gary Dillow

said, "and I think that was really the difference in the game."

Lake Braddock will host Lee at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 20. South County will travel to face Lee at 6:30 p.m. on April 24. The Bruins and Stallions will meet again on May 10.

"You want that No. 1 seed at the end of the season," Dillow said. "We're only halfway through, so we've got another cycle to go through with everybody. [Tuesday's matchup was] a big game. [Lake Braddock] took care of their home field advantage and hopefully we can do the same."

Lancers' Baseball Team Taking Small Steps Forward

Lee showing gradual improvement under coach Dowling.

By Rich Sanders The Connection

he Lee High baseball team, going through a rebuilding season under head coach John Dowling, has struggled to win ball games this season. But the Lancers have been in many of their games before tough late innings have led to losses.

The Lancers, following a 7-3 Patriot District loss at West Potomac earlier this week on Tuesday, April 17, were 3-10 overall this season and 0-7 in district play. "In district play we have struggled," said Dowling, who is in his first season as the Lancers' head coach. "T.C. [Williams] is probably the team most comparable to us talent wise [in the district] this year, and we lost that game late on a few defensive miscues and a two- run home run. We've been in every one of our games through three to four innings, but manage to have a mistake somewhere that ends up snowballing into another, and another."

The district game with T.C. Williams, a tough 9-8 loss, took place just prior to spring break on March 27 in Alexandria. Other than that game with the Titans and this week's game with West Potomac, Lee has lost lopsided affairs to district opponents.

But the team is continuing to work towards playing district opponents closer. Dowling said his players are practicing well and learning as the season moves on.

"We're certainly seeing growth since the beginning of the year, but change will take time," said Dowling, who in recent years was part of the baseball coaching staff at Forest Park High (Woodbridge). "I am confident we are headed in the right direction and have the right people in place to help turn things around. It is just going to take some time to develop a new culture."

Lee's wins this season have come over Edison, 5-2, on March 16; at home versus Wakefield High, 18-7, on April 2; and at home over Brentsville District (Nokesville), 9-0, over spring break week. The Lancers' non-district, close game losses include an 8-6 home setback to Washington-Lee in the season opener on March 15,

and a 5-3 defeat at Battlefield High (Haymarket) on March 31.

One bright spot for Lee has been the strong play of sophomore center fielder Garrett Shondelmyer, who is batting at around the .500 mark and playing outstanding defense.

"He's batting .500 which is a nice surprise and he is hands down, even as only a sophomore, the best defensive center fielder I've had the pleasure of coaching," said Dowling.

Lee is scheduled to play a district game at Lake Braddock this Friday night, April 20 at 6:30. Next week, the Lancers are scheduled to play district home games versus South County on Tuesday night, April 24, and T.C. Williams on Friday night, April 27. Both contests are set to begin at 6:30.





¹⁴ Springfield Connection & April 19-25, 2012





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