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The Lake Braddock Senior Class of 2012 and their families would like to thank the following businesses, organizations and individuals for their support of the PTSA sponsored alcohol and drug free All Night Graduation Celebration which was held on June 15th, 2012, at the Audrey Moore RECenter at Wakefield Park. We are grateful for their generous contributions and commitment to the young people of our community.

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We'd like to thank the faculty and staff of LBSS and especially, the LBSS PTSA for support of our All Night Graduation Celebration. A huge thank you to our volunteers: the parents, friends and relatives of the Classes of 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department and the Fairfax County Police for their vital presence at our party. Finally, we'd like to thank the staff of the Audrey Moore RECenter for all their help in making the night run smoothly. Make plans now to support our 2013 party on June 19th, 2013. Also, mark your calendar for our mulch sale on April 6th and 7th, 2013.

News

Lorton/Fairfax Station/Clifton Connection Editor Kemal Kurspahic 703-778-9414 or south@connectionnewspapers.com

Fairfax County Police Chief David Rohrer stands atop the Crystal City Hilton in Arlington, ready to rappel 100 feet down the side of the building on June 22. Although he spent eight years on a SWAT team, this rappel is a Special Olympics Virginia fundraiser called 'Over the Edge.'





Over the Edge

Chief Rohrer, rappellers raise \$60,000 for Special Olympics.

By Jeanne Theismann The Connection

ose Pleskow is not one to shy away from a challenge. The 22-year-old athlete competed in the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens, Greece, last summer, earned multiple medals in the 2012 Virginia Special Olympic Summer Games and recently competed in an 800-meter race in the waters around the Cayman Islands. But on June 22, she did something most people wouldn't dare: rappelling down the side of a 15-story building.

"It was exactly what I expected when I was doing it," said Pleskow, who participated in the first Northern Virginia "Over the Edge" fundraiser in Arlington. "I was nervous and excited at the same time. But I felt safe and it was great to look down and see my parents and friends cheering me on."

Pleskow joined area celebrities like DC 101 DJ Elliot Segal of "Elliot in the Morning" fame, ABC 7's Steve Chenevey and Fairfax County Chief of Police David Rohrer in dangling 250-feet from the side of the Hilton Crystal City in an effort to raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics of Virginia.

"This was a great event," said Rohrer, a long-time regional coordinator and state chair for the Virginia Special Olympics Torch Run. "I spent seven years in SWAT and love to rappel. But I haven't done it in about 15 years now so it was great to get out there again for such a good cause."

Participants had to raise a minimum of \$1,000 for the "privilege" to go "Over the Edge" in the firsttime event in Northern Virginia.

"Nonprofits are facing a lot of challenges these days," said Paul Griffith, who started Over the Edge in 2004 as a one-time fundraising event for three local charities in his native Halifax, Nova Scotia. "There are only so many charity walks or runs you can do. Rappelling is something different and a more exciting way to bring awareness to an organization like Special Olympics."

Sixty-eight rappellers participated in the event, raising more than \$60,000 for Special Olympics of Virginia.



Special Olympics Virginia Athlete Rose Pleskow of Reston is relaxed and smiling as she descends 100 feet down the side of the Crystal City Hilton in Arlington on June 22. She is participating in the Special Olympics Virginia fundraiser 'Over the Edge' during which 68 people rappelled down the Crystal City Hilton raising \$60,000.

"This was a great success financially but just raising awareness means so much," Rohrer said. "The reality is that what we faced that day pales to what the athletes or anyone facing intellectual adversity or challenges faces every day."

Rohrer now serves on the Executive Board for Special Olympics of Virginia and is committed to helping raise funds and awareness for the organization and the athletes.

"I know a number of these athletes and am so proud of them," Rohrer said. "All they want is respect, opportunity and dignity. They are just incredible people and great role models for all of us."

For more information on Over the Edge or how to participate next year, visit www.OverTheEdgeVA.com or follow Special Olympics of Virginia on Twitter at @overtheedgeva.



Connolly meets with new citizens after the naturalization ceremony on June 22.

Connolly Addresses 280 New Citizens

ou will help freshen America and help us remain a strong and dynamic society," Congressman Gerry Connolly told hundreds of new U.S. citizens and their families June 22 during a naturalization ceremony in a packed auditorium at Robinson High School.

Connolly delivered the keynote address and led the new Americans in the Pledge of Allegiance at the event where Kimberly Zanotti, Washington Field Office Director for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), administered the Oath of Citizenship to 280 immigrants from 63 nations, while their families and friends looked on with pride. The new U.S. citizens were feted by the Fairfax County Police Honor Guard's presentation of colors, while Officer Genevieve Kirk led them in singing the National Anthem, and President Obama welcomed them in a video message.

"America is a place of opportunity where you can pursue your dreams and raise your families without fearing that somebody's government is going to tell you what to think, how to express yourself, what to believe, or what to worship," Connolly said. "That is the beauty of our country. It is a place for those who share our love of freedom. Many of you come from countries where you've experienced suppression of thought and suppression of your right to participate in your government. You will appreciate our freedoms and you will help strengthen America."

Congressman Connolly told patriotism and serves as a rethe new citizens, "We are a work in progress, America is never perfect. Our great Americans," he said after the ceremony.



Connolly addresses new citizens at Ceremony.

can debate is always about doing better to achieve the ideals embodied by our Founding Fathers in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Now you are part of it. You get to help us achieve those ideals."

As opposed to conventional smaller naturalization ceremonies, often held in bland government meeting rooms, USCIS has started holding larger ceremonies in Northern Virginia to administer the Oath of Allegiance to new citizens. The events are festive occasions with family members photographing and videotaping their new citizens, children holding small American flags, and the auditorium brimming with patriotic fervor.

Connolly strives to participate in naturalization ceremonies in Northern Virginia as much as his schedule allows. "Every American should try to attend at least one of these ceremonies. It renews one's sense of patriotism and serves as a reminder of how lucky we are to be Americans," he said after the ceremony.

NOVA Music Center Receives Top Dealer Award

A family owned small business, NOVA Music Center opened its doors in December 2010.

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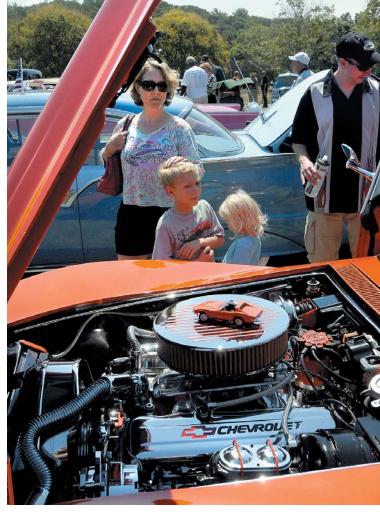




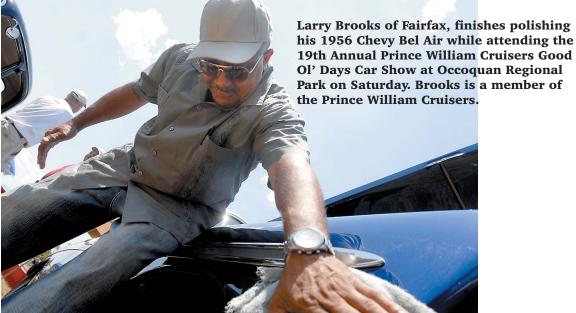
Car Show

Good Ol' Days

Charity and Adam Kapolka, of Woodbridge, attend the Good Ol' Days Car Show at Occoquan Regional Park with their children 5-yearold Christopher and 3year-old Camden on Saturday morning.



Photos by Robbie Hammer/ The Connection



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News

Guilty Plea in Prostitution Case

Justin Strom, 26, among five members of Crips gang charged with trafficking juveniles.

ustin Strom, aka "Jae," "Jae Dee," or "J-Dirt," 26, of Lorton pled guilty Tuesday, June 26, to recruiting at least eight juvenile girls to engage in commercial sex for his street gang's prostitution business.

Neil H. MacBride, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Kenneth T. Cuccinelli II, Attorney General of Virginia; Colonel David Rohrer, Fairfax County Chief of Police; and Ronald T. Hosko, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office Criminal Division, made the announcement after the plea was accepted by United States District Judge James C. Cacheris.

"For six years, Justin Strom profited from preying on teenage girls and others he recruited as prostitutes in a commercial sex ring," said MacBride. "Strom is the fifth and final Underground Gangster Crips gang member to plead guilty to sex trafficking a juvenile – a very serious crime that carries a potential life sentence."

Strom pled guilty to sex trafficking of a child, which carries a mandatory minimum of 10 years in prison and maximum penalty of life in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 14, 2012.

"This gang-driven prostitution ring was a direct

threat to the safety and welfare of young women," said Rohrer. "With the help of our federal partners, we will continue to work aggressively and consistently to rid Fairfax County of gang violence and criminal operations wherever and whenever we find it."

According to Hosko, the agent in charge of the investigation, Strom was the fifth member of the Underground Gangster Crips who pleaded guilty to "strong-arming and pimping underage girls in the illegal sex trade.

"These gang members admitted that they beat and intimidated young girls they met on the Internet or in Metro stops in our area. They preyed on some of the most vulnerable in our society and today, Justin Strom admitted to these crimes," Hosko said.

According to a statement of facts filed with his plea agreement and other court records, Strom is a member of the Underground Gangster Crips (UGC) set based in Fairfax County.

From 2006 through March 2012, Strom misrepresented his identity online to recruit females – including juveniles – through online social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace, and Datehookupand, enticing the girls to earn money through prostitution. He and others posted numbers advertisements on Backpage, Craigslist, and other websites to solicit customers to pay to have sex with juvenile and adult prostitutes.

Officials said Strom admitted that he knowingly enticed at least eight juvenile girls to engage in prostitution for his business and that he received pro

SEE PROSTITUTION, PAGE 11



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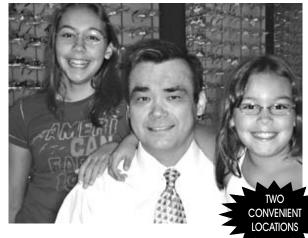


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OPINION

Case Closed. Why the Secrecy?

No reason for police to exercise "blanket" approach, shielding every document in every case.

onnection readers know that we respect and appreciate our public safety professionals. Members of local police and fire and rescue departments are motivated by their deep commitment to serve and protect our local communities. We honor those with our coverage of valor awards, features on police efforts to curb drunk driving and distracted driving, and tragically sometimes a death in the line of duty.

While police earn and deserve a special consideration, police departments in Northern Virginia should let go of their relentless pursuit of secrecy. Police departments all over the country routinely allow access to police reports, incident reports and many other documents without harm, documents that police here refuse to allow the public to see.

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

case files or reports, witness statements and evidence."

Police officials in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria have adopted what they call a "blanket" approach to using their exemption. That means they have decided to withhold any docu-

EDITORIAL

ment they can without any analysis of whether they should. Police chiefs and prosecutors from across the com-

monwealth have spoken out against any effort to undermine their broad power of exemption.

Senate Bill 711, originally introduced in 2010 by state Sen. John Edwards (D-21) and up for discussion again this week, would limit the blanket withholding of information to ongoing investigations. This could allow for the public release of documents in closed cases such as the one conducted by the Arlington Police Department about the death of Hailu Brook. In December, 2008, Fairfax County police officers chased 19-year-old Hailu Brook across the county line into Arlington and shot him

dead. Brook, a senior at Yorktown High School, had reportedly robbed a BB&T in McLean

The autopsy report, one of the few documents his parents were able to obtain, shows that the teen was shot 20-25 times by three officers with large caliber handguns. Baffled by what happened to their son, the parents sought access to police reports and documents, but even now that the case is closed, their requests have been denied.

Police wield power unlike any other entity — the power to detain and question, the power to arrest, the power to respond with force when necessary, sometimes deadly force.

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

Somewhere along the way, police leaders in Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax have gone astray in their control of information.

— Mary Kimm, mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

COMMENTARY

Reflections on Graduating Class of 2012

By Supervisor Jeffrey McKay
D- Lee District

ve been at a lot of graduations over the years—my own high school and college graduations, of course, as well as those of family, and friends. It's an interesting situation, though, when you don a cap and gown and step onto the stage as an elected official but you see those young men and women through the eyes of a parent.

Our 2012 Lee District graduating seniors are like seniors everywhere. They've got one foot still in their childhood (although they probably don't see it that way) and the other in the bright new world of adulthood. Whether they're headed to more years of schooling, join the armed forces or the workforce, many of the choices that will shape their lives are still ahead of them. The parent in me hopes that we—their families, school system, and govern-



job right and given them not only the educational and moral foundation to make the right choices but also the resilience to deal with whatever life throws at them.

It'll be a long time before my daughter and son take their

seats on the graduation stage, yet as I watched those young adults file past to receive their diplomas I saw my children and I wondered about the world they'll find as young adults.

Generations of parents have worried about the world their children will inherit, but the world is moving so much faster now and technology has so changed how we communicate

ment—have done our that we're hard-pressed to know just what we job right and given should be worrying about.

We've been fortunate this past quarter century. Fairfax County has prospered - and so have our schools and other institutions. Now it seems that we and the entire world are heading toward a period of retrenchment where the services we've taken for granted will no longer be as readily available or affordable. Our resources aren't infinitely expandable. How will we allocate them? How will our schools fare when they're up against human service needs, transportation, public safety, libraries, parks and the like?

Perhaps every generation faces these questions and finds its own answers. Perhaps parents worry too much. I do believe that we'll find the right answers to these questions and that the young people setting out in life have the passion and creativity to create the world that I want for my children and everyone's children.

— Letters to the Editor -

Deepening The Crisis

If you think the local economy is looking anemic now, just wait until we get Sequestration (the legal inevitable result of our legislators reaching no agreement about our national budget).

In Sequestration, all federal agencies will be forced to reduce their spending by 10 per-

cent. And since military personnel will likely be exempt, DoD civilians will be trimmed by 20 percent. Layoffs, pay reduction, forced unpaid leave, and hiring freezes will all play a part in reducing the civilian workforce.

Think this is crying wolf? If it is, why are all major DoD contractors pressing now to resolve the budget issue? It is because funding too many programs will take a big hit if no deal is reached, and they will have to start issuing layoff

notices (which they must do 60 days in advance) to their private-sector workers early thisfall. Sequestration will likely make many federal contracts impossible to execute.

Just imagine all the people out of work in the D.C. Metro area alone.

Except for the top 1 percent (who have enough money to fund Tea Partiers' elections and buy their yachts), sales of all big-ticket items will stop. Then employees on car lots, in grocery stores, and in the offices handling the paperwork for them will have no jobs either.

As the Tea Party Congress's primary goal is to show that government doesn't work, it will make sure no budget is agreed upon prior to the November election. And then let the fun begin.

Dianne Thomas

Fairfax

Fairfax Station, Lorton & Clifton

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Fairfax County Public Schools FY 2013 Budget and New Schools Opening

New School Buildings Opening in September

Students in three Fairfax County communities are eagerly anticipating the first day of school on September 4. Two new schools, Mason Crest Elementary School in Annandale and South County Middle School in Lorton, will open their doors for the first time. Graham Road Elementary School will move students from the old school location to a redesigned building previously used as an administrative building. All three projects were funded by bonds approved by Fairfax County voters.

Mason Crest Elementary School

Mason Crest Elementary is located at the site of the old Lacey Instructional Center at 3705 Crest Drive in Annandale. Members of the community participated in naming the school which combines the name of the old Masonville school and the Broyhill Crest neighborhood.

"We are excited to already be working with our parents and our community," said Brian Butler, principal at Mason Crest. "Our mission is to ensure high levels of learning for all our students and it will take all of us, parents, teachers, and the community, working together to honor every student"

More than 470 students in grades K-5 are expected to attend Mason Crest. The school will

host programs and services including a Family and Early Childhood Education Program (FECEP/ Headstart), advanced academic local level IV services, special education preschool and School- Aged Child Care (SACC).

The two-story building was designed with sustainable and environmentally friendly features including a ground source heat pump, the first one installed in a Fairfax County Public School. The heat pump uses 96 geothermal wells buried 400 feet under the ground to exchange heat to or from water in pipes as it travels to and from the building. Electricity helps move the heat back and forth, but the pump does not burn fossil fuel. This process helps reduce the school's carbon footprint because there are no harmful emissions to the environment.

South County Middle School

South County Middle School was built in one the fastest growing areas of Fairfax County. It sits on 40 acres of land located at 8700 Laurel Crest Drive in Lorton and was constructed on property obtained from Fairfax County Park Authority.

Many of the students attending the new middle school previously attended South County Secondary School (SCSS), which is adjacent to

the new school property.

"We look forward to keeping many of our SCSS traditions as we create a new identity as a separate middle school," said Marsha Manning, principal of South County Middle School.

The middle school is a two-story building with more than 176,000 square feet. It will have 40 general education classrooms and additional elective rooms for students in grades 7 and 8. By obtaining land from the park authority and using the same design as was used for Glasgow Middle School, FCPS was able to achieve cost savings for the development and design of the project.

The new middle school will be home to stateof-the-art technology and facilities and host an Advanced Academic Level IV Center Program and a program for intellectually disabled students.

"We're thrilled to move into a new building that we will make into our home," said Manning. "We will strive to make every student feel capable, connected, and a contributor at South County Middle School."

Graham Road Elementary School

Graham Road Elementary is moving to a new location that will increase the school's capacity for more students and provide improved athletic fields and playground facilities. The new location will be at 2831 Graham Road in Falls Church.

In 2008, the Fairfax County School Board decided it would be less disruptive to renovate the administrative center than to renovate the elementary school since students would not be on the campus during the renovation. The new site also offered less traffic congestion, better traffic flow, and an opportunity to keep the Head Start-Family and Early Childhood Education Program (FECEP) together with the K-6 students in one building.

"The opening of our new school building is very exciting for our students, parents, and staff," said Terry Dade, principal at Graham Road. "We are eagerly anticipating the day when the doors officially open and the students' faces light up as they enter a building that is bright and inviting and provides the latest technology and resources to enhance their learning. We sincerely appreciate the community support during this process and we're really looking forward to the first day of school in September."

The renovated building has been transformed with all new interior and exterior finishes, energy efficient windows, and a new roof. In addition, a new HVAC system has been installed along with a new fire alarm and other life safety systems.



Getting To Know Us

IT Operations Cathy Sells

As you watch a building being constructed over time, you notice the concrete being poured, the roof being built, and the windows installed. Each person working on the school building plays a significant role in the process and is relied upon by the whole team.

Opening a new school building requires coordination by a team of skilled professionals, from the areas of design and construction, transportation, food service, human resources, information technology, safety and security, instructional services, special services and many others

Behind the scenes there is much going on that may not be visible or noticeable. Cathy Sells, director of operations for information technology (IT) at FCPS, works with the entire IT department to ensure that the technology required for a school building is available when and where it is needed.

"Technologies such as network connectivity, voice services, wireless access, data storage, computer equipment, printers, and copiers ensure a contemporary learning environment for 21st century instruction," said Sells.

"Our IT team works very closely with the school principal on the technology plan for the school. Our mission is to provide technology leadership and services to ensure a safe and secure environment for 24/7 learning.

"It is really fascinating to see the coordination of the people involved when we build a new school," she said. "Everyone works together to ensure that the new site will be the best possible place for the students and staff in that community. We all rely on each other and it's one of the best things we do as an organization."



Fairfax County School Board Adopts FY 2013 Approved Budget

The Fairfax County School Board has adopted the Fairfax County Public Schools 2012-13 school year (FY 2013) Approved Budget of \$2.4 billion that includes:

- · compensation increases for employees.
- · the elimination of student athletic fees.
- more than 700 new positions to address enrollment growth.
- extended learning time for at-risk students.
- the expansion of the World Languages program in elementary schools.
- a phase in of mandated employee contributions to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS).

The FY 2013 Approved Budget is an 8.2 percent increase over the FY 2012 Approved Budget. For more information visit www.fcps.edu and click on FY 2013 Budget.

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Left to right: Park Authority Vice Chairman Ken Quincy; Park Foundation Executive Director Roberta Longworth; Park **Authority Board Chairman Bill Bouie; Lee** District Park Manager Leon Plenty; Park **Foundation Chair Craig Stevens; Delegate** Mark Sickles (D-43); Jay Radcliffe, Lowe's **Store Manager; Lee District Supervisor** Jeff McKay: Lee District Park Authority Board Member Edward Batten; Dana Kauffman, capital campaign chair; Ms. Wheelchair Virginia Stephanie Copeland; Park Foundation Board Member Harry Glasgow; Park Foundation Board Member Tim Walsh; At-large Park Board Member Kala Quintana; Park Foundation Board Member Cary Greenspan; At-large Park **Board Member Janyce Hedetniemi; Park** Foundation Board Member Cynthia Jacobs Carter; and Park Foundation Board Member Kathryn War celebrate the opening of Chessie's Big Backyard with children and parents from the community.

Children have a blast at the Our Special Harbor

Chessie's Big Backyard Opens for Summer Fun

Fun-seekers can play, explore and splash around at Lee District Park.

By Victoria Ross

June 16 ribbon-cutting attraction this summer." ceremony for Chessie's Big Backyard Tiki Village playground, part yard marks the culmination of a colof the Family Recreation Center at Lee District Park.

a fully-accessible 2,000-square-foot The \$600,000 project is funded tree house, complements Our Special Harbor spray ground, which

"The playground is phenomenal. The Connection People's jaws drop when they see it," said Supervisor Jeff McKay (Dunny skies greeted hun- Lee). "The free Spray Park is aldreds of children and ready enormously popular. The their families during the playground is my district's biggest

The opening of Chessies' Big Backlaborative project that brought together the government, the private The playground, which includes sector and non-profit organizations. through private and corporate contributions as well as park bonds.

McKay said Chessie's Big Back-

cessible carousel and picnic pavil-

the bells and whistles, and, as funding permits, a fully-accessible carousel will grace this plaza as well," McKay said at the grand opening. "I'm proud to have it here."

Next to the playground is Our Special Harbor, the popular Chesapeake Bay-themed water "spray ground." Spray attractions include a water maze with changing pat-

yard is just the first of two other terns, where children can run playground phases and a fully-acthrough the maze's massive columns of water for a solid drenchion planned for the site as funding ing, water benches, a light house and a skipjack with tumbling buck-"Chessie's Big Backyard has all ets and water cannons that children can shoot. Three water-accessible wheelchairs are provided.

> Lee District Park is located at 6601 Telegraph Road in Franconia. Due to limited parking, guests are invited to take a shuttle bus from Rose Hill Elementary School, located at 6301 Rose Hill Drive in Alexandria. Shuttle Service will run from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.



Left to right: Leon Plenty, manager of Lee District Park, Lee Supervisor Jeff McKay and former Lee District Supervisor Dana Kauffman at the grand opening of Chessie's

Sock Monkeys Fan?

Welcome to Lee District nights summer concerts.

rom jazz to big band, clas- trict Park Amphitheater, 6601 Tele-Lee District Nights is the place for ees are encouraged to bring a picmusic lovers of all stripes.

ket and sit back and enjoy the concert hotline at 703-324- SHOW show," said Supervisor Jeff McKay after 6 p.m. for performance can-(D-Lee.) "This is the place to enjoy cellation updates. a musical evening with family and

come to help with all aspects of the Park and the support of local busi- (Jazz) concert series. If you are interested nesses, including Cox Communica- * August 22 – David Gerald in helping out, contact his office at tions, Springfield Mall and Spring- Band (Blues/R&B)

is held on Wednesday evenings *** July 11 -** The NOVA from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Lee Dis- Annandale Symphony Orchestra

sic to blue bluegrass, and graph Road, Franconia. All consome vintage rock 'n roll, certs are held outdoors and attendnic, blankets and lawn chairs. In "Bring a picnic dinner and a blan-case of inclement weather, call the

Lee District Nights is made pos- (Blues) McKay said volunteers are wel- pervisor, Friends of Lee District States Navy Band "Commodores" field Toyota.

The series of free public concerts

Summer performances include:

❖ July 18 - Ryan Montbleau Band (R&B/pop)

❖ July 25 - The United States Army Band "Downrange" (Rock) **❖ August 1 –** Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers (Blue-

❖ August 8 - The Nighthawks

❖ August 29 – Sock Monkeys

— Victoria Ross



The United States Army Band "Downrange."

Inited States Army

Look for the **Visit Fairfax** logo for your

Fairfax County, Virginia **Connect with America**

There's An App for That!

Visit Fairfax launches app that helps visitors and residents navigate summer fun.

f your travel backpack is Users can also view descripyour summer outing, just toss it.

A free app developed by Visit Fairfax - the county's official destination marketing organization - is the go-to device for savvy vacationers seeking summer fun. It even has a "backpack" function to store your favorite information. The app is free to download through either the Apple App Store or the Android Market.

"With the growing number of consumers who rely on their smart phones for information, a mobile app was one way to help both visitors and our own local residents connect with all of the amazing things to do in the area," said Barry Biggar, President and CEO of Visit Fairfax.

For example, if you and your family are in Springfield on July 4th, and you want to locate the nearest fireworks display, and taurant near the fireworks, just

open the Visit Fairfax app. ers to access thousands of local marketing for Visit Fairfax.

By Victoria Ross attractions, events, accommoda-THE CONNECTION tions, restaurants, and special

loaded down with maps, tions, pictures, videos, ratings, visitor's guides, and other and reviews for all of the popupaper paraphernalia to plan lar destinations throughout Northern Virginia. If you need help getting around, the Visit Fairfax app will guide you to

> Features include: Near Me: View all the points of interest that are nearest to

your geographic location.

Categories: View points of interest in a list or on a map by selecting any Category.

❖ Special Offers: Check out all of the special offers good for savings throughout Northern

❖ Events: Instant access to all current and upcoming events in

app's functions, go to www.fxva.com/mobile

"It's a very cool device. You can keep the app in your pocket as your personal guide while find a Yelp-reviewed Italian res- you explore parks like Great Falls National Park, national treasures such as George The award-winning app offers Washington's Mount Vernon Esinteractive features such as tate & Gardens, and museums mapping technology, consumer such as the Smithsonian's Nareviews, and special offers from tional Air and Space Museum area businesses. The compre- Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center," hensive travel guide allows us- said Jackie Franchi, director of

"With the growing number of consumers who rely on their smart phones for information, a mobile app was one way to help both visitors and our own local residents connect with all of the amazing things to do in the area." — Barry Biggar, President and CEO of Visit Fairfax

Public Meeting Set to Present 2012 Park Bond

The Fairfax County Park Authority and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority will hold a joint public comment meeting on Monday, July 9, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in Rooms 106/107 of the Herrity Building located at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA. This meeting will provide an opportunity for residents to learn about plans for a bond referendum this fall and to comment on the bond program highlights.

In May, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors authorized a \$75 million Park Bond referendum as part of the Fiscal Year 2013 through 2017 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This referendum, if approved by voters this fall, would provide \$12 million for the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and \$63 million for the Fairfax County Park Authority.

The Fairfax County Park Authority has worked hard to create a balanced approach to capital improvements. Using the Needs Assessment 10-year capital plan, facility condition assessments, park master plans and stakeholder input as tools for project selection, the allocation of park bonds would fall into three categories: stewardship and land acquisition, facility renovations, and park development. The project list balances priority needs, reinvestment in aging facilities, advancement of phased projects and improving the park experience.

The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority utilizes a similar approach to allocating park bond funds, taking into account user needs, the capital improvement program, the strategic plan and existing facility conditions.

At the July meeting, staff will present the categorical highlights of the bond and will take public comment. Individuals and groups are welcome to speak. Individuals may speak for three minutes and representatives from groups may testify for five minutes. To sign up to speak in advance or for more

information, contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662. You may also sign up to speak at the meeting. The public may also submit written comments to the Park Authority at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927 Fairfax, VA 22035-1118 or at parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

To submit comments to the Regional Park Authority write to 5400 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039 or pladev@nvrpa.org. All comments will be taken until August 10, 2012.





If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least ten working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354 703-324-8700 • ONLINE : www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

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Summer Fun

Fairfax County's 'Little Gem'

The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum hosts Civil War Reenactment.

n Saturday, Aug. 25 and Sunday, Aug. 26, a Civil War Reenactment Commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Medical Evacuation of wounded soldiers will be held at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both

The event will honor Clara Barton, "Angel of the Battle Field," and Founder of the Red Cross. Steeped in Civil War history, the Fairfax Station Railroad Depot was once the hub of a growing community in the 1800s.

During the Civil War, Barton tended to thousands of soldiers who were sent from the Fairfax Station depot to Alexandria and Washington hospitals. The station was an early triage site and the



The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, steeped in history, is a popular location for birthday parties, meetings and events, such as the Civil War Reenactment this summer.

railroad was used for mass transportation for a large-scale disaster evacuation.

In addition, the Museum will be open Thursday, Aug. 23 to preview the 150th Anniversary exhibit. The exhibit will continue to be dis-

played August 27 through September 3. Check the Museum phone message for times.

For more information on the reenactment, go to www.fairfaxstation.org/calendar.html

Victoria Ross

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5:30 pm CoffeeHouse casual, guest musicians

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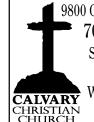
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703-799-7868 Hope Baptist Church... 703-799-5155 Jerusalem Baptist Church... 703-278-8166 Shiloh Baptist Church... 703-550-8557 Virginia Korean Baptist Church..

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Episcopal St. Peter's in the Woods... 703-503-9210

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Calendar

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 28

Reptiles Alive. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. See a giant python, an alligator and other awesome reptiles from around the world. Age 6-12. 703-451-8055.

Workhouse Farmers Market. 3:30 -7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Visit the Workhouse Farmers Market every Thursday for locally grown fruits and vegetables, locally raised meats and poultry, and local foods from breads and cheeses to salsa and sausage. www.workhousearts.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

Radio King Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. With The Fabulous Pincurl Girls. Big band music. Free. 703-324-7469

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Public Reception: Military and the

Arts. 5-7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A military-themed exhibition celebrating the troops. Exhibit open June 29-July 22. www.workhousearts.org.

"Rapunzel." 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Audiences, Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A lost prince. a two-headed monster, an unscrupulous baker, a lonely witch and a flaxen-tressed maiden. \$8-\$12. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

Chopteeth. 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

News

From Prison to Cultural Center

Lorton Workhouse Arts Center hosts Art Out Loud, Ice Cream Social in July.

or visual arts, performances and education, the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center is the place to be this summer. More than 100 years ago, however, one of the region's most distinctive cultural arts center started life as a prison complex.

In 2002, after the Lorton Correctional Complex closed, 2324 acres were sold to Fairfax County. After several years of planning, the Workhouse Arts Center, a project of the Lorton Arts Foundation, opened to the public in September 2008.

The Workhouse currently consists of seven artist studio buildings, the main galleries and the recently opened Youth Arts Cen-

In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including the Studio 3 Theatre for Young Audiences, the Workhouse Film Institute, musical and dance performances. The Education Department supports both the visual and performing arts, offering more than 150 classes and workshops each quarter.

Highlights of the summer sea-



The Lorton Workhouse Arts Center complex.

son include art walking tours, festivals, education classes for children and adults and the annual Clifton Filmfest.

On Saturday, July 7, Art Out Loud 2012 will feature an all-star cast of artists and musicians celebrating the impact of art on our daily lives.

Dozens of artists will be on hand to present and discuss their latest artistic creations. The Art Monkeys Workhouse artists Mary Gallagher Stout and John Gascot - will provide live painting demonstrations during the event. Live music will be provided by an eclectic musical roundup including: Thrive, Starryville, Big Green Cherry, the 2012 award winning Philadelphia Woodland String Band (A.K.A. the Mummers), Cartoon Johnny, and Shade Parade.

Attendees will have the chance to give back to the community by donating a can of food to Food for Others. Bring any non-perishable food items including tuna, canned

beans, peanut butter and cereal.

End the night with a bang at the patriotic fireworks show at 9 p.m. Food and beverages to include soft drinks, beer and wine will also be available for sale. Suggested donation for the event is \$5 per person.

If you want to start the day earlier, get there at noon and socialize during the 4th Annual Ice Cream Social. For \$15, guests will receive a handmade bowl, created by one of the instructors or resident artists.

Children can enjoy a visit by Fairfax County Fire Department Station #441 and pony rides by Tamarack Stables. Tickets may be purchased onsite the day of the event. All proceeds benefit the Lorton Arts Foundation and the Workhouse Ceramics Program, and parking will be available on-

Visit www.WorkhouseArts.org or call 703-584-2900 for additional information.

– Victoria Ross

Lorton. New exhibition series featuring its studio artists in media specific and thematic shows in the McGuireWoods Gallery. Free. www.workhousearts.org.

Calendar

From Page 10

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

Dream Big and Read. 2:30 p.m.

Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Magician Mike Klee leads a magical adventure. Age 6-12. 703-249-1520.

Commerce: Painting at the Workhouse. 7-9 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, Fairfax County's

Premier Arts Center 9601 Ox Road,

Lorton Man Pleads Guilty

From Page 5

ceeds from this illicit conduct for approximately

On March 28, 2012, Strom was among five members and associates of the UGC set based in Fairfax County charged with running a prostitution business that recruited and trafficked high school girls. Four previously pled guilty, and Strom's guilty plea today marks the fifth and final conviction in this case.

On May 14, 2012, Henock Ghile, aka "Knots," 23, of Springfield, Va., pled guilty to sex trafficking of a juvenile. In court, Ghile admitted that he was a UGC gang associate and that from May 2011 through September 2011 he transported two 17-year-old girls to work as prostitutes. Sentencing has been scheduled for Aug. 3, 2012, before United States District Judge Claude M. Hilton.

On April 14, 2012, two others associated with the

UGC prostitution operation – Michael Tavon Jefferies, aka "Loc," 21, of Woodbridge, Va., and Christopher Sylvia, 23, of Springfield, Va. - pled guilty to sex trafficking of a juvenile. Jefferies is scheduled to be sentenced on July 6, 2012, before United States District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema. Sylvia is scheduled for sentencing on July 20, 2012, before United States District Judge Gerald Bruce Lee.

This case was investigated by the Fairfax County Police Department and the FBI's Washington Field Office, with assistance from the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force.

Related court documents and information may be found on the website of the District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia at http:// www.vaed.uscourts.gov or on https:// pcl.uscourts.gov.

— Victoria Ross







SPORTS

All-District Baseball: The following local high school baseball players earned All-District accolades for this past 2012 spring

❖From Edison High (National District), First Team All-District selections were Nick Ammeen (Second Base) and Connor Hall

SPORTS Roundups

(Utility). Second Team selections for the Eagles went to Robby Baird (First Base), Mike Lewis (Outfield), and

Cayman Hatton (Pitcher).

❖From Hayfield High (National District), Robert Banks was named First Team Outfielder and Cameron Lundmark made First Team Pitcher. Second Team selections for the Hawks were Ben Harris (DH) and George Palacio (Util-

❖From Robinson (Concorde District), three players earned First Team honors - Patrick Baker (Second Base), Chase Bailey (DH), and Denis Mikush (Pitcher). Mikush was also selected First Team at Utility.

Second Team selections for the Rams were Danny Herrera (Third Base) and Matt Spaulding (Third Base).

❖From Fairfax High (Liberty District), Brandon Ginch (Catcher) and Sean Ranson (Third Base) made First Team. Making Second Team for the Rebels was Kody Sherland (Outfield).

❖For Virginia State AAA champion Lake Braddock (Patriot District), six players were named First Team All-District. Those players are: Matt Spruill (Second Base), Jack Owens (shortstop), Alex Lewis (Third Base), Alex Gransback (Outfield), Thomas Rogers (Pitcher), and Michael Church (Pitcher).

Bruins pitching aces Rogers and Church were named the Patriot District Pitchers of the Year. Also, Lake Braddock head coach Jody Rutherford was named the District Coach of the Year.

Lake Braddock players to earn Second Team All-District accolades were: Garrett Driscoll (Catcher), Mitch Spille (First Base), and Nick Balenger (Pitcher).

❖From Northern Region champion West Springfield High (Patriot District), Donny Haeuptle (Catcher) and Connor Tagg (Pitcher) were both represented on the All-District First Team. Spartans named to the Second Galbraith, Julia Capobianco, Anna Team were Taylor Boyd (Shortstop) and Nick Stevens (Outfield).

District), Kyle Fairbanks (First Baseman) was named the Patriot and Cory Hanson.



West Springfield's Nick Stevens was named Second **Team All-Patriot District** Outfielder this season in helping lead the Spartans to the Northern Region

District Player of the Year. He was joined on the All-District First Team by Stallion teammates Blake Thompson (Outfield), Cameron Thompson (Outfield), and Devin Gould (Pitcher). Andrew Rector of South County was named Second Team in the Outfield.

❖From W.T. Woodson (Patriot District), Eric Depew (DH) was named to the First Team. Cavaliers to make the Second Team were Jake Ferguson (Second Base), Danny Inmacolato (Outfield), Brant Thomas (Utility), and Charlie Weirick (Pitcher).

❖From Lee High (Patriot), Garret Shondelmyer (Outfield) and Will Smith (Utility) were both named to the Second Team.

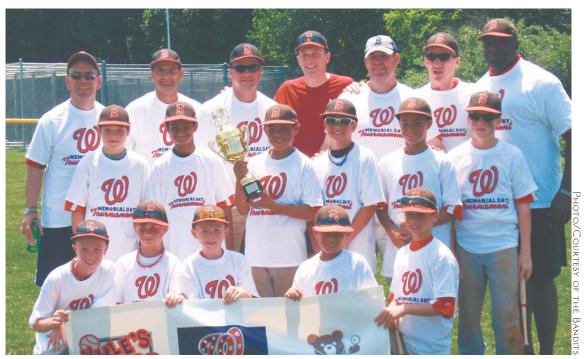
❖From Annandale High, Ryan Smith made First Team All-Patriot District Outfield, and fellow Atoms Carlos Marcelino (DH) and Joey Rainey (Pitcher) made Second Team.

Northern Virginia Swimming League (NVSL) Div. 2 action kicked off on Saturday, June 23 with the Vienna Aquatic Club (VAC) Gators hosting the Fairfax Station Flyers. The final score was: VAC 226.5, Fairfax Station 192.5. VAC double winners were: Gavin Levay, Leaya Ma, Julia Downing and Tyler Johnson. Fairfax Station double winners were: Kelly Broderick, James Anderson, John Orsa, Roman Lowery, Genevieve Munch, Bo Ilgenfritz, Katie Munch, Faith Lowery and Ashley Weldon. Single winners were Ella Galbraith, Christopher Card, Jack Keating, Phillip Sullivan, Darby Galbraith, Marcus Card, Alli From South County (Patriot Haufler, Tyler Hazard, Alex Saffran, Elaine Chua, Allen Frazee



Robinson Installs Two Turf Fields

School personnel, local officials and community athletics organizations participated in a groundbreaking ceremony on Tuesday morning, June 19 at Robinson Secondary School. Two synthetic turf fields are being installed, including the stadium field and one practice field. The practice field will also have lights installed allowing for night events. Pictured, left to right: John Eskandary (President, Northern Virginia Soccer League); Steve Groff (Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services); Jeff Ferrell (Robinson Director of Student Activities); Steve Bergstrom (Treasurer, Braddock Road Youth Club); Daniel Meier (Principal, Robinson Secondary); Marcia Pape (Member, Fairfax County Athletic Council); Anita Hood (Secretary, Northern Virginia Soccer League); David Bulova (Member, Virginia House of Delegates, 37th District); John Cook (Fairfax County Supervisor, Braddock District); Sharon Stark (District Director, Office of Congressman Gerry Connolly, Va. 11); Mark O'Meara (President, Robinson Rams Athletic Boosters Club).



The Bandits are made up players from throughout Northern Virginia.

Bandits Win Kyle's Kamp Tournament

he 10-under Northern Virginia Bandits baseball team outfought a talented SYA Mets team over the Memorial Day weekend to win the Kyle's Kamp Tournament. The Bandits finished third in pool play and then fought through three tough teams to gain the tournament trophy.

In the quarterfinals, the Bandits came back from a 6-0 deficit to oust the Manassas Mad Dogs. In the semifinals, Loudoun South nearly overcame a 6-0 deficit before the Bandits prevailed 8-7 in extra innings. And in the finals, SYA and the Bandits traded the lead five times before the Bandits went ahead for good in the fourth inning and then held on for a tense 6-5 victory.

The Bandits are a regional travel team that includes talented 10-year olds from around Northern Virginia. Players include Zach Perkins, Raden Perry, James Triantos, Brendan Albrittain, Garrett Newsome, Jack Hoeymans, Cal Begeny, Anthony Avvisato, Phlay Moravek, Jack Selman, and Rohan Cherukuri. The team is coached by Jim Triantos (manager) and assistants Frank Avvisato, Chris Albrittain, Leon Newsome, Ryan Perry, Dan Perkins, and Kiran Cherukuri.

Overall, the Bandits are 34-3 and have won 25 games in a row. They are currently in first place in the Future States Prospect Baseball League at 8-0.

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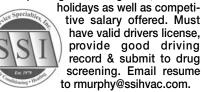
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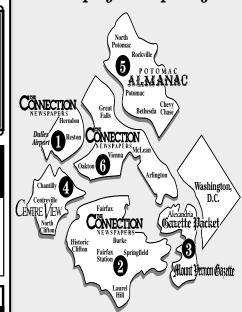
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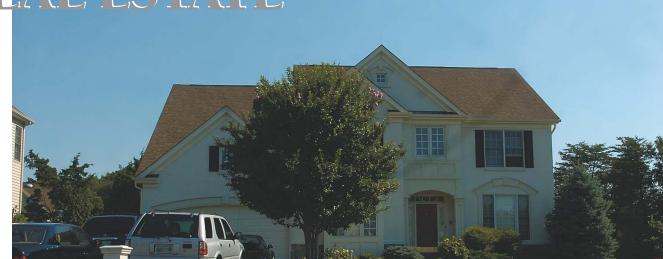
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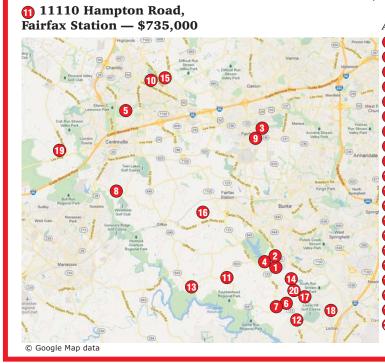


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