

FALL FUN



Thousands of people filled Main Street for last year's Clifton Day.



Customers peruse blown-glass items at a vendor's booth.

Tall, whimsical giraffes made of packed straw and raffia were among the craft items on sale last year.

Get Ready for Clifton Day

The 45th annual fest is Sunday, Oct. 7.

By Bonnie Hobbs THE CONNECTION

ive bands, moonbounces, handmade crafts, Civil War re-enactors, food galore, pony rides and a unicyclist—all these things and more will be part of the 45th annual Clifton Day. The festival is slated for Sunday, Oct. 7, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Rain date is Oct. 14.)

"I have a lot of fun on Clifton Day," said event Chairman Fred Ansick. "I really enjoy seeing the smiling faces on the kids, and folks laughing and having a good day. They love the atmosphere of the town. The residents welcome everyone to see Clifton as a community—a small town in the shadows of the big city. So we want everyone to come on out and have a good time."

The Clifton Betterment Association (CBA) puts on Clifton Day and proceeds go to the town's nonprofit groups, including the Clifton Lions Club, Girl and Boy Scouts, Clifton Presbyterian Church, Clifton Gentleman's Club, Clifton Woman's Club, the CBA and Acacia Lodge.

Admission is free; parking is \$5/car (\$10 on the floodplain), with proceeds going to charity. "It's the largest fund-raiser for all our local nonprofits," said Ansick.

Sonia Dyer, 88, moved to Clifton with her family in 1964, and her daughter Bonny and oldest son Tuck went to the first Clifton Day. "It was in the old firehouse on the second floor," she said. "There were tables with crafts and things, but that's all there was to it. My children bought me a little, ceramic jewelry chest that I still use."

would amount to anything; but through the years, it just kept growing," continued Dyer. "It's that small-town feel Clifton has that makes it special. And I think the citizens are more involved in town activities now than they were then, so there's more of a community feeling."

For her family, she said, Clifton Day's a holiday. Said Dyer: "My children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren all come home for Clifton Day." And this year, they'll have lots of things to keep them busy.

The town park off Chapel Street will host a slew of children's activities. JumpWorks will have inflatables and moonbounces there, Kerry the Face-Painter will decorate children's faces and Sharon the Balloon Artist will twist colorful balloons into fanciful shapes. Local Girl and Boy Scout troops will also have booths there with games such as safe darts and beanbag toss.

The Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Academy will give pony rides near the barn behind Acacia Lodge. It will also provide a pony for petting in the park. The Unicycle Lady will perform mainly in the park, but will also do some stunts on Main Street. There'll also be some roaming entertainment. Performing while strolling through town will be the Banjo Man and bagpiper Michael Ahnell.

The stage on Chapel Road will feature a variety of singers, dancers and musicians. At 10:30 a.m. is the Boyle School of Irish Dance; 11:30 a.m., They Call Me Piano, a local girl who sings; 12:15 p.m., Steve Hudson and his Fabulous Exaggerations, a stand-up comedian and musician who plays piano and guitar.

At 1:15 p.m. will be The Wayward Street Players music group; 2:15 p.m., The Acoustic Burgoo, a bluegrass group from "At the time, we didn't think Clifton Day Purcellville; and 3:15 p.m., The Randy Th-

ompson Band playing modern country-rock music. Clifton resident Thompson recently returned from a music tour in Switzerland.

Artisans on Main Street's Ayre Square will demonstrate crafts such as wood-carving, wool spinning, weaving and pottery- and basket-making. And more than 200 artsand-crafts vendors will sell their wares throughout the town.

Items include jewelry, candles, plant hangars, glasswork, children's clothing, baskets, ceramics, woodworking products, furniture, mixed media, needlework, quilts, sculpture, metalwork, seasonal decorations and holiday items, sports memorabilia, toys, stained glass, and watercolor and oil paintings.

Food will be available in several places. The Clifton Lions Club will offer hamburgers, hot dogs and barbecue; Clifton Presbyterian Church, crab-cake meals, brisket meals and corndogs; Clifton Gentleman's Club, red beans and rice, chili and chili dogs; Cub Scout Packs 1861 and 1104, cotton candy, popcorn, lemonade, cookies, candy and apple cider; Acacia Lodge, pulled pork and Italian sausage.

As for commercial food vendors, Baja Fresh will sell burritos, quesadillas and chicken, fish and shrimp tacos. Rachelle Slotnick is catering an Oktoberfest booth by the stage in front of the Clifton Town Meeting Hall on Chapel Road. It'll offer ala-carte, German-style food such as bratwurst, kielbasa and sauerkraut. The CBA will sell beer there, too.

Trummer's on Main will have outside ables where people may purchase food and cocktails. Food samples will be available in front of the former Heart in Hand restaurant, which is becoming a new restaurant called Buckley's. And Paradise Springs Winery will offer wine samples in front of the post office on Chapel Road.

Altogether, there'll be 10 food vendors throughout the town, selling treats including kettle corn, funnel cakes and Sno-Cones. The Clifton Store and Peterson's Ice Cream and Dog Pound will also be open for business, as will the town shops.

Antiques vendors will be behind Buckley's, and the Acacia Lodge will have some Clifton artifacts and memorabilia on display upstairs. Also for history buffs, Civil War re-enactors Tony Meadows and the 49th Virginia Infantry will be encamped in the yard across from the stage on Chapel Road.

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be stationed next to the lodge, and people donating a pint of blood will be entered in a drawing for a gift certificate for door

The VRE train will run to and from Clifton, or festival attendees may park at Clifton Elementary, the floodplain, Kincheloe Road, Newman Road, and Chapel Road at Frosty Meadows. CBA-sponsored shuttles will ferry people to and from Frosty Meadows. For more information, see www.cliftonday.com.

This year's sponsors are The Peterson Cos., Ourisman Toyota, VRE, Blackbarn Media and the Norfolk Southern Railroad. Ansick, in his sixth year as chairman, says his 10-person committee begins working on Clifton Day in January, reserving the stage and the town properties.

"Things start ramping up in April, when I get the volunteer list," he said. "In May, June and July, we do the planning; and in September, we start praying for good weather."

News

Cordial Debate Turns Into Controversy

Allen, Kaine battle for Northern Virginia votes.

> By Victoria Ross The Connection

ohammed Ashiq, a longtime employee at Luciano's restaurant in Oakton, was working at the restaurant Sunday when former Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine met with supporters at the Oakton shopping center.

"I'm still pretty much undecided," Ashiq said, "but I have a 9-year-old daughter and education is an important issue for me."

Ashiq said he liked what Kaine had to say about increasing access to affordable higher education, but he wanted to hear more from both candidates before making up his mind.

Scott Tanner, who was dropping his daughter off at the center for a birthday party, said he is "leaning slightly in favor of Kaine" over former Republican Senator George Allen, who is vying to win back his seat from retiring Democratic Senator Jim Webb.

In a tight race that could decide which party controls the Senate, Northern Virginia has become the battleground region within the battleground state, and both candidates have spent an increasing amount of time and money courting voters in the region.

In the past few weeks, Kaine and Allen have crisscrossed Fairfax County almost daily, meeting with voters at business roundtable can-

didate forums. Last week, campaign momentum was beginning to favor Kaine when two independent polls showed Kaine opening up a significant lead for the first time after 17 months of campaigning. A Quinnipiac University-CBS News-New York Times poll released Wednesday, Sept. 19, showed Kaine had a 7 percentage point lead over Allen, 51 percent to 44 percent.

THE NEXT DAY, the former governors faced off in a highly-anticipated debate at the Capitol One Center in McLean that demonstrated clear differences in their approach to policy and fiscal issues. It was the third of five scheduled debates.

his proposal to reduce the the automatic cuts—or "three-pronged approach."

"We will let the Bush to for people making more to the proposal to reduce the proposal to reduce the automatic cuts—or "three-pronged approach."

Hosted by the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce and moderated by David Gregory, host of NBC's "Meet the Press," the candidates were more cordial than confrontational. Kaine positioned himself as a bipartisan problem-solver, while Allen portrayed himself



U.S. Senate candidates Tim Kaine and George Allen face off during the Fairfax Chamber debate in McLean on Thursday, Sept. 20.

Photos by Victoria Ross/The Connection





"If you want a job, you ought to join the Allen team."

-George Allen

"I'm open to dialogue, and I don't see how openness is something controversial."

—Tim Kaine

as a small-business champion.

The candidates also found areas of agreement: each stressed the need to preserve the home mortgage interest deduction, and both candidates vowed to reduce the nation's deficit and avoid the looming \$500 billion in defense cuts scheduled to begin in January.

Several times during the debate, Kaine reiterated his proposal to reduce the federal deficit and avert the automatic cuts—or "sequestration"—through a three-proped approach.

"We will let the Bush tax cuts expire as planned for people making more than \$500,000; we will fix Medicare so we can negotiate to get better prices on prescription drugs; we will let the tax subsidies to the big five oil companies expire," Kaine said.

SEE KAINE, PAGE 5

Police Chief Tapped For New Position

he Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday appointed Police Chief Dave Rohrer as deputy county executive for public safety. He'll begin his new job Oct. 20.

This action, explained County Executive Ed Long in a Sept. 25 memo to all County personnel, will dedicate this newly created position exclusively to public safety. It will also free up Deputy County Executive Rob Stalzer—who currently oversees public safety, in addition to his other duties—"to focus on planning, development and transportation functions." Some of the major issues in these areas impacting the county include Dulles Rail; transportation funding; Tysons redevelopment; BRAC; regional water systems; and the redevelopments of Springfield Mall, Bailey's Crossroads and Merrifield Town Center.

Rohrer will be responsible for the County's public-safety programs and will oversee the police and fire departments, Office of Emergency Management and Department of Public Safety Communications. He'll also have a liaison relationship with the Sheriff's Office and the courts.

Long said this new position will also "prioritize public safety resources for the county's 1.1 million residents, while serving the County's long-term growth and development needs. A dedicated deputy county executive for public safety is better able to quickly respond to events as they occur and to coordinate regional preparedness in advance."

This appointment completes Long's leadership team, which includes the deputy county executives, CFO, assistant county executives and directors of human resources and public affairs. "We will work together in the months and



Dave Rohrer

"A dedicated deputy county executive for public safety is better able to quickly respond to events as they occur and to coordinate regional preparedness in advance."

— County Executive Ed Long

years ahead to address our continuing challenges and continue the culture of excellence for which Fairfax County Government is so well known," said Long.

Rohrer is a longtime County employee who's served nearly 32 years as a sworn police officer. His career here includes 13 years as a senior commander and eight years as the county's police chief; he's held that post since 2004.

He's also served as deputy chief for investigations and operations support; Patrol Bureau commander; Special Operations Division and district commander; SWAT first-line supervisor and first-line patrol supervisor.

Rohrer holds a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from GMU. His annual salary will be \$191,168.

— Bonnie Hobbs



News

Kaine Clarifies Position on 'Minimum Tax'

From Page 3

Allowing tax increases on those earning more than \$500,000 a year is compromise, Kaine said, between Democrats who would let the cuts expire on those earning \$250,000 or more, and Republicans who want to make the cuts permanent for everyone.

Allen repeatedly said he would not entertain any tax increases to keep the government from falling off a "fiscal cliff," and he stuck to his message that "job creation" would solve many of the nation's problems.

"As I stated in the beginning, David, the best social program of all is a job." Allen also said he would repeal President Obama's health care law, and proposed allowing households to choose a flat tax over the existing tax code.

"I want to create more job opportunities. If you want a job, you ought to join the Allen team," Allen said, adding that he should have the backing of "99 percent of Virginians, anyone who pays an electric bill, drives a car or has a job."

He said his return to the Senate would be about "making sure America is ascending once again and is a land of opportunity once again."

THE DEBATE was mostly devoid of headline-making news until Gregory asked Kaine if he thought "all Virginians should have to pay some level of federal income tax."

"I would be open to a proposal that would have some minimum tax level for everyone," Kaine said, "but I do insist, many of the 47 percent that Governor Romney was going after pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes than he does."

Kaine's statement almost immediately ignited a furor by bloggers, tweeters and news reports of the debate.

In interviews after the debate, Allan hammered Kaine for the remark, accusing him of "always trying to raise taxes." In a press release Saturday, the Allen campaign accused Kaine of "doubling down" on the idea of imposing an income tax on all Americans in his TV appearances.

"It shouldn't be news that somebody who wants to go into the Senate is willing to start from a position of openness and dialogue," Kaine said after the debate. "We can't start with non-negotiable."

Kaine added that while many Americans do not pay federal income tax, low-income individuals are subject to many other taxes. "The lie that some perpetrate that poor people don't pay a lot of taxes is wrong," he said.

"I kind of chuckled about (the furor)," Kaine said Sunday after meeting with volunteers in Oakton and



Former Governor and U.S. Senate candidate Tim Kaine rallies supporters at his canvass kick-off in Oakton Sunday, Sept. 23.

Manassas. "I'm open to dialogue, and I don't see how openness is something controversial."

Del. Mark Keam (D) introduced Kaine to the 70plus grassroots supporters who assembled in Oakton to hear Kaine as he launched the community canvass. Judy Fisher, a retired Fairfax County teacher, said she was supporting Kaine for several reasons.

"The health care bill is very important. No, it's not perfect, but I have a 97-year-old mother, and health care is a big issue for us." She also said she liked Kaine's positions on abortion rights, education and other issues.

"I'm electing someone to make substantive, deliberative, thoughtful decisions," Fisher said. "The Republicans get hysterical. We need more moderate, thoughtful candidates like Tim Kaine."

Arralean Ellis, a City of Fairfax volunteer, said Virginia's new Voter ID laws concerned her.

"I've worked at polling places, and there was no reason, no justification to make it tougher for people in Virginia to vote," she said.

Kaine told supporters that "the most important thing is to find people who know how to work together. [Republicans] would run the ship aground just to get the captain," Kaine said.

"The differences in this race are very clear," said Kaine. "On the big issues of the day—how we strengthen the economy, how we address the federal budget, and how we break through Washington's partisan gridlock—my opponent and I have a very different record and a very different approach."



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Bulletin Board

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/SEPT. 28

Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 2 p.m. The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Classes designed to work on balance and core muscles to prevent injuries and falls; Instructor certified in back and hip rehab. Every Monday and Friday in a heated indoor pool. \$10. Registration required at 703-

SATURDAY/SEPT. 29

Dog and Cat Adoptions. 6:30-8:30 p.m. PetSmart Seven Corners, 12971 Fair Lakes Parkway, Fairfax. Every Saturday. Sponsored by Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation. www.lostdogrescue.org.

ONGOING

Celebrate Fairfax Volunteering. 10

a.m.-7 p.m., at the Fairfax County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. The 20th annual Fall for Fairfax KidsFest (Sept. 29-30; Sunday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) includes more than 100 interactive activities, exhibits and programs focusing on education, sport and fitness, the environment, public safety and personal health (volunteer t-shirt, snack and a beverage included for volunteers). 703-324-9423 or

CelebrateFairfaxVolunteers@fairfaxcounty.gov. VolunteerFest Open Registration.

Registration is open for the Oct. 27 event; register anytime for projects at schools, libraries, parks and nonprofit organizations. The 18th annual areawide community service day's full list of projects beginning mid-morning and around lunchtime is available at http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/volunteerfest.php.

Melvin Family Cemetery Tree Clean-up. The Balmoral Greens Homeowner Association, in partnership with Fairfax County archaeologists, is in the process of clean-up and removal of a treel fallen in the Melvin Family Cemetery. There is potential for grave disturbance, and BGHA has received a burial permit from the Commonwealth. Descendants of the Warner Melvin family are encouraged to contact project archaeologist, Aimee Wells at aimee.wells@fairfaxcounty.gov should they have any questions or concerns regarding the project or

family history.

Youth Flag Football and

Basketball Winter/Spring League. i9 Sports of Northwestern Fairfax is now taking registration for the winter/spring season that begins in late November. Registration is open to all ages 3 through 14 years old. www.i9sports.com.

information which may help clarify

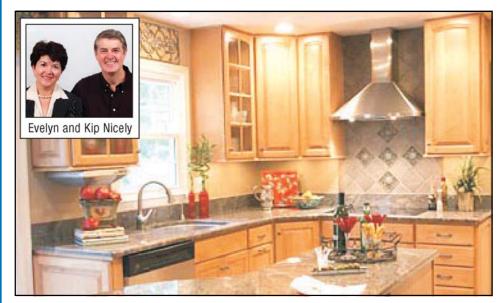
Braddock Wrestling Club (BWC) is now accepting registration for youth wrestlers for the 2012 -2013 wrestling season. BWC is part of the Northern Virginia Wrestling Federation (www.nvwf.net). Age limits for BWC wrestlers are 5 through 14 years old. Practices will start Nov. 5 and run three days per week at Lake Braddock High School. Tournaments are conducted on Saturdays or Sundays at area High Schools, starting December 2012. Register at

www.braddockwrestlingclub.org

10

Your "Nicely Done" Kitchen or Bath is Right Around the Corner!

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The American Institute of Architects (AIA)
The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)
The SEN Design Group (SEN), Nationally Ranked #5
The National Association of Remodeling Industry (NARI)
The Better Business Bureau of Washington, D.C. (BBB)



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FALL FUN Virginia Is for Lovers, and Apple-Lovers

Apple season in full swing; Grab a basket and pick your own.

da Red, Nittany, Gala, Pink Lady or Honey crisp: whether you like your apples tart or sweet, there are plenty of apple-picking orchards and farms to pick from within an hour's drive of Northern Virginia. For many

families, apple-picking has become a fall tradition, providing a fun outdoor activity and healthy food. Grab a basket and pick your own. Many of the orchards and farms listed below also host special events, fall festivals, hayrides and other

activities. Before you head out, call ahead to make sure that your favorite apple (or pumpkin) is ripe and available for picking.

- Victoria Ross



Stribling Orchard



Marker-Miller Orchards



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Baskets of apples at Rock Hill Orchard



Valley View Orchard

Virginia Farm Market

Virginia

1 MARKER-MILLER ORCHARDS

A family favorite, Marker-Miller Orchards has something for everyone in the family. Relax on the front porch in wooden rocking chairs, pack a picnic lunch and enjoy eating in the midst of the lush orchards, or go on an adventure to pick-your-own apples. Every weekend through October, the market is open where apple-lovers line up to get fresh apple cider donuts (a must-have). There's also hand-dipped apple ice cream and cider slushees. On the weekends, there are wagon rides, the cow train and a huge play area for children.
3035 Cedar Creek Grade, Winchester

540-662-1980 Markermillerorchards.com

2 CROOKED RUN ORCHARD

Crooked Run Orchard is a small family farm on the outskirts of Purcellville in Loudoun County. Many families go to this orchard for the simple pleasure of apple-picking. There are no mazes or wagon rides or kiddie trains. Owners Uta and Sam Brown grow the food; you pick it. There is no entrance or parking fee. There's only a charge for the food. Children also enjoy the orchard's "table of things." Yes, that's what children call it. There are several "table of things," that include bones, snake skins, nests,



The Little Country Kitchen at **Homestead Farm**

dried bats or frogs, turtle shells and "anything else we find that's interesting during the year,

37883 E Main Street, Purcellville, 540-338-7445 Crookedrunorchard.com

VIRGINIA FARM MARKET

Virginia Farm Market began in 1952 as small roadside stand selling homegrown fresh peaches. The market has grown to include a bakery, a gift shop featuring wood baskets and local preserves, and apples, apples and more apples. Taste the "jug-your-own" apple cider. Look for the big red barn located on Route 522 north of Winchester.

1881 N. Frederick Pike, Winchester, 540-665-8000

4 STRIBLING ORCHARD

The Stribling farm and orchard has been in the Stribling family for almost 200 years. Beginning in September through November, the farm has fresh apples, cider and all sizes and shapes of pumpkins. In addition to apple-picking, visitors can enjoy beautiful views of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Stribling Farm's historic buildings and many farm animals.

11587 Poverty Hollow Lane, Markham Striblingorchard.com

5 VALLEY VIEW ORCHARD

An historic property located in Virginia's "Hunt" country near Middleburg, the historic Valley View Farm is the home of Virginia Perfection Orchard, which boasts six different varieties of apples for picking. Worth seeing is the estate's manor house with a formal English Garden situated in the middle of 500 acres of meadowlands and mountains, and is now the site for weddings and other special events. 1562 Leeds Manor Road, Delaplane, 540-592-3730 Valleyviewfarmva.com

© GOOGLE MAP DATA

THE APPLE HOUSE

Although it's not an orchard, The Apple House has been a landmark for families and school groups since the 1960s. Located at the northern entrance to Skyline Drive, the family-owned business is known for homemade apple butte donuts, crisp apples and apple crisps 4675 John Marshall Hwy, Linden, 540-636-6329 Theapplehouse.net

7 GREAT COUNTRY FARMS

18780 Foggy Bottom Road, Bluemont, VA 20135 540-554-2073 farmer@greatcountryfarms.com www.greatcountryfarms.com

Maryland

8 BUTLER'S ORCHARD

For 60 years, this family farm has become known for its apple picking as well as its popular fall festival. In addition to apple orchards there's a market and bakery, featuring everything "apple," a country store, hay rides, slides and tons of pumpkins. 22200 Davis Mill Road, Germantown 301-972-3299 Butlersorchard.com

ROCK HILL ORCHARD

Rock Hill Orchard, located in the Agricultural Reserve in Northern Montgomery County, offers a variety of apples to pluck, from Red Delicious to Empire. There's also a fruit, flower and vegetable market packed with locally-grown produce. Rock Hill Orchard features free hayrides to the orchard on Saturdays and

28600 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, 301-831-7427 Rockhillorchard.com

110 HOMESTEAD FARM

The Allnutt family has farmed in Montgomery County since 1763, when James Allnutt purchased 746 acres by the Potomac River Homestead Farm consists of 230 acres of James' original purchase. Today, the Allnutt family continues the family farming tradition. Visitors can pick their own apples, or enjoy Homestead's homemade caramel apples. The Little Country Kitchen features apple pie, cider and fresh vegetable soup.

15600 Sugarland Road, Poolesville, 301-977-3761 Homestead-farm.net

1 LEWIS ORCHARDS

18901 Peach Tree Road, Dickerson, 301-349-4101 Lewisorchardfarmmarket.com

FALL FUN 2012

Fall For Fairfax KidsFest

Saturday, Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 30 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m

elebrate Fairfax, Inc. will present the 20th annual Fall For Fairfax KidsFest this weekend at the Fairfax County Government Center. Festival-goers enjoy exciting, interactive and educational programs, entertainment and activities. Fall For Fairfax KidsFest is specially designed for families with elementary and pre-K aged children. There will be three stages of free entertainment, including the Inova Health Stage and the Fall for Fairfax Kids Stage. Activities include scarecrow making, pumpkin painting, public safety and recycling-themed exhibits, pony rides, petting zoo, hay rides, model trains and the KidWay MidWay, with more than a dozen rides and attractions. There will also be more than 75 exhibits, activities and great festival food. Admission for entry and most activi-

Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax. www.fallforfairfax.com.

The 36th Annual City of Fairfax Fall Festival

Saturday, Oct. 13 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (rain date Oct. 14).

What started out as a small market for artisans to display their wares has grown to a festival with more than 400 arts, crafts, information, food, gourmet food



The whole family can get into the fun of making their own scarecrow at the Fall for Fairfax KidsFest on Sept. 29 and 30 at the Fairfax County Government Center.

vendors, children's activities and rides, and three stages of music and entertainment for all ages. Celebrating its 36th year, the City of Fairfax Fall Festival 2012 is still a "hometown festival at heart." Enjoy

SEE FESTIVALS, PAGE 9

City of Fairfax **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The deadline to register to vote in the November 6, 2012 U.S. General Election is Monday, October 15, 2012. Qualified City of Fairfax residents may register at the General Registrar's office located at the Sisson House. 10455 Armstrong Street, during normal business hours of 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.



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OPINION

How to Register, Vote, Vote Early

Don't sweat voter ID; voter registration card, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or government check with name, address of voter will work.

hanges in Virginia's voter identification rules are causing confusion in many quarters, and some voters might be tempted to stay home rather than deal with a difficult situation. What about your 92-year-old mother who hasn't driven in almost a decade? Do you need to schlep her to the DMV to get her a photo ID before November?

Slow down, there are alternatives, including a current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck indicating the name and address of the voter.

Acceptable forms of identification include: Virginia voter identification card (due to arrive in the mail next week); current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck indicating the name and address of the voter; valid Virginia driver's license; military ID; any Federal, Virginia state or local government-issued ID; employer issued photo ID card; concealed handgun permit; valid student ID issued by any institution of higher education located in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

How important is it for Virginia voters to turn out on or before Nov. 6? As a critical "battle-ground" state, Virginia will be key in determining who will be the next President of the United States. Who will represent Virginia in the U.S. Senate is also too close to call. Since polling shows that there are very few undecided voters in the Commonwealth, every eligible voter will want to be sure to cast a ballot. Turnout in Northern Virginia could determine who is president and which party controls the U.S. Senate.

This is a high-participating, politically engaged area.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

State Vs County On Transportation

To the Editor:

When I read my colleague Supervisor John Cook's Sept. 13 Connection column advocating that Fairfax County take over state roads, I wondered how our taxpayers would feel about accepting a \$150 million per year unfunded mandate from the state. That would be a slap in the face given everything that the County has done to balance its budget and provide for our residents during difficult budget years.

On the face of it, the proposal for Fairfax County to take over its roads makes sense. Why shouldn't we take responsibility for our own roads? Don't we know our needs better than the state?

So here's where that pesky reality comes in. Those needs cost a lot of money—about \$150 million yearly just to maintain our pothole-

Fairfax County, with a population of just more than 1.1 million people, has 717,105 registered voters as of Aug. 31, 2012.

And consider that in 2008, 79 percent of Fairfax County's registered voters turned out at the polls.

The City of Alexandria has a population of about 144,000 with 103,445 registered voters as of Aug. 31, 2012.

Arlington has a population of about 216,000 and 160,326 registered voters as of Aug. 31, 2012.

When you consider the sheer numbers of people likely to go to vote on Election Day, wouldn't it make sense to go and vote early?

Virtually every voter in Virginia is eligible to vote absentee, which includes voting in-person absentee at a variety of locations. Absentee voting began Sept. 21 and will continue through Nov. 2.

There are many reasons that voters are allowed to vote absentee, but the most broad of these applies to almost anyone with a job: "Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for 11 or more hours of the 13 that the polls are open (6 a.m. to 7 p.m.).

See http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/absentee_voting/index.html for a complete list of acceptable reasons to vote absentee, links to download a request for an absentee ballot and other instructions.

You can download an absentee ballot and mail it to your local voter registration office, or you can vote "absentee in person."

To vote on Election Day, you must be regis-

cratered roads in their current poor condition. To bring those roads up to even adequate condition would cost a whole lot more. Unless the state is planning to hand us a big check—every year—to cover those costs, then Fairfax County taxpayers will be left holding a very expensive bag.

Why should Fairfax County bail out the state? The Commonwealth of Virginia has primary transportation responsibilities and has since the 1930s. In recent years we've seen the state shed more and more of this responsibility, essentially saying, "Can't afford it anymore so it's your problem." That's not reasonable and it's certainly not responsible governance. I can't think of a single reason why Fairfax County should be forced to cut critical services to its residents—like schools, public safety, human services, parks and libraries—because the state needs a bail out.

Rather, it's time for the state to do its job and address our growing transportation chal-

More Election Information

Fairfax County Board of Elections

703-222-0776, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/ 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

City of Fairfax General Registrar

703-385-7890, http://www.fairfaxva.gov/Registrar/GeneralRegistrar.asp 10455 Armstrong Street, Sisson House, Fairfax, 22030; FAX 703-591-8364; email kevin.linehan@fairfaxva.gov

State Board of Elections

804 864-8901 Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194 email: info@sbe.virginia.gov http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Voter_Information/Index.html

tered at your current address no later than Oct. 15, 2012. You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov. There you can also download a voter registration form and mail it to the elections office address, listed above.

Absentee Voting in Person, Fairfax County

❖ Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax, VA 22035

Absentee voting hours, Sept. 21-Oct. 16, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Thursdays: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Oct. 17-Nov. 2, Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday Hours: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Office Closed On: Monday, Oct. 8, 2012 (Columbus Day)

Last Day to Vote In-Person: Saturday, Nov. 3 Absentee Voting in Person, Fairfax County Satellite Locations

Voting in the following locations is available Oct. 17 - Nov. 3, Monday - Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- ❖ Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310
- West Springfield Governmental Center, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152
- ❖ Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003

lenge. They can do it the same way we on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors do—taking a creative and non-partisan approach to prioritizing and funding our vital residents' needs. Bailing out the state sends the wrong message—that Fairfax County can be the state's ATM and that's just not fair.

Supervisor Jeffrey C. McKay

(D-Lee District)

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.
By e-mail: south@connectionnewspapers.com

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FALL FUN 2012

Local Festival Season in Full Swing

From Page 7

this family-friendly exciting outdoor street festival in historic Fairfax. Admission is free. For more information, call 703-385-7858. Pets are discouraged at the festival. The City of Fairfax is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and will provide accommodations upon request. To request accommodations, please call 703-385-7949 one week prior to event.

Free Shuttle Buses will run from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. from George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, and Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run. www.fairfaxva.gov/specialevents.

Celebrate Fall at Heather Hill

Heather Hill Gardens, Oct. 1-31.

Pumpkins and mums and gourds, oh my. Heather Hill's annual Pumpkin Patch includes something for everyone. Kids will have fun in the petting zoo, the pumpkin fort and the moon bounce. The nursery has everything to make your home ready for fall: pumpkins, gourds, mums, straw, cornstalks and winterhardy pansies. Want special pumpkins? Heather Hill has blue, white and "warty" pumpkins in all shapes and sizes.

8111 Ox Road, Fairfax Station



Thousands attend the annual City of Fairfax Fall Festival, in the heart of old town Fairfax.

www.heatherhillgardens.com or 703-690-6060.

Swiss Bakery & Pastry Shop Oktoberfest Celebration

Saturday, Oct. 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.The popular bakery will feature live music by

SEE FESTIVALS, PAGE 12

Maplewood Grill

Oktober Feast
Buffet-Style Dinner
Wednesday, October 10th & 17th
Offering a fine selection

of German beer & wine

Sunday

Sunday

Sunday

Sunday

Sunday

Sunday

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Of German beer & wine

Reservations recommended

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Collin Hunt and buddy Cole Hill take a spin on the pony merry-go-round after riding real ponies at the Burke Nursery Pumpkin Playground on Sunday, Oct. 2.

Pumpkin Playground Details

Burke Nursery and Garden Centre will host its 18th annual Fall Festival and Pumpkin Playground from Oct. 1 through Oct. 31 at its nursery on 9401 Burke Road

♦ Festival Hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

*Cost of admission on weekdays is \$9 per person; weekend price is \$12 per person. (Columbus Day will have the same activities as weekends, and the admission price will be \$12.) Children under the age of two are admitted free. Each paid admission receives a small patch pumpkin and unlimited hay rides (wheel chair accessible). For more information, go to www.pumpkinplayground.com or call 703-323-1188.

FALL FUN

Burke's Pumpkin Playground

hen Fred Dickinson, general manager of the Burke Nursery and Garden Center, started the pumpkin festival with his wife Cassandra 17 years ago, he said he had no idea it would grow to be such a

In fact, the nursery didn't start to sell carving pumpkins until the last two weeks of Oc-

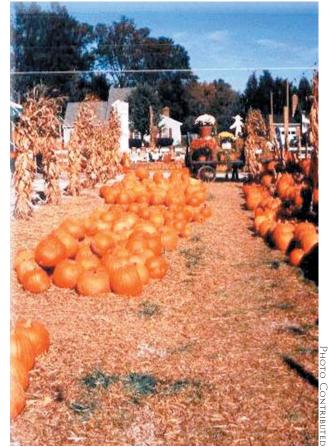
"People didn't buy all the Halloween pumpkins they do now. When we started this, we had our pumpkins and our pumpkin forts," Dickinson said. "We were giving hay rides in the field, just playing around, and our customers were very responsive to that, so we decided to turn it into a real old-fashioned fall festival. Kids have a ball.'

The event, spread out over four acres, now features more than 1,500 pumpkins, several pumpkin forts, hayrides, a 90-foot burlap sack slide, two smaller slides, pumpkins crawls, a merry-go-round, farm animals, face-painting and a giant sand pile, where children can dig for coins and other treasures.

There is also a food tent with hamburgers, hot dogs, apple cider, popcorn and other

A popular feature is the festival's produce tent, where visitors can purchase homemade jams, jellies and pick out fall harvest fruits and vegetables.

—Victoria Ross



The popular Burke Nursery Fall Festival and Pumpkin Playground features more than 1,500 pumpkins to pick from in its pumpkin patch.

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 Beginner to Advanced
- Professional Instructors



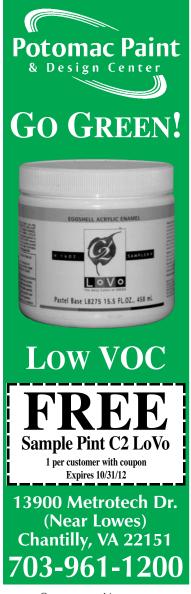
Come Join the fun!

New Performing Space opening for Fall 2012

CALL 703-425-5599

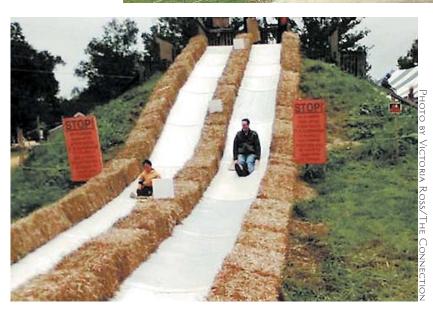
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Burke Nursery and Garden **Centre will** host its 18th annual Fall Festival and Pumpkin Playground from Oct. 1 through Oct. 31 at its nursery on 9401 Burke Road.





Richard Graves and son Evan slide down one of the carpet slides at the **Burke** Nursery **Pumpkin** Playground last year.

Presents Our 18th Annual

FALL FESTIVAL & Pumpkin Playground

October I thru October 31

Fall is a great time to plant. Visit our Nursery for trees, shrubs and all your garden needs!

For More Information Call:

(03) 323-1188

ww.pumpkinplayground.com BURKE NURSERY

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FACE PAINTING Additional Fees for these Events: BALLOON ANIMALS \$2 WOBBLE WAGON \$2 MOON BOUNCE \$2

PONY RIDES \$5

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Contact: food@ODBFairfax.org or 703-273-8829; Visit www.ODBFairfax.org Our Daily Bread

4080 Chain Bridge Road, 2nd Floor, Fairfax, VA 22030



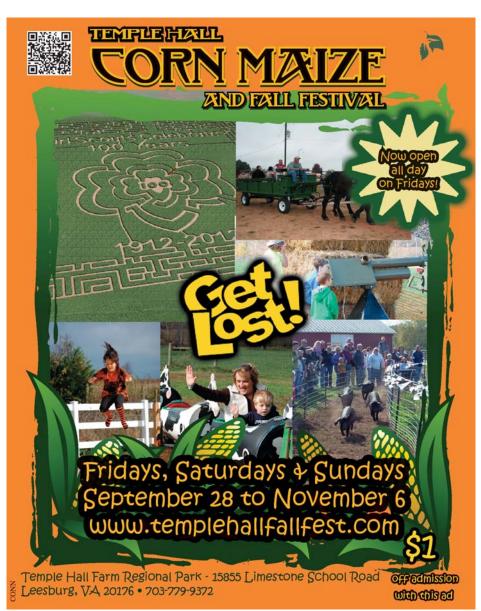


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OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 & 30

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times

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8011 George Fox Pl	\$579,000 Sun 1-4	Ngoc DoLong & Foster703-493-9797	
8900 Yellow Daisy Pl	\$430,000 Sun 1-4 Ke	elli Bartlett-Pacillo Avery-Hess. 703-921-5515 Audrey Funk Weichert 703-941-0100	
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	,		

FALL FUN 2012

Local Festival Season in Full Swing

From Page 9

German band Alte Kameraden, beer tasting and samples from their menu. If you dress in German clothing, you receive a free Bavarian pretzel. The "Alte Kameraden" is the German Band unit of the City of Fairfax Band. The "Old Comrades" have introduced American audiences to the lush, spirited festmusik played by Bavarian bands since 1977.

5224 Port Royal Road, in the Ravensworth Shopping Center, Springfield.

www.theswissbakery.com or call 703-321-3670.



Heather Hill Gardens in Fairfax Station has pumpkins in all colors, shapes and sizes during their annual Pumpkin Patch.

Talents Galore at 'Arts by George!'

By David Siegel
The Connection

bevy of incredible talent is set to entertain as the seventh annual George Mason University "Arts by George!" is coming on Saturday, Sept. 29, at 5 p.m. Arts by George! will take place in the de Laski Performing Arts Building on Mason's Fairfax Campus, as well as the Harris Theater and a tented plaza next to the performing arts building.

From the multi-talented, multi-Tony Award-winner Sutton Foster to aspiring creative artists from the Mason College of Visual and Performing Arts, there is a jam-packed day of events.

"We want audiences to "become 'infected' with the energy and creativity of the next generation of artists," said William Reeder, chair of Mason College of Visual and Performing Arts. His description of headliner Foster was simply this: "She is as good as it gets!"

Notably, the benefit event will use proceeds to support student scholarships as well as the Great Performances at the Mason Center for the Arts.

This year's programs will include many diverse student performances. Guests will be able to visit all sorts of Mason spaces to take in performances or exhibitions. There is even a Smartphone App created by the Computer Game Design program that provides a program for the "Arts by George!" event.

Joseph and Carol Catalano are event co-chairs for this year's "Arts by George!"

Asked why people should come to the event, especially those who may have never attended before, the Catalanos said, "You will be amazed at the talent of the these young students who come from all over the world to attend GMU and it's right here in your backyard. Secondly, the funds raised go directly toward scholarships for these students and supports the Great Performances at Mason concert series. Lastly, you will have such a good time that you can't wait for next year's event."

"Having Sutton Foster as our headliner this year has created much excitement," said the Catalanos.

"I want the audience to have a such wonderful time; to have fun," said Sutton Foster in a recent interview. "It will be an eclectic evening with a



Members of the Mason Dance Company performing at last year's "Arts by George!" The Mason Dance Company will be performing at the 2012 event.

·Where and When

George Mason University's "Arts by George!," showing at the Center for the Arts and de Laski Performing Arts Building, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012. Student performances and exhibitions, and silent auction of an array of arts-related items and experiences from 5-7:30 p.m., at de Laski Performing Arts Building. Sutton Foster event at Concert Hall at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$40-\$70. Special packages available. Call 703-993-2787 or visit www.cfa.gmu.edu/tickets. For detailed information about "Arts by George!" student performances, silent auction and other benefit events information including Grand Buffet, visit www.artsbygeorge.gmu.edu or call 703-993-4188.

combinations of Broadway show tunes, great standards, perhaps even folk music and newer tunes."

Foster spoke of some of her theatrical experiences, including as Janet Van De Graaff in "The Drowsy Chaperone." That role was "a very appealing character in such an original and a smart show. It was a highly original musical, not based upon a previous book or movie. Singing 'I Don't Want to Show Off' was like a dream come true role; just so much fun, and still a favorite."

To add your Realtor-represented Open House to these weekly stings, please call Karen Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-mail the info to: kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com

All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.

Calendar

To have community events listed, send to south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 27

Used Book Sale. 1-9 p.m., at the Burke Centre Library, 935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Books for children and adults at bargain prices. 703-249-1520.

Fall for the Book Festival: Alice Walker. 3 p.m., Concert Hall, Center for the Arts George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Catch a headliner event at the festival; the author of The Color Purple discusses her social and political activism. www.fallforthebook.org.

Candice Ransom. 4-5:30 p.m., at Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Author of more than 115 books for children and young adults; she talks on her latest titles. www.fallforthebook.org. Hallabolou Star Gala 2012. 7-9

Hallabolou Star Gala 2012. 7-9 p.m., at the Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax. The Star Teacher award night honors Douglas Rome. rthompson@hallabolou.com.

Amy Waldman. 8 p.m., at Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Author of The Submission, a former reporter for the New York Times for eight years and a national correspondent for The Atlantic. 703-385-1695.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 28

Mason Award Presentation: Neil

Gaiman. 7:30-9 p.m., Concert Hall, Center for the Arts George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The author of cult DC Comics to books including Coraline accepts the 2012 Mason Award for an author making extraordinary contributions towards connecting literature with a wide reading public. www.fallforthebook.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 29

Fall for Fairfax KidFest. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Northern Virginia's largest family fall festival boasts more than 100 hands-on activities and exhibits focusing on education, sport and fitness, the environment, public safety and personal health; among those are a farmers' market, pony and hayrides, scare-crow making, pumpkin decorating, a carnival and dozens of shows for children. 703-324-3247 or www.fallforfairfax.com.

Celebrating Fairfax County
History. Noon-4 p.m., at Historic
Oak Hill, 4716 Wakefield Chapel
Road, Annandale. The historic
property hosts farm exhibits, animals
from Frying Pan Farm Park, free
refreshments and self-guided tours.
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press.
Pond Exploration Hike. 1 p.m., at

Pond Exploration Hike. 1 p.m., at Eakin Community Park, 8515 Tobin Road, Fairfax. One-mile hike, tadpole fishing, turtle-search and some history and cultural context concerning the park. \$5. 703-941-1065 or timigustafson.com.

Understand Your Ancestors. 3 p.m., at Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax.
Genealogist talk on "Reading for Historical Context" preceded by a used history book sale from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 703-293-6227.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 30

all for Fairfax KidFest. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax. Northern Virginia's largest family fall festival boasts more than 100 handson activities and exhibits focusing on education, sport and fitness, the environment, public safety and



Six13

Six13 at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia

The Jewish six-man vocal band from the big apple brings their thumping beatbox, intricately arranged music to the JCCNV Performing Arts Series, at the JCCNV, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax on Saturday, Oct. 13 at 8 p.m. \$27; \$22, JCCNV members and seniors; \$18, students/college or group of 10-plus. 703-537-3000 or www.jccnvarts.org.

personal health; among those are a farmers' market, pony and hayrides, scare-crow making, pumpkin decorating, a carnival and dozens of shows for children. 703-324-3247 or www.fallforfairfax.com.

Fairfax Prize Presentation:

Michael Chabon. 6:30-8 p.m., Concert Hall, Center for the Arts George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Novelist whose works include Telegraph Avenue and The Yiddish Policeman's Union accepts the 2012 Fairfax Prize for literary achievement. www.fallforthebook.org.

MONDAY/OCT. 1

Children's Music Performance Series. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. First and third Mondays of each month. Free admission. 703-352-2787 or www.fairfaxarts.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 5

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at the Burke Centre Library, 935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Books for children and adults at bargain prices. 703-249-1520.

Homecoming Parade. 5 p.m., at WT Woodson High School, 9525 Main Street, Fairfax. Meet at the main school entrance for the homecoming parade. www.wtwoodsonsports.org. Powder Puff Game. 6:15 p.m., at WT

Powder Puff Game. 6:15 p.m., at WT Woodson High School, 9525 Main Street, Fairfax. First the freshmen and the sophomores compete, then the juniors go up against the seniors. www.wtwoodsonsports.org.

The 4th Annual Taste of the Vine.
6:30-9 p.m., at the Blenheim Historic
Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610
Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Wine from
Fox Meadow Winery and hors
d'oeuvres by Fairfax's Dolce Vita;
mingle with fellow history
enthusiasts and bid in the silent
auction. \$50. 703-591-5305 or
hilcarn31@aol.com.

Pep Rally and Bonfire. 8 p.m., at WT Woodson High School, 9525 Main Street, Fairfax. After the second game enjoy a pep rally preceding a bonfire at 9 p.m., between the softball field and stadium featuring a live DJ and concession stand. www.wtwoodsonsports.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 6

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Burke Centre Library, 935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Books for children and adults at bargain prices. 703-249-1520.

Second Annual Fairfax Festival of the Arts. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at Fairfax Corner, 11900 Palace Way, Fairfax. National and international artists sell artwork—90-plus artists offer more than 10,000 pieces for sale—and provide the opportunity for you to meet painters, sculptors, photographers, jewelers, digital artists, glass, fiber and ceramics artists. paragonartevents.com/fairfax/.

Taste of Woodson and

Homecoming Anniversary Gala. 11 a.m.-midnight, at WT Woodson High School, 9525 Main Street, Fairfax. On homecoming day enjoy pre-game restaurant samples and a fun fair until the 1:30 p.m. kickoff; starting at 8 p.m., the entire Woodson community joins for an evening of food, dancing, a silent auction and the intro of the initial class inductees to the Athletic Hall of Fame. www.wtwoodsonsports.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 7

Second Annual Fairfax Festival of

the Arts. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., at Fairfax Corner, 11900 Palace Way, Fairfax. National and international artists sell artwork—90-plus artists offer more than 10,000 pieces for sale—and provide the opportunity for you to meet painters, sculptors, photographers, jewelers, digital artists, glass, fiber and ceramics artists. www.paragonartevents.com/fairfax/.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 10

Fairfax Art League October
Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m., at
the Fairfax Old Town Hall Gallery,
3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Meet
the artists of Forty-Nine Shades of
Color and Gray, Doris Jenkins' oil

3999 University Drive, Fairrax. Meet the artists of Forty-Nine Shades of Color and Gray, Doris Jenkins' oil paintings and Betty Baumgartner's photography and sculpture; the exhibit runs through Oct. 5-31 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. www.fairfaxartleague.net.

FRIDAY/OCT. 12

The Goddess Diaries. 7:30 p.m., at the Harris Theater, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Eigth short personal narratives about key milestones in the lives of women and girls; proceeds benefit GMU Victims of Violence Fund. \$5, GMU students; \$10, GMU faculty and staff; \$15, groups of 10; \$20, general admission. cfa.gmu.edu/calendar/1069/.

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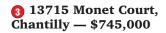
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104	10249 VAN THOMPSON RD 4 4 . 0 FAIRFAX STATION \$712,500 Detached 4.30 22039 SEVEN HILLS ESTATES 07/24/12	
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Miss Greater Springfield

Crowned

Jennifer Gilbert, 23, of Fairfax, wins contest.

By Montie Martin
The Connection

lamour and grace were on full display at this year's 2013 Miss Greater Springfield beauty pageant, held Saturday, Sept. 22. A total of 13 contestants from across Virginia vied for a title to promote platforms of personal commitment to the community at large.

Contestants impressed judges with swimsuit and evening gown attire, a talent showcase and the all-important interview. In the end judges had to choose a candidate well-rounded in all four categories, and while every contestant was worthy of a title, the honor fell to 23-year-old Jennifer Gilbert of Fairfax.

Gilbert plans to use her title as Miss Greater Springfield 2013 to promote a platform of educating women with disordered eating habits. According to Gilbert, nearly 75 percent of young women have a negative perception of food, a trend she hopes to change.

"I hope to go to community high schools, town hall forums, and work with women to address disordered eating habits," said Gilbert. "The best way to help is to have a title, and be a local role model."

Gilbert competed amongst many notable young women, each with a platform of promoting a service to the community. Self-esteem building activities, music, art and dance education, support for the United Service Organizations, and promotion of service animals for people with physical and mental disabilities were some of the featured categories.

Herndon resident Grace Hu won first runner up with a platform of support for homeless children. The issue is especially close to Hu as she personally experienced homelessness as a child.

"When I was homeless I remember going to Marlows to bask in AC," said Hu, a veteran of the pageant circuit despite being only 18 years old. "I'm so blessed, I'm one of the youngest contestants here. It's a fun experience for all the girls, they're all friendly and intelligent; usually you don't associate beauty with brains."

The spirit award was given to Sarah Johnson, who traveled six hours from her home in Woolwine to compete. Johnson brought with her a flare for elegance in the talent competition with her dance performance. "It's about having a positive presence," said Johnson, who attends Rutledge



PHOTO COURTESY OF McCabe Jamrosz

Jennifer Gilbert, 23, of Fairfax, receives a new hat at the 10th Annual Miss Greater Springfield beauty pageant. Catherine Blaire Borum, Miss Greater Springfield 2012, crowned Gilbert during an emotional transition.

College. "Tonight I'm going to IHOP and officially pigging out."

In an emotional final address to the crowd, Miss Greater Springfield 2012 Catherine Blaire Borum emphasized the reality of beauty pageants, and the lifelong connections they form.

"The experience has nothing to do with Toddlers and Tiaras, some of my best friends were made here," said Borum, who plans to pursue her interests in speech and language pathology. "It's been an honor getting to meet all the people associated with the pageant, dreams do come true."

"This will certainly give me the opportunity to get out to Springfield more often."

—Cassie Donegan, Miss Greater Springfield Outstanding Teen 2013 and Hampton Roads native

Pageant organizers were quick to note the high caliber of all the contestants, and how earning a title paves the way for future endeavors. Organizers are confident Miss Greater Springfield has a chance to win the Virginia state title this year, with the hope of making it to the national stage and on to become Miss USA.

"This is the best pageant yet, we think we can have a Miss Virginia," said Jerry Burks, executive director of the Miss Greater Springfield Scholarship Organization. "These girls are like my daughters, some day these women can become members of Congress or go on to become president."



Hendersons Are Winners in Return to West Potomac

Bruins overcome 16-7 halftime deficit to beat Wolverines.

BY JON ROETMAN THE CONNECTION/THE GAZETTE

he night before the West Potomac Wolverines and Lake Braddock Bruins met in a passionate Patriot District football contest on Sept. 21, former teammates Caleb Henderson and Demornay Pierson-El took part in some friendly banter over the phone.

In 2011, Henderson and Pierson-El were sophomore standouts for a high-powered West Potomac offense. Henderson was the quarterback and Pierson-El a receiver for a

Wolverines team that won a share of the district title and reached the Division 6 Northern Region semifinals.

One year later, Henderson is the trigger man for the Lake Braddock offense and Pierson-El has moved to running back for West Potomac. He's also a safety on the Wolverines defense. While the two remain friends, on Friday they were foes battling to stay atop the district standings.

"He called me for about an hour last night, telling me about how he was going to [intercept] me," Henderson said after Friday's game.

Pierson-El made good on his prediction. In fact, he picked off Henderson twice. But when the game was over, it was the firstyear Bruin signal caller who had the last

Lake Braddock defeated West Potomac, 37-23, on Friday night. It was the first time Henderson and his brother, Jon, a senior linebacker, returned for a game at West Potomac High School since they transferred from the Alexandria school to Lake Braddock during the 2011-12 school year. Their father, Eric Henderson, was the head football coach at West Potomac from 2004 through the 2011 season before being informed he would not return. The Henderson family moved to Burke and Eric became the Lake Braddock defensive coordinator. Former Wolverine assistants Sean Brooks and Dave Murray also joined the Bruins

CALEB HENDERSON accounted for 388 yards of offense and four touchdowns. He completed 25 of 40 passes for 246 yards, two touchdowns and three interceptions.

He also carried 20 times for 142 yards and two scores. His 1-yard touchdown run in the third quarter gave Lake Braddock a 21-16 lead it would not relinquish.

"There's so much spotlight on Caleb and pressure, I said just play within the scheme, take the plays when they come to you and once he did that and settled down, he did a heck of a job," Lake Braddock head coach Jim Poythress said. "With Demornay and Caleb, you might be seeing the two best individual players in the region on the field at one time."

Caleb Henderson said the experience of playing at his former school was emotional during and after the game.



Photo by Louise Krafft/The Connection/The Gazette

Lake Braddock quarterback Caleb Henderson on Sept. 21 led the Bruins to a win during his first game back at West Potomac High School, where he played varsity football as a sophomore.

> "The emotion was definitely high because these guys are my brothers," Caleb said about his former Wolverine teammates. "I've known them since I was 4. I just miss them a lot. It sucked to have to hold some of them and watch them cry."

> What was it like in the handshake line? "It was sad," Caleb said. "I've got to be honest, it was sad. I miss them all."

What was it like on the field?

"That's just friends playing backyard football," he said. "It's always going to be chippy. It's always going to be rough.'

Jon Henderson was part of a Lake Braddock defense that limited West Potomac to seven points in the second

"I played with [West Potomac] for three years. They're like brothers to me," he said. "When I came to Lake Braddock, they accepted me as a family and as a team member. I didn't want to let ... my team down by coming back to this place and losing."

LAKE BRADDOCK will host T.C. Williams at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 28. West Potomac will travel to face Annandale.

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CONTROL for a Wine and Beer on and off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. John B. Snedden, owner. NOTE: Objections to the issu-

ance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

ABC LICENSE
Uncle Charlie's Pizzeria trading as Uncle Charlie's Pizzeria 8000 Haute Ct, #A Springfield, VA 22150. The above estab lishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer on and off Premises to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Khoshal Aslami,

owner. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices.
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If tomorrow were never to come, it would not be worth living today. -Dagobert Runes

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IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE

CASE NO: 2012-DR-10-2158

SUMMONS

NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE **NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT** COUNTY OF CHARLESTON) CASE NO: 2012-DR-10-2158 **KADEE LYNN AUSTIN and** LEE ALEXANDER RUBLE, Plaintiffs, IN RE: ZOIE AVA AUSTIN, (a minor under 18 years old) NOTICE OF ADOPTION JOHN DOE, **DONOR ID NUMBER 1432,** Defendant.

TO: ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU WILL TAKE NOTICE that an adoption action is pending having been filed on June 12, 2012, in the Family Court, in Charleston County, South Carolina, concerning the adoption of Zoie Ava Austin, born on May 18, 2009, in Charleston,

Kadee Lynn Austin, the mother of this child, identifies you as the father of the child. You as the identified father are entitled to notice of this adoption

- 1. If you choose to contest, intervene or otherwise respond to this adoption, you must file your response in writing with the Family Court of Charleston County, 100 Broad Street, Charleston, South Carolina 29401. This response must be filed within thirty (30) days of the date you receive this notice. Your response must include the Case Number of 2012-DR-10-2158.
- 2. If you enter a response, you must keep the Court notified as to your current address and of any changes in your address during this adoption proceeding.

 3. Failure to file a response within thirty (30) days of receiving this notice consti-
- tutes consent to the adoption of the child and forfeiture of all rights and obligations that you may have in relationship to this child.
- 4. If you have any questions, you should contact an attorney.

Cindy M. Floyd Attorney for Plaintiffs 1327 Ashley River Road Building C, Suite 100 Charleston, South Carolina 29407-5384 843-820-5356

Charleston, South Carolina

day of

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

COUNTY OF CHARLESTON

KADEE LYNN AUSTIN and

LEE ALEXANDER RUBLE,

IN RE: ZOIE AVA AUSTIN, (a minor under 18 years old)

JOHN DOE. **DONOR ID NUMBER 1432,**

Defendant.

Plaintiffs,

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action of which a copy is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Complaint on the subscriber at her office, 1327 Ashley River Road, Building C, Suite 100, Charleston, South Carolina 29407, within thirty (30) days after the service thereof, exclusive of the day of such service.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that if you fail to appear and defend and fail to answer the Complaint as required by this Summons within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

LAW OFFICES OF CINDY M. FLOYD

Cindy M. Floyd Attorney for Plaintiffs 1327 Ashley River Road, Bldg. C, Ste. 100 Charleston, South Carolina 29407 843-820-5356

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Public Notice

Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for Implementation of the Privatization of Army Lodging Program at Fort Belvoir, VA

The U.S. Army has prepared an EA that considers the proposed implementation of the Privatization of Army Lodging program at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The proposed action would transfer ownership and operation of Fort Belvoir's lodging facili-ties and lease the underlying land of the existing facilities and land for construction of a new hotel to a private-sector development company. Implementation of the proposed action is not expected to result in significant environmental impacts. Therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, this 30-day comment period will also serve as the public's opportunity to review and comment on any effects this undertaking may have on Fort Belvoir historic properties that are on or considered to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Copies of the EA and Draft FNSI are available for review and comment online at http://www.belare available for review and comment online at http://www.bel-voir.army.mil and at the following libraries: Van Noy Library, Fort Belvoir; the following branches of the Fairfax County Pub-lic Library system: City of Fairfax Regional, John Marshall, Kingstowne, Lorton, Richard Byrd, and Sherwood Regional; and the following branches of the Prince William County Public Library system: Lake Ridge Neighborhood and Chinn Park

Comments on the EA and draft FNSI should be submitted to Mr. Patrick McLaughlin, Chief of Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Directorate of Public Work, 9430 Jackson Loop Suite 200, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116 or to imcom.fortbelvoir.dpw.environmental@us.army.mil. Comments must be received no later than 30 days after publication of this Notice of Availability. Subject to review and consideration of comments submitted by individuals, organizations, or agencies during the comment period, the U.S. Army intends to issue the final FNSI at the conclusion of the comment period and to proceed with the proposed action

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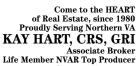


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