

Springfield CONNECTION

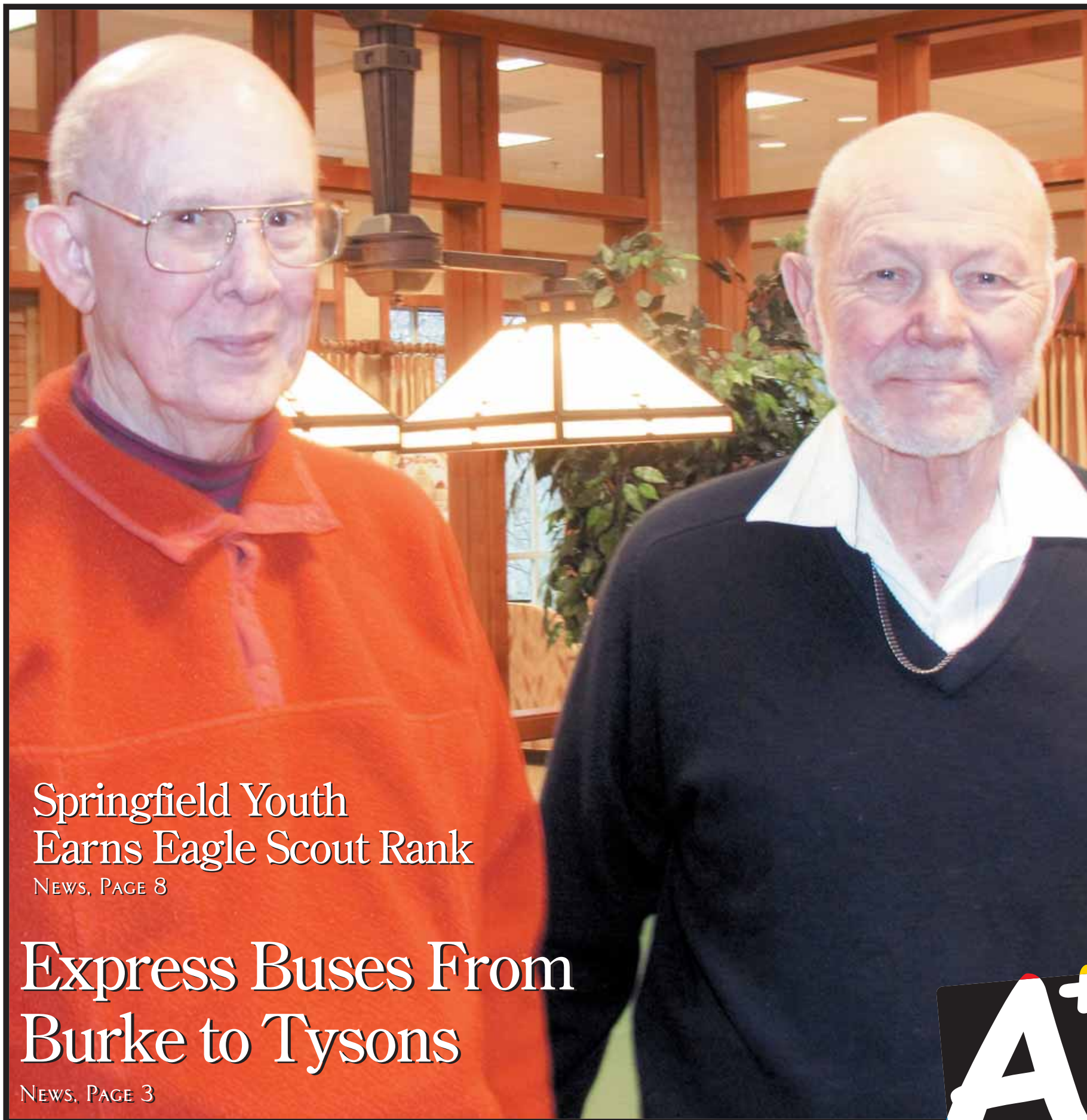
Franconia ❖ Kingstowne ❖ Newington

Greenspring residents Jim Upp and Scott Shipe recount their experiences at President Harry Truman's inauguration in 1949.

Remembering Inauguration

NEWS,
PAGE 4

64 Years Ago

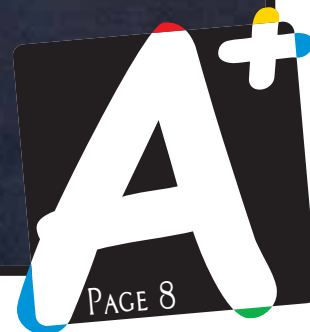


Springfield Youth
Earns Eagle Scout Rank

NEWS, PAGE 8

Express Buses From
Burke to Tysons

NEWS, PAGE 3



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The Schedule

- ❖ Mornings departing from Burke VRE station, 10399 Premier Court, 6:30 to 9 a.m.
 - ❖ Midday from Tysons to Burke VRE station, 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
 - ❖ The new bus service will use the 495 Express Lanes
 - ❖ Buses will travel, on average, 55 mph on the Beltway, even during rush hour.
- For more information, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/routes/expresslanes.

PHOTO BY LISA FRANCE

Cutting the ribbon on the new Express Connector Service, from left, Christin Wegener, planning operations manager, Fairfax Connector, County Board Chair Sharon Bulova, Supervisors John Cook (R- Braddock) and Pat Herrity (R- Springfield), VRE CEO Doug Allen, FCDOT Director Tom Biesadny.

Express Buses From Burke to Tysons

Fairfax County launches Express Connector Bus Service.

ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

With the expansion of Tysons Corner firmly underway, Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is getting ahead of the commuting curve with the launch of its new Express Connector bus service utilizing the recently opened 495 Express Lanes to carry commuters from Burke to Tysons Corner. The service is the first in the county to use the express lanes, and the first public transportation offered between the two locations.

There were local officials, public and press on hand at the ribbon-cutting ceremony and inaugural bus ride on Saturday morning, Jan. 12, at the Burke Centre VRE station, where the service will originate week-day mornings. Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova handled the scissors, assisted by Supervisors John Cook (R- Braddock) and Pat Herrity (R- Springfield), FCDOT Director Tom Biesadny and VRE CEO Doug Allen.

"This is exciting stuff," said Bulova. "It's a marriage between the VRE (Virginia Railway Express) and our Fairfax Connector system, working with VDOT and the Express Lanes. People have to pay tolls to use those lanes," Bulova reminded. "It's a tremendous opportunity for commuters, shoppers and business people."

"In survey after survey, the number one reason people say they take public transportation is for a time efficient commute," said Herrity. "This route provides just that." Cook added, "Giving people more choices ultimately makes everyone's living experience here in central Fairfax County better."

After the speeches and the acknowledgements of the efforts behind the scenes, it was time to get on board the brand new bus and experience the trip. Obviously, traffic patterns on Saturday morning dif-



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER

Dave Courtney of Burke was heading to Crystal City via the VRE on Monday, Jan. 14, but he stopped to get some information from Christin Wegener, Fairfax Connector manager of Operations Planning and Customer Service.

fer from the weekday commute. FCDOT Director Biesadny says the average trip should normally run about 40 minutes one way. There are four different routes. Routes G and J are basically mirror images of each other, covering the major employers in the Tysons area and giving commuters a choice of directions depending on where they want to disembark. Route F is the longest, covering the largest portion of area. "M route is the one for you if you are heading to Tysons for the shopping," said Christin Wegener, manager of Operations Planning and Customer Service with Fairfax Connector.

As an introduction to the commuting public, FCDOT is offering the service for free for the first two weeks. Starting Jan. 26, a one-way fare will cost \$3.65 with a SmarTrip card, or \$4 cash. Additional routes are scheduled to begin service to Tysons in March from the Lorton VRE station and from the new Saratoga Park and Ride. The full schedule, route and other commuter resource information are available at www.fairfaxconnector.com/express.

Medicaid Reform Could Benefit All of Us

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN
COOK
(R-BRADDOCK)



Cook

COMMENTARY

Medicaid reform and expansion, in front of the General Assembly this year, could in the long run provide benefits to all Virginians while also relieving pressure from human service programs run by local governments.

Medicaid is a joint Federal/State program that pays for medical care for the poor. Each state determines its own eligibility rules and the Federal government picks up about 50 percent of the cost. Virginia's eligibility rules are some of the most restrictive in the nation. Non-disabled, childless adults are not covered at all, while parents are only covered if they make under \$6,915 a year, which is just 30 percent of the poverty level for a family of four. Disabled individuals who make under \$8,900 per year are eligible as well.

Those who are ineligible and unable to get insurance (either due to unemployment or jobs without coverage, or who can't afford or otherwise get coverage under a private plan) tend not to receive preventive care at all and often use emergency rooms as their general practitioner. Many end up receiving government benefits, usually through programs run by local government. Hospitals provide expanded "charitable" treatment as well. In fiscal year 2011, Reston Hospital provided \$34.8 million worth of uncompensated health care, and northern Virginia's non-profit Inova Health Care System provided \$174 million. Make no mistake—hospitals must recoup these costs, and that means you and I pay more. Medicaid expansion would reduce these pass-through costs by providing regular coverage.

The Affordable Care Act (commonly referred to as "Obamacare") offers states the option of expanding Medicaid to cover people earning up to 138 percent of the poverty level (about \$32,000 for a family of four), with the Federal government paying 100 percent of the cost for three years, and 90 per-

cent thereafter. Some Obamacare opponents oppose Medicaid expansion because they oppose anything connected to Obamacare. While I disagree with many aspects of Obamacare, Virginia's need for Medicaid reform predates its passage. Further, we will all pay the many new taxes imposed by Obamacare even if we reject the benefits of Medicaid expansion. Virginia's 10 percent share of expansion would cost about \$100 million per year, much less than just Inova's current uncompensated care expense.

Medicaid expansion is not without its downsides. Medicaid is already breaking states' budgets and without further cost control measures, an expanded version could be even more costly. States also worry that the cash-starved Federal government could reduce its commitment later. Governor McDonnell and dozens of other governors are seeking Federal flexibility to engage in cost control measures. They also sought Obama Administration permission to expand to only 100 percent of poverty, but were turned down.

Medicaid reform is complex, but the need is clear and the benefits would run to all who use the health system. The Federal government needs to give states flexibility to reform the system. Virginia needs to take a step forward and expand. All of us will see the benefit through healthier neighbors, reduced pass-through costs for uncompensated care and reduced impact on other locally funded human service programs.

Springfield Neighbors Recall Truman Inauguration in 1949

As Washington prepares for Presidential Inauguration, Jim Upp, Scott Shipe, and Gray Parks recount their experiences of 64 years ago.

BY JESSICA MCKAY

The inauguration of President Truman in 1949 produced many firsts—first to be nationally televised, first to be openly integrated, first to debut the current presidential seal.

It was also the first inauguration attended by 16-year-old Jim Upp, 20-year-old Scott Shipe, and 20-year-old Gray Parks. All three are now neighbors at Greenspring retirement community in Springfield, but also have in common the experience of participating in the 1949 parade. Upp was

“I was able to watch the rest of the ceremonies with my dad after finishing my duty on the parade route that day.”

—Springfield resident Jim Upp

an Eagle Scout positioned along the parade route; Shipe and Parks were West Point cadets marching with their units.

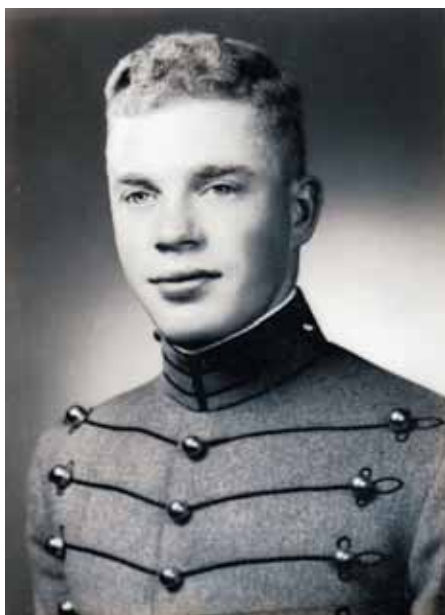
“I know I was stationed somewhere between 7th and 11th streets,” said Upp. “The inaugural officials used us for crowd control.” Upp mentioned that in 1949, people generally didn’t run out toward the parade vehicles as they passed, so inaugural officials lined up boy scouts along the parade route.

SECURITY at the inaugural ceremonies has tightened over the years. At President Barack Obama’s second inauguration, planned Monday, Jan. 21, there will be a strong presence of ground, air, water and even Metrorail security provided by a variety of law enforcement officials and public safety agencies.

“We saluted as the president’s vehicle passed by,” said Upp. “I also remember it was very cold.” According to records, it was a windy 38 degrees that day in the nation’s capital. Upp noted that the scouts were asked to remove their coats in order to display their full uniform when they saw the



Scott Shipe, who lived in Springfield for 50 years before moving to Greenspring, is pictured second from left (top row) in this photo of West Point Military Academy cadets.



Greenspring resident Gray Parks during his years as a West Point cadet.

parade vehicles approaching.

Upp grew up in Southeast Washington, D.C., and at age 14, was one of the youngest scouts to reach the rank of Eagle Scout. The 1949 inauguration was not the first unique opportunity that arose for Upp due to his scouting status. Just two years prior, he recalls being selected to serve as the escort for the young son of the president of Mexico, Miguel Aleman, when he visited the U.S. in 1947. “We rode around in a Lincoln sedan and were thrilled to have discovered the power window buttons,” said Upp.

Upp’s neighbor at Greenspring, Scott Shipe, was a first-year plebe at West Point in 1949 when his unit, the first regiment, second battalion, marched in the inaugural parade. Also remembering the day as chilly, but sunny, Shipe recalls his presentation. “We were dressed in full dress uniforms with rifles and bayonets,” said Shipe. “We also wore our tar bucket hats with brass buttons on each side.”



Greenspring residents Jim Upp and Scott Shipe recount their experiences at President Harry Truman’s inauguration in 1949.

Shipe recalls marching in formation with

the Corps of Cadets that day and being whisked back to West Point shortly afterwards. “We got right back on the train when the parade was over,” said Shipe.

Shipe had attended Officer Candidate School for the U.S. Army before entering West Point and spent about 10 years in the U.S. Army in total. He graduated from West Point in 1952 and served in the Korean War before being medically discharged. Shipe then attended graduate school and a doctorate program in St. Louis, Mo. before moving to the Washington, D.C. area. Shipe and his wife lived in Springfield for about 50 years, 30 of which were spent working with the Central Intelligence Agency. The couple moved to nearby Greenspring in December 2008.

Gray Parks, who also lives at Greenspring, was a classmate of Shipe’s at West Point. Parks marched in the 1949 inaugural parade with the second regiment, second battalion from West Point and also remembers the chilly weather that day and visiting Washington, D.C. via train.

“I recall that we came down on a train and formed up rather early for the parade; we stood in ranks and waited quite a while,” said Parks. “However, we were among the first groups in the parade so many waited longer than we did.” Parks noted that he had another opportunity to see the president when he visited West Point upon his and Shipe’s graduation in 1952.

LIKE THE OTHER MEN, Parks lived locally for quite a while before moving to Greenspring just more than three years ago. Interestingly, however, none of the neighbors have attended another inauguration ceremony since Truman’s in 1949.

“The ceremonies have become too crowded now,” said Upp. They do, however, fondly remember their 1949 inaugural experiences. “I was able to watch the rest of the ceremonies with my dad after finishing my duty on the parade route that day,” said Upp.

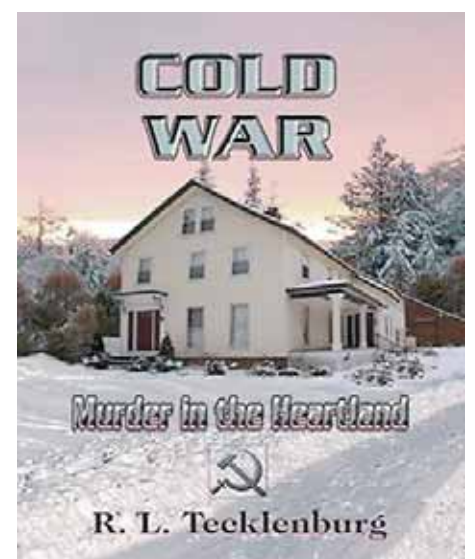
Parks also remembers the excitement, saying it was a “thrill when we did ‘eyes right’ to see the president and other famous people in the reviewing stand.”

Springfield Resident Publishes New Book

“Cold War: Murder in the Heartland” is written by Robert Tecklenburg, a resident of Springfield. Published by Penumbra Publishing and distributed by Baker and Taylor and Ingram, the book tells the story of “a peculiar death in a small rural community . . . rumors of Soviet spies . . . strange goings-on and suspicious characters everywhere.

“As the bodies pile up, the clues seem to lead everywhere but the truth. And then there is the pretty red head reporter to worry about. Young Police Chief Jimmy Novotny has his hands full when there’s murder in the heartland.”

The book is also available for immediate download at Apple iBook Store and Amazon.com.



NEWS

Toll Revenue Doubles in First Six Weeks

Commuters take Express Lanes average of 23,000 times daily.

By VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

The 495 Express Lanes opened a month early on Nov. 17, introducing the biggest change to the region's traffic patterns in more than 30 years. After some headaches for both commuters and Transurban, the company which operates the Express Lanes, traffic is steadily increasing and flowing more smoothly, Transurban officials report. And while there has been an increase in the number of E-ZPass users in the past 12 months, approximately 46 percent of Beltway travelers report not having an E-ZPass.

Following is an update from Transurban on the Express Lanes.

Tolling and Traffic

❖ Traffic demand has ramped up over the first six weeks of operations with the percentage of new users each day increasing. During that period, toll revenue grew 99.1 percent from a daily average of \$12,212 in the first week of operations to an average of \$24,317 in the week prior to the Christmas/New Year holidays. Traffic for the same period increased 57.2 percent, from an average of 15,201 daily trips to 23,903 daily trips.

❖ As congestion increased, de-



PHOTO BY LISA FRANCE

The inaugural run of the new Fairfax Connector Service from Burke Centre VRE station to Tysons Corner using the Express Lane loads up with passengers, including local officials, area residents and members of the press.

mand for the Express Lanes also increased, resulting in escalation of the dynamic pricing. To travel the full length of the Express Lanes, the minimum toll price for the period was \$1.65, and the maximum peak price was \$3.70. The average toll per trip thus far has been \$1.07.

❖ On average, 92.6 percent of trips are tolled trips.

❖ Revenue on the 495 Express Lanes in the week prior to Christmas was approximately double that of the opening week of operations in mid-November.

Traffic and Revenue Data (December quarter)

Total Toll Revenue—\$828
Average Daily Trips—18,594
HOV Travel

Average workday trips—23,308

❖ High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV 3+) and exempt vehicles make up approximately 19 percent of users.

Safety on the Express Lanes

❖ In the first few days of operations, there were some incidents in the area near the southern terminus of the 495 Express Lanes. Transurban and the Virginia Department of Transportation took actions to improve this area for travelers. To better highlight the start of the Express Lanes, they added new messages to dynamic signs, installed additional reflective posts and re-worked and added pavement markings.

❖ Since its launch, the 495 Express Lanes Assist crews have been patrolling the Express Lanes to help travelers in case of an incident. They also patrol the Express Lanes for debris in order to keep the Express Lanes safe and clean for 495 Express Lanes customers. More than 85 travelers in disabled vehicles have been helped by the Express Assist crews.

AREA ROUNDUPS

National Day of Service

President Barack Obama has designated Saturday, Jan. 19, as a national day of service. Volunteer Fairfax is partnering with Points of Light and Target to put on a signature, national-service project in Washington, D.C., linking the vision of Martin Luther King Jr. with inauguration events and engaging political leaders, celebrities and the community in service and dialogue.

Some 10,000 volunteers will gather at the D.C. Armory and, throughout the course of the day, they'll pack 100,000 toiletry care kits filled with necessities for deployed U.S. service members, wounded warriors, veterans and first responders. For more information, go to www.volunteerfairfax.org.

Improve Transportation for Elderly, Disabled

Local residents' answers to a brief survey will help Fairfax County improve transportation ser-

vices for older adults and people with disabilities in this county and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. The questionnaire consists of 27 mostly multiple-choice questions. It takes 5-10 minutes to complete.

Take the survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/mobilityoptions>. It's sponsored by the Fairfax Area Mobility and Transportation Committee, which reports jointly to the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board and the Fairfax Area Long Term Care Coordinating Council. For an alternate format of the survey, contact Jill Clark at 703-324-5874, TTY 703-449-1186.

Advocates Needed for Elderly

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities throughout the area. Training is provided in spring 2013. Call 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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OPINION

Transportation Money

Virginia, and especially Northern Virginia, is woefully short on funds for transportation. One reason is that its gas tax, a logical way to fund transportation infrastructure, is one of the lowest in the nation, and has remained flat since the '80s, since it is not indexed for inflation. So the buying power of the gas tax has been dwindling.

It seems obvious that one way to fix this is to allow it to rise with inflation, or change it to a percentage of the price of a gallon of fuel. Tying road funding to gas consumption is a logical connection, and the increase encourages conservation and more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Instead, Gov. Bob McDonnell has proposed eliminating the gas tax, replacing the funding with an increase in the sales tax plus a plan to shift money from other state spending, like education, human services and public safety,

to transportation.

With considerable agreement that Virginia needs about \$1 billion a year to pay roads and transit, this proposal would raise about one-third of that.

Part of the governor's plan also calls for a \$100 annual fee on vehicles that use alternative fuels.

Raising the sales tax to pay for roads is particularly unfair to the many residents of Northern Virginia who have chosen to live in Arlington, Alexandria and other areas that are walkable and provide easy access to public transit.

Penalizing drivers of hybrid and electric vehicles by charging them more than six times what other vehicles pay is not in the best interests of anyone who breathes the air in Virginia, and is a stark slap at innovation.

The entire proposal makes about as much

Eliminating the gas tax makes no sense.

sense as forcing a select few Northern Virginia residents, the drivers on the Dulles Toll Road, to almost single-handedly pay for rail to Dulles. Dulles airport is one of the key economic drivers for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Building rail to serve the airport is an economic investment that will have broad benefits in revenue for the state. A disproportionately small amount of that revenue will make it back to Northern Virginia. So it is welcome that the governor's proposal calls for diverting some of the "new" transportation money to Dulles rail.

The current proposal would make Virginia the only state without a gas tax. It seems unwise for a state with such dramatic transportation deficits to abandon the one source of funding that makes sense. More money is needed; that requires addition, not subtraction.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

A 10-Year Mission: End Homelessness

BY MICHAEL O'REILLY

Our Fairfax-Falls Church community is one of the most affluent in the country. Our schools are second to none. We are the home for many Fortune 500 businesses. Even with the challenging economy, our unemployment rate is among the lowest in the country.

Despite these strengths, our community also includes people who are homeless and are staying at emergency shelters, living in their cars or camping in the woods. Our community includes families with no place to sleep at night and children with no place to go after school. It saddens me to report that there were over 3,000 homeless individuals in our community this past year. It is unacceptable to have homeless men, women and children in our community.

Homelessness impacts every person in our community and each has a role in ending it. Through the good work of many non-profit and religious organizations, for many years we have directed our collective efforts to managing the homeless issues. However, little was done to find longer term solutions to prevent and end homelessness. That has now changed.

The leadership of Congressman Gerry Connolly helped to galvanize all of the energy and effort in the entire community. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors with leadership from Chairman Bulova and Supervisor Catherine Hudgins and all of our key stakeholders from the non-profit, government, faith and business community came together to develop an impressive 10 Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. The plan recognizes the right of all people to have a safe, affordable place in which to live. The plan envisions our entire community working together as partners to eliminate homelessness. We have some very steep goals and lots of hard work ahead to reach our goal of ending homelessness in Fairfax County by the end of 2018.

We have made huge strides in the develop-

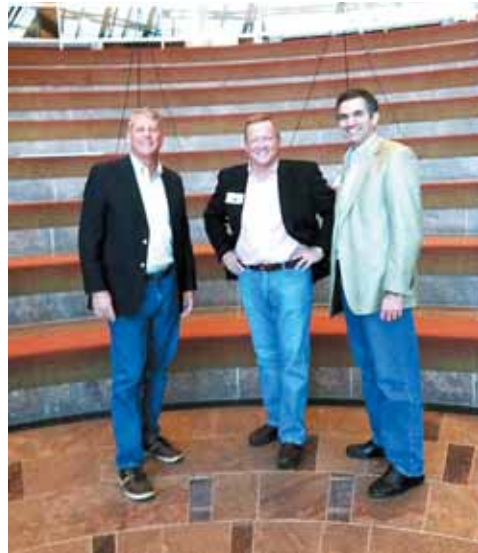


PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

From left — Michael O'Reilly, Jim Corcoran and Dean Klein during Jeans Day 2012.

ment of the governance structure called The Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness. The Office to Prevent and End Homelessness was established within Fairfax County. We have constituted a Governing Board made up of business leaders, elected officials, builders, clergy, law enforcement and others. We have created a new Consumer Advisory Council to ensure that currently homeless and formerly homeless have an active voice in the implementation of our plan.

We have much more work to do. We have recently moved our collective efforts to the plan's goal of creating 2,650 new housing units. We have supported and will continue to support efforts to amend the county's housing code to permit more individual housing options. We hosted a day long outreach program for our faith based communities which shows promise at increasing the housing stock.

Through our collective prevention and rapid rehousing strategies, community case management and the provision of other critical services, we prevented last year over 1,400 indi-

Editor's Note:

This month, The Connection begins featuring a monthly column written by community leaders involved in Fairfax County's nonprofit organizations. Every year, thousands of Fairfax County residents volunteer with nonprofits in a variety of ways, whether it's driving a senior citizen to a medical appointment or serving meals to the homeless in one of the county's hypothermia shelters. According to Volunteer Fairfax—a nonprofit that matches volunteers with service projects—individuals volunteered 205,688 hours of service to the community. We launch this series with a column by Michael O'Reilly, Chairman of the Governing Board of the Fairfax-Falls Church Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness.

viduals from becoming homeless by providing community case management and other services. In addition, we have launched a Housing Locator Network to strengthen relationships with landlords and to help to move the homeless in our community more rapidly into permanent housing. Through the work of our partnership we have seen an impressive increase in homeless families and individuals placed in permanent housing from 482 in 2010 to 853 in 2012. Many adults and children have been positively impacted. This can only be attributed to the commitment that many in our community have made to end homelessness.

Our approach to preventing and ending homelessness is predicated on us doing so in partnership with a broad coalition of nonprofits, faith communities, businesses and government. Working together allows us to do amazing things.

I thank you for your interest and commitment and look forward to our continued work together with all of our partners in the coming years as we strive to prevent and end homelessness in our community. If you would like to become involved in this important work please go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless or call 703-324-9492 for more information.

Michael O'Reilly is Chairman of the Governing Board of Fairfax Falls Church Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness.

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LETTERS

Promoting Burke Centre Station

To the Editor:

Amtrak recently posted rider numbers for 2012 and 2011 for every station in the nation. While ridership increased nationally 3.5 percent, Virginia's ridership increased a whopping 8.3 percent and boasted the third ("Lynchburg Train," stopping at Burke Centre) and fourth ("Newport News Train," stopping at Woodbridge) fastest growing of the country's 46 passenger services. However, Burke Centre laid claim to Virginia's fastest growing station and one of the nation's fastest: 38 percent!

This rapid climb in riders has resulted from many factors: 1) plenty of free parking, 2) great area roads, 3) nation's worst traffic, 4) a major population center, 5) reduction in VRE step-up tickets (\$10 to \$5), and 6) posting of eight "Amtrak" signs along nearby roads.

In 2013, area passenger rail advocates will be pushing long-overdue initiatives: 1) adding a "Welcome to VRE/Amtrak Station" sign at the station entrance, 2) erection of an outdoor Amtrak kiosk in front of station, 3) erection of Amtrak sign on the front of platform roof,

4) erection of Amtrak Display case on the platform, 5) posting a holder in the garage with VRE and Amtrak schedules, 6) publishing articles in local and national publications, and 7) posting youtube videos.

With greater publicity, ridership will again show a meteoric increase next year.

Dan Peacock, member
Virginia Association of Railway Patrons

Embracing Giving in 2013

To the Editor:

Living in a society where little kids now own cell phones, and even iPhones, we are used to everyone saying "I want, I want, I want!"

In every religion, giving thanks is not supposed to be reserved for the last Thursday in November, but rather something we do every day.

In the Holy Quran it says, "And We have established you in the earth and provided for you therein the means of subsistence. How little thanks you give!" (Ch. 7 Vs. 11).

As an American Muslim, reflecting on this year has brought me to bow my head in shame. Every year we make resolutions, but only a

few of us actually go 365 days abiding by them. Even with that aside, I personally think that materialism is now taking our culture by storm. Long gone are the days where the norm was eating dinner with our families or going on monthly outings with our loved ones.

Is it really that hard for us to appreciate our loved ones a little every month? Let us all try to embrace giving in 2013 and make an effort to spread the love.

Aneela Wadan
Fairfax

A Shameful Sight

To the Editor:

While home on Christmas break, I decided to take a nostalgic hike along the Little Rocky Run creek. Everything was as I remember with the exception of a small plateau on a steep hill face near the end of Marble Stone Drive. I saw scattered about the burned aluminum remains of a 24-pack of Natural Light, sprinkled with a healthy dose of glass bottle shards—all of which seemed to be a sort of sacrificial offering to the skull of a deer mounted on a stick at the center of the plateau. It was as if The Lord of the Flies went to college. It was

a shameful sight, made even more shameful by the presence of a familiar blue and black wildcat paw-print spray-painted on the trunk of a tree bordering the campsite. This embarrassing display from what appears to be those representing my old high school is not only a danger to the wildlife living in these parts, but it also ruins the often wondrous experience that young people have when they hike through the woods for the first time (an experience I remember well). I know the faculty at Centreville High has taught us better than this. Be responsible, Wildcats.

Ben Salmon
Clifton

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

FAITH NOTES

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.

St. Leo the Great Church in Fairfax offers a program for Catholics who are away from the church, struggling with church teachings or who would like to more fully practice their faith by returning to the Sacraments; the program, Welcome Home, is offered on Sundays, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24 and March 3 and 10 at 7 p.m. in the St. John Room, 3770 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. csmith@stleofairfax.com.

Fairfax Baptist Temple, at the corner of Fairfax County Parkway and Burke Lake Roads, holds a Bible Study Fellowship at 9 a.m. Sundays followed by a 10 a.m. worship service. Nursery care and Children's Church also provided. 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station, 703-323-8100, www.fbtministries.org

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:15, 9:45 and 11:15 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

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Springfield Youth Earns Eagle Scout Rank

Gerry Souser, 17, recognized at Immanuel Bible Church ceremony for earning 134 merit badges.

Achieving the rank of Eagle Scout is an honor few scouts attain during their years in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Since its introduction in 1911, the Eagle Scout rank—the highest rank attainable—has been earned by just two million young men.

In December, Eagle Scout Gerry Souser went one step further.

During a Boy Scout Court of Honor for Troop 1115 at Immanuel Bible Church in Springfield, Souser, 17, was recognized for doing what fewer than 200 scouts have done in the BSA's 102 years. He earned all of the merit badges which were available to him during his tenure as a Boy Scout, and in his case that means 134 of them.

Scouting has been a part of Souser's life since he attended a Scouting Night for Pack 50 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Annandale, the week after 9/11. He joined Pack 50 as a Tiger Cub Scout and stayed with that pack through Webelos, earning all of the Webelos Activity Pins and his Arrow of Light award in 2006.

When it was time to move on to Boy Scouts, he joined Troop 1115 chartered by Immanuel Bible Church in March of 2006.

AT THE AGE OF 13, in January 2009, Souser became an Eagle Scout. The title of Eagle Scout is held for life, thus giving rise to the phrase "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle."

At the Court of Honor ceremony, Souser shared with his troop what this accomplishment and his experiences in scouting mean to him.

"My friends and family often ask why I love scouting so much and why I do crazy things for a little one inch piece of cloth," he said. "It is because of the experiences and what I learn about the world and myself. I value the time and story of orienteering in a hurricane much more than the orienteering patch. I value the lesson that I learned in perseverance more than my shotgun badge. I value the time I had with my friends and the memories we share more than the hiking patch. I value my scouting experience so much more than those [three] sashes."

"I cannot reiterate how rare this is for someone to do," said Shawn Anderson, scoutmaster of troop 115. "It takes a lot of planning, diligence and commitment from the scout more so than any other factor. Gerry earned his Eagle Scout five years ago and continued to stay really active in scouting."

By the time he became an Eagle Scout, Souser had earned 48 merit badges. Since he was only 13 at the time, his father challenged him to earn Eagle Scout for a second time, going through all of the rank requirements, earning another 21 merit badges.

By the time he had accomplished this, he had close to 80 merit badges and it was the Centennial year of BSA. That year, BSA brought back four historical Merit Badges which could only be earned in 2010 and Gerry chose to earn all four, bringing him within sight of earning 100 merit badges.

One year ago, Souser was within 25 merit badges of earning all that were offered by BSA, and with encouragement from his best friend Christian, he chose to set that goal.

The trail was not without difficulties. Along the way BSA added five more merit badges which could be earned before he turns 18. While working on the Backpacking Merit Badge, Souser and Christian needed to abandon a backpacking trek



PHOTO BY NEAL DILLARD

Eagle Scout Gerry Souser

along the section of the Appalachian Trail which crosses the highest point in Maryland, yet went back to work to finish the requirements.

SOUSER PERSEVERED through the Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge, shooting 348 shells with his Merit Badge Counselor before attaining the required score for one of the requirements. Souser has also completed merit badges for which there were not previously identified Merit Badge Counselors in the local area. He found people with the skills, knowledge and experience, and asked them to become Merit Badge Counselors, providing opportunities for other scouts to explore these arenas.

As his father pointed out at the Court of Honor: "Gerry has climbed one mountain, found a great view, spied another mountain, and set his sights on climbing that one as well. Gerry has overcome several obstacles along the way from goal to goal, but each time he has been rewarded with an even greater view."

Souser said he may not always remember what he did in "Fingerprinting" or "Wood Carving," but he will always remember going to England for a part of it," he said, adding: "In all reality I only get to wear my sashes for six more weeks before I age out. After that they will probably hang in my closet and I will see them from time to time and bring them out on occasion. But no matter how old I get, no matter what I do, no one can take away what I have learned about God, about the world, about people, and about myself. No one can take away those memories or those experiences that I cherish so dearly."

—VICTORIA ROSS



The Importance of Recess

Pediatric researchers say unstructured play can help a child's cognitive, physical, emotional and social development.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Can climbing on monkey bars help a child's cognitive development? Can a game of tag boost preschooler's social skills? The nation's top pediatricians say "yes" and some local educators agree.

A policy statement released earlier this month by the American Academy of Pediatrics said recess, when provided in a safe environment and under supervision, provides children with cognitive, physical, emotional and social benefits. Additionally, the AAP recommended that unstructured play be used in conjunction with physical education in schools.

"Recess and unstructured play provide children with opportunities to explore, problem-solve and learn in ways that enhance their socio-emotional, physical and cognitive development," said Julie K. Kidd, associate professor and early childhood education academic program coordinator at George Mason University in Fairfax. "The physical and mental break from academic activities enables children to return to their studies more focused and ready to learn."

SOME LOCAL SCHOOLS agree that recess is an important part of a student's day. "In addition to physical education classes, our students enjoy unstructured recess every day," said Dick Ewing, head of school at the Norwood School in Potomac, Md. "Of course, there are the health benefits of the physical activity, and teachers will tell you that children are more focused in the classroom after recess, but there are also several social-emotional benefits. Children learn important life skills during recess. They learn how to effectively communicate, collaborate, cooperate and problem solve during various playground games. Creativity also comes into play as children make up their own games."

Lizabeth Borra, school counselor at Potomac Elementary School in Potomac, added: "This unstructured time gives children the opportunity to develop lifelong skills such as conflict resolution, communication, creativity, and negotiation."

Joan Holden, head of school for St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, developed play areas known as "Tinkering Spaces" on campus, "dedicated spots where students work together with educational games, building tools and puzzles, where there are no assessments or evaluations, just a relaxing, fun atmosphere that brings out teamwork, creativity, invention and problem-solving," said Holden.

American Academy of Pediatrics researchers and local educators concluded that recess and free play activities are a critical part of development and social interaction that students may not get inside a classroom. "Time outside in an unstructured environment among peers provides an important avenue



PHOTO COURTESY OF NORWOOD SCHOOL

Students at Norwood School in Potomac, Md., enjoy outdoor recess.

for the development of their creative, social and moral development," said Colin Gleason, head of the Lower School at The Heights School in Potomac.

Gleason says unstructured play provides a much-needed outlet for some children. "At this age, children, and especially boys, overflow with physical energy," he said. "They are wired ... to explore and learn about the world around them in an active way, using all of their senses. Also, by organizing play with their peers in this environment, they learn the natural laws of social interaction. They learn that it pays off to be kind towards others, to work together to make a game run smoothly [and] to make rules that are fair."

American Academy of Pediatrics researchers also recommended that recess not be withheld from children as punishment. Shannon Melideo, chair of the education department and an associate professor at the School of Education and Human Services at Marymount University in Arlington, agrees: "Too often the children who are denied recess as a punishment are the children who need recess most."

Some local educators say that recess gives children an opportunity to learn how to manage their free time. "Current research in brain development highlights the connections between physical activity, attention and memory," said Dresden Koons, head of Lower School at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac. "We ... [believe] that what happens outside the classroom benefits what goes on inside it, and vice versa."

THE AAP STATEMENT stresses that recess should complement, not replace physical education classes, even for schools with limited outdoor space, and Reston based National Association for Sport and Physical Education spokeswoman Paula Keyes Kun agreed. She said, "All children need a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Regular daily recess should be a part of every school day. It provides children with discretionary time to be active, helps them develop healthy bodies and enjoy movement."

She added that NAPSE is calling on schools across the country to find creative ways of increasing their students' physical activity levels before, during and after school.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY



George Mason University Professor Laurie Meamber uses movies to teach students about consumer behavior.

Off to the Movies

Mason professor has unconventional method of teaching complex concepts.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

An Arlington resident and George Mason University professor has an unconventional way of helping her students master complex concepts and evaluating their proficiency: She requires them to watch movies.

Laurie Meamber, an associate professor of marketing in Mason's School of Management in Fairfax, teaches a consumer behavior course in which students study the actions and motivations of buyers. Meamber teaches them how to analyze why and how consumers make certain decisions. The class studies characters in popular films to see the concepts they learn throughout the semester.

"A primary goal of a consumer behavior course is for students to better understand consumer behavior in order to become more effective marketing managers," said Meamber. "An additional goal ... is to enhance their knowledge of consumer behavior so that they as consumers can consume wisely."

Meamber says that through watching and analyzing movies, her classes examine the entire range of internal, external and situational influences on consumer behavior. She divides her class into three groups and each group focuses on one factor that affects consumer behavior: external influences, internal influences and decision-making.

"Students [write] a brief plot summary, providing descriptions of the major characters as consumers and analyzing concepts that they had learned in the course that appear in the film," she said. "They do this in a comprehensive fashion, after having learned all of the ideas

taught in consumer behavior. This allows them to reflect upon, apply and synthesize the entire range of knowledge they have acquired in the course."

Mason spokeswoman Catherine Probst said, "Along the way, the students construct consumer profiles of the characters and examine reasons why and how they make decisions throughout the film. Specifically, students are looking for influences on consumer behavior based on attitudes, motivation, income level and occupation."

Mason student, and Reston resident, Ben Coffinberger took Meamber's consumer behavior class during the fall semester. His group chose "The Devil Wears Prada."

"We presented it by dressing up as the four main characters and acting out small scenes from the movie that provided examples of important marketing concepts we learned throughout the semester," said Coffinberger. "I was forced to identify and apply the marketing concepts I learned in the consumer behavior course to the scenes in the movie. Before taking this class, I didn't think to really recognize consumer-marketing behaviors in movies, television and everyday life. Now I view things in a totally different light."

Meamber says the increasing popularity of social media makes the movie approach a successful learning tool. "As time moves forward, this type of assignment fits in with the interests and learning styles of this generation of undergraduate students," she said. "This type of assignment allows students to analyze and reflect upon movies as a medium that portrays many examples of consumers and of consumer behavior."

Military Building Named After Walter Hollis of Springfield

Military buildings are typically named after persons deceased who have made significant contributions to an organization, but recently the Hon. John McHugh, secretary of the Army and Springfield resident, granted an exception to that rule.

The U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Headquarters building was dedicated to former Deputy Under Secretary of the Army for Operations Research Walter W. Hollis, in a ceremony at the ATEC headquarters Dec. 13. Hollis, whose career spanned more than five decades, is known as the "Grandfather of Test and Evaluation."

Lt. Gen. William G. Troy, director of the Army Staff, addressed the crowd on behalf of Secretary McHugh and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond Odierno.

"The way you have changed the Army for the better will be remembered as long as this building stands," Troy said. "When you think about why we name a building after somebody, it's so all the generations of people who come through here will know about the significant and enduring contribution that person has made."

Troy also reflected on how Hollis fundamentally changed the way the Army does business for the better because he demanded the rigorous testing executed today on systems like the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle, the M1 Abrams and the Apache helicopter.

ATEC Commanding General Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco echoed Troy's remarks by reminding the test and evaluation professionals in attendance that Hollis' vision was one of the greatest accomplishments for the Army.

"This is the only organization in the Department of Defense that has all three elements of T&E under one command because of Hollis' vision," Dellarocco said, referring to the vision Hollis championed to bring operational test, developmental test, and evaluation together under one unified command to harness integrated testing.

"We're going to take it to a new level. We've created interdependency amongst the operational, developmental and evaluation communities and created a new paradigm for integrated testing and distributed testing, and your vision laid that groundwork," he said.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Walter W. Hollis

FOLLOWING THE UNVEILING of the dedication plaque by Hollis, Dellarocco, and ATEC Command Sergeant Major Command Sgt. Maj. Allen Fritzsching, David Hollis addressed the crowd on his father's behalf. He began his remarks by thanking the Army for recognizing his father's work.

"It's an honor for me to represent the Hollis family," David said. "We only had a vague notion of the work that dad was doing, but along the way we caught glimpses of the real meaning of his work through the many ceremonies recognizing his contributions and accomplishments."

Before the dedication event, David asked his father to share his favorite stories with him about his time serving the Warfighter. David said his father reflected briefly and noted he couldn't talk about the best of them, which drew laughter from the large crowd.

"Even so his motivation for public service and devotion to the Army remains vivid in his mind," David shared.

"The safety, wellbeing and effectiveness of the warfighter always remained his principle motivation."

A motivation David said manifested itself into determination, inquisitiveness, and a passion for teaching and mentoring new generations of analysts to think, be creative, challenge assumptions, and to do the right thing.

"The Army was his second family," he said. "We are proud to have shared him with you."

IN A MEMORANDUM approving the exception despite Hollis not meeting the narrow criteria for dedication as a deceased person, McHugh wrote, "His remarkable career and tireless commitment to providing our Warfighters with the latest and most advanced equipment, soldier support systems and technology set the standard for excellence in selfless service to country."



The Springfield Encore Chorale


is open to all area residents age 55 and above.
Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 1:30-3 pm at
Messiah United Methodist Church
Rehearsals underway!
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To register call 301-261-5745 or contact
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OPEN HOUSES

SATURDAY/SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 & 20

 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

Burke

9507 Burning Branch Rd...\$489,950.....Sun 1-4..Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808
6716 Sunset Woods Ct.....\$435,000.....Sun 1-4.....Cathy Zamanpour Long & Foster..703-517-2367
10523 Reeds Landing Cir...\$369,900.....Sun 1-4.....Doris Crockett.....Weichert..703-615-8411

Centreville

6487 Trillium House Ln.....\$999,900Sun 12-4Jean Marotta.....Birch Haven..703-402-9471

Clifton

5659 Gosling Dr.....\$329,000 ..Sat/Sun 1-4.....Barbara Blumer..Coldwell Banker ..703-405-5993

Fairfax Station

7513 South Reach Dr.....\$849,950Sun 1-4..Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

Falls Church

3804 Munson Rd.....\$829,000Sun 1-4.....Patrick Kessler....Keller Williams..703-405-6540

Kingstowne/Alexandria

6008 Brookview Dr.....\$819,000Sun 1-4.....Mike Hatter....Keller Williams..703-562-1800
7501 Ashby Ln #1.....\$280,000Sun 1-4.....Eileen Summers Long & Foster..703-759-9190

McLean

919 Swinks Mill Rd.....\$1,339,000Sat 12-3.....Debbie Mesen.....Weichert..703-201-7723

Springfield

7205 Layton Dr.....\$399,900Sun 1-4.....Trong Trinh.....TMT..703-237-6779

Woodbridge

6174 Oaklawn Ln.....\$350,000Sun 1-4.....Glenna Spencer Long & Foster..703-475-1320

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

HOME SALES

In November 2012, 128 Springfield homes sold between \$870,000-\$171,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$870,000-\$350,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR .	FB .	HB ..	...	Postal City	Sold Price ...	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision
6422 MILLER DR	3	4	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$870,000	Detached	1.41	22315	NONE
6297 RED FOX ESTATES CT	4	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$760,900	Detached	0.38	22152	RED FOX ESTATES
7715 ISLAND CREEK CT	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$699,000	Detached	0.15	22315	ISLAND CREEK
6092 DEER RIDGE TRL	6	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$695,000	Detached	0.24	22150	HIGHGROVE ESTATES
8907 PEORIA CT	4	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$655,000	Detached	0.21	22153	WHISPERWOOD
7907 BELLEFLOWER DR	4	3	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$640,000	Detached	0.25	22152	DAVENTRY
6396 PHILLIP CT	5	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$615,000	Detached	0.27	22152	KENWOOD OAKS
7406 GAMBRILL RD	5	4	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$605,000	Detached	1.01	22153	N/A
7201 BONNIEMILL LN	4	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$599,000	Detached	0.27	22150	BONNIEMILL OAKS
6902 CONSERVATION DR	5	3	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$575,000	Detached	0.25	22153	ORANGE HUNT ESTATES
9217 BEACHWAY LN	4	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$553,000	Detached	0.25	22153	LAKEWOOD HILLS
8018 LANGBROOK RD	5	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$545,000	Detached	0.32	22152	CARDINAL FOREST
6708 DOANE AVE	3	3	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$540,000	Detached	0.26	22152	WEST SPRINGFIELD
8547 BAUER CIR	3	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$534,900	Detached	0.12	22152	BAUER
7300 WHITSON DR	4	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$530,000	Detached	0.26	22153	ROLLING VALLEY
6024 SHERBORN LN	5	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$528,000	Detached	0.29	22152	CARDINAL FOREST
6218 WINDHAM HILL RUN	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	KINGSTOWNE
6865 ROLLING CREEK WAY	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$520,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	HAWTHORNE
7110 BACKLICK RD	4	4	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$519,900	Detached	0.20	22150	BEVERLY FOREST
6956 CONSERVATION DR	4	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$515,000	Detached	0.24	22153	ORANGE HUNT ESTATES
6328 DUNMAN WAY	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$495,000	Townhouse	0.05	22315	KINGSTOWNE
7783 TURLOCK RD	6	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$492,000	Detached	0.21	22153	SARATOGA
6708 PERCETHONY CT	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$490,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	ISLAND CREEK
8119 MARCY AVE	4	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$485,000	Detached	0.24	22152	WEST SPRINGFIELD
6304 DUNMAN WAY	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Townhouse	0.05	22315	KINGSTOWNE
5117 BALLYCASTLE CIR	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$480,000	Townhouse	0.05	22315	KINGSTOWNE
8611 KERRY LN	5	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$474,900	Detached	0.30	22152	ROLLING VALLEY
7619 WEBBWOOD CT	4	3	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$469,000	Detached	0.24	22151	NORTH SPRINGFIELD
5310 SOUTHAMPTON DR	4	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$455,000	Detached	0.29	22151	KINGS PARK
5407 DUBLIN AVE	4	3	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$455,000	Detached	0.33	22151	EDSALL PARK
7717 MARTIN ALLEN CT	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$450,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	ISLAND CREEK
6335 SIMMER CIR	3	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$446,000	Townhouse	0.04	22150	GREENWOOD
8927 BURKE LAKE RD	4	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$445,000	Detached	0.26	22151	KINGS PARK
8806 KENILWORTH DR	4	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$444,000	Detached	0.35	22151	KINGS PARK
7709 TOWER WOODS DR	3	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$440,000	Detached	0.26	22153	NEWINGTON WOODS WEST
6650 DEBRA LU WAY	3	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$439,900	Townhouse	0.03	22150	GREENWOOD
7928 JANSEN DR	4	3	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$439,500	Detached	0.25	22152	WEST SPRINGFIELD
6111 SUMMER PARK LN	3	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$438,000	Townhouse	0.03	22315	KINGSTOWNE
6904 SMYTH ST	5	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$435,000	Detached	0.46	22152	WEST SPRINGFIELD VILLAGE
6244 LEVI CT	4	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$430,000	Townhouse	0.04	22150	JAPONICA
5926 AUGUSTA DR	5	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$430,000	Detached	0.26	22150	LYNBROOK
7705 SHOOTINGSTAR DR	3	2	2	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$429,900	Townhouse	0.04	22152	DAVENTRY
7003 BENTLEY MILL PL	3	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$427,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	KINGSTOWNE
6112 BRANDON AVE	5	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$425,000	Detached	0.25	22150	YATES VILLAGE
7733 EFFINGHAM SQ	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$421,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	ISLAND CREEK
8503 FORRESTER BLVD	3	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.04	22152	CHARLESTOWN
7354 HIDDEN KNOLLS CT	3	2	2	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.04	22153	WESTWATER POINT
7425 ELGAR ST	3	1	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$419,000	Detached	0.24	22151	NORTH SPRINGFIELD
6447 ENGLISH IVY CT	3	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$415,000	Townhouse	0.04	22152	KENWOOD HILLS
8127 SPRINGFIELD VILLAGE DR	4	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$415,000	Detached	0.24	22152	WEST SPRINGFIELD VILLAGE
6354 REGAL OAK DR	3	2	2	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$413,000	Townhouse	0.04	22152	KENWOOD TOWNES
7214 DONCASTER ST	5	3	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$411,500	Detached	0.25	22150	MONTICELLO FOREST
7449 COLLINS MEADE WAY	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	KINGSTOWNE
7525 AXTON ST	3	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$409,888	Detached	0.25	22151	NORTH SPRINGFIELD
6404 ZEKAN LN	4	3	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$409,000	Detached	0.35	22150	ZEKAN VILLAGE
5225 SOUTHAMPTON DR	5	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$408,450	Detached	0.26	22151	KINGS PARK
6971 EARLSTON DR	2	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$400,100	Townhouse	0.04	22315	KINGSTOWNE
6539 PARISH GLEBE LN	3	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$397,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	ISLAND CREEK
9129 GALBRETH CT	3	2	2	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$395,000	Townhouse	0.06	22153	GLENWOOD MANOR
6606 BOWIE DR	4	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$390,000	Detached	0.21	22150	SPRINGFIELD ESTATES
8718 KENILWORTH DR	5	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$390,000	Detached	0.25	22151	KINGS PARK
7534 CROSS GATE LN	2	2	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$389,000	Detached	0.10	22315	KINGSTOWNE
8897 EAGLE ROCK LN	3	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$385,000	Townhouse	0.03	22153	MIDDLEFORD
5957 ATTENTEE RD	3	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$380,000	Detached	0.26	22150	SPRINGFIELD
5975 QUEENSTON ST	3	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$376,900	Townhouse	0.03	22152	CHARLESTOWN
6424 KATHERINE ANN LN	3	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$375,000	Townhouse	0.04	22150	JAPONICA
7114 BEDSTRAW CT	2	2	2	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$375,000	Townhouse	0.04	22152	HUNTER VILLAGE
6149 GREEN HOLLOW CT	3	2	2	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$374,000	Townhouse	0.03	22152	THE TIMBERS
7403 JERVIS ST	4	2	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$370,000	Detached	0.24	22151	NORTH SPRINGFIELD
7319 ELGAR ST	3	1	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$370,000	Detached	0.25	22151	NORTH SPRINGFIELD
8000 ORANGE PLANK RD	5	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$370,000	Detached	0.21	22153	CHANCELLOR FARMS
6060 JOUST LN	4	3	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	KINGSTOWNE
7459 CROSS GATE LN	2	2	0	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$370,000	Detached	0.12	22315	KINGSTOWNE
5974 QUEENSTON ST	3	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$365,000	Townhouse	0.03	22152	CHARLESTOWN
6113 ROCKGLEN DR	5	2	0	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$364,105	Detached	0.37	22152	KEENE MILL MANOR
7311 GOLDEN IRIS CT	2	3	1	.....	SPRINGFIELD	\$356,000	Townhouse	0.04	22153	GLENWOOD MANOR
6402 BIRCHLEIGH CIR	3	2	2	.....	ALEXANDRIA	\$355,000	Townhouse	0.04	22315	AMBERLEIGH
7304 WICKFORD DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$355,000	Detached	0.24	22315	WICKFORD
5918 ERVING ST	4	2	0	SPRINGFIELD	\$350,000	Detached	0.21	22150	SPRINGFIELD

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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.

FRIDAY/JAN. 18

Rahmein Mostafavi. 8 p.m., 10 p.m., at the Workhouse, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Rahmein Monstafavi brings his laughter-extracting musings on life to the Workhouse. \$15. www.coolcowcomedy.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 19

Concerts from Kirkwood. 3 p.m., at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carleight Parkway, Springfield. Award winning pianist Ina Mirtcheva will present "From Opera to Piano"; donations accepted. 703-451-5320 or concerts@kirkwoodpres.com.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra:

Masterworks IV. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Conductor Christopher Zimmerman and flautist Christina Jennings perform Mozart's Overture to The Magic Flute, Leshnoff's Flute Concerto, Ives' The Unanswered Question and Brahms' Symphony No. 1 in C minor, Op. 68. \$25-\$55. 703-563-1990 or www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

WEDNESDAY/ JAN. 23

RWC Meeting. 7 p.m., Fairview Elementary School, 5815 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. The Republican Women of Clifton will launch its 2013 Speaker Program with Former Congressman Arthur Davis talking about the recent election. www.cliftongop.com.



Dancers from the en Route! touring dance project.

Preparing for the Storms of Life.

10-11:30 a.m., at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. Donna Spann, a former careerist and stay-at-home mom, talks on minimizing the stress and frustration associated with unexpected life events; homemade breakfast fare, childcare, coffee and tea provided. \$7. MomsOnTheRun4@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 26

Collectors Showcase 2013. 6-8 p.m., at the McGuireWoods Gallery, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A reception

with painting, fiber arts, photography, ceramics, blown and fused glass and more from 100 studio and associate artists with "best in show" awarded by Joann Moser, deputy chief curator of the Smithsonian American Art Museum. www.workhousearts.org.

en Route! 7:30 p.m., at the Workhouse in Building W-3, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Next Reflex Dance Collective in collaboration with Furia Flamenca Dance Company, Janaki Rangarajan, Terra Dance Project and Starr Foster Dance Project present a touring dance project bringing professional dance artists together to share their

Diverse Professional Dance Companies 'en Route!'

en Route! is a touring dance project bringing professional dance artists together to share their work with new dance audiences presented by Next Reflex Dance Collective in collaboration with Furia Flamenca Dance Company, Janaki Rangarajan, Terra Dance Project and Starr Foster Dance Project. A 7:30 p.m. performance on Saturday, Jan. 26 will be at the Workhouse in Building W-3, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. \$25 general; \$20 for seniors/military; \$10 for youth/students. 703-584-2900 or <http://Reservations.workhousearts.org>.

work with new dance audiences. \$25 general; \$20 for seniors/military; \$10 for youth/students. 703-584-2900 or <http://Reservations.workhousearts.org>.

TUESDAY/FEB. 5

Wakefield Chorale. 7:30-9:30 p.m., at the North Springfield Elementary School, 7602 Herring Court, Springfield. Join the local group of men and women who love to sing; no audition required, meet in school cafeteria. 703-255-3489 or susanp@repole.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 9

2nd Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Meet each building's featured artist, a reception in W-16 from 6-7 p.m. and more. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 13

Springfield Christian Women's Connection Women of Excellence Luncheon. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at the Springfield Golf & Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Luncheon with complimentary childcare accompany a display of Thirty-One products for sale, to help keep life organized, and an inspirational speech from Faye Parson on how to stay balanced. \$17. SpringWmConn@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/ MARCH 2

Springfield Art Guild Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m., at Northern Virginia Community College, Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center—Building CE 2, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. The Springfield Art Guild, in collaboration with the Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community Colleges, presents a month long exhibit and sale in the Ernst Auditorium lobbies. www.springfieldartguild.com.

SATURDAY/MARCH 9

2nd Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Meet each building's featured artist, a reception in W-16 from 6-7 p.m. and more. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

HOW TO GET YOUR ORGANIZATION'S SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE CONNECTION

Calendar Listings

The Connection Newspapers contain a Calendar of Upcoming Events every week. While we cannot guarantee that every event we receive information about will be listed, here is the information we need for your upcoming event to be considered for the Calendar. We welcome photographs of similar events held previously, which sometimes appear with Calendar items.

Name of Event:

Day of the Week, Date and Time:

Name of the Place Event will Be Held:

Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:

Name and Phone Number for More Information:

Three Sentences Describing the Event:

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome. All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. E-mail listings to:

springfield@connectionnewspapers.com

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Calendar, Connection Newspapers
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SPORTS



Woodson senior Alex Boock scored a career-high 20 points against South County on Jan. 15. Boock has played in four games after returning from a finger injury.



Woodson senior Tommy Stepka attacks the basket against South County on Jan. 15.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Woodson's Boock Sets Career High in Win Against South County

Senior scores 20 points in fourth game back from finger surgery.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Woodson senior Alex Boock scored two points against West Potomac during his return to action on Jan. 4. Four nights later, Boock hit his first 3-pointer of the season, helping his shooting rhythm return. On Jan. 10, he reached double digits, scoring 10 against West Springfield.

Prior to the season, Boock, a 6-foot-4 guard, suffered a torn ligament in the pinky finger on his right hand—his shooting hand—which required surgery. He missed the Cavaliers' first 11 contests before rejoining his teammates on the court. Boock improved his productivity during each of his first three games—a trend that continued when he made his first start on Tuesday night against South County.

Boock knocked down mid-range jumpers, produced points in the paint and buried a trio of second half 3-pointers en route to a career-high 20 points as the Cavaliers beat the Stallions 62-53 on Jan. 15 at Woodson High School.

"No matter what kind of shot it is," said Boock, whose taped pinky was not a shooting deterrent, "once you see the ball go through the net, your confidence really goes up."

THE CAVALIERS, talented enough to go 9-2 during Boock's absence, received a boost in potency with the return of an additional 3-point threat. His first 11 points against South County came inside the arc, but Boock eventually moved beyond the 3-point line, where he made more than 30 shots last season. His first two 3-pointers were daggers at the end of separate 7-0 Woodson runs in the third quarter. His third from behind the arc gave the Cavaliers a 50-39 advantage early in the fourth.

"[Boock is] definitely one of the better shooters on this team and he can stroke like he was doing it today," senior Tommy Stepka said. "That's what we need—scoring. It really improves our team [and]

spreads [the production] out."

Stepka, a 6-foot-6 guard, scored 14 points and sophomore point guard Eric Bowles added 12. Senior Peter Murray had four points and eight rebounds and senior guard Michael Hansler grabbed six boards.

"We have pretty good shooters—and we have tall shooters, which helps," Woodson head coach Doug Craig said. "... When you have guys who are 6-4, 6-5, 6-6, it really makes the defense come out. It opens up lanes for everybody else. Getting [Boock] back gives us another scoring option on the floor. We have some other guys who do really well defensively, we have some guys who are athletic and can rebound the ball, but you can never have enough guys who can put the ball in the basket."

The victory improved Woodson's record to 13-2, including 7-0 in the Patriot District. The Cavaliers went 13-1 in district play last season, only to lose to T.C. Williams in the district tournament semifinals and Fairfax in the opening round of the regional tournament. Woodson has hopes of postseason improvement, but first the Cavaliers have to get through the second half of their district schedule.

"We've been playing with a little chip on our shoulder, a little swagger, which is good," Craig said. "But at the same time, too, that swagger can kind of get out of control and I think the last week or so we've kind of gotten away from what made us good and we need to get re-focused."

While Woodson remained undefeated in district play, South County dropped to 2-5 in the Patriot standings. Senior guard Justin Hampton finished with a game-high 25 points, but required many shots to get there.

Along with a career-best offensive performance, Boock showed his defensive skills, as well.

"I actually thought Alex did a good job on [Hampton]," Craig said. "Justin had 25 [but] we really wanted to make Justin work for his points. He's a real good player and I thought we did a really good job with that tonight. He really had to work for his points."

Hampton grabbed seven rebounds. Senior forward Oren Burks finished with 10 points for South County and junior Mark Elliott grabbed six rebounds.

WOODSON will host Annandale at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 18. South County will host Lee at the same time.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Hayfield sophomore guard Raven Lott led the Hawks with 15 points against Yorktown on Jan. 14.

Hayfield Girls, Boys Lose to Yorktown

Hawks struggle at offensive end during doubleheader.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Hayfield girls' basketball team managed five field goals in the first 25 minutes of its Jan. 14 game against the Yorktown Patriots and went without a field goal for a stretch of 15 minutes.

While the Hawks set the bar low in terms of offensive execution, the boys' team followed suit later in the evening, producing just seven points in the first half.

Monday evening was a rough night for the Hayfield girls' and boys' basketball teams, with both teams losing to Yorktown during a home doubleheader. The girls' team started the struggles with a 44-33 loss. Yorktown led 17-14 at halftime but pulled away by outscoring Hayfield 11-1 in the third quarter. The Hawks went without a field goal for a 15-minute stretch spanning from the second quarter to the fourth quarter.

Sophomore guard Raven Lott led Hayfield with 15 points. Junior forward Courtney Miller finished with 10 points and nine rebounds.

The loss dropped Hayfield's record to 4-11, including 1-6 in the National District. The Hawks will host Stuart at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 17.

For the Hayfield boys' team, Monday was senior night as a front-loaded home schedule left the Hawks playing their final regular season home game in mid-January. Hayfield entered the evening on an 11-game win streak, but quickly fell apart en

route to a 70-42 loss. Yorktown opened the game on an 11-0 run, led 16-2 at the end of the first quarter, 36-7 at halftime and 54-23 at the end of the third.

"It was a combination of [a] bad night, [Yorktown] shooting well and us not playing at our potential," Hayfield head coach Carlos Poindexter said. "... They shot the hell out of the basketball—maybe 70 percent. It was ridiculous how well they shot the basketball. When that happens and we shoot bad and we're not playing defense, then you lose by [28]."

Because it was senior night, Poindexter's starting lineup consisted of five seniors, leaving the team's leading scorer, junior Amir Atkins, coming off the bench. Poindexter said this might have contributed to the slow start.

Brandon Lawson led Hayfield with 13 points. Atkins, who Poindexter said was averaging more than 17 points per contest, finished with one field goal and seven points.

Hayfield's record dropped to 11-4 overall, including 6-1 in the National District. Wakefield is tied with the Hawks atop the district standings, but Hayfield won the first meeting 50-49 on Jan. 4.

"These guys went on an 11-game win streak, so they don't necessarily know how to lose—a lot of guys crying and stuff," Poindexter said after the loss to Yorktown. "[I'm] just trying to keep the morale up a little bit."

Hayfield will travel to face Stuart at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 17.

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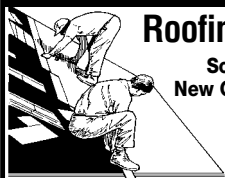
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