



Students in the Art
Explorers class at Art
at the Center in Mount
Vernon explore mediums like clay, collage,
painting and drawing.
Experts say creating
art helps children
build relationships.



Art Matters

Local experts say art classes help children develop new skills.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

"Art is a universal

education enables

students to make

with art and the

creative connections

world around them."

Carolyn Webber, art teacher,

St. Andrew's Episcopal School

language. Art

f you walk into Art at the Center in Mount Vernon on a Tuesday morning, you might find a group of preschool students and their parents or caretakers squishing potting clay with their fingers. In the same room, several other tots

could be brushing an array of paint colors across art paper, making a mess but having fun. The children are part of the Center's Art Explorers class, designed for children ranging from 18 months to 5 years old.

"Parents say it is their happy place where they can explore with their child without worrying about a mess," said Kathryn Horn Coneway, director of Art at the Center. "It brings both parent and child into the present moment."

In addition to having fun, art educators say that art can help children develop a myriad of skills and abilities that range from selfexpression to self-confidence.

"Creating art can help them work through their emotions," said Gioia Chilton, an art therapist who teaches art at Marymount University in Arlington. "It gives them a place where they can be confident, and where they can feel powerful and in control over something."

Creating art teaches patience, said Coneway.

"When children are working with clay, for example, there is little instant gratification. You make a piece, it has to be fired and then glazed. It is a process. But at the end, they can tell the story of how they made it."

Chris Haggerty, a professor of fine and applied arts at Marymount University, says research shows that art develops the right side of the brain, which affects perception rather than logic. "Creating art teaches problem-solving skills," she said. "They get to try things out, see if they work, change their minds and start over."

Coneway, who is also an art **tence and reflection.**

therapist, said she has seen first-hand how art can help children share feelings that are difficult to verbalize. "Making things is a wonderful way for kids to connect ideas, express emotions and share what is going on with them," she said. "Additionally, art is noncompetitive. Children progress at their own rate."

Art also helps establish a sense of community, she added. "Sometimes connections happen when chil-

dren share their art," she said. "It is neat when kids ask questions of each other. The sharing of what they make is as important as what they make."

Carolyn Webber, an art teacher at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac, Md., said, "Art is a universal language. Art education enables students to make creative connections with art and the world around them. [It] provides life-long learning in areas of visual arts, art history, interdisciplinary connections, multiculturalism and job opportunities."

Haggerty said, "The most successful people are creative thinkers, people who don't just think linearly, but who think outside of the box."

Coneway hopes that both her classes and others establish a life-long appreciation for art. "One of the things that I hope is happening is that parents and children are leaving my classes, going home and asking, 'Can we set up a corner of our basement and have an art studio at home?"



Creating art projects, such as these, which were made by students at Art at the Center in Mount Vernon helps strengthen artistic behaviors such as observation, persistence and reflection.

Week in Herndon

Woodland Park Crossing To Host HarvestFest

Woodland Park Crossing presents the third annual HarvestFest, a fun fall-themed family event on Saturday, Sept. 28 from noon until 4 p.m. All are welcome to enjoy free entertainment, including a giant walking scarecrow, a juggling unicyclist, DJ music, and free activities such as face painting, glitter tattoos, pumpkin painting, fitness demos, prizes and more. Participating Woodland Park Crossing merchants and restaurants will offer giveaways and samplings at their booths, and Finnegan's is hosting tastings of food and fall brews on their patio. Fitness demos will be presented by LA Boxing and Down Dog Yoga. Select HarvestFest proceeds will benefit local charities.

With decorations of pumpkins, cornstalks and balloon artistry, HarvestFest will bring a fun fall atmosphere to Woodland Park Crossing, 12960 Highland Crossing Drive, Herndon. Plenty of free parking is available at street level and underground. For event information, call 703-785-5634, find it on Facebook, and visit www.woodlandparkcrossing.com.

Roberts Carpets and Oriental Rugs Marks 50th Anniversary

Roberts Carpets and Oriental Rugs of Herndon marks its 50th anniversary this month. It has been owned and operated by the Roberts family during this period of time. It started in Alexandria and later moved to its current location in Herndon.

It is a full service flooring company selling and installing a large portfolio of flooring products, i.e. wall-to-wall carpet, area rugs, hardwood flooring, engineered flooring, laminate flooring, tile and vinyl flooring. In addition, it carries an extensive inventory of oriental rugs both hand-woven and machine-made.

It provides cleaning of wall-to-wall carpets on customer premises and cleaning of oriental rugs in its own cleaning plant at the store.

Roberts Carpets and Oriental Rugs is located at 681 Spring Street, Herndon. For more information, call 703-471-7120 or visit www.robertscarpets.com.

Metro Launches Silver Line Website

Metro has launched a website—www.silverlinemetro.com—for information on the Silver Line. The site will be updated frequently with new service details, destinations and partner information. If you have additions to suggest or links you would like Metro to include, email your comments to external relations@wmata.com.

Police Concerned about 'Molly'/Ecstasy Use

Fairfax County Police Organized Crime and Narcotics Unit (OCN) detectives have seen approximately 168 cases involving MDMA—also known as ecstasy or "Molly"—an average of eight per month between January 2012 and August 2013.

MDMA is a semi-synthetic, chemical compound that has been increasing in popularity across the nation, especially among high school and college-aged students. While it is most often seen in pill form, it also comes in powder and capsules.

This drug "Molly" can be a mixture of caffeine and speed and other stimulants; it's known as a recreational psychoactive. And between January 2012 and August 2013, the OCN Unit seized some 16.67 pounds of MDMA and more than 3,000 pills.

Police remind residents that parents are still the strongest influencers in their children's lives. They urge parents to help make their children, of all ages, safer by having a discussion about illegal drugs.

The Unified Prevention Coalition and the Partnership for a Drug-Free America suggest that parents "Make time to talk with children; explain the risks of these drugs. Learn the signs of drug use and how to intervene. Go to www.drugfree.org/. Educate family members on the harmful effects of drugs; make it clear you don't approve of drug use. Be vigilant and don't panic; help is available. Secure prescription drugs in the home. Get involved; learn more at http://unifiedpreventioncoalition.org/."

An 82-ton cargo jet with rope attached is ready for the start of the Dulles Day Plane Pull on the tarmac at Dulles Airport on Sept. 14: 70 teams of 25 competed to have the shortest time pulling the plane 12 feet-and raised more than \$226,000 for Special Olympics Virginia. A recordbreaking crowd of over 16,000 people attended the event.



Record Crowds, Record Fundraising in Dulles Day Plane Pull

More than \$226,000 raised for Special Olympics Virginia.

16,000—turned out for the Sept. 14 Dulles Day Festival and Plane Pull at Dulles International Airport. In its 21st year, the event is a fundraiser for Special Olympics Virginia, pitting teams of 25 against one another to see who can pull an 82-ton, 164,000pound airplane the fastest. Seventy teams registered to participate in the event, raising over

record-breaking crowd—more than \$226,000—a record amount for the event. A new addition to the festivities this year was an early morning 5K on the Dulles runway, in which 2,000 runners participated. A highlight of the afternoon was the arrival of an FA2 fighter attack sea harrier iet, which demonstrated its vertical take off and landing capabilities to a rapt crowd.

—Deb Cobb

Special Olympian David Egan, of Vienna, gets to meet Maj. Gen. Joe Anderson, USMC (Ret.), who flew the sea harrier jet to the Dulles Plane Pull on Sept. 14. Anderson demonstrated the vertical takeoff, landing and hover capabilities of the aircraft to a rapt crowd.





And they're off! The first team to pull the 82-ton airplane at the **Dulles Plane Pull comprised** Special Olympians. Caroline Burkett, of Marion, second from left, said the pull was a lot of fun. This was her first time at the event.

The Sgt. Sullivan Memorial Plane **Pull Team** takes their turn at pulling the 82-ton cargo jet at the Sept. 14 Dulles Plane Pull.





Lt. Mark Smith, chief flight officer of Fairfax One, the Fairfax **County Police** Helicopter, gives Emma Vogt and her mother **Heather Vogt** of Sterling a tour during the Sept. 14 Dulles

From left, former NFL player John Stufflebeem and Dr. Gerald Gioia, chief of the Division of **Pediatric** Neuropsychology at Children's National Medical Center, discuss concussions and their effects at Worldgate Sport and **Health Tues**day, Sept. 10.



Sport and Health Hosts **Concussion Forum**

Former NFL players, doctors discuss "We don't believe that the solution is to eliminate sports, we just diagnosis and care for athletes.

By Alex McVeigh The Connection

orldgate Sport and Health hosted a forum for local parents coaches Tuesday, Sept. 10 to discuss proper diagnosis and care for athletes with suspected concussions. "We have a lot of parents coming to us asking about ways to prevent their children from tearing an ACL [knee ligament], but we don't get a lot of questions about preventing brain injuries, so we decided to be pro-active," said Kevin Boyle, director of Explosive Performance, Sport and Health's athletic training program. "Concussions are an injury people don't see, but they can often be the most devastating, especially when one isn't properly treated, then the athlete goes back out and suffers another one."

JOHN STUFFLEBEEM, a former football player and three-star vice admiral in the Navy, spoke at the event about his experiences with traumatic brain injuries. He remembered a friend who ended up committing suicide because he had chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a degenerative brain condition that affects those who have recently as 10 years ago, he had suffered multiple concussions.

"NFL players are suffering concussions at more than six times the to serious problems.

national rate," he said. "Education on these matters is crucial at a young age. Most college students want to play in the NFL, most high school students want to play in college, most pee wee football players want to play in high school."

Stufflebeem said he went in for analysis once his playing days were over, and figured he had suffered about five concussions over his three-year career. Doctors told him he had suffered 19.

"After two weeks, 60 percent of people who have had concussions have recovered, but after six weeks, that percentage is less than 90 percent."

— Dr. Catherine McGill, a pediatric neuropsychologist

"After a hard hit in my day, we were [told] to shake it off, run a lap, eat a salt tablet," he said. "But today it's time to raise awareness with kids. Helmets are designed to protect the skull, not the brain in-

Dr. Gerald Gioia, chief of the Division of Pediatric Neuropsychology at Children's National Medical Center, said that even as to convince people that hitting your head while playing could lead once the answers are plugged in, it will give a recommended course of action for the player's treat-

want the parents and coaches, who naturally have the best interests of their players in mind, to

take the lead when it comes to

learning," he said. "We need par-

ents to be armed with tools and

information. It's very unlikely that

there's going to be a medic or phy-

sician trained in diagnosing con-

Gioia helped develop an app for

cell phones that can help parents

and coaches work their way

through symptoms after a player

hits their head. The app asks a se-

ries of questions of the adult, and

has several for the players, and

cussions on the sidelines."

According to research, athletes who have been diagnosed with concussions have reported symptoms such as headaches, nausea, dizziness, blurry vision, light or noise sensitivity, sluggish feelings, memory problems, confusion or a sense that things don't feel right.

Coaches have observed players with glassy eyes, a dazed look, confusion, poor balance, mood

From left, John Stufflebeem, a former NFL player and Dr. Gerald Gioia, chief of the Division of Pediatric Neuropsychology at Children's National Medical Center, demon-

strate the Concussion Recognition and Response app at Worldgate Sport and Health Tuesday, Sept. 10.

changes, memory loss and lack of awareness as symptoms of a concussion.

"By definition, a concussion causes the brain to move back and forth within the skull, which causes stretching of the brain, which can lead to chemical changes and cell damage," said Dr. Catherine McGill, a pediatric neuropsychologist at Children's National Medical Center. "Once these changes occur, the brain is more vulnerable to additional trauma."

McGill said the brain has a texture similar to mayonnaise, which can tolerate normal movement. but not the movement that comes with a head to head collision, or a player hitting their head on the turf.

"After two weeks, 60 percent of people who have had concussions have recovered, but after six weeks, that percentage is less than has their own timetable for recovery, and the most important thing is that an athlete has 100 percent recovered before they are allowed back onto that field."

ONE OF THE PURPOSES of the seminar was to educate parents and coaches that it's not just a head-on collision on a football field that can lead to a concussion. Lacrosse, soccer, field hockey and other traditionally "non contact" sports leave players just as susceptible to those injuries, even if it's just falling to the ground, or trying to head a

While football seems to have a stranglehold on America's sports scene, with record-breaking ratings, revenues and attendance, Stufflebeem said that the concussion issue is the most serious threat it faces.

"This is a side of the game that parents, coaches and players need to be fully aware of when they decide to play," he said. "Football is a juggernaut right now, but if it's going to fade over the years, it will be because of this."

The free Concussion Recogni-90 percent," she said. "Everyone tion and Response app is available on the Google Play Store and the illunes App store for iOS and Android devices.

> The most up-to-date information about concussions and their treatment, including fact sheets, can be found at www.cdc.gov/con-

Business

Send information to herndon@ connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday. Photos/artwork welcome.

Dimension
Data Americas,
an IT services and
solutions provider
based in
Herndon, is about
to get a new CEO.
Mark Slaga will
step into the role
as current CEO
Jere Brown
retires at the end
of 2013 after
nearly a decade
with the com-

pany.
Slaga has
worked in a
number of roles
at Dimension
Data over the
past 13 years, the
most recent of
which was chief
operating officer.
During his tenure
as COO, Slaga
managed all
operations across
North and South

America.



Mark Slaga

Scott Macfee

including professional services, consulting, managed services, IT outsourcing and vendor alliances. He has also served as SVP of operations, SVP of solutions, CIO and CTO for Dimension Data Americas. When Slaga assumes role as CEO, **Scott Macfee** will take over as COO. Macfee has been at Dimension Data for 14 years, and most recently held the role of country manager for Brazil while leading the Americas' procurement and logistics team.

As CEO of the Americas, Slaga will be responsible for the strategic leadership of Dimension Data in the United States, Canada, Brazil, Mexico and Chile.

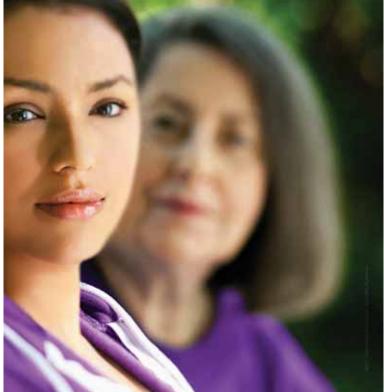
The Container Store will open in Reston on Saturday, Sept. 21. Prospective employees may apply online. The new store will donate 10 percent of its proceeds from its Grand Opening Weekend sales to Cornerstones.

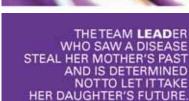
Dan Woolley has joined the **Center for Innovative Technology** as a general partner for the MACH37 Cybersecurity Accelerator. CIT is located at 2214 Rock Hill Road, Suite 600, Herndon.

For the sixth year out of the past eight, financial-services firm **Edward Jones**, 13350 Franklin Farm Road, Suite 350, Herndon, ranked highest in investor satisfaction with full service brokerage firms, according to the J.D. Power and Associates 2012 Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study.

The study measures overall investor satisfaction with full service investment firms based on seven factors: investment advisor, investment performance, account information, account offerings, commissions and fees, website and problem resolution.

In January 2013, for the 14th year, Edward Jones was named one of the best companies to work for by FORTUNE Magazine in its annual listing. The firm ranked No. 8 overall. These 14 FORTUNE rankings include 10 top-10 finishes, consecutive No. 1 rankings in 2002 and 2003, and consecutive No. 2 rankings in 2009 and 2010. FORTUNE and Time Inc. are not affiliated with and do not endorse products or services of Edward Jones.





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OPINION

Addressing Virginia's Economy

Ending gridlock in Congress and supporting health care reform would be huge steps in supporting economic recovery in Virginia.

he strength of Virginia's economy, especially Northern Virginia's economy, comes significantly from federal spending.

So while the governor and other elected officials claim that Virginia's success is because Virginia is a low-tax state with EDITORIAL fewer regulations, it's worth considering that the sequester and continuing gridlock in Congress threaten Virginia's most important resource, federal spending.

Virginia receives more federal money per capita than any other state except Alaska. Virginia received \$136 billion in federal funds in 2010, more than \$17,000 from the feds per capita, and paid \$2,807 per capita in federal income taxes. (Data from Consolidated Federal Funds Report for Fiscal Year 2010 by state and county from the Census Bureau.)

> Two examples: \$1.3 billion in federal transportation money came to Virginia. Virginia was on the receiving end of more than \$5,000 per capita in defense

spending.

Current Virginia elected officials have barricaded the doors against expansion of an industry that would add more than 30,000 quality jobs in Virginia at no cost to taxpayers. The expansion of Medicaid, which would provide healthcare to as many as 400,000 Virginians who currently cannot afford health insurance, would give Virginia's economy a significant

Private sector growth in Virginia depends on its educated and sophisticated workforce, on top school systems and universities. It depends on reliable transportation systems and access to high-speed Internet. And it depends on continuing to attract federal contracting dollars.

Virginia's U.S. Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner both work in the best interests of the commonwealth when they work to promote a culture of moderation and compromise in Con-

boost, and create more than 30,000 jobs. Virginia taxpayers will still pay the taxes that will fund the expansion of Medicaid in other states without reaping the benefits of a healthier population and economic stimulus.

To discuss ideas and concerns, Call: 703-778-9410 e-mail:

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Combatting Human Trafficking in Our Own Communities

BY DELEGATE BARBARA Сомѕтоск R-34TH DISTRICT



recent Washingtonian Magazine article about young girls in our region who are lured through social media into the terrifying world of human trafficking.

The piece featured the experience of a Fairfax County girl who responded to that message on Facebook only to find herself utterly vulnerable in a car with four complete strangers. One of the men told her they were going to prostitute her as a type of initiation. She pushed the man's hands away when he offered her cocaine. When the white powder spilled over the car seat, the man then smashed her head into the window.

She was pulled out of the car and led around the corner of an apartment building. Her nightmare was just beginning to unfold. The man held a knife to her neck and when she refused his sexual demands sliced her across the forearm with the knife. She was raped 15 times that night—first by the man in the car and then subsequently by a string of other johns. Early the next morning, the men called her a "whore" and a "slut" as they drove her home and threatened to kill her if she ever told anyone what hap-

These horrific events happened in Fairfax County—right in our community. That is why over the

General Assembly have put together a bipartisan coalition that is working with groups like the Polaris Project, a leading anti-trafficking organization which administers the national human trafficking hotline,

US Attorney Neil MacBride, and The Richmond Justice Initiative to pass new laws to combat human trafficking.

Our legislation cracks down on these predators and the gangs involved in this activity; increases penalties for those engaged in any way in this inhumane industry; and provides more public information and outreach to victims as well as parents, teachers and faith communities so this crime can no longer operate in the shadows. We used to think human trafficking only happened in foreign countries (which of course it does) or to women illegally smuggled into this country (which is also true). But this growing criminal enterprise knows no boundaries—it is present right in our backyard and must be battled on all fronts.

Since new laws have been implemented, police and federal agents have arrested 28 juvenile sex traffickers in Northern Virginia, and have identified 41 juvenile victims, and 100 reported adult victimsall of them American citizens, a ficking Forum to raise awareness majority from middle or upperclass families. We know this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Three years ago, Virginia was at the bottom of the Polaris Project's Anti-Human Trafficking State Rankings. Since we began our past four years, we in the Virginia work with the coalition, my colleagues and I have been successful in passing significant legislation and finding partners in the law enforcement, business and religious communities to collaborate with in fighting this growing crime. Just last week, the Polaris Project announced that Virginia is now ranked in the top category (Tier 1) for our efforts in fighting human trafficking.

We have a great local partner in this effort, Fairfax County Detective Bill Woolf, whose work in cracking down on this crime led him to recommend numerous pieces of legislation to the General Assembly. HB546, which I introduced on the recommendation of Detective Woolf and other law enforcement supporters, provided additional penalties and tools for prosecutors pursuing traffickers, particularly in the area of gangs such as MS-13, who are now operating prostitution rings in our area that exploit local girls.

We also passed legislation that makes the soliciting of a minor a Class 5 Felony. Another bill passed this year, HB1870, would allow a multi-jurisdiction grand jury to investigate human trafficking activities in cases where the suspect received money for procuring another individual to engage in prostitution.

In May we hosted a Human Trafof this growing issue. I was joined by our Congressman Frank Wolf, a leader in Congress on this issue; Detective Bill Woolf, our local law enforcement champion battling this crime; our House Republican Caucus Chair Delegate Tim Hugo; Sara Pomeroy, director of the Richmond Justice Initiative; and Dr. Courtney Gaskins from Youth For Tomorrow, a residential facility that works with at risk youth-including those who have been victims of human trafficking. This forum was held as part of our continuing efforts to ensure that residents are educated on recent developments and can help us in preventing and exposing the human trafficking in our area.

This summer, I brought Sara Pomeroy as a guest speaker to our Young Women's Leadership Program Event. I established this summer program for young women currently enrolled in middle school or high school in the Northern Virginia area. The program's aim is to provide an opportunity for the participants to meet a variety of women leaders involved in various sectors, roles and occupations so that they can ask questions and engage in their own personal and career development. Sara Pomeroy was able to share with the young women her story, talk about how she became a leading advocate against human sex trafficking and educate the women so that they are better equipped to become leaders themselves on halting sex trafficking amongst their peers.

Our community efforts can and will have a real impact on the health and safety of our children and neighbors. Stopping this modern day slavery is very much a 21st century abolition effort. With increased tools to battle this growing crime and a growing group of partners, we can work together to halt this violence in our own communities and throughout the world.

OPINION

Joining Forces to Prevent Homelessness

To the Editor:

You can prevent homelessness, you can end chronic homelessness, you can move people rapidly out of homelessness. What you cannot do is stand aside and let people fall.

This simple belief—that together we can change the rate and severity of people losing their homes-brings together nonprofits, for-profits, civic leaders and government staff. We each play a special role, depending on our location and mission. For United Community Ministries (UCM), prevention is the key.

What does that look like day-today? Consider the children. They need early learning and safe care to get a good start. They need parents that understand how to help them. The children need early intervention for any physical or mental delays.

So programs such as the Bryant Early Learning Center, full-day care for parents of diverse incomes and backgrounds, ensures a good start. Healthy Families, operated by three nonprofits in Fairfax County, provides in-home education and support to new parents. And caring professionals in all these programs ensure that children receive the care they need

and deserve.

Consider the adults. In Northern Virginia, a minimum wage job does not get you far. Rent, transport, food and medicine, clothing... workers need help, not just to get a job, but to get training and support to move on to a career. Without long term increases in income, workers fall further behind every year.

I have not mentioned housing. Many low cost options, such as boarding houses, have been zoned out of existence. We struggle to create enough homes for the workers in our midst. Land is expensive, businesses need profits and neighborhoods worry about property values.

We have had some notable successes in producing affordable units, especially nonprofit partners like Cornerstones and Wesley Housing. But to make an impact on the large number of families struggling to stay out of homelessness, we must do much more. We must increase our prevention efforts while we find new incentives for affordable housing development.

Homelessness literally is a lack of housing. Whether a family keeps their home through more earning power or through lower rent, the benefit to the community is the same: stability, security and

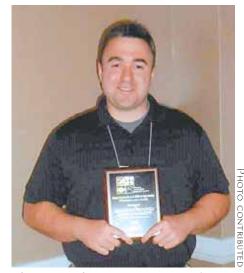
> **Shirley Marshall** www.ucmagency.org

Herndon Parks and Recreation Wins Awards for Marketing

pproximately 450 delegates from Virginia gathered in early September for the 59th annual conference of the Virginia Recreation and Park Society, which was held in Williamsburg. The conference is a learning exchange and provides an opportunity for recreation and park professionals to collaborate and ultimately improve the delivery of parks and recreation services. A highlight of each conference is a presentation of awards. This year Herndon Parks and Recreation had two items. which were selected in the 25,000 and less population category:

The 2012 Herndon Festival mobile website was voted Best Promotional Effort—Specialty

❖The 2012 Herndon Parks and Recreation Department Summer Camp brochure was voted Best Pro-



Thomas Schoenauer, Recreation Services supervisor at the Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department, accepted the award for the department at the confer-

motional Effort—Traditional

To learn more about the Herndon Community Center and the department, visit www.herndon-va.gov, or call 703-787-7300.





lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known



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Tresa Schlecht, a member of the Board of the Friends of Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, was one of five public speakers during the Sept. 11 Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees meeting held at George Mason Regional Library in Annandale. She criticized the library's process for discarding books and urged board members to reconsider the "beta" plan.



From left—Library Board of Trustees member Charles Fegan, Board Chairman Willard Jasper and Library Director Sam Clay listen to public testimony during the Sept. 11 Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees meeting held at George Mason Regional Library in Annandale. More than 250 people attended the meeting.

A New Beginning for Fairfax County Public Libraries?

Library trustees vote to discard beta plan in favor of more public outreach sessions.

> By Victoria Ross The Connection

n Wall Street, a "beta" test refers to assessing the risk, volatility and expected return of a particular port-

If Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) officials had a crystal ball to assess the volatility of its planned beta tests this fall, it's likely they may have steered clear of the project that became a quagmire of epic proportions.

"Yes, absolutely, this is the worst PR nightmare," said Library Direc-"I've been amazed at the power of the meeting. social media, and the inaccuracies to press to correct all the inaccurameeting on Sept. 11 at the George tunities for employees and patrons. Clay.

There may not be a magic but- Annandale. ton, but Library Board Chair Jasper announced that the li-the proceedings on a video moniing. "This is an opportunity to get Willard O. Jasper spoke the magic brary board had voted to immeditor, applauded as the board ap-



The Clements family of Fairfax held up signs protesting proposed "beta" changes during the Sept. 11 Fairfax County Library **Board of Trustees meeting held at George** tor Sam Clay, in an interview with **Mason Regional Library in Annandale.** The Connection Tuesday, Sept. 10. More than 250 critics of the plan attended

Mason Regional Library in The crowd, which spilled out into "This is a new beginning for us," a hallway where they could watch Clay said after the two-hour meetwords that more than 250 critics ately halt the beta tests until the proved Jasper's motion to suspend



Ramos of Centreville, both longtime library supporters and patrons, attended the Sept. 11 Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees meeting held at George Mason Regional Library in Annandale to urge board members to put the "beta" plan on hold. More than 250 critics of the plan attended the

in all the blogs, emails and report- of the plan turned out to hear dur- board could schedule more out- consideration of the plan, a motion ing. There's no one magic button—ing the Library's Board of Trustees—reach and communication oppor—submitted by library Director Sam

SEE LIBRARY, PAGE 12

What's Wrong With This Picture?

County suspends discarding of library books.

By Victoria Ross The Connection

ust when Sam Clay, Fairfax County's Public Library director, thought FCPL's public image couldn't get any worse, Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) released photos of bins filled to the brim with discarded library books.

Acting on a tip from a volunteer Friend of the Library member, Smyth drove out to the library's technical operations center in Chantilly, glanced into a bin and saw hundreds of discarded books. A few days later, she made a second trip, found twice as many tossed books and filled a box full of rescued

Clay admits the photographs Smyth (D-Providence) took of books in seemingly good condition paid for by taxpayers tossed in trash bins are a powerful, startling image.

But he insists the story is more complex than the photographs

"The books that were in the dumpster were materials that, in a professional librarian's opinion, a librarian who holds an MLS degree, that these books were no longer usable," Clay

a book that was [usable]? Have past five years for books." we ever made mistakes? Of course we have. ... But we go to the recycle bins. ... So the material that was discovered, those were carefully reviewed by MLS librarians," Clay said.

Clay said FCPL's collection includes nearly 300 million books.

"It's an incredible library asset that requires extensive library management; it's not just about acquiring, but de-quiring. to house all of our books, no library does, because a certain number is always in circulation," Clay said.

we want to go.'

He said David C.F. Ray would head the committee and that Susan C. Thorniley and Mary Petersen would also be on it, along with members of the public and library staff.

Tysons-Pimmit Library and one of five public speakers at the Library Board meeting on Sept. 11, sent an email to Smyth thanking her for investigating the matter:

interpretations of the facts surrounding disposal of excessed books during the past year... I personally visited Tech Ops in Chantilly to request that we be allowed to pick up discarded books, especially children's books, before the books were placed in the dumpster by Tech

when the library shifted to a "float-I was told that my request ing collection" system. Smyth said would be considered, but that she estimated about 250,000 books it was unlikely that TY Friends have been thrown out since Octocould obtain discarded books, as it would be unfair to let TY "What really bothers me is the Friends have books simply beincredible waste of taxpayers' cause we were willing to pick money. We're in Fairfax County, for the books up when other Heaven's sake, and our libraries Friends groups could not.

.. TY offered to share the books with any other Friends groups, or to use the discarded books as directed by FCPL. Thus, our request for books would not have required FCPL personnel time, other than an e-Although the discard issue was mail to me naming the time/



Sup. Smyth found bins of discarded children's books behind the county libraries' technical operations center.

Board of Supervisors can gather

more information, and the public

According to Smyth, the library

suspended the sharing of books

with Friends of the Library groups

from October, 2012 until May,

and books are important to us."

"Every system has discards, I as-

books," said Sam Clay, Fairfax

sure you they all have discarded

interview with The Connection on

can give its feedback.



Dumpster filled with discarded library books.

"Have we never thrown away 50 percent budget reduction in

Smyth is not quite satisfied with that answer. After hearing allegathrough all kinds of processes tions about trashed library books and options before the books go from members of the Friends groups, Smyth decided to investigate the claims herself. On Aug. 29, she drove to the Fairfax County and vetted by our best minds, Public Library's technical operations center in Chantilly.

> WHAT SHE FOUND, she said, was mystifying and dismaying.

"I found stacks and stacks of books tossed away in these bins behind the center," Smyth said. A We don't build enough shelves few days later, she went back and found that the pile of discarded books had grown.

Furious, she collected a box of County's library director, during an books, several in seemingly good "But you see a dumpster full condition, and dumped them on Tuesday, Sept. 10. of books, and you think 'My the desk of Fairfax County Deputy God, what are they doing?' They County Executive David J. not part of the beta plan discussion, dates for pick-ups, nor would it are being efficient and good Molchany. Molchany is in charge Library Trustee Chair Willard Jashave involved any cost to the stewards of the taxpayer's of the county's libraries and arper said he was going to launch an county. money by maintaining a vibrant chives. The next day, Mochany is- "evaluation and communications collection, a great collection. sued a directive to all branches sus-We've done that in the face of pending the practice until the where we are right now and where books at Tech Ops ..."

On Sept. 2, Tresa Schlecht, a member of the Friends of

"Apparently, there are several

TY Friends was not granted

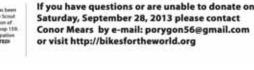






Collection of Bicycles and Cash Donations Saturday, September 28, 2013 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church 432 Van Buren St, Herndon, VA 20170





3rd Annual Jeans Day: Putting the *ZIP* **on Homelessness**

Friday, October 18, 2013

Help end homelessness in our community. **Get involved!**

Register and allow your employees or members to wear jeans to work on Friday, October 18, in exchange for a \$5 employee contribution to the Fairfax-Falls **Church Community** Partnership to Prevent & End Homelessness!









jeansday2013-eorg.eventbrite.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/apr/11/fairfax-county-calendar/.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 19

Beverly Cosham. 2:15 p.m., at Reston Community Center, Center Stage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Hunters Woods Village Center, Reston. Cabaret singer, actress and Reston singer populaire with experience performing at nightclubs all over the country sings at the "Meet the Artists" concert co-sponsored by Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. 703-503-3384, olli@gmu.edu or www.olli.gmu.edu.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 20

Red Molly and We're About 9. 8 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Folk trio Red Molly performs their acclaimed music as part of the CenterStage

music as part of the CenterStage Professional Touring Artist Series. \$15 Reston, \$30 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

Run With the Doctor. 7 a.m. 108
Elden St., Hernodn. The Center for
Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine
offers its services in a convenient
format to runners at this running
event. Free. facebook.com/runwiththedoctor.

4th annual Latino Festival of Reston. 1-5 p.m., at 12125 Pinecrest Road, Reston. Neighborhood and Community Services of Fairfax County celebrates Latino Heritage Month with dance, music, games, free raffles and informational tables at a free festival. 703-860-0676, TTY: 711 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 21-22

Grand Opening. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday at The Container Store, 1851 Fountain Drive, Reston. The retailer's 62nd location opens with executives performing a kick



"La Chien de Grange" by Mireille Molette, a native of France who studied at the Corcoran School of Art and is in the Art League of Old Town Alexandria. Molette creates painted landscapes, seascapes and still-lifes; her work will featured alongside other artists' at Paint Herndon, Saturday, Sept. 21. The exhibit is up through Sept. 29.

line, an award presentation to "super fan" Julie Bacon and organization makeover prizes; 10 percent of opening weekend sales will go to Cornerstornes (formerly Reston Interfaith). http://www.containerstore.com/locations/showStore.htm?store=RES

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 21-22

Rally for a Cause Tennis Tournament. 9 a.m., at Lake Newport Tennis Center, 11452

a.m., at Lake Newport Tennis Center, 11452 Baron Cameron Ave., Reston. Men's and women's singles and doubles, with brackets for all levels of players, to benefit USTA Serves, Heart and Cornerstones. \$30. www.restontennis.org or rally4acause@restontennis.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 22

America's Adopt a Soldier 5K/10K Fun Walk/Run. 10 a.m., at Lake Fairfax Park, 400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Wear red, white or blue and run or walk varied terrain in support of America's Adopt A Soldier projects and programs; donate coats for homeless veterans or other items (see at http://run-walk.eventbrite.com/) for care package assembly during and after the event. Preregistration only. \$40. http://run-walk.eventbrite.com/.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 26

Violin and Piano Concert. 2:15 p.m., at Hunters Woods Village Center, Reston Community Center, Center Stage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Sonya Hayes, violinist, made her solo debut at the age of 15 and has performed as a guest soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra Young People's Concert Series. Frank Conlon, accompanist and concert pianist, is one of Washington's best-known and favorite pianists. This is the second of six Thursday afternoon "Meet the Artists" concerts cosponsored by

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University and Reston Community Center. 703-503-3384, olli@gmu.edu, www.olli.gmu.edu.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 27-28

Science and Engineering Career Fair. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, at Dulles Town Center Mall, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. A career fair where students can learn about the latest careers in science and engineering; interactive activities abound, such as "creating your own earthquake," designing

solar cars, launching weather balloons and more. Congressman Frank Wolf speaks at the opening reception at 11 a.m. Friday. http://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=128634&org=NSF.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

Reston Multicultural Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., at Reston Community Center Lake Anne, 1609 Washington Plaza N., Reston. The highlighted event is the naturalization ceremony, where American's newest citizens take the Oath of Allegiance. Celebrate the diversity of Reston in a festival through music, entertainment, dress, food and cultural treasures. Everyone is encouraged to dress in attire from their own cultural roots. The 2013 National Heritage Award Fellowships at the Reston Community Center celebrates Seamus Connolly and Veronica Castillo, recipients of the nation's highest honor in folk and traditional arts. Volunteers needed. Free. www.restoncommunitycenter.com/ or http:// www.restoncommunitycenter.com/ arts_community_MCFvolunteer.shtml.

Harvest Fest. Noon-4 p.m., at Woodland Park Crossing, 12960 Highland Crossing Drive, Herndon. The fall-themed family event features a walking scarecrow, juggling unicyclist, **DJ** music, and free activities such as face painting, glitter tattoos, pumpkin painting, fitness demos, food samples, tastings and giveaways, prizes and more. 703-785-5634, http://www.facebook.com/WoodlandParkCrossing?ref=ts or www.woodlandparkcrossing.com.

FRIDAY/OCT. 4

Art House Cinema and Brew Series:

"Citizen Kane." 7 p.m., at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Nominal fee includes microbrews and film screening in the Post Gallery, with a little intro on what makes these films the best of all time; proceeds for the series will go toward supporting ArtSpace Herndon. www.artspaceherndon.com.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com by the Friday prior to the following week's paper.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 20

Great Decisions Discussion Group: Iran

and the U.S. 2 p.m., at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Discuss the topic "Iran and the U.S.: Three Decades of Futility" with others, employing the materials available at the library.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

Hoofin' it 5K. 8 a.m., at Fairfax Corner, Fair Oaks, Fairfax. A fall 5K to benefit Special Olympics Virginia; includes free sandwiches and cheering Chick-fil-A Cows as well as race t-shirts and awards for winners. \$35 through Sept. 19, \$40 day-of. prracing.com.

Susco 8K. 9 a.m., at South Lakes High School,

Susco 8K. 9 a.m., at South Lakes High School, 11400 S. Lakes Drive, Reston. An 8K race and 2K walk/fun in memory of Timothy P. Susco, promoting brain aneurysm and organ donation awareness; door prizes, t-shirt, and awards included. \$35; \$40 day-of. http://susco8k.com/race_information.

Help the Homeless Walk. 8:30 a.m. registration, 9 a.m., at Southview Community Church, 2620 Reston Parkway, Oak Hill. The annual community walk helps the homeless with monetary donations and support through charities. \$20 for 25 and under; \$30 for 25-plus. www.hthwalks.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 25

Herndon Historical Society. 7:30 p.m., at Herndon Depot Museum, 717 Lynn St., Herndon. David Guillaudeu, author of :Washington & Old Dominion Railroad (Images of Rail)," will talk about the trials and tribulations of making do with scrounged equipment and materials on the always financially strapped line. carolbrcom@aol.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 26

Show in artReston. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-

Saturday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday, at the Jo Ann Rose Gallery, Lake Anne Community Center, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. The League of Reston Artists invites submissions of paintings, mixed media, two-dimensional fine art excluding photography and fine crafts to the exhibition. The deadline to enter in Sept. 26. www.leagueofrestonartists.org.

Migrating Towards Prosperity. 5:30-7:30 p.m., at 3080 Centreville Road, Herndon. An event sponsored by the Hispanic Business Council featuring discussion on current issues in the Latino community. Deep Dreams plays for the crowd to dance, Hispanic restaurants of Northern Virginia cater and Latino dancers and musical groups perform. \$20, prepaid members; \$25, members at the door and prepaid nonmembers; \$30 non-members at the door.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 27-28

Volunteering for Reston Multicultural Festival. 3-6 p.m. setup Friday, 7-8 p.m. shifts Saturday, at Lake Anne Plaza, 1609A Washington Plaza, Reston. The Reston Multicultural Festival is an annual event that brings together the people of Reston to celebrate our rich medley of cultures. The festival opening will include a Naturalization Ceremony where America's newest citizens will take the Oath of Allegiance. Shifts involve set-up, parking attendant, volunteerrelief "floaters," arts and crafts, survey takers, concessions, break down, etc.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

Volunteer for Reston Multicultural Fest.

7 a.m.-8 p.m., at Lake Anne Plaza, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. Volunteers ages 13 and up are needed to help make the event a success; volunteers receive a free t-shirt and food voucher.



FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

Mount Pleasant Church, 2516 Squirrel Hill Road, Herndon, celebrates its 147th anniversary with a Wednesday, Sept. 18, guest speaker, Dr. Matthew Watley from Reid Temple A.M.E. Church in Silver Spring, Md., founder of Power Lunch, a non-denominational noon-time worship service held in D.C.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery and childcare are provided and youth and adult Sunday school classes are held prior, from 9:40-10:45 a.m. 703-437-5500 or www.trinityherndon.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston, holds weekly classes starting Sept. 12, Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m., for the general public which use Buddhist teachings to practice meditation. \$12. 202-986-2257 or www.meditation-dc.org

St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 1700 Wainwright Drive in Reston, holds Sunday services at 7:45 a.m., 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and contemporary service at 5 p.m. Nursery, Sunday school and adult education available. Morning prayer on Monday at 9:30, Holy Eucharist Wednesday at 8:15 a.m. 703-437-6530 or www.stannes-reston.org.

Adult Sunday school will be held 9:30 a.m. Sundays at the Washington Plaza Baptist Church at Lake Anne Village Center. The group is studying the Gospel of Mark. Services follow at 11 a.m.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. ShalomDC.org.

The Baha'i community of McLean holds a weekly fireside, a meeting of discussion, devotion and fellowship, at 7500 Box Elder Court in McLean, at 8 p.m. every Friday. An opportunity to learn about the Baha'i faith. 703-556-3400.

Epiphany United Methodist Preschool, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, is now enrolling 3- to 4-year-old students for the 2010/ school year. 703-938-2391 or www.epiphanypreschool.com.

Hope Fellowship Church will temporarily be meeting at Woody's Golf Range, 11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Sunday worship services for the Southern Baptist church are at 10:45 a.m. The public is invited to join a Bible believing, multiethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. 703-599-3527 or www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org.

Knitters needed the first and third Wednesdays of the month, at 7 p.m., at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church's Shawl Ministry is offering free knitting instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. E-mail shawl@sainttimothys.org or visit the Pastoral Care page at www.saint-timothys.org.

Nondenominational Christian businessmen meet for prayer, biblical discussion and fellowship 7 p.m. Fridays at Anita's, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and 12 p.m. Thursdays at 555 Grove St., Suite 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.

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MON. OCTOBER 7TH, 2013 9:30 A.M.

INTERNATIONAL COUNTRY CLUB

Binquet

Silent/Live Auction

Raffles and Prizes

Skills Competitions

REGISTER www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/ golf-tournament-2/

For Information on

Spansorships or to register a foursome,

Contact:

"Fore" the Kids Golf Tournament

TITLE SPONSOR

VOLKSWAGEN













The Third Annual "Fore" the Kels Golf Tournament will be held Distator 7th, 2013 at International Country Club in Fairfax County. Each year the event brings together golf enthusiasts for a round of golf. skills competitions, great hood and wonderful nuffle and silent auction items all to support Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Fairfai County Region.

The event helps to fund programs not in the region's childs. These range from daily homework help. participation in local sports leagues to STEAM Cicience, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics! programming and financial skills building. Bur clubs are halping members build confidence, develop character and learn skills that will help them become productive, civic-minded and responsible adults.













Amir Capriles amir.capriles@microsoft.com 703.362.6970

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Fairfax County Clubs Contact Wonhee Kang at 703) 304-8631, website: www.bgcgw.org/fairfax, email: wkang@bgcgw.org

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Music 4 years to 2nd grade 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

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703-437-6530 www.stannes-reston.org 1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston



The Greek Orthodox Parish of Loudoun County



invites you to celebrate the Divine Liturgy with us Sundays at 9:30 a.m., with fellowship to follow.

www.greekorthodoxloudoun.org 21580 Atlantic Blvd., Unit 160, Building D Dulles, VA (Route 28 and Nokes Blvd)







To Highlight your Faith Community, Call Karen at 703-917-6468

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Library Trustees Suspend Beta Plan

From Page 8

more feedback and people involved in the process."

Karrie Delaney, the Sully District appointee to the Library Board of Trustees, acknowledged "challenges ahead," but added that it was "great to see people so engaged and to know that our public libraries are treasured. ... With the support of our community, and the expertise of our library staff and administration, I believe we can build and sustain an exceptional library system that serves all the people of Fairfax County." Delaney has already planned a series of public town hall forums at Centerville and Chantilly libraries in October.

SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE **PUBLIC** spoke briefly before the board's vote, imploring board members to put the beta plan on hold.

"Libraries are sacred space. Books are sacred vehicles that transmit our culture," said Kathy Kaplan, a longtime Reston resident and member of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. "You are the trustees of the library. You have a sacred trust to protect the libraries for the people of Fairfax County," Kaplan said to applause from the audience.

Criticism of the beta plan had been building since July, when Clay unveiled a program that would test a new organization model at the Burke Centre Library and the Reston Regional Library, the busiest library branch in the county. The reorganization, Clay said, streamlined staffing and eliminated redundancies while retaining a high level of service.

But the plan, which include reduced staffing, cross-training staff members and lowering the education requirements for librarians sparked outrage among library volunteers, staff and patrons who call the plan "disastrous," "a library meltdown" and "the end of our libraries as we know it."

Clay said he was taken aback by the tone and tenor of the criticism.

"Everyone has difficulty with change. When all is said and done, when you have been in a job for a while, change is quite rightly a concern. I understand that," Clay said.

Clay, who has a Master's of Library Science degree and has been head of the Fairfax library system

Scheduled Public Library **Outreach Forums**

Sunday Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. at the SEIUVA office

3545 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 106, Fairfax * Thursday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Centreville Library

Monday, Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. at Chantilly Library
 Thurs, Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, 22042

of the library system was necessary to deal not only with diminishing budgets, but also a digital world, where the Internet has replaced newsprint, e-books have supplanted paperbacks, and the latest films stream directly to your

Clay noted that in the past five years, the libraries' budget has been cut by 23 percent and library visits have declined about 10 percent. Circulation is down about 6 percent over that time.

"We have a responsibility to look at the future of libraries and find ways to evolve and compete," Clay said. "It's a constant question—'can you try to change too much?' The beta plan was not etched in stone. It was a test," Clay said. "And it seemed to me it was prudent, to say, 'let's try these things out. Let's look at things like appropriate staffing levels."

But certain measures in the beta plan, such as giving the county the flexibility to hire librarians who may not have a master's degree and reshaping the role of youth services librarians—infuriated employees and patrons and sparked a storm of protest.

Clay said he is committed to "starting from scratch," getting feedback and input from stakeholders and employees. "New beginnings are always good. We welcome everyone's input," Clay said.

Michele Endow of Herndon said she looked forward to participating in the outreach meetings. A lifelong library patron, Endow said she was disappointed that Fairfax County seemed to be losing ground when it came to keeping up with library innovations.

"I signed up for computer classes, and instead of computer terminals, the instructor had just a slide machine. These classes should be hands-on, with computer terminals for students.

for 31 years, said a makeover of the **BUT SOME** library staff and mem-

bers of the volunteer Friends of the Library groups remain skeptical of any real change as a result of outreach efforts.

"I'm glad they put this on hold," said Anita Ramos of Centreville. "But I won't be happy until this entire beta plan is dead. Dead, dead and dead. Fairfax libraries have played an important role for ethnic minorities and people who don't speak English. We need specialists who can provide the knowledge that the Internet doesn't."

Another longtime library advocate who asked not to be named because of possible job repercussions said much of the damage has already been done.

'Trashing thousands of perfectly good books, proposing the elimination of librarians, proposing the elimination of services for kids, proposing the downgrading of library staff both in literal grade and in the variety of depth of their work, sidelining the staff and Friends in the planning process it is almost a posture of resignation and despair," he said. "There is already a ruptured trust and lack of confidence from almost every stakeholder group which makes it hard to envision a bright, hopeful new future for FCPL under this leadership."

"My 32 year commitment has been to produce the very best public library services in Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax," Clay said. "There's no way I would jeopardize

Clay said the criticism stings— "It is hard. ... I can't say this whole thing doesn't bother me"-but what he needs to focus on is helping navigate the future of the library "at an incredibly perilous

"Here's the bottom line for me. I want the Fairfax County Public Library to be so vital and so vibrant in five years that no one could imagine going a day without interacting with our library," Clay said.



"The 39 Steps" cast, from left: Evan Crump, Emily Levey, James Finley and Nick Rose.

A Playful Homage To Hitchcock

"The 39 Steps" opens at new, professional NextStop Theatre.

> By David Siegel THE CONNECTION

itchcock meets hilarity" is the way cast member Nick Rose describes "The 39 Steps," the first production of Fairfax County's newest professional theater company, NextStop Theatre in Herndon.

The play calls for the classic adventure film "The 39 Steps" to be performed with a cast of only four in over 140 different roles.

With quick changes and played mainly for knowing laughs, the script is full of references and puns on numerous Alfred Hitchcock films.

"We have assembled a very special and unbelievably talented cast for our first production as NextStop Theatre Company," said Artistic Director Evan Hoffmann.

"The show is a love letter for audiences. It is something familiar, but with an unexpected delightful take-off of film noir."

"The 39 Steps" mixes the Hitchcock classics with plenty of Monty Python as four actors take on more than 140 characters. They move about England and Scotland, as they meet their share of murder, high-speed chases, mistaken identities, espionage and, of course, ro-

The show was adapted by Patrick Barlow from the original novel by John Buchan and the Hitchcock movie.

James Finley, most recently in Keegan Theater's "A Few Good Men," plays the leading man, key to any Hitchcock movie. He described his character as the

When and Where

NextStop Theatre presents "The 39 Steps" at Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Performances: Sept. 26-Oct 20; tickets: \$25-\$27; show times: Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturdays evenings at 8 p.m., Sundays 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Call 866-811-4111 or visit www.NextStopTheatre.org.

"quintessential leading man, but done with a wink and a nod. The show is frenetically paced; fast and funny. A great evening of entertainment for the audi-

Nick Rose, a 1988 graduate of Herndon High School and graduate of James Madison University, plays numerous characters in the production. He assisted with the original founding of the Elden Street Players some 25 years ago and is now "pleased to return and be in the first production of the new NextStop Theatre. It is wonderful to be back and performing in my old home town."

He normally performs with the professional Cincinnati, Ohio Shakespeare Company.

Evan Crump, known to local audience for taking on off-center, unusual characters with delight will do so once again. "These roles seem to find me, and I love them."

Emily Levey, who has performed with the likes of Studio Theatre, will play the three beautiful women the hero encounters during his adventures.

"The 39 Steps" is a high-wire act farce; a pastiche of serious classic movies played with delight and twinkling eyes.

"An enjoyable time for everyone as we lovingly pay homage to Hitchcock," said Rose.

SPORTS

South Lakes Football Overcomes Fourth-quarter Deficit

Denny scores two touchdowns in win against W-L.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

ot much had gone right for the South Lakes offense when the Seahawks took over on their own 19-yard line with less than 5 minutes remaining.

South Lakes trailed Washington-Lee, 8-7. Other than a long touchdown pass in the third quarter, the Seahawks struggled to move the ball against the Generals defense. South Lakes was running out of time and needed to make something happen.

"I just told the line to block hard and just give it your all," South Lakes senior Khayri Denny said, "and I'll go down and get the yards for them."

Denny had some help along the way, but his 12-yard touchdown run with 1:27 left on the clock capped a 13-play, 81-yard drive and propelled the South Lakes football team to a 14-8 victory over Washington-Lee on Sept. 12 in Arlington.

W-L took the lead with 6:58 remaining in the fourth quarter, when quarterback Sam Appel scored on a 1-yard run and followed by reaching the ball across the goal line for a two-point conversion. South Lakes fumbled the ball away to W-L on its next play, setting up the Generals at the Seahawks 31-yard line.



South Lakes' Khayri Denny carries the ball against Washington-Lee.

WITH THEIR BACKS AGAINST THE WALL, the Seahawk defense stopped the Generals on fourth down at the 19-yard line, and the South Lakes offense responded with the winning touchdown drive.

"It's definitely a great win," third-year South Lakes head coach Marvin Wooten said. "What I love most about this game — because we knew W-L, they're a good football team — what I loved most about it is our kids had to overcome adversity.

This group right here, they haven't really been faced with a lot of adversity. ... To watch these kids come together and overcome that adversity is just a great feeling.

"... We wouldn't have won this game a year ago. We wouldn't have won this game two years ago."

Denny finished 37 yards and a touchdown on the ground and caught four passes for 85 yards

and another score. Denny took a direct snap and ran 12 yards for the game-winning touchdown.

"He's our most dynamic player [on] both sides of the ball," Wooten said. "... Any great coach will tell you, when it's time to really test these kids, put the ball in your playmaker's hands and that's what we did. We just made sure that he got his touches. We kind of threw it on his back and he stepped up. He answered the call and that's what great players do."

Wooten acknowledged the performance of sophomore quarterback Seth Ravenstahl, giving him the game ball after he completed 7 of 15 passes for 107 yards, with one touchdown and an interception. Ravenstahl connected with Denny for a 65-yard touchdown with 10:58 left in the third.

"Seth's just a sophomore, so he still has some time to develop," Wooten said. "Right now, we don't have a seasoned quarterback. Seth is going to be that guy, but it's go-



R.J. Lee and the South Lakes football team beat Washington-Lee on Sept. 12.

ing to take time. We don't want to rush him. ... That pass he threw in the third quarter — that was as good a pass as anybody's going to throw. He read it perfectly. I really thought that was the play of the game."

SOUTH LAKES IMPROVED to

1-1. The Seahawks dropped their opener against Westfield, 45-7, on Sept. 6.

A gutsy call by Washington-Lee head coach Josh Shapiro gave the Generals a fourth-quarter lead against South Lakes, but the Generals failed to hold on. Appel's 1yard touchdown run with 6:58 remaining in the contest pulled W-L within a point at 7-6. The Generals lined up to attempt the gametying extra point, but South Lakes jumped offside. The penalty moved the ball inside the 2-yard line and Shapiro elected to send his offense back onto the field for an attempt at a two-point conversion. Appel kept the ball and reached across the goal line to give W-L an 8-7 lead.

On the next play from scrimmage, W-L recovered a South Lakes fumble at the Seahawks 31-yard line. After the Generals picked up a first down at the 19, Appel threw incomplete four consecutive times, giving the ball back to South Lakes on downs.

The Seahawks responded with the game-winning drive.

"It was kind of one of those things where, how many times can we rely on our defense to bail us out?" Shapiro said. "And finally they caved."

Appel completed 14 of 26 passes for 109 yards and an interception. Junior running back Daquay Harris carried 23 times for 70 yards.

"Offensively, we can't really find our identity," Shapiro said. "We're so inconsistent."

South Lakes will host rival Herndon at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 20. W-L will host Stuart at the same time.

- FOOTBALL ROUNDUPS

Oakton Football To Face Annandale

The Oakton football team (1-1) had a bye last week and will return to action on the road against Annandale at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 20.

Herndon Football Loses to West Springfield

The Herndon football team lost to West Springfield, 23-21, on Sept. 12.

The loss dropped the Hornets' record to 0-2. Herndon will travel to face rival South lakes at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 20.

McLean Football Beats Marshall

The McLean football team defeated Marshall 32-3 on Sept. 12. The victory improved the Highlanders' record to 1-1. Marshall dropped to 0-2.

McLean will travel to face Falls Church at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 20. Marshall will host Freedom at the same time.

Langley Football Falls to Stone Bridge

The Langley football team lost to Stone Bridge, 45-35, on Sept. 12.

Langley quarterback Nick Casso completed 19 of 27

passes for 251 yards and four touchdowns. He also ran for a score. Receiver Garrett Collier finished with 13 catches for 209 yard and two touchdowns.

The loss dropped Langley's record to 1-1. The Saxons will travel to face T.C. Williams at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21.

Madison Football Falls to Chantilly

The Madison football team lost to Chantilly, 41-17, on Sept. 12.

Madison's Marcus Pearson scored on an 8-yard run in the third quarter and Jason Gastrock connected with Brad Leydig for a 5-yard touchdown pass.

The Warhawks (0-2) will travel to face Fairfax at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 20.

A Study in **Contrasts**



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The decision for yours truly to participate in a Phase 1 Study at N.I.H. or Johns Hopkins (depending upon availability and qualifications) discussed in last week's column has been put on hold, temporarily. It seems that my oncologist was thinking about me over the holiday weekend and called me on Wednesday following Labor Day to say he had a diagnostic idea concerning me: a 24-hour urine collection (a "Creatinine Clearance Study") which would provide a more accurate reading (than the regular lab work I have; from blood) of my kidney function. Although the logistics haven't been worked out - insofar as exactly how I get a sample to their lab - "the idea" as my father used to say, "has merit," so I happily agreed in principle and awaited a phone call from my oncology nurse to explain the dos and don'ts.

Apparently, there is yet one more chemotherapy drug - of recent vintage, and design, that my oncologist would like to try. He hasn't suggested its infusion previously, because like many drugs, it is filtered through the kidneys; and after four-and-a-half years of varying types of chemo/targeted therapy, (I.V. and oral) the damage to my kidneys - particularly as evidenced by my elevated creatinine level and below-average "glomerular filtration rate" (45 when 60 is normal) is and always has been cause for concern and caution. Collateral damage as I call it, is still damage, and renal failure/kidney dialysis is all it's cracked up to be: not good, so diagnosis-to-date, we've avoided the risk. I've always agreed that since trouble has already found me, I'm hesitant to look for it. Perhaps there will yet be a reward for our prudence and patience.

Per the over-the-phone instructions I eventually received, I submitted my 24-hour sample on Monday morning. At 10:11 that evening, my oncologist e-mailed my test results. Although the colors were not flying, the test results were nonetheless improved, sufficiently so that we are indeed going ahead with I.V. chemotherapy once again. Therefore, for the immediate future, anyway, N.I.H. and Johns Hopkins are "back-burnered." Alimta, the I.V. chemotherapy drug which I will be infusing, is my new best friend. A drug designed specifically for the treatment of patients with nonsmall cell lung cancer (me); every three weeks living forward, I will be infused at the Infusion Center. The entire process will take about two hours, I was told. "Two hours" I can do in my sleep, which sometimes is exactly what I do (the BarcaLoungers are extremely comfortable and the warm blankets are super cozy). So here we go, again. Nevertheless, it feels right.

If I had been accepted into a Study, my treatment would have been experimental and as much - if not more, about the next person. As it was explained to me by my oncologist, I would have been sort of a guinea pig, being injected with an experimental, non-FDAapproved medicine that previously had showed some promise when treating mice. I have no problem with this process and understand that such pursuits occasionally provide miraculous outcomes, and I'm certainly open to reconsidering should the opportunity present itself. However, going from a definite maybe at N.I.H to an FDA-approved for the treatment of non-small cell lung cancer drug seems like a no-brainer, even for me. Granted, I'm still a long way from anywhere, but it feels good to be back in the game, rather than being on the sidelines, sort of (with all due respect to N.I.H. and Johns Hopkins).

My future is now and thanks to this most recent diagnostic test, my treatment with Alimta can also be now; Friday the 20th,

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers

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grills in his family's vineyard in Piemonte, Italy.



Ben Gaiarin, a 16-year-old Reston native and student at South Lakes High School, caramelizes a pan of balsamic onions.

Reston Teen Serves Up Recipes the Italian Way

By Lauren Bordeaux THE CONNECTION

magine vourself savoring all the flavors of Europe; the cheeses and breads of Switzerland, the bratwurst and schnitzel of Germany, the pastries of France, the pastas and pizzas of Italy and the classic dishes of countries like England, Spain, Austria and Hungary.

Ben Gaiarin, a 16-year-old Reston native and student at South Lakes High School, has done all this and more. A dual citizen of Italy and the United States, Ben is a foodenthusiast and an aspiring chef. "Being around my grandma, my Italian grandma, my nonna Italia, I always found her to be the best cook in the world and she taught me a lot, making homemade gnocchi and ragus and fried zucchini flour," said Gaiarin.

Realizing he wanted to share his love of cooking as an art form with others, Ben decided in the summer of 2012 to start a food blog, documenting his travels, experiences and new recipes. He not only emphasizes how to make the recipes, but includes photos of the food as he cooks it, which he considers art as well. "I wanted the website to be just a beautiful piece of work, really focus on the pictures because the beauty of the food is in the pictures, not so much just the writing," said Gaiarin.

After much contemplation with his family, he named the website BenGusto. Ben as a shortened version of the word "buon" for good in Italian and "Gusto" for the word taste, "Good Taste." As he started blogging about his experiences with food in Italy, like gelato and tomato sandwiches, Ben began to build a substantial following. Now he has around 100 followers, from all over the world, with a significant following here in Fairfax County.

Three years back, Ben had lunch with the famous Italian chef Luigi Brunetti. There, Brunetti casually mentioned to Ben that he could come work for him any time. At the time, Ben thought nothing of it. But as his work with his blog increased, he thought that working for a famous chef in Italy would be great for his writing. So this summer he worked for two weeks at the Tuscan restaurant of the Agrihotel Elisabetta.

"I worked under this top chef and this family, it's almost the stereotypical establishment that you would imagine an Italian hotel to be. It was run by one family; yes they have some arguments, just like TV. They have some arguments between the workers, the waiter son doesn't really like the waiter chef, they kind of fight a little bit, but they all love each other," said Ben of his experience.

With the staff not sure of his experience, he started with the dirty work at the restaurant, but once he proved himself he was assigned major tasks like preparing the lobster or pasta dish for the main meal. He made tiramisu and fresh breads and even learned how to gut a fish, which turned out to be his favorite task.

Ben hopes to continue his blog and expand the name brand of BenGusto into a tool for young chefs to learn to create their own recipes and expand as a personal chef business.



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