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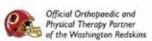




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NEWS

Meeting a Critical, Community Need

Insight Memory Care Center celebrates new, larger building.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

t was raining outside, but warm and cheerful inside, when dignitaries gathered March 4 to cut the ribbon celebrating Insight Memory Care Center's new home.

A nonprofit providing a variety of services and support to people with Alzheimer's and dementia, and their families, it moved in January from a 5,000-square-foot facility in Merrifield to a 15,000-square-foot building at 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, in Fairfax.

"We are so excited to finally be here," said Insight's Executive Director Joel Bednoski. "This is a momentous moment in our history. We've increased our size, so our activity room is four-and-a-half times the size of the old one. We have more space for education and support classes and can now expand our early-stage programming. It was a long road to get here, but we did it."

He said they now have dedicated space for art therapy, physical therapy, the multi-sensory room and the music-and-memory area. And for the first time in Insight's 30-year history, it has a secure, 1,000-square-foot, outdoor space where participants may garden and wander on their own.

INSIGHT ALLOWS those with memory impairments to continue living at home, in the community, with day services and support. And, said Bednoski, "The social aspect of being around other people is so important for them."

Serving the local community since 1984, Insight is the only dementia-specific, adult day center in the Washington, D.C., area and the only center in Northern Virginia with programs for people in the latter stages of an Alzheimer's illness.

Currently, about 45 people participate in the programs there. A full-time nurse is on hand and all 22 or so staff members are trained in dementia care. The facility's open Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and both the participants and their families are pleased with its offerings.

"The Board was especially touched that 100 percent of our participants in our old space came here," said Insight Board President Tom West. "And that was the most integral validation for us."

He said the Board – which contributed \$45,000 of its own – hoped to raise \$425,000 for the expansion and has raised 60 percent so far. And, he added, "Linda and Lou Mazawey made a significant gift that got our expansion campaign off to the right start."

"Insight Memory Care Center meets critical, community needs in the dementia area



Joel Bednoski cuts the ribbon for the new center.



Insight's Board of Directors President Tom West.

and this was an opportunity to increase the impact," said Linda Mazawey. "The demand for these services will only be increasing and, with your continued support, we'd like to [someday] be talking about a second location for Insight."

She works with Care Options, a geriatric-care organization, and is a long-time volunteer in the dementia-care field. And she and her husband donated \$125,000 for the Education and Outreach Center named in their honor at Insight's new building. There, programs are offered for families and professional caregivers.

"My mother had dementia many years ago," explained Linda Mazawey. "She lived in New York and I was in Virginia, and I joined the Alzheimer's Assn. through support groups to help me understand my mother's care. I was also involved in the organization and Insight for 20 years."

Mazawey's now on the center's development committee and is glad to help Insight accomplish its mission. "This new facility is a big, financial undertaking for them, and



Honored donor Linda Mazawey.

[their work] is so important," she said. "I appreciate the hands-on support this center brings to the community."

PATRICIA ROHRER, a long-term care program developer with Fairfax County's Health Department, said Insight has been a "key partner" of the county for many years. "We're truly impressed at the care and support the staff provides to members of our community," she said. "And we're equally excited at the anticipation of growth from the expansion of the new center."

Noting that dementia-care needs are growing, she said, "In Fairfax County, there'll be a 25-percent increase in the number of people 50-69 years old and a 58-percent increase in the number of people 70 years and older, from 2005 to 2020."

But Rohrer also stressed that the county has been preparing for this rise for quite awhile. "Both the Board of Supervisors' 50 + Community Action Plan and the Long Term Care Coordinating Council have a priority focus on building service capacity for older adults and family caregivers," she said.



Patricia Rohrer, Long Term Program Developer with Fairfax County.

Rohrer then acknowledged Insight staff member Christi Clark for chairing the Long Term Care Coordinating Council's Services for Seniors Committee, and Council Chairman Pat Williams for her many years on the Council.

"Insight Memory Care Center works in collaboration, not just with us at Fairfax County, but with other organizations in the community," said Rohrer. "Because of these collaborations, collectively, we're able to make a real difference for older adults. As more and more families will be faced with a dementia diagnosis, it's wonderful to know that Insight is here, at an expanded capacity, to care, educate and support our families."

Since Insight fulfills such a critical need, she said, the community's "fortunate to have such a center. Alzheimer's and other memory impairments are hard and take a major toll on caregivers. Thank you for all you do and congratulations on a huge milestone in your organization."



First Meeting Scheduled for Ad Hoc Police Commission

With endorsement, albeit non-unanimous, from the Board of Supervisors, the ad hoc commission organized by Board Chairman Sharon Bulova to review Fairfax County Police Department practices will hold its first meeting March 23.

A statement from Bulova's office said, "The Commission will recommend changes, consistent with Virginia law, which would help Fairfax County achieve its goal of maintaining a safe community, ensuring a culture of public trust and making sure our policies provide for the fair and timely resolution of police-involved incidents."

The 34-member commission comprises 10 citizens, nine police representatives, five legal authorities, three academics and consultants, five members of the media and two county staff members, not including commission Chairman Michael Hershman and Bulova.

Though not on the original list presented by Bulova,

a recent addition to the commission membership is Salvatore Culosi whose son Dr. Salvatore "Sal" Culosi, Jr. was killed by a Fairfax County Police officer Jan. 24, 2006 outside his Fair Oaks townhouse.

A current list of the commission members and more information on the commission itself is available on the county website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission.

The public meeting is scheduled to take place March 23 at the Fairfax County Government Center, rooms 9 and 10, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The government center is located at 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax.

Future meetings are tentatively scheduled for April 27, May 18 and June 22, all at the same time and location.

— TIM PETERSON

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Tax Map #: 57-4-20-4C

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Parcel 4 (Mohammed N. Shirazi, et al.): 4242 Chain Bridge Road #D, Fairfax; Fairfax Professional Village Condos. Tax Map #: 57-4-20-7D

Parcel 5 (John Samuel Jackson, et al.): 6313 Old Dominion Drive, McLean; Chesterbrook; 0.438+/- Acre. Tax Map #: 0313-01-0070



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Area Roundups

Lake Braddock and Robinson Update Security

According to school releases, Lake Braddock and Robinson Secondary Schools have each updated security features on their campuses.

Beginning March 17, Lake Braddock will keep all exterior doors to the building locked and require visitors to pass through a video-entry system by pressing a doorbell. Other schools around Fairfax County have already implemented such a system.

Robinson recently added a computerized sign-in system for visitors. The system is already in use at some of the secondary school's feeder elementary schools and requires a valid driver's license (from any state). The check-in system scans the license barcode and takes a photo of the visitor, finally printing a personalized visitor's

— Tim Peterson

No Evidence of Problems with Foxes and Coyotes

Though it's not uncommon to have additional sightings of wild-life such as foxes and coyotes in late winter and early spring, according to Fairfax County Police Department spokesperson Lucy Caldwell, Animal Control Services doesn't have any anecdotal information pointing to problems with the two species.

"This time of year, with the snow, things were more noticeable," Caldwell said. "Also, it's breeding season, so pups will be born soon and there will be additional protective behaviors like moving around to secure the den."

Citizens should only report wild animals that pose a threat to humans or pets, show signs of rabies or appear sick or injured.

Animal Control is available by phone seven days a week, from 6 a.m. to 12 a.m. at the non-emergency dispatch number 703-691-2131. More information can be found on the Animal Control page of the county website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal/animal-control-services.htm.

—TIM PETERSON









OPINION

On Police Information and Secrecy

Time for change in public access to police information.

he first meeting of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission will take place next Monday, March 23, and it comes with hope for real change.

Police could take one step that would signal that they are serious about regaining public trust.

EDITORIAL Police departments in Northern Virginia should let go of their relentless pursuit of secrecy. Police departments all over the country routinely allow access to police reports, incident reports, dashboard video and many other sources of information without harm, all things that police here refuse to allow the public to see.

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

Police officials in Fairfax (and also in Arlington and Alexandria) have adopted what they call a "blanket" approach to using their exemption. That means they have decided to withhold any document they can without any analysis of whether they should, whether the case is open or closed, whether they are about a "police-involved shooting" or information requested by a family about a homicide victim.

It is only because of legal action by the fam-

ily of John Geer, shot dead by a Fairfax County police officer in the doorway to his own home in August 2013, and the resulting court order that we know

details of what happened that day. And what we now know confirms that the information released by police was incomplete and misleading at best.

We've learned that we cannot trust the leadership at the Fairfax County Police Department to tell the truth voluntarily on these matters. (See Editorial: "Not the First or Only Time," Connection, Feb. 11, 2015.)

Repeating what we have said in this space many times: Police wield power unlike any other entity — the power to detain and question, the power to arrest, the power to respond with force when necessary, sometimes deadly

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

Most Northern Virginia residents think very highly of their police. We are very safe here. People understand that sometimes mistakes happen, that sometimes force is needed, and that sometimes police will exercise deadly force. What they are unlikely to accept is secrecy that shrouds mistakes, and failure to take responsibility for explaining events of deadly

It's clear that discretion about when to withhold information cannot be left up to the police department.

—Mary Kimm, Editor and Publisher

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM Mary Kimm is a member of the Ad Hoc Police

Practices Review Commission; news coverage of police issues will continue to be the responsibility of reporters

Investing in Families Strengthens Communities

By Mary Agee President and CEO NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY AND NICHELLE A. MITCHEM,

JD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR United Community Ministries And Kerrie Wilson CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Cornerstones

he Fairfax County proposed \$7.13 billion budget for fiscal year 2016 comes at devastating cost for the most vulnerable families in our community. Included in the budget is the complete elimination of Healthy Families, a nationally recognized, evidence-based child abuse and neglect prevention program that serves hundreds of atrisk families. By eliminating this program, the total "savings" to the county would equal approximately \$1.6 million now, but could amount to unforeseen future costs for schools, human services, public safety and more.

Established in 1991, the Healthy Families Fairfax program provides \$3,473 per family per year. Last \$12,900 a year per child. comprehensive and intensive year, Healthy Families Fairfax home visiting services to expect- served 613 at-risk Fairfax County ant and new parents whose chilfamilies. Of these 613 at-risk famidren may be at risk for poor childhood outcomes. As an accredited affiliate of the national Healthy

program promotes positive Healthy Families services provide parenting skills and optimal child health and development as a means of preventing child abuse and neglect among fragile families living in Fairfax County.

In Healthy Families, home visits allow Family Support Workers to establish a trusting relationship with young parents, with the goal of helping the family move toward greater self-reliance. Along the way, staff ensures that the child's medical needs and developmental benchmarks are being met, and that parents are learning age-appropriate activities to encourage learning and growth. Many Family Support Workers are also able to identify other needed services for their families, and are able to leverage additional community resources that parents might not be able to obtain otherwise.

For the past 23 years, Healthy Families Fairfax has proven to be a wise investment of taxpayer's money. Since its inception, the program has met or exceeded all state mandated goals, an excellent return on an investment of only

❖ 97 percent of the children Families America network, the were born at normal birth weight.

better birth outcomes including a 50 percent reduction in the number of babies born at low birth weight, saving an average of \$15,000 in hospitalization costs for each preterm/low birth weight

- ❖ 82 percent of the children were up to date on immunizations, a higher rate than both state (70.4 percent) and national (69.2 percent) levels. Healthy Families services ensure children are connected with a regular medical provider and support families in their efforts to maintain a healthy lifestyle which, in turn, helps prevent chronic problems and keeps health care costs in check.
- ❖ 100 percent of children with suspected developmental delays were referred to the rapeutic early intervention services. Healthy Families services provide early detection of developmental delays, helping to decrease the number of children in need of special education services — a savings of
- ❖ 94 percent of the families demonstrated healthy parent-child interactions based on nationally validated assessments. Healthy Families services enhance parentchild interactions and increase

protective factors associated with the prevention of child maltreatment and neglect in the homes of disadvantaged families, potentially saving \$78,658 per year for one child in foster care.

❖ 99.4 percent of families had no substantiated case of child abuse or neglect based on Virginia Department of Social Service reports. Healthy Families services reduce the incidence of child and abuse and neglect by half, a tremendous saving given that child maltreatment costs between \$210,012 and \$1,272,900 over the lifetime of each victim.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors faces many difficult decisions when deciding upon budget priorities in the coming year, but we urge our legislators not to make budget reductions at the expense of our most vulnerable families and children. As University of Chicago Professor and Nobel Laureate in economics James Heckman said in regard to early childhood, "The question is not where to cut. The question is where to invest, and in what." We believe that it is in all of our best interests to continue investing in Healthy Families Fairfax.

The writers are three executive directors of the nonprofits that administer Healthy Families in Fairfax

■ Fairfax

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

SATURDAY/MARCH 21

Opportunity Expo and Job Fair. 1-5 p.m. West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Supervisor Pat Herrity and West Springfield High School PTSA to host a job fair for local job seekers. Although the job fair is not strictly for students and young job seekers, area high schools are making a push for students and parents to take advantage of this event to line up after-school employment, an internship, volunteer opportunities or a seasonal position for the summer.

MONDAY/MARCH 23

Library Tech Help. 11 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Get your library-related electronic resources questions answered. Includes help with eBooks and compatible devices. Adults. http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/ branches/fx/.

TUESDAY/MARCH 24

Tuesday Morning English Conversation Group. 10:30 a.m.
City of Fairfax Regional Library,
10360 North Street, Fairfax. Practice

10360 North Street, Fairfax. Practice speaking English with others and improve your skills. Adults. http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/.

Library Tech Help. 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Get your library-related electronic resources questions answered. Includes help with eBooks and compatible devices. Adults. http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/

branches/fx/. Naturalization Information

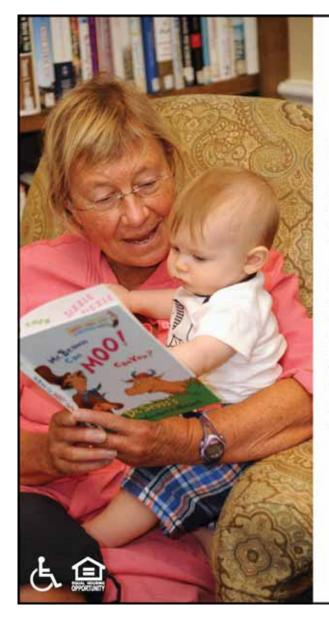
Session. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Naturalization information session for legal permanent residents and interested naturalization applicants. Topics covered include the naturalization process, the naturalization test, and the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship. Adults. To register visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/.

SATURDAY/MARCH 28

Microsoft Word. 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn the basics of word processing with Microsoft Word. Bring your questions! Adults. To register visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ library/branches/fx/.

MONDAY/MARCH 30.

Annual The Friends of the Fairfax Station Meeting. 7:30 p.m. 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. A short business meeting will be followed by local resident Lee Hubbard presenting to the Museum four long lost plaques from a 1903 commemorative monument at Sangster's Station. The meeting is free and open to the public. www.fairfax-station.org, 703-425-



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BENGLASSLAW

The Right Fit: Choosing a Summer Camp

How parents can ensure positive summer experiences for their children

away and the frigidity on the minds of many, Janelle where they are struggling to learn Wright, a Potomac, Md., mother of a new activity." two, has already mapped out the summer for her children.

Wright did research before signgeared toward boosting her English composition skills, and enrolling her 12-year-old son, Teddy, in is good to have a mix of both." a camp for children whose needs fall just outside the norm.

Indeed, experts say social interactions, a chance to have fun and an opportunity to fill the time be- needs children," said McCabe. tween family trips are just some of "You don't want to throw them in the benefits of summer camps.

There are camps for every child. no matter their needs.

with them up front that my son your child." might need help socializing with other kids," said Wright. "He might need directions repeated to him. I did that so I could drive away in peace knowing that he'd be fine. It's different for my daughter because she doesn't have any challenges. I don't have to call the camp and talk to them like I do with my

WHETHER A CHILD is typical or falls slightly outside the norm, doing a bit of research and exercising forethought are good ideas when selecting summer programs. In fact, advanced planning and registration for summer camp is essential in the Washington, D.C., region, say educators.

"It's important to find an activ- When choosing a summer camp, parents should consider ity that kids already like to do. It's signing up their children with friends to decrease the summer so kids should have fun," said Linda Gulyn, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington.

"Choose a camp where they strengths, the size of the groupings won't feel lonely. It helps to sign during the day," said Susan J. hands-on learning activities." them up with a buddy, especially Johnson, Ph. D., of Commonwealth in late elementary and middle Academy in Alexandria. "Consider feeling anxious about going to Mystics game, Reptiles Alive and school so they'll have one or two the length of time for each activ- camp, Johnson suggests parents Hershey Park. On site, we have competing in science competitions people at camp they already know. ity." That really does matter."

If choosing a specialty camp, coordinating their child's attention "This will ease first day anxiety Traditional camp experiences, ever. "Summer camps may not be clock of the child," she said. way around," she said. "Meet the cialty camps.

By Marilyn Campbell a time to have kids do something THE CONNECTION completely new," she said. "For example, if a child has never played hough the official start golf, you might not want to invest of spring is still days money in a golf camp if you aren't sure your child will enjoy it. A child of winter is still recent needs to feel like this is not school

> The most important thing is for parents to do their research.

"Interview the camp director, ing up her 13-year-old daughter, said Lois McCabe, head of school Corrine, in an academic camp for The Diener School in Potomac. "What does the day look like? How structured or unstructured is it? It

This is particularly true for children with special needs. "You want to make sure the camp understands the needs of special this big unstructured environment with other kids and hope for the best. You want to make sure your "I spoke to the camp and shared child's peer groups understand

chance of loneliness.

"Parents should consider a camp abilities, present directions, teach

that taps into their child's multiple strategies for learning



Campers at Kiddie Country Summer Camp in Burke take field trips as part of their summer experience. Camp is a time when children have fun while building social skills.

"Schedule afternoon camp for children who naturally sleep late in the mornings, for example."

INFORM THE CAMP'S STAFF

if a child has allergies, medical needs or phobias. For special needs children, Johnson says camp counselors and directors should be "aware of a child's specific learning disabilities, and trained in how to teach children with learning dis-

new skills and always incorporate

counselors if possible."

There are also options if parents want their children to enjoy typical camp activities like swimming and arts and crafts combined with academics. For example, Wright chose an English program at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac for her daughter.

"[Our] summer programs encompass academics for credit or enrichment and the arts [including] visual, performing and culinary," said Monique McMillan-Jackson, director of summer programs. St. Andrews also offers sports and technology camps.

Campers who attend Summer at Norwood in Potomac can expect to 'camp outside the lines," said Kevin Rechen, director of auxiliary programs at Norwood School. The school's camps run the gamut from art, science, technology and adventure to academics, dance, sports and theater.

SOME DAY CAMPS are structured to allow parents to choose the week their child will attend camp based on the camper's inter-

"We have a theme for every week that is packed with field trips and special events" said Fred Lowery, owner of Kiddie Country in Burke, which is running 11 weeks of camp this summer. "All of the camp activities are related to the theme. There are field trips to the Mary-For children who are prone to land Science Center, a Washington

Johnson advises that parents try visit the campus or building. jugglers to swimming."

Other local schools at the competition included Rachel Carson Middle School and the Nysmith School for the Gifted in Herndon, Joyce Kilmer Middle School in Vienna and Frost Middle School in Fairfax. These five schools were part of a total of 14 schools competing in Newport News on March

> science, physics, energy, and math. In 1991 the Department of Energy (DOE) created the National Science Bowl to encourage students to excel in mathematics and mately 240,000 students have participated in the National Science Bowl throughout its 24 year history, and it is one of the nation's largest science competitions."

7. The students were tested in a

range of scientific disciplines, in-

cluding biology, chemistry, earth

THE TEAM at Frost Middle School in Fairfax consists of Andrew Kim, Eugene Jeong, Vasti Salazar, Ruben Ascoli and John Small. All of them are eighth grade students, and two of them have competed in the competition previously.

"I think it's a lot of fun and I like do a practice run to camp and everything from mad science to and I like being on teams because there are other people who share the same interests as me," said summer might not be the time for span with the camp's schedule. and give the camper self confilities opportunities for socializing Ruben Ascoli, a member of his embarking on a new activity, how- "Match camp schedule with body dence that he or she knows his with peers, are still found in spe- school's team." To prepare, students on the team at Frost each www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

ational Science Bowl. From left: Vasti Salazar, Ruben Ascoli, Andrew Kim slightly back),

A Face-off in a Fast-Paced Competition

Students from local middle schools compete in the National Science Bowl.

By Marissa Beale took turns preparing a lecture per-

THE CONNECTION taining to a certain scientific topic. They then gave this lecture to other members of the team. "The biggest tudents from five local middle schools traveled to value is the kids have community Newport News to compete in with others who love science and the regional competition for the U.S. want to study it on their own time. Department of Energy Office of Feel like it has fantastic value and Science's National Science Bowl a lot of basic and fast-retrieval knowledge," said Rebecca Goldin. (NSB) at the Jefferson Nuclear Lab. The competition took place Saturmother of Ascoli and one of the day, March 7. Students from team's co-coaches. "All of the kids Longfellow Middle School will comare completely science lovers. I pete in the National Finals, held in think it will definitely help propel their interests further. There's a lot Washington, D.C. from April 30 to May 4, 2015 for their first place win of appreciation in schools if you're in Saturday's competition. really talented in a certain area."

Students representing Frost Middle School in the competition were selected from about 20-30 students at their school that were interested in being on the team.

"We had a practice written test and a practice round with the buzzer system," said John Small, a member of the team. "We tried to make sure we got the students that really knew about the topics and how to use the buzzer system."

THE COMPETITION consisted of a buzzer round, including quickresponse style questions. There were also a toss-up and bonus probscience and to pursue careers in lems all dealing with math and scithese fields. Furthermore, "Approxience questions that the students



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News



Photos by Terrance Moran/The Connection

Congressman Gerry Connolly (D-11) recognizing the many elected officials that attended his St. Patrick's Day fete.



Members of Fairfax County Firefighter Local 2068 prepare to take their volunteer places. From left: John Niemiec, Ron Kuley, Jenna Jackson, Marc Straubinger (all of Fairfax), and Pat Morrison, Falls Church

Connolly's 'Holiest Day of the Year'

or 20 years Gerry Connolly has hosted an annual St. Patrick's Day event. What started in his home has now become one of the biggest fundraising events in Northern Virginia.

As John Wittman from Fairfax Station said, "Throw in some great Irish fare and I'm there!"

Volunteers helped serve food and beverages to over 1,100 elected officials, candidates and party faithful with traditional Irish fare of corned beef and cabbage, potatoes and salmon. Throw in cups of Harp beer and the mood was festive across the Kena Temple ballroom.

Each year U.S. Rep. Connolly (D-11) conducts a Democratic presidential straw poll. Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton took 48 percent of the vote while former Virginia Sen. Jim Webb garnered 15 percent, followed by Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren at 10 percent, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders with 7 percent,

or 20 years Gerry and Vice President Joe Biden and Connolly has hosted an former Maryland Governor Martin annual St. Patrick's Day O'Malley, each with 6 percent.

Lt. Governor Ralph Northam, Congressman Don Beyer, Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and dozens of state and local officeholders from across Northern Virginia joined Connolly on stage. In his remarks, Connolly recognized the array of elected officials and candidates and said they represented the strength of Democratic principles and values in the region. "I am proud of our values to offer opportunity to everyone. Let talent be the ceiling, not your gender, color of your skin, or sexual orientation," Connolly.

Dozens of volunteers planned the annual event, decorated the ballroom, and prepared and served. Some volunteers and attendees have participated in all 21 of Connolly's St. Patrick Day's events, held on what he jokingly calls his "holiest day of the year."



Eileen and Mike Bliss of Annandale brought their children (from left) Ciaren, Maeve, and Brendan to show their support.



Volunteers (right to left): Tim Brown, Fairfax City; Devita Soehar, Arlington; Erich Steinbeck, Fairfax City; and Jerrod Pollard of Arlington, taking a bow for their hard work.



From left: Evie Ifantides, Bob Cattell, David Hackshaw and Kathy Hackshaw from Fairfax City relaxing after dinner. Kathy is the chair of the Democratic Committee.

Calendar

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

FRIDAY/MARCH 20

Rita's 23rd Annual First Day of Spring Free Italian Ice Giveaway. 12-9 p.m. Rita's of Fairfax, 10726 Fairfax Boulevard, Fairfax. Receive a complimentary limited-edition first day of Spring cup of Rita's Italian Ice to celebrate the new season.

City of Fairfax Library
Friends Spring Children's
Book Sale. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
City of Fairfax Regional
Library, 10360 North Street,
Fairfax. Choose gently used
books for children, for yourself
or as gifts. All ages. More
information at http://
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/
library/branches/fx/

library/branches/fx/.

Spring Book Sale. 10 a.m. - 6
p.m. Burke Centre Library,
5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke.
Peruse and shop a selection of
gently used books for sale by
The Friends of The Burke
Centre Library. All Ages. More
information at http://
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/
library/branches/bc/.

SATURDAY/MARCH 21 Civil War Historic Tour. 8:30

a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fairfax
Station Railroad Museum,
11200 Fairfax Station Road.
The Friends of the Fairfax
Station will sponsor a guided
Civil War Tour to include the
site of the Battle of Sangster's
Station, Historic St. Mary's
Church and sites where the
famous Mosby's Raiders
fought. Tour cost \$30 per
person; \$20 for Station
members. Wear clothing and
shoes suitable for low stress
hiking. Lunch at a local
restaurant or bring your own.

Space is limited. Contact the

Station at events@fairfax-

station.org or 703-425-9225. Opportunity Expo and Job Fair. 1-5 p.m. West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Supervisor Pat Herrity and West Springfield High School PTSA to host a job fair for local job seekers. Although the job fair is not strictly for students and young job seekers, area high schools are making a push for students and parents to take advantage of this event to line up afterschool employment, an internship, volunteer opportunities or a seasonal position for the summer.

Appraisal Event. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Find out what your items are worth, come get your items appraised by professionals. \$5 admission, \$5 for each appraisal. Limit 3 items. Proceeds go to City of Fairfax Senior Center.

Tales to Tails. 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Children age 6-12 read to a trained therapy dog. School Age. To register visit http://

See Calendar, Page II

Calendar

From Page 10

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/.

Neighborhood Summit. 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. The seminar will offer homeowners and community leaders practical advice on how to deal with common neighborhood problems.

SUNDAY/MARCH 22

City of Fairfax Library Friends Spring Children's Book Sale. 1

p.m. - 3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Choose gently used books for children, for yourself or as gifts. All ages. More information at http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/ branches/fx/.

What Buddhists, Hindus and Sikhs Believe. 2 p.m. Congregation Olam Tikvah, 3800 Glenbrook Road, Fairfax. The Interfaith Communities for Dialogue will have a panel of speakers host a discussion of the Buddhist, Hindu and Sikh religions. All attendees will have an opportunity to share similarities, differences and misconceptions of their religions through facilitated dialogue. RSVP at https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscode/EReg/Registration.aspx?groupID=26.

MONDAY/MARCH 23

Crazy 8s Math Club. 4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Glow-in-the-Dark City: Build a giant skyscraper of glowsticks and Styrofoam balls. Flick off the lights to see your creations! Grade K-2. To register visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/.

TUESDAY/MARCH 24

Tales to Tails. 4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Need practice reading? Read aloud to a friendly, trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. To register visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/.

THURSDAY/MARCH 26

Walk for Wishes. 6-8 p.m. Mosaic District, 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic invites the local community to participate in the inaugural northern Virginia Walk For Wishes. Join Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic wish kids, friends, families and supporters to help grant the wishes of local children with life-threatening medical conditions. Register and create fundraising teams online at www.WalkForWishesNOVA.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 28

Family Math Games. 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Come as a family to try our games! Build math and logic skills as a family. We'll have games for all levels with tips for parents to use at home. All ages. To register visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/.

SUNDAY/MARCH 29

Arts and Crafts Day at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 1-4

p.m. 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Involving the themes of the Museum - Railroading, the Civil War and local history. Admission: children 4 and under; \$2 children 5-15 and \$4 adults 16 and older. www.fairfax-station.org,



Some 36
Fairfax High
band members
were named to
the All-District
Band. Four
students also
made the AllVirginia Band.

Fairfax High Band Students Shine

Fairfax High band members made their school proud at the recent, All-District Band auditions, March 6, at West Springfield High. Fairfax had the most students selected of any high school in the district. Some 36 FHS band students were chosen and another nine were named alternates.

These students are: Keith Brown, Eric Burks, Nicholas Chim, Shannon Cummings, Christine Faunce, Shayan Fraiser, Imogen Hendricks, Arjun Iyer, Aiman Khan, Brendan Forrest, Matthew Forrest, Shashvat Jhaveri, Lexi Johnson, Jenny Jung, Jane Kim, Samantha Kim, Josh Lee, Sally Lee, Alan Liu, Ryan Ma, Cassie McDonald, Tim

McDonald, Jessica Moscowitz, Eric Mullet, Ki Yoon Nam, Nate Pelayo, Braden Pena, Jackson Samples, Justin Shin, Josh Sim, Hannah Smith, Yvonne Teng, Sara Young and Sarah Zotian.

In addition, four FHS students were selected for All-Virginia Band: Imogen Hendricks (1st Chair Oboe in the State), Aiman Khan (French Horn), Samantha Kim (2nd Chair bass Clarinet in the State) and Sarah Zotian (French Horn).

The Wind Ensemble performed its assessment program March 7 and received a Superior rating, ensuring that the FHS Band program was again recognized as a "Virginia Honor Band" for the seventh year in a row.

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Sports



Senior point guard Eric Bowles led Woodson with 20 points during the Cavaliers' 59-51 loss to Colonial Forge during the 6A boys' basketball state semifinals on March 13 at VCU's Siegel Center.



Photos by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

The W.T. Woodson "Cavalry" cheer on the Cavaliers during the 6A boys' basketball state semifinals on March 13 at VCU's Siegel Center.

Woodson Boys' Basketball Falls in State Semis

Cavaliers can't get over hump against defending 6A champ Colonial Forge.

> By Jon Roetman The Connection

he Woodson boys' basketball team trailed by 14 points in the first half of Friday's state semifinal matchup with Colonial Forge and was out-rebounded by a 2-to-1 ratio.

The Cavaliers, however, have never been ones to shrink in the face of adversity.

Woodson battled back, generating multiple fourth-quarter opportunities to tie or take the lead against the defending state champion. But despite their valiant effort, the Cavaliers couldn't get over the hump.

Woodson pulled to within one with 2:30 remaining, but Colonial Forge closed the contest on an 8-1 run and secured a return trip to the state final with a 59-51 victory on March 13 at VCU's Siegel Center.

Colonial Forge will face 6A North region champion Westfield in the state championship game at 7:15 p.m. today.

Jackson Boehman twice pulled Woodson within two, burying a 3-pointer and dropping in a putback early in the fourth quarter.

A Tyler Wilson bucket cut the Woodson deficit to 47-45. With 2:30 left in the fourth quarter, Eric Bowles converted a three-point play, bringing the Cavaliers within one at 51-50.

With 1:06 remaining, Woodson had possession, trailing 53-51.

Each time, Woodson failed to capitalize. "If you get open shots, you get free throws, you've got to put them down," Woodson head coach Doug Craig said. "...



Woodson senior Tyler Wilson, right, goes up against Colonial Forge's Marco Haskins during the 6A state semifinals on March 13 at VCU's Siegel Center.

I thought we got open looks, we got to the free-throw line with the guys we wanted there. [A] couple rolled out on us, [a] couple [were] halfway down and popped out. That's basketball."

Woodson trailed 23-9 early in the second quarter. The Cavaliers cut the deficit to eight at halftime, 30-22, and trailed 43-38 entering the fourth quarter.

The Cavaliers had a chance to win despite being out-rebounded 45-22.

"We're smaller than everybody we play against, it seems like," Craig said. "We're kind of a guard-oriented team. That's kind of who we've been the last couple years. ... What are you going to do? You're outsized by 2 or 3 inches at every position, you're going to give up some rebounds. But with that being said, we put ourselves in position to have a chance to win. Give [the

"If you get open shots, you get free throws, you've got to put them down. ... I thought we got open looks, we got to the freethrow line with the guys we wanted there. [A] couple rolled out on us, [a] couple [were] halfway down and popped out. That's basketball."

- Woodson boys' basketball coach Doug Craig

Eagles] credit: they made their free throws down the stretch, they made a couple shots, we missed a couple, that's the difference."

Bowles, the 6A North region Player of the Year, led Woodson with 20 points, but shot just 6-of-18. Junior guard Matt Ayoub, a second-team all-region selection, finished with six points on 2-of-12 shooting, including 2-of-9 from 3-point range.

"I thought my teammates got me open to get the shots that I needed," Ayoub said. "I was open, I just couldn't hit them."

Tyler Wilson scored 17 points for Woodson, shooting 6-of-8 from the field. The senior forward scored 10 of the Cavaliers' first 13 points.

Woodson shot 12-of-19 (63 percent) from the free-throw line. Colonial Forge shot 16-of-22 (73 percent).

Senior guard Marco Haskins led Colonial Forge with 20 points and 15 rebounds. Junior guard Cario Eaton scored 19 points for the Eagles, including 17 in the second half. He went 3-of-3 from 3-point range and 10-of-12 from the free-throw line.

Woodson lost in the state semifinals for a third consecutive season. Each year, the Cavaliers responded to a loss in the district/conference tournament by making a run to

the region championship game.

"This one hurts the most," Bowles said, "because it was our last run."

Woodson won the 2013 AAA Northern Region title, overcoming a 19-point fourth-quarter deficit to beat Wakefield in overtime. The Cavaliers beat Battlefield in the state quarterfinals before losing to Henrico.

The Cavaliers won the 2014 6A North region championship, beating Lake Braddock in the final after losing their three previous matchups with the Bruins during the season. With a new playoff format, Woodson advanced directly to the state semifinals,

where the Cavaliers lost to Landstown.

This year, Woodson lost to Westfield in the region final before falling to Colonial Forge.

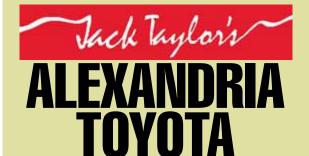
"I'm proud to have been a part of all this," said Wilson, a three-year varsity contributor. "... I'm glad to have done it with the guys that we did it with."

Woodson finished the season with a 19-10 record, including a 91-86 triple-overtime loss to South County in the Conference 7 championship game.

"I think for us, even though we didn't win a state title last year, we've been a team that's had a target," Craig said. "I think these guys have really battled through that."

The Cavaliers played Friday's game in front of yet another large student crowd. Ten charter buses transported Woodson students to Richmond, Craig said.

"Our community, everybody knows, has been through some difficult things the last few years and I think boys' basketball is one of the things that's kind of uplifted not only the school and the kids, [but] the whole community," Craig said. "Our student support, our fan support I think is second to none. I don't know if anyone else down here will bring 10 busloads of kids."



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Software Engineer/.Net (Teh 218) w/Master's in Com. Apps, Comp. Sci., Engg (any) Techn. or rltd & 1 yr of exp to design, dvlp, implement various web apps & SQL Server dvlpmt using SQL Server, ASP.Net, C#, AJAX Pro, AJAX.NET, XML, Web services, Visual Studio.NET, ADO.NET, Share Point Services, JavaScript, VB Script, IIS & XML Perform SQL server admin tasks & write stored procedures, Triggers, Users defined function & fine tuning.

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21 Announcements

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PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN OF CLIFTON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL USE PERMIT PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CLIFTON PLANNING COMMISSION March 31, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 7:30 P.M. at the Acacia Lodge Hall, 7135 Main Street, Clifton, VA 20124 to consider the amendment of the special use permit of Clifton General Store / Main Street Pub, located at 7140 Main Street, to include and authorize an increase in number of seats, an increase in parking onsite and off-site for the public and employees. The application for the proposed amendment to Clifton General Store / Main Street Pub's special use permit, is available for review and downloading on the Town's website at www.clifton-va.com and a hard copy may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton VA, 20124. All interested parties are invited to attend and express their views with respect to the requested amendment to the Clifton General Store / Main Street Pub's special

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This Cedarbrooke colonial has almost 3.900 sq. ft. on 3 finished levels. Updated and spacious kitchen, renovated master suite, screened-in porch, hot tub, two-story foyer and family room, professionally decorated, 3 car garage, and so much more. **Richard Esposito 703-856-2529**



Gorgeous end-unit TH with 3000 + sq. ft. Open floor plan with windows aplenty. Dream kitchen with miles of granite, island, cabi nets galore, upgraded appliances. Expansive great room with 2sided gas fireplace with doors to rooftop deck. Large MBR with luxury bath. Upper level laundry. Rec room + den/office. 9' ceilings. 2 car garage. Many neighborhood amenities.

Jim Fox 703-503-1800



Ashburn \$244,900 appliances, fireplace, huge balcony walk-in closets and full size W/D. Across from Brambleton Town Center, walk and enjoy movies, shops, and Betsv Rutkowski



Fairfax/Kings Park West Charming 4-level updated split on corner lot in sought-after Kings Park West. Spacious home includes Kitchen w/custom cabinetry, fully updated bathrooms, built-ins & more. Newer systems, replaced windows, vinyl siding. Enjoy your morning coffee on the scr porch. Walk to Top-rated schools; nearby metrobus stop & VRE. Mary Hovland 703-946-1775 Cathy DeLoach 571-276-9421



Parliax
Feeon Ridge Charmer! A must see! Charming Colonial on 41,200 sq ft lot. Huge remodeled kitchen with all the bells & whistles, wall to wall windows accent the sunny Breakfast Room, cozy Family Room with brick fireplace, Master BR suite w/gorgeous remodeled bath, finished daylight LL w/walk-up, slate roof, expanded two car garage.

Sheila Adams 703-503-1895



Walk to soon-to-be built Metro Station! This condo located in Worldgate features a quiet location with a pleasant view of the pool and adjacent to the Worldgate Club House with exercise room, party room and management office. Hardwood floors, garage space, and a Ellie Wester 703-503-1880



Arlington/Fairlington Villages 2 Levels and 1422 Square Feet of WOW! This updated Fairlin a bedroom and a full bath on each of its two levels, hardwood floors in the main level living room, dining area and bedroom, and a fully updated kitchen with granite counters, new cabinets and a ceramic tile floor. Downstairs there is a huge bedroom with walk-in closet. There is also a lower level full bath and a lower level fin-Mary Wharton 703-795-0587



Lake Anna Beautiful hardwood floors & open floor plan for gathering. 3 bedrooms & full bath on one end of house. MBR suite with full bath & additional sitting room/office allows for privacy. Private lot. Short distance to gated common area with tot lot, pavilion, boat launch & slips. Doug Hough 540-846-5844



Prime Location! Charming, expanded center-hall colonial, 1/2 acre Grand foyer. Living room with fireplace. Main level den, bedroom, sunroom, full bath. Remodeled kitchen with granite, stainless steel appliances, separate mud room, MBR with full bath & Wall-in oset. Gorgeous hdwds. Updates thruout. 2-car garage + storage Minutes to shopping, major routes, downtown Fairfax City.



Fairfax \$349,900 Lovely 3 finished level colonial townhome with 2 fireplaces, walkout rec room w/wet bar, updated kitchen, 3 bedrms, 3.5 baths, 2 assigned parking spaces. Located in the Glen Cove community near VRE, shopping, Judy Semler



West Springfield/Rhygate \$525,000 End Unit TH - Premium Golf Course Lot! View holes 12, 13, 1-Springfield Golf & Country Club. All Brick on almost 1/4 acre. m Golf Course Lot! View holes 12, 13, 14 at Sunny and bright on all 3 finished levels. Nicest lot in Rhygate! John Astorino 703-898-5148



Lovely 4BR/2BA home on .42 acre wooded lot. Cul-de-sac. 2-car garage. Deck. Freshly painted. New carpet. Updated bathrooms Newer appliances. Beautiful Hardwood Floors. Great neighbor-



Move-in Ready!! 6 BR, 3 BA Home with carport-Stratford on the Move-in Ready:: 0 BK, 0 BA Home with carport-Stratiord on the Potomac. New Kitchen with granite, expresso cabinetry and stainless steel appliances, gorgeous HW floors on main lvl, FP, newly carpeted LL, new paint, walk-out basement...really a show stopper!

Judy McGuire 703-581-7679



Gated Waterfront Compound! 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, including guest quarters, on 4.72 acres, with huge boathouse with screen Toni McQuair 703-795-2697

Fairfax/Fairfax Club Estates

Charming Colonial beauty ready for market soon. 4 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, brand new remodeled Kitchen w/ granite counters, new hardwood flooring on main level, new carpeting upstairs, updated baths, newer windows, furnace, A/C, roof & siding. Wow...it is per-



Broadlands/Brambleton Backs to Woods! Gorgeous garage TH on prime lot. 2300 sq ft on 3 fin levels. Well-appointed w/gleaming hdwds, 10' ceilings, gourmet eat-in kitchen, large pantry & adjoining family room w/gas fireplace. Grand MBR w/sitting area, W/I closet & lux bath. Upper level laundry. Walkout rec rm. Deck off kitchen. Fenced vard Jim Fox 703-503-1800



Extraordinary condo TH w/ over 2000 sq ft on 2 lvls. Soaring 2-story LR w /gas frpl. Columned DR. Dazzling Kit w/ upgraded cabs, granite counters, s/s appls. FR off kit w/ vaulted ceiling & doors to private terrace. Gorgeous hdwds. Windows galore. Mn lvl MBR has lux bath w/ dual vanity, sep jetted tub & shower, custom W/I closet. Upper Ivl w/ loft, 2nd BR & full BA. 2 gar spaces + extra storage. Steps to WFC Metro, Falls Church City. Jim Fox 703-503-1800



Beautifully Updated! Well maintained 2-level Colonial oak cabinets & Corian. Cozy FR with WB fireplace and SGD opening to large deck and fenced yard. Gerry Staudte 703-309-8948



Spacious center-hall Colonial with quality finishes! Well-designed addition creates open floor plan. Kitchen is fully remodeled with a breakfast room & opens to amazing family room w/cathedral ceilings. UL has four large BRs + a den Master & hall bath have been expande both w/dual sinks. Great finishes on LL with legal egress. Close to schools, VRE & Metrobus.

Cathy DeLoach 571-276-9421



Stunning custom estate on beautiful 2+ acres. Gorgeous open floor plan with classic elegance throughout. Features 5 fireaces, gourmet kitchen with breakfast room, elegant maste bedroom with sitting room and bath, and perfect for guests, a full suite in the walk-out lower level. Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949

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