

Rehearsing a scene from "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" are (back row, from left) Mike Rudden and Scott Graham and (front row, from left) Stephanie Ramsey and Karen Shotts.

Delving Inside Two Marriages

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Speaks at Woodson High

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The Fairfax City Council honors the 60th anniversary of the Woman's Club of Fairfax. Back row, from left are Jo Ormesher, Scott Silverthorne and Joyce Wegner; (front row, from left) Ellie Schmidt, Jane Albro, Diane Tuininga, Betty Powell and Dolores Testerman.

60 Years of Service, Memories and Fun

Woman's Club of Fairfax celebrates diamond anniversary.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

It takes effort, care and dedication to reach a 60th anniversary – and that's exactly what the Woman's Club of Fairfax has done. This Sunday, April 17, it will commemorate six decades of service to the community with a champagne celebration at Old Town Hall.

The club was even honored with a proclamation in February by Fairfax City Mayor Scott Silverthorne and the City Council, commending the members on their anniversary. The document praised them for continuing their emphasis on enhancing the lives of families and strengthening their community through “generous contributions of volunteer time and financial support of many, worthy causes.”

About 25 people are in the club, which was started in 1956 by a group of friends wanting to make a difference in the community. They then joined the state and national General Federation of Women's Clubs. They meet the first Monday of the month at Fairfax United Methodist Church; and although the club comprises mainly residents of the City and surrounding area, new members are welcome.

“We hold various events throughout the year,” said Diane Tuininga, club president. “And each June, we award an annual scholarship or two to graduates of Fairfax or Woodson high schools, or Robinson Secondary School, going to a Virginia college or university.”

THEY RAISE FUNDS for it all year round, including via a fashion show/luncheon they have held annually since 1984. This year's

event is Saturday, May 14, at the Sherwood Center and is open to the public. It is being held in conjunction with the City's Spotlight on the Arts activities, and the designers and models are students at the Fairfax Academy. Each designer has a five-piece collection, and club members will also model clothes from Draper's & Damon's.

Speakers often address club meetings, discussing a variety of topics. For example, City Police Chief Carl Pardiny spoke about safety issues, and a representative from the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial talked about the women who fought to achieve voting rights. Al Leightley, treasurer of Historic Fairfax City Inc., discussed Fairfax's historic properties, and Louise Armitage, the City's Human Services coordinator, spoke about human trafficking.

“One of our big projects is maintaining the exhibit of historic photographs in the Ford House,” said Dolores Testerman, a 40-year club member. “It features photographs of Fairfax and Antonia Ford, a Civil War Confederate spy, plus narratives of different events. Our Woman's Club established the exhibit and our members are docents there during the City's annual Chocolate Festival.”

“We had over 160 visitors there, this year,” added Joyce Wegner. “And each year, a Christmas ornament is designed by a local artist, depicting one of the historic buildings, and we sell them at the Fairfax Fall Festival.”

Testerman said they've been selling the ornaments since 1987. It's one of the club's scholarship fundraisers, along with a bake sale held during the City's Holiday Craft Fair at Fairfax High. She also noted that, for many years, the club maintained the furnishings and dishes in the historic Ratcliffe-Allison House.

The club donates to the City's Independence Day celebration. And, added Dee Schmidt, “We contribute to the General Federation of Women's Clubs projects, such as

SEE WOMAN'S CLUB, PAGE 5

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Living History

Holocaust survivor teaches teens hard lessons about world history.

BY MARTI MOORE
THE CONNECTION

World War II is the focus of 10th-graders across the board in history and English classes at W.T. Woodson High School in Fairfax.

Students were transfixed Monday by a little lady with a big story to tell about her horrifying experience as a 13-year-old girl in the largest concentration and extermination camp in Nazi-occupied Poland: Auschwitz.

Holocaust survivor Irene Weiss, 85, witnessed the worst of all war crimes — genocide — and told Woodson teens about the inhumane treatment of European Jews under Nazi rule as she saw it happen for more than a year before she and other survivors were liberated by Soviet troops Jan. 27, 1945.

Her testimony is part of an enrichment program for nearly 500 students as they read in English class the Holocaust memoir “Night,” penned by another Auschwitz-Birkenau survivor — Elie Wiesel — who received the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1986 for his humanitarian efforts as chairman of the President’s Commission on the Holocaust during the Jimmy Carter administration.

“Too often words in our textbooks can become mere letters on the page,” said English department chair Ryan Brown in his opening remarks on April 11.

“Today we have a direct connection with history,” Brown told his audience before they watched Weiss’ presentation “Surviving the Holocaust.”

ALL EYES were glued to the soft-spoken dignified woman as she described her youth as one of six kids in a small farm town in Czechoslovakia, where her father ran a lumber business.

Although her community knew at the time that trouble was brewing in Germany, they didn’t think the Nazi grasp would reach all the way into their own back yard and seize control of their lives.

Then their country became occupied by Hungary in 1939. “We sat there in our little town in Hungary minding our own business.”

Hungary allied with Nazi-controlled Germany in 1940. The world of Meyer and Leah Fogel, and their six children between the ages of 6 and 17 years — Moshe, Edit, Reuven, Gershon, Irene and Serena — changed for the worse.

The human indignities started out small, with vicious propaganda as Jews were separated from society.

The sub-human conditions ended with unspeakable horror Weiss couldn’t discuss for at least 25 years after she was freed from slave labor, sorting through mountainous piles of personal property — such as eyeglasses — confiscated by Schutzstaffel guards before marching their victims to the killing machine known as Gas Chamber No.



Fairfax County resident Irene Weiss, left, points to an enlarged photograph of Hungarian Jews while they were selected and processed in 1944 by Schutzstaffel guards as they stepped off a train at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Nazi-occupied Poland. At the time, Weiss was the young woman with a kerchief — shown at the bottom of the picture, second from the left. Her mother gave her the scarf to cover the teen’s shaved head. It saved her life because it made Weiss appear old enough to join the ranks of forced laborers. People too frail to work plus women and their children are shown at the top of the page, from left to right, walking toward the gas chamber. Weiss was just separated from her younger sister and watched the child disappear into the crowd. “The drama of the separation still lingers with me today,” she said April 11 to 10th-grade students at W.T. Woodson High School in Fairfax.



After 10th-grade students at Woodson High School were dismissed from the auditorium Monday, several dozen teenagers risked being tardy to their next class so they could shake hands and personally thank guest speaker Irene Weiss for sharing her painful testimony as a Holocaust survivor. Woodson students are near and dear to Weiss’ heart. She moved to Northern Virginia in 1953 with her husband, Martin, and raised three WHS graduates. Two grandchildren are Woodson alumni as well.

4. “Children were condemned to death in the world I came from,” she said, “but what was their crime?” Weiss simply asked. There was no court, no jury, no process, she re-

calls vividly.

Her rapt audience saw old photographs taken by SS prison guards and now in possession of the U.S. National Archives.

The images show Weiss’ separation from

her parents and siblings as they were ordered off a freight train by Nazi soldiers in Auschwitz-Birkenau, following a three-day journey from Hungary to Poland in boxcar filled with 80 people and no windows.

A narrow strip near the top corner of the car provided air and light. A bucket in the middle of their small space served as the only latrine.

Surely their rank conditions couldn’t get any worse, Weiss and everyone else thought initially. The situation quickly grew abysmal at Auschwitz — which claimed the lives of more than a million men, women and children.

This killing machine consumed lives at the rate of 6,000 innocent people a day — an incomprehensible number Weiss has spent the last 70 years trying to process and may never reconcile.

Audience members stood in awe before Weiss and asked questions on several topics including mercy and forgiveness. With no bitterness, gall or vitriol in her voice, Weiss replied in her matter-of-fact manner:

“No,” the SS authorities showed no mercy whatsoever to Weiss and fellow prisoners. “They were terrifying.”

“No,” she cannot forgive Nazi soldiers who mistreated Weiss and her family — including former SS guard Oskar Gröning, against whom she testified last summer in Germany during the trial for his role as bookkeeper at Auschwitz.

Although Gröning is an elderly man of 94 years, the mere sight of him made Weiss tremble as she did when she was 13 and he wore the SS uniform.

“The magnitude of the crime ... is so appalling and so painful, how could you forgive someone who participated,” she asked in response.

Germany has no capital punishment, Weiss says, and Gröning was sentenced to just 4 years in prison for his crimes as an accessory to the murder of 300,000 people. She believes he will die waiting for an appeal.

She told students “the fact I experienced something so terrible” makes it her responsibility to share her experience with everyone willing to hear. Woodson faculty were smart to record Weiss’s living history testimony last year on film and released this haunting documentary in January through the Fairfax County Public Schools television network.

THE VIDEO helped mark the annual International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the 71st anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz prisoners by Soviet soldiers.

“Surviving the Holocaust” can be seen online through the Fairfax County Public Schools television network at http://www.fcps.edu/it/fairfaxnetwork/holocaust/video_segments.html in 15 segments that offer viewers a complete discussion guide.

Part of Weiss’ account also can be read at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum at www.ushmm.org.

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PEOPLE

Robinson Student to Perform at Carnegie Hall

William "Liam" Glenn, a student at Robinson Secondary School, was selected for the 2016 Middle School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall. He will perform as a violinist at Carnegie Hall in June 2016 with the Honors Junior Orchestra. Participation in one of the three Honors Ensembles is limited to the highest rated middle school performers from across North America and select schools internationally.

Liam has studied music for four years under Matt Richardson at Potomac Arts Academy. Liam is a member of American Youth String Ensemble, part of the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras. Liam said, "It is quite an honor to perform at Carnegie Hall. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity."

Learn more by visiting www.honorsperformance.org and www.worldstrides.com.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Liam Glenn, a student at Robinson Secondary School, will perform at Carnegie Hall.

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From left are Suzanne Grimsley, Diane Tuininga, Betty Powell, Joyce Wegner, Dolores Testerman and Dee Schmidt at a club meeting.

Woman's Club Celebrates 60th Anniversary

FROM PAGE 2

pinwheel gardens that bring awareness to the problem of child abuse. And we support the Salvation Army at Christmastime."

"We each fill a stocking or two for them to give to children in need," explained Tuininga. Altogether, that is 25-50 stockings.

"We've also donated items such as socks and toiletries to the Lamb Center," said Suzanne Grimsley. "And we adopt a family at Thanksgiving and Christmas through Our Daily Bread."

"This year, we adopted a mom and her three children for Thanksgiving," said Betty Powell. "We had Bob Evans [restaurant] prepare a meal for them that they just had to pick up, and we also gave them some food staples. Then at Christmas, we gave them presents."

Wegner joined the club about a decade ago and was secretary for three years. "It's a great group of ladies," she said. "We do a lot of fun things, as well as charitable things, and I like the social aspect." Schmidt has participated, off and on, since 1975 and said the members get along well and work toward their common goal.

Powell joined to support the community about 17 years ago. "My favorite thing is what we do for families for Thanksgiving and Christmas," she said. "I also enjoy our meetings and getting together with everyone. I've been a widow for many years, so this is another outlet for me." And, added

Tuininga, "We care about each other."

Grimsley came aboard a few years ago at Schmidt's invitation. "I enjoy the camaraderie and getting to know new people," she explained. "And I wanted to feel I was of use and could do something for and give back to the community. I believe it's important to get involved with where you live and know what's going on."

A FOUR-YEAR MEMBER, Tuininga also likes taking part in events and becoming friends with her fellow club members. "I like being part of the community and supporting the historic buildings and citizens," she said. "It's a good feeling. And recently, we went on a walk to support Alzheimer's research. I'd much rather participate in the community than be on the sidelines."

Testerman, a member since 1976, also likes helping her city. She began the ornament sale and initiated the creation of a fundraising tote bag featuring Fairfax's historic buildings. It's now sold at the Fairfax Museum. And she's worked on the adopt-a-family program for many years.

"I think the scholarship program is one of the best things we do," said Testerman. "And over the years, we've helped Inova Fairfax Hospital and the Lamb Center."

They also hold an annual Pound Party among themselves to raise money for the club.

To join the club, or for more information, contact her at diane8294@aol.com.

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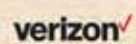
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OPINION

Award Winning Connection Newspapers

Still striving to be the Connection to your community.

Connection Newspapers won dozens of awards from the Virginia Press Association for work done in 2015. Award winners were announced on Saturday, April 9, at an awards banquet in Richmond.

While the papers won awards in many categories, the common underpinning was community journalism, accessibility of information, and reporting on critical issues like transparency in government.

Thematically, the papers won multiple awards for stories and sections that were informative and helped make communities, events and resources more accessible to our readers.

Examples included Ken Moore's reporting on Robert Simon's role in Reston, which included coverage of Simon's 101st birthday, Simon's ongoing influence, and his obituary. The series won first place.

Print newspaper obituaries play a vital role in local communities, reflected in Jeanne Theismann's first place award for three obituaries in the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Earl Lloyd was born into "the cradle of segregation" yet persevered to become the first African American to break the color barrier in the NBA. Dr. Robert Wineland, "Dr. Bob," was a WW II

veteran and survivor of the Battle of the Bulge. He was a beloved local doctor for more than 60 years. And Ferdinand Day was the first African American to be elected to chair a public school board in the state of Virginia.

We are lucky to have cartoonist Steve Artley to skewer and edify many issues, including his first place cartoon that suggests Alexandria could solve parking and housing problems by placing both on barges in the Potomac River.

Jean Card, Renee Ruggles and Laurence Foong have collaborated over several years on the Insider's Guide to the Parks, which won awards in Mount Vernon and Vienna/Oakton, capping several awards for informational graphics.

Our Newcomers and Community Guide to Arlington was described as "Informative, well written, with good use of graphics." Winners included Steven Mauren, Eden Brown, Vernon Miles, Shirley Ruhe, Laurence Foong.

Sarai Johnson, Hope Nelson, Shirley Ruhe, and Steve Hibbard won second place for entertainment pages in the Alexandria Gazette Packet, weekly coverage of arts, entertainment, food and things to do in Alexandria.

Reporting on elections, the environment, health and fitness, and organizations that are designed to help others also garnered awards.

Kenny Lourie won for his ongoing column writing about living with cancer. Lourie both lives and writes with humor and perspective. The judge said, "Though filled with heavy subject matter, the author hooks readers by using his first-person perspective, humor and emo-

tion to describe the events of his life. These columns grab your attention from the first paragraph."

Abigail Constantino's photo that shows the great aunt of Natasha McKenna at a protest of McKenna's death in custody, won second place for general news photo. Eudora Paul's sign displays McKenna's last words: "You promised you would not kill me."

Tim Peterson's coverage of McKenna's death won second place in In Depth/Investigative. Peterson garnered the most awards of any Connection staff member, winning seven.

Mary Kimm's editorials on lack of police transparency and local government accountability won second place for editorial writing.

Kemal Kurspahic's opinion pages in the Herndon Connection won third place.

Jeanne Theismann, whose profile includes that she "dreams of one day writing headlines for the New York Post," won second place for headline writing in the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Headlines: Some Like It Haute, - story about the 10-year anniversary of a boutique warehouse sale; Soul Providers, a story about volunteers recognized for service to seniors; Something to Wine About, - on the opening of a new wine cellar; Luck Be a Lady, - on the opening of a new bath apothecary called Ladyburg; To the Rescue, about - a nonprofit started by firefighters to collect toys for underprivileged children.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Connection Awards - Partial Listing

- ❖ Abigail Constantino, Fairfax Connection, Second Place – General news photo, Natasha McKenna's great aunt holds a sign: "You promised you would not kill me." Judge: "Good capture of emotionally charged event."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Second Place – Personal service writing, coverage of three worthy causes. Judge: "This submission quickly makes the reader care about the causes championed in the stories. ... There was good detail presented in such a way as to make the reader want to donate to each of these causes by the end of the story — I was ready to get my checkbook out after reading each one."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Third Place – Government writing, coverage on aftermath of police shooting of John Geer, Virginia General Assembly. Judge: "A very comprehensive look at the Geer case was well-thought out and I was very impressed with the state legislature package."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Third Place – Public safety writing, stories on sex trafficking, police and fire department training and National Night Out. Judge: "Each of the stories in this submission is comprehensive in its handling of the topic, as well as engaging for the reader. The information offered is very good, and the presentation attractive. There was adequate space given to each story, which was then complemented by excellent artwork."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Burke Connection, Second Place – Education writing. Stories on School Board action on gender identity, graduation of triplets, and renovation of a local school. Judge: "All three stories had outstanding ledes. Quality writing and reporting."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Burke Connection, Third Place – Breaking news writing, about escape of prisoner from hospital and his recapture. Judge: "Excellent art, good storytelling."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Fairfax Station/Clifton/ Lorton Connection, Second Place – Business and financial



PHOTO BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO

Natasha McKenna's great aunt Eudora Paul carries a sign with McKenna's words the day she was tasered by officers from the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department. Photo by Abigail Constantino won second place for General News Photo.

- writing. Stories on Goat Landscaping, sustainable farm, and a handcrafted greeting card company. Judge: "Good business stories with a great features twist. Very enjoyable stories."
- ❖ Ken Moore, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, First Place – Feature writing portfolio included a trip to the farmers market, remembrance of Latin teacher Christine Sleeper and celebration of the one-year birthday of the Silver Line.
- ❖ Marilyn Campbell, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Health, science and environmental writing
- ❖ Kenneth Lourie, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Column writing. Judge: "Though

filled with heavy subject matter, the author hooks readers by using his first-person perspective, humor and emotion to describe the events of his life. These columns grab your attention from the first paragraph."

- ❖ Ken Moore, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – General news writing for election coverage. "Excellent coverage. ... Balanced and thorough. Effective at conveying why this is relevant for readers."
- ❖ Jon Roetman, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Sports writing portfolio.
- ❖ Kemal Kurspahic, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, Mary Kimm, Oak Hill/ Herndon Connection, Third Place – Editorial pages
- ❖ Ken Moore, Reston Connection, First Place – Feature series or continuing story, on Reston founder Robert Simon. Judge's comment: "This was an in-depth series, very informative and interesting to read." Moore covered several key moments, including celebration of Founder's Day 2015 and Simon's 101st birthday; later, Moore wrote Simon's obituary and covered the celebration of Simon's life.
- ❖ Jean Card, Laurence Foong, Renee Ruggles, Vienna/Oakton Connection, Second Place – Informational graphics, Connection Insiders Guide to the Parks.
- ❖ Mary Kimm, Great Falls Connection, Second Place – Editorial writing for multiple editorials on police transparency. Judge: "Brings important pressure to bear on people in power."
- ❖ Ken Moore, Great Falls Connection, Second Place – Health, science and environmental writing; stories covering issues of deer, cleanup of groundwater contamination from gas station and tree preservation. Judge: "Excellent and informative."
- ❖ Laurence Foong, Great Falls Connection, Third Place – Informational graphics, Map of Property Assessments. Judge: "A very interesting concept."
- ❖ Ken Moore, McLean Connection, Third Place – Feature writing portfolio. Judge: "Great reads on interesting topics. Who knew there was such a thing as pinball championship, especially out of someone's basement? Pull out information added neat and tidy facts and/or information."

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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.

THURSDAY/APRIL 14

Library Forum. 7:30-9 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Help plan the libraries' future by sharing your input. fairfaxcounty.gov/library. 703-324-8319.

SHARE Program. 3 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Recently receive a dementia diagnosis? Learn about how the SHARE Program can help you and your partner with communication, building a support network, and making more informed decisions about care. Free. RSVP at 703-204-4664 or go to InsightMCC.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 16

Living Well, Aging Well Summit. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Explores multiple ways to age well and features a transportation/mobility expo, technology fair, volunteer opportunities, a CarFit program, health screenings, presentations and more. Register at www.livingwellfairfax.org or call 703-324-7647, TTY 711. Call 703-324-5219, TTY 711 for ADA requests.

TUESDAY/APRIL 19

Autism and Safety. 7-8:30 p.m. Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1, Room 100, Dunn Loring. Learn Safety risks for individuals with special needs, proactive steps to reduce the risk of potential dangers, resources available in the community for emergency preparedness, safety guidelines and more. Register at 703-204-3941 or <http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/resources/events/documents/AutismSafety.pdf>.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 20

Prepare to Care. 1 p.m. . Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Learn about how to form your team, make a plan, find support, and still care for yourself. Free. RSVP at 703-204-4664 or go to InsightMCC.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 23

Home Buying Seminar. 1-2 p.m. Weichert Burke Office, 9299 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Free home buying seminar on Saturday. Guests will receive a personal consultation with mortgage and real estate specialists, and also have the chance to win a cash prize. For more information, visit www.tinyurl.com/WeichertHomeBuyers.

Western Fairfax Teen Job Fair and Resume Building Workshop. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Chantilly High School Cafeteria, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. This event is open to all teens in Fairfax County looking for employment and is a great opportunity in a low pressure environment for teens to speak with potential employers, build their resume, and seek and hopefully find a job. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/teenjobfair.htm>.

TUESDAY/APRIL 26

Virginia Colorectal Cancer Roundtable. 9 a.m.-3:15 p.m. Inova Center for Personalized Health, 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax. Discussion on the nationwide initiative to reach an 80 percent colorectal cancer screening rate by 2018. Free. Advanced registration required, <http://tinyurl.com/vacrct>.

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Parcel 1: (American Realty) **148,561 +/- Sq. Ft.**; 5600 Backlick Road, Springfield; Braddock District; Tax Map #0802-01-0016; Acct. #407620309

Parcel 2: (Bengal) **8000 +/- Sq.Ft.**; Lantana Trail; Gunston Manor, Lots 50-53, Block 24, Sec. B; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #1194-02240050; Acct. #408079493

Parcel 3: (Berkebile) **1.7783 +/- Ac.**; Caisson Road; Sunrise Green; Legato; Springfield District; Tax Map #0563-01-0036; Acct. #407895000

Parcel 4: (Haight) **3.939 +/- Ac.** Near Fairfax County Parkway & Hope Park Road; Springfield District; Tax Map #0671-01-0084; Acct. #407569254

Parcel 5 (Improved): (JFM) **8608 Rocky Gap Court, Lorton, VA 22079;** Green Ridge Condos Addition; Lot 26; Mt. Vernon Dist.; Tax Map #0983-15-0026; Acct. #408045740

Parcel 6: (Jones) **2.6732 +/- Ac.**; 11815 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22030; Lincoln Park, Lot 30; Tax Map #0671-04-0030; Acct. #407569308

Parcel 7 (Improved): (Kenney) **2547 Five Oaks Road, Vienna, VA 22181;** Acredale, Lot 30; Providence District; Tax Map #0383-03-0030; Acct. #407812118

Parcel 8: (Pennsbury) **1.149 +/- Ac.**; Carrleigh Parkway; Cardinal Forest, Parcel 11, Section 3; Springfield District; Tax Map #0793-01-0009; Acct. #407975430

Parcel 9: (Second Carr) **2.65 +/- Ac.**; Southern Oaks Place; Hooes Road; Newington Commons, Parcel B, Section 1; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #0983-14-B, Acct. #407685462

Parcel 10 (Improved): (Uwazie) **9325 Maybrook Court, Alexandria, VA 22309;** Mt. Vernon Grove, Lot 499; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #1104-02-0499, Acct. #407715885

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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

APRIL

4/27/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools Pullout

4/27/2016.....Mother's Day Celebrations, Dining & Gifts I

4/27/2016.....Spring Outlook 2016

MAY

5/4/2016.....McLean Day Pullout

5/4/2016.....Mother's Day Dining & Gifts II

5/4/2016..... Wellbeing

Mother's Day is May 8

5/11/2016.....HomeLifeStyle

5/18/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools, Proms, Summer Planning

Memorial Day is May 30

5/25/2016...Summer Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment

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- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
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HomeLifeStyle Historic Garden Week in Virginia

Elegant homes and gardens in Old Town, Arlington and Falls Church will be open to the public.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Some of the most spectacular gardens will be in bloom and on display during the 83rd annual Historic Garden Week in Virginia. The statewide event will include 30 different tours of more than 200 homes and gardens. Old Town Alexandria and Arlington, Falls Church and Fairfax County are participating in the Northern Virginia tours.

"These houses are historic and they all reflect the homeowners' personalities and interests," said Catherine Thompson of the Hunting Creek Garden Club in Alexandria. "Some are owned by young families. Some have small gardens and some have large gardens."

The Hunting Creek Garden Club teamed up with The Garden Club of Alexandria to organize the Old

Town tour, a walking tour which includes five row houses with courtyard gardens. In addition to the private homes, which were all built during the 1700s and 1800s and still retain many original architectural features, tour goers will have access to the Carlyle House Historic Park, Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, George Mason's Gunston Hall and George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens.

"They are all really wonderful and beautiful homes and gardens and we feel very lucky to have them on the tour," said Thompson. "The homes are within two to three blocks of each other, so unlike some other [areas], we run a walking tour."

From large oak trees planted shortly after the Civil War and gardens bursting with colorful blooms from hydrangeas, camellias, rhodo-

dendron, crepe myrtles and wisteria to homes with views of the Potomac River and clematis flowing over a pergola, visitors will be treated to vivid spring displays as five Old Town residents open both their homes and gardens.

"People don't expect to have these amazing gardens behind these homes that can appear tiny from outside," said Amy Bertles of the Hunting Creek Garden Club. "One home has two gardens with amazing sculptures that were done by the home owner who is an artist. She decorated her garden with a few of her sculptures."

In Arlington and Falls Church, Gothic Revival, Greek Revival, Arts and Crafts and Victorian architecture await visitors who take the tour hosted by the Garden club of Fairfax. The gardens include four 100-year old holly trees, an herb garden and a garden of Victorian-



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HUNTING CREEK GARDEN CLUB

This Fairfax Street home is one of the properties on the Historic Garden Week tour.

era plants. Two of the homes are on the National Register of Historic Places and are Virginia Historic Landmarks. The tour also includes visits to Mason Neck State Park, Gulf Branch Nature Center and The Falls Church.

Properties are chosen for the tour by local garden clubs. "They're

looking for properties that they know the public will enjoy," said Karen Miller Ellsworth of the Garden Club of Virginia and director of Historic Garden Week. "They're looking for beautiful interiors, an interesting history and a really nice garden."

In addition to its aesthetic ap-



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT

This courtyard garden features sculptures created by the homeowner.

peal, Historic Garden Week, which 3,300 Garden Club of Virginia members spend more than a year planning, has a significant economic impact. "[Visitors] travel from 30 states and foreign countries and 25 percent ... spend the night and average \$1,207 on their [Historic Garden Week] trip," said

Miller Ellsworth. "As a group, they spend \$2 million in Virginia each spring. The cumulative economic impact over the last 45 years is an impressive \$425 million."

Historic Garden Week began in 1927 when the Garden Club of Virginia organized a flower show and raised \$7,000 to save trees planted

Historic Garden Week

83RD ANNUAL HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR

Old Town Alexandria
Saturday, April 23, 2016
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Hosted by The Hunting Creek Garden Club and The Garden Club of Alexandria
For more information:
oldtownalexandria@vagardenweek.org
or visit <http://www.vagardenweek.org>

Falls Church-Arlington
Tuesday, April 26, 2016
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Hosted by the Garden Club of Fairfax
<http://gardencluboffairfax.blogspot.com/>

by Thomas Jefferson at Monticello. Money raised from the Historic Garden Week tours fund the restoration and preservation of nearly 50 of the Commonwealth's significant historic public gardens as well as a new initiative with Virginia's state parks.

Old Town tour tickets are \$45. Group tours for 10 or more people are \$40 per person. Single-site tickets are \$25. Tickets may be purchased on tour day at any of the homes and at the Alexandria Visitors Center. Advance tickets are available for \$40 per person at www.vagardenweek.org and at the Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St., Alexandria.

Arlington-Falls Church tickets can be purchased online by credit card until April 24 by visiting <http://gardencluboffairfax.blogspot.com/> or www.vagardenweek.org/main/tickets. www.vagardenweek.org/.



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Delving Inside Two Marriages

CFTC presents 'Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The 1963 Tony Award-winner for Best Play, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" established Edward Albee as the most important playwright of his generation. And the City of Fairfax Theatre Company (CFTC) will perform it, April 22-May 8, in Fairfax's Old Town Hall.

The story revolves around George, a middle-aged history professor in a New England college town, and his wife Martha, the college president's daughter. And when young couple Nick and Honey visit their home for a nightcap after a faculty soiree, they have no idea what twists and turns the evening will take.

"The play is a compelling collision of comedy and tragedy," said Director Ed Zakreski, of the City of Fairfax. "As these two couples spend the late hours together, we begin to dissect which couple has a relationship rooted in honesty, and which has a marriage built upon lies."

CALLING THIS PLAY "one of the masterpieces of American drama," Zakreski said the way it examines human relations "is as relevant now as it was when the play was written in 1962, or when the movie came out, 50 years ago."

Scott Graham portrays George. "He's at his wits' end because life has crushed him," said Graham. "Otherwise, he might have been a senator or replaced Martha's father as the college president. So he decides he's done with the charade of his life and he's going to take some action."

"I first read this play when I was 16 and in theater class and completely fell in love with it and the text," continued Graham. "I see so much of myself in George – parallels in my life and early personal trauma that I've dealt with and is relatable to me. Consequently, it's always been a dream role of mine."

Graham said the show is just as meaningful and applicable to today's culture and



(From left) Stephanie Ramsey, Mike Rudden, Scott Graham and Karen Shotts portray couples talking after a dinner party.

society as ever. "What it says about how we can help and heal each other is important," he explained. "It has a lot of angst, but the message is positive: If we can embrace ourselves and each other, then we can achieve what we want to as a culture. So the end is almost like a rebirth; and it's not easy to get there, but it's worth it."

The show happens in real time, in the three hours after a party. And, added Graham, "It has a lot to say about relationships, truth and illusion and about how we deal with each other inside these relationships."

Portraying Martha is Karen Shotts. "She and George feed off of and antagonize each other," said Shotts. "Martha's the aggressor and likes to pick at him to get a reaction from him. She's always wanted her father's approval, so now she seeks it from George, and from her father via George. She married George so he'd become college president when her father resigns."

Shotts described Martha as needy and afraid of reality. "To others, she seems fine; but there are cracks and, beneath the surface, she's a mess," said Shotts. "She loves George deep in her heart, but circumstances have twisted it around. I love playing her. She has such an incredible arc – showing her childhood without a mother, to her young adult life when she had high hopes, to when reality smashed her in the face."

"Martha hasn't been able to forgive herself or George for where they landed, and that's so much fun to play," continued Shotts. "She's such a rich character. Both George and Martha are damaged, but it's easier for them not to acknowledge that, even between themselves. It's an astounding play – the writing, characters and trajectory – and every character has a journey."

Mike Rudden plays Nick. "He's a young, arrogant, college professor – an alpha male

To Go

Showtimes are Friday-Sunday, at 7:30 p.m., April 22, 23, 24; April 29, 30 and May 1; and May 6, 7, 8. Tickets are \$20 at www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org; any remaining tickets will be sold at the door, an hour before the play.

All performances are in Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive in Fairfax. The production runs about 3 hours, including two intermissions, and contains adult language and situations.

with a trophy wife and nice job – trying to make something of himself," said Rudden. "And you can see how the seeds of George and Martha's problems and dysfunction are beginning in Nick and Honey."

He said it's a difficult role in a challenging play. "The conversational dialogue is tough to memorize, and the character relationships and dynamics are intense and real," said Rudden. "The play reads as modern as any contemporary piece of drama; it was really ahead of its time. And the staging will be close and intimate, making the audience feel as if they're in the living room with the characters."

Portraying Honey is Stephanie Ramsey. "She wants to come off as the perfect wife," said Ramsey. "But as her anxieties and inner demons come out and manifest themselves in alcoholism, we see her devolve onstage. And we learn she's actually a broken person."

"She's let her relationship with Nick define her and has quashed the things she really likes, such as dancing," continued Ramsey.

"She's just an appendage of him. Honey also has a warped sense of sexuality – which contrasts with Martha, who's such a commanding presence."

OVERALL, she said, "This play has incredible actors with amazing energy. We've even developed our characters' back stories to fill in any questions Albee leaves. I love my role because I get to bare everything onstage and go through all the extremes of emotions, from polished to hysterical. The audience will almost feel like they're invading something that should be private."

BULLETIN BOARD

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.

THURSDAY/APRIL 14

Library Forum. 7:30-9 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Help plan the libraries' future by sharing your input. fairfaxcounty.gov/library. 703-324-8319.

SHARE Program. 3 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Recently receive a dementia diagnosis? Learn about how the SHARE Program can help you and your partner with communication, building a support network, and making more informed decisions about care. Free. RSVP at 703-

204-4664 or go to InsightMCC.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 16

Living Well, Aging Well Summit. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Explores multiple ways to age well and features a transportation/mobility expo, technology fair, volunteer opportunities, a CarFit program, health screenings, presentations and more. Register at www.livingwellfairfax.org or call 703-324-7647, TTY 711. Call 703-324-5219, TTY 711 for ADA requests.

TUESDAY/APRIL 19

Autism and Safety. 7-8:30 p.m. Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1, Room 100, Dunn Loring. Learn Safety risks for individuals with special needs, proactive steps to reduce the risk of potential dangers,

resources available in the community for emergency preparedness, safety guidelines and more. Register at 703-204-3941 or <http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/resources/events/documents/AutismSafety.pdf>.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 20

Prepare to Care. 1 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Learn about how to form your team, make a plan, find support, and still care for yourself. Free. RSVP at 703-204-4664 or go to InsightMCC.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 23

Home Buying Seminar. 1-2 p.m. Weichert Burke Office, 9299 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Free home buying seminar on Saturday. Guests will receive a personal consultation with mortgage and real estate specialists, and also have the chance to win a cash prize. For more

information, visit www.tinyurl.com/WeichertHomeBuyers.

Western Fairfax Teen Job Fair and Resume Building Workshop.

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Chantilly High School Cafeteria, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. This event is open to all teens in Fairfax County looking for employment and is a great opportunity in a low pressure environment for teens to speak with potential employers, build their resume, and seek and hopefully find a job. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/teenjobfair.htm>.

TUESDAY/APRIL 26

Virginia Colorectal Cancer Roundtable. 9 a.m.-3:15 p.m. Inova Center for Personalized Health, 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax. Discussion on the nationwide initiative to reach an 80 percent colorectal cancer screening rate by

2018. Free. Advanced registration required, <http://tinyurl.com/vacrct>.

Learn More About Becoming a Foster Parent.

6-7 p.m. Fairfax County Public Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Learn about Treatment Foster Care, the children, the process of becoming a foster parent and the support provided. Guest Speaker Nathan Crew from McLean Bible Church. Free. 540-613-5120.

THURSDAY/APRIL 28

Access to Capital Conference.

8 a.m.-1 p.m. Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. Small businesses and entrepreneurs can connect with funders. Find out more or register at <http://www.atc2016.com/>.

ENTERTAINMENT

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.

THROUGH SUNDAY/APRIL 17

Circus XTREME. Eagle Bank Arena, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Last chance for local residents to see the treasured Asian elephants before they are moved to their permanent home at the Ringling Bros. Center for Elephant Conservation in Florida. ticketmaster.com. Ringling.com.

Northern Virginia Jewish Film Festival. Angelika Film Center and Cafe at Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. Festival will screen 14 contemporary Jewish-themed and/or Israeli-made feature films that explore identity and place in the world. \$10-\$70. For schedule and showtimes, go to jcnvarts.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 14

"Only God Can." 7:30 p.m. Fairfax Towne Center 10, 4110 W. Ox Road, Suite 12110, Fairfax. Faith-based film about five college alumni who meet for a reunion. When tragedy strikes, the women examine their own lives and learn that faith brings empowerment. \$14. Purchase tickets in advance at www.OnlyGodCanMovie.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 16

Off the Wall. 5-8 p.m. Art and Design Building, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Benefit to support student scholarships and visiting artists' fund for Computer Game Design Program, Film and Video Studies Program and School of Art. \$25/\$60. Offthewall.gmu.edu.

Opening Reception. 8 p.m.-midnight. Epicure Cafe, 11104 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Live music performance will be provided by Trash Mammals, an arts collective from Fairfax. epicurecafe.org.

"Don't Touch This Book!" 11 a.m. Barnes and Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Story time. Coloring and activities to follow. 703-278-8527.

"Giselle." 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Marius Petipa's choreography and hauntingly beautiful music, this romantic ballet portrays the poignant tale of Giselle, a young peasant girl who has fallen madly in love with a villager, unaware that he is, in fact, a count in disguise. By the Moscow Festival Ballet. cfa.gmu.edu.

SUNDAY/APRIL 17

"Diaspora" by Fairfax Station artist Lynn Goldstein will be on Display at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia's "After the Holocaust" exhibit from April 5 to May 19.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Virginia Opera Children's Program. 2 p.m. Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Little Red Riding Hood emphasizes musical storytelling, literature, language, and communication. Youngsters will be captivated by the antics of Little Red, Grandma, and the Wolf through this zany, fast-paced and high spirited adaptation. vaopera.org.

Ninth Annual Spotlight Bluegrass Festival. 6 p.m. The Auld Shebeen, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. fairfaxspotlight.org.

NTRAK Scale Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Free/\$2/\$4. fairfax-station.org. 703-425-9225.

"Swan Lake." 4 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. A beautiful princess who is the victim of a spell cast by an evil sorcerer. By the Moscow Festival Ballet. cfa.gmu.edu.

MONDAY/APRIL 18

Children's Performance Series. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Peter McCorty - The One Man Band for Kids and Families. Free. fairfaxarts.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 21

Friday Morning Music Club. Noon-1 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Community of music lovers and musicians dedicated to promoting classical music throughout the metropolitan area. On the third Thursday of the month they host

their performances at Old Town Hall. Free. fmmc.org.

Fairfax Antique Arts Association. 10 a.m. Green Acres Senior Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Carolyn Kiggins from the Treasure Shop of McLean will give a talk on The Culture of Consigning. Non-members welcome. Free. 703-273-6090.

Reading and Lecture by Pulitzer Prize Winning Poet Jorie Graham. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Center for the Arts, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. folklore.gmu.edu.

FRIDAY/APRIL 22

Plazapalooza Music Festival. 2-7 p.m. North Plaza and South Plaza George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Thirteen George Mason University student acts play on two stages. Free. <https://www.facebook.com/MusicProductionsGMU>.

SATURDAY/APRIL 23

Walk-4-Life and Health Fair. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. NOVA-Medical Education Campus, 6699 Springfield Center Drive, Springfield. Includes free activities, such as kickball, balloon twister, yoga, face painting, a caricature artist and live music for all to enjoy. Vision and health screenings for cholesterol, glucose and blood pressure will be offered throughout the event by healthcare professionals on-site. \$5 for the walk. www.nvcc.edu.

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NVTC
NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Northern Virginia Transportation Commission
Open House and Public Hearing on
Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Multimodal Components**

Thursday, May 5, 2016

6:00 p.m. Open House - 7:00 p.m. Public Hearing

2300 Wilson Boulevard, First Floor Conference Room, Arlington, VA 22201

The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) is seeking public input on the Multimodal Components submitted for FY 2017 funding consideration as part of the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT's) Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project.

NVTC will select multimodal components for presentation to the Commonwealth Transportation Board for funding using toll revenues from VDOT's Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project. The principal objective of the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project is to select and fund multimodal components that meet the improvement goals, which are to (1) move more people, (2) enhance transportation connectivity, (3) improve transit service, (4) reduce roadway congestion and (5) increase travel options. The improvement goals will benefit the users of the portion of I-66 between I-495 (the Capital Beltway) and U.S. Route 29 in the Rosslyn area of Arlington County.

NVTC urges the public to get involved by learning about and commenting on the proposed multimodal components during the **Open House and Public Hearing on May 5, 2016**. The meeting will be held at NVTC's offices at **2300 Wilson Boulevard, First Floor Conference Room, Arlington, VA 22201**. The Open House will begin at 6:00 p.m. The Public Hearing will start at 7:00 p.m.

The list of submitted multimodal components for the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project is too extensive for publication in this advertisement. Beginning April 5, 2016, the proposed project list may be accessed via www.novatransit.org/i66multimodal; by calling NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321); by e-mailing i66multimodal@nvtc.org; or by visiting NVTC's offices at 2300 Wilson Blvd., Ste. 620, Arlington, VA 22201, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Comments may be submitted beginning April 5, 2016 by e-mail to i66multimodal@nvtc.org or via phone at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321). The public comment period will be open from April 5, 2016 through the close of the Public Hearing on May 5, 2016. For additional information on the Open House and Public Hearing on May 5, 2016, contact NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321).

Beginning April 5, 2016 you may pre-register to speak by:

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ACCESSIBILITY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES OR SPANISH LANGUAGE SPEAKERS: The hearing is located at a facility believed to be accessible to persons with disabilities. Any person with questions about the accessibility of the facility should contact NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321) or i66multimodal@nvtc.org. Persons requiring special assistance or a Spanish language translator must notify NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321). Those requiring interpreter services for the deaf must call NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321) or via Virginia Relay by dialing 7-1-1. All requests for special services must be received no later than April 28, 2016.

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Djonkam Earns Fairfax South MVP at Nova Challenge

West Springfield senior produces double-double in all-star game.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

At 6 feet 9, West Springfield senior Lewis Djonkam does most of his damage in the paint.

During the dmvstream.com Nova Challenge, an event featuring some of the top senior basketball players in Northern Virginia competing in two all-star games, a 3-point shootout and a dunk contest, Djonkam showed fans the diversity of his talents.

Djonkam did “big man” things: he swatted shots, scored points in the paint and posted a double-digit rebound total. But he also showed off his shooting touch, knocking down multiple perimeter attempts, including a 3-pointer.

At the end of the day, Djonkam produced a double-double, threw down a dunk, earned team MVP honors and had a blast while doing it.

Playing for the Fairfax South All-Stars, Djonkam scored 19 points and grabbed 13 rebounds during a 110-107 loss to the Prince William All-Stars on April 10 at Marshall High School.

DJONKAM, who is still weighing his college options, finished with four assists, two blocks and two steals and was named Fairfax South MVP.

“It was great,” Djonkam said. “Every kid on the court I love. I grew up with half the kids on the court. ... [It was my] last time playing with the kids. It was great. I loved it.”

Djonkam shot 6-for-12 from the floor, and made one of his two 3-point attempts.

“I’ve been working on that a lot,” Djonkam said about shooting 3-pointers. “When I came out today, I was like, ‘I’m going to show them what I worked on.’”

Wakefield’s Deng Nhial and T.C. Williams’ Jordan Jones each had 16 points for Fairfax South, and T.C. Williams’ Tavaris James finished with 14.

Spencer Askew, Djonkam’s teammate at West Springfield, scored 11 points and had three assists.

Woodson guards Matt Ayoub and Seamus Maloney each scored six points. Robinson’s Avi Silberman and Hayfield’s Romaine Oakley each had two points.

Later in the day, the Fairfax North All-Stars defeated the Loudoun County All-Stars 108-101.

Langley senior Nate Shafer scored 10 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and blocked seven shots for the Fairfax North All-Stars.

All-star games are known for run-and-gun offense, but Shafer, the 2016 6A North region Defensive Player of the Year, made life difficult for Loudoun County players who tried to score in the paint.



West Springfield’s Lewis Djonkam finished with 19 points and 13 rebounds for the Fairfax South All-Stars during the dmvstream.com Nova Challenge on April 10 at Marshall High School.



West Springfield’s Spencer Askew scored 11 points for the Fairfax South All-Stars.



Woodson’s Seamus Maloney had six points for the Fairfax South All-Stars.

PHOTOS BY JEFF MCQUILKIN



Robinson’s Avi Silberman competed in the Nova Challenge on April 10 at Marshall High School.

“I can still apply some tactics that we use [during structured basketball] to an all-star game,” Shafer said. “I typically find a guy that can’t shoot as well so I can camp in the paint and that gives me more blocks and more contested shots and more rebounds, so that sort of pads my stats in an all-star game like this, which is fun.”

Shafer, who will play at Swarthmore College, said he enjoyed making defensive plays in an offensive environment. During one possession, Shafer swatted multiple Loudoun County shots.

“Those kinds of plays get the gym on their feet,” he said, “so I like to do that.”

Blake Francis, a member of the state champion Westfield Bulldogs, earned MVP honors for Fairfax North, finishing with 23 points, six rebounds and five assists. He knocked down a 3-pointer at the halftime buzzer, cutting the Fairfax North deficit to

64-50. Fairfax North outscored Loudoun County 58-37 in the second half.

Francis, who shot 8-for-17 from the floor and 5-for-12 from 3-point range, is still

weighing his college options.

“It’s good experience,” Francis said, “going against the top talent in the Northern Virginia area.”

CENTREVILLE’S William Unterkofler scored 12 points and grabbed four rebounds. He also won the dunk contest, earning a perfect score of 30 on his final attempt, when he jumped, brought the ball between his legs and threw it down with his right hand.

Unterkofler will attend Virginia Tech but doesn’t plan to play basketball. He said he could first dunk a basketball in the ninth grade.

“It was pretty cool,” said the 6-foot-5 Unterkofler. “I’ve wanted to be in a dunk contest for a long time because I practice dunking all the time and I never get to show it, so it’s really exciting to get to come out and do it.”

Fairfax High’s Alex McNaughton, who will play at Salisbury, scored 17 points for Fairfax North and shot 6-for-9 from the floor, including 3-for-4 from behind the arc. Fellow Rebel Manny Miller had six points and seven rebounds.

Lake Braddock Softball Improves to 8-0

Senior pitcher Abby Thibodeau and the Lake Braddock softball team defeated South County 4-1 on Tuesday to remain undefeated. The Bruins improved to 8-0, including 5-0 in Conference 7, and have outscored their opponents 113-4. Lake Braddock will host West Springfield at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 15.



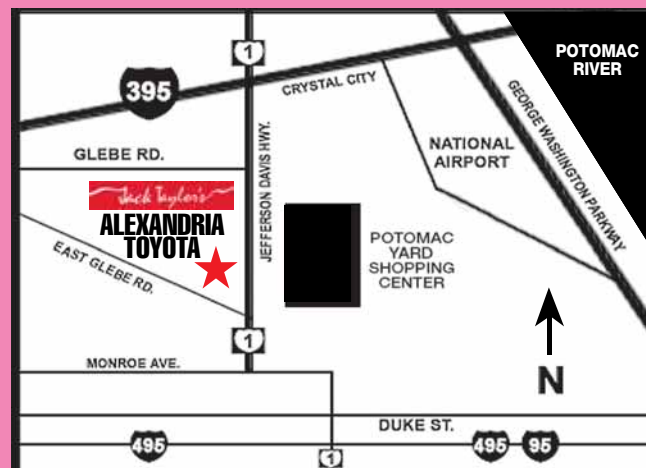
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