Potomac Falls High wrestler Ryan Hagen, top, captured the Region II title at the 152-weight class last Saturday night at Park View High School. Next for the senior, it's on to the Virginia State Championships, set to take place this weekend in Salem.
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Keeping an Eye Out
The Potomac Terrace neighborhood bands together to combat crime in Cascades.

By Justin Fanizzi
The Connection

The residents of Potomac Terrace in Cascades have a simple message to any criminals in the area: you are being watched.

Since its re-emergence about a year ago, the Neighborhood Watch Program in Potomac Terrace has never been stronger. In a coverage area comprised of 127 townhouses and a fairly significant transient population, the residents have organized to utilize technology and the advantage of multiple sets of eyes to ensure their safety and improve the neighborhood’s quality of life.

“The program is a very effective way to keep the community safe and it sends a strong message to criminals,” Supervisor Andrea McGimsey (D-Potomac) said. “The citizens really are the eyes and ears of the community.”

ACCORDING TO Donna Taglieri, co-coordinator of the Potomac Terrace Neighborhood Watch, the original Potomac Terrace program began about 12 or 13 years ago when the community first started. Over time, she said, the program grew dormant for several reasons, most prominently the county’s bullish home market in recent years, which created a decent amount of resident turnover. With many of the original residents no longer living in Potomac Terrace, the program slowly fizzled.

However, given the area’s location, which is the southeast corner of Cascades, there was a surge of walk-through traffic and increase in the transient population recently, which according to Taglieri’s fellow co-coordinator, Ed Levine, stoked the interest within the community to restart the program.

Levine said that the increase in foot traffic through Potomac Terrace is a product of two environments. First, there is no sidewalk on Palisades Parkway, which Levine said forces pedestrians to walk through Potomac Terrace. Second, since the neighborhood backs up against Northern Virginia Community College, Levine said many students park in Potomac Terrace to avoid the 75 cent meter charge on campus.

Another possible reason Levine cites is when there are multiple people sharing a single home and they have multiple cars and all give no increase in tax funding, the library system would be facing a 7.5 percent decrease in its funding overall. At this initial level, the libraries would be forced to lay off nine staff members and the After Hours Teen Center and Outreach Services to the elderly would be eliminated. Also, all library services on the front lines of the budget battle.

At the base budget cut level, which would give no increase in tax funding, the library system would be facing a 7.5 percent decrease in its funding overall. At this initial level, the libraries would be forced to lay off nine staff members and the After Hours Teen Center and Outreach Services to the elderly would be eliminated. Also, all library services on the front lines of the budget battle.

“Everyone has organized to utilize technology and the advantage of multiple sets of eyes to ensure their safety and improve the neighborhood’s quality of life. The program is a very effective way to keep the community safe and it sends a strong message to criminals,” Supervisor Andrea McGimsey (D-Potomac) said. “The citizens really are the eyes and ears of the community.”

The library system is one of these services on the front lines of the budget battle. Though the library comprises only 1 percent of the total budget, according to Scott Stewart, chairman of the Loudoun County Library Board of Trustees, it is facing cuts that will have a significant impact on the community.

“There is no cut that does not do irreparable damage to this model of service to the Loudoun County citizenry,” Stewart wrote in a letter to library supporters. “When there is nothing extra to cut, the core functions must be gutted. Every library in the system is affected, not just your local branch.”

Get Involved
Anyone who lives in the Potomac Terrace neighborhood and wants to become involved in the Neighborhood Watch program, e-mail Ed Levine at EdMLevine@gmail.com to be put on the group’s mailing list. Anyone who wants to join a program in their neighborhood area, call Deputy Specialists Nathan Payne and James Spurlock at 703-777-0477 or 703-771-5749, respectively. They can also be reached via e-mail at nathanial.payne@loudoun.gov or james.spurlock@loudoun.gov.

Deadly Crash
A single-vehicle crash early Tuesday morning near Broadlands Boulevard killed an Ashburn man and left a passenger in critical condition, according to the Sheriff’s Office.

Around 2:15 a.m., a 2004 Nissan 350Z killed an Ashburn man and left a passenger in critical condition, according to the Sheriff’s Office.

“Fatal Crash
Several passengers were involved in the crash, according to the Sheriff’s Office. According to a preliminary investigation by the Loudoun Sheriff’s Office, the vehicle veered to the left, crossed the median and proceeded across the westbound lanes of Broadlands Boulevard before striking a tree.

The driver of the vehicle, Michael P. Howard, 23, died at the scene. A passenger in the vehicle, Elizabeth Kissinger, 21, of Herndon, was airlifted to Inova Fairfax Hospital where she was currently listed in critical condition.

According to the Sheriff’s Office, speed is believed to be a factor in the crash.
Week in Loudoun

Fire Department Recognized

The Virginia Fire Chiefs Association will present the Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management with the Virginia Fire Chiefs Best Practices in Fire Service Health and Safety Award.

Created to recognize the health and safety efforts of fire departments in Virginia, the award acknowledges creative, comprehensive and significant accomplishments and programs that provide operational improvements in the health and safety of fire service members. One fire department within each of the categories of volunteer, career and combination departments is honored.

This year, Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management was recognized for its Respiratory Protection Program, which was implemented by the department through the Fire and Rescue Service Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors to serve the combined fire and rescue system. The program, which was created to provide oversight and funding for self-contained breathing apparatus for the fire-rescue system, not only enables the department to provide system members with properly maintained breathing apparatus, but to insure that equipment is updated as industry standards change.

The award will be presented at the 2009 Mid-Atlantic Expo and Symposium in Virginia Beach Saturday, Feb. 21.

Board Cancels Public Input Sessions

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors has canceled its regular public input sessions in March, which had been scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Monday, March 2, and March 16. Instead, the board will use the time for work sessions on the fiscal year 2010 budget. One hour will be set aside for public input during the board’s regular March business meetings, beginning at 9 a.m., Tuesday, March 3, and Tuesday, March 17.

Links to documents for board meetings, including packets for business meetings and the budget work session schedule, are online at www.loudoun.gov/bosdocuments.

Preparing for Census

Loudoun County is taking steps to prepare for the 2010 Census by taking part in the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2010 Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP). PSAP allows participants, following Census Bureau guidelines and criteria, to review, update and delineate new census tracts, block groups and census designated places.

Loudoun County will develop recommended changes to census tracts and block groups, along with recommended census designated places, based on the analysis of the criteria from the census, along with input from county agencies and others. This input can help guide these changes so that they best meet the different needs of census data users. Census results are used by decision makers at all levels of government when allocating resources to communities.

The deadline for the submission of the completed recommendations to the U.S. Census Bureau is March 27. The deadline for Loudoun County government departments to respond with input is Feb. 25. Other agencies, such as Loudoun County Public Schools, Loudoun Water and the incorporated Towns, and the general public should respond by March 5.

Comments may be sent by e-mail to psap@loudoun.gov or to Jill Allmon, Department of Management & Financial Services, Mailstop 41, 1 Harrison St. S.E., Leesburg, VA 20177. More information is available on the Loudoun County Web site at www.loudoun.gov/psap.

Digital Television Conversion

Loudoun County’s Office of Public Information, in conjunction with the Federal Communications Commission, will hold a series of meetings to help people prepare for the transition to digital television. The first meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at the Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Loudoun residents who have questions about the digital conversion or who need assistance in understanding the transition can attend the meeting.

See Week in Loudoun, Page 5

News

A Watchful Eye

FROM PAGE 3

cannot be parked in the drive-
way due to the area’s strict park-
ing enforcement, those people park their cars in the Terrace as well.

“There is a lot of walk-through traffic and a lot of our crimes are a product of that,” Levine said. “I had a neighbor who left his cell phone on the front steps while washing his car. He left for a minute and when he came back, the phone was gone. You want to be able to leave your stuff on your own property without it being taken. I want to be able to leave my house to go on a walk and not have to close my garage door.”

ACCORDING TO TAGLIERI, the group polices crime in the neighborhood by maintaining a partnership with the Sheriff’s Office and by maintaining a close-knit community. When something suspicious occurs in the neighbor-
hood, it is brought to the atten-
tion of the group immediately, who then use all of the technol-
ogy at their disposal to inform ev-
ery resident of the issue and what
to do about it. Taglieri said that the group’s methods of commu-
ication include a Google group where residents can post informa-
tion, e-mail blasts, flyers, so when something does happen, typically residents know about it quickly. If the issue demands further attention, then Sheriff’s depu-
ties are notified.

Taglieri also asserted that even though the group does not patrol the streets to proactively police crime and relies on communication and aware-
ness to prevent crime, there is cer-
tainly no lack of Neighborhood Watch participants “on the beat.”

“Since the Sheriff’s department does not advocate the use of patrols with regard to neighborhood watch groups, we do not officially patrol our neighborhood,” Taglieri said. “That being said, we have plenty of mem-
bers who are joggers and dog walkers, so informal patrolling is con-
stantly taking place.

In addition to monitoring the neighborhood, the group also ensures that they are as informed and educated as possible when it comes to new crime trends and prevention measures by holding meet-
ings and classes throughout the year. Deputies James Spurlock and Jason Leydig, of the Sheriff’s Office’s Adult Crime Prevention Unit are the police contacts for the group and meet with the group sporadically to hold meetings and input sessions. A Neighbor-
hood Watch newsletter distributed by the county via e-mail is yet another useful tool that the group employs.

LEVINE AND TAGLIERI both note that while there is no way to empiri-
cally quantify the group’s impact on crime in their community, it is, with-
out a doubt, having a positive effect within the community.

“It is difficult for even the authori-
ties to quantify the positive impact neighborhood watch groups have on communities since no one can easily or accurately calculate the number of crimes that did not take place,” Taglieri said. “What is certain, however, is that a close-knit community will be more likely to notice when something is not quite right.”

Donna Taglieri, Potomac Terrace Neighborhood Watch

A close-knit community will be more likely to notice when something is not quite right.

People Notes

ARMY RESERVE SPEC. ANTHONY P. BROWN of Potomac Falls has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. During the nine weeks of training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weap-
os, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fit-
ess, first aid, and Army history, core values and traditions. Brown is the son of Norman Brown of Silo Mill Court, Sterling.

The Loudoun Free Clinic in Leesburg named Loudoun residents, Sharon R. Meyers and John H. Cook III, M.D., to its 15-member board of directors.

Seneca Ridge Middle School students Annie Franks, grade seven, and Carolyn Deroster, grade eight, were selected as finalists for the Flute Society of Washington Flute Master Class. The Flute Faire will be in Reston Feb. 21. Annie will perform a Telemann Fanta-
sias and Carolyn will perform “The Pearl of Siberia.”
how to attach their digital converter box will have the opportunity to talk to representatives of the FCC.

The switch to digital television was originally set for Feb. 17. Congress recently passed the DTV Delay Act, which extends the deadline for full-power broadcast television stations to complete the DTV transition to June 12. The new law allows more time for consumers to be prepared for the DTV transition. However, Congress did not require stations to continue broadcasting in analog after Feb. 17, and stations may choose to complete the transition, and stop broadcasting in analog, before June 12. Broadcast stations are required to notify their viewers before shutting off their analog channels. Local broadcast channels will make on-air announcements about the transition. Viewers may also contact stations directly for more information.

Four meetings are scheduled in Loudoun before the transition deadline of June 12:

❖ Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.-noon, at the Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise St., Sterling
❖ Saturday, April 4, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Douglass Community Center, 407 E. Market St., Leesburg
❖ Saturday, May 2, 10 a.m.-noon, Loudoun Valley Community Center, 320 W. School St., Purcellville
❖ Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m.-noon, Cascades Library 21030 Whittlefield Place, Potomac Falls

More information about the digital TV transition, including links to the FCC and related Web sites, is available on the Loudoun County Web site at www.loudoun.gov/digitaltv.
Create Bicycle Coordinator

To the Editor:

The Board of Supervisors has just voted to impose a vehicle tax on hybrid autos. While the tax will be less than on regular vehicles, it will generate an estimated $629,000 new funds for the county annually.

Supervisor Andrea McGimsey (D-Potomac) has suggested that these new revenues be applied to environmental projects that mitigate pollution and enhance energy efficiency. One suggestion that makes sense is to create a bicycle and pedestrian coordinator position in the county. Loudoun County is one of the last jurisdictions in the metropolitan area that lacks a bike coordinator. In 2003 the county adopted the Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Master Plan, but to date, few of its recommendations have been implemented. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) provides designated funding to assist local governments to create such amenities as bike lanes, wide paved shoulders and/or paved trails beside roads. However, the jurisdictions must include specific language in their transportation plans and work closely with VDOT in order to have these bike facilities built on their roads. So far, Loudoun County has not been proactive in securing bike facilities. A new group, BikeLoudoun, is advocating to make bicycling and walking safe throughout the county. A primary goal of BikeLoudoun is the creation of a bicycle coordinator, which is sorely needed to move the county forward on this issue.

Patricia Turner
Sterling

Preserve Library Funding (Especially Now)

To the Editor:

I strongly urge the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to keep FY 2010 funding for libraries at the same absolute-dollar level as FY 2009. The proposed service cuts required under the current budget scenarios (ranging from $900,000 or 7.5 percent to roughly $2.5 million or over 20 percent) will be devastating for county residents at a time when the need for library services has never been higher. The cuts will damage the long-term economic health of the county, yet do little, if anything, to address the current budget crisis. Key reasons to preserve funding include:

- Libraries are a safety net: Our public libraries have experienced a 25 percent increase in usage since the economic crisis began. Libraries provide struggling families with access to reading materials, the Internet and educational programming, indispensable resources for those facing financial hardship.
- Libraries promote economic recovery: Libraries help those who have lost their jobs find new professional and/or educational opportunities, helping them get back on their feet and promoting economic recovery and growth in the tax base.
- Libraries complement our schools: Students regularly rely on the library as a place to study, conduct research and access and resource materials. Cutting library hours undermines the quality of education they are receiving.
- Libraries are a bargain: The total FY 2009 budget for our award-winning library services is under $12 million, less than 1 percent of the county budget. Our library system is well run, with little or no “fat.” The requested flat-funding budget maintains existing core services, with no new “nice-to-have” programs.
- Budget cuts don’t help short-term finances: The county gains little if anything financially from cutting library funding, even under the most aggressive scenarios. While cuts will have a devastating impact on the 72 percent of residents who use our libraries, they will — at most — reduce county expenditures by a virtually meaningless 0.25 percent.

I recognize that the BOS faces a daunting task in setting the current budget and associated tax rate. The board should demand that departments eliminate wasteful spending and delay expensive new technologies or programs that we can’t afford right now. But we need to fund essential services, and cutting library funding is the wrong answer — for the county and its residents.

Larry Stepink
Ashburn

Relevant Information Needed

To the Editor:

We are very concerned that the recent denial of BRMC will have a detrimental effect on health-care services in Loudoun County for years to come. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has offered to provide an unbiased professional opinion on the merits of the BRMC application. We are confident that the Board of Supervisors does not need to make a decision of this magnitude without considering all relevant information.

We urge all residents of Loudoun County to contact the Board of Supervisors and ask them to vote on Feb. 17 to postpone a final decision on HCA for 60 days to allow the FTC time to evaluate the BRMC application and prepare written remarks without considering all relevant information.

To the Editor:

President and Board of Directors
BRMC
Leesburg, VA

Ambassador Girl Scout Troop 952 was chosen by lottery from more than 3,000 applicants to volunteer in the Presidential Inauguration on Tuesday. The troop greeted and directed the huge crowds streaming onto the National Mall. Troop members participating were Nikki Dillistin, Rachael Diniega, Anna Humphon, Emma Humphon, Alicia Kubokawa, Christina Larimer, Leanna Lockhart, Ronnie Palmer and Jennifer Richards. All girls are students at Potomac Falls High School.

Opinion Long view to outcome
Library Cuts Looming

FROM PAGE 3

Library Cuts Looming

branches would be closed Sundays.

AT THE FIRST TIER of cuts, which reduce the budget an additional 5 percent, the libraries’ hours of operation would be reduced Monday through Thursdays to eight hours per day instead of 11 and summer reading and early literacy programs will be eliminated. Also, 29 more staff members would be laid off, bringing the total to 35.

With a 10 percent reduction in local tax funding, all branches would close on Fridays in top of the base and 5 percent cuts. Further cuts would bring the total number of laid-off employees to at least 53 and collection acquisitions would be reduced by 45 percent. Total closure for the Sterling Library is also a possibility.

According to Nancy Nuell, who represents the Potomac District on the Library Board of Trustees, the library system is on the chopping block even though it is just a sliver of the budget pie because there is little “pork” in the system’s budget. As a result, any cuts in the system would have a tremendous impact, as all the money that the system receives is for necessities.

“The impact of even a small reduction is hard on the libraries,” Nuell said. “The [library] budget is so small that consequently, there is not a lot of fat to be cut. They run a very lean organization.”

Nuell contends the “lean” system needs all the funding it can get, especially in a lean economy. Nuell said that in the past year, there has been a 15 percent increase in library usage. She said that more people are choosing to borrow books and DVDs instead of purchasing them and that more people are using the libraries for computers to type resumes and the Internet to search for job postings.

“I feel strongly that our libraries are a source of enrichment and a safe haven to people during these [tough] economic times,” Nuell said. “Our libraries provide a safe environment.”

Sterling District Trustee Suzanne Volpe echoed Nuell’s sentiment about the libraries becoming more useful in difficult times. She said that the libraries have become a place for the community to gather, especially as the libraries are needed more often for organizational meetings for entities like HOAs who do not have a meeting room and for reading and language classes for groups from all reaches of the community.

Volpe noted that the Sterling school cluster has the highest percentage of students needing English as a Second Language classes and is worried that some people in the county may not even be aware that they may be losing these services because they do not speak English. In addition, she said that more low-income families who need to use computers to do school work are using the library, as well as a high number of homeschooled students using them for textbooks.

“In reality, the Sterling Library is like a town square for the community,” Volpe said. “So, we are talking about taking services away from the town square.”

IN RESPONSE to the proposed cutbacks, both Volpe and Nuell said that they have seen an outpouring of support and concern for the future of the library system. Nuell, who also serves on the Cascades Library Advisory Board said that the group, along with Friends of the Middleburg Library and other organizations that provide aid to the libraries are planning to distribute fliers detailing the specifics of the tiered cuts and what they will do.

The groups are also encouraging people to attend the Board of Supervisors’ budget input meetings to voice their support.

“I've gotten many comments via e-mail, personal letters and more,” Nuell said. “The community is very concerned. I'm hearing a lot of concern and it is touching every age group and every ethnic group. I think we will see a large presence at the Board of Supervisors meetings.”

Faith Notes

Send announcements to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks prior to event. Photos/cuts are encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Each 10:30 a.m. Sunday service at Unitarian Universalists of Sterling, 22135 Davis Drive, Sterling, has a different topic. The Feb. 22 service is “Aga, on the Rocks.” Call 703-406-3068.

St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 201 E. Frederick Ave., Sterling, is holding its annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner Tuesday, Feb. 24, with three seatings at 5:30 p.m., 6:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. A good will donation is requested; all proceeds will benefit the St. Matthew’s Mission Team. Call 703-421-1978.

Galilee United Methodist Church, 45245 Winding Road, Sterling, is holding a service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness, Friday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. Call 703-430-2203, e-mail GalileeUMC@GalileeUMC.net or visit www.GalileeUMC.org.

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‘Five Women Wearing the Same Dress’

CCT and 2nd Flight Theatre stage comedy Feb. 20-March 1.

By Steve Hibbard  The Connection

Alan Ball, the man who scripted HBO’s “Six Feet Under,” “True Blood,” and “American Beauty,” wrote “Five Women Wearing the Same Dress,” the play that CCT with 2nd Flight Theatre Company is staging Feb. 20-March 1, at the Waddell Theater, Northern Virginia Community College, Loudoun campus.

The comedy is set in an upstairs bedroom of an opulent Tennessee mansion during the wedding reception of the oldest daughter of the house. The five bridesmaids retreat to the bedroom to escape the reception and their own demons. Throughout the play, the audience learns why each woman wants to be anywhere but at the party.

“Five bridesmaids of Bridezilla hide out in an upstairs bedroom and as they spend time together, they let down their guards a little and secrets are revealed and comedy ensures,” director Susan Devine said. She chose the play because “there’s some good comedy around weddings and Southern women.” Fifty women auditioned for the five women roles, she adds.

ERIN ANDERSON KING, 26, of Brambleton, plays the self-centered Georgeanne who is in her own little world. She’s been friends with the bride since high school but they’ve fallen out of touch.

“Pretty much everything that comes out of her mouth is ridiculous. She spends a good portion of her time drunk and/or crying,” she said.

The role is a shift for her in that she’s never played the funny girl. “It’s something out of my element,” she said. To help her prepare, she watched reruns of “Golden Girls.” And prior to going on stage, she literally spins around. “I discovered the best way to feel drunk on stage is to spin in circles backstage — so the next time I go way to feel drunk on stage is to spin in circles backstage — so the next time I go,” she said.

The technical writer by day has been with 2nd Flight since 2005, which she calls an “extremely welcoming group of people.”

Betsy Eames, 25, of Reston, plays Frances, a sweet and sheltered girl who wants to be accepted by the others. She meets a bartender and slowly comes out of her shell. “I like her because she’s so dorky and I’m pretty dorky so it’s a good fit,” said Eames. She said she based her character on the Darryl Hannah character in “Steel Magnolias.”

Her challenge is that she doesn’t always agree with everything she says, “She has some pretty strong opinions.” Eames works in software development by day and said she feels “like a princess” working on her first show with CCT. “Everything is so organized and so professional,” she added.

LAUREN FELIZ, 26, of Fairfax, plays the bride’s little sister Meredith, a rebel who is seriously my complete opposite,” she said. “And doing a Southern accent is what makes it fun.”

said. Her challenge was learning all the lines after she came into the show a month late due to conflicts. This is the second production with 2nd Flight for the human resources administrator by day, who added she’s not much like her character because “I shy away from confrontation.”

Melissa McConnell, 25, of Fairfax, plays Trisha, who she based on Samantha from “Sex and the City.” She describes her role as “a bit of a slut but she makes no apologies for it.”

She gets labeled as being promiscuous. “She does what she wants and she doesn’t care what anybody else thinks,” she added.

“She’s sexually explosive.”

The fun part of the role? “I really enjoyed delving into this character who is seriously my complete opposite,” she said. “And doing a Southern accent is what makes it fun.”

The fun part is “It’s kind of revisiting what you were like in high school,” she added.

Her challenge: “She is Miss Cool. She is Miss Sophisticated. She’s my opposite.” For her day job, McConnell works as a processor at Wachovia Mortgage.

Zachary Lanouette-Opheim, 20, of Sterling, plays Trip Davenport, the friend of the groom and usher who is the only male in the cast. His Atlanta playboy-slut character falls for Trisha who ends up being just like him.

“I’ve never acted before,” he said. “I’m basing him on myself a little bit, that’s the easiest way … if I were in his situation, what would I do.”

Being surrounded by girls is a refreshing change, he said. He calls his cast mates “Really helpful. They’re all really fun … a lot of my best friends are females.” A full-time student at NOVA, he plans to transfer to VCU to study premed.
Send announcements to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks prior to event, photos/ artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

THURSDAY/FEB. 19

NEEDLECRAFT NIGHT. 7 p.m., Cascades Marketplace, Potomac Falls. Bring your knitting, needlepoint or other project and get to know your neighbors. Free. Call 703-430-5900.

SOMEBUNNY TO LOVE. 7-11 p.m., Guitar Hero Jam Session. 6-9 p.m. Visit www.chocolatesgalore.org. YMCA Loudoun County. Cost: $60 registration includes two weekend classes, two weekday classes, tea party, and power chords. Cost: $10. Call 703-507-6023 to register.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 18

NEEDLECRAFT NIGHT. 7 p.m., Cascades Marketplace, Potomac Falls. Bring your knitting, needlepoint or other project and get to know your neighbors. Free. Call 703-430-5900.

Talent Show. 7 p.m., Sterling Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. An amateur talent show hosted by Ashburn Library’s Teen Council. Recommended for all ages. Visit library.loudoun.gov or call 703-737-8100.

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM. 3:30 p.m., Stone Bridge High School, 43100 Hay Road, Ashburn. The Loudoun County Virginia Chapter of the NAACP and Americas Inc. Minority Student Achievement Advisory Committee at the County is holding the 6th Annual Black History Program featuring members of the Duke Ellington School of the Performing Arts Show Choir. Del Washington will lead a tribute to Jerry L Hill. Free.

MONDAY/FEB. 23

BINGO WORLD. 4 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Encourage a child’s love of books by pairing him with a volunteer reading buddy for one-on-one offerings. Recommended for ages 3-12. Visit library.loudoun.gov or call 703-430-5900.


FRIDAY/FEB. 27

PIGEON PARTY. 10:30 a.m., Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Ashburn. Free with paying child. Call 703-855-9622 or visit www.Loudoun/CascadesConnection.com

GOING THE DISTANCE. 2 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. A performance highlighting Jesse Owens and Wilma Rudolph. Encourage a child’s love of books by pairing him with a volunteer reading buddy for one-on-one offerings. Recommended for ages 3-12. Visit library.loudoun.gov or call 703-737-8100.

SATURDAY/FEB. 28

DEADLINE IS FEB. 22. For inclusion in the Calendar, please submit events to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. We reserve the right to edit for space.

NEEDLECRAFT NIGHT. 7 p.m., Cascades Marketplace, Potomac Falls. Bring your knitting, needlepoint or other project and get to know your neighbors. Free. Call 703-430-5900.

SOMEBUNNY TO LOVE. 7-11 p.m., Guitar Hero Jam Session. 6-9 p.m. Visit www.chocolatesgalore.org. YMCA Loudoun County. Cost: $60 registration includes two weekend classes, two weekday classes, tea party, and power chords. Cost: $10. Call 703-507-6023 to register.

Talent Show. 7 p.m., Sterling Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. An amateur talent show hosted by Ashburn Library’s Teen Council. Recommended for all ages. Visit library.loudoun.gov or call 703-737-8100.

BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM. 3:30 p.m., Stone Bridge High School, 43100 Hay Road, Ashburn. The Loudoun County Virginia Chapter of the NAACP and Americas Inc. Minority Student Achievement Advisory Committee at the County is holding the 6th Annual Black History Program featuring members of the Duke Ellington School of the Performing Arts Show Choir. Del Washington will lead a tribute to Jerry L Hill. Free.
Reclassifying Route 28 Corridor

Developments could change nature of Route 28.

By Jennifer Lesinski The Connection

Residential could be the new buzz word for the Route 28 corridor. Two recently filed applications seek to construct mixed-use developments along the mostly business-oriented corridor.

Dulles World Center, consisting of 75 acres in Loudoun County, along with four acres in Fairfax County on Innovation Drive, along the northeast quadrant of routes 28 and 267, is proposed to have 3,394,600 square feet of nonresidential uses, including hotels, restaurants, retail and offices as well as 1,495 housing units consisting of 32 townhouses and 1,463 multifamily units.

Kincora Village Center, has 354 acres located on the southwest quadrant of routes 7 and 28, where the applicant hopes to build a minor league baseball stadium, a total of eight offices buildings, auxiliary uses consisting of restaurants, financial institutions and personal services and according to a zoning modification amendment application that was accepted by the county Planning Department last week, 1,400 multifamily dwelling units. Unlike the Dulles World property, the Kincora ownership filed a special exception covering the stadium, office buildings and auxiliary uses in December and the zoning amendment recently, which puts the two applications on different timetables. Typically, when the applications are filed together, they are merged and make their way through the approval process concurrently.

Kincora’s special exception is expected to be a 90-day process while the zoning amendment could take up to a year, Judi Birkitt, the county planner assigned to the project, said.

The two developments have also prompted the Board of Supervisors to decide to take a holistic view of the corridor. At its Feb. 6 meeting, the board initiated a Comprehensive Plan Amendment, commonly called a CPAM, to look at properties designed as “keynote employment” along Route 28 from the north to the south, giving developers a chance to create developments that are not defined by just offices or commerce.

By the Board of Supervisors' motion during last week's hearing, the Board had decided to look at the corridor as a whole and not worry about the timeline. Ultimately, the Board said, Route 28 is going to be a residential and employment corridor.

An aerial view of the proposed Dulles World Center property. The eastern most four acres are in Fairfax County, while the remaining land is in Loudoun County.
**NEWS**

**Applications Trigger CPAM**

**FROM PAGE 10**

Fairfax County border to Route 7 and between Atlantic Boulevard and Broad Run for possible reclassification of each parcel’s designed land use. In addition, the board initiated a Route 28 business committee outreach project to gauge what stakeholders along the corridor envision for Route 28, to find out why many of the property owners decided to retain zoning under the 1972 ordinance rather than convert to the revised 1993 zoning ordinance and what incentives could be considered to encourage property owners to convert to the newer zoning.

“The citizens in my district are very interested in this and are not happy with the 25 percent residential,” said Supervisor Andrea McGimsey (D-Potomac), whose district includes portions of the corridor. “We already have large mixed-use communities approved if they start building out, I’ll believe there is a market for that.”

— Antonio J. Calabrese, attorney representing Dulles World Center

A separate special exception seeks to permit up to three hotels with a total of 708 rooms. If approved, the property could include up to 25 percent residential, which would be made up of townhouses and multifamily units. Calabrese compares the housing to Midtown towers in Reston and the overall project to be like Reston Town Center.

Besides the housing and hotels, the application said the project will include pedestrian-friendly grid network of streets, a large central park, public plaza and the developer proposed to obtain LEED, or Lead design for a Detached Community.

Bruce Lipson of Weichert Realtors’ corporate headquarters residential sales office in Ashburn was named Manager of the Year for the region in 2008. The award is designed to recognize and honor individuals who have demonstrated exceptional management skills and led their office to achieve outstanding results in 2008. The region consists of 17 offices in Northern Virginia.

The Brambleton Group LLC, developers of the master-planned residential and retail development of Brambleton in the Dulles area of southeastern Loudoun, is the recipient of a silver award from the National Sales and Marketing Council’s The National’sSM 2009 competition. Brambleton’s silver award was based on winning the categories of Master-planned Community of the Year, Best Web site for a Community (suburban), and Best Landscape Design for a Detached Community.

Bruce Lipson has been named office manager of Weichert Realtors’ Dulles Office. Lipson has worked in real estate more than 13 years and received his broker’s license in 2005. Lipson recently received the Weichert Realtors Manager of the Year award for 2008 in the region for demonstrating outstanding management skills at Weichert’s Ashburn office.

**REAL ESTATE NOTES**

Send announcements to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

The Virginia Housing Development Authority is offering a free homeownership education class Tues., Feb. 24 and Thursday, Feb. 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Leesburg Safety Center, 65 Plaza St., Leesburg. Topics include credit issues, personal finances, home inspections and the role of lenders and real estate agents. Call Chris Vogel at 703-777-0553 in advance to ensure homeownership classes have not been cancelled.

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Hagen and Penza Grab Region II Titles

The Panthers’ Haislip, meanwhile, garners third place.

By Rich Sanders
The Connection

It looked as if Ryan Hagen’s bid for a Region II wrestling title was in serious peril in the latter stages of his 152-weight-class finals match against Josh Shaffer of James Wood High (Winchester) last Saturday night at Park View High School in Sterling. Hagen, a senior member of the Potomac Falls High squad, trailed 4-2 well into the third and final period. But, stunningly, Hagen made a “desperation” move, as he called it, that suddenly had his opponent reeling and on his back. It turned out to be the winning move for Hagen, who built up a load of back points over the final seconds of the match to win, 7-4.

“It feels awesome,” said Hagen, moments following his title win. “All the hard work has paid off.”

The victory clinched Hagen’s first-ever region title and gave him tons of momentum going into this weekend’s Virginia State Championships in Salem. Hagen, who two weeks ago captured his second career Dulles District crown, had finished fifth at regionals each of the past two years before Saturday’s breakthrough.

The desperation move that so quickly turned around the finals match is called a “spladle.” Hagen, who was on the ground and behind Shaffer, utilized the gem by getting his legs around his opponent’s head. He then was able to get both of Shaffer’s legs turned and then got him onto his back. For the next several seconds Shaffer was in a helpless position as Hagen racked up the points that allowed him to overcome his deficit and pull ahead for good.

“When the final buzzer sounded, there appeared to be some controversy as James Wood coach Greg Walker requested a conference with the referee and scoring officials. For several seconds, the two wrestlers simply looked on, waiting to see the official outcome. Then, the referee indicated Hagen was the winner.

“I knew I should have been the winner,” said Hagen of his thoughts following the end of the match. “He was on his back for [at least] 10 seconds.”

Of his late scoring flurry and winning move near the end of the match, Hagen said, “It was kind of a desperation move. It’s effective if you can hit it.”

Hagen (47-8) had lost both of his matches to Shaffer (43-8) during the regular season. Hagen commented, “It was kind of a desperation move. I’m happy to be there,” he said. “I’ll give it my best shot.”

Hagen reached the region finals with wins over Ayden Cousins (Western Albemarle), Levi Huston (Skyline) and, in the semifinals, Jeff Crawford (Sherando), 7-0.

WHILE POTOMAC FALLS did not have any other champions or finalists at regionals, the Panthers did have one third-place finisher in senior Charlie Haislip (140 division). A year ago as a junior, Haislip’s season came to a premature end when he broke his collarbone during a mid-January match. The injury resulted in Haislip missing the entire postseason. As difficult as that experience was, it proved quite a motivator for Haislip, who worked hard throughout the summer and offseason in preparations for his 12th-grade year.

And what a season this has been for Haislip (38-8), who has remained healthy throughout the winter on his way to a Dulles title two weeks ago and the stellar third place showing at regionals on Saturday.

“I hated sitting and watching the others participate today,” Haislip said. "I hated it, and I wanted to win and I wanted to advance.”

After a nationwide search and a four-day selection process, 19-year-old Ashburn resident Ryan Ellis has been selected as one of only 30 drivers to participate in the 2009 Volkswagen Jettta TDI Cup racing series, designed to find up-and-coming racing talent between the ages of 16 and 26.

Ellis, a student at George Mason University, has been racing cars since he was 5. He started in quarter midget race cars in Hagerstown, Md. Over the years, he has driven and won in Legends race cars and Late Models at tracks all over the country. Most of his nearby racing has taken place at Old Dominion Speedway in Manassas and Shenandoah Speedway.

Last year, Ellis was voted by his fellow drivers as the National Auto Sport Association (NASA) driver of the year for the Spec Miata class.

Leesburg Flag Football, a sister league to Cascades Flag Football, is a youth flag football league open to boys and girls grades kindergarten through eighth. Practices and games will be held at Morven Park in Leesburg. The spring season will run from late March through mid-June. Learn more and register online at www.youthflag.com/leesburg. Early bird rates apply through Feb. 20. For more information, call 703-444-

SPORTS NOTES

Three boys and one girl, ages 8-13, won the first round of competition in the Elks “Hoop Shoot” free-throw contest competition, earning them recognition as Sterling Champions. The contests took place at Potomac Falls High School on Dec. 13. The four champions — who each advanced to the district finals in Front Royal on Jan. 25 — were Collin Williams (boys 8-9) of Loves Island Elementary; Blair Johnson (boys 10-11) of Rolling Ridge Elementary; Brenden Johnson (boys 12-13) of Sterling Middle School; and Emily Ferguson (girls 10-11) of Meadowland Elementary. The Elks “Hoop Shoot,” which began as a local program in 1946, is in its 37th year of national competition. Over three million boys and girls were expected to participate this year.

Dominion High School’s Athlete-to-Athlete Program will hold a basketball clinic for athletes with special needs this Sunday, Feb. 22, from 9-11 a.m. Athletes of all ages and ability levels are welcome to participate in the program that will pair athletes with special needs alongside Dominion High athletes for instruction, competition and camaraderie. The clinic will take place outdoors, said Hagen, who will meet in Dominion High’s main gymnasium, located at 21326 Augusta Drive in Sterling. To register, athletes or their representatives should e-mail athletetoathlete@yahoo.com until Feb. 21.

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See Haislip, Page 13

Photos by Craig Sterritt/Leesburg Flag Football
Sports

Haislip Earns Third Place

**From Page 12**

After a successful season, Haislip was ready to move on to the next phase of his career.

"It's important to move on," he said. "I've never wrestled at states," he said. "Being a senior, I figured I have put four years into this. I'm not going to ruin it now," he said.

Haislip went on a roll, winning his next four matches through the second period of the region finals. He opened the scoring in the region finals with a standing takedowns 40 seconds into the third period and went on to the convincing title match win.

"There are no real words to describe it," said Haislip, of last year's Region finals in the 112-weight class. "I worked as hard as I could [all season] and gave it my best effort."

The Panthers finished with 103 points. The team champion was Millbrook (156.50) of Winchester, followed by second-place James Wood (155), third-place Sherando (140) and fourth-place Louisa County (110) of Mineral.

Loudoun County teams Briar Woods, Heritage (Leesburg) and Freedom finished sixth through eighth, respectively, behind fifth-place Potomac Falls.

**SPORTS NOTES**

From Page 12

8805, Ext. 112 or e-mail leesburg@youthflag.com

Summer camp registration is open. Register online at www.dmbsports.com. DMB Sports Camp will hold an open house, Saturday, March 14, from 5-8 p.m., at NCC, Lansdowne. Come meet the camp directors, take a tour of the facility, check out pictures from past summers and get all of your camp questions answered. RSVP at mdudek@dmbsports.com. For more information visit www.dmbsportscamp.com or contact Meg at 703-444-8805, Ext. 104.

On Feb. 7-8, Olympic volleyball came to Northern Virginia. Virginia Elite and NVVA brought 2008 Olympic silver medallist Stacy Sykora, Olympic silver medal-winning assistant coach Tom Hogan and five-time Olympic staffer John Kessel to town for two days of volleyball training. Sykora, Hogan and Kessel worked with middle-school and high-school-aged volleyball players, sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm for the game in fun-filled, two-hour training sessions. About 160 players and 100 parents attended.

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Money Matters

By KENNETH R. LOUIE

How to get by on one income while really trying? That will not only be the question but the strategy as my wife, Dina, and I attempt to adjust to the new unemployment paradigm: she’s out of work for the first time in our 30-plus years of marriage. Her long-time employer, Tivoli’s Restaurant in Roslyn (the deli and pastry shop remains open, however) closed after nearly 27 years serving the public (25 years during which Dina worked in the second floor lounge as a waitress and bartender).

To say she made friends all over those years would be an understatement of prodigious proportions. To say she networked an entire new family including the owners and their families, employees and their families, and, of course, the thousands of Tivoli’s customers and their families, together creating a fabric of associations and activities spanning the globe and lasting, an entire generation and then some, would be more accurate.

To characterize Dina’s status as out of work is too simple; disconnected from the only lifestyle she’s truly ever known and cared about her entire adult life would be more appropriate. And though the loss of Dina’s income is significant (and matters more to me since I’m the business end of the relationship, she’s the social director), I can certainly appreciate and understand how the loss of a lifestyle can be equally distressing. The joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more appropriate. And though the joke among our friends has been that Dina doesn’t need a new lifestyle that would be more accurate.
The biggest things are always the easiest to do because there is no competition.
- William Van Hone
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