‘Go into the World Fearlessly’

Students pledge allegiance to the flag as Madison High graduation begins on June 18.

Cougars Congratulated

Town Council Bids Farewell to Cole
Silver Line to Open
July 26

The Silver Line metro stations will be open July 26.

A press release was issued Monday stating the latest developments in the new metro line.

“We have set the opening date for the Silver Line as Saturday, July 26,” said Metro General Manager and CEO Richard Sarles in the press release. “The five new Silver Line stations will open to customers at noon, and the first Silver Line train will depart Wiehle-Reston East, bound for Largo Town Center, at that time.”

Trains will run every 6 minutes during rush hour and every 12 to 20 minutes during off-peak times, according to the statement.

Phase I will mark the opening of the McLean, Tysons Corner, Greensboro, Spring Hill and Wiehle-Reston East stations.

Hunter Mill District Supervisor and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Principal Director Catherine Hudgins said the community is ready for the stations to open.

“I think it has progressed to the point that it is safe and reliable,” she said. “I know, in the non-service hours, they will have the opportunity to do additional work.”

She said residents should stay informed as the stations gets ready to open for a possible opportunity for a “sneak peek.”

“This is opening our corridor in a significant way,” she said.

Tysons Corner will be home of the majority of the new metro stations.

“We are delighted that Silver Line service is about to start, and that everyone in DC Metro area can soon enjoy all the excitement in Tysons,” said Tysons Partnership Executive Director Michael Caplin in an email.

Echols, Center Street Closures

Until July 17, Echols Street in Vienna, from Branch Road to Delano Drive SE, will be closed to traffic for pavement rehabilitation. Drivers should follow the traffic-control signs for detours. Work hours are weekdays, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. A detour map is on the Town Website, www.viennava.gov.

In addition, Center Street will be closed from Locust Street to Maple Avenue for two to three months, beginning June 30. It’s necessary so workmen may remove and replace the curb, gutters and sidewalk.

Vienna Celebrates 4th of July

Vienna’s Independence Day celebration will be held Friday, July 4, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E. The fun includes games, rides, arts and crafts vendors, a circus show, antique cars, a chili cook-off, live music and costumed Pooches on Parade. Registration for this pet parade begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Community Center gazebo.

Fireworks will start at 9:15 p.m. at Southside Park, 1315 Ross Drive S.W., with entertainment by Fat Chance at 7 p.m. Spectator seating opens at 5 p.m. For more information, go to www.viennava.gov. In case of rain, call 703-255-7842; rain date for fireworks only is Saturday, July 5.

Vienna Town Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Vienna Town Council is set for Monday, July 7, at 8 p.m. It’s at the Town Hall, 127 Center St. S.

Vienna Farmers Market

The Vienna Farmers Market is held Saturday, from 8 a.m.-noon, in the Faith Baptist Church parking lot at 301 Center Street S. And it will remain open during the construction on Center Street that begins June 30. Customers may access the market via Courthouse Road to Locust Street or via Park Street to Cherry Street.

New Public Information Officer Selected

Town Manager Mercury T. Payton has announced the appointment of Ken Kroski as Vienna’s new public information officer. Kroski was selected among 121 candidates. “Ken’s communications and leadership abilities, along with decades of experience working with government and private sectors, will prove to be of great value to Vienna,” said Town Manager Mercury Payton.

Kroski’s experience includes six years with a trade association, thirteen years with Baltimore County Public Schools, and the last thirteen years as a public information officer with the City of Phoenix, Ariz.

Kroski holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Mass Communications from Towson University.

He will assume his new duties on Monday, July 14, 2014.

Blood Drive July 11

Town of Vienna employees are sponsoring a blood drive on Friday, July 11, from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E. The Inova bloodmobile will be parked in front of the community center.

To make an appointment to donate blood, go to www.inova.org/donateblood
Vienna Councilwoman Laurie Cole (on left) receives a plaque from Mayor Laurie DiRocco as (from left) Council members Emil Attanasii, Edythe Kelleher and Howard Springsteen, plus Town Manager Mercury Payton applause.

(From left) Vienna Town Council members Edythe Kelleher, Pasha Majdi and Linda Colbert are sworn in.

Vienna Police Are in Annual Torch Run

Several members of the Vienna Police Department participated June 5 in the 29th annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Virginia Special Olympics. They, along with more than 2,000 other officers helped deliver the torch to Richmond.

This event in Virginia involves officers from more than 300 agencies who take part in torch relay of eight days and more than 2,000 miles to pass the Special Olympics’ “Flame of Hope” across the Commonwealth. All the relays then converge in Richmond for the lighting of the cauldron during the Special Olympics Virginia Summer Games Opening Ceremonies.

To date, Virginia’s Law Enforcement Torch Run has raised more than $15 million for Special Olympians in the state. Law enforcement participants raise money to fund the program via T-shirt and cap sales, donations and fundraisers such as Tip-A-Cop, Polar Plunge and golf tournaments.

T-shirts with or without the Vienna Police Department logo, and baseball caps, will remain available for purchase at the Vienna Police Department by contacting either Ruth Rohr at Ruth.Rohr@Viennava.gov or Gary.Lose@Viennava.gov.

— Bonnie Hobbs

Town Council Bids Farewell to Cole

DiRocco, Majdi, Kelleher and Colbert are sworn in.

By Bonnie Hobbs

The Connection

One chapter closed and another one opened last week for the Vienna Town Council. After 12 years of service, Councilwoman Laurie Cole chose not to run for re-election; so last Monday, June 16, was her last Council meeting.

It was also the evening that Mayor Laurie DiRocco was officially sworn in, as were new Council members Pasha Majdi and Linda Colbert, plus incumbent Edythe Kelleher. They’ll all serve two-year terms beginning July 1.

As for Cole, she served previously on the Planning Commission from 1996-2000, the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) from 2000-2002 and on the Community Enhancement Commission, as well.

Acknowledging her long and distinguished history of involvement in bettering Vienna, DiRocco presented her with a plaque.

Cole thanked the voters for “the opportunity to serve and for being engaged” in the town. “There’s no topic somebody in Vienna isn’t an expert on,” she said. Cole also thanked her family for all their patience and recognized the “marvelous people who work here in town.”

She acknowledged Director of Planning and Zoning Greg Hembree and Town Attorney Steve Briglia for their help and guidance. Cole also expressed appreciation to the past Council members who showed her the ropes of the job.

“The only training we get is on-the-job,” she said. “But I had great examples who taught me [what they knew] and also by the way they conducted themselves. Emil Attanasii, Ed Chase and Gary Gillum on the Planning Commission all were enormously helpful.”

Cole also thanked past Councilmen Bob Robinson and Vince Olson, plus former Mayor Jane Seeman for her compassion and resolve and the way she lived her life and conducted the business of the town.

To her current Council colleagues, Cole advised them to “please remember the value of dissent – comparing viewpoints, challenging ideas and provoking discussion. I remember my ‘no’ votes; when something doesn’t feel right, you’ve got to say that. Thank you all very much – it’s been so much fun.”

Praising Cole’s attention to detail, DiRocco told her, “You speak your mind and really care about the town – and it’s very appreciated.”

Vice-Mayor Carey Sienicki told Cole, “You’ve been wonderful to me as a guide [to] doing the right thing. You epitomized what it means to be a servant of the town. You kept the farmers market going, and your work with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority has really helped the town.”

Councilman Howard Springsteen noted that Cole “gave us the leverage to get the fire station built by joining the capital campaign committee.”

“I’m going to miss you, Laurie,” said Kelleher. “We came on the Council together, and I remember going to the newly elected class with you. Thank you for all you’ve done.”

Town Manager Mercury Payton thanked Cole for her “insight, wisdom and service” to Vienna. “When you left the Planning Commission for the BZA, we missed you,” added Attanasii. “And we’ll continue to miss you now.”

Vienna/Oakton Connection  ●  June 25 - July 1, 2014  ●  3

Team VPD members are (from left) Officer Blake Tremont, MPO Dean Bailey, MPO Erik Hall, Det. Scott Leroux, Colonel James A. Morris, Deputy Chief Daniel Janickey, Dispatcher Amy Milliman, Sgt. Mike Reeves, Officer John Digan, Det. Mike Finelli, Administrative Assistant Jennifer Dingees and PFC Juan Vazquez.
Ryan McElveen knows something about second chances.

The Fairfax County Schools board member talked about hair loss, rejection and motivation during his speech for Marshall High School’s Class of 2014 graduation June 18 at Constitution Hall.

The first time McElveen ran for the school board, he was not voted in. However, when the winner of the election was disqualified, he got his second chance and ran for the position again.

“I was given a second chance, and second chances don’t come along often in life,” he said.

McElveen is a researcher for The Brookings Institution John Thornton China Center and the youngest person to be elected on the FCPS school board.

“Don’t sit back and wait for your turn, because your turn may never come,” he said.

His stories were all about accepting that rejection will be a part of the students lives, and these students will experience rejection worse than they did in high school - being rejected by their dream school or by someone they had feelings for.

“Grow thick skin, don’t take things too personally and ignore the haters,” he advised.

The faculty speaker, teacher Dean Wood said the best advice he ever received was to not wish the days away. He also learned - from being in Boy Scouts - to make every place a little bit better than how you found it.

“Don’t wish that college started tomorrow,” he said. “Don’t wish you were all on your own. That’s going to come soon enough. Right now, listening to me, your parents are wondering where the days went when you were five years old. Don’t wish the days away and don’t wish that your real life will start tomorrow.”

He noted that the now alumni of the high school are some of the hardest working people he has known, and to not worry about people who pressure them about how the real world will be hard.

“I used to hate it when people would say, ‘What are you going to do when you go out into the real world?’” he said. “Believe me, Class of 2014, I’ve seen you work harder than many of the people I know have been in the alleged real world with. High school wasn’t a game for you. It was hard.”

He said college is supposed to be hard, and that’s what makes it worth it.

“And if it’s hard, it’s the real world,” he said. “Don’t let anyone belittle your accomplishments in high school by asking about the real world. This is the real world and you killed it for the last 12 years. You’re not about to start the race. You’ve been running ever since you got up on your wobbling little feet.”

Marshall High School students of the Class of 2014 proceed to the stage to receive their diplomas from school Principal Jay W. Pearson.

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Marshall High School senior class officers Samuel Criscitello, Emma Heiden, Karim Saoud and Hayleigh Walton reflect as the Statesman Singers perform a musical selection.

Facing a ‘Real World’

Marshall High 2014 graduates told not to be afraid of rejection and ‘real world.’

BY REENA SINGH
The Connection

The Statesman Singers directed by Keri Staley sing ‘Go The Distance’ by Alan Menken & David Zippel, arranged by Ed Lojeski.
Vienna Rotary Installs New Leadership Team

Members who put ‘service above self’ honored.

When the Rotary Club of Vienna passed the torch from the 2013-14 “leadership team” to the 2014-15 team it did so in style.

On June 19 at the Grand Atrium in Dunn Loring, Vienna Rotary hosted a banquet and open bar recognizing the achievements of 2013-14 Rotarians, and installing and welcoming the 2014-15 leadership team.

Awards were handed out to Paul Harris Fellows Lisa Escoto, Mark Rogoff, and Greg Bernhard. Master of Ceremonies Larry Warren presented a trophy gavel and plaque to outgoing president Ron Balderson. Rotary District 7610 Assistant Governor Scott Didericksen introduced incoming president Kelvin Pierce. Pierce acknowledged he was “shy” when he first joined the Vienna Rotary in 2009, but, he said, he was welcomed and embraced. “Giving back just feels good,” Pierce said. “It changed my life.”

Kathleen Snisky-Miller, general chair of the 2014 ViVa! Vienna! festival, was recognized for “service above self.”

Meetings secretary Ted Welch was voted by Rotary’s past presidents as Rotarian of the Year, and was awarded an inscribed plaque. For her work year-round as “general chair” of ViVa! Vienna!, Kathleen Miller was honored with the “Service Above Self” award. Miller serves as chair of the “New Generations” committee, as well.

Rotarian of the Year Ted Welch is applauded by Keith Bodamer on behalf of voting past presidents who selected Welch.

Yasmine Bonilla was voted “New Rotarian of the Year” for her dedication and efforts to bring new members in and was acknowledged as a Paul Harris Fellow.

Rotary clubs focus on club, vocational, community, international, and youth service around the world.

—Donna Manz

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Opinion

Safe Fourth

Talking and planning are the best safety measures; SoberRide offers a safety net.

Independence Day is a national celebration, and for many, that celebration includes alcohol. The summer overall and July 4 in particular are times of greater risk for drinking and driving.

Make a plan. Plan to celebrate with access to public transportation. Plan to have a designated driver. Plan to celebrate in a place safe and comfortable to spend the night.

But in case those plans go awry, here is a safe alternative.

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program will offer free taxi rides home (up to $30) instead of public transportation. Plan to have a designated driver. Plan to celebrate a safe Fourth.

SoberRide is a way to help keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

For parents of young adults who may be living at home and parents of those under 21, this is time to talk. Ask about plans, ask specifically about getting home. Remind those over 21 to take the WRAP phone number with them.

While you hope that young adults under 21 aren’t drinking — because there are lots of dangers to binge drinking beyond drinking and driving — you know that many of them will be drinking. Let your younger family members know that you would much rather pay for a cab or come get them yourself than run the risk of losing them.

Since 1993, WRAP’s SoberRide program has provided 60,565 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

For more information, visit www.soberride.com.

—Mary Kimm, mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Call for Pet Connection

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on July 23, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 16.

Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, tales of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults.

Email your stories and/or artwork for publication to editors@connectionnewspapers.com. For advertising information, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com.

100K Reasons to Find People Homes

By Maura Williams

Interim Executive Director/FACETS

Sandra, a small brown cat with long hair, was found outside a local church. She was too young to know that the next day would be the Fourth of July.

Sandra was scared of her surroundings, and we were afraid that she might be hurt or even killed. We knew that she needed a home where she would be safe and where she could be happy.

So we took Sandra to the nearest animal shelter, and from there we were able to find her a loving family that would give her the care she needed.

Sandra is now living with a family in Northern Virginia, and she is doing well. She is now a part of a loving family who will care for her for the rest of her life.

I look forward to the day when we will have a home for every animal in need. Until then, let’s do our part to help animals find homes.

—Maura Williams, maura@connectionnewspapers.com

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Marshall High Graduates: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Sarah Baldwin, 18, Vienna. Attending The College of William and Mary.
“Wow. Well, I plan to study finance and business, so I hope to find a financial position in the music industry.”

Alex Dittmann, 17, University of Illinois - Urbana.
“In the next 10 years, hopefully I will be finished with grad school, although you never know how long that will take. I hope to be doing some post-doctorate work.”

Emily Holmes, 18, Vienna. Attending Duquesne University.
“I’d like to start my own business. I’m going to college in Pittsburg, so hopefully it’ll be there.”

Johnathon Hoynes, 18, Falls Church.
“I want to work in the private sector - public sector. I want to work in cyber security, so maybe in the military. Whatever is best.”

— Reena Singh

Photos by
Reena Singh/
The Connection
Madison High graduates 496 students on June 18.

By BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Turning their tassels and tossing their caps into the air, nearly 500 Madison High students graduated last Wednesday, June 18, in Robinson Secondary School’s field house. And 118 of them were honor graduates, having earned a 4.0 GPA over all four years of school.

Citizenship awards were given to students having completed a path of 4.0 GPA over the past four years. Among them were: Lexie Graham. According to Principal Mark Vitz, the student speaker who highlighted the people of Oakton High School. He told the students: “We’re in a strange place right now. To all of you, who accept you for who you are and who’ll love and know that we’ll be there for you, no matter what.”

The Madison Madrigals sing the Beatles song, “I Will.”

‘Go into the World Fearlessly’

Madison High graduates 496 students on June 18.

By BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Madison High graduates 496 students on June 18.

‘Go into the World Fearlessly’

Madison High graduates 496 students on June 18.
Vienna's July 4th Festivities

The McLean Community Center's (MCC) annual Independence Day Celebration will be held on Friday, July 4, on the sports fields at Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike. The grounds will open at 8 p.m. The fireworks show will begin at approximately 9:15 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

In case of inclement weather, the fireworks display will be presented on the rain date, Saturday, July 5, at 8:30 p.m. Smoking, pets, fireworks, sparklers and alcohol are not allowed on school grounds. The fireworks display will be provided by East Coast Pyrotechnics. MCC Governing Board Chair Chad Quinn will be the guest speaker and the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard of the Military District of Washington will present the colors. A free shuttle bus service will be available from St. John’s Episcopal Church (6715 Georgetown Pike) and MCC (1234 Ingleside Ave.), beginning at 7 p.m. A handicap-accessible shuttle will be available at both sites.

For more information, call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit www.mcleancenter.org.

McLean Community Center Presents 4th of July Fireworks Show at Langley High

The inflatable castle and the rock-climbing wall had lines, although the caterpillar and obstacle course offered quick access at Vienna's annual Independence Day festival last year.

Vienna/Oakton Connection  June 25 - July 1, 2014

Send announcements to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

THURSDAY/JUNE 26
Artists Meet for Coffee. 8-10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists drop in to meet for coffee. 703-759-2759. Patrick Henry Book Club. 1 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Currently Reading Unlikable, by Debbie Reynolds. Adults. Jessie and James: Mutts Gone Nutz! 2 p.m. Oakton, 10054 Lymhaven Place, Oakton. Check website for exact times. 6-8 p.m. Kayak Tour Island Hopping. Check website for exact times. 6:30 p.m. Great Falls Farmer's Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Year Round. Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. www.smartmarkets.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 27
McLean Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Fridays, May 2-Nov. 21. 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mcleansmk.htm.

Summer on the Green Concert. 6:30 p.m. Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. Pop band HFC will perform. In case of inclement weather, the concert will move indoors. Tickets: $14-

FRIDAY/JULY 4
Great Falls Fourth of July Celebration. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre, Great Falls. Come to the observatory park for a celebration of our nation's birthday. Free admission. www.gfvcca@aol.com.

TUESDAY/JULY 1
Pilobolus. 8:30 a.m. Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Wild creativity and daring, athletic rock-climbing wall. Tickets: $36-$88. www.wolftrap.org.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 2
Vienna/Oakton Connection © 2014, McLean Community Center. All rights reserved.
A Message of Taste and Beauty

Karin’s Florist wins National All-Star Floral Design Competition.

By Victoria Ross
The Connection

Vienna floral designer Bryan Swann of Karin’s Florist recently took home the title of All-Stars Champion in VaseOff!, a nationwide design competition hosted by the Society of American Florists (SAF).

In May, Swann was selected as a final contestant and tasked with creating an arrangement that inspires a friend to live life to the fullest, depicting the notion, “Live Colorfully – Dare to be Different.”

“A dear friend taught me one of the best life lessons, which is to live every day to the fullest. Embrace life,” Swann said, describing his floral arrangement. “As floral artists, we are able to convey that lesson through the beauty of flowers. I have always loved the inherent energy that is found in the colors of hot pink, purple and coral. I started my design by creating a box with the liatris and then wove the other elements throughout this forest of liatris to bring the design Outta the Box!”

His bold design wowed voters. National flower enthusiasts, bloggers, and florists who participated in the online competition posted glowing comments about Swann’s entry: “This arrangement sends a message of true taste and beauty. Class, consistency and creativity.”

Another comment reads, “WOW! Love the colors, choice of flowers, the design and execution, but the little detail of the finely woven ‘ribbon’ of grass really pushes this over the top for me!”

Swann competed with four previous VaseOff! Challenge winners from across the nation.

Hosted by AboutFlowersBlog.com, the VaseOff! competition gave the opportunity for visitors to vote on their favorite arrangement from May 15-29—with SAF announcing Swann as the winner on May 30.

“We are so proud of Bryan to represent Karin’s Florist in this competition,” said Maris Angolia, Karin’s Florist President.

“His ‘Outta The Box’ arrangement exemplifies what Karin’s is all about: our arrangements come from deep-within to exude ‘unboxed’ feelings of happiness. We also would like to thank our community, both locally and the floral community for their votes and unwavering support. We are very fortunate to be around such beauty and talent in the industry we love.”

Founded in 1956, Karin’s Florist has been a staple in the Northern Virginia community for over 58 years. Karin’s is a full-service florist, specializing in flower delivery, floral designs, weddings, gift baskets and events. Karin’s Florist also boasts an online store at karinsflorist.com, with fresh selections of flowers, beautifully arranged by their own award-winning floral designers.

Karin’s Florist has been recently awarded: • Best Florist in NoVA – Northern VA Magazine • Best Florist of Fairfax – SunGazette • Couples’ Choice Award – Wedding Wire • 2014 Champion – VaseOff! All-Stars Challenge.
The 2013-14 high school sports season was full of memorable moments and accomplishments, including an undefeated record and national ranking for the Centreville football program, an emotional return to the state tournament for the Woodson boys' basketball team, and the first state championship in the history of T.C. Williams boys' soccer.

The following is a look back at some of the highlights from around Fairfax County.

Fall Sports
The Centreville football team crushed the competition in 2013, going 10-0 with an average margin of victory of 38 points during the regular season. The carnage continued in the postseason, as the Wildcats defeated South Lakes, South County, Stone-wall Jackson and Westfield on their way to the Virginia 6A North region championship. In the Group 6A state championship game, Centreville throttled nationally-ranked Oscar Smith 35-6, capturing the program's first state title since 2000. The Wildcats finished with overwhelming advantages in total yards (338-88), rushing yards (327-14), and time of possession (34:02-13:58).

The victory improved Centreville's record to 13-0 and jumped the Wildcats into the No. 15 national ranking in USA TODAY.

“It’s certainly the best team that I’ve ever been around in 21 years of coaching high school football,” Centreville head coach Chris Haddock said. “We actually talked to our kids a lot about our place in history and setting a higher standard and that’s something that the kids wanted to do. They wanted to make history. I don’t know where you place us in the all-time lists, but we’re certainly one of the best in Northern Virginia and we’re definitely the best at Centreville.”

Centreville center Josh Smith, guard Kainoa O’Connor, running back/kick returner AJ Turner, wide receiver/defensive back Charles Tutt, and linebacker Tyler Love continued in the postseason, as the Wildcats reached the 2014 6A North region tournament. While the tragedies affected the emotions of several Cavaliers, the team found a way to continue winning and eventually captured the program’s second consecutive region title.

Woodson secured a berth in the Virginia state tournament by defeating Herndon 63-62 in overtime in the region semifinals. The following evening, Woodson defeated Lake Braddock 66-56 in the region final. The Cavaliers had lost their previous three matchups with Lake Braddock by a combined eight points.

“(I’m) really happy for our kids, really happy for our school community,” Woodson head coach Doug Craig said. “This was a very difficult week. The fact that our Chapel (student section) was out in such great numbers says a lot about the school community. To give them an hour-and-a-half, hour-and-a-half distraction tonight, something to feel good about, that’s what sports is supposed to be about at the high school level.”

The Wakefield boys’ basketball team won the 2014 6A region title. The Saxons were the only team to defeat Lake Braddock this season and took care of that — and then some.

In volleyball, Langley won its first state championship, beating First Colonial in the Virginia 6A final. The Rams’ heavyweight Jake Pinkston won his fourth consecutive region championship, resulting in the 2014 6A North region championship.

Winter Sports
Members of the W.T. Woodson boys’ basketball team dealt with the death of two classmates during the 2014 6A North region tournament. While the tragedies affected the emotions of several Cavaliers, the team found a way to continue winning and eventually captured the program’s second consecutive region title.

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Spring Sports
The T.C. Williams boys’ soccer team entered the 2014 season with hopes of getting past the region quarterfinals. The Titans took care of that — and then some.

TC won the first state championship in program history, beating previously undefeated Cosby 4-1 in the 6A final. Stallions pitcher Rebecca Martin finished her high school career with another gem in the circle, tossing a complete-game three-hitter while striking out 10. Catcher Haylea Geer hit a momentum-swinging solo home run in the fourth inning.

In lacrosse, the Robinson boys’ and Westfield girls’ lacrosse teams won state championships. Westfield defeated Oakton 13-11 in the girls’ final after losing to the Cougars in the Conference 5 and 6A North region championship games. Robinson started the season 1-3 before closing with 17 straight victories, including a 9-7 win over Langley in the state final.

In baseball, Chantilly won the first region championship in program history and reached the Virginia 6A state final. McLean reached the state semifinals, the furthest postseason advancement in program history.

In track and field, T.C. Williams brought home the Virginia 6A boys’ state championship. The South County girls’ team finished state runner-up. In Maryland, the Wootton boys’ team finished 4A state runner-up.

In tennis, the Lake Braddock boys’ team defeated Langley in the Virginia 6A state final. The Oakton girls’ team finished state runner-up. Oakton’s Adrien Bouchet won the boys’ singles championship, and Lake Braddock’s Jacob Daugherty and Long Huynh won the boys’ doubles title. Oakton’s Lizzie Stewart won the girls’ singles title and Stewart and Lindsey Le won the girls’ doubles championship for the Cougars.
Shouse Village Sharks Fall to Sleepy Hollow

The Shouse Village Sharks lost against Sleepy Hollow Bath, 281-139, in NVSL Division 8 over the weekend.

Winners for Shouse were Monica Balistrere, James Bouharoun, William Bouharoun, Sinead Eksteen, Téah Fredericks, Carlyn Kranking, Kathleen Oakley, Ryan Sribar, Charlie Williams and Catherine Zysk.

Eksteen set a new girls’ 13-14 50-meter freestyle team record with a time of 28.98 seconds.

New Vienna Officer Academy Graduate

Vienna Police Officer Andrew Slebonick graduated May 5 from the 61st Session of the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy. The ceremony was held at the Fairfax Community Church, and his graduation culminated six months of training in all aspects of police procedures.

It includes more than 920 hours of instruction in curriculum including 320 hours of academics, 94 hours of firearms training, 84 hours of emergency vehicle operation, 110 hours of physical training and 130 hours of defensive tactics training.

After graduation, Slebonick was assigned a field training instructor for 10 weeks. The instructor observes and guides the new officer's performance in officer safety, traffic enforcement, citizen interaction, report writing, vehicle-crash investigation and many other law-enforcement duties.

Previously, Slebonick graduated from Old Dominion University with degrees in Criminal Justice and Sociology.

— Bonnie Hobbs

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(From left) are Vienna Deputy Police Chief Daniel Janicke and Officer Andrew Slebonick.
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