

August 27 - September 2, 2009

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# Falls Church News-Press

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## INSIDE THIS WEEK

### SUSPECT CHARGED IN BAILEY'S STABBING

A 42-year old man was arrested and charged with malicious wounding after allegedly stabbing a 68-year old woman and two-year old girl near Bailey's Crossroads on Tuesday. The victims are reported to be in serious but stable condition.

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 7

### SYMS LEAVES CITY OF F.C., MOVES TO SEVEN CORNERS

Syms Clothing store, a City landmark since 1978, has moved outside city limits to its new location in Seven Corners shopping center.

SEE PAGE 9

### MAUREEN DOWD: STUNG BY THE PERFECT STING

If I read all the vile stuff about me on the Internet, I'd never come to work. I'd scamper off and live my dream of being a cocktail waitress in a militia bar in Wyoming.

SEE PAGE 11

### PEACE, LOVE & HAPPINESS IN 'FINDING WOODSTOCK'

Ang Lee's entertaining film about the kid who made it all possible — in Woodstock, anyway.

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## Moran, Howard Dean Prevail in Town Hall Scrum With Hecklers



OVER 2,500 JAMMED the gym at South Lakes High School Tuesday night to engage in a rowdy town hall event hosted by Rep. Jim Moran and former Democratic National Committee Chair Howard Dean. (PHOTO: NEWS-PRESS)

## Virginia Leaders Join Chorus Remembering Sen. Kennedy

BY NICHOLAS F. BENTON  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

Heartfelt condolences, memories and tributes in the wake of yesterday's death of Senator Edward "Ted" Kennedy were swift to issue forth from countless individuals and corridors of power worldwide, ranging from the White House to City Hall in the City of Falls Church. Having been diagnosed with brain cancer in May 2008, Sen. Kennedy died late Tuesday, Aug. 25 at age 77.

Political leaders in Virginia

joined the global chorus by distributing statements to news organizations and others by the Internet yesterday.

President Obama's declaration, delivered from his vacation home on Martha's Vineyard, set the tone. In his proclamation, Obama stated that Sen. Kennedy "was not only one of the greatest senators of our time, but one of the most accomplished Americans ever to serve our democracy. Over the past half-century, nearly every major piece of legislation that has advanced the civil rights, health, and economic

well-being of the American people bore his name and resulted from his efforts. With his passing, an important chapter in our American history has come to an end."

Virginia Senator Jim Webb stated the following: "I have tremendous respect for Senator Kennedy and the impact he had on our entire congressional body. He was highly regarded on both sides of the aisle. He had a wonderful sense of humor. And he brought great passion to the issues that he pursued.

*Continued on Page 5*

## 12 'Myths' of Health Care Plan Dispelled

BY NICHOLAS F. BENTON  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

Twelve major "myths" circulated by opponents of health care reform were systematically dispelled, and a strong case for the "public option" made, by U.S. Rep. Jim Moran and former Democratic National Committee chair Howard Dean in front of over 2,500 rowdy citizens and national TV cameras at a town hall meeting in Herndon Tuesday night.

The gymnasium at South Lakes High School was jammed fuller than it had ever been when Grant Hill used to play there, and there were hundreds more outside, unable to get in because of the fire marshal's restrictions.

Moran, whose 38th District of Virginia includes the City of Falls Church, and Dean used their microphones and booming voices to drown out the yells and catcalls of opponents of health care reform for over two hours, and prevailed with strong arguments in favor of the so-called "public option" component of reform.

Moran made the opening remarks, which took longer than expected due to the constant efforts by hundreds in the audience to shout and boo him down, yelling things like, "Liar, liar!" and "Despot!"

Moran followed with factual responses to 12 so-called "myths" (a polite term) and then Dean spoke briefly. Written questions were lifted from three boxes, one in favor of reform, one opposed

*Continued on Page 4*

## News-Press EDITORIAL

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## EDITORIAL

### Rest in Peace, Senator Kennedy

We join the legions of humanity from all corners of this lonely planet in mourning the passing yesterday of Senator Teddy Kennedy, one of the world's most principled, impassioned and effective leaders and defenders of modern democracy, especially including its commitments to justice, equal respect for all, and compassion.

Certainly no "local angle" is required to justify our attention to this subject, but Senator Kennedy's ties to Northern Virginia and Falls Church are well known to many. Members of the Kennedy clan's inner circle live here, and Senator Kennedy spent many hours in private visits here. His impact on us all has been veritably cosmic in dimension.

While tons of time and attention and barrels of ink will be dedicated over the coming days, weeks and years into the future about the many, many accomplishments of Senator Kennedy, there are two moments in his storied career that will last the test of time and forever be remembered by anyone who loves freedom and democracy.

The first was his legendary speech in Madison Square Garden at the Democratic National Convention in 1980. The second was the equally-memorable speech he gave, overcoming evident wounds of the illness that would eventually take him, opening the historic Democratic National Convention that nominated Barack Obama just a year ago.

The speeches bracketed an era when Senator Kennedy's dogged persistence and leadership played such a critical role in maintaining, under great siege, an uncompromising commitment to liberal values and legislative goals. Seeing the nation through that time as its only high-profile pure liberal, he handed the baton to the Obama generation a year ago with a speech so eloquent, and delivered under such personal duress, as to count as one of the most important in the nation's history.

In 1980, Senator Kennedy ran a spirited campaign doing the almost unheard of, challenging an incumbent president in his own party. President Jimmy Carter's chances for re-election were virtually nil, and Kennedy battled valiantly against his party's bureaucratic inertia to prevent that outcome. He came up short at the national convention, when a procedural vote to free delegates from their first-ballot commitments failed by a small margin.

It was his concession speech that so fueled the flames of inspiration and ideals of his mostly-younger supporters on that historic night such that they, like his brother President John F. Kennedy's eternal flame at the Arlington Cemetery, remained alive through 28 years of right wing domination in America, to burst forth brightly once again in 2008.

That August 12, 1980 speech is best known for its closing line: "For all those whose cares have been our concern, the work goes on, the cause endures, the hope still lives, and the dream shall never die."

Thanks to him, he was right.

## Letters to the Editor

### Says Health Care Reform is 'Socialism'

Editor,

Oh, how I love to read the kool-aid drinker's views. I can usually get to around the third sentence before a columnist like Benton exposes himself and starts with the lies to make his point. Only line two for you, Mr. Benton. The GOP and we, who you characterize on the lunatic fringe, aren't trying to kill reform - those are donkey party talking points. Reform would be stopping illegal immigration, which taxes the health care system. Reform would be allowing policies to be portable, like a cell phone number is portable. If you have this urge to universalize things - start with tort lawsuits. Those, sir are legitimate reforms that we on the lunatic fringe could support. Stop lying by calling a government control of health care "reform." It's not reform. It's socialism.

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**Falls Church  
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ONLINE**

You write "Everyone guilty of disingenuous misdirection of the debate on health care reform deserves the kind of response that Rep. Frank provided." Do you include yourself?

**Philip Perricelli**  
*Via the Internet*

**'Sociopathic' is  
Preferable Term  
To 'Stupid'**

Editor,

In the August 13 *News-Press* column Glen Beck's Blatant Racism: these "stupid" Becks, Hannitys, Dobbs, Limbaughs Buchanans etc should be given the

special consideration they have earned as enemies of humankind.

But they aren't just "stupid" and "greedy." They're middle-aged infants who basically are sociopaths and narcissists. And the only way they know to get the attention they never got in childhood is to incite hatred, violence, and engender more deception. Yes they are stupid because they're unable to differentiate between what is harmful and what is not. Sociopathic is a term you may have preferred to use, but alas, in newspapers that might be a problem.

This is all my own independent opinion.

**Dave Danze**  
*Arlington*



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# Kennedy is Recalled By Virginia Leaders

*Continued from Page 1*

His ability to talk to people of all philosophical persuasions was of great value to our process."

Virginia Senator Mark Warner statement included the following: "Senator Kennedy's death saddens all of us...His approach to issues and legislation was respected by all members of the Senate. His legislative accomplishments reflected both his commitment to his principles – and a willingness to cross party lines and find common ground. He brought a passion and devotion to the causes he fought for, but always treated his opponents with respect."

Rep. Jim Moran of the 8th District of Northern Virginia enjoyed Sen. Kennedy's role in support of his re-election efforts, including when the fellow staunch progressive, Boston native and Irish descendant appeared at a fundraiser on Moran's behalf in 2004.

In a statement issued yesterday, Rep. Moran said, "Ted Kennedy's legacy will be the legislation he committed his life to enacting: equal access to quality public education and health care and basic human services. He took America's principles to heart, that we are all created equal and all entitled to the fruits of this land and the rewards of our economy. He believed in the American peoples' ability to better themselves and to provide for the next generation."

Moran added, "Ted was born into a life of privilege, but he

devoted his days on this Earth to bettering the lives of those less fortunate. He was absolutely dedicated to making the American government work for all its people. We would be a lesser country without Ted Kennedy's lifetime of leadership."

Virginia Governor Tim Kaine, who is also chair of the Democratic National Committee, issued a statement that included the following:

"Today we mourn the loss of one of the greatest and most consequential political figures in American history...It is not an exaggeration to say that Senator Kennedy devoted his entire adult life – in the great tradition of the Kennedy family – to public service. And, in his 46 years in the Senate, Senator Kennedy's primary focus – and the legacy he will be most remembered for – will be his work to improve the plight of ordinary Americans, to empower the powerless and to end the scourge of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability and economic background that was all too prevalent in an earlier time."

City of Falls Church Mayor Robin Gardner stated: "My prayers and condolences go out to the family of Ted Kennedy. The remarkable American voice of Senator Kennedy is now silent, but his legacy of nobility in public service and the importance of serving all members of our community – especially the poor, the afflicted, and the unfortunate – is indelibly stamped on our national consciousness."



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**News-Press LOCAL**

# Falls Church ArtSpace Bonds Creative Forces

BY SUYEON SON  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

What had been a nomadic life for the Creative Cauldron arts education non-profit and Falls Church Arts came to an end with the opening of a new 3,000-square-foot permanent home on S. Maple St. this summer.

ArtSpace Falls Church, located at 410 S. Maple Ave., features a roomy area for performances and a gallery exhibit that is already anticipating the arrival of additional works by local artists.

Still in its early stages, ArtSpace is the result of more than a year and a half's worth of collaborative effort in Falls Church to spark more interest in the arts and humanities.

"When I was on the City Council, we discovered that Falls Church was lagging behind in the arts, in comparison to surrounding cities like Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax," said Marty Meserve, past Falls Church Arts president and current Creative Cauldron president.

The project, largely overseen by Laura Hull, founder of Creative Cauldron, took shape when Tom Gittins, co-founder and then-president of Falls Church Arts (FCA), worked with Hull to bring the two organizations together approximately five years ago.

Though structurally different,

a critical common point aiding in the successful cooperation of Hull and Gittins was their mission to "nurture all the arts... visual arts, performing arts, and literary arts," Meserve said.

Such a daunting endeavor, of course, had its setbacks and difficulties.

For one, raising funds in the struggling economy demanded much attention. However, widespread support from the community began to weigh in.

In its application for a special use waiver, the developer of the multi-use complex at Pearson Square had offered the space at a reduced lease. That was the first step towards turning the dream into reality.

Advocates of the plan contributed \$30,000, in addition to \$250,000 secured by the City of Falls Church and another \$100,000 by property owner Transwestern Inc.

Upon the approval of a grant submitted for consideration by Creative Cauldron, Dominion Power's foundation covered the costs for a green lighting system, one that will be environment-friendly and efficient as well, amounting to about \$20,000. The local branch of the office supply store Staples helped out as well, reducing the costs of the 95-seat performance and classroom space.

Due to the budget constraints,

it's "pay as you go right now," said Hull. Even despite the tremendous appreciation by the community, more than \$120,000 is still needed to help install the seating platform, rigging and curtains.

Bumps along the road came and went as the ownership of the venue changed several times. Communication issues arose, as original developer Atlantic Realty handed the property over to Transwestern, and FCA and CC boards were unaware of the situation.

"We had to start all over," Meserve said, remarking on the complications that hindered the project from making progress.

"It's been a learning curve," said Hull, who was in charge of much of the work. "Working with the FCA, community leaders, learning how a 'proper' or voluntary concession with development played out – I had no playbook."

The aid came as Cindy Mester, Assistant F.C. City Manager, guided Hull through the process. Mester, who serves on the ArtSpace Task Force Committee, is in charge of special projects, such as building ArtSpace. Working as the facilitator between developers, Mester commented on her own love for the arts.

"Personally, culture is very important for me," Mester said, noting that her husband, Gary Mester, is a photographer whose work often



**"WHERE IMAGINATION BUBBLES OVER"** is the tagline for Creative Cauldron, where campers and counselors alike embrace creativity as a fundamental need. Here counselor Laura Williams, center, interacts with a camper. (PHOTO: COURTESY LAURA HULL)

appears in the *News-Press* and shares her enthusiasm for art.

ArtSpace Falls Church, currently modest in scope within the plan to achieve cultural advancement, is nonetheless everything all its supporters had hoped for.

"I built this place on a cell phone; now, I will have a land line," Hull said, excited over her vision finally becoming reality.

Kristen Byrne, a graduate of J.E.B Stuart High School and student at George Mason University, who has been working with Hull as an intern for several years as a counselor for Arts Adventure, a Creative Cauldron program, also lauded the immense effort that went into the project.

"As a student in high school, I was not involved in the arts much," Byrne said. "[The establishment of ArtSpace] most definitely is an eye-opening experience. It got me to really look into the arts. And it was always a hassle to move around, so it's great that we made [ArtSpace] ours."

However, for Byrne, the permanence of the space also brings a restriction.

"I'm really an outdoorsy person, but because we're no longer moving about from place to place, [the programs] are no longer outdoors," she said.

And perhaps, the versatility of the camps is something that FCA and Creative Cauldron will work on later in the future. For right now, the goal of the programs is expansion. "The key will be to see if we can find a way to cast a net as wide as possible," Hull said.

Already, Hull's expectations are being met. Regardless of the not-yet-finished space surrounded by mainly concrete and bland

walls, many upcoming projects and productions are scheduled. Among the theatrical performances are "King Pizza," "The Wee Christmas Cabin of Carnnaween" and others, some of which are to be presented by the young campers at Creative Cauldron.

As for sharing the space with Falls Church Arts, Gina Caceci, former director of FCA and current secretary of the Creative Cauldron board, commented that there is "a written alliance agreement in place to guide the decisions." ArtSpace, however, is operated mainly by Creative Cauldron, who carries the responsibility for programming and operating the space.

"We're still getting to know each other," Meserve said. "Falls Church Arts concentrates more on visual arts, whereas Creative Cauldron concentrates more on performing arts. But I see the two blending as we go on. The first year is an experiment for both of us."

Insofar as the two non-profit organization's goals go, Creative Cauldron and Falls Church Arts are cooperating to continue their coinciding mission of bringing arts to the Falls Church area.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our small city to attract high-quality, events and people. [We hope to] make Falls Church more of a destination," Caceci said. "We want all of the arts to be an acceptable, affordable and an integrated part of the Greater Falls Church community."

Meserve had a similar goal as well. "It'd be great for [ArtSpace] to be so successful that every weekend the audience fills the house. This is truly an intergenerational opportunity for the people to get in touch with the arts."



CREATIVE CAULDRON CAMPERS try their hand at puppet making. The organization was founded by Laura Hull, who worked with co-founder and then-president of Falls Church Arts, Tom Gittins, five years ago to merge it with Falls Church Arts. (PHOTO: COURTESY LAURA HULL)

**News-Press LOCAL**

# Falls Church NEWS Briefs

**Suspect Charged in Bailey's Crossroads Stabbing**

Fairfax County Police reported yesterday that a suspect who allegedly stabbed a woman and child Tuesday in the 3400 block of Glen Carlyn Drive near Bailey's Crossroads has been charged with malicious wounding. Tuesday afternoon, Jose Francisco Argueta, 42, no fixed address, reportedly displayed a knife and stabbed a 68-year old woman and two-year-old girl. The victims, transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital, are reported to be in serious but stable condition. After the stabbing, the suspect was confronted by a 40-year-old neighbor who heard the commotion and came in to help. He confronted the suspect and they struggled briefly. The suspect fled the apartment and ran to an adjacent building where he knocked loudly on an apartment door. A 55-year-old man answered and the suspect, still wielding the knife, reportedly forced his way into the apartment. But the suspect was disarmed by the man, who held the suspect until police arrived.

**Kaine Issues Public Safety Awards to 2 in Fairfax County**

Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine announced 2008 Public Safety Medal of Valor Award to two state troopers "cited for actions above and beyond the call of duty to save a life" yesterday. Both Virginia State Police troopers' heroic actions occurred on I-66 in Fairfax County. On April 30, 2008, Trooper Justin T. Mahalik's car was hit from behind during a traffic stop on I-66. With broken bones, a spinal injury, and burned legs, Trooper Mahalik dragged his unconscious passenger to safety. All the while his cruiser was being engulfed by flames and ammunition in the trunk was exploding. On May 7, 2008, Trooper Kenneth J. Brown responded to an accident on I-66. A driver of a minivan had a diabetic seizure and crashed his vehicle, which erupted into smoke and flames. Despite the heavy smoke, broken glass and fire, Trooper Brown was able to pull the driver from the vehicle to safety, while himself suffering smoke inhalation, cuts and abrasions, and a back strain. Immediately after the driver was rescued, the vehicle was fully engulfed in flames.

**F.C.'s Chef Tennille Cools It on 'Hell's Kitchen' Episode**

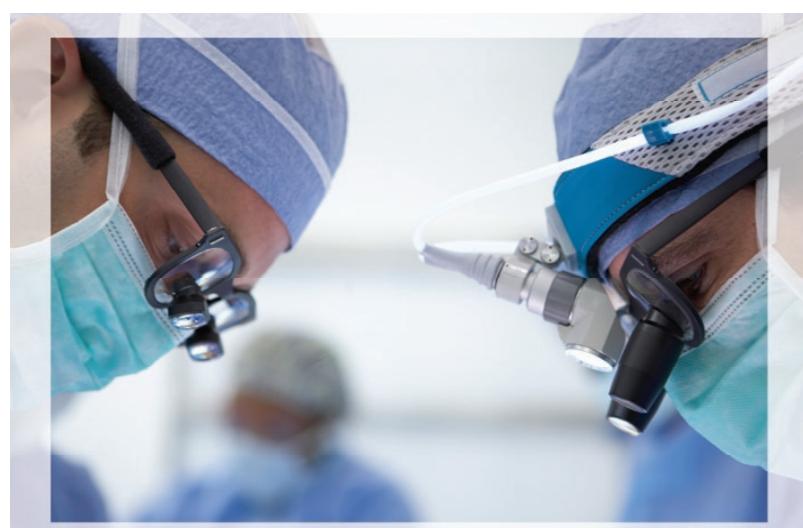
This week on Fox's "Hell's Kitchen," Falls Church-based Chef Tennille Middleton, one of the contestants on the show, was in stark contrast to her confrontational style the week earlier, and stayed in the background through the entire episode, surviving the cut once again to progress to next week's Tuesday night episode. Middleton is the chief chef at Falls Church's Sweetwater Tavern on Gallows Rd.

**3 Appointed to Virginia Human Rights Commission**

Three Virginians have been appointed to the state's Human Rights Commission by Gov. Tim Kaine, it was announced yesterday. Dyana Mason of Richmond, former executive director of Equality Virginia and now executive director of the Capital Pride Alliance, was appointed by Kaine along with Donald O. Campen Jr. of Henrico County and Deborah Segaloff of Norfolk.

**F.C. Police, Sheriff's Dept. Praised for 'Click It' Campaign**

The City of Falls Church Police Department and Sheriff's Office have been recognized for successful efforts in the May 2009 "Click It or Ticket" campaign to promote seat belt usage. The organization, "Smart, Safe and Sober," honored the organizations for achieving the highest safety belt use in Virginia among jurisdictions of a similar size. On Sept. 13-19, the Falls Church Police will participate in the "Smooth Operator" campaign targeting aggressive drivers and other unsafe driving behaviors.



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# Syms Departs City of F.C., Moves Just Up the Street

*City Loses Longtime Commercial Giant's Business*

BY DEAN EDWARDS  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

The major New Jersey-based discount clothing retailer Syms, a City of Falls Church business landmark since 1978, finalized its departure from city limits earlier this month when the retailer moved to its new location in the Seven Corners shopping center.

Syms, which recently acquired another major discount clothing chain, Filene's Basement, operates 31 stores nationwide, including six in the D.C. Metro area.

In the wake of Syms' move, the 134,487-square-foot lot and 46,000 square foot, two-story building on West Broad, assessed near \$10 million in property value, now lies dormant.

A combination of reasons, from the former property's location to the details of the lease, led to the departure, according to officials from both the City and Syms.

"They wanted to move to a more populated area rather than be in a standalone location," Falls Church Chamber of Commerce President Sally D. Cole told the *News-Press* in an e-mail.

Syms President and CEO Marcy Syms attended the new store's opening on Aug. 13 in Seven Corners, only a few blocks from the old location, but in Fairfax County. The new center, which filled the void left by Best Buy's vacancy, is "one level, 47,000 square feet, fantastic, and exactly what we needed," Syms said.

"I hadn't realized we changed jurisdictions," explained Ms. Syms regarding the store's departure from the city. "The 30-year lease at our old location was coming up, and the building needed critical improvements. They were wonderful landlords, but it was simply a matter of improvements to the property. We knew the work

would interfere with the business operation."

As a result, Syms said, "About 22 months ago or so, we decided we wanted to stay in the area to allow customers to find us easily, as well as include a younger market for our new departments. Seven Corners has a much more diverse customer base, and it's surrounded by stores like Barnes and Noble, Home Depot, Broadway Shoes. It's a really good fit."

At the new location, Ms. Syms said the store has added new departments to attract a wider "hip" crowd.

"You can see the changes in presentation, including European designers," she said. "We've created a juniors department, and a new collection for men, a coordinated collection of suits and accessories. There is also an expanded shoe department and accessories for women, and a new active life section for men."

Mark Lynn, the current manager of the Seven Corners Syms location, agreed. The new spot provides "more visibility" and "access to a younger crowd that shops at the center," said Lynn, who had managed the Falls Church location as of March this year.

"The old store had a following," he continued. "One of the big departments was men's tailored suits. At the new location, we have more walk-in traffic and a lot more female customers."

The move, however, tore one of the city's largest commercial establishments from the City's tax base.

According to Falls Church Commissioner of Revenue Tom Clinton, Syms joined Giant and Staples as among the city's largest retail businesses. No other clothing chain store of the same magnitude exists in the city.

The city's Business Development Manager, Becky Witsman, said that city officials "frequently touch base" with the former Syms property's brokers, Mike Pratt and Jennifer Price of the D.C. area Madison Retail Group.

Witsman told the *News-Press* that in recent conversations with the brokers "they felt they were 'making progress with two poten-



**THE NEW SYMS LOCATION** in Seven Corners (top) offers consumers broader retail choices and is only blocks away from its former Falls Church location. (PHOTOS: COURTESY MARGARET COLLORD)

tial users' and assured us they'd let us know when they are closer to signing a lease.

The City itself has also been courting potential clients for the space, Witsman said in an e-mail to the *News-Press*.

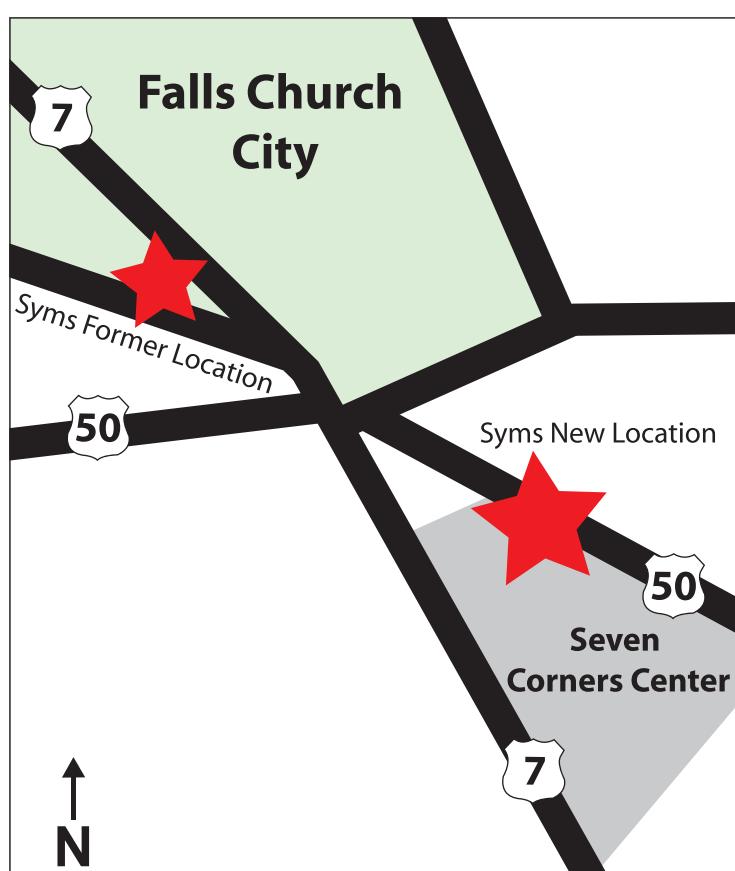
The city, she said, has "long thought that the Syms property has great redevelopment potential – location, size, visibility, etc. – but the current owners do not want to sell the property." The property's current owners are Eakin Properties, a national commercial real estate firm based in

Nashville, Tenn.

"We have had interest in redeveloping the site," Witsman continued. "Even developers who, despite our telling them that the owners have indicated to us that they do not want to sell, have also contacted the owners directly, only to be told the same thing."

She indicated "serious progress is being made on a lease for the [old Syms property], but sometimes those negotiations can be lengthy."

Neither Pratt nor Price could be reached for comment.



**COMPARING THE FORMER** to the new location, this map depicts the move east and out of the City of Falls Church. The new Syms store is located in Seven Corners center. (NEWS-PRESS GRAPHIC)

## News-Press COMMENT

### The Ultimate Burden

If you want to get a little bit of a sense of what the wars are like in Afghanistan and Iraq – a small, distant sense of the on-the-ground horror – pick up a book of color photos called, “2nd Tour, Hope I Don’t Die.” It’s chilling.

Most Americans have conveniently put these two absurd, obscene conflicts out of their minds. There’s an economy to worry about and snappy

little messages to tweet. Nobody wants to think about young people getting their faces or their limbs blown off. Or the parents, loaded with antidepressants, giving their children and spouses a final hug before heading off in a haze of anxiety to their third or fourth tour in the war zones.

The book is the work of the photographer Peter van Agtmael, who has spent a great deal of time following U.S. combat troops in both countries. One of the photos in the book shows an Army captain standing exhausted and seemingly forlorn on the blood-slicked floor of a combat support hospital in Baghdad. Van Agtmael was sensitive to the heavy psychological load borne by the medical personnel, writing in the caption:

“Their humor was dark and their expressions often flat and distant when they treated patients. The worst casualties were given nicknames. One soldier melted by the fire caused by an IED blast was called ‘goo man.’ But certain casualties would hit home, especially injured children. Some staff resorted to painkillers and other drugs.”

The war in Afghanistan made sense once but it doesn’t any longer. The war in Iraq never did. And yet, with most of the country tuned out entirely, we’re still suiting up the soldiers and the Marines, putting them on planes and sending them off with a high stakes (life or death) roll of the dice.

“2nd Tour, Hope I Don’t Die.”

Or maybe it’s the third tour, or fourth, or fifth. The book’s title came from graffiti scrawled on a wall at an Air Force base in Kuwait that was one of the transit points for troops heading to Iraq. America’s young fighting men and women have to make these multiple tours because the overwhelming majority of the American people want no part of the nation’s wars. They don’t want to serve, they don’t want to

make any sacrifices here on the home front – they don’t even want to pay the taxes that would be needed to raise the money to pay for the wars. We just add the trillions to deficits that stretch as far as the eye can see.

To the extent that we think about the wars at all, it’s just long enough to point our fingers at the volunteers and say: “Oh yeah, great. You go. And if you come back maimed or dead we’ll salute you as a hero.”

And what are we sending them off to? There’s a photo of Nick Sprovtsoff, a sergeant from Flint, Mich., lying awake in his bunk at a patrol outpost in Afghanistan. He looks like a tough guy in the picture, but he also looks worried. The caption says:

“On his third tour, he was there to advise a local platoon of the Afghan army. The Afghan soldiers rarely wanted to patrol, preferring to watch DVDs and smoke hash. Their favorite movie was ‘Titanic.’”

(A Page 1 headline in Sunday’s *New York Times* read, “Marines Fight With Little Aid From Afghans.”)

A clear idea of the pathetic unwillingness of the American people to share in the sacrifices of these wars can be gleaned from a comment that President Barack Obama made in his address last week to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. “We are a country of more than 300 million Americans,” he said. “Less than 1 percent wears the uniform.”

The president was not chiding those who are not serving, he was only intending to praise those who are. But the idea that so few are willing to serve at a time when the nation is fighting two long wars is a profound indictment on the society.

If we had a draft – or merely the threat of a draft – we would not be in Iraq or Afghanistan. But we don’t have a draft so it’s safe for most of the nation to be mindless about waging war. Other people’s children are going to the slaughter.

Instead of winding down our involvement in Afghanistan, we’re ratcheting it up. Obama told the VFW that fighting the war there is absolutely essential. “This is fundamental to the defense of our people,” he said.

Well, if this war, now approaching its ninth year, is so fundamental, we should all be pitching in. We shouldn’t be leaving the entire monumental burden to a tiny portion of the population, sending them into combat again, and again, and again, and again.

### Show Some Spine, Mr. President

WASHINGTON – President Obama should stop trying to win bipartisan support for national health care reform legislation.

Obama seems loath to put pressure on fellow Democrats to embrace a government-run health insurance program as part of his reform plan.

**HELEN THOMAS**  
HEARST NEWSPAPERS

Instead, the president has waffled on this key point, most recently saying that it’s “only a sliver” of his health care reform goals.

This mushy approach is designed to win Republican votes in Congress. But Obama should recognize that hard-line Republicans are never going to support his health reform program because, for them, the Obama health proposals are a sideshow. Their real goal is to limit his presidency to one term.

He should put his foot down and say that a govern-

ment-sponsored health insurance agency is absolutely necessary to compete against private companies and keep their rates low. And he should accept the reality that any congressional victory will be won by Democrats – not by some imaginary bipartisan coalition.

If Obama wants to win, he could tear a page out of Lyndon B. Johnson’s book on sure-fire ways to overcome congressional resistance.

Tom Johnson, former deputy White House press secretary for President Lyndon B. Johnson (no relation), recalls that LBJ was relentless in pursuit of needed votes and that he knew what it would take to win every lawmaker’s vote on Capitol Hill.

Johnson – who went on to become publisher of the Los Angeles Times and president of CNN – said LBJ would be on the telephone with members of Congress and their key staffers, telling them: “Your president

*Continued on Page 36*

### The President’s Zombies

The debate over the “public option” in health care has been dismaying in many ways. Perhaps the most depressing aspect for progressives, however, has been the extent to which opponents of greater choice in health care have gained traction – in Congress, if not with the broader public – simply by repeating, over and over again, that the public option would be, horrors, a government program.

Washington, it seems, is still ruled by Reaganism – by an ideology that says government intervention is always bad, and leaving the private sector to its own devices is always good. Call me naive,

but I actually hoped that the failure of

Reaganism in practice would kill it.

It turns out, however, to be a zombie doctrine: even though it should be dead, it keeps on coming.

Let’s talk for a moment about why the age of Reagan should be over. First of all, even before the current crisis Reaganomics had failed to deliver what it promised. Remember how lower taxes on high incomes and deregulation that unleashed the “magic of the marketplace” were supposed to lead to dramatically better outcomes for everyone? Well, it didn’t happen.

To be sure, the wealthy benefited enormously: the real incomes of the top .01 percent of Americans rose sevenfold between 1980 and 2007. But the real income of the median family rose only 22 percent, less than a third of its growth over the previous 27 years. Moreover, most of whatever gains ordinary Americans achieved came during the Clinton years. President George W. Bush, who had the distinction of being the first Reaganite president to also have a fully Republican Congress, also had the distinction of presiding over the first administration since Herbert Hoover in which the typical family failed to see any significant income gains.

And then there’s the small matter of the worst recession since the 1930s. There’s a lot to be said about the financial disaster of the last two years, but the short version is simple: Politicians in the thrall of Reaganite ideology dismantled the New Deal regulations that had prevented banking crises for half a century, believing that financial markets could take care of themselves. The effect was to make the financial system vulnerable to a 1930s-style crisis – and the crisis came.

“We have always known that heedless self-interest was bad morals,” said Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1937. “We know now that it is bad economics.” And last year we learned that lesson all over again.

Or did we? The astonishing thing about the current political scene is the extent to which nothing has changed.

The debate over the public option has, as I said, been depressing in its inanity. Opponents of the option – not just Republicans, but Democrats like Sen. Kent Conrad and Sen. Ben Nelson – have offered no coherent arguments against it. Nelson has warned ominously that if the option were available, Americans would choose it over private insurance – which he treats as a self-evidently bad thing, rather than as what should happen if the government plan was, in fact, better than what private insurers offer.

But it’s much the same on other fronts. Efforts to strengthen bank regulation appear to be losing steam, as opponents of reform declare that more regulation would lead to less financial innovation -- this just months after the wonders of innovation brought our financial system to the edge of collapse, a collapse that was averted only with huge infusions of taxpayer funds. So why won’t these zombie ideas die?

Part of the answer is that there’s a lot of money behind them. “It is difficult to get a man to understand something,” said Upton Sinclair, “when his salary” – or, I would add, his campaign contributions – “depend upon his not understanding it.” In particular, vast amounts of insurance industry money have been flowing to obstructionist Democrats like Nelson and Sen. Max Baucus, whose Gang of Six negotiations have been a crucial roadblock to legislation.

But some of the blame also must rest with President Barack Obama, who famously praised Reagan during the Democratic primary, and hasn’t used the bully pulpit to confront government-is-bad fundamentalism. That’s ironic, in a way, since a large part of what made Reagan so effective, for better or for worse, was that he sought to change America’s thinking as well as its tax code.

How will this all work out? I don’t know. But it’s hard to avoid the sense that a crucial opportunity is being missed, that we’re at what should be a turning point but are failing to make the turn.

## 'Kennedy Public Option Plan'

It's hardly worth wasting the ink to say so, but shame on you, *Washington Post*, for whorishly pandering to those who would disrupt and derail health care reform by your choice of the photograph used of Tuesday's town hall meeting hosted by Rep. Jim Moran and former DNC Chair Howard Dean in Northern Virginia.

There were 3,000 people there, including hundreds outside the packed-solid high school gym, and almost everyone there was a bona fide resident of, if not Moran's own district, at least of Northern Virginia. For better or worse, they were real constituents who were very vocal and rowdy. There were robust constituencies both pro and con the issue of health care reform and the so-called "public option." But by the way, unlike what the *Post* wrote, there were not "Don't Tread on Me" flags. There was one.

But for its choice of photographs, the *Post* made no attempt to capture all that and used one of a professional rabble rouser who announced beforehand he intended to attend the town hall solely for the purpose of disrupting it. And disrupt it he did. The moment Howard Dean stood up to speak, this provocateur and a gaggle of his devotees stood up from their seats in the center of the gym floor and began shouting slogans that effectively shut Dean up.

The *Post* afforded this individual celebrity status by planting his contorted, yelling face atop its story of the event, giving the man exactly what he came there for.

This intervention was the one point, despite a cascade of hoots, boos and cat calls that persisted throughout the two-hour meeting, when dialogue and discourse was actually brought to a halt. Words like "murder" were heard uttered by this man and his followers.

(His is a relatively well-known name but I'll be damned if I am going to give him the benefit of repeating it here.)

So, who is fueling this nationwide effort to drown out the merits of genuine health care reform with nothing but shouts and disruptions? Looks like the *Washington Post* to me, and, of course many others in the mainstream media.

After all, involved in this effort to derail health care reform are two things: well-heeled, privileged suburbanites who think they've got it good now, and don't want to give up their perceived advantage over the poor and uninsured, and the health insurance industry, itself, and its Wall Street allies.

These two elements add up to a distinct minority of the U.S. population, but they wield influence way beyond their numbers by keeping politicians in their pockets and, oh yes, the media as well.

They know that not only do they lack the numbers, in terms of popular support for what true health care reform will bring, but they lack any plausible arguments against a plan that would extend affordable health care to all and bring costs down while allowing anyone who wants to, to continue their current coverage.

Lacking the substance to counter these features of a health care reform plan that includes a "public option," they resort to outrageous lies (too politely called "myths" by some) that their fouled-mouthed TV and radio commentators repeat, aimed at arousing fear and paranoia in the population, and the systematic disruption of reasonable debate and presentation of facts.

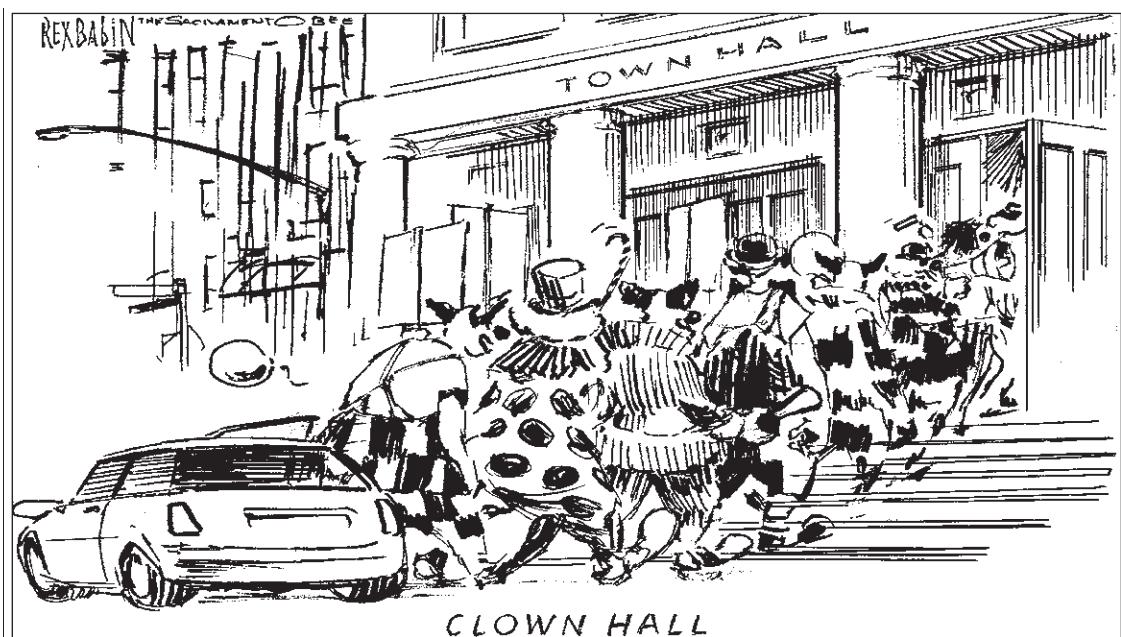
This is such a transparent and egregious undertaking to foil the will of the majority in America that it can hardly be hidden from public awareness. But alas, that's where the *Post* and its ilk come into play.

It, like any news organization pretending to be objective and fair (that does not include Fox News) walks a fine line, challenged with maintaining a modicum of credibility among its rapidly-shrinking reader base, while doing the bidding of its Wall Street-centered owners and shareholders, who demand more from them than a good return on investment, but an effective propaganda tool on behalf of their free market interests, as well.

I concur with those calling for naming real health care reform the "Kennedy Public Option Plan."

► Nicholas Benton may be e-mailed at [nfbenton@fcnp.com](mailto:nfbenton@fcnp.com).

## News-Press COMMENT



## *Stung by the Perfect Sting*

WASHINGTON – If I read all the vile stuff about me on the Internet, I'd never come to work. I'd scamper off and live my dream of being a cocktail waitress in a militia bar in Wyoming.

If you're written about in a nasty way, it looms much larger for you than for anyone else. Gossip goes in one ear and out the other unless you're the subject. Then, nobody's skin is thick enough.

"The velocity and volume on the Web are so great that nothing is forgotten and nothing is remembered,"

**MAUREEN DOWD**

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

says Leon Wieseltier, the literary editor of *The New Republic*. "The Internet is like closing time at a blue-collar bar in Boston.

Everyone's drunk and ugly and they're going to pass out in a few minutes."

Those are my people, I protested, but I knew what he meant. That's why I was interested in the Case of the Blond Model and the Malicious Blogger.

Sooner or later, this sort of suit will end up before the Supreme Court.

It began eight months ago when Liskula Cohen, a 37-year-old model and *Australian Vogue* cover girl, was surprised to find herself winning a "Skankiest in NYC" award from an anonymous blogger. The online tormentor put up noxious commentary on Google's blogger.com, calling Cohen a "skank," a "ho" and an "old hag" who "may have been hot 10 years ago."

Cohen says she's "a lover, not a fighter." But the model had stood up for herself before. In 2007, at a New York club, she tried to stop a man named Samir Dervisevic who wanted to drink from the vodka bottle on her table. He hit her in the face with the bottle and gouged a hole "the size of a quarter," as she put it, requiring plastic surgery.

This time, she punched the virtual bully in the face, filing a defamation suit to force Google to give up the blogger's e-mail. And she won.

"The words 'skank,' 'skanky' and 'ho' carry a negative implication of sexual promiscuity," wrote Justice Joan Madden of state Supreme Court in Manhattan, rejecting the Anonymous Blogger's assertion that blogs are a modern soapbox designed for opinions, rants and invective.

The judge cited a Virginia court decision that the Internet's "virtually unlimited, inexpensive and almost immediate means of communication" with the masses means "the dangers of its misuse cannot be ignored. The protection of the right to communicate anonymously must

be balanced against the need to assure that those persons who choose to abuse the opportunities presented by this medium can be made to answer for such transgressions."

Cyberbullies, she wrote, cannot hide "behind an illusory shield of purported First Amendment rights."

Once she had the e-mail address, Cohen discovered whence the smears: a cafe society acquaintance named Rosemary Port, a pretty 29-year-old Fashion Institute of Technology student.

Cohen called and forgave Port, but did not get an apology. She had her lawyer, Steve Wagner, drop her defamation suit. But now Port says she'll file a \$15 million suit against Google for giving her up.

Port contends that if Cohen hadn't sued, hardly anyone would have seen the blog. (If a skank falls in the forest and no one hears it ... ?)

But Cohen says the Internet is different than water-cooler gossip. "It's there for the whole world to see," she told me. "What happened to integrity? Why go out of your way solely to upset somebody else? Why can't we all just be nice?"

She said she may become an activist, and has been e-mailing with Tina Meier, mother of Megan Meier, the 13-year-old who killed herself after getting cyberbullied by the mother of a classmate who pretended to be a teen suitor named "Josh."

"If that woman had started a MySpace page as herself, that little girl would still be in her mother's arms," Cohen said.

The Internet was supposed to be the prolix paradise where there would be no more gatekeepers and everyone would finally have their say. We would express ourselves freely at any level, high or low, with no inhibitions.

Yet in this infinite realm of truth-telling, many want to hide. Who are these people prepared to tell you what they think, but not who they are? What is the mentality that lets them get in our face while wearing a mask? Shredding somebody's character before the entire world and not being held accountable seems like the perfect sting.

Pseudonyms have a noble history. Revolutionaries in France, American founding fathers and Soviet dissidents used them. The great poet Fernando Pessoa used heteronyms to write in different styles and even to review the work composed under his other names.

As Hugo Black wrote in 1960, "It is plain that anonymity has sometimes been assumed for the most constructive purposes."

But on the Internet, it's often less about being constructive and more about being cowardly.

## News-Press COMMENT

### The Pathology of Purity

In observing American fundamentalism for more than a decade there is one common thread that runs through the movement. It is the romanticized idea of purity, particularly sexual and doctrinal. While the idea is ostensibly innocuous, in practice it can be insidious and always threatens to politically spin out of control.

The idea of applying purity to human beings – who are impure by definition – creates an impossible standard that can't be met. The result is that millions of people are haunted by perceived moral failure and tortured by unnecessary guilt. Instead of producing healthy spiritual lives, this concept can create neurotic people with various complexes, who view themselves as worthless sinners. Such a damaging belief system may have a corrosive effect on self-esteem and creates needless internal conflicts.

### ANYTHING BUT STRAIGHT

BY WAYNE BESEN

The pursuit of unattainable perfection has led to a cottage industry of so-called "experts" who allegedly can help one achieve the unachievable. The proliferation of products and websites profiting from "purity" is problematic. There is no shortage of charlatans to fight "The War on Pleasure" and strictly forbid any form of fun for a fee. In some cases, the rules are so stringent that masturbation is considered a menace.

"God designed sex to be profound, which masturbation is not; it is shallow," wrote Dr. Harry W. Schaumburg on the website Restoring Sexual Purity. "God made sex to be fruitful, but masturbation treats sex like a commodity rather than a capacity for producing life. God made sex to be selflessly God-centered, not self-centered and self-satisfying."

Ultimately, religions and cults that focus on purity have an ulterior motive, which is to maintain control over the lives of its followers. If pleasure is policed, then faith-based father figures can ration it. By squeezing out the "impure" competition, such groups create a monopoly over one's mind.

The idea of protecting the potential sinner from "falling" is as elusive a goal of purity itself. No matter how cloistered, people will seek to explore their humanity, which includes enjoyment and fulfillment. Some fundamentalists hate secular society because temptations – epitomized by the concept of demons – are often stronger than their faith.

Instead of learning the healthy practice of moderation, many of these individuals embark on the pathological path of prohibition. Indoctrinated with a "just say no" ethos, the repression builds up until the fantasies become overwhelming fetishes that spiral out of control.

Unable to extinguish the fire internally, some of these individuals work through external means – namely politics – to eliminate temptations. This is why they have feverishly fought to close down adult bookstores and nude beaches. Such nosy behavior mirrors that of the teetotalers who fought to enact the disaster known as prohibition. Those who cling to this philosophy subconsciously want to ban from society what they cannot banish in themselves.

The quest for "purity" takes its most perverse form in the hands of Christian Reconstructionists. They believe that in order for Christ to return, they have to purify the world by instituting theocracy. This vision often includes executing gay people and adulterers.

The equivalent of such repression is already carried out in many Islamic countries. In Malaysia, which is considered a relatively moderate nation, a Muslim woman was recently sentenced to be whipped for the "crime" of enjoying a beer.

Of course, the puritanical enforcement of behavior rarely extends to those on the top of the moral hierarchy. In his chilling book, "The Family: The Secret Fundamentalism at the Heart of American Power", Jeff Sharlet writes in alarming detail about members of Congress who believe they are above the law because they are ordained by God as leaders. This must-read book gets into the heads of the hypocrites and allows one to grasp how they justify their tawdry affairs, while passing laws to penalize the very behavior that they had embraced on the sly.

The quest for purity is a sign of sickness and insecurity. It comes from individuals with serious hang-ups who want other people to be as miserable as they are. In order to make the world antiseptic, these zealots often become virtually anti-everyone and everything. It is with great irony that the more a person or nation obsesses about moral cleanliness the filthier, more violent and corrupt they usually become.

In chasing a concept that is elusive, many fundamentalists have become more elitist and exclusive, while intellectually reclusive. This helps explain the perpetual anger, bitterness and frustration that defines populist and political social conservatism.



### Congressman Moran's News Commentary

By JAMES P. MORAN

Virginia's 8th Congressional District Representative in the U.S. House of Representatives

At a town hall in Reston Tuesday night, Governor Howard Dean and I debunked some of the fabrications currently circulating about the health reform effort. It was a raucous event with supporters outnumbering a smaller, but vocal opposition, many of which were from well outside of my congressional district. Here are a few of the myths vs. facts that I discussed during my remarks.

**MYTH:** A government-run public option would force employers to drop their coverage and force everyone onto a public plan.

**FACT:** Under the bill, no one can ever be forced onto the public plan. The only way a person would join a public plan would be through the person's own individual choice. Furthermore, CBO projects that, rather than the bill forcing employers to drop their coverage, more employers will provide coverage under the bill.

**MYTH:** Healthcare reform will lead to rationing. A government-controlled "Health Benefits Advisory Committee" would decide how much care I receive.

**FACT:** Nothing in this bill permits the government to make healthcare decisions for you or to ration or withhold healthcare services. The Health Benefits Advisory Committee has no role in determining what treatments individuals will be entitled to; it will simply recommend the minimum standards of care and benefits insurers must offer. The Committee will be made up of mostly providers, consumer representatives, employers, labor, health insurance issuers, and

independent experts.

**MYTH:** Death panels made up of government bureaucrats will decide whether or not elderly Americans deserve end of life care.

**FACT:** Nothing could be further from the truth. America's Affordable Health Choices Act extends Medicare coverage to cover the cost of patients voluntarily speaking with their doctors about their values and preferences regarding end-of-life care—empowering older Americans to take control on this critical issue. These are deeply personal decisions that take thoughtful consideration, and it is only appropriate that doctors be compensated for their time.

**MYTH:** Under the reform, my tax dollars will be used to provide healthcare for illegal immigrants.

**FACT:** This is completely false. Taxpayers will not fund health care for undocumented workers. H.R. 3200, Section 246 states that "Nothing in this subtitle shall allow Federal payments for affordability credits on behalf of individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States."

**MYTH:** The reform bill would mandate abortion coverage in all public plans, thus making taxpayer dollars available to fund abortions.

**FACT:** Abortion is not mandated in any reform legislation. Currently, private insurance companies make their own decisions about whether or not abortion is a covered procedure. Current reform efforts will continue in that vein and allow consumers to choose a plan that is provided by a company that is in line with their own moral decision about abortion.

Under the current status quo, insurance companies – not patients or doctors – hold all the power in the U.S. healthcare system. They can decide whether or not to cover treatments, procedures and routine visits to the doctors. They can decide to raise premiums, deny coverage, or delay care without any accountability. This has led to millions of Americans being shut out of receiving health care altogether, a phenomenon that drives up health costs for everyone else.

As I discussed on Tuesday night, that's why we need reform...now.

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## Falls Church News-Press REGIONAL



*A Penny for Your Thoughts*

## News of Greater Falls Church

By Supervisor Penny Gross

Intense thunderstorms tend to keep people indoors, or at least mindful of high water that accompanies the torrential downpours of the last week or so. Unfortunately, all the warnings apparently were ignored by a young man in Falls Church last Friday afternoon, and the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's 4th Battalion and Jefferson Station 18 were summoned to make a swift water rescue.

An 18-year-old male attempted to "boogie board" in stormwater runoff near Route 50 and Tripps Run after the mid-afternoon storm. The victim soon was swept away by the rushing waters, and funneled through the culverts that carry Tripps Run under Route 50. Fortunately, near the Westlawn Shopping Center, the victim grabbed onto some overhanging vines, but bystanders were unable to rescue him and called in the experts. A cell phone photo implies that the victim lost most of his clothing to the swirling waters.

Jefferson Station 18 firefighters specially trained for swift water rescues arrived and attempted to stabilize the situation, deploying one team near the victim and another team farther downstream, just in case he was swept away again. As rescuers attempted to reach the teenager, he lost his grip and fell backwards again into the dark roiling water. The downstream rescue team, firmly tethered to the rocky slope with ropes, finally plucked him from the water and rendered first aid. After medical evaluation, the EMS personnel determined that, incredibly, the victim was not injured, and he declined transport to the hospital. The fate of his boogie board is not known.

Brainless, foolish, idiotic, and stupid all are adjectives

that might describe the young man's ill-advised escapade. Fortunate, blessed, and lucky illustrate the positive outcome. Well-trained, well-timed, and well-equipped underscore the brave Fairfax County rescue personnel who are ready at a moment's notice to respond to calls for assistance, regardless of the circumstances. The initial dispatch for crews and equipment included an engine company, rescue company, swift water boats, and medic units from Station 18, additional assistance from Stations 10 (Bailey's Crossroads), 28 (Fort Buffalo), 33 (Fairfax City), and the tower (formerly known as hook and ladder) from Station 30 in Merrifield. Arlington County also sent an engine company as part of the mutual aid compact between the two jurisdictions.

The entire episode was rather brief. Units were on site just three minutes after the initial 911 call was dispatched. The topography of the site did not support deploying the swift water boats, relying instead on the agility of the rescue personnel to clamber down the steep embankments. Once the victim was extricated from the water, units cleared the scene quickly, awaiting the next emergency call.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department is supported by the county's real estate taxpayers, so each resident and business has a little piece of the successful rescue last Friday. In the midst of all that good feeling for a job well done, I can't help but wonder what the victim told his parents when he got home!

► *Penny Gross is the Mason District Supervisor, in the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. She may be e-mailed at mason@fairfaxcounty.gov.*

of Raleigh, NC was arrested for DWI Second Offense, Driving Suspended - DWI Related and Refusal to Permit Sample of Blood or Breath test.

**Destruction of Property**, 422 South Maple (Cavalier Trail Park), August 19, 06:47 AM, overnight an unknown subject(s) used black spray paint to black out seven city signs.

**Graffiti**, 601 S. Oak Street (TJ Elementary School), August 19, 10:47 AM unknown suspects marked a rain barrel, a retaining wall and several exterior doors using green and blue spray paint.

**Unlicensed Solicitation**, 200 N. Maple Ave., August 20, 1:00 PM, a tall black female approached victim and asked for a ride and money for a shuttle to Leesburg. Victim gave the suspect a ride to Arlington Hospital and \$40.

**Drinking in Public**, 1230 W. Broad St (Giant Grocery Store), August 20, 7:21 PM, a female of Fairfax County was arrested for Drunk in Public.

**Larceny, Theft From Building**, 1218 W Broad St (Starbuck's), August 21 at 06:13 AM, an employee reported that over several days beginning on Thursday, August 13, 2009, a homeless male who frequents the store stole money from the employee tip jar.

**Graffiti**, 422 South Maple Avenue (Cavalier Trail Park/Skate Park), August 21, 8:14 AM, double wave skate slider covered with multiple graffiti.

**Banning**, 1218 W Broad St (Starbuck's), August 21, 11:14 AM, a male of no fixed

address was banned for panhandling.

**Shoplifting**, 1003 W Broad St (Rite Aid), August 22, 3:25 PM, multiple items taken by two black males, believed to have fled in a tan Ford SUV with Maryland tags.

**Graffiti**, 105 W Broad St (George Mason Sq.), August 22, 4:47 PM graffiti located in parking garage stairwell.

**Driving Under the Influence**, 200 blk. W Broad St., August 22, 8:56 PM, a male of Rockville, MD was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and for unreasonable refusal.

**Graffiti**, 112 N West St, (Lazy Sundae), August 23, 01:30 AM hours, officer observed graffiti damage on the front wall. It was sprayed with black spray paint.

**Drunk in Public**, 500 Roosevelt Blvd., August 23, 01:52 AM, a male of the City of Falls Church was arrested for drunk in public.

**Vandalism to Vehicle**, 411 Jackson St, vehicles scratched beginning three weeks prior by unknown person(s).

**Drunk in Public**, 220 N Washington St (State Theater), August 23, 6:55 PM, a male of Fairfax was arrested for Drunk in Public.

**Driving Under the Influence**, 103 Gordon Rd., August 23, 9:57 PM, a female of the City of Falls Church was arrested for driving under the influence.

**Urinating in Public**, 100 blk of Park Pl. (near State Theatre), August 23, 11:47 PM, a male of Silver Spring, MD was arrested for urinating in public.

**Larceny, Shoplifting**, 1150 W Broad St (CVS), August 24, 10:05 PM, multiple items taken by a black female suspect. Left in a silver or gray Honda Pilot with DC tags.

nant women under certain conditions.

States participate financially in CHIP, providing one dollar for every two dollars of federal funding, a match rate that is attractive to states. The program began slowly in Virginia. Under Governor Gilmore participation rates were quite low; Virginia did not receive its full allocation of federal dollars; and many eligible children were not covered.

The major example of public health care is Medicare that covers everyone over 65, is almost always utilized and is extremely popular.

In fact, one of the funniest quotes I've read in a newspaper account of a town hall meeting was from a man who stood up to yell "Just keep your government hands off my Medicare!"

Our military families and our veterans have government-provided health care. Medicaid is another public option that pays for nursing home care for those who cannot afford it, for care of disabled persons, and for low-income children.

In Virginia as in other states, CHIP has been wildly successful: Children get their immunizations and have well-child visits to the doctor; problems can be detected early and treated long before children start school; chronic diseases like asthma are better controlled, resulting in fewer hospitalizations.

Some states are so pleased with the program that it is being expanded with state funding and premiums to provide universal coverage. In Illinois, for example, the AllKids program, which began in July 2006, provides comprehensive health insurance to uninsured residents up to age 18. Premiums are based on a sliding scale related to the parents' income so they can get coverage for their children even if their employer does not provide health insurance. It's a great public option.

► *Senator Whipple represents the 31st District in the Virginia State Senate. She may be emailed at district31@sov.state.va.us*

## Richmond Report



As health care reform is being hotly debated around the country, a "public option" is frequently mentioned. It made me start thinking about the public options for health care that already exist.

The major example of public health care is Medicare that covers everyone over 65, is almost always utilized and is extremely popular.

In fact, one of the funniest quotes I've read in a newspaper account of a town hall meeting was from a man who stood up to yell "Just keep your government hands off my Medicare!"

Our military families and our veterans have government-provided health care. Medicaid is another public option that pays for nursing home care for those who cannot afford it, for care of disabled persons, and for low-income children.

The most recent entrant to public options for health care is the Children's Health Insurance Program or CHIP. First authorized in 1997, it has become the nation's primary source of coverage for uninsured children of modest income families who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid.

Together with Medicaid, CHIP provides a safety net for low-income children and has reduced the number of uninsured children. In 2008, 7.4 million children received health coverage through CHIP; however, gaps in coverage remained with more than 9 million uninsured children nationally.

Earlier this year Congress reauthorized the program, increasing funding to maintain coverage for the 7.4 million children and to enroll another 4.1 million children nationwide.

A 62 cent increase in the federal cigarette tax will fund the expanded program. It also allows states to cover low-income pregnant



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**News-Press LOCAL****News-Press**  
**COMMUNITY NEWS & NOTES****F.C. High School Band to Hold Reunion**

From Friday, Aug. 28 – Sunday, Aug. 30, the Falls Church High School Band Reunion Committee is inviting all Falls Church Band alumni to the Orkney Springs Hotel (221 Shrine Mont Cir., Orkney Springs) for a reunion. Featured in the weekend's program are evening jam sessions, multi-media presentations and performances by two of the school's most prestigious alumni, **Don Lucas** and **Jon Lewis**. The cost for attending the reunion ranges from \$15 – 150 depending on accommodations. Plan to gather at the hotel by 2 p.m. For more information, call **Becky Bensenhaver** at 540-678-9027.

**Polu Kai Services Ranked in Inc. Magazine**

On Wednesday, Aug. 12, **Polu Kai Services, LLC** was ranked on **Inc.** magazine's third annual **Inc. 5000**, an exclusive ranking of the nation's fastest-growing

private companies.

The business based in Falls Church has been running for six years and has achieved a growth of 110.2 percent in revenues since the year 2005.

Polu Kai Services, LLC delivers environmental and construction services, including environmental remediation, hazardous waste management, contaminated soil disposal and more. For more information on this company, visit [www.polukaiservices.com](http://www.polukaiservices.com).

**Bank of America Hosts Military Family Movie Night**

On Saturday, Aug. 29, **Bank of America** is welcoming all to the **Military Family Movie Night** to celebrate veterans and their families. Watch "Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian" under the stars, while enjoying free popcorn. The festivities will begin at 7:30 p.m. and the movie will start at sundown. This event is to take place at **Bluemont Park** (601 N. Manchester St., Arlington). Admission is free. For more information, contact **Lindsay Kos** at



'CHARLEY'S ANGELS' was the impromptu nickname given to this trio of political heavyweights among the more than 100 assembled in a Falls Church home last week for the annual fundraising barbecue of the Virginia Partisans Gay and Lesbian Democratic Club. The club's president is Charley Conrad. Left to right: Fairfax County Board Chair Sharon Bulova, Democratic Lieutenant Governor candidate Jody Wagner, and Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross. More than \$20,000 was raised at the event, which was catered by Freddie's Beach Bar of Pentagon City. (PHOTO: NEWS-PRESS)

[Lindsay.kos@emanatepr.com](mailto:Lindsay.kos@emanatepr.com).

**McLean Community Center Seeks Vendors**

The **McLean Community Center** is seeking vendors to participate in its **Fall Community Flea Market** to be held on Saturday, Sept. 12. Open to professional flea market dealers and individuals selling household items. The sale will be held from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the **Business Bank Parking Lot** (1451 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean). A limited number of selling spaces are available for \$45. To register, visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

**Goitia Selected to Serve as Page in D.C.**

**George C. Marshall** junior **Melissa Goitia** has been selected to serve as a page in the U.S. House of Representatives for the 2009 Fall Session. Page duties include delivering correspondence and legislative materials within the congressional complex.

Goitia was selected through an application process by the office of **Congressman Jim Moran**. She'll be serving as a page through the first semester of the school year, and will return to Marshall at the end of January.

**F.C. Gallery Announces 'Artists Helping Others'**

On Friday, Aug. 28 from 6 – 9 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 29 from noon – 4 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 30 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. the Falls Church Gallery will be holding "Artists Helping Others." The show and sale will benefit two local charities, Homestretch and Committee for Helping Others. The event is to be held at the Vienna Presbyterian Church (124 Park St. NE, Vienna). For more information, contact **Theresa Stifel** at 703-407-0770.

**Falls Church Rotary Club Holds Meeting**

On Thursday, Aug. 27, special guest **Horace McCormack**, the Governor of the Northern Virginia



**ALEXANDRE GARRISON** of Falls Church married **Rebecca Moyer** of Colorado on June 27 in Boulder, Colo. The couple will reside in Charlottesville, Va. (PHOTO: COURTESY JOHN GARRISON)

Rotary District, will speak at the Club dinner meeting.

The dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the **Harvest Moon Restaurant** (7260 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church). The meal cost is \$11 per person.

For more information, call 202-268-5089.

**F.C. Resident Ties Knots in Boulder, Colorado**

**Alexandre Garrison**, son of Falls Church residents **Mr. and Mrs. John Garrison**, wed **Rebecca Moyer**, daughter of **Mrs. Lynette Moyer** of Colorado and the late **Mr. Albert Moyer** on June 27.

Garrison graduated from the University of Virginia with a Bachelor's in Architecture. The bride grew up in Blacksburg, Va. and graduated from the University of Virginia as well.

The wedding was held in Boulder, Colorado at the First

Congregational Church. The couple will reside in Charlottesville, Va.

**Daughter of Former F.C. Vice Mayor Weds**

On Saturday, May 23, **Chanin Knight**, daughter of former Falls Church Vice Mayor **Gary Knight** and **Maryann Dean**, married **Gregg Sangillo** of Philadelphia at the **Woodrow Wilson House** in Washington, D.C. The reception followed at the Bumpercar Pavilion at Glen Echo Park.

The bride graduated from George Mason High School and attended New York University, the George Washington University and the Washington Art Institute. Mr. Sangillo attended Westchester College and the University of Pennsylvania.

The couple will reside in Northwest Washington after a honeymoon in the Greek Islands.

## News-Press LOCAL

### Marshall High Dance Team Receives Awards

**George C. Marshall High School's Dance Team** participated in the **Universal Dance Association** camp at Ocean City, Maryland past July.

The members of the team received various awards, among which was the **Superior Trophy**, which gave them the opportunity to compete at the **National Level** in Orlando, Florida in February of 2010.

The members of the team are **Diana Man** (captain), **Taylor Kenney** (co-captain), **Kiana Ragland**, **Christina Harris**, **Emily Austin**, **Emily Shibut**, **Jessica Baralt**, **Katherine Joa**, **Jessica Gentile**, **Amanda Denny**, **Reese Wold**, **Sara Bojo**, **Lexie Tsantes** and **Alisha Kusumawardhani**, headed by **Coach Denyse Kenney**.

### J.E.B. Stuart H.S. Music Department Holds Tag Day

On Saturday, Sept. 12, the music students from **J.E.B. Stuart High School's Band, Orchestra and Chorus** will make their annual **door-to-door visits** to every house in the community to ask for contributions. The money supports uniforms, music, travel to competitions and other costs.

The students will be collecting starting at 8:30 a.m.

### Schmid Elected as Pastor Emeritus at F.C. Church

The **Falls Church Presbyterian Church** (225 E. Broad St., Falls Church) elected the **Reverend Thomas H. Schmid** as **Pastor Emeritus** at a meeting of the congregation on Aug. 16.

A celebration of his ministry will include a "Tomcert" by the choir and members of Choralis on

Saturday, Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. and a single service on Sunday, Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. to be followed by a picnic on the grounds of the church. For more information, call 703-532-6518.

### Connolly to Address NARFEA on Health Care

On Wednesday, Sept. 2, **Congressman Connolly** will speak to the **National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFEA)** on health care and other legislations in progress. Admission is free for this event. For more information, call 703-323-7847.

### Boy Scouts America Troop Celebrates 60th Anniversary

On Saturday, Sept. 9, all current and former Troop 624 scouts are invited to join the **Boy Scouts of America Troop 624 Chain Bridge District** to celebrate the Scouts' **60th Anniversary**.

Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. followed by a potluck dinner at 7 p.m. The dinner celebration will include a slide show, skits and story telling.

The event will be held at **St. Ann Church and Parish Hall** (5300 N. 10th St., Arlington).

For more information, e-mail [BSATroop624RSVP@yahoo.com](mailto:BSATroop624RSVP@yahoo.com).

### New Girls' Soccer Coach Hired at Marshall High

**George C. Marshall High School** has announced the hiring of **Ann Orrison Germain** as its new head **Girls' Soccer Coach**. Coach Germain was a member of the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team from 1984 – 1986 and has coached at the high school or club level since 1980. For more information, contact Coach Germain at [agermain@psaltd.com](mailto:agermain@psaltd.com).



**JAN DU PLAIN** (third from right) was inducted as a member of the Falls Church Rotary Club at last Thursday's meeting at the Harvest Moon Restaurant. Shown with her after the induction ceremony is District Governor Horace McCormack on the left, and to his right are Sherri Johnson, District Liaison Bill Bailey, Tin Lay Raschid and Club President Steve Gage. (PHOTO: COURTESY JOE SCHEIBELER)



**GEORGE C. MARSHALL H.S. Dance Team** members went to the **Universal Dance Association (UDA)** Dance Camp in Ocean City, Md. last month, taking home 33 blue ribbons. Members include **Diana Man**, **Taylor Kenney**, **Kiana Ragland**, **Christina Harris**, **Emily Austin**, **Emily Shibut**, **Jessica Baralt**, **Katherine Joa**, **Jessica Gentile**, **Amanda Denny**, **Reese Wold**, **Sara Bojo**, **Lexie Tsantes** and **Alisha Kusumawardhani**. (PHOTO: COURTESY KIMBERLY SAYER-MARSH)

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## News-Press LOCAL

### News-Press BUSINESS NEWS & NOTES

#### News

**Yasini Jewelers** has moved into 1120 E W. Broad Street, the Falls Plaza location previously occupied by KFC. The Middle Eastern jewelry store also has two other US locations (New Jersey, Illinois) and in Palestine, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan. For more information, visit [www.yasini.com](http://www.yasini.com).

**Maguire Appliance** has closed its doors in the West Falls Church Outlet Shopping Center at 7395 Lee Highway. The long standing kitchen, home, and laundry appliance store did not post any forwarding information and the phone numbers for both the Falls Church and Gettysburg locations have been disconnected. Anyone interested in the 5,075-square-foot retail space can contact Kristy Inman at [Inman@edensandavant.com](mailto:Inman@edensandavant.com) or 800-680-9095. The façade of the shopping center will be renovated in the fall. A parking and landscape renovation is scheduled for the spring. For more information, visit [www.edensandavant.com](http://www.edensandavant.com).

Aimee Suyehiro from **Argia's** will be the first local chef featured in Falls Church's new **Farmer's Market Chef Program** starting on August 29. The new program has been created by a group of volunteers committed to using local and seasonal ingredients in their daily cooking. Once a month, local area chefs will provide a cooking demonstration and tasting of dishes using local ingredients from the Falls Church Farmers Market. The Farmers Market is open 8 a.m. – noon on Saturdays in the City Hall parking area at 300 Park Avenue. During the summer the year-round market boasts over 40 vendors of local and organic produce and goods. **Leland Atkinson** from **Simplicity Catering** will be the featured chef September 19 and **Tracey O'Grady** from **Willow** will be the featured chef October 3. All demonstrations will be videotaped and be available online at [www.Facebook.com/FallsChurchFarmersMark etChef](http://www.Facebook.com/FallsChurchFarmersMark etChef). For more information, e-mail [FallsChurchFarmersMarketChef@gmail.com](mailto:FallsChurchFarmersMarketChef@gmail.com).

To show its support for the local restaurant community, the **Falls Church News-Press** is creating a special Food & Dining pull-out edition to coincide with the Taste of Falls Church with special ad rates for area restaurants. Other businesses are encouraged to advertise in this addition as well to show their support of our restaurant community. The **News-Press** is distributed to 30,500 in Bailey's Crossroads, Sleepy Hollow, Pimmit Hills, Lake Barcroft, the City of Falls Church and other areas in the vicinity. For advertising rates and information, e-mail Joe or Lou at [ads@fcnp.com](mailto:ads@fcnp.com) or call 703-532-3267.

#### Events

While most of the restaurants involved in the 15th Washington, D.C. Restaurant Week are in D.C., there are a number of participants in Northern Virginia and two in Falls Church. **2941** and **Argia's** are among the nearly 180 metro D.C. restaurants offering multi-course specially created and priced for this gourmet event. The event started continues through August 30. Participating restaurants offer a three-course lunch for \$20.09 and a three-course dinner \$35.09. For a list of participating restaurants or for more info about the Destination DC. and the Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington Restaurant sponsored event, visit [washington.org/restaurantwk](http://washington.org/restaurantwk).

A number of local restaurants are participating in this year's Fall Festival and Taste of Falls Church taking place Saturday, September 12. **Applebees**, **Clare & Don's Beach Shack**, **Dogwood Tavern**, **Ledo Pizza**, **Open Kitchen Bistro** and **Trader Joe's** will all be providing tastings in the parking lot area between Falls Church City Hall and the Community Center. To find out how you can get involved email Jenny Elmore at [jelmore@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:jelmore@fallschurchva.gov). For information on the festival, visit [www.fallschurchva.gov](http://www.fallschurchva.gov).

Falls Church art and ornament gallery, **Stifel & Capra** is hosting "Artists Helping Others" a three day show and sale to be held in the **Great Hall of Vienna Presbyterian Church**, 124 Park Street NE, in Vienna on Fri., Aug. 28 from 6 – 9 p.m., Sat., Aug. 29 from noon – 4 p.m. and Sun., Aug. 30 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. The juried show will consist of fine art from professional artists and members of the community. Proceeds will benefit Homestretch and Committee for Helping Others. For more information, contact **Theresa Wells Stifel** at [Theresa@StifelandCapra.com](mailto:Theresa@StifelandCapra.com) or call 703-407-0770.

► *The Business News & Notes section is compiled by Sally Cole, Executive Director of Greater Falls Church Chamber of Commerce. She may be e-mailed at [sally@fallschurch-chamber.org](mailto:sally@fallschurch-chamber.org).*

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# Mason Turns to Unity, Toughness to Overcome Disappointing '08 Season

BY ALEX PREWITT  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

It's something no team wants to experience: a nearly winless season. And on the heels of one of the worst years in recent memory, no one has to tell members of the George Mason High School football team that it's time for a change.

One year after posting a 1-9 mark, the Mustangs are out to prove that the .100 winning percentage is more of an outlier than indicative of a unit vastly transformed from the one that ran the table in the Bull Run District in 2006 and made the Region B playoffs.

But with a running game almost totally different from years prior, the road ahead will not be easy, even for the players who were around for the 5-0 district season. With the graduation of John and Charlie Mann, Mason loses 87 percent of its total offense. That will have to be made up this year with a trio of senior backs: Yates Jordan, Chris Saraus, and Ben Taylor.

Taylor, who had fewer than 200 yards of total offense last year, is an elusive back with explosive speed. Saraus, on the other hand, is more of a bruiser despite his small size, preferring to run right over people in the open field. The pair and Jordan, who nursed an injury for the majority of last season, will have to shoulder the offensive load.

"Each of these guys take a day when they are going to look like a great running back, going back and forth and competing for time," Mason coach Tom Horn said. "The three know that only two are going to be on the field at any given time, which gives it legitimate competition at the position."

Perhaps the hardest spot to determine a starter is quarterback, where for the first time in his 13 years at Mason Horn says the position is legitimately three deep. Senior George Kalantzis, who finished last year behind center, junior Tyler Duncan, last year's junior varsity quarterback and junior Mitch Hirsch, who was out with a foot injury last year, are all in the running.

"The QB position is up in the air right now, but overall we have three quarterbacks who are very

capable of doing the job," senior P.J. Anderson said.

For now, though, there is no clear-cut favorite.

"We haven't allowed them to separate themselves," Horn said. "We've set them up in equal situation and split the time on Friday in our first scrimmage. I don't know if there's enough to keep them from rotating time."

On the defensive end, a trio of experienced inside linebackers will head a traditionally strong unit. Though this year's squad is small than it's ever been, Horn notes that the Mustangs have more experience at crucial spots.

"Some kid want to play football and some want to be football players, and we're looking at kids who are football players," he said. "We've never really had three linebackers who all have a full year of starting. It makes your whole defense look faster and look more aggressive."

Seniors Misael Benitez, Matt Palmeiri and Manuel Veiga-Diaz all have at least 10 starts under their belts and have displayed a "real kind of enthusiasm about playing" thus far.

"We have to make up for bodies that don't exist on the field because we have a small number of people playing," said Veiga-Diaz, who noted that Mason's investment in a five-man blocking sled has made a noticeable difference on the line. "We're going to have to step up our game."

Sophomore Stephen Lubnow figures to be an anchor in the secondary at safety and is a potential x-factor. Once he came back from an injury last year, Horn saw enough potential to redesign the defense to exploit Lubnow's talents.

"It's a big gamble to put in a sophomore, but we feel like he has some special skills, he is a nose-to-the-ball kid," Horn said. We think we made the right choice but he has to do that over the course of the season, make our decision stand up. We haven't had a safety with that real desire since [2006 graduate] Travis Greene where you have to make him back away at times."

But regardless of what talent Mason may have, the key to avoiding a repeat of the 1-9 year will be coming together as a team.

"Our team is a lot more united," Veiga-Diaz said. The team factor has become a big thing instead of just people trying to achieve personal goals. When you're with the team the whole year, unity starts to build, and you get respect for teammates working as hard as you are. People are coming into the season feeling a little bit more prepared. We're a lot closer, not just on the field."

"We have to play hard, play for the guy next to us more than we play for ourselves," Anderson added. "We're really emphasizing our only rule, which is don't let your teammates down."

The bonus this year is that the Mustangs are the perfect amalgamation of hard work and desire.

"When the kids who could sit out drills and still be the best are the hardest workers, the drill leaders, you know you have a team that can achieve beyond its talent," Horn said. "That's a new thing in the last 13 months. It's a different work ethic this August than last by everyone involved."

When asked where this change came from, the answer was simple.

"Sometimes when you hit the bottom of the valley you can choose to stay there or you can choose to climb. Kids don't like the feeling of underachieving."

After Tuesday's practice, Horn took the team to the movies to see *Tony Dungy's Red Zone 2009*, a film featuring the Super Bowl winning coach. The flick emphasized performance, conditioning, teamwork and character above all else, preaching football as a fraternity comprised of high school players.

But despite whatever bond the Mustangs may feel with the opposition, camaraderie within Mason's unit remains priority number one.

"I don't know if we'll win any more games [than we did last year], but we're better," Horn said. "I'm not sure if there was a shared belief last year. If each like these guys understand each other and believe that they each have the same commitment. Spending a lot of time together brings kids closer to sharing that one common goal."

In the face of adversity, Mason has nowhere to go but up.



MASON H.S. MUSTANGS get back to the grind for the 2009-10 football season. (PHOTO: NEWS-PRESS)

right there again this year. While we might not be superior talent-wise to last year, we are better as a team."

## Taking Offense by the Horn: Double-Wing Strategy Plan

BY ALEX PREWITT  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

When exciting football plays come to mind, they usually manifest themselves in the form of long-range Hail Mary's or buzzer-beating fumble recoveries. No one would want to watch if *Remember the Titans* ended on an un-celebrated run up the middle. People want to see deep routes, they want to see excitement.

But regardless of what the masses may demand, Mason coach Tom Horn sticks to his principles: the double-wing offense. It's a system that has confused Bull Run defenses for years and, with its constant motion and grind-it-out principles, has remained a staple of George Mason High School football for years.

The concept of the offense is simple, albeit slightly head-

scratching. Horn says that teams using the double-wing offense concede that, in general, they are at a raw talent deficiency relative to their opponents. The system levels the playing field through a series of dizzying motions and power runs into the heart of the defense.

"It's a very successful offense," senior running back Ben Taylor said. "It's more physical because it's a power running game. You have two guys blocking one guy all the time at the point of attack and you definitely have the advantage."

The double wing started out as a formation but evolved into a system of offense, instilled into the playbook when Horn arrived in 1997. It allows a small school, like Mason, to create optimal blocking angles for undersized kids, using sheer toughness to

*Continued on Page 18*

## News-Press SPORTS

# Longtime Champion George Mason Golf Faces Season Woes

BY ALEX PREWITT  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

The perfection had to end sometime.

George Mason High School's varsity golf team, which had not lost a regular season dual match since 2006, succumbed to early-season woes on the road, falling to Bull Run District rival Clarke County 361-338 on August 13, just days before dropping a non-district contest to Brentsville High at home by a mere six strokes.

On Monday at Fairfax National Golf Course against Brentsville, Mason coach Chris Carrico's alma mater, the Mustangs had a lackluster effort across the board. Senior Evans Mandes was the

high scorer with 87, while classmate Michael Wolfe shot an 89. Senior Michael Duning (93) and sophomore Ben Tourkin (104) also contributed.

"It should not have been a close match at all, we should have handed it to them," Wolfe said. "We should never be shooting 370. Once we realized the streak was done, we laid back a little bit."

On the heels of the squad's second loss of the season, Mason rebounded in kind on Tuesday in a nine-hole match at Bull Run opponent Madison County 185-172. Wolfe rang in first with a 40, while Mandes shot a 42. Tour-

*Continued on Page 19*



COACH TOM HORN, center, has directed the double-wing offense since he became the football coach of George Mason High School in Falls Church in 1997. (PHOTO: NEWS-PRESS)

## Area High School Sports Roundup

### McLean Highlanders Field Hockey Start Strong; Marshall's New Coach

#### H.S. Field Hockey Teams Warm Up for Season Play

McLean High School's varsity field hockey team won its first two scrimmages of the season, on Aug. 19 against Washington and Lee High (3-1) and on Aug. 24 against Lake Braddock Secondary (2-0).

With last Wednesday night's game versus Oakton High too late for press, the McLean Highlanders travel to Virginia Beach for a weekend tournament on Aug. 28.

The team returns home to challenge Woodson High at 9 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 31.

Across town, field hockey rivals **George C. Marshall** and **J.E.B. Stuart High Schools** meet on Marshall's home turf for a game at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 1.

The Falls Church High School field hockey team opens its season with an away game against Lee High today, Aug. 27, at 7:30 p.m.

#### Marshall Girls Soccer Signs New Head Coach

**George C. Marshall High School** announced that the school has hired **Ann Orrison Germain** as its new head girls soccer coach.

Germain, who was a member of U.S. Women's National Soccer team from 1984 - 1986, has been a soccer coach since 1980 at both the high school and club levels. Recently, she worked with the Olympic Development Program.

"Coach Germain brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Statesmen women's soccer program," said Joe Swarm,

Marshall's interim director of Student Activities, said in a statement last week.

#### Volleyball Teams Prepare For New Season

**George Mason High School's varsity girls volleyball team** opens play today, Aug. 27, at 7:15

p.m. against Washington and Lee High in an away match.

Next up, the girls challenge Park View High in a home match at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 2.

The Falls Church varsity girls team takes on Lee High in a home match at 7:15 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 31. The Falls Church volleyball squad then meets TC Williams on the home court on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 7:15 p.m.

**George C. Marshall High's volleyball team** travels to Dominion High at 6 p.m. this Friday, Aug. 28.

**J.E.B. Stuart's and Marshall High's volleyball teams** go head to head on Wednesday, Sept. 2 at Marshall High. Play starts at 7:15 p.m.

The McLean Highlanders volleyball team plays on Monday, Aug. 31, at 7:15 p.m. in a home match against Washington and Lee High, and again, in an away match against Yorktown High, next Wednesday, Sept. 2.

### GMHS Plans

*Continued from Page 17*

gain yards.

"In 1997, we had fewer than 20 kids on the first day and everyone was playing both ways," Horn said. "It's a system where you don't have to have a 6'8" tackle or a quarterback throwing 16-yard outs. You can coach toughness but you can't really coach ball delivery or catching a football or being big. We can coach toughness, so we decided that we needed an offense that could do that."

"We're usually at an athlete man-on-man disadvantage," he continued. "We don't want to put a 180-lb. guard against a 250-lb. kid head-to-head and say win the battle for four quarters. That's unreasonable."

Ball control is the name of the game for Mason and the double wing, pounding it up the middle play after play. Unlike most high schools, passes in Moore Cadillac Stadium are reserved for only the optimal situation. Horn would rather have his quarterback grind it out on the ground and eat up clock time than drop back unnecessarily.

"There aren't six kids at George Mason who can throw and catch a football well," Horn said. "Why would we throw it? Fans who want to see throwing want to see throwing done well. The ideal double-wing throws the ball when you have a chance to create a big play, not when you must throw the ball."

The ideal goal is to cut the snap

count down for an undermanned team, maximizing the offensive time on the field and shortening the game. In a typical game, there are usually around 135 snaps, but Mason aims to cut that down to 115.

Symmetry is another key to the offense. Mason lines up with two tight-ends, two wings, and more than a handful of ball carriers. In a good year, says Horn, 50 percent of the offensive load will be shouldered from one running spot and 25 percent from each of the other two.

"This offense lends itself to a small school where you may not have one athlete who can carry 40 times but you have three who can each carry it 15," Horn said.

The Mustangs hit the offensive jackpot comes when things continue to go so well on the ground that passing never becomes an option. Mason will routinely go games at a time without throwing the ball.

"We can usually come up with a first down," Horn said. "In a game of equally matched teams, the ideal double-wing is 90 percent runs and you throw when you have to."

But in a year when camaraderie on the field is valued above all else, the unified concept of the double-wing takes center stage.

"All 11 people have to be involved on every play," senior tackle Manuel Veiga-Diaz said. "No one can take a play off. You really have to dedicate yourself to understanding it. If you get one person taking a play off, that will mess everything up."

# Prospects & Musings In August's Mailbag

Mike,

I know you're skeptical about the Redskins' offensive line, but are there any parts of the team that you're excited about?

Dan S.

There are some intriguing aspects to this year's team, but I don't know if I'm particularly excited about anything. The biggest buzz has surrounded the defense and its potential after infusing Albert Haynesworth and Brian Orakpo into the mix. A good pass rush is the new black in football and if the Redskins can keep opposing quarterbacks off balance then it would greatly help what I see as a mediocre secondary.

There's been some hype surrounding the addition of CB DeAngelo Hall during the middle of last season. Excuse me if I tamp down my exuberance over a guy who has completely burned bridges and was a cancer on his previous teams in Oakland and Atlanta. He may have helped, but as metrics-gurus Football Outsiders pointed out in a recent preview of the team on ESPN Insider, the 'Skins passing defense got worse after Hall's arrival, while Oakland's defense improved appreciably without him.

I'm not sold that Hall was the cause of that defensive slip, his arrival roughly coincided to the time the offense regressed to play like Pop Warner all-stars, meaning the defense spent a lot more time on the field than the beginning of the year.

The New York Giants' defense has been outstanding not just because of its pass rush, but because of its imposing running game. Last year, the Giants led the league in rushing, (meaning they were able to control the tempo of the game and give their defense a rest.) The Redskins had a solid ground attack, finishing eighth in the league in rushing yards in 2008, but during their 2-6 second half, the Redskins' per game rushing average dropped by over 30 yards per game. And they only won the time of possession battle in three of those games. It should be noted that two of those three instances resulted in wins and the other was a three-point loss.

Strong defensive play and ball possession by the offense often

work in concert with each other. So if the 'Skins defense is going to live up to the hype, the offensive line is going to have to help out. Since I'm sure you all know my regard for that unit is about as high as a kneeling ant, you can see why I'm skeptical the Washington defense will live up to its potential.

Mike,

What's next for the Nats?

Teddy R.

## Picking Splinters By Mike Hume

I had a dream last night that the Nationals won the world series. No joke. I dreamt they had rallied from a bad start like the Colorado Rockies have this season and claimed the title ... before a crowd of 546 souls at Nationals Park. Some things really leave an impression on the subconscious I guess.

Seriously, what's next is September and its roster expansion. The Nats will get to call up 15 players to the bigs and you can bet they will all get extended playing time, particularly the starting pitchers. So grab your minor league statistics, everybody. It's time to get excited about prospects!

Hume,

*Mike Vick returns to game action this week. What do you think about that?*

Sincerely,

*Everyone who hated your last column about the troubled QB*

I think it will be an interesting experiment to see him in action. After prison, you have to expect some fall off from his athletic skills. If he has a big game, that will dominate all of the weekend sports chatter and the Eagles will look very smart.

Personally, I think they look a little hypocritical no matter what. After the signing, ESPN's Sal Paolantonio reported the Eagles had previously cut two players after catching wind of animal offenses in New Jersey. Meanwhile, they're pulling out the stops to help former Pro-Bowler Vick. Guess the bigger crime in the Eagles eyes was the inability of those former players to help them win a Super Bowl.

## Mason Golf

Continued from Page 18

kin provided the highlight of the match, though, finding his stroke by firing a 44. It was a solid effort across the board, rounded out by Duning's 46.

"After Brentsville, we needed a good nine-hole match to get back into the groove of things," Wolfe said. "Duning still didn't shoot well but hopefully that will turn around. Tourkin was very unexpected. Hopefully that's a trend that will continue throughout the season."

The winning streak came to an end on August 13 in a tri-meet with Madison County and Clarke County, though only Mason's match with the Eagles was scored. The Mustangs came out on the losing end by 23 strokes.

The elusive fourth golfer came back to bite Mason in a big way. Tourkin shot a 108 behind Duning's 80. Mandes had an unusually sluggish round, firing an 89 while Wolfe shot in the mid-

80s.

"It was kind of rough," Wolfe said. "We knew going in that Clarke didn't lose a single golfer out of their top six, so they all were returning and all have been playing and getting better. We knew that without a fourth golfer that we didn't have a chance."

Had Mason scored against the Mountaineers, the Mustangs would have won running away. Madison County shot a 413. Josh Honaker led with a round of 95.

Sandwiched in between the two losses was a road match against Manassas Park last Thursday. Played at 10 a.m., Mason shook off the early-morning jitters to roll by 15 strokes. Sophomore Will Powell posted a personal-best 96, while Duning shot an 80. Wolfe, who shot an 86, and Mandes, who fired a 91, rounded out the Mustangs' top four.

Still, the team remains confident that things will be turned around in time for the district tournament at the end of September. Five Bull Run matches remain as well as a non-district meeting at home against Washington-Lee

High.

Mason headed into Thursday's morning match against Strasburg High at Jackson's Chase golf course at a 2-2 clip overall and 2-1 in the Bull Run. After that, the Mustangs begin a stretch of four consecutive matches at home, giving the squad an opportunity to shake off the early losses on familiar grass and sand.

Yet, the effects of losing have taken a toll on the squad's seniors, many of whom were around for the past two perfect seasons.

"I was hoping it wouldn't be our senior year," Wolfe said. "I was very disappointed, because we couldn't say we went undefeated throughout our high school careers. A weight is definitely lifted off, but it's not a good weight. I liked knowing that I went into the Clarke match focused knowing what was on the line."

So what's the upside of the undefeated run ending?

"Hopefully we do start a new streak and the new kids can continue it down the road," Wolfe said.

## News-Press SPORTS

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## News-Press LOCAL

# FALLS CHURCH SUMMERTIME! News

### MEH Summer Events Prep For New School Year

Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School (MEH) (7130 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church) will be hosting an array of summer events to get its new students up and running for the 2009-10 school year. Tuesday, Sept. 1 will be **Fifth-Grade Locker Day** from 8 – 10 a.m. Students may drop in at any point during this time to receive their locker assignment and meet their fifth-grade homebase teacher.

Also on Sept. 1, an **orientation** will be held from 10 – 11 a.m. for all MEH students and parents who are new to Falls Church City Public Schools. An overview of the school will take place, as well as a tour of the facilities. Finally, a **Back-to-School Social** will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 2 from 6 – 7 p.m. All MEH students and their parents are invited to obtain schedules, P.E. uniforms and meet MEH's staff. For more information, call 703-720-5700.

### Mustang Ambassadors to Show Newbies Around

George Mason High School (7124 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church) will hold its **New Student Orientation** on Wednesday, Sept. 2 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. New students will be able to meet with Student Council Association (SCA) representatives to explore George Mason programs. A **New Parent Orientation** will be simultaneously hosted by the Parent-Teacher & Student Association (PTSA).

An **Eighth-Grade Orientation**, also taking place Sept. 2, will be a separate event sponsored by the Mustang Ambassadors from noon – 3 p.m. Students will receive their schedules and tour the building. For more information, call 703-248-5500.

### Thomas Jefferson E.S. Gets Parents, Students Ready

New information for parents of Thomas Jefferson Elementary

School students is now available online, including the school's **bus schedule**, as well as the **Student Handbook** and **Parent Handbook** for the 2009-10 school year. For more information, visit [www.fcps.org/tj](http://www.fcps.org/tj).

### Stuart H.S. to Host 'Meet the Coaches' Night

As summer comes to a close, J.E.B. Stuart High School will hold a "Meet the Coaches" evening on Thursday, Aug. 27 at 7 p.m. in the school's auditorium (3301 Peace Valley Ln., Falls Church). It is the expectation that each athlete is represented at this meeting. He or she will have the opportunity to meet the staff from the Activities Office, coaches and members of **Stuart's Athletic Training Staff**. They will also be able to ask any questions they may have regarding the program. For more information, call the school at 703-824-3900.

### Sea Piracy Up for Debate at Marshall H.S.

The topic of sea piracy will be up for debate at **George C. Marshall High School's** annual **Model United Nations (MUN)** training conference. Though the event does not take place until Saturday, Sept. 26, registration for the conference is now open. Marshall High School will partner with the **University of Virginia's International Relations Organization (IRO)** and the **United Nations Information Centre** in Washington, D.C., to present the one-day training conference for students interested in MUN, an extracurricular activity at many Washington metropolitan area high schools and middle schools.

The focus of the **2009 My First MUN Training Conference** will be on sea piracy, which has been the subject of three UN resolutions and recent efforts by the navies of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), the European Union nations, and Russia to protect shipping from pirates operat-

ing in the waters off the Horn of Africa. Conference registration information and a background guide on the sea piracy issue, authored by Marshall senior **Hannah Goldberger** and sophomores **Ashton Garriott** and **Philip Grudier**, will be posted later this month on the Marshall High School Web site for students to review before the conference. Those interested can visit [www.fcps.edu/marshallhs/activities/clubs/mun](http://www.fcps.edu/marshallhs/activities/clubs/mun).

For further information, e-mail Marshall High School MUN Club faculty sponsor **Tom Brannan** at [joseph.brannan@fcps.edu](mailto:joseph.brannan@fcps.edu).

### Stuart H.S. PTSA Seeks Parent Volunteers

The **J.E.B. Stuart High School Parent-Teach & Student Association (PTSA)** Hospitality Committee is looking for parent volunteers for its **Back-to-School Breakfast** for Stuart staff members. The breakfast will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 1 at the school (3301 Peace Valley Ln., Falls Church). Set-up will begin at 6 a.m., with serving starting at 7:15 a.m.

Item(s) the school is seeking donations of are: egg casseroles (nine needed, preferably in 9x13 disposable pans), baked goods, such as muffins, coffee cakes and quick breads (seven needed); fruit salads (eight to nine needed); bagels (four dozen needed); cream cheese (enough for four dozen bagels); donuts (three dozen needed); whole fruits (bananas and grapes, two bunches each); and juice (two gallons orange, two half-gallons of V-8 Splash or Tropicana Twister).

Volunteers are especially urged to return to help clean up at 10:30 a.m. for an hour or two. Food donations need to be at Stuart, in the Little Theatre, by 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 1. Donors are asked to use disposable containers if possible. Those interested in making a donation should e-mail **Debbie Rosse** at [dhrosseathome@yahoo.com](mailto:dhrosseathome@yahoo.com). Those who are unable to have their food donations at Stuart by 6:30 a.m. should let the committee know so that other arrangements can be made. For more information, e-mail Rosse or call 703-532-6475.

**Correction:** There was a mistake in last week's edition of *Summertime News* within the caption of a boy scouts photograph. The caption should have read: "Pictured are (from left to right) Daniel Drawbaugh, Peter Ballou, Gabe Boning, Karl Johnson, Fareez Chowdhury, Noam Terman, Will Doty, Matthew Baker, Brent Boning, Wade Ballou (in back), Kurt Johnson, with Kevin Drawbaugh taking the photograph."

## News-Press ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Northern Virginia Art Beat

### Southern Glimpses

**William Eggleston, Democratic Camera; Photographs and Video 1961 – 2008**, at the Corcoran Gallery of Art (500 17 St. NW, Washington, D.C.). The exhibit runs through Sept. 20 and the museum is open Wednesday – Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., with extended hours on Thursday until 9 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for students and seniors, with 6 and under admitted free of charge. Note: The free Summer

Saturday admission program ends this Saturday, Aug. 29. For further details, call 202-639-1700 or visit [www.corcoran.org](http://www.corcoran.org).

The Corcoran has concentrated on photography shows of late. The current exhibition features over 150 photos by William Eggleston, one of the earliest color art photographers. Picking up on the idea from his friend William Christenberry (now in D.C.) and his color reference photos for paintings, the two men have spent their lives making art about the American South. Christenberry does everything

from photography to painting, drawing and sculpture. Eggleston, while trained early on in the ways of fine art, tends to show only his photography. There are similarities in subject matter and shooting style, but it's Eggleston's photos that seem to capture, and more importantly, enhance the psychology and mystery of the place and situation at hand.

Eggleston seems to have taken a page from Warhol in his insistence that he has no favorite photographs, that each part of each photograph is equal, that it's all about nothing at all. This bit of artistic egalitarianism leads to his tag "Democratic Camera." Of course, at the end of the day, this notion of visual equality is pure nonsense.

Granted they do look like they're about nothing, but then so did Warhol's work. As if painting a soup can was less valid than painting a bowl of fruit was 500 years ago. Both artists reflected the world around them, leaving the social commentary to run river-like, silently just below the calm, still surface.

Eggleston works a nifty trick

in his work. While his carefully crafted images ape the amateur snapshot, there is a tension about them; not infrequently, a menacing one which plays out in the vast spaces within the images. It's there that we become aware that you are on your own. Anything that happens you will have to deal with directly. It's almost a Hopper-esque sense of alienation.

In concert with that, Eggleston mercilessly toys with our natural propensity to craft scenarios out of scant information. In this way, Eggleston's work has the quality of historical fiction. It's real to a point, and after that it's all fantasy.

Two of the most dramatic images deal with children in suburbia. Eggleston's iconic image of a tricycle in front of two ranch houses. Perfectly identifies the overwhelming suburban focus on children, especially young children. Eggleston's tricycle dwarfs the two houses as if it was ridden by a 50-foot-tall four year old. Taken literally, it has no real meaning beyond the physicality of the tricycle and the houses. Taken as a metaphor, it speaks volumes.

Another image shows a small child laying crumpled in a carport beside a basketball hoop. Eggleston is not Weegee, we know the child is O.K.; still our imaginations run wild. Has the child been struck down by an intruder? And we go down the list of what could have happened, playing out the ultimate suburban horror, a child harmed. In reality, it's probably a child taking a breather after falling, or from exhaustion. Normal can look horrific in Eggleston's hands.

Other images are far less ominous. Eggleston's photo of a stern-looking woman with folded legs and paperwork on her knee seems the stereotypical secretary of the late 60s. Sitting on a high curb next to a chain-wrapped steel pole, it seems ordinary and pointless. Then, careful observation reveals a gold bracelet wrapped around her ankle. Suddenly, the connection and meaning flow forth. Eggleston has hidden artistic commentary by showing us as we are, and using a vernacular snapshot shooting style in a highly-developed and educated way.

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## News-Press CALENDAR

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

**F.C. Rotary Club Meeting.** Horace McCormack, the Governor of the Northern Virginia Rotary District, will speak at the Falls Church Rotary Club dinner meeting about the Rotary's goals. Harvest Moon Restaurant (7260 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church). \$11. 6:30 p.m. 202-268-5089.

**Coloring and Cocktails.** McLean Project for the Arts invites all to bring old art supplies to embellish the walls at the gallery while enjoying cocktails as well. The McLean Project for the Arts (1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean). \$5 if you bring supplies, \$10 otherwise. 7 p.m. RSVP to info@mpaart.org.

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

**Little Adventure Series.** Children and their parents are invited to explore the world of nature through a series of programs that incorporates games, crafts, hiking through the forest and more. Ford Nature Center (5750 Sanger Ave., Alexandria). \$4 per pair. 10:30 a.m. 703-838-4829.

#### Falls Church H.S. Band Reunion.

The Falls Church High School Band Reunion Committee is welcoming all Falls Church Band alumni to a three-day reunion. Orkney Springs Hotel (221 Shrine Mont Cir., Orkney Springs, Va.). \$15 – 150. 2 p.m. 540-678-9027.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

**Free Kidney Health Screening.** The American Kidney Fund is providing kidney screenings through the Minority Intervention and Kidney Education program. The screening checks kidney function, cholesterol levels and more. Greater Mount Calvary Holy Church (605 Rhode Island Ave. NE, Washington, D.C.). Free. 9 a.m. 301-984-6656.

**Lawn Care Workshop.** The Virginia Cooperative Extension's Master Gardeners will be teaching locals science-based strategies for keeping lawns green and the waters clean. Arlington Central Library (1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington). Free. 9:30 a.m. 703-228-6414.

**Wags 'N' Whiskers.** This family event for all animal lovers features pet

portraits, face painting, balloon art, a dog show and more. Village at Shirlington (4000 Campbell Ave., Arlington). Free. 11 a.m. villageatshirlington.com.

**War of 1912 Reenactment.** The Carlyle House will commemorate the 195th anniversary of when Alexandria was occupied under the British force during the war of 1912 with a reenactment of the event and historians. The Carlyle House (121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria). \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, free for children 10 & under. Noon. 703-549-2997.

**Exercises to Manage Health Issues.** U.S. Wushu Academy invites all to come learn unique exercises to help manage high blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol. U.S. Wushu Academy in Loehmann's Plaza (7251 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church). Free. 2 p.m. 703-698-8182.

**Self-Publishing Seminar.** Join local residents for an educational and informational seminar on self-publishing. Refreshments will be served. Arlington Central Library (1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington). Free. 2 p.m. 703-228-5990.

### MONDAY, AUGUST 31

**Green Film Series and Discussion.** Join locals for a screening of "Women's Garden Cycles: Faces from the New Farm," which highlights three women's travels documenting the organic movement along the way. Shirlington Library (4200 S. Campbell Ave., Arlington). Free. 7 p.m. 703-228-6406.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

**Rotary Club of McLean Meeting.** The Club will be meeting to discuss ongoing projects and events. Lutheran Church of the Redeemer (1545 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean). Free. Noon. 703-356-3346.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

**Health Care Discussion.** Congressman Connolly will address the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association on health care and other legislation affecting employees. Mason District Government Center (6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale). Free. 10 a.m. 703-323-7847.

# Theater & Fine Arts



### THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

**Herb & Hanson.** As a part of the Strathmore Arist-in-Residence program, the duo performs its unique take on rags, blues, bluegrass, ballads, folk and rock. The Millennium Stage at John F. Kennedy Center (2700 F St. NW, Washington, D.C.). Free. 6 p.m. 202-467-4600.

**'False Romance: An Intergalactic Farce.'** Written by Joe Baker, this play is an adapted and lengthened version of his 10-minute play, "When Jason Met Maggala," a story of young love, featuring Evan Crump, Ella Markey, John Keena and Elizabeth Jernigan. The Keegan Theatre (1742 Church St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$15. 8 p.m. 703-892-0202.

**'The Taming of the Shrew.'** The Shakespearean romantic comedy, directed by David Muse,

tells the tale of the courtship of sharp-tongued Katherine by the arrogant Petruchio. Sidney Harman Hall (610 F St. NW, Washington, D.C.). Free. 8 p.m. 202-547-1122.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

**'Shear Madness.'** The comedy whodunit set in present-day Georgetown engages locals and visitors alike as armchair detectives to help solve a murder. John F. Kennedy Center (2700 F St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$39 – 150. 7:30 p.m. 202-467-4600.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

**Annual Summer Chamber Music Series.** The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic will be performing pieces by Dunhill, Saint-Saëns

and Schubert as a part of the Philharmonic Association's 19th Annual Summer Chamber Music Series. The Lyceum (201 S. Washington St., Alexandria). Free. 3 p.m. 703-799-8229.

### MONDAY, AUGUST 31

**Paint Made Flesh.** The exhibit includes paintings created since the 1950s that reveal how artists continued to use traditional materials in exploring the human figure. The Phillips Collection (1600 21st St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$10-12. 10 a.m. 202-387-2151.

**'Eclipsed.'** Featuring Company members Jessica Dukes, Dawn Ursula, Uzo Aduba and Liz Wilson. Eclipsed tells the story of the captive wives of a Liberian rebel officer during a civil war. \$33 – 43. 8 p.m. 202-393-3939.

## News-Press CALENDAR

# live\_music&nightlife

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

**COLLECTIVE SOUL.** With Black Stone Cherry and Safety Suit. 9:30 Club (815 V St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$25. 7 p.m. 202-265-0930.

**PHIL VASSAR.** The Birchmere (3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria). \$59.50. 7:30 p.m. 703-549-7500.

**THURSDAY NIGHT GLOW.** With Escape the Armada, The Potentials, III Angelic and According to Plan. Jammin' Java (227 Maple Ave., Vienna). \$10. 8 p.m. 703-255-1566.

**TRUE WOMANHOOD.** With Savoir Adore and Deleted Scenes. Black Cat (1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$10. 9 p.m. 202-667-4490.

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

**PAUL AND STORM.** Jammin' Java (227 Maple Ave., Vienna). \$15. 7 p.m. 703-255-1566.

**THE SOFT PARADE.** The State Theatre (220 N. Washington St., Falls Church). \$14. 7 p.m. 703-237-0300.

**TONY DOGETT.** Bangkok Blues (926 W. Broad St., Falls Church). \$3.50. 7 p.m. 703-534-0095.

**Dick & Jimmy Dale.** The Birchmere (3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria). \$25. 7:30 p.m. 703-549-7500.

**THE HOLD STEADY.** 9:30 Club (815 V St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$25. 8 p.m. 202-265-0930.

**ANNIE SIDLEY.** Bangkok Blues (926 W. Broad St., Falls Church). \$3.50. 10 p.m. 703-534-0095.

**FUTURE.** Jammin' Java (227 Maple Ave., Vienna). \$10. 10 p.m. 703-255-1566.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

**BIG TOW.** Bangkok Blues (926 W. Broad St., Falls Church). \$3.50. 7 p.m. 703-534-0095.

**KIM WATERS.** The Birchmere (3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria). \$27.50. 7:30 p.m. 703-549-7500.

**DJ WILLIAMS PROJEKT.** With The Justin Trawick Group and Molly Hagen. Iota Club and Café (2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington). \$12. 8:30 p.m. 703-522-8340.

**A SPECIAL AFFAIR.** Jammin' Java (227 Maple Ave., Vienna). \$12. 9 p.m. 703-255-1566.

**THESE UNITED STATES.** With Hoot and Hellmouth. Black Cat (1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$12. 9 p.m. 202-667-4490.

**DEUCE DO-GOOD.** With The Distractors. Bangkok Blues (926 W. Broad

St., Falls Church). \$3.50. 10 p.m. 703-534-0095.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

**THE RESCUES.** With AM. Iota Club and Café (2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington). \$15. 8:30 p.m. 703-522-8340.

**THE SCARE.** With Cold & Come of Age and Black Shade. Black Cat (1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$8. 9 p.m. 202-667-4490.

### MONDAY, AUGUST 31

**TECHNIQUELLE.** With Willie Moon and Amanda Lee. Iota Club and Café (2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington). \$10. 8:30 p.m. 703-522-8340.

**EAR PWR.** With Toro y Moi. Black Cat (1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$8. 9 p.m. 202-667-4490.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

**Badfish.** With Scotty Don't, Ballyhoo! and Shoreline. 9:30 Club (815 V St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$15. 6:30 p.m. 202-265-0930.

**Living Colour.** The Birchmere (3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria). \$35. 7:30 p.m. 703-549-7500.

**Edward Sharpe & the Magnetic Zeros.** Jammin' Java (227 Maple Ave., Vi-

enna). \$10. 8 p.m. 703-255-1566.

**Big Sandy and His Fly Rite Boys.** With Eilen Jewell. Iota Club and Café (2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington). \$16. 8:30 p.m. 703-522-8340.

**Celebration.** With Zomes. Black Cat (1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$8. 9 p.m. 202-667-4490.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

**40 DOLLAR FINE.** Bangkok Blues (926 W. Broad St., Falls Church). \$5. 7 p.m. 703-534-0095.

**APOPTYGMA BEZERK.** With Into the Presence and The Surrender. 9:30 Club (815 V St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$20. 7 p.m. 202-265-0930.

**PETE FRAMPTON.** The Birchmere (3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria). \$75. 7:30 p.m. 703-549-7500.

**DAVID DONDERO.** With Luke Mitchem. Jammin' Java (227 Maple Ave., Vienna). \$10. 8 p.m. 703-255-1566.

**Pygmy Lush.** With Little Gold and Des Ark. Black Cat (1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$8. 9 p.m. 202-667-4490.

**GEORGE KAROS.** With Kuschtty Rye Ergot. DC9 NightClub (1940 9th St. NW, Washington, D.C.). \$6. 9:30 p.m. 202-483-5000.

## JODY'S JAM OF THE WEEK

It's not like we haven't given enough press to the City of Falls Church's Farmer's Market over the years, and justifiably so—it's a wonderful event—but there's always room for more publicity. This Saturday, the market is kicking it up a notch by introducing the **Farmer's Market Chef Program**. The program, to be a new monthly occurrence, will feature chefs from local restaurants demonstrating their cooking, using local ingredients, along with tastings of their dishes. This Saturday, Argia's Amiee Suyehiro will be the featured chef, while future months will see Leland Atkinson from Simplicity Catering (September 19) and Tracey O'Grady from Willow Restaurant (October 3). If you can't make it out to the market to catch the demos, they will be available for online viewing at [www.Facebook.com/FallsChurchFarmersMarketChef](http://www.Facebook.com/FallsChurchFarmersMarketChef).

**What:** Farmer's Market Chef Program

**When:** Saturday, August 29, 8 a.m. - Noon

**Where:** Falls Church Farmer's Market, City Hall, 300 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046

For more information, email [FallsChurchFarmersMarketChef@gmail.com](mailto:FallsChurchFarmersMarketChef@gmail.com)

### PLANNING AHEAD...

**Saturday, Sept. 12 – 34th Annual Fall Festival & Taste of Falls Church.** The Falls Church Recreation & Parks Division presents the annual festival. There will be live entertainment, amusement rides and more. The Festival will also highlight the area's top restaurants. Cherry Hill Park (312 Park Ave., Falls Church). Free. 10 a.m. 703-248-5178.

**Sunday, Sept. 13 – 4th Annual 'Run for the Schools'.** Participate in the 5K race & 1 mile Family Fun Run/Walk to benefit the Falls Church Education Foundation. Following the race will be an awards ceremony at Cherry Hill Park. (Park Avenue and intersection of Little Falls St., Falls Church). \$25 per individual, \$20 per team member (6 or more), \$50 per family (up to 5). 8 a.m. Register online at [www.fcfd.org](http://www.fcfd.org).

### CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

*Be sure to include time, location, cost of admission, contact person and any other pertinent information. Event listings will be edited for content and space limitations. Please include any photos or artwork with submissions. Deadline is Monday at noon for the current week's edition.*

**Email:** [calendar@fcnp.com](mailto:calendar@fcnp.com)

**Fax:** 703-342-0347; Attn: FCNP Calendar

**Mail:** 450 West Broad Street, #321, Falls Church, VA 22046

## News-Press REGIONAL



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## LaRouche Sued for Libel, Harrassment

BY NICHOLAS F. BENTON  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

The wife of a long-time associate of Lyndon LaRouche who committed suicide in April 2007 last week filed a major lawsuit in the Eastern District of Virginia federal court. It charges LaRouche with libel and "maliciously, and with conscious disregard of her rights" following her husband's suicide, and with publishing "knowingly false statements" about her, constituting unlawful "harassment of a federal witness."

Marielle "Molly" Kronberg, a former LaRouche loyalist who lives in Leesburg and works in Vienna, is being represented by attorney John Markham, the former Assistant U.S. Attorney who prosecuted LaRouche in 1988, which led to a conviction and sentence to what turned out to be five years of prison time for LaRouche.

This Tuesday, the LaRouche organization responded to news of the lawsuit with a statement posted on the Internet calling Molly Kronberg a "stooge" and part of an elaborate international effort to frame LaRouche, and it called the lawsuit a "publicity stunt."

LaRouche and his organization have generated marginal media attention in recent weeks for their participation in the disruption of town meetings on health care by displaying posters and fliers with the image of President Obama defaced to appear like Hitler.

Mollie Kronberg's husband of 34 years, Kenneth Kronberg, fell to his death from a highway over-

pass in Leesburg in April 2007 in what police investigated and ruled as a suicide.

At that time, the *Falls Church News-Press* was the first news organization to identify the suicide victim's long-time association with LaRouche, which led to a flurry of media attention.

The *News-Press* report included reference to an incendiary internal document circulated just the day before the suicide within the tight-knit LaRouche organization. It intimated on behalf of LaRouche that suicide might be considered as an alternative for members, including members of the organization's printing arm, the financially-strapped PMR led by Ken Kronberg, who failed to perform to LaRouche's standards.

But in August 2007, according to Mollie Kronberg's complaint filed in court last week, LaRouche suggested in another internal memo to his organization that "Bush-League Molly" was responsible for the suicide, instead.

In August 2008, according to the court papers, LaRouche caused to be published and placed on the Internet the claim that Ken Kronberg "had committed suicide because his wife was on the other side, and he (Ken) thought the situation was hopeless."

The "other side" was a reference to the fact that Mollie Kronberg had been subpoenaed as a witness in the 1988 trial of LaRouche and was compelled to testify under oath. That fact is related to the charge in last week's filing that LaRouche has engaged in the illegal activity of "harassing a federal witness."

Then, this April of 2009, an internal LaRouche document circulated on the Internet and to all LaRouche followers again alleged that Mollie Kronberg drove her husband to suicide.

It stated, among other things, "He (Ken Kronberg) kills himself because he was living with that witch, who's been evil all along. Her behavior had never been good. She's never been honest. And then, he commits suicide, and these bums try to blame me for it. He was driven – there was no reason for the suicide, there was no excuse for it. But there's an understanding of the oppression that he felt by being married to that bitch."

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## News-Press ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

**This Week's Hot Tickets**

**Aug Thursday 27**

**The Potentials**

Jammin' Java

8 p.m.

227 Maple Ave., Vienna

703-255-1566 • jamminjava.com

**The Justin Trawick Group**

Iota Club &amp; Café

8:30 p.m.

2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington

703-522-8340 • iotaclubandcafe.com

**Friday 28****The Soft Parade**

State Theatre

9 p.m.

220 N. Washington St., Falls Church

703-237-0300 • thestatetheatre.com

**Saturday 29****Hotspur**

Jammin' Java

6 p.m.

227 Maple Ave., Vienna

703-255-1566 • jamminjava.com

# HOTSPUR PASS with HOTSPUR

BY MIKE HUME  
FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS

Patience is a virtue. Call it a cliché, but that doesn't make the expression any less true, just as Maryland power-pop band Hotspur discovered.

Much like their name alludes, Hotspur leapt out of the gates after its members — vocalist Joe Mach, bassist Coop Cooper, keyboardist Dave Trichter and drummer Scott Robinson — graduated from the University of Maryland. In 2006, the group scored a show at the prestigious South By Southwest (SXSW) music festival in Austin, Texas. Amid the hundreds of bands that descend on the college town for the exhibition Hotspur managed to distinguish itself from the field and was dubbed "Top Unsigned Band" by *Alternative Press*.

"It was a little intimidating because there were so many bands," Mach says, as he recalls their SXSW show. "As far as bands go, it's intimidating, but there's also a sense of one-upmanship. You get that competitive streak going in you. We know there's 10,000 other bands playing today, but we gotta make our mark. That sort of fueled our performance."

That, and perhaps a little pain.

"I remember accidentally stomping on Dave's ankle on stage," Mach recalls. "I was sure I broke something and he just gave me this look that was like, f---k it, now we have to just have fun. It kinda broke the ice for us. He just had to limp around for the next few weeks. Actually, he's still injured to this day."

Unsurprisingly, Hotspur found itself court-

ed by record labels after the show, but as they continued their full-throttle quest to take over America, touring extensively all over the map as they could, their momentum waned and the record deal never materialized. They released their debut LP, *Beta*, independently and decided to slow things down and get back to basics.

"Three of us were business majors at Maryland. I think that was an advantage or disadvantage," Mach says. "We thought after we graduated, we knew what we were doing and we assumed we knew how to shoot to the top and get a record deal, when in fact there's one in a million bands that does that. You just have to tour, build a fan base and write songs. It's a long process. Now, three or four years down the road, we realize you have to do it the right way and build up slowly."

The band honed in on certain locales for live shows, and particularly rededicated itself to its young fans, interacting with them frequently by using social media, like MySpace and Facebook. The work paid off, harnessing their fans' votes to win a popularity contest and earn a spot on the 2007 Warped Tour for five dates. The momentum began building anew.

In late June of this year, Hotspur released its second full-length album, *You Should Know Better By Now*. As the self-referential title indicates, the group is still learning on the job, but behind its steady tour schedule and a fabulous new video for lead single "Chandelier," filmed by an American University student, and amping up its Panic! At The Disco-like sound with a new guitarist, the band is steadily gaining ground and adding to a fervently loyal fan base.

"[The passionate base] comes from the fact it took us a few years to find our bearings. We had to figure out our sound and who we are as a band. Some bands might hit success right away and take their fans a little bit for granted, whereas it took us a while to get that base and we did our best to stay in touch with them," Mach says from the back of the band's van bound for Atlanta, patiently fielding each and every question thrown his way. "It's no problem," he says of inquiries. "We've got all the time in the world."

Quick learners.

• Hotspur performs at Jammin' Java on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door. For more on Hotspur, visit [www.myspace.com/hotspur](http://www.myspace.com/hotspur).



HOTSPUR (PHOTO: COURTESY DIANA STAGNATO)

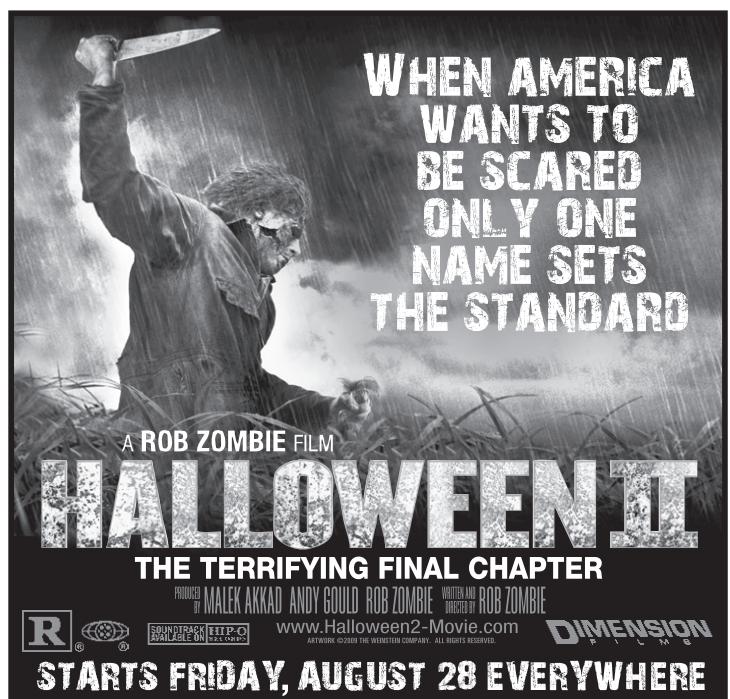
## FCNP CHOICE CUTS



*This week, News-Press staffers took a liking to these songs:*

- Nicholas Benton— *Candle in the Wind* by Elton John
- Jody Fellows— *In My City* by Killer Mike ft. T.I.
- Natalie Bedell— *The Nicest Thing* by Kate Nash
- Dean Edwards— *Feel The Love* by Cut Copy

## News-Press ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



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### Roger Ebert's Movie Review

## 'Taking Woodstock'

BY ROGER EBERT  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Luckily I saw "Woodstock" again in April, so it was fresh in my mind while watching "Taking Woodstock," Ang Lee's entertaining new film about the kid who made it all possible — in Woodstock, anyway. This was Elliot Teichberg, a young interior designer who leaves a New York City career to return home to upstate New York and help his parents bail out their failing and shabby motel.

He's already held outdoor "music festivals" at the motel, which have involved people sitting on the grass and listening to him play records. Now he learns a nearby town has refused a permit to the organizers of a proposed August 1969 rock concert. As the head of the tiny Bethel Chamber of Commerce, near Woodstock, he calls them

★★★

Elliot Teichberg .. Demetri Martin  
Devon ..... Dan Fogler  
Jake Teichberg Henry Goodman  
Michael Lang .... Jonathan Groff  
Max Yasgur ..... Eugene Levy  
Dan ..... Jeffrey Dean Morgan  
Sonia Teichberg Imelda Staunton  
VW Guy ..... Paul Dano  
VW Girl ..... Kelli Garner  
Tisha ..... Mamie Gummer  
Billy ..... Emile Hirsch  
Vilma ..... Liev Schreiber

Focus Features presents a film

directed by Ang Lee. Written by James Schamus, based on the book "Taking Woodstock: A True Story of a Riot, a Concert, and a Life" by Elliot Tiber with Tom Monte. Produced by Ang Lee, James Schamus and Celia Costas. Photographed by Eric Gautier. Edited by Tim Squyres. Music by Dan Elfman.

Running time: 120 minutes.

Classified: R (for graphic nudity, some sexual content, drug use and language).

and offers a permit. And history is made. What if Woodstock had been named after the town that turned it down, Wallkill?

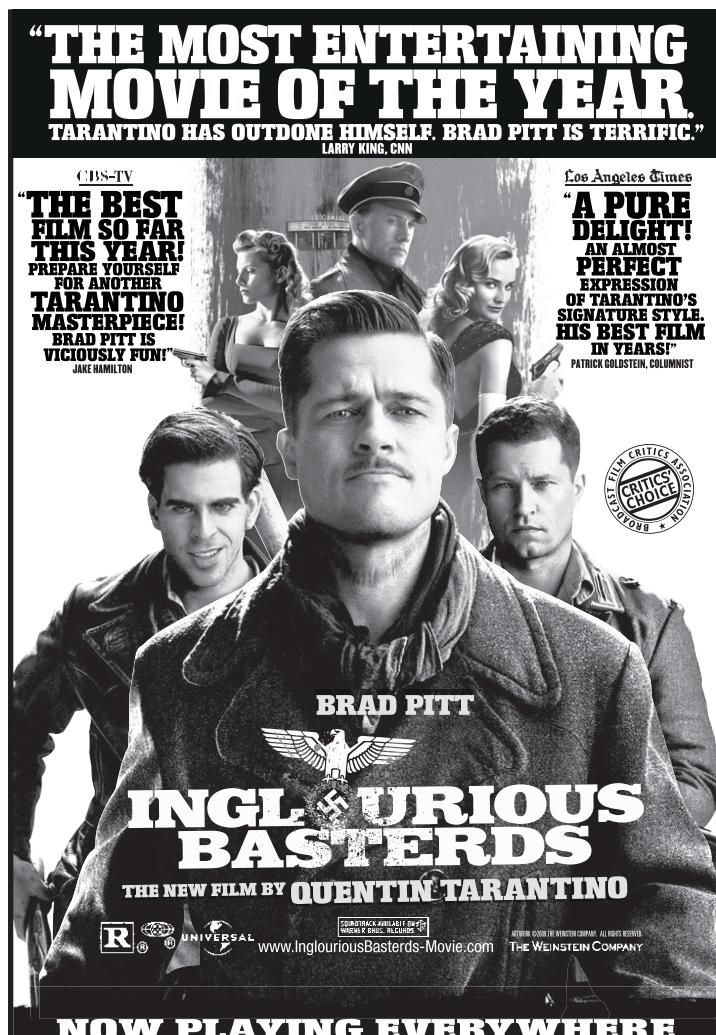
Lee's movie is so deliberately backstage that we never see any of the performances, although we hear them sometimes in the background. All is seen through the eyes of Elliot, who ignores

local fears of a hippie riot and persuades local dairy farmer Max Yasgur (Eugene Levy) to make his acres available as the venue. Max and other people in the film, such as the Port-O-San man and a local couple with one son at Woodstock and another in Vietnam, are familiar from the Woodstock film.

But Lee and his writer, James Schamus, aren't making a historical pastiche. This is a comedy with some sweet interludes and others that are cheerfully over the top, such as a nude theatrical troupe living in Elliot's barn and Vilma, his volunteer head of motel security, a transvestite ex-Marine played by Liev Schreiber. How does Schreiber, looking just as he usually does except for a blond wig and a dress, play a transvestite? Completely straight. It works.

The backstage cast of characters includes concert organizer Michael Lang (Jonathan Groff) and Elliot's buddy Billy (Emile Hirsch), a returned and strung-out Vietnam veteran. Also loud and omnipresent are Elliot's mother, Sonia (Imelda Staunton), and her long-suffering husband, Jake (Henry Goodman). Sonia, a Russian immigrant paralyzed by fears of poverty, has run the motel into the ground with lack of maintenance and such policies as charging \$1 for a towel. Descended upon by a busload of organizers, she converts rooms into "triples" by hanging sheets from the ceiling. Her shrill greed cuts through all the peace and love until, finally, even she warms up.

Instead of showing much more than glimpses and edges of





LIEV SCHREIBER STARS as Vilma in Focus Features' "Taking Woodstock." (PHOTO: © 2009 FOCUS FEATURES)

the concert, Lee shows the local impact as "Woodstock Nation" swamps little Bethel. He also shows the good will of most of the locals and police, who join in the spirit. There's a remarkable shot, which must have been hard to stage, of Elliot getting a ride on a police motorcycle past a backup of hundreds of cars, vans and pedestrians; this reminded me of the famous traffic jam in Godard's "Weekend."

I was reminded, too, of another film, Phil Kaufman's "The Unbearable Lightness of Being." That film made remarkable use of pre-CGI special effects to seamlessly insert its characters into actual footage of the Prague demonstrations against the Russian occupation.

What Lee does, apparently, is use footage from Michael Wadleigh's "Woodstock" (1970) and insert Elliot and others into it. I say "apparently," because

the end titles don't mention the Warner Bros. picture. Who knows? It looks remarkably convincing. Perhaps they found some of the miles of additional footage shot by Wadleigh and his big crew. The poignancy of Wadleigh's closing shots of the cleanup effort are mirrored here as Elliot joins in.

Not many events of 40 years ago would inspire a feature comedy. Seeing the 1970 film on a big screen in 70mm in April at Ebertfest, with an audience including many who had never seen it before, was an affirmation of how timeless those "three days of peace and music" have become. "Taking Woodstock" has the freshness of something being created, not remembered.

I saw a photo the other day of the young couple shown on the original album jacket. Still married, still with their arms around each other.

## News-Press ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Now Showing WOMEN & WOMAN

## Mini Movie Reviews

### OPENING IN THEATERS

**P**LAY THE GAME (Comedy, PG-13, 105 minutes). Andy Griffith stars as an 84-year-old widower, whose grandson (Paul Campbell) decides it's time for him to

start dating again. A wicked neighbor in the retirement home (Liz Sheridan, who played Seinfeld's mother) turns him on to (and with) Viagra, but it's Rose (Doris Roberts) he has his eye on. Call me old-fashioned, but I

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could have lived without the close-up of Andy enjoying oral sex with Seinfeld's mom. Rating: Two stars.

**R**ADICAL DISCIPLE: THE STORY OF FATHER PFLEGER (Documentary, not rated, 58 minutes). Documentary about the controversial Chicago priest who is an outspoken social activist and reformer. Often in hot water with his superiors, he is arguably the most beloved white person among the city's African-Americans. He has transformed his St. Sabina's parish on the South Side, while after 28 years he has long outstayed the archdiocese's term limit of 12 years. Provides an interesting portrait of his life and career. Rating: Three stars.

**Y**OUSOU N'DOUR: I BRING WHAT I LOVE (Documentary, PG, 102 minutes). Documentary about the Grammy-winning superstar of world music from Senegal in West Africa, famous in Africa and Europe, now winning a North American following. He seems to be a nice man, with his heart in the right place. In theological trouble after releasing an album during Ramadan, he suffers a setback, but the Grammy makes him a hero at home again. A lot of good concert footage. Rating: Three stars.

### NEW ON VIDEO & DVD

**S**TATE OF PLAY (Thriller, PG-13, 127 m., 2009). Russell Crowe is a seasoned newspaper reporter and Rachel McAdams is the paper's plucky young blogger; together, they uncover an unholy political and corporate alliance. Smart, well-made, good work by Crowe, McAdams, Robin Wright Penn and Helen Mirren as the editor. Mysteries are resolved a little too quickly at the end. Directed by Kevin Macdonald ("The Last King of Scotland"). Rating: Three stars.

**S**UGAR (Sports drama, R, 118 m., 2009). Intensely human story of a young baseball player from the Dominican Republic who is recruited to an Iowa farm team and finds himself alone and very, very far from home. Not a sports movie but a tender character-driven drama, as his poor family nourishes his dreams. Even a farm league salary is wealth to them all. Written and directed by Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck ("Half Nelson"), starring Algenis Perez Soto in a persuasive, natural performance. Rating: Three and a half stars.

*Continued on Page 28*

## News-Press ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### Mini Reviews

*Continued from Page 27*

**S**UNSHINE CLEANING (Comedy, R, 102 m., 2009). Amy Adams and Emily Blunt star as sisters, desperate for income,

who start a business mopping up after messy murder scenes. Steve Zahn is a faithless lover, Clifton Collins Jr. is a warmhearted hardware store owner, and Alan Arkin is the girls' dad, hatching get-poor-quick schemes. A lot of promising material, never quite assembled into a film that holds together. *Rating: Two stars.*

**D**UPPLICITY (Spy thriller, PG-13, 125 m., 2009). Julia Roberts and Clive Owen star as CIA and MI6 spies who go private, working for enemy soap companies. Their secret is, they're in love. Or do they each only think they're in love? Or that the other is? Romance and intrigue in a plot so complex they could end up double-crossing themselves. Written

and directed by Tony Gilroy ("Michael Clayton"). *Rating: Three stars.*

**F**IGHTING (Action drama, PG-13, 105 m., 2009). What's advertised as a genre picture about New York professional street fighters turns out to be a lot more: The characters and actors bring uncommon interest

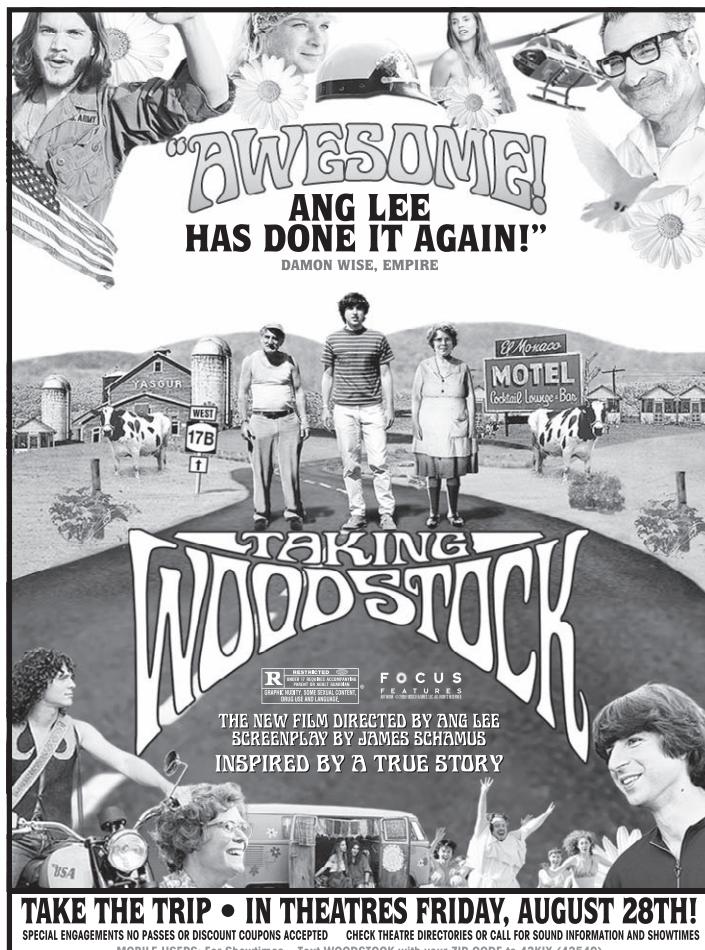
to the story. Terrence Howard plays a mild-mannered boxing promoter who sidesteps all the cliches of such roles; Channing Tatum is a small-town Alabama kid in the big city, Zulay Henao is a sweetheart as a waitress in a rough club, and Altagracia Guzman steals her scene as the waitress's protective older relative. *Rating: Three stars.*

**A**DVENTURELAND (Comedy, R, 107 m., 2009). Stuck with summer jobs in a crappy amusement park, James and Em (Jesse Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart) are two lost souls who begin to feel romance, although James is a novice in the field. Not a sitcom but an affectionate comedy about love in a time of desperation. Written and directed by Greg Mottola ("Superbad"), who says he had a job like this, and I believe him. *Rating: Three stars.*

**T**HE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT (Horror, R, 100 m., 2009). An expert horror film with an appalling rape scene. With Sara Paxton, Monica Potter, Tony Goldwyn, Garret Dillahunt. *Rating: Two and a half stars.*

**1**7 AGAIN (Comedy, PG-13, 98 m., 2009). An unhappy man in his late 30s is transported back to his body at 17 and gets a chance to fix things with his alienated family. Zac Efron is a charmer as the teenager, and there is a completely unanticipated fanboy-fangirl romance that is comic genius. Pleasant, harmless. *Rating: Three stars.*

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TEMPE, ARIZONA – Identity theft has topped the Federal Trade Commission's list of consumer complaints for the past eight years. Now, a stunning new survey shows a record 9.9 million Americans were victims of identity theft last year – a shocking 22% increase over the prior year – according to Javelin Strategy & Research. This study sends a clear message: in the wake of the global economic crisis, identity theft is a big business. It's up to consumers to take proactive steps to protect themselves. That's why for a limited time, LifeLock, the industry leader in identity theft protection, is offering 30 days of guaranteed identity theft protection service at no cost. "All you have to do is call 1-877-564-5117 for an individual membership, or 1-877-747-4668 if you are enrolling more than one member," said Todd Davis, the CEO of LifeLock known for giving out his real Social Security number in advertising to show his confidence in the service. "It's that simple." Immediately upon enrollment, all LifeLock members are protected by LifeLock's \$1 Million Total Service Guarantee.

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## News-Press FOOD & DINING

### Falls Church Area

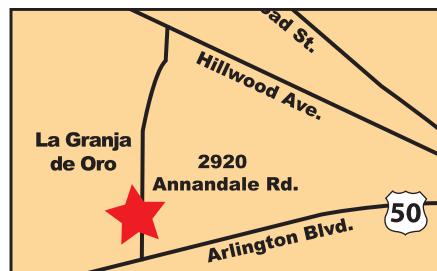
# Dining Guide



## Restaurant Spotlight

### La Granja de Oro

2920 Annandale Rd., Falls Church  
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It's a diet I imagine could aid one in crossing the Andes, rejuvenating a body worn out by the low oxygen levels. The hearty Peruvian cuisine of La Granja de Oro brings that thought to mind, along with some powerfully tangy treats for the taste buds.

La Granja's dining space is large and open, accommodating plenty of guests for robust live music on Saturday evenings. On this particular Monday, the atmosphere was more subdued; there was a smattering of guests for a quiet dinner.

The menu requires some perusal – it proved nearly impossible to locate a vegetarian dish, that is, one more substantial than a house salad or La Granja's salad bar. The salad bar seemed typical of an American style restaurant: you have a selection of cold pasta, beans, broccoli, some melon, and then some dressings.

Dinner began with a serving of warm dinner rolls served with butter and a vessel of delicious, hot green chili sauce. The sauce is addicting; all told, the sauce found itself on much of the evening's meal as a perfect complement to the overwhelmingly starchy and meaty flavors of the entrees.

The Camarones al Ajillo (\$14.95 lunch, \$15.95 dinner) combined some sautéed, succulent shrimp with a zesty garlic butter sauce, and some broiled potatoes and rice on the side. The dish balanced the filling potatoes and rice and the portion of plump shrimp. Again, the green chili lent a sizable boost to the dish's flavors.

For meatarians, the options abound, particularly the pollo a la brasa, a rotisserie charcoal broiled chicken – ample portions of juicy, crispy chicken meat, with a side of the salad bar and French fries or yuca. The portions come in quarter (\$5.95), half (\$7.95) or a full chicken (\$14.95). At dinnertime, tack on another dollar price-wise, but the servings are just as ample.

The presence of some form of potato – be it in fried or broiled form, cubed or sliced thin – is inescapable, unless some fried yuca accompanied the main dish. Yuca is another starchy tubular, albeit a slightly sweeter, crunchier cousin to the potato.

Diners can pair their entrees with one of La Granja's libations, including Peruvian regulars such as Inca Cola, the Peruvian alternative to Coca-Cola (though, in a twist of irony, the American soda giant purchased Inca Cola). La Granja also offers an extensive array of juices; Chicha morada is a traditional juice, a pleasant citrus beverage made of purple maize, pineapple juice and other fruits.

Beer goes very well with the heaviness of the cuisine, so a selection of a Peruvian brew may be in order: the light-bodied Cusqueña or Pilsen Callao. La Granja's deepest brew is a Mexican import, Negra Modelo, which jibed with the camarones al ajillo.

To close the meal, savor some traditional desserts such as the alfajores (\$1.95), petite sweet layered biscuits, or Peru's renowned picarones (\$3.95), a donut-like confection of squash and sweet potato.

Come by on Friday or Saturday night when La Granja keeps doors open till 2 a.m. for the live music.

— DEAN EDWARDS

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## News-Press LIQUOR & POKER

### Mixologists Mix It Up At Summer Cocktail Shake-Off

By Steve Barnes

ALBANY, N.Y. — Summertime, and the sippin' is easy. In high August, whether at the track or in the backyard, even those normally averse to festive mixed drinks may soften their stance and enjoy a chilly slurp of a suave concoction served in a tall and fantastic glass.

I'd never drink anything brightly colored and garnished with multiple fruits in the colder months, an aversion I concede largely stems from my preference for savory or bitter over sweet: Yes, always, to a Sapphire or Hendrick's martini, dry, up, olives (stuffed with blue cheese, if available); no, almost always, to anything with fruit juice.

Yet there I was the other week, putting martini glasses and tall rocks tumblers to my lips and happily tasting creations that involved strawberries, rhubarb, cherries, lemon, lime, mint and cucumbers. It made for a refreshing, civilized afternoon — until I had to go back to work.

At my invitation, a pair of local mixologists whose restaurants feature creative cocktail lists — Lara "Larz" Davi of Dale Miller and Dominick Purnomo of Yono's/DP: An American Brasserie — participated in a Summer Cocktail Shake-Off. Each demonstrated a pair of cocktails served at their restaurant, then, given a spontaneous challenge by me, had 5 minutes to create and name a new cocktail suited for summer sipping.

Check out the video at <http://timesunion.com/life> and three of the recipes below.

#### CUCUMBER MARTINI By Larz Davi

Makes 1 cocktail  
2 tablespoons chopped cucumber  
Juice of 1 lemon wedge  
5-6 mint leaves  
1/2 ounce simple syrup

3 ounces cucumber or citron vodka

Muddle all ingredients except vodka in a shaker. Pack shaker with ice and add cucumber vodka. Shake well and strain into a chilled martini glass. Garnish with a slice of cucumber and sprig of mint.

#### STRAWBERRY RHUBARB MOJITO By Dominick Purnomo

Makes 1 cocktail  
8 mint leaves  
1/2 lime  
1 1/2 ounces rhubarb simple syrup (see note)  
2 ounces Bacardi Dragon Berry Rum  
2 strawberries: 1 sliced, 1 for garnish  
Sparkling wine  
1 stalk rhubarb for garnish

Muddle mint and lime with rhubarb simple syrup in mixer glass. Pack with ice and add Bacardi Dragon Berry Rum. Add slices of strawberry. Shake vigorously for 10 seconds. Pour into highball glass and top with sparkling wine. Garnish with rhubarb stalk and strawberry.

Note: To make rhubarb simple syrup, combine 1 cup water, 1 1/2 cups sugar and 4 stalks chopped rhubarb to a nonreactive saucepan and bring to a boil. Turn down heat, simmer and reduce by a third. Let cool and strain through fine-mesh strainer.

#### MAURA & MILLER'S MELON MARTINI By Dominick Purnomo

Makes 1 cocktail  
2 1/2 ounces Van Gogh Melon Vodka  
1 ounce St. Germain Elderflower Liqueur  
Juice of 1/2 lime  
1 ounce white cranberry juice  
1/4 ounce Midori  
Melon cubes for garnish  
Combine ingredients and shake vigorously. Strain into martini glass and garnish with skewered melon cubes.

► Steve Barnes can be reached by e-mail at [sbarnes@timesunion.com](mailto:sbarnes@timesunion.com). Visit his blog at <http://blogs.timesunion.com/tablehopping>.



### Busted with Pocket Aces at the Main Event

In this year's World Series of Poker \$10,000 buy-in Main Event, 6,494 players competed and 648 finished in the money. The so-called November Nine, those players who made the final table, had to play eight strenuous days of poker.

Congratulations to Phil Ivey, Jeff Shulman, Eric Buchman, Darvin Moon, Joseph Cada, Kevin Schaffel, James Akenhead, Antoine Saout and Steven Begleiter for making the final table. Beating that many players is truly an accomplishment. By the way, the ultimate winner will earn a whopping \$8.5 million. Even ninth place will pay \$1.2 million.

I was still in the hunt late on Day Three with about 450 players remaining in the tournament when the following hand came up.

With the blinds at \$3,000/\$6,000 plus a \$1,000 ante, I peered down at pocket aces. An aggressive opponent with almost \$1 million in chips opened for \$22,000. I was sitting three spots to the left of the button with \$135,000 in chips.

I had some history with this player. He beat me out of \$200,000 only one round earlier. He opened for \$18,000 and I min-raised it to \$40,000 to go with pocket nines. His A-J prevailed in that hand as the board came J-J-5-7-3.

Now, while assessing the current situation, a few thoughts popped into my head. I could easily make the same min-raise that I made in the previous round. Or, I could just call because my opponent's raise was so big that I didn't need to eliminate players behind me. I was also short-stacked; I needed to gamble by flat-calling with A-A in order to win the most chips possible.

I decided to call.

Then I cringed as the player behind me in the cutoff called, the player behind him on the button called, and the player in the big blind called! Three out of four possible players behind me called the relatively big raise. I knew that I'd have to fold if certain flops came down.

The flop was Jc-10h-5c and the player in the big blind moved

all-in for \$87,000. When the original raiser folded, I thought I had the best hand so I moved all-in for \$113,000.

The player behind me folded but the guy on the button muttered, "I know you have three fives and I can't beat a set." I assumed from his tone and comments that he had top two pair. If that were true, I was in trouble.

He finally called the \$113,000, flipping up J-10 offsuit — by the way, he'd made a horrible pre-flop call. The player in the small blind showed 9h-8h and I indeed was in trouble. Still, I could win with club-club, a five, a running pair, a running K-Q, or an ace. The turn card was a seven, making a straight for the player with 9-8. I could still win the \$50,000 side pot if a seven, five, or an ace hit on the river. Nope, I missed and went broke.

No doubt I was unlucky to lose this hand but should I have played it differently?

A min-raise on the flop would have almost certainly won the hand for me and might have doubled me up. That would have been a logical play as I had min-raised the same player just one round earlier and he beat me for a big pot.

Well, I do not regret my smooth call for a second, no matter how many times I run the scenario through my mind. I do, however, regret that I lost so many chips in the previous round with 9-9. No way I should have min-raised for \$40,000 in that spot and then lost \$160,000 more!

► Learn more about Phil Hellmuth and Poker Brat poker merchandise at [www.philhellmuth.com](http://www.philhellmuth.com).

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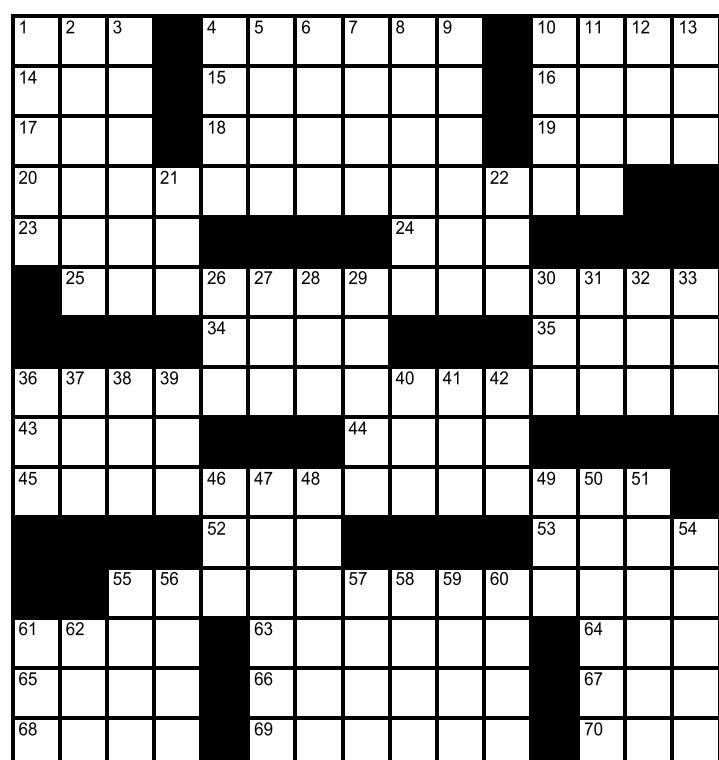
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SAT 8/29	Michael Jackson Birthday Dance Party A Celebration of the music and life of the King of Pop
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	
FRI 9/4	<b>Mac McAnally</b> plus Michael Armstrong of the Key West Band and Doyle Graham & Nedra Shalour of The Coral Reefer Band
SAT 9/5	<b>Sztwyry Pal Azji</b> plus Don Panic
FRI 9/11	<b>Along Those Lines</b> plus <i>Seattle Sirens Dreaming of Eden</i>
SAT 9/12	<b>Mike Gordon</b>
TUE 9/15	<b>Kate &amp; Kim</b> plus The Kin
WED 9/16	<b>NEEDTOBREATHE</b> w/ Serene Ryder and Green River Ordinance
THU 9/17	<b>GROUNDATION</b>
FRI 9/18	<b>SOUNDS OF SEATTLE</b> A Tribute to Pearl Jam, Soundgarden, Temple of the Dog & Alice in Chains
SUN 9/20	<b>Charlie Robison</b>
WED 9/23	<b>Los Enanitos Verdes</b> 30th Anniversary Tour!
THU 9/24	<b>Marco Benevento Trio</b>
FRI 9/25 & SAT 9/26	<b>The Legwarmers</b> DC's Biggest 80s Retro Dance Party
<b>OCTOBER</b>	
FRI 10/2	<b>THE BRIDGE AND PAPA GROWS FUNK</b> plus The Quick and Easy Boys
SAT 10/3	<b>Bo Burnham</b>
SUN 10/4	<b>The Lost Trailers</b>
WED 10/7	<b>OS MUTANTES</b>
THU 10/8	<b>Perpetual Groove</b> plus FUTURE
FRI 10/9	<b>NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND</b>

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## News-Press FUN&GAMES

### CROSSWORD / By David Levinson Wilk



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**ACROSS**

1. Naval VIP  
 4. Stella \_\_\_\_ (Belgian beer)  
 10. South African tribe  
 14. Boston skyscraper, informally, with "the"  
 15. Decided, parentally  
 16. Breakfast chain since 1958  
 17. Hand holder?  
 18. Virgil epic  
 19. Christmas quaffs  
 20. What a person with 55-Across might call a cheese-and-meat deli order?  
 23. Coup d'\_\_\_\_  
 24. Yves' yes  
 25. What a person with 55-Across might call a spicy Texan dish?  
 34. "Holy cow!"  
 35. Contemporary of Virgil  
 36. What a person with 55-Across might call a popular legume?  
 43. Brought into the world  
 44. Prefix with suction  
 45. What a person with 55-Across might call chopped meat mixed with potatoes?  
 52. Knight's title  
 53. Company founded by billionaire Ingvar Kamprad  
 55. Subject of this puzzle  
 61. Part of a molecule  
 63. Response to a pointer  
 64. Unit of conductance  
 65. "Cash Cab" vehicle  
 66. Pump rating

**DOWN**

67. Give no stars to  
 68. \_\_\_\_ message  
 69. Bites  
 70. Where Ingvar Kamprad is from: Abbr.
1. Quickly  
 2. "The Art of Arousal" author  
 3. "Slumdog Millionaire" locale  
 4. Straight \_\_\_\_ arrow  
 5. Actress Charlotte and others  
 6. Turner of music  
 7. Center Greg of the NBA  
 8. Nobel physicist Rabi  
 9. Part of baking powder  
 10. Active ingredient in calamine lotion  
 11. "This doesn't look good"  
 12. A captain might keep one  
 13. "American Messenger Company" was its original name  
 21. Off-road wheels, for short  
 22. Quirk  
 26. "A cockroach!"  
 27. Census datum  
 28. Set (down)  
 29. Simpson of fashion  
 30. Ground breaker  
 31. "Now \_\_\_\_ seen everything!"  
 32. Singer Phair  
 33. Suffix with ox- or cyan-  
 36. "The Office" network  
 37. Elton's john  
 38. Part of ETA: Abbr.  
 39. "The Situation Room" airer  
 40. Go kaput

41. Tanning lotion letters  
 42. Neither's partner  
 46. That: Sp.  
 47. "The Year of Magical Thinking" author  
 48. 1997 role for Depp  
 49. Recipient of a much-publicized government bailout in 2008  
 50. Cuts corners  
 51. Bray  
 54. In unison  
 55. Downey Jr.'s costar in "The Soloist"  
 56. Not include  
 57. Cole Porter's "\_\_\_\_ Do It"  
 58. "The King of Queens" actress Remini  
 59. Strauss' "\_\_\_\_ Nacht in Venedig"  
 60. Ways: Abbr.  
 61. Call letters?  
 62. \_\_\_\_ kwon do

Last Thursday's Solution

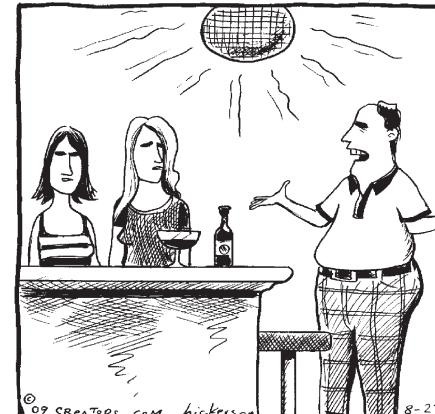
J	A	Z	Z	E	M	O	T	E	F	A	N	G
O	H	I	O	V	I	G	O	R	E	R	O	O
N	O	M	O	R	E	M	R	N	I	C	E	G
G	P	A	L	O	E	S	L	L	O	S	A	
				A	M	Y	S		W	E	E	
C	R	I	M	I	N	A	L	C	H	A	R	G
R	U	N	E	S		E	R	I	N	O	N	T
O	N	Y	X		O	N	T	O	P	I	T	T
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D	O	U	B	L	E	S	O	L	I	T	A	I
				L	O	O		O	N	O	N	
T	O	W	E	R	S	A	R	A	N	I	Q	S
S	P	R	E	A	D	T	H	E	W	E	A	L
A	T	I	T	H	Y	E	N	A	O	K	I	E
R	O	T	H	E	M	A		L	A	P	S	

## Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

## THE QUIGMANS BUDDY HICKERSON



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DAVE BLAZEK

## WOMBANIA™



by PETER MARINACCI

## NICK KNACK



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## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1 2 3 4**

		2		5		7		
1	5		7	9		1		8
						1		5
7					8	5		
		1					8	
			6	1				4
	7		1					
3			7	4	2		6	
		1	6	4				

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE 8/30/09

1	3	9	2	5	6	7	4	8
2	4	8	3	7	1	9	6	5
5	7	6	4	9	8	1	3	2
7	9	5	8	3	2	6	1	4
8	6	4	9	1	7	2	5	3
3	2	1	6	4	5	8	7	9
4	8	7	5	6	9	3	2	1
9	1	3	7	2	4	5	8	6
6	5	2	1	8	3	4	9	7

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

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Cirque d'Olé

## News-Press CLASSIFIEDS

### Yard Sales

**MOVING SALE, 115** North Fairfax Street, Saturday, 8 a.m. Bedroom and other furniture, pictures, books.

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**PART TIME PARALEGAL** needed to assist Falls Church attorney specializing in residential and commercial leasing issues. Flexible hours. Will assist with case preparation, docket control and administrative tasks. Email resume and salary requirements to fallschurchparalegal@gmail.com.

**SMALL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPANY** in Falls Church seeks person for data entry. Part-time through Dec. 1, 2009. Please send resume. jarnold\_hjvovs@verizon.net.

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### Public Notice

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Volunteers who are residents of the City of Falls Church are needed.

The City of Falls Church seeks candidates for the new GEORGE Task Force.

Purpose: Assess transit needs, research and consider transit options and cost effectiveness, and make recommendations to the City Council. The GEORGE Task Force will be expected to offer its initial findings to the City Council beginning in January 2010.

The GEORGE Task Force will be composed of 5 members.

The deadline to apply is COB Tuesday, September 8.

Contact the City Clerk's Office for more information: cityclerk@fallschurchva.gov or (703) 248-5014.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Falls Church, Virginia will hold a public hearing on **September 17, 2009** at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers, 300 Park Avenue, for consideration of the following subjects:

**U1488-08** an application for Special Use Permit for a Bank Drive-through Facility as an accessory use to proposed construction at **1230 West Broad Street**, such accessory use not otherwise permitted by right and as provided by 38-23(b)(10) and 38-37(4), on premises known as Lot 1 Broadwater Estate RPC #51-219-011 of the Falls Church Real Property Map Zoned B-1 (Limited Business), property owner Federal Realty Investment Trust, by BB&T bank, applicant. PLANNING COMMISSION CONSIDERATION **September 8, 2009**, 7:45 PM, Council Chambers.

**V1493-09** an application for Variance to Chapter 38-28(b)(5)(a) of the City Code to allow a deck to project 11 feet into a rear yard setback instead of 6 feet on premises known as **315 N Maple Street**, Lot 23, Colonial Garden Townhouses, RPC # 51-108-041 of the Falls Church Real Property Identification Map Zoned R-TH (Residential - Townhouse) by Sophie Gerber and Frank Villamer. PLANNING COMMISSION CONSIDERATION **September 8, 2009**, 7:45 PM Council Chambers. Should this application for Variance be approved by the BZA on 09/17/09, the Planning Commission will also consider a Minor Site Plan Amendment for Colonial Garden Townhouses on **September 21, 2009**.

**A1494-09** an Appeal of the Zoning Administrator's decision to deny Building Permit application #20090383 by Café Nessma (Sa'ad Masri) re **1077 West Broad Street**, a portion of RPC #52-102-066 of the Falls Church Real Property Identification Map Zoned B-1/R-1A (Limited Business/Low Density Residential), property owner West End Properties LLC.

Information on the above available for review at the Zoning Office, West Wing 301, 300 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA.

## Urgent news for people who used a SHOULDER PAIN PUMP

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## BACK IN THE DAY



### 10 & 15 YEARS AGO IN THE NEWS-PRESS

Falls Church News-Press  
Vol IV, No. 24 • September 1, 1994

#### 'WILDER VISITS FALLS CHURCH - Wilder Focuses on Fiscal Restraint In Interview at News-Press Office'

"Former Virginia Governor Doug Wilder is consciously reaching across partisan party lines in his independent bid for U.S. Senate, according to remarks he made in an exclusive interview at the office of the News-Press last Thursday. Wilder becomes the first of the four candidates on the ballot seeking the Senate seat in this November's election to conduct an interview at the News-Press, an edited..."

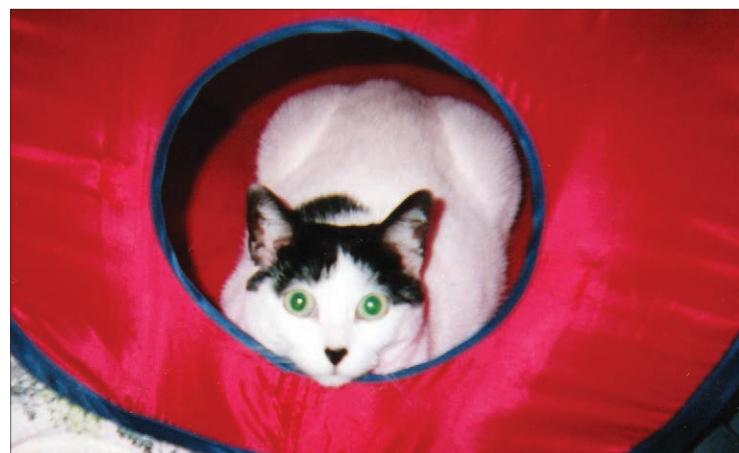


Falls Church News-Press  
Vol IX, No. 25 • September 2, 1999

#### 'Falls Church Schools Lead Region in SAT Test Scores'

"Falls Church City high school students in the Class of 1999 scored 571 verbal and 569 math for a combined 1140 total on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) to lead the region among school districts according to test results just released by the College Board and the school district. The recent graduates at George Mason High School moved up two points on their verbal scores and 28 points on their math scores compared to the previous..."

## CRITTER CORNER



BRIAN & STACY REYNOLDS of Falls Church found his little girl, Allison, at 5 weeks old abandoned at a rest stop bathroom on their way to Florida for a vacation. There were no other cats to be found in the area, just this one kitten. All alone, Allison was scared and lonely, crying very loudly. Once she saw Brian she went right up to him without any fear. He scooped her up and she nuzzled into his neck. Her new daddy says "I guess it's how secure she felt which made me fall in love with her right away. My wife and I still went on vacation and she went with us happily, as well as returned with us. She has been with us for around 4 1/2 years now." Allison loves sleeping in between her mom and dad, playing at midnight like a crazy cat, lying next to the heater in the cold months of winter and is said to be "full of affection and love at all times." It's a match made in rest stop heaven.

## Helen Thomas

Continued from Page 10

really needs your vote on this bill."

He also would know about every special request from every member – from White House tours to appointments to federal jobs and commissions.

"The Johnson treatment" also included personal or group visits with the president.

Johnson kept tabs on deep-pocket political donors and would urge them to pressure members of Congress to vote a certain way.

He also would call on religious leaders and even have his aide Jack Valenti call the pope "if it would help."

There were also evening meetings with senators and House members, with nightcaps and gifts to take home such as cufflinks, watches, signed photos and a pledge to support them in the next election. He also sent them home with gifts for their children and grandchildren.

Bribes? You bet.



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Nor were journalists immune from his charms and generosity. Newspaper and television network executives would get calls from Johnson, seeking their support.

He became a familiar figure at six different churches, often using references in the sermons he heard in his next speeches.

He would have been in heaven with a cell phone.

I remember when Johnson was very unhappy with his friend Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, who was chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, and veering away from support for the Vietnam War.

At a White House reception Johnson beckoned Church over for a chat and said: "Now Frank, just where do you get your ideas about Vietnam?"

"From Walter Lippmann, the great political columnist," Church

replied.

"Well," said Johnson, "the next time you need a dam in Idaho, you just ask Walter Lippmann."

Opponents of Obama's "public plan option" whine about government intervention in the private sector, though they were conspicuously silent when taxpayers had to bailout Wall Street.

Health insurance companies and other critics are pouring millions into defeating the proposed legislation. They are disseminating falsehoods and using fear tactics to scare constituents.

Lawmakers – our elected public servants – have a moral duty to help the 47 million Americans who have no insurance. Senators and House members should work to make sure that all Americans have the same comfortable health coverage that they have.

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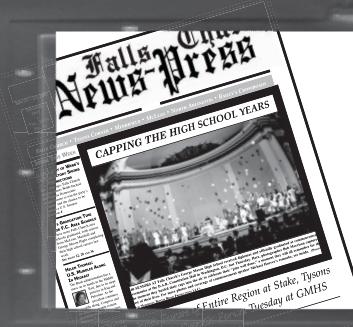
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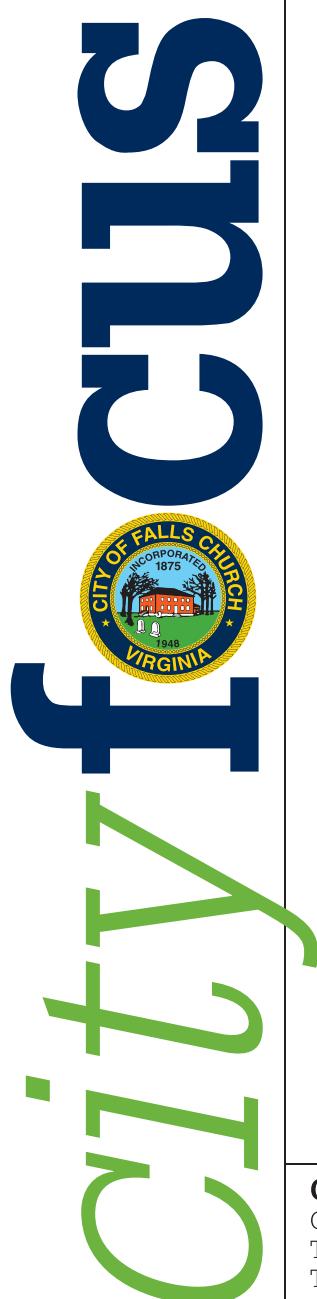
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## on Back to School 2009



*for the week of August 27 - September 2, 2009*

# New Teachers Report for Duty

When the school bells sound for the first time this year on September 8th, 12 teachers will be among the new staff members calling Falls Church City Public Schools home. In addition, the division is welcoming new special education

director Liz Mackie, math specialist Debbie Spring and RTI specialist Summer Manos. Psychology intern Kimberly Chambers and social work intern Teresa Valdez will also support the office of special education and student services.

## The 2009-2010 new FCCPS teachers are:

### Mount Daniel School

Alex Aman – ESOL Family Literacy  
Bridgett Shepherd – Kindergarten

### Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Michelle DuBois – 3rd Grade  
Katherine Halseth – Spanish  
Ashley Leeman – Spanish

### Mary Ellen Henderson Middle

Maureen Warfield – Spanish  
Gillian Thomson – 5th Grade

### George Mason High

Carolyn Cannon – Science  
Diran Cowell – Special Education  
Brandon Dye – Physical Education  
Lisa Johnson – Media Specialist  
Talha Nawaz – Special Education



*The FCCPS New Teacher Class of 2010: (front, l to r) Alex Aman, Bridgett Shepherd, Michelle DuBois, Katherine Halseth, Ashley Leeman, Maureen Warfield, Gillian Thomson, Carolyn Cannon. (back, l to r) Diran Cowell, Brandon Dye, Lisa Johnson, Talha Nawaz, Kimberly Chambers, Teresa Valdez, Summer Manos, Debbie Spring, Liz Mackie*

## H1N1 (Swine) Flu and Schools

In light of the global outbreak of H1N1 (Swine flu) in the spring and the potential for widespread illness during the fall flu season, Falls Church City Public Schools and the Fairfax County Health Department are working together to prevent the spread of H1N1 among our students. The swine flu vaccine is currently being tested in clinical trials, and it is expected to be available to the public by the end of October. Health experts say young people age 6 months to 24 years seem to be particularly vulnerable to the H1N1 virus, and they recommend that this age group be vaccinated to prevent becoming ill and to prevent spreading the illness to other people.

Health experts say frequent hand washing is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of flu and other illnesses. Falls Church City Public Schools will be especially proactive in reminding students and staff to practice good health habits throughout the school year. Students or staff members who become ill at school will be sent home.

The Fairfax County Health Department encourages anyone with an influenza-like illness to follow these standard guidelines:



- If you get sick, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.
- Sneeze and cough into your upper sleeve, not your hands.
- Wash your hands often, scrubbing your hands together for 20 seconds with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.

On October 5th, Fairfax County Health Department experts will present an informational program on FCC-TV to update the community on the H1N1 virus and vaccine, how the illness is spread and how it can be prevented. The program will be broadcast live on FCC-TV (Cox 12, RCN 2, Verizon 35) and will be rebroadcast at various times throughout the fall. The video and links to additional resources will also be posted on the school division Web site: [www.fccps.org](http://www.fccps.org).

For more information about the H1N1 Virus (Swine Flu), visit the Fairfax County Health Department Web site: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/flu/swineflu.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/flu/swineflu.htm).

## Call for Volunteers amid H1N1 Concern

In recent years, the Falls Church City School Board has established policies regarding student health and sex education with input from members of the Student Health Advisory Board and the Family Life Advisory Committee. This year, volunteers are needed to serve on these panels as we anticipate growing concerns about issues such as the H1N1 (Swine Flu) virus and its potential impact on schools as well as concerns about the vaccine that health officials encourage for young girls to help prevent cervical cancer.

These citizen advisory groups meet monthly or as needed to offer a community perspective on student health and wellness

issues of the day and on related topics such as periodic reviews of student health and family life education curriculum. The board uses the input to help guide the decision-making process in an effort to ensure school board policies are in line with the wishes of the community.

To volunteer for one of these committees, contact school board deputy clerk Marty Gadell at [gadellm@fccps.org](mailto:gadellm@fccps.org) or at (703) 248-5601. Additional information about these and other school board advisory committees can be found on the school division Web site: [www.fccps.org/board/committees.htm](http://www.fccps.org/board/committees.htm).

### Questions or Comments?

City of Falls Church, Harry E. Wells Building, 300 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046 • 703-248-5003 (TTY 711)  
The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act.  
This document will be made available in alternate format upon request. Call 703-248-5003 (TTY 711).

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## Back to School Orientation Schedules

### Mount Daniel School

9/3 1:30 p.m. Kindergarten Meet the Teacher  
2:00 p.m. 1st Grade Meet the Teacher  
2:30 p.m. Pre-School Meet the Teacher

### Thomas Jefferson Elementary

9/3 12:45 p.m. Meet the Teacher

### Mary Ellen Henderson Middle

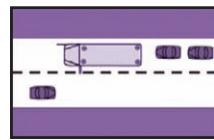
9/1 8:00 a.m. 5th Grade Locker / Orientation  
10:00 a.m. New Student Orientation  
9/2 6:00 p.m. Back to School Social

### George Mason High

9/2 9:30 a.m. New Student Orientation  
12:00 p.m. 8th Grade Orientation

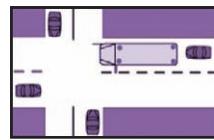
## School Bus Safety Reminders

Falls Church City Public Schools and the Falls Church Police Department remind you that when a school bus is stopped for the purpose of loading or unloading children, **all motorists must stop**.



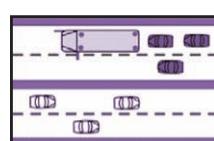
### Undivided Highways or Streets

When approaching a school bus with flashing signals or flashing signals and an extended stop sign on a public or private road, you must stop and remain stopped until all children are clear of the roadway and the bus moves again.



### At Intersections

A driver approaching from **ANY** direction must stop and remain stopped until all children are clear of the highway and bus is put in motion.



### Divided Highways or Streets

Motorists traveling in any of the lanes going in the same direction as the school bus must stop.

If you are traveling in the opposite direction on roadways separated by a **physical barrier** or **unpaved median area**, you do not have to stop.

Motorists are required to stop when a school bus is loading or unloading children even if the school traffic warning devices are **NOT** functioning properly.

## New Bus Schedules Online

The first day of school is just around the corner, and Falls Church City school bus drivers are ready for service. Bus transportation is available to all students at Mt. Daniel School, and limited service is available to students in grades 2-12. To learn more about bus routes and whether your child is eligible for service, visit [www.fccps.org/bus](http://www.fccps.org/bus).

## Cost of School Lunch up 5 Cents

Reflecting continued nationwide increases in commodity prices, such as milk, the Falls Church City School Board has approved a 2% increase in school lunch prices.

"Our goals are to minimize price increases to families while covering actual program costs," food service supervisor Richard Kane said.

Beginning in the fall, the cost of a student lunch will increase by 5 cents, bringing the price to \$2.45 at the division's elementary schools and to \$2.65 at Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School and George Mason High School. The adult lunch price at all schools will increase by 5 cents to \$3.30. The cost of milk at all schools will be 55 cents per carton this year.

The cost of breakfast, served only at George Mason High School, will be \$1.30.

School lunch menus are posted on the school division Web site: [www.fccps.org/lunch](http://www.fccps.org/lunch).

## Calendar for August 27 - September 8, 2009

### August

- 27** 10:00 a.m. Mason @ Strasburg (Golf)  
7:30 p.m. Washington-Lee at Mason (Football –scrimmage)

### September

- 1** 8:00 a.m. 5th Grade Locker/Orientation (MEH)  
10:00 a.m. New Student Orientation (MEH)  
4:00 p.m. Clarke Co. @ Mason (Golf)  
7:30 p.m. School Board Closed Meeting (City Hall)  
**2** 9:30 a.m. New Student Orientation (GM)  
12:00 p.m. 8th Grade Orientation (GM)  
6:00 p.m. Back to School Social (MEH)  
7:15 p.m. Park View @ Mason (G Volleyball)  
**3** 12:45 p.m. Meet the Teacher (TJ)  
1:30 p.m. Kindergarten Meet the Teacher (MD)  
2:00 p.m. 1st Grade Meet the Teacher (MD)  
2:30 p.m. Pre-School Meet the Teacher (MD)  
**4** 7:30 p.m. Mason @ JEB Stuart (Football)  
**7** Labor Day (Schools Closed/Day Care Closed)  
**8** First Day of School

For more calendar information, visit [www.fccps.org/calendar](http://www.fccps.org/calendar).

(MD) Mt. Daniel School (TJ) Thomas Jefferson Elementary  
(MEH) Mary Ellen Henderson Middle  
(GM) George Mason High (CO) Central Office

## FCCPS Contact Information

### Mount Daniel School:

Main: 703-248-5640  
Attendance: 703-248-5641  
Day Care: 703-248-5652  
Hours: 8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
2328 North Oak Street  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
Principal: Kathy Halayko

### Thomas Jefferson Elementary School:

Main: 703-248-5660  
Attendance: 703-248-5661  
Day Care: 703-248-5670  
Hours: 8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
601 South Oak Street  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
Principal: Vincent Baxter

### Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School:

Main: 703-720-5700  
Attendance: 703-720-5701  
MS ASAP: 703-720-5570  
Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
7130 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
Principal: Ann McCarty

### George Mason High School:

Main: 703-248-5500  
Attendance: 703-248-5501  
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
7124 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
Principal: Tyrone Byrd

### Extended Day Care Office:

703-248-5683  
601 S. Oak Street  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
Day Care/ASAP Coordinator: Katie Clinton

### Transportation:

703-248-5537  
Transportation Supervisor:  
Nancy Hendrickson

**Public Information Office:**  
703-248-5699  
800 W. Broad St., Suite 203  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
Communications Director: Karen Acar

**Central Office:**  
703-248-5600  
800 W. Broad St., Suite 203  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
Superintendent: Dr. Lois Berlin



## FCC-TV Spotlight: Convocation 2009

It is the end of summer, which means it's time to go back to school. But before the students step foot in the classroom, teachers and staff at FCCPS are busy getting things ready. And they get things kicked off with Convocation, a welcome back to school celebration for the entire staff. You can watch *Convocation* at the following times:

- Saturday, September 5 at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
- Sunday, September 6 at 5:00 p.m.

FCC-TV airs on Cox Channel 12, Verizon Channel 35 and Starpower/RCN Channel 2. Or for a complete schedule of community programs on FCC-TV, visit [www.fcctv.net](http://www.fcctv.net).

School content published in *The Schools Focus* is written and edited by the Falls Church City Public Schools. For more information, contact the Falls Church City Public Schools Communications Office. Phone: (703) 248-5699 Fax: (703) 248-5613.

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