

Christmas Cheer Shared at Herndon Police Station

NEWS, PAGE 12

Herndon Police Officer Ronald Eicke, Herndon Police Chief Maggie A. DeBoard, and Herndon Vice Mayor Jennifer K. Baker at the Cops & Kids outreach event. The Cops & Kids Program operates with the help of community volunteers and sponsors.

Chanukah Celebrated At Downtown Herndon

NEWS, PAGE 12

A Year Ahead: Herndon in 2015

NEWS, PAGE 3

OPINION, PAGE 6 ❖ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 7 ❖ SPORTS, PAGE 8 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

Getting Into the Spirit of the Holidays

Classical Ballet Theatre (CBT) shared some extra special holiday magic with this year's presentation of "The Nutcracker," performed at the 525-seat Ernst Theater in Annandale. A sellout, the production featured beautiful choreography, stunning costumes, and some of the most highly trained pre-professional talent in the Washington Metropolitan Area. It also included several programs benefiting the greater community — behind-the-scenes educational stations for Girl Scouts, a food drive in support of LINK, and some free tickets for military families stationed out of Ft. Belvoir.

Classical Ballet Theatre (CBT) students always enjoy supporting community families and groups while sharing their love of dance. Having trained at CBT since early childhood, Oakton High sophomore Ashley Tern, of Fairfax, who also participated in renowned summer intensives with the American Ballet Theatre, danced a stunning Sugar Plum Fairy, and McLean High freshman Camille Pukall, of Vienna, captured the audience with her portrayal of Clara. As she explained, "As Clara, I am telling the whole story of the 'Nutcracker,' and it is my job to make the audience truly believe and fall in love with my story and dream." She accomplished this easily while connecting with the entranced audience members. They loved the magical choreography and the good-natured humor as well as the sense of joy and excitement that each CBT student brought to his or her role. Audience members and dancers alike were finding themselves filled with the spirit of the holidays.

For more information about CBT and its winter performance in Reston and spring performance in Herndon, visit <http://www.cbntva.org>.



A stunning Sugar Plum Fairy, Ashley Tern, of Fairfax and Oakton High School, partners with Cavalier Norbert Nirewicz, who has performed throughout the United States, Europe, Japan, and Latin America, where he served as a Principal Dancer with Ballet Classico de Camara and Columbia City Ballet.



Camille Pukall, of Vienna and McLean High, as Clara arrives to the Kingdom of Snow with the Nutcracker Prince, portrayed by Gillmer Duran, CBT's Ballet Master and Guest Artist in Residence.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATIE AND TONY DE LA PAZ

New Schools, Boundary Changes Possible

Proposed Capital Improvement Plan focuses on rising enrollment.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

Several new schools may be added to the Fairfax County Public Schools system in the next decade.

The School Board listened to an annual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) presentation by Assistant Superintendent Jeffrey Platenberg on Dec. 18, 2014, describing the need for four more elementary schools and one high school to meet the demands of rapidly rising enrollment. The board will not vote on the plan until Jan. 22. The meeting will be in the board chambers at Luther Jackson Middle School at 7 p.m.

"It's a large, large student body," said Platenberg.

More specifically, he said between September 2013 and September 2014, enrollment rose by 2,000. "Both our Board of Supervisors and the public, if they ever wanted to understand the complexity of a county of over a million people and almost 200 schools, open up this brochure and understand what we're dealing with," said Braddock District board member Megan McLaughlin.

The elementary schools proposed are in the Route 1 area, Fort Belvoir, the Fairfax area and in the northwestern end of the county. The high school was named "Western High School" in the presentation. Two of

those schools already have funding thanks to a Department of Defense federal grant for 80 percent of the construction cost. The county will be funding the remaining 20 percent. Platenberg said that program changes in addition to boundary changes may be needed in addition to the new schools. He also proposed new additions to Westbriar Elementary, Vienna, and South Lakes High School, Reston, totaling \$14 million. Construction is expected to start by 2021.

McLaughlin said she was worried about boundary changes, going into her own experience about her grade school experience in North Carolina. Additionally, she said she hoped the Board of Supervisors will be more of a help to fund the CIP.

"We can't build our way out of it with additions and modulars and continue with very expensive transportation and bussing," she said.

Mason District board member Sandra Evans was worried about how much "orange" and "red" she saw in the report for her areas, indicating a high overcapacity in the schools she represents. She was also concerned about how the current birthrate boom will affect elementary schools in five years.

Platenberg said he will go further in detail on the matter at the next work session, which will take place on Jan. 12.

Dranesville District board member Jane Strauss commented about the report, reminding the public that this is the school board's way of reassuring that a plan is being made to reduce classroom sizes. "There is a limit at each school in what the buildout is," she said.

SHOP THE COMPETITION FIRST!
703-938-3160

Then come to us for the best selection of quality products and professional installation, all at an affordable price. Our references include your neighbors.

FREE ESTIMATES ON INSTALLATIONS

SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

VIENNA FLOORS
ESTABLISHED IN 1984
208 DOMINION ROAD • VIENNA, VA
HARDWOOD-CARPET-WOOD LAMINATES-CERAMIC TILE-SHEET VINYL
WWW.VIENNAFLOORS.COM
Hours: Mon-Fri: 9:00 am-5:30 pm • Sat: 9:00 am-4:30 pm

Free Estimates Patios, Walkways, Retaining Walls, Paver Driveways, Landscaping! **OFF-SEASON PRICING**

Tree Clearance Sale 30% OFF All Trees 2013 & Prior

60 50-75% Off Pottery Lowest Prices Since 2008!

Playground Chips & Organic Compost \$29.99 cu. yd.	Bagged, Shredded Hardwood Mulch \$3.49	Bulk Mulch \$24.99 cu. yd.
--	--	----------------------------

Fragrant, blooming Citrus Plants 10% Off

Cravens Nursery & Pottery
9023 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, Virginia
2 miles west of I-495 on Rt. 50.
1 mile from I-66 (Vienna Metro)
703-573-5025
Open 7 days a week
Visit our new Web site: www.cravensnursery.com