

Walk For MS

NEWS, PAGE 3

The walkers in the 2009 Capital Challenge Walk for MS proceed down N. Barton Street on their way to Theodore Roosevelt Island and the Lincoln Memorial.

50-Year Reunion

NEWS, PAGE 3

'What About Bob?'

NEWS, PAGE 3

Teaching the 'Write' Way

NEWS, PAGE 2

ATTENTION POSTMASTERS:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL.
REQUESTED IN HOME 10-8-09

PRSRPT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322





PHOTO BY BETSY ANDERSON/THE CONNECTION

Members of the team MS is BS, which stands for Multiple Sclerosis is Beaten Soon, pose in front of the U.S. Capitol after finishing the two-day, 50-kilometer Capital Challenge Walk MS. The team, which was started by the Franklin family of Arlington after daughter and sister Lexi was diagnosed with MS, has raised nearly \$13,000 to end the disease.

Raising Funds for MS Research

Hundreds of walkers participated in the 2009 Capital Challenge Walk for MS last weekend. The Walk started Saturday at George Mason University. Saturday evening the walkers arrived at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in Arlington for a group gathering. One Arlington team MSisBS (Multiple Sclerosis is Beatable Someday) split their team and set up the hospitality stop on N. Barton Street at Rock Run Park. Team leader Lexi Franklin worked with them on a “Let’s Get out of Jail” site and had her volunteers dressed in prison garb, one with a ball and chain and all the others with orange wigs. Oranges, bananas, juice, water, angel food cake slices and a selection of energy producing edibles were set up in the “jail.” The hospitality crew photographed many of the walkers behind the “Wanted” posters that they created. Lexi’s dad, a Blues singer and steel guitar player, attracted the walkers into the site with his music. Photos from the rest stop may be seen on <http://www.flickr.com/photos/acfdmgwed/sets/72157622515742952/>

At noon on Sunday, Lexi and her team mates met up with the group in D.C. and were awarded the Best All-Around New Team award and the



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

Linda Johnson and Charles Moore laugh a bit while they pose for photos in the MSisBS “jail.”

Hopeful Hikers award — for teams who raised more than \$10,000.

For more information on the Arlington team, see www.msisbs.wordpress.com

For more information about the walk, visit CapitalChallengeWalkMS@MSandYou.org or call 1.800.FIGHT MS.



National Capital Chapter President Chris Broullire with Lexi Franklin and Katie Nash.



Linda Johnson stretches out her legs after the first leg of the second day of the Capital Challenge MS Walk last Sunday morning.

Fifty Years Later

Washington-Lee High School classmates of 1959 to meet again.

BY TODD GEORGEAS
THE CONNECTION

This weekend, Carol (Brockway) Wootton will return to Arlington from her current home in West Virginia, toting artifacts from late-’50s-era Washington-Lee High School. The stash will include a year’s worth of the school’s “Crossed Sabres” student paper, and a megaphone and Spalding-issue saddle shoes from her cheerleading days. She’ll also bring back a stack of 45-rpm records, a series of oversize displays loaded with pictures of her high school classmates, and her graduation mortarboard and tassel.

“Why I saved all this stuff I don’t know,” she said. “They’re basically a conversation starter.”

Wootton will be sharing this trove of memorabilia with other returning graduates of W-Ls Class of 1959 for their 50th reunion this Saturday at the Key Bridge Marriott in Rosslyn. The reunion is part of a weekend of events that will bring back classmates from

Maine to Hawaii, California to North Carolina. The dinner and dance will rejoin 191 members of a very tight class which — after missing its 10th and 15th reunions) — has faithfully reconvened every five years since 1979.

Brockway says her collection is intended to be a conversation starter, though the fellowship among committee members makes any inducement largely unnecessary.

“We’ve mellowed since then, and realized that what mattered was whether you were a good person.”

— Jim Massie

“It’s hard to get down to business,” she says of her work on the reunion committee. “Because we just get so sidetracked, talking about our lives.”

Shelly Young Modes of Capital Reunions, the company organizing the weekend’s events, says she has never had better attendance for a reunion, and has never collected so much in supplemental donations.

“This committee was amazing about personal outreach,” said Modes of the exceptional cohesion among classmates, and the considerable efforts of the reunion committee chaired by Bob and Jane

SEE CLASS OF ’59, PAGE 19

‘What About Bob?’

Republican challenger takes on incumbent set to become dean of Arlington delegation.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Challenging a six-term incumbent is not an easy task, especially for a Republican in a heavily Democratic District. But Aaron Ringel says he’s up to the task. An Iraq-war veteran and a former Capitol Hill staffer, Ringel has retained his Marine sensibility, referring to his campaign as an effort to win over what he calls “the fighting forty eighth.” On the campaign trail, Ringel has attacked Del. Bob Brink (D-48) as a big-spender who is eager to raise taxes. But voting trends and de-

mographic statistics indicate that the incumbent is heavily favored to win.

“This is a Democratic seat,” said Isaac Wood, assistant director of communications for the University of Virginia’s Center for Politics. “It’s hard to attack someone for being too liberal in a district that voted two-to-one for Obama.”

Republicans acknowledge that Democrats have an edge in the 48th District, which includes the northern part of the county as well as Arlington National Cemetery and the Ronald National Airport. But that doesn’t mean the G.O.P.

SEE RINGEL, PAGE 16