

The Gainesville Times

Hometown Newspaper of Haymarket, Gainesville and Western Prince William

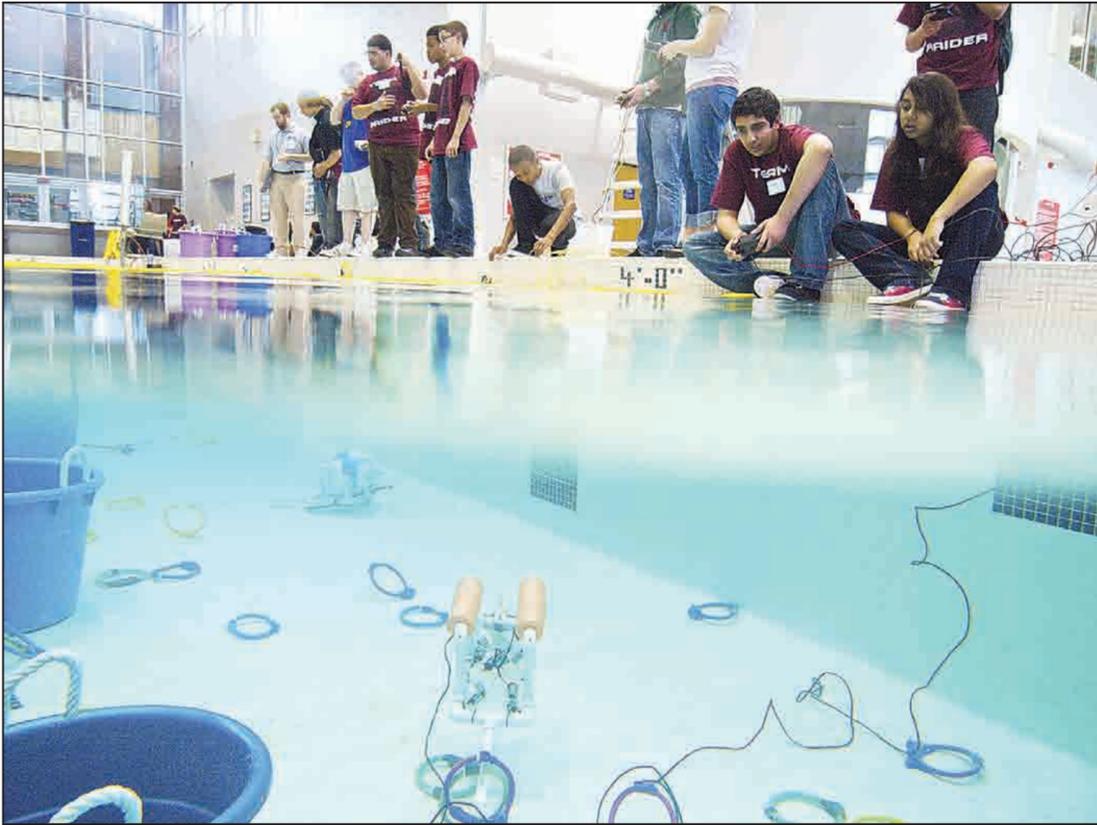
VOL. 9 No. 13

PHONE 540-347-4222

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010

WWW.GAINESVILLE-TIMES.COM

50¢



Times Photos/Adam Goings

UNDER WATER: Stonewall Jackson teams pilot their underwater robots through a recovery course at the annual all-county SeaPerch Underwater Robotics competition.

Underwater robotics

BY TARA SLATE DONALDSON
tdonaldson@timespapers.com

Battlefield and Stonewall Jackson teams came out on top last week in the annual all-county SeaPerch Underwater Robotics competition.

The contest, which was held March 25-26

at the Freedom Center in Manassas, featured a series of underwater games and contests.

Students built remotely-operated vehicles, also called ROVs, capable of maneuvering and retrieving objects on the bottom of the Freedom Center swimming pool.

More than 500 students from the county's

10 high schools competed in the two-day event with a winning team announced each day.

Battlefield High School won on March 25 with a team made up of Paul Warlitzer, Bryant Davila, Brittany

See **ROBOTICS**, Page A11

Trailers will increase at PW schools

But \$1.05B budget means fewer layoffs

BY DAN ROEM
droem@timespapers.com

The \$1.05 billion budget approved by the Prince William County School Board last week did not include the draconian layoffs initially planned, but it does mean up to 216 teaching and administrative positions will be eliminated during the next fiscal year.

School Board Chairman Milt Johns said on Sunday that the number of layoffs will far lower than that because some employees just retire, move or quit at the end of every school year.

"We're hopeful the number is going to be a lot lower than 200," he said.

Compounding the issue is that fewer school employees have voluntarily left their posts during the last year due to the economy, according to Johns.

The fiscal year 2011 projections already include teachers and staff coming aboard at Patriot High School and T. Clay Woods Elementary School near Vint Hill Road and Nokesville Road. Both schools will open in the fall.

"Obviously, we will have to hire some new teachers and administrators for those schools, but it's not like there's a huge jump just because we're opening those schools," said Johns.

For every 25 students entering the school system, the county hires one new teacher. About 3,574 new students are expected to enroll in Prince William public schools next year at a cost of \$34.4 million.

That amount will be offset because school employees won't get cost-of-living raises during the next fiscal year, saving \$37.4 million.

With overcrowding the dominate issue on the western end of the county, a deal of sorts had to be struck with eastern-end School Board members whose districts have problems of their own. Eastern Prince William schools struggle with funding for English as a Second Language (ESOL) programs and for programs that help low-income students.

In the end, the School Board "restored" money for

See **BUDGET**, Page A9

Park Authority weighs three options for Silver Lake

BY DAN ROEM
droem@timespapers.com

The Park Authority is considering three options for what to do next with the Silver Lake Park in Haymarket.

Park officials could either keep the park as it is, add some minor amenities or significantly increase the number of features.

All development proposals fall within the Park Authority's definition of passive recreational use. At a public hearing last Wednesday, residents voiced their opinions about what they thought the county's newest park should offer.

At the hearing, equestrian and scuba enthusiasts spoke out in favor of Plan C. That option would add three fishing

piers to the lake, a floating pier to the 9-acre quarry, a launching site for non-motorized boats, an overnight equestrian camping area, a primitive camping area, pavilions, a community garden center and equestrian trailer parking.

Nokesville Horse Society members involved themselves in several aspects of the park's planning and still are

interested in more equestrian-friendly changes to the park.

"We were happy to put Plan A into place last fall," said NHS president and Haymarket resident Scott Helberg, referring to the plan that would keep Silver Lake as it is.

Bristow resident Henry Johnson, president of the Adventure Scuba

Company in Chantilly asked for platforms to be built 15 to 20 feet underwater at the quarry for divers.

"I think this would be a good opportunity for all the divers in the area and there are a lot of divers in Prince William County," he said.

See **SILVER LAKE**, Page A8

Bobcats triumph on the road

The Battlefield Bobcats are having a great spring break in Florida. See **Sports**, Page A6.

INSIDE

Happenings	A2
Business	A3
Opinion	A4
Sports	A6
Crossword	A10
Classified	A20



Haymarket mayor to run unopposed

Eight declare for Town Council

Editor's note: This is the first part in a multi-part series profiling candidates for Haymarket Town Council.

BY DAN ROEM
droem@timespapers.com

While talks are already in full swing about national elections this fall, Town of Haymarket residents have more immediate choices to make.

All six members of the Town Council, the mayor and two former council members have all registered to run in the May 4 election.

Once again, Mayor Pamela Stutz is running

See **MAYOR**, Page A10



Courtesy Photo/MS Society

WALK: The Manassas MS Walk will be held on April 10.

MS Walk set for April 10

BY TARA SLATE DONALDSON
tdonaldson@timespapers.com

With two more weeks to go before the annual multiple sclerosis walk in Manassas, Jamey and Ryan Bocompani of Bristow have already raised about \$6,000 to fund MS research.

Their fundraising efforts are even more impressive when you consider that their combined age is only 16.

Jamey Bocompani is about to turn 10 years old. He and his 7-year-old Ryan are part of the team J&R Rockers, one of scores of teams that will

See **WALK**, Page A9

1.49 EA. Fresh Broccoli or Cauliflower

1.59 LB. Archer Farms Spiral-Sliced Honey Half Ham

\$2 13.75-oz. Betty Crocker Potato Buds

99¢ LB. Market Pantry Frozen Turkey Breast Save 90¢/Lb.

Easter is near. Saving is here.

Find even more at Target.com/weeklyad.

SUPER TARGET
EXPECT MORE. PAY LESS.™

Prices good through 4/3/10. ©2010 Target Stores. 030102

BUDGET

From Page A1

those eastern-end projects, according to Johns, while the western end receives the bulk of new capital improvement project money.

The capital improvement budget includes funds to open a new school along the Linton Hall corridor a year earlier than planned, while still opening the Silver Lake middle school in Haymarket in 2012.

That still does not mean the overcrowding issue is resolved in the western end for the next year. Johns said that aside from Stonewall Jackson High School, "there's a potential that all of the west-end schools will have at least one additional trailer."

Transfer students who want to be a part of Brentsville's prestigious Cambridge Programme also will have to wait an extra year because there is not enough room in the Nokesville school to accommodate them.

Classroom sizes are still above where the county wants them for Brentsville District and Battlefield high schools and schools like Brentsville have been forced to add satellite cafeterias to hallways in order to alleviate overcrowded lunch rooms.

Such a scenario "is well below what we would find acceptable but it's a matter of necessity," said Johns, who lauded principals Amy Ethridge-Conti (Battlefield) and Robert Schoot (Brentsville) for coming up with "creative scheduling and creative use of space."

"We're not sort of a small country school system like we were even 15 years ago. We're going to have the trailers, we're going to have the overcrowding issues," said Johns.

Johns is due to present the budget to the Board of County Supervisors on April 6 with school Superintendent Stephen Wats.

Public hearings are set for April 5 and April 12.

The revenue-sharing agreement with the Board of County Supervisors gives the school system 56.75 percent of county revenues each year and the supervisors do not generally get involved with how the school funds are spent.

WALK

From Page A1

participate in the April 10 Walk MS in Old Town.

"Multiple sclerosis is a neurological condition that interrupts the flow of information from the brain to the body," explained Diane Metzger, spokesperson for the National MS Society's National Capital Chapter.

The condition is usually diagnosed in adults between the ages of 20 and 50 and it affects everyone differently.

"Someone may go to bed feeling perfectly fine and then wake up the next morning unable to see," she said.

MS isn't fatal but it can be debilitating with symptoms such as paralysis. There's no cure yet and no definite cause for the condition, although Metzger said researchers are getting closer.

About 400,000 people in the United States have MS and 6,500 of them live in the Washington Metro region.

One of those is Jamey and Ryan's uncle, Ron Lubcher.

"Both of my children adore their Uncle Ron," said the boys' mother, Kim Bocompani.

So several years ago, when Lubcher and his wife, Traci Hartzell, invited Jamey to join them in the annual Walk MS, he jumped at the chance.

"Anything Uncle Ron did, Jamey was up for," Bocompani said.

Jamey walked the five-mile course with his aunt and uncle for two years before getting his parents, Kim and Ken, involved last year. This year, Ryan and several of his friends have joined in the effort as well.

Jamey and Ryan "have each raised about \$3,000 so far this year," Bocompani said. That's almost half the \$12,600 total for the nine-person J&R Rockers team.

Rain or shine, the boys will be out on April 10, two of more than 600 participants Metzger expects in Manassas.

The walk will begin and end at the Harris Pavilion, 9201 Center St. Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m. and the walk starts at 9 a.m. The event will also feature a DJ, live band and free ice cream.

Metzger is encouraging participants to register in advance and raise funds online at www.MSandYOU.org but anyone can show up and walk, even without registering or raising money.

Fauquier Home & Business Expo

Thursday, April 1, 2010 10 AM to 4 PM

**H.L. Pearson National Guard Armory
692 Waterloo Rd., Warrenton
(Across from Fauquier High School)**

FREE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

FREE Giveaways!

**FREE ADMISSION
FREE GIVEAWAYS &
PROMOTIONAL GOODIES
FREE BUSINESS &
COMMUTER INFORMATION
FREE OPPORTUNITIES &
BUSINESS CONNECTIONS**

Thank you to our Home & Business Sponsors!

..... **Platinum Sponsor**

Hampton Inn

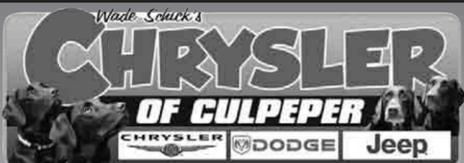
..... **Gold Sponsors**

BB&T
McCrea Heating & Air Conditioning Services
Virginia Economic Development Partnership
Times Community News

..... **Silver Sponsors**

Appleton Campbell, Inc. • Golden Rule Builders, Inc.
Capital Party Rentals • Hospice of Rapidan
Oak View National Bank • The Fauquier Bank
TML, A Xerox Company
Vint Hill Economic Development Authority

Presented by the
Fauquier County Chamber of Commerce
For more information call
(540) 347-4414



FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER
NOW OFFERING

0%*

FOR 36 MOS.

ON ALL USED CARS
ALL MAKES & ALL MODELS

*10% FOR 36 MOS., 0.99% FOR 48 MOS., 1.99% FOR 60 MONTHS WITH APPROVED CREDIT. MUST HAVE BEACON SCORE OF 720 OR ABOVE. ALL CARS MUST BE PRICED UNDER \$17,000. PLUS TAXES, TAGS, & \$349 DOC FEE.

Find Online
We'll Beat Any Price!

NO HASSLES • SPECIAL INTERNET PRICING • INTERNET DEPT. • WEEKLY SERVICE & PARTS SPECIALS

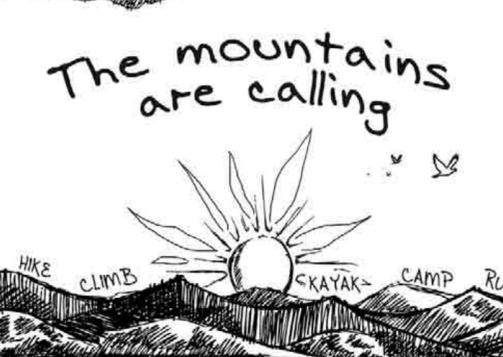
540.547.3900 • 800.547.7343
CHRYSLER OF CULPEPER.COM

RT. 29 JUST SOUTH OF CULPEPER
HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00-7:30PM SATURDAY 9:00-4:30PM



BLUE RIDGE
mountain sports • brms.com

The mountains
are calling



Warrenton Village Center
At the intersection of Rt. 29 & Rt. 17
Warrenton, VA - (540)428-3136

Find us on Facebook | twitter

Your Chamber At Work

An Update from the Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce

Celebrating 75 Years of Brilliance

The Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce will celebrate 75 years of helping businesses to succeed at our Diamond Anniversary Celebration: 75 Years of Brilliance, to be held on Monday, April 19th at Stonewall Golf Club in Gainesville. We want to thank you, the members of our Chamber for your continued support over these last three quarters of a century. We have been through many changes together and all of it has worked together to make our community both strong and vibrant. If you have never before considered membership in the Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce, then now is a great time to give us a closer look. From opportunities for volunteerism, to business education to the over 100 complimentary events we hold each year you will find that we have many facets, and every one is absolutely brilliant. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Cathy Gilbert-Silva at 703-368-6600, ext. 10 or email cgilbertsilva@pwgcmcc.org. For membership information, contact Membership & Sales Director Kris Johnson at kjohnson@pwgcmcc.org or call 703-368-6600, ext. 15. See what our members have to say about us:



"I approached membership in the Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce with reluctance, and not a little trepidation, because of prior experiences with other chambers in Northern Virginia. They made passive attempts to help me market my business, leaving me disenchanted. After several conversations, and only two encounters with the PWC-GM Chamber, I was pleasantly surprised. Each person I met introduced me to another new person; peer business people took the time to chat with me, and to welcome me on board. Current members reminded me about networking events; Chamber staff pointed out opportunities for marketing my new business without having to spend a fortune. Kris, Jessica, and all the Chamber staff made me feel welcome, encouraged, and happy to have become a member. If you are a member, you know what I mean. If you are considering membership, I think membership in the PWC-GMCC would be a wise investment."
- Peter Pitorri, Pitorri and Associates, LLC

"To truly build your business, a Chamber Membership is a must. Not only do you grow your business and increase your list of contacts, but you also build great relationships with people that you can count on for anything. I have had several of my Chamber contacts tell me that they have referred people to the credit union because of our involvement in the Chamber. I too have referred some of my members to my Chamber contacts. It's a win-win for all parties and just a great environment/group to be a part of."
- Linda Rodriguez, SYNERGY ONE Federal Credit Union

"Chamber benefits? Wow, where do I begin? Our firm started out with one accountant and no clients and grew in ten years to be the largest CPA firm based in Prince William County before it was sold to an international accounting firm in 2002; and we attribute much of that success to the Chamber. When we opened our new firm a few years back, the first thing we did was join the Chamber. Why? Because we are betting history will repeat itself."
- Bill Duvall, DuvallWheeler, LLP

Upcoming Events in Gainesville/Haymarket

Fri., April 9th
Monthly Business-Building Breakfast (MB3)
8:00-9:30 a.m.
UNO's Chicago Grill
7390 Atlas Walk Way, Gainesville
Sponsor: **Brown & Brown Insurance Agency of VA, Inc.**

Mon., April 19th
Networking at Noon
Noon - 1:00 p.m.
Western Prince William Branch Office
7450 Heritage Village Plaza, Ste. 202, Gainesville

Tues., April 27th
Education Honor Roll Breakfast
8:00-9:30 a.m.
Heritage Hunt Golf & Country Club
6901 Arthur Hills Dr., Gainesville
Sponsor: **Prince William Education Association**
Members: \$30 prepaid or \$35 at the door
Non-member Price: \$40

Fri., April 30th
Chamber 101 Mentoring Session
11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Wire Site Tutorial
12:30-1:30 p.m.
Western Prince William Branch Office
7450 Heritage Village Plaza, Suite 202, Gainesville
Sponsor: **Halainas Salon**

2009-10 Western Connection Contributors

Hendershot-Burkhardt-Reed, CPA
www.hendershotcpa.com

Sigma College of Small Business, Inc.
www.sigmabizlearning.com

About the Greater Chamber
The Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce (Greater Chamber) is an association of businesses and organizations located in Prince William County, Manassas, Manassas Park and the surrounding region dedicated to the success of its members.

News:
pwgcmcc.mymediaroom.com/wire/news

Events:
pwgcmcc.mymediaroom.com/wire/events

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/GreaterChamber

LinkedIn:
www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=46421

Twitter:
twitter.com/pwccounty

Main Office
8963 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
703-368-6600

Western Prince William Branch Office
7450 Heritage Village Plaza
Gainesville, VA 20155
703-753-4175

**Prince William County
Greater Manassas
Chamber of
Commerce**
www.pwgcmcc.org

Attendance at events is a benefit of membership with the Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce. To experience these benefits first-hand, contact Kris Johnson at kjohnson@pwgcmcc.org or call 703-368-6600, ext. 15

Details at www.pwgcmcc.org . . . News & Events . . . What's Happening

To join . . . www.joinourchamber.com . . . Join Now or call Kris Johnson at 703-368-6600, ext. 15

JESSICA R. CLAY

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Serving Your Legal Needs with Compassion

Are your bills causing you stress?
Are you facing foreclosure, repossession or wage garnishments?
I can discuss possible financial solutions with you.

Do you need a Will, Power of Attorney or Medical Directive?
I can handle that for you. I can even make arrangements to come to you if it would be difficult for you to come to my office.

Do you have a traffic matter or a DUI?
Do you have a civil matter you would like to discuss?
Have you been injured because of someone else's carelessness?
I am here to help you with all of your legal needs.

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

10% OFF
ATTORNEY'S FEES

With this ad. Up to \$200 off.
Not valid with any other offer. Expires 4/30/10

BANKRUPTCY | FORECLOSURE | TRAFFIC CASES
CRIMINAL MATTERS | CIVIL LITIGATION
SIMPLE WILLS | WAGE GARNISHMENT
GENERAL LEGAL MATTERS

We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for relief under the United States Bankruptcy Code.

15000 WASHINGTON ST. STE. 280
HAYMARKET, VA 20169
email: jessica@theclaylawfirm.com
703.754.0503

www.theclaylawfirm.com

