



The Winchester Star

Friday, September 1, 2017

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WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601

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WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Students to pay to attend games

Official: Handley's free admission no longer sustainable

By JULIA KAZAR
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — City public school students will no longer be able to attend Handley High School athletic events for free.

The Free Admission Program, which allowed any Winchester Public Schools student to attend sporting events at no cost, is no longer financially sustainable, according to Superintendent Jason Van Heukelem.

"I want to thank our corporate sponsors for the past six years who supported the Free Admission Program," Van Heukelem said Thursday. "Local corporate sponsorship for advertising is an essential revenue stream for any high school athletic program, and John Handley High School enjoys a rich tradition of support from this local community. We look forward to continued support from the local corporate community for Handley athletics."

The Free Admission Program

See Games, Page A2

U.S. orders Russian consulate to be closed

By JOSH LEDERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In an escalating tit-for-tat, the United States forced Russia on Thursday to shutter its consulate in San Francisco and scale back its diplomatic presence in Washington and New York, as relations between the two former Cold War foes continued to unravel.

The Trump administration said the move constituted its response to the Kremlin's "unwarranted and detrimental" decision to force the U.S. to cut its diplomatic staff in Russia. The U.S. gave Russia a mere 48 hours to close its San Francisco consulate, along with smaller Russian posts in Washington and New York.

"The United States is prepared to take further action as necessary and as warranted," said State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert. Still, she said the U.S. hoped both countries could now move toward "improved relations" and "increased cooperation."

Russia said it regretted the order and pointed the finger at the U.S. for starting the "escalation of tensions" between

See Russia, Page A5

Harvey's fury presents new dangers

Drinking water lost and plant crippled

By TODD C. FRANKEL,
ABIGAIL HAUSLOHNER and
DAVID A. FAHRENTHOLD
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PORT ARTHUR, Texas — The water was leaving, at last. But, across southeast Texas on Thursday, new dangers kept appearing in Hurricane Harvey's wake.

In Crosby, northeast of Houston, loud "pops" were heard coming from a crippled chemical plant, where safety systems were flooded



BRETT COOPER/Houston Chronicle via The Associated Press

Floodwaters fill the road running through the Lakes On Eldridge North subdivision in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Harvey on Wednesday in Houston.

- Volunteers start effort to help livestock in flooded areas | B1
- Chip Shots: NFL star raises money for Harvey relief | A6

Gas prices may spike in wake of storm

By ONOFRIO CASTIGLIA
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — Gas prices in the area are expected to go up slightly following the closure of an important eastern gas pipeline in the wake of Hurricane Harvey in southeastern Texas.

The Colonial Pipeline, which carries refined gasoline from Texas and Louisiana to eastern metropolitan markets, was closed on Wednesday because of flooded refineries in areas affected by the storm, ac-

See Gas, Page A10

TRANSPORTATION



ABOVE: Brian Nieves, e-commerce director at Tri-State Nissan in Winchester, plugs a charging cord into a Nissan Leaf last week. The car gets some 112 miles per charge. **BELOW:** A charging station for an electric car is shown at Tri-State Nissan.

Charge challenge Area has four stations for electric cars

By JOSH JANNEY
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — People who want to protect the environment may have interest in buying electric vehicles, but there are pros and cons for making such an investment.

On one hand, the U.S. Department of Energy says hybrid and plug-in electric vehicles can help increase energy security, improve fuel economy, lower fuel costs and reduce emissions. On the other hand, finding places to reliably charge an electric vehicle can be a bit of a challenge.

The Winchester area only has four electric-vehicle charging stations: Malloy Toyota Scion, 400 Weems Lane, Winchester; Jim Stutzman Chevrolet-Cadillac Company, 2700 Valley Ave., Win-

chester; Tri-State Nissan, 1230 Millwood Pike, Winchester; and L'Auberge Provencale, 13630 Lord Fairfax Highway, White Post.

Local automobile dealers that sell electric cars haven't heard of plans to add any new charging stations in the near future.

In August, the Associated Press reported that electric vehicles make up less than 1 percent of cars on the road and that the distribution of public charging stations is wildly uneven around the globe.

"Places with lots of support from governments or utilities, like China, the Netherlands and California, have thousands of public charging outlets," the AP reported.

Buyers of Tesla's luxury elec-

See Electric, Page A10



Wells Fargo says 3.5 million accounts involved in scandal

By KEN SWEET
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — The scope of Wells Fargo's fake accounts scandal grew significantly on Thursday, with the bank now saying that 3.5 million accounts were potentially opened without customers' permission between 2009 and 2016.

That's up from 2.1 million accounts that the bank had cited in September 2016, when it acknowledged that employees

under pressure to meet aggressive sales targets had opened accounts that customers might not have even been aware existed. People may have had different kinds of accounts in their names, so the number of customers affected may differ from the account total.

Wells Fargo said Thursday that about half a million of the newly discovered accounts were missed during the original review, which covered the years 2011 to

2015.

After Wells Fargo acknowledged the fake accounts last year, evidence quickly appeared that the sales practices problems dated back even further. So Wells Fargo hired an outside consulting firm to analyze 165 million retail bank accounts opened between 2009 and 2016.

Wells said the firm found that, along with the 2.1 million accounts originally disclosed, 981,000 more accounts were

found in the expanded timeline. And roughly 450,000 accounts were found in the original window.

The scandal was the biggest in Wells Fargo's history. It cost then-CEO John Stumpf his job, and the bank's once-sterling industry reputation was in tatters. The company ended up paying \$185 million to regulators and settled a class-action suit for \$142 million.

See Wells Fargo, Page A5

BY THE NUMBERS

3.5 million

Number of Wells Fargo accounts that were potentially opened without customers' permission between 2009 and 2016.

\$185 million

Amount company paid to regulators because of the scandal.

COMING SATURDAY Parade

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TODAY'S FORECAST

64
HIGH

Chance of rain. North northeast winds at 10 mph. Rain likely tonight. North northeast winds at 10 mph.



Full report A10

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Stephens City man dies in crash

Police: Drove wrong way on Interstate 81

By EVAN GOODENOW
The Winchester Star

STEPHENSON — A Stephens City man was killed in a head-on crash after police said he drove the wrong way on Interstate 81 at about 3:10 a.m. Sunday.

The two-vehicle crash occurred on northbound I-81, just south of exit 317 and the intersection of U.S. 11, Va. 37 and Martinsburg Pike, Virginia State Police spokesman Sgt. F.L. "Les" Tyler said.

According to Tyler, a 2003 four-door Toyota driven by Franklin Josue Sanchez-Gutierrez drove south in the northbound left lane and struck a northbound 2015 Toyota van. The van was occupied by driver Wu Fangtong and passenger Liu Chan, both of Princeton, W.Va.

Sanchez-Gutierrez, 24, of Stephens City, was pronounced dead at Winchester Medical Center at 5:50 a.m. Chan, 35 and Fangtong, 37, were hospitalized at Winchester Medical Center. Citing a medical privacy law, hospital spokeswoman Carol Weara wouldn't divulge the conditions of Chan and Fangtong.

Tyler said it's unclear why Sanchez-Gutierrez drove the wrong way, but alcohol is believed to be a factor. None of the men were wearing seat belts. The posted speed limit in the area is 70 mph.

— Contact Evan Goodenow at
egoodenow@winchesterstar.com

The two-vehicle crash occurred on northbound I-81, just south of exit 317.

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE



The moon blocks a portion of the sun Monday afternoon during the solar eclipse as seen from Handley High School. Monday's eclipse was the first full-blown solar eclipse to sweep the U.S. from coast to coast in nearly a century.

SCOTT MASON/
The Winchester Star

Day turns into night

Americans dazzled by celestial event

By MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

The stars came out in the middle of the day, zoo animals ran in agitated circles, crickets chirped, birds fell silent and a chilly darkness settled upon the land Monday as the U.S. witnessed its first full-blown, coast-to-coast solar eclipse since World War I. Millions of Americans gazed in wonder at the cos-

mic spectacle, with the best seats along the so-called path of totality that raced 2,600 miles across the continent from Oregon to South Carolina.

"It was a very primal experience," Julie Vigeland, of Portland, Ore., said after she was moved to tears by the sight of the sun reduced to a silvery ring of light in Salem.

See **Eclipse, Page A5**



SCOTT MASON/The Winchester Star

Handley High School students Hailey Burke (from left), Julia Ricci and Adriana Ayala take photos of the solar eclipse through solar viewers Monday afternoon at the school.

Handley club tracks data

By JULIA KAZAR
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — The Handley High School astronomy class tracked data as a rare solar eclipse traveled through Winchester on Monday.

Using an app they downloaded on their smartphones, about 20 students tracked the temperature and the cloud cover over the Handley High School football field at 425 Handley Blvd. in the time lead-

See **Handley, Page A10**



JEFF TWILAR/The Winchester Star

Middletown Elementary School fifth-graders look through their eclipse glasses Monday. The Winchester area was too far north to witness the total eclipse, but there was still excitement about seeing the approximately 85-percent blockage of the sun caused by the moon passing directly between the sun and the Earth.

Local students catch glimpse of rare eclipse

By BRIAN BREHM
The Winchester Star

MIDDLETOWN — It was 2 p.m. and the first total solar eclipse in the continental United States since 1979 was rapidly moving eastward across the country.

The Winchester area was too far north to witness Monday's total eclipse, but there was still plenty of excitement about seeing the approximately

See **Middletown, Page A10**

LFCC welcomes students on first day of classes at Middletown campus

By JULIA KAZAR
The Winchester Star

MIDDLETOWN — Monday was the first day of classes for students at Lord Fairfax Community College. As of Monday morning, there were 4,452 students registered at both the Middletown and Fauquier campuses, but the college will accept registrations for eight-week classes through about mid-October.

LFCC, which is one of the 23 schools in the Virginia Community College System, offers both eight- and 12-week courses. The first round of eight-week courses started Monday, the second round will start Oct. 17 and 12-week classes start on Sept. 12.

Students were on the Middletown campus early Monday morning to print their schedules, talk with advisers to resolve any scheduling issues, buy text-

books and start classes.

"The biggest issue we have at the start of classes is people signing up for classes on the wrong campus," said Amber Foltz, dean of students. "So we are working to get people signed up for the correct classes."

Foltz said students sometimes need help with their schedules if they have

See **LFCC, Page A2**



SCOTT MASON/The Winchester Star

James Harrison (from left), Luis Ibarra and Jonathan Hernandez look over Harrison's class schedule Monday morning during the first day of classes at Lord Fairfax Community College.

McAuliffe 'most likely' to pursue Lee statue removal



By ALAN SUDERMAN
Associated Press

RICHMOND — Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe said Monday he will most likely submit legislation to remove a statue of Confed-

erate Gen. Robert E. Lee from Richmond's iconic Monument Avenue.

He also told reporters he is considering measures to prevent people from having weapons at highly charged public demonstra-

The statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee stands in the middle of a traffic circle on Monument Avenue in Richmond. Gov. Terry McAuliffe said Monday he will most likely submit legislation to remove the statue.

STEVE HELBER/The Associated Press

tions.

McAuliffe said his administration is considering a number of proposals to improve public safety in the wake of a deadly white nationalist rally over the statue of Lee in Charlottesville on Aug. 12.

The governor issued an executive order last week temporarily banning demonstrations at the state-owned Lee monument, but McAuliffe said he lacks the

authority to remove the statue without General Assembly approval. The state sits in the middle of a traffic circle on Monument Avenue, a state boulevard with several other Confederate monuments.

McAuliffe, a Democrat, said he's been particularly worried about the large number of people who attended the Charlottesville

See **Statue, Page A2**

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TODAY'S FORECAST

Partly cloudy, south southwest winds at 10 mph. Mostly cloudy, storms possible at night. South southwest winds at 10 mph.

92
HIGH



70
LOW

Full report A10

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The Winchester Star

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

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WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601

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Wiley tapped as council VP



Bill Wiley



Milt McInturff

Succeeds Milt McInturff, who remains on panel

By DEREK GOMES
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — Less than a year after he was first elected to City Council, Bill Wiley became its vice president Tuesday night, succeeding Milt McInturff.

At the beginning of its regular meeting, the panel

accepted the resignation of McInturff, who cited health issues for stepping down, and held nominations to appoint his replacement.

Mayor Elizabeth Minor nominated Wiley, and the panel voted 7-0 in his favor; McInturff and Vice-Mayor Les Veach were absent.

Wiley, 44, represents Ward 1 and has served the

city for a decade, first on the Board of Zoning Appeals from 2005 to 2008, and then on the Planning Commission, where he served as chairman before being elected to council last November.

Serving on council is another way of “performing my civic duty . . . and watching

See **Council**, Page A2

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Ky. clerk released from jail

By ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

GRAYSON, Ky. — The Kentucky county clerk jailed for refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples was released Tuesday after five days behind bars, emerging to a tumultuous hero's welcome from thousands of supporters waving large white crosses.

“I just want to give God the glory. His people have rallied, and you are a strong people,” Kim Davis told the crowd after stepping outside, her arms raised like a victorious boxer, to the blaring “Rocky” sequel theme song “Eye of the Tiger.”

Her lawyer refused to say whether she would defy the courts again.

“Kim cannot and will not violate her conscience,” said Mat Staver, founder of the Liberty Counsel, the Christian law firm representing Davis. As for whether she will issue licenses, Staver said only: “You’ll find out in the near future.”

The Rowan County clerk whose defiance has made her a hero to the religious right walked free after the federal judge who ordered her locked up lifted the contempt ruling against her, saying he was satisfied that her deputies were fulfilling their obligation to grant licenses to same-sex couples

See **Clerk**, Page A6



Kim Davis

Window issue a pain for council

By DEREK GOMES
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — The city could be stranded on an island unto itself regarding a recent dispute over replacing windows in the city’s Historic District.

In a survey of four similarly historic Virginia municipalities, city staff discovered that, like Winchester, they strictly adhere to federal guidelines that prohibit replacing wood windows with vinyl ones.

But unlike the situation here, those municipalities rarely deal with appeals from homeowners questioning the Board of Architectural Review (BAR).

Planning Director Tim Youmans shared his findings with City Council during its work session Tuesday, as the panel prepares to weigh another appeal.

Sam Simpson, the owner of a house on South Washington Street, has appealed BAR’s ruling that he must replace 17 recently installed vinyl windows with wood counterparts. He seeks council to lessen the blow by allowing him to keep the 12 windows on the sides of his two-story house and only replace the five on the front, which face the street. Simpson says he

See **Windows**, Page A6

Freddie Gray’s family settles with Baltimore

By JULIET LINDERMAN
Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The parents of Freddie Gray reached a tentative \$6.4 million settlement with the city of Baltimore, nearly five months after their 25-year-old son was critically injured in police custody, sparking days of protests and rioting.

The deal announced Tuesday appeared to be among the largest settlements in police death cases in recent years and happened just two days before a judge is set to hear arguments on whether to move the trials for six officers charged in Gray’s death from Baltimore.

Gray’s spine was injured April 12 in the back of a transport van after he was arrested. Gray, who was black, died at the hospital a week later. In the aftermath, Gray became a symbol of the contentious relationship between the police and the public in Baltimore, as well as the treatment of black men by police in America.

See **Gray**, Page A5

\$6.4M

The amount of a settlement reached between Baltimore and the family of the 25-year-old man who was critically injured while in custody.

EUROPEAN MIGRANT CRISIS



ZOLTAN GERGELY KELEMEN/The Associated Press

Migrants and refugees who left the police reception center in Roszke, to avoid being registered, are escorted by police along the railway tracks connecting Horgos in Serbia and Szeged, southeast of Budapest, Hungary, on Tuesday. Frustrated groups of refugees have ignored police instructions to stay put and instead have marched on a highway north to Budapest for the past two days.

UN warns Hungary of another refugee wave

By PABLO GORONDI
and SHAWN POGATCHNIK
Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary — Leaders of the United Nations refugee agency warned Tuesday that Hungary faces a bigger wave of 42,000 asylum seekers in the next 10 days and will need international help to provide shelter on its border, where newcomers already are complaining bitterly about being left to sleep in frigid fields.

Officials from the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said it was sending tents, beds and thermal blankets to Hungary’s border with Serbia, where for the past two days frustrated groups from the Middle East, Asia and Africa have ignored police instructions to stay put and instead have marched on a highway north to Budapest.



DARKO VOJINOVIC/The Associated Press

A migrant girl looks through a bus window in front of a temporary holding center for asylum seekers in Roszke, southern Hungary, on Tuesday.

Commissioner Antonio Guterres accused the entire European Union of failing to see the crisis coming or take coordinated action, even though the 28-nation bloc of 508 million people should have enough room and resources to absorb hundreds

of thousands of newcomers with ease.

There was needless suffering in the migration crisis “because Europe is not organized to deal with it, because the European asylum system

See **Refugees**, Page A5

Queen tops UK’s royal reigning record

Becomes longest-serving monarch in British history

By SYLVIA HUI
Associated Press

LONDON — Queen Elizabeth II has reached a major milestone by becoming the longest-reigning monarch in Britain’s history.

She passes Queen Victoria, her great-great-grandmother, who was on the throne for 63 years and 7 months.

Prime Minister David Cameron said Wednesday that millions of Britons would celebrate the queen’s “historic moment.”

“Over the last 63 years, Her Majesty has been a rock of stability in a world of constant change and her selfless sense of service and duty has earned admiration not only in Britain, but right across the globe,” Cameron

See **Queen**, Page A2

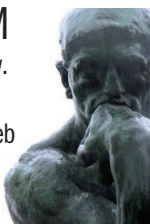


KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/The Associated Press

Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II came to the throne in 1952 upon the death of her father, King George VI.

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TODAY’S FORECAST

Mostly sunny, with patchy fog this morning, and a 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms this afternoon. Southwest winds around 5 mph. Cloudy tonight.

90
HIGH

Full report A6



68
LOW

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AFGHANISTAN

6 U.S. troops killed in attack

By DAN LAMOTHE
and PAMELA CONSTABLE
© 2015 The Washington Post

The U.S.-led military coalition in Afghanistan suffered one of its worst days in 2015 on Monday, as six U.S. service members were killed and three others were wounded when a motorcycle laden with explosives detonated near them in Parwan province in an apparent suicide attack.

A U.S. military official in Afghanistan confirmed that the slain troops were all Americans. The incident occurred north of the capital, Kabul, at about 1:30 p.m. in a province best known for Bagram air base, a sprawling military complex from which U.S. forces fly F-16

See **Attack**, Page **A5**

Winchester Parks and Rec lends Santa a helping hand

Collects letters from children in area to be sent to the North Pole

By AMY ALONZO
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — The days leading up to Christmas can get a little hectic in Santa's workshop.

The reindeer get antsy before their practice flights. Teddy bear stuffing sometimes clogs the Lego machine. Cotton candy machines malfunction and make a mess.

These distractions can make it hard for Santa to juggle overseeing toy-making operations, while also responding to the thousands of letters he receives from children.

See **Letters**, Page **A6**



SCOTT MASON/The Winchester Star

Letters to Santa Claus were collected at the War Memorial Building in Jim Barnett Park.

McAuliffe sets solar energy goal for state government

By STEVE SZKOTAK
Associated Press



Gov. Terry McAuliffe

RICHMOND — Gov. Terry McAuliffe released the recommendations of a state commission on climate change Monday and set a three-year target for state government to draw 8 percent of its electricity from solar power.

The state agreement with Dominion Virginia Power calls for the development of 110 megawatts of solar power, which would produce the amount of energy used by Virginia's community college system annually.

The company would work with agencies to identify state-owned locations for solar power.

Dominion has previously announced plans to add at least 400 megawatts of solar by 2020.

McAuliffe, a Democrat, cast the move away from coal to cleaner renewable fuels as an economic issue. He said, for instance, that huge companies such as Microsoft have told him they will not consider Virginia for future expansion if they don't have access to renewable energy.

"We need to get in the game," McAuliffe said at a news conference.

The recommendations from the climate panel support more state reliance on renewable energy but did not recommend a specific target date.

McAuliffe resurrected the climate panel. It was created in 2008 by Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine, but its recommendations were never acted on by his successor, Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell.

As he has in the past, McAuliffe clearly staked out his administrative

See **Climate**, Page **A5**

"... [He] needed a friend and a purpose. He now has a job and the purpose to care for the lamb and he has never been happier."

— Cathy Shiffler, on her black Labrador retriever, Jordan, fostering an abandoned lamb



GINGER PERRY/The Winchester Star

Paisley, the 1-week old lamb, bites the ear of black Labrador retriever, Jordan. Paisley, a triplet, was abandoned by her mother and she has been adopted by Jordan, owned by Cathy Shiffler.

Dog takes in abandoned lamb

By JOSH JANNEY
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — After being rejected by her mother on the day she was born, Paisley, a lamb, is now being raised by Jordan, a black Labrador retriever.

The relationship of this unlikely pair began Dec. 12, when several residents living on Apple Pie Ridge Road in Frederick County heard the cries of a lamb coming from the farm of Jay and Janet Martz.

"We were able to hear the lamb because we had our doors and windows open," said Cathy Shiffler, Jordan's owner. "It was such an unusually warm day for this time of year."

The Shiffler family went to the Martzes' fence to find what was causing the ruckus.

A mother sheep had given birth to triplets.

According to Shiffler, the ewe must have realized that she could not raise three lambs because, after giving birth to the first, she immediately left it and went to another part of the pasture to give birth to the other two.

The Shiffler family witnessed a little lamb being repeatedly knocked down by other sheep.

"Of course it didn't take my 16-year-old daughter [Breanna Shiffler] long to decide to

See **Lamb**, Page **A6**



Cathy Shiffler (left) and her daughter Breanna prepare to show students at First Christian Church how they are feeding Paisley.

STARBASE Academy gets federal funding

By SALLY VOTH
The Winchester Star

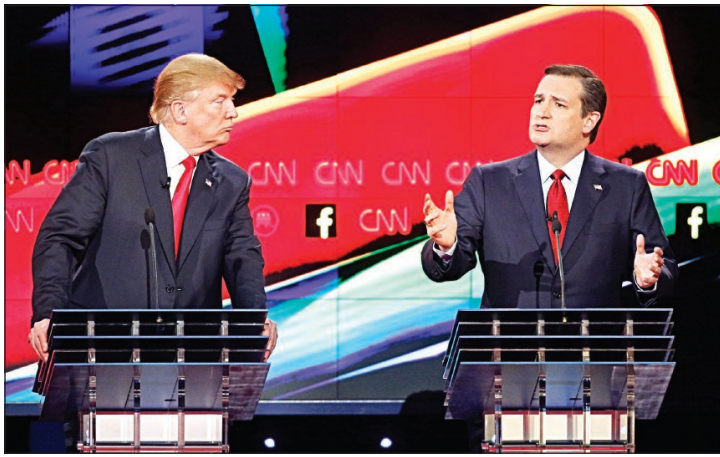
WINCHESTER — Area elementary school students will continue to get a hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education at the local STARBASE Academy after funding for it — and dozens more around the U.S. — was included in the federal omnibus spending bill signed by President Barack Obama on Friday.

The Winchester STARBASE (Science and Technology Academies Reinforcing Basic Aviation and Space Exploration) Academy, located at the Virginia Army National Guard facility at 181 Pendleton Drive in Frederick County, is one of 58 based at military installations across the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

In fiscal year 2015, \$25 million in federal funds went to the academies.

The FY16 House Armed Services National Defense Authorization Act earmarked \$20 million for it, but Obama vetoed that bill in October. More recent budget figures showed just \$10 million being allocated.

See **STARBASE**, Page **A6**



JOHN LOCHER/The Associated Press

Donald Trump (left) watches as Ted Cruz speaks during the CNN Republican presidential debate at the Venetian Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. A growing debate over America's role in promoting regime change in the Middle East is creating unusual alliances among 2016 presidential candidates that cross party lines.

Middle East regime change divides parties

By JULIE PACE
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON — America's 2016 presidential candidates are split on promoting regime change in the Middle East, but not along the usual party lines.

GOP contenders Donald Trump, Ted Cruz and Rand Paul are finding common cause

See **Change**, Page **A2**

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		Virginia	A3

TODAY'S FORECAST

62
HIGH

Cloudy, with an 80% chance of showers this morning. Southwest winds 5-10 mph, with gusts up to 25 mph.

Full report **A6**



49
LOW

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88th Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival | April 24-May 3, 2015



JEFF TAYLOR/The Winchester Star

Natasha Bure holds a bouquet of apple blossoms presented to her by Blossom Messenger Katie Pimblett, Miss Apple Blossom Festival 2015, during the coronation ceremony Friday. Natasha was crowned Queen Shenandoah LXXXVIII.

‘Long live the Queen’

Natasha crowned Queen Shenandoah LXXXVIII

By SALLY VOTH
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — Being crowned as Queen Shenandoah of the 88th Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival Friday in the Patsy Cline Theatre at Handley High School truly did make Natasha Bure feel regal.

“I was like, blown away by everything,” the 16-year-old said after the coronation ceremony. “I felt like I was becoming queen of a country. Everyone did such a great job.”

Natasha wore an ivory gown with sparkling sequins at her waist, neckline and shoulders, and a cape adorned with more sparklers on her back and with a long train.

After the posting of the colors by cadets from Randolph-Macon Academy and a procession of the princesses and the queen’s court, festival president James Douglas, in the role of chancellor, got the coronation underway.

“I proudly declare that the 88th Apple Blossom Festival has begun,” he said. “I hereby declare that all of you will be subjects of this Apple Blossom realm.”

Natasha’s mother, actress Candace Cameron Bure, minister of the crown, had some questions for her daughter before crowning her. To each, Natasha replied, “Yes.”

“And will you in all things — something that only comes from the Lord — display a good, kind and happy spirit?”

See **Queen**, Page A6



Actress Candace Cameron Bure, known for her role in the sitcom “Full House,” celebrates after crowning her 16-year-old daughter, Natasha Bure, Queen Shenandoah LXXXVIII.

‘Full House’ actress happy spotlight is on daughter

By SALLY VOTH
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — Even though it’s just been announced that Candace Cameron Bure will star in a spinoff of the popular “Full House” television series, the diminutive actress has been happy to let her daughter

shine as the 88th Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival queen.

“[I’m] super-proud, but really honored that they asked Natasha to be the queen,” Bure, 39, said in a Friday afternoon interview at First Presbyterian Church on the Loudoun Street Mall. “It’s

See **Mother**, Page A6

Firefighters’ Parade delights adults, children

By ONOFRIO CASTIGLIA
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — With the Walmart Firefighters’ Parade of the 88th Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival slated to begin at 5:30 p.m., festivalgoers looked anxiously at the gray clouds gathering in the sky as rain droplets began to fall around 4:30.

By the time the parade got going, however, the sky had cleared, and a soft evening sun glowed over the 83rd edition of the event.

Festival organizers advertise the Firefighters’ Parade as the largest such parade in the world, and one of the oldest — starting as the Torchlight and Mummers’ Parade in 1929.

That year, it stepped off at 8

See **Parade**, Page A7

More **Bloom** stories and photos inside

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Scenes from the 88th Bloom

PAGES B1-5
Prayer Brunch
Old Town Midway
Stag Luncheon
Commonwealth Luncheon

PAGE C1
Kids Bloomin’ Mile



JEFF TAYLOR/The Winchester Star

Kyle McGann, 4, of Knoxville, Md., points at firetrucks lining Cameron Street during the 88th Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival Firefighters’ Parade on Friday.

Firefighters’ Marshal gets his Bloom on

By DEREK GOMES
The Winchester Star

WINCHESTER — Lee Greenwood has released about 30 albums in a music career spanning 35 years. But for many people, the singer is synonymous with one song: “God Bless the USA.”

For some, Greenwood’s other accomplishments, including a handful of No. 1 country hits and a Grammy Award, will always be overshadowed by that song.

And that’s fine with the 72-year-old, who served as the marshal for Friday’s Walmart Firefighters’ Parade.

“Every time the country needed some spirit, the song

See **Greenwood**, Page A7



Lee Greenwood

6 Baltimore officers charged in death

By JULIET LINDERMAN
and AMANDA LEE MYERS
Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Rage turned to relief in Baltimore on Friday when the city’s top prosecutor charged six police officers with felonies ranging from assault to murder in the death of Freddie Gray.

State’s Attorney Marilyn Mosby said Gray’s arrest was illegal and unjustified, and

that his neck was broken because he was handcuffed, shackled and placed head-first into a police van, where his pleas for medical attention were repeatedly ignored as he bounced around inside the small metal box.

The swiftness of her announcement, less than a day after receiving the police department’s criminal investigation and official autopsy results, took the city by surprise. So too did her detailed description, based in part on her office’s independent investigation, of the

evidence supporting probable cause to charge all six officers with felonies.

The police had no reason to stop or chase after Gray, Mosby said. They falsely accused him of having an illegal switchblade when in fact it was a legal pocketknife. The van driver and the other officers failed to strap him down with a seatbelt, a direct violation of department policy, and they ignored Gray’s repeated

See **Baltimore**, Page A7



DAVID GOLDMAN/The Associated Press

People celebrate in Baltimore on Friday after criminal charges were announced against all six officers involved in the in-custody death of Freddie Gray.

ON WINCHESTERSTAR.COM

Visit our Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival page, where you’ll find schedules, maps and celebrity information for this year and ones past.



Five Sections, 38 Pages

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Dear Abby	D4	Sports	C1
Editorials	A4	Virginia	A3

TODAY’S FORECAST

Mostly sunny, with patchy fog this morning. Chance of rain 20%. Mostly clear tonight, with west winds around 5 mph.

72
HIGH

48
LOW

Full report A7



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Wildcats escape with 57-53 win over Yellow Jackets

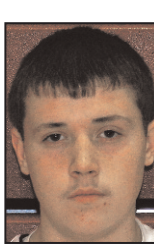
By Robert Edmonds
sports@nvdaily.com

FRONT ROYAL — A cross-town matchup turned into a proverbial slugfest Monday night when Warren County visited Randolph-Macon Academy in non-conference boys basketball action. Neither team could manage to distance themselves from their opponent, nor was any lead secure until the final buzzer rang out in

the Yellow Jackets gymnasium. The final exchange took place midway through the final period with the Wildcats taking the lead and, after some confusion in the final minutes of play, Warren County escaped with a 57-53 victory.



Mehta



Steele

and they played us tough. They forced us into some turnovers and they outrebounded us, but despite that our kids kept

"I think both teams played a great game tonight," Wildcats coach Vernon Mathews said. "R-MA is a good team

battling. It was good for us as a team to get this win." Tied at halftime, the Wildcats landed the first blow of the second half when Austin King connected from behind the arc for a 3-point basket. Teammate Blake Steele then recorded a steal in the backcourt and scored on a layup to extend the lead. After a basket from R-MA's Carson Holder on a stick back, Clyde Ritchie hit a 3-pointer and the

Wildcats quickly had a six-point lead. "I'm not afraid to say it, I think Carson is one of the best rebounders in the area," Yellow Jackets coach Clay Clinedinst said. "He has played against some big kids and he can hold his own. He is getting double-digit rebounds all the time." R-MA quickly erased the deficit behind Andre Lake. The guard twice penetrated the Wildcats' defense for

baskets in the paint. Moments later, Marcus Williams tied the game when he scored on an offensive rebound, but failed to grab the lead after being fouled when he missed the free-throw attempt. "We have to be smarter and stick to the way we do things," Clinedinst said. "There is nothing wrong with the way we are playing, but we try too hard to

WILDCATS, B3



OUTDOORS
By Gerald Almy

Outdoor show set for next month

Shenandoah Valley residents are lucky when it comes to outdoor shows. We have several easy-to-reach ones in western Virginia coming up soon. And we are within relatively close driving distance of what is actually the largest outdoor show in the country. That one, called the Eastern Sports & Outdoor Show, is coming up in just a few weeks. It will take place at the State Farm Show Complex near Harrisburg, Pa., just a 2-3 1/2 hour trip up Interstate 81, from Feb. 2-10. This is the 58th annual edition of the show. This year there will be hundreds of new exhibitors and several new features.

If you've had trouble keeping oriented at this event and knowing whether you have visited all of the different halls, you'll appreciate a newly devised system for navigating the complex. Halls will be color-coded with an on-line pre-show mapping program plus an easy-to-use mobile app. Returning for the second year will be a new "Sportsman's Shop Gun Alley," featuring products from such well-known companies as Ruger, Thompson/Center, Benelli, Smith & Wesson, Stoeger, LHR Sporting Arms and Cross Canyon Arms.

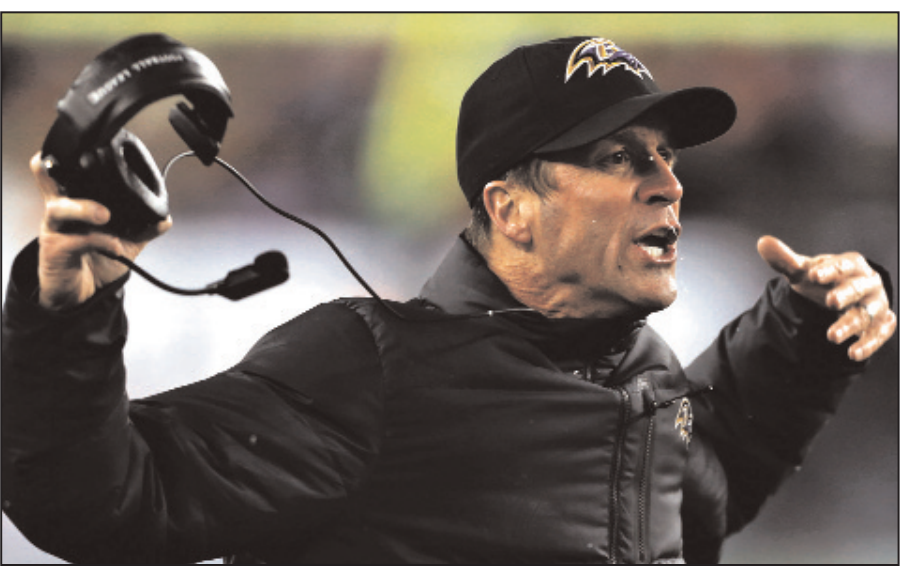
The show will also include two archery halls, a full fishing and boating hall, plus hundreds of guides and outfitters. Lots of outdoor celebrities and experts will be on hand to offer their latest tips and techniques. These speakers will give talks addressed to both the novice and more experienced hunters and anglers. You just need to study the seminar listings and find out the ones that appeal to your skill level and subject interests.

Some of the featured hunting celebrities will include Jim and Eva Shockey, Ralph and Vicki Cianiarulo, the Wensel Brothers, Matt Morett, Lee and Tiffany Lakosky, Olympic gold medalist Jamie Gray, Fred Eichler, Larry Weishuhn, Stan Potts, Allen Morris, Abner Druckenmiller, Bob Mercier, Jason Michael, Jimmy Wren, Trent Cole of the Philadelphia Eagles, and Chuck Adams, the renowned bow hunter.

Among the fishing speakers are Mark Menendez, Tommy Skarlis, Blaine Mengel Jr., John Hansen

ALMY, B3

SUPER BOWL

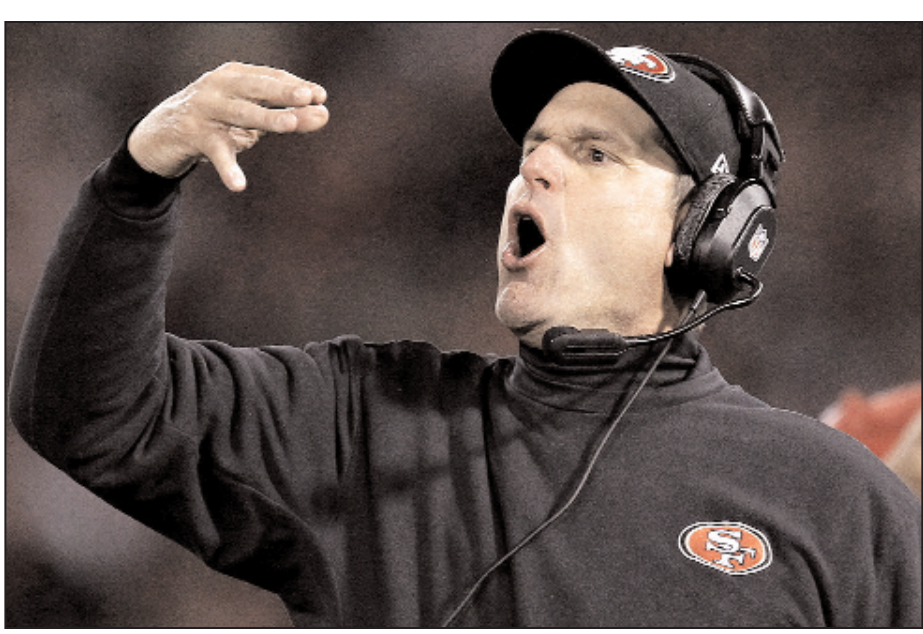


AP file

Baltimore Ravens head coach John Harbaugh reacts during an NFL game against the New England Patriots in Foxborough, Mass., on Sunday.

Well, I think it's a blessing and a curse. A blessing because that is my brother's team. ... The curse part would be the talk of two brothers playing in the Super Bowl and what that takes away from the players that are in the game."

JIM HARBAUGH,
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS
HEAD COACH



San Francisco 49ers head coach Jim Harbaugh yells from the sideline during an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers in San Francisco on Jan. 12.

Harbaugh brothers ready for rematch

By Janie McCauley
The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Jim and John Harbaugh have exchanged a handful of text messages, and plan to leave it at that. No phone conversations necessary while the season's still going. No time for pleasantries, even for the friendly siblings. There is work to be done to prepare for the Super Bowl, prepare for

each other, prepare for a history-making day already being widely hyped as "Harbowl" or "Superbaugh" depending which nickname you prefer. "It doesn't matter who the coach is, what relationship you have with the person on the other side," 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh said so matter-of-factly Monday afternoon. Their parents sure aren't picking sides for

the Feb. 3 matchup in New Orleans. These days, the Harbaughs' longtime coaching father, Jack, stays away from game-planning chatter or strategy sessions with his Super Bowl-bound coaching sons. Baltimore's John Harbaugh and little brother Jim have been doing this long enough now to no longer need dad's input. Yet, they still regularly seek it. And, their father

does offer one basic mantra: "Get ahead, stay ahead." "Probably the greatest advice that I've ever been given and the only advice that I've ever found to be true in all of coaching, I think we mentioned it to both John and Jim ... the coaching advice is, 'Get ahead, stay ahead,'" Jack Harbaugh said. "If I'm called upon, I'll repeat that same message." His boys still call home

REMATCH, B3

Maloofs agree to sell NBA's Kings to Seattle group

By Tim Booth
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Nearly five years after their colors, banners and history were packed away into storage and their franchise relocated, the SuperSonics are one significant step closer to returning to Seattle. And the Kings are on the edge of leaving Sacramento. All that appears to stand in the way now is approval by NBA owners. The Maloof family has agreed to sell the Kings to a Seattle group led by investor Chris Hansen, the league confirmed in a statement Monday morning. The deal is still pend-

ing a vote by the NBA Board of Governors. A person familiar with the decision said that Hansen's group will buy 65 percent of the franchise, which is valued at a total price of \$525 million, and move the team to Seattle and restore the SuperSonics name. The deal will cost the Hansen group a little more than \$340 million. The Maloofs will have no stake in the team. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal was waiting approval. The sale figure works off a total valuation of the franchise, which includes

KINGS, B3



AP file

Sacramento Kings fans Kevin Fippin, left, and Ed Montes show dismay over the prospect that the team may be sold, during the game against the Dallas Mavericks in Sacramento, Calif., on, Jan. 10, 2012.

Applin helps lead Colonels to victory

Girls basketball
MMA 32,
Chelsea
Academy 17

By Jeff Nations

WOODSTOCK — Selah Applin might just have earned herself a spot on the bench to open games for Massanutten Military Academy's girls basketball team. Not really — the three-year starter is way too valuable to the Colonels to serve as a game-shifting reserve, but Applin showed just how effective she could be in that role



Applin

during Monday's 32-17 home victory over host Chelsea Academy. Applin sat out the first quarter after missing part of last week's practice, but when she entered the game to start the second period the impact was definite and lasting. Applin scored seven points in that quarter, staking MMA (3-4) to 15-6 halftime lead after the first quarter had ended in a 4-4 deadlock. "She made it a point to tell me this is the first game she hasn't started," Colonels coach Ryan Dowler said of Applin, the team's leading scorer. "But I have my own reasons for doing that."

It was more of the same in the second half, as Applin dominated inside to help the Colonels pull away. She finished with 21 points and 17 rebounds, both game highs. Chelsea Academy (2-6) struggled with turnovers in the first half, totaling 21 combined in the first two quarters, but settled down in the second half after coach Mark Clark delivered his first half-time "chewing out" of the season. "They killed us," Clark said of the turnovers. "We're really young. We have two eighth-graders starting varsity and two ninth-graders. Three of the girls never played basketball before, so we are learning from the ground level — things like blocking out, we have to block out."

"And my girls tend to panic when someone pressures them. I'm trying to get them to pass, to look and pass. And actually in the third quarter, that's the best passing they've done all season." Chelsea Academy did pick up the scoring in the fourth quarter, as Helena Briggs scored six of her team-high 10 points in that frame. But Applin would not be denied, as she closed out the game with 10 fourth-quarter points. "We executed the plays better," Applin said. "Some of us got tired, but we got back into the game toward the end."

The Colonels did struggle mightily in the first

MMA, B3



Gone golfing
Warriors win title at district tournament held at Rock Harbor
Sports, C1

WINCHESTER STANDOFF



Tactical team officers ride on Warren County's armored Bearcat vehicle after leaving the scene on Shawnee Avenue in Winchester following a standoff that lasted several hours on Tuesday.

Vineyard to bottle wines for foundation

Proceeds from sale of two varieties will help battlefield preservation

By Preston Knight
pknight@nvdaily.com

NEW MARKET — There is not a victorious soldier around who would pass on raising a toast to the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation's latest fundraising initiative.

Through an exclusive bottling of two kinds of wines from Mt. Jackson's Cave Ridge Vineyards, the nonprofit organization will receive a portion of the sales to devote to preserving and interpreting Civil War sites throughout the valley.

The wines are a Chambourcin, which is aged for 10 months in French oak barrels and pairs well with cheeses and cured meats, and a Viognier, aged in oak barrels and steel vats to give it rich flavor, according to Cave Ridge owner Randy Phillips. Viognier was designated by the Virginia Wine Board this year as the state's signature white wine.

The foundation unveiled the wines during a preservation announcement at the Third Winchester Battlefield on Saturday. The proceeds will help put a dent into one of the most important numbers that lingers — 13,000 acres of battlefield land in the national historic district that remains to be preserved, Executive Director Denman Zirkle said.

A person who has helped decrease the number to that point was honored Saturday when the foundation surprised Kathleen Kilpatrick, the director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and a foundation trustee, with its prestigious Carrington Williams preservation award. Williams was the chairman of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District Commission, as well as the founding chairman of the group's successor, the current battlefields foundation. He died in 2002.

Chairman Nicholas Picerno presented Kilpatrick, whom he called his "hero," with a miniature version of a bowl that is engraved with all of the preservation award winners' names. Among the names on it is William J. Howell, the speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates and chairman of the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission. He sat beside Kilpatrick on Saturday.

She talked briefly about everything that preservation provides for the public, including a spiritual uplifting of bringing everyone together to appreciate history. "When things are lost," Kilpatrick said, "they're lost forever."

City man gives self up after keeping police at bay for more than two hours

By Alex Bridges
abridges@nvdaily.com

WINCHESTER — A city man who threatened to harm himself with a gun surrendered to authorities after a nearly 21/2-hour standoff Tuesday.

The incident ended without shots fired or injuries reported, but the man remains hospitalized and under observation, according to city police Sgt. Frank Myrtle.

Emergency dispatchers received a call at 11:05 a.m. about a 22-year-old man at 252 Shawnee Ave. who threatened to harm himself and possibly had access to firearms, Myrtle said. Authorities would not release the man's name because police have not charged him with any criminal offenses and continue to treat the matter as a medical issue, Myrtle added later that day. Authorities also recovered at least one firearm, but Myrtle would not say exactly how many or what kind they found.

Myrtle would not comment on whether police had an outstanding warrant for the man's arrest.

A man hospitalized under these circumstances typically will be examined by crisis care workers, followed by more treatment at another facility, Myrtle explained. Police also can seek a temporary detention order to keep the man in a hospital or other facility if needed, according to Myrtle.

"We received calls from a family member in reference to the welfare of an individual inside the residence," Myrtle told reporters after the incident. "Basically, there was some concern reference to him possibly harming himself. ... There was belief that he did have a firearm with him."

Family members were inside the home at the time the man began making threats, according to Myrtle. Authorities suspect alcohol may have been involved, Myrtle said.

"The members of the family were able to get out of the house without being harmed," Myrtle said, but



Winchester police stand outside 252 Shawnee Ave. after a standoff with a city man ended on Tuesday.

WARREN COUNTY

Black bear activity on the rise

By Kaitlin Mayhew
kmayhew@nvdaily.com

FRONT ROYAL — Black bears have been rummaging through trash bins and garbage cans in some new areas of Warren County this year.

Michael Dawson, who lives on Commonwealth Drive, said that he's always seen bears in the area, but this year has been the worst of all.

"I have a 400-pound bear that has twice been into my garage, and we have come face-to-face with it twice in the last two weeks," he said.

Dawson said that one morning he put his garbage can out for pickup at 4:30 a.m. and that by 4:45 a.m. the bear was in

his driveway.

"It makes you scared to be outside of your house after dark or let your kids or the dog go outside," he said. "If a human was entering my house or property I would have the right to use deadly force I felt threatened, but if I shoot a bear I will prosecuted for poaching and using a firearm within city limits."

Similar concerns were voiced during a public hearing at a Sept. 12 Town Council meeting by residents Patricia Kaesir and John Fusto, who both live on Happy Ridge Drive.

Kaesir and that she has had several problems with a bear at her house and has had no luck deterring it. She said she tried bright



Fred Frenzel, district wildlife biologist for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, sets a bear trap west of Front Royal in 2008. Residents are again complaining of bear troubles.

GOP contenders scramble for cash

By Philip Elliot and Kasie Hunt
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Only three Republican presidential candidates are worth any money — campaign money, that is.

Mitt Romney, Rick Perry and Ron Paul have banked millions. But the other GOP candidates are struggling or broke, putting their candidacies in question four months before the first nominating contests take place.

Ahead of a critical fundraising deadline Friday, all of the GOP's contenders — regardless of the level of their financial health — are furiously courting donors in Texas, Georgia, Washington and elsewhere. It's a last-minute attempt to pick up cash before they file a three-month summary that will measure one aspect of the financial strength of their campaigns.

"With the support of people like you, we will be able to get America back to work again," Romney wrote to his email list Tuesday while he personally pressed donors in New York to pony up.

The candidates' own cash is just part of the picture because, this year, outside groups are allowed to raise and spend unlimited amounts of money to back specific candidates.

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REGION

Room to grow
Blue Ridge Educational Center relocates to new home. B1

NATION

D.C. monument rappelling delayed
Lightning holds up "daredevil" work for inspection. A3

VALLEY SCENE

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Standoff

Continued from A1

added he did not know how many people had been in the home.

Police began evacuating residents from neighboring homes, Myrtle said. Officers blocked off Shawnee Avenue as well as Leicester Street near the residence.

Members of the city police crisis negotiation and SWAT teams assisted. The agency also received help from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office and a state police SWAT team. The Warren County Sheriff's Office responded with its armored vehicle. A crew from the South End Fire and Rescue Station also stood by in case needed.

Some residents driving down Parkway Street saw that police had blocked Leicester Street and indicated that they lived in the area. At least one bus driver with Winchester Public Schools could not drop off pupils on a road blocked off during the incident. School district Executive Director Kevin McKew came to the scene to assist the bus driver.

A mail carrier with the U.S. Postal Service arrived to find part of his route blocked. Police escorted him through and let him deliver to some residences.

"They told me where I could go and where I could not go, OK, so I complied and, yes, they have been helpful," said Steve Harron. "People probably won't get their mail delivered today but I'm sure they understand why. I mean, if they clear it up quick enough I'll come back out and deliver it if they want me to."

Regina Blowe, a friend of the man's family, said she received a call from his mother, who asked her to come to the house. Blowe, 34, stood outside the blocked area waiting to be escorted closer to the home, and expressed surprise about situation.

At about 1:30 p.m. the man came out of the residence and police took him to Winchester Medical Center for a psychological evaluation, Myrtle said. Officers checked the home for other occupants, then searched for firearms. Family and friends then were allowed back into the home shortly before 2 p.m.



Rich Cooley/Daily

A member of Winchester police tactical team walks outside East Leicester Street as he moves into position during the standoff.

Money

Continued from A1

dates. And allies of Romney, Perry and Paul all have formed so-called SuperPACs to help their preferred candidates win the nomination.

That money aside, Romney is likely to post the strongest fundraising numbers, although his spokeswoman, Andrea Saul, said he'll raise "considerably less" than he did in the first three months of the year. In that period he reported gathering \$18 million.

Perry donors claim he could hit \$10 million, raised since he entered the race early last month. His advisers, however, dispute that.

Paul's campaign asked supporters to celebrate the Texas congressman's Aug. 20 birthday with a donation — and they gave him \$1.6 million on that day alone.

The rest of the field lags far, far behind.

Jon Huntsman, the former Utah governor who is in the single digits in most

state and national public opinion polls, recently had to write himself a half-million dollar check to keep his campaign afloat. Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann spent so much money in Iowa in August to win a statewide test vote that her web videos look more amateurish than professional now. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich is still mired in debt. Herman Cain, the former pizza company executive, has loaned himself hundreds of thousands of dollars so he can keep running. And Rick Santorum's team acknowledges that the former Pennsylvania senator is barely scraping by.

All of these second- and third-tier candidates are trying to prove that they are still viable while trying to gather enough cash to pay for polling and advertising to push them through the pack. That's only going to get harder. Campaign fundraising is time-intensive and expensive. It limits time candidates can spend with voters. The meetings are private, limiting a candidate's ability to earn "free media" from news coverage.

Bears

Continued from A1

lights and loud noises, and nothing seemed to work.

"I tried keeping my garbage in my garage [as advised by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries] and have since had problems with mice and maggots," she said.

Kaesir said that when she called she was told she could do nothing to harm the bear, not even throw anything at it.



Rich Cooley/Daily file

A black bear is shown in area woods in 2008. Warren County residents have complained of an increase of black bears rummaging through trash cans in recent months. Officials say black bears frequent Front Royal and the surrounding county because of the proximity of Shenandoah National Park.

"I feel the laws protect the bear and not me as a person," she said. "I am now afraid to take my dog out at any time of the day or night."

Fusto said he thinks the problem has gotten worse since he first moved to the area, which was seven years ago.

"I think there's a huge bear problem in this town," he said. "And when you call for assistance they tell you 'Don't hurt the bear, they were here first.'"

At the meeting Mayor Timothy Darr responded, saying, "We are very concerned about this and we are definitely looking at this and looking at it very seriously."

Town Manager Steve Burke said is aware that bears have been seen more frequently in the area. He said the town is exploring several options such as a heavy-duty trash cans, and speaking with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to consider if some sort of removal program can be re-adopted.

"You shouldn't do anything to provoke the bear more so for your safety," he said.

Front Royal Public Works administrative assistant Lynn Mitchell said she has been getting more calls from residents interested in having their trash cans bear-proofed, which consists of the bin being outfitted with heavy-duty chains.

Mitchell said as far as she has heard from callers, the bear-proofing is working.

"I only remember one call saying it didn't work," she said. "We're definitely not going to stop them, we're just going to deter them."

[Bears] are not aggressive, they are very easy to scare off. In my personal opinion they are very lazy. They will find the easiest thing they can eat, and they will just sit there and eat it until it's gone or you take it away."

JAIME SAJECKI, BEAR PROJECT LEADER WITH THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES

Jaime Sajecki, bear project leader at the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, said that the bear population is not necessarily growing to an unnatural number, but returning to its former state.

She said the entire state was the native range for black bears, but that in the late 1800s unregulated hunting and loss of habitat due to cutting down forests for agricultural purposes left the animals almost completely gone by the early 1900s.

Since the development of hunting seasons that start later in the year; to prevent the shooting of pregnant bears, and some re-growth of agricultural land, the bear population is now growing at a rate of about 9 percent to 10 percent a year.

The state's bear management plan, which started in 2001, dictates what should be done about bear populations in each area.

"All were either increased or stabilized," said Sajecki.

However, she said the agency is working on a new plan in which she thinks the goal for certain areas may change to decreasing the population. The

area involved in the plan would include Frederick, Shenandoah, Rockingham and Warren counties.

According to Sajecki, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has no plans to restart a bear relocation plan.

"Most people want bears taken away because they got into their bird feeder. The problem is what is attracting the bear to the area," she said. "That's not the only bear in that area. We can't just keep picking up bears and moving them around."

She also said the relocation program was used to move bears to areas where they were trying to increase populations.

"Moving bears doesn't really solve any problems. There are certain things that people can do to prevent bears from being a problem," she said. "They don't want to be around people, they just love what we put out."

Sajecki said that most people who are afraid of bears simply don't know much about them.

"Bears have the capability of being dangerous and causing a lot of damage, but they rarely ever do," she said. "They are not aggressive, they are very easy to scare off. In my personal opinion they are very lazy."

They will find the easiest thing they can eat, and they will just sit there and eat it until it's gone or you take it away."

She also pointed out that no one has been killed or attacked by a bear in Virginia, other than in a couple of hunting incidents.

Fred Frenzel, district wildlife biologist with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, is responsible for taking phone calls for five counties, including Warren.

He said he gets a lot of calls from the Front Royal area, primarily because Shenandoah National Park is so close.

"I don't think I've necessarily been getting more calls this year, but I've been getting calls from different areas," he said.

Frenzel said he used to get a lot of calls from the Royal Arms Apartments and he knows that recently they got new trash bins that can be better secured.

"It may be that some of these bears are looking elsewhere [for food]," he said. "They had gotten habituated to going there and getting a free meal and they may be starting to look in some of the neighboring areas."

Administration fights disclosing bin Laden photos

By Richard Lardner
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Public disclosure of graphic photos and video taken of Osama bin Laden after he was killed in May by U.S. commandos would damage national security and lead to attacks on American property and personnel, the Obama administration contends in a court documents.

In a response late Monday to a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit filed by Judicial Watch, a conservative watchdog group seeking the imagery, Justice Department attorneys said the CIA has located 52 photographs and video recordings. But they argued the images of the deceased bin Laden are classified and are being withheld from the public to avoid inciting violence against Americans overseas and compromising secret systems and techniques used by the CIA and the military.

The Justice Department has asked the court to dismiss Judicial Watch's lawsuit because the records the group wants are "wholly exempt from disclosure," according to the filing.

The Associated Press has filed Freedom of Informa-

tion Act requests to review a range of materials, such as contingency plans for bin Laden's capture and copies of DNA tests confirming the al-Qaida leader's identity. The AP also has asked for video and photographs taken from the mission, including photos made of bin Laden after he was killed.

The Obama administration refused AP's request to quickly consider its request for the records. AP appealed the decision, arguing that unnecessary bureaucratic delays harm the public interest and allow anonymous U.S. officials to selectively leak details of the mission.

Navy Adm. William McRaven, the top officer at U.S. Special Operations Command, said in a declaration that releasing the imagery could put the special operations team that carried out the assault on bin Laden's compound at risk by making them "more readily identifiable in the future." Before his current assignment, McRaven led the Joint Special Operations Command, the organization in charge of the military specialized counterterrorism units.

Lottery

These numbers were drawn Tuesday in the following lotteries:

Virginia

Pick 3: 4-3-1
Pick 4: 0-8-0-8
Cash 5: 15-16-20-23-28
Mega Millions: 2-20-28-36-45
Mega ball: 37
Midday Pick 3: 0-6-8
Midday Pick 4: 4-2-9-8
Midday Cash 5: 2-9-13-15-32

Washington, D.C.

Lucky Numbers: 9-4-5
D.C. Four: 4-4-5-5
D.C. 5: 1-9-0-8-4
Midday Lucky Numbers: 9-3-8
Midday D.C. Four: 3-8-8-8
Midday D.C. 5: 4-5-4-5-0

West Virginia

Daily 3: 1-8-0
Daily 4: 4-0-3-2
Cash 25: 5-6-8-9-12-13

— AP

Congress faces new shutdown threat

Dispute over disaster funds payment highlights perils of partisan politics

By Donna Cassata
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — One crisis averted, on to the next. The day after Congress managed to avoid a government shutdown — again — Republicans and Democrats stared ahead Tuesday at major fights over spending that underscore a deep divide that's sure to define the fast-approaching national elections.

Monday night, lawmakers had postponed their dispute over whether billions for disaster aid must be paid for with cuts elsewhere in the budget, finessing a pact to keep the government operating.

But tea party-driven Republicans are still insisting on significant spending

cuts this fall, with some arguing that a hard-fought congressional agreement this summer to fund the government at \$1.043 trillion in 2012 was too generous. Democrats, many of whom complained of too many concessions and reductions in this year's showdowns, are furiously trying to protect government programs.

The next skirmish will be over how and where to spend the new year's budget, with a Nov. 18 deadline for that legislation. President Obama's \$447 billion jobs proposal that would cut payroll taxes and increase spending on school construction and other infrastructure has already divided the parties. But the next really big deal is the special 12-

member bipartisan supercommittee and whether it can come up with a plan to slash \$1.5 trillion over 10 years by Nov. 23 — the day before Thanksgiving.

These fights will unfold against the backdrop of a feeble economy that Obama is desperate to jump-start as he pushes for a second term, and an exasperated electorate that looks at Washington and dislikes what it sees.

Lawmakers also will be under pressure from political factions demanding that they stand firm for party beliefs.

Shortly after Senate votes on Monday, Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., thanked party leaders "for helping the Democratic Party find the backbone it needed to fight and win this debate."

The disaster aid dispute that threatened to partially shut down the government

this weekend was resolved relatively quickly after a standoff between Democrats and Republicans. The fight, however, was an unpleasant reminder to most Americans of the last-minute maneuvering in April to avert a shutdown and the August showdown over raising the nation's borrowing authority that left financial markets unnerved.

This time, Democrats had spent weeks demanding additional disaster aid in response to hurricanes, tornadoes and other natural disasters that had battered Americans from Vermont to Missouri. Republicans had said the additional aid had to be offset by cuts in energy-related programs that Democrats favored. The Federal Emergency Management Agency had warned that its accounts would be out of money early this week.

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