



**JOHN KELLY'S WASHINGTON**

Jessica Richards teaches children at Camp Moss Hollow about the environment. **B3**



**THE DISTRICT**

A woman is charged with abuse after her disabled mother is left in a hot car for 16 hours. **B4**



**OBITUARIES**

U.S. District Judge James Turk struck down a Virginia policy on what inmates could read. **B6**



Cate Vasquez walks her dog near where trees were planted in Leesburg, Va., as part of a project to honor the Civil War dead.

## Living memorials to Civil War dead

Project is planting trees along 180 miles of roadway and through an area rich in American history

BY WESLEY ROBINSON

The newest trees along U.S. Route 15 come with stories of Civil War troops.

One freshly planted rising sun redbud in Leesburg, Va., honors Joseph T. Bosworth, a young man from Massachusetts who fought with the 1st Rhode Island Cavalry. He died at the Battle of Antietam.

A young sassafras nearby was dedicated to Daniel M. Barringer, who joined the Confederate Army in Corinth, Miss., fought with the 17th Mississippi Company and is buried in Union Cemetery in Leesburg. He was wounded at the Battle of Fredericksburg and died about a



PHOTOS BY KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Denise Winter and Carol Polkinghorne attend a ceremony to dedicate trees planted by the Living Legacy project. They are with the Dixie Rose Relief Society, a Civil War historical group.

month after he was discharged.

They are among 1,413 trees that have been planted so far to commemorate the Civil War dead through the nonprofit Journey Through Hallowed Ground (JTHG) Living Legacy Tree Planting Project. Though organizers acknowledge that the \$74 million plan is ambitious, their aim is to plant a tree for each of an estimated 740,000 troops killed in the War between the States.

Cate Magennis Wyatt, founder and president of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, said the trees — each funded by a \$100 donation — are being planted along a 180-mile stretch from Thomas

**LEGACY CONTINUED ON B2**

## Teen's lawyer says police want explicit photo in 'sexting' case

BY TOM JACKMAN

Manassas City police and Prince William County prosecutors are taking a unique approach to collecting evidence in a "sexting" case involving a 17-year-old male: Authorities want to take a photo of the teen's erect genitalia to compare with a cellphone video allegedly sent to his girlfriend, his attorneys said.

The case has sparked anger

from the boy's family, local lawyers and legal observers, who say that the amount of time and resources spent by law enforcement on private messages between teens is excessive.

The teen's attorneys are particularly incensed that investigators want to take him to a hospital for an injection that would force him to become erect.

The teen is facing two felony charges in juvenile court, manu-

facturing and distributing child pornography, which could lead not only to incarceration until he's 21 but also to inclusion on the state sex offender registry, at a judge's discretion, for up to the rest of his life.

"The prosecutor's job is to seek justice," said the teen's defense attorney, Jessica Harbeson Foster. "What is just about this? How does this advance the interest of the commonwealth? ... Taking him

down to the hospital so he can get an erection in front of all those cops, that's traumatizing."

Manassas City police released a statement Wednesday night saying that the case was opened because the teen allegedly sent "pornographic videos ... after repeatedly being told to stop." The police said it was not their policy, nor the prosecutors', "to authorize invasive search procedures of suspects in cases of this nature, and no such

procedures have been conducted in this case."

Foster noted the warrant was discussed by prosecutors twice in open court, both before and after it was obtained, although it had not been made public because it has not been served — a Prince William judge allowed the 17-year-old to leave the area before the warrant was served and the pho-

**SEXTING CONTINUED ON B4**

## Insurer shifting balance in health care

CareFirst program pays internists more in bid to cut costs for patients

BY JAY HANCOCK  
*Kaiser Health News*

A few years ago, it struck the Washington region's biggest medical insurer that the doctors who saw its members most often and knew them best got the smallest piece of the health-care dollar.

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield spent billions of dollars on hospital procedures, drugs and specialty physicians to treat sick patients. Only one dollar in 20 went to the family-care doctors and other primary caregivers trained to keep people healthy.

The company's move to shift that balance tells a lesser-known story of the Affordable Care Act and efforts to change the health system.

While much attention has focused on expanded coverage and online insurance bazaars, CareFirst and many others are deciding that the internists and general practitioners who have largely been left behind by health care's financial boom are the key to improving Americans' health and cutting the cost of care.

"As long as I can remember, family physicians and general internists have been financially at

**CAREFIRST CONTINUED ON B4**

## Golfers who are blind inspire, top my score



Robert McCartney

routinely beat me with no special assistance except a sighted coach to help him line up his shots.

Inspired, because anyone who overcomes such a severe handicap in the devilish sport represents a physical and psychological triumph.

I had the pleasure recently of meeting a pair of national champions of vision-impaired golf and witnessing their remarkable ability.

Phil Blackwell, who is 100 percent blind, and Bruce Hooper, who is legally blind but can see a tiny bit, consistently whacked straight tee shots and mastered putting greens at the driving range at Woodmont Country Club

in Rockville.

Both are 68 years old and coached by their wives, Sybil Blackwell and Judy Hooper, who demonstrated the painstaking steps needed to properly align golfer, club and ball.

The couples were at Woodmont to prepare to be the star attractions at a charity golf tournament Friday on behalf of Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind.

Lots of nonprofit groups sponsor golf tournaments, but not like this one. It's to be played at night, using glow-in-the-dark balls, and is appropriately named Shot in the Dark Golf & Dinner Classic.

Blackwell and Hooper have put their rare skill to philanthropic use by appearing in such tournaments across the country. They've raised money for charities that assist the blind as well as others, including the Wounded Warrior Project.

**MCCARTNEY CONTINUED ON B3**

### A tribute to a trailblazer



BILL O'LEARY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Mourners file past former Prince George's county executive Wayne K. Curry's coffin in the county administration building in Upper Marlboro. Curry, who was the first African American to lead Prince George's, died at 63 on July 2 after a battle with lung cancer.



VIRGINIA

# Woman’s slaying mystifies family, co-workers

BY RACHEL WEINER

At 17, Asabech Abayneh found herself raising three young boys in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, cooking from scratch and washing laundry by hand. Their mother, her sister, had moved to Virginia. Over time, the children left to join their mother, and Abayneh followed about nine years ago.

In the United States, Abayneh found a job at an Ethiopian cafe and market in Falls Church, just a few months after it opened. Her co-workers became another family to nurture. She worked long hours, attended church daily and shared her sister’s one-bedroom apartment in Alexandria.

Abayneh was found dead in that apartment Friday, strangled in a crime that has mystified her relatives and co-workers. The 43-year-old had no enemies, they said, and nothing in her life seemed amiss.

“She was working on Thursday all day with us. Everything was

fine and perfect,” said Birhan Awol, the owner of the cafe where Abayneh worked. A co-worker drove her home safely that evening, he said.

Awol described Abayneh as a “mother figure” who would always make sure the other employees had eaten breakfast and made time to feed themselves during busy lunch hours. She often worked 12 hours a day, six days a week, he said. In six years, she never took a vacation. When she wasn’t at the cafe, he said, she was at church.

“Her life was church and work, church and work,” Awol said. “She’s just a hardworking woman, the most wonderful woman I have ever known.”

Yonas Mekonen, Abayneh’s nephew, echoed that praise, saying his aunt was responsible for him and his brothers when his mother left Ethiopia for the United States.

“She pretty much took care of the whole family,” said Mekonen, 35. “She sacrificed all her life to

take care of us.”

Friday was supposed to be Abayneh’s day off, but Awol asked her to come in at 10 a.m. in case the Fourth of July brought an influx of customers. At 10:40, the very

shared apartment while Abayneh slept in the den. Two rooms separated them, he said, and his mother heard nothing. There were no signs of a break-in or a struggle.

Abayneh and her sister lived on

lives in the area. As far as the family or her co-workers know she had no boyfriend. “We can’t think of anyone or anything who would do such a thing,” he said. “She was very humble and trustworthy, and all in all a good soul.”

Her death is the third unsolved killing in Alexandria this year.

Last month, Julio Caesar Urrutia-Erazo, 27, was shot in the Arlandia neighborhood and died several days later. Police said that the shooting occurred after an argument and that they are looking for a muscular, 5-foot-8 light-skinned Hispanic male, 18 to 30 years old, with a shaved head and tattooed arms.

In February, Ruthanne Lodato was shot and killed in her North Ridge home. Police have said Charles Severance is the focus of their investigation into that death and two others, but he has not been charged. He is being held in Loudoun County on an unrelated firearm charge.

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Asabech Abayneh

*“We can’t think of anyone or anything who would do such a thing. She was very humble and trustworthy, and all in all a good soul.”*

Yonas Mekonen, Asabech Abayneh’s nephew

punctual employee still had not arrived. Awol called her cell-phone, and her sister answered. As they spoke on the phone, Awol said, Abayneh’s sister discovered the body.

Mekonen said his mother was sleeping in the bedroom of the

Derby Court in Alexandria’s West End, in a large apartment complex that faces an elementary school and a recreation center.

“It’s kind of a mystery,” Mekonen said. Abayneh was married once but has been divorced for years, he said, and her ex-husband no longer

## Keeping nation’s history alive

LEGACY FROM BI

Jefferson’s Albemarle County estate, Monticello, to Gettysburg, Pa.

Visitors can search an interactive online map that shows each tree and includes details about the person it honors.

The tree-planting project came about after then-Gov. Robert F. McDonnell asked communities to plan an unusual way to observe the sesquicentennial of the war, which was fought from 1861 to 1865, Magennis Wyatt said. She said her group, which is dedicated to historic preservation, wanted to do something other than a “flagpole or another monument,” eventually arriving at the idea for the tree allée.

“My joke was that God had spoken to her through a burning redwood bush,” said Peter Hart, an arborist and volunteer with JTHG.

When the project began, Magennis Wyatt noted, the number of Civil War dead was estimated at 620,000. Now historians put it at 740,000. Organizers said they are considering tagging existing trees to advance the goal of recognizing as many troops as possible. At a dedication ceremony last month, at Outlands Historic Home and Gardens in Leesburg, Magennis Wyatt noted that there was not nearly enough room to plant a tree every 10 feet along the entire 180-mile route.

Many of the trees are redbuds, but the project is also using a variety of maples, eastern red cedars and flowering dogwoods. Hart, who took part in the selection process, said they picked colorful variations but also hearty trees that can flourish next to a well-traveled roadway, where they must withstand heat from the pavement, high winds and road salt.

Christopher Shott of New Bedford, Mass., said he came across the project online and decided to donate a redbud to honor Bosworth.

Shott doesn’t have any direct family ties to the Civil War; his relatives came to the United States later. Still, he felt a kinship with Bosworth because they had lived in the same town, Swansea, Mass.

“He made me feel like I have a connection to the Civil War,” Shott said.

One of the challenges the project faces, organizers said, is collecting information about the slain troops. Magennis Wyatt said about half of the soldiers died anonymously. She said there was no American Red Cross, government-issued dog tags or comprehensive registry. Wartime contributions of Native Americans, African Americans and women went largely unheralded.

The project has joined with Ancestry.com and Fold3.com to pro-



PHOTOS BY KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Above, Cub Scouts Braden Scott, left, and Joshua Lierni, with troop leaders David Scott, center, and Clint Smith, stand at attention for the national anthem before the tree-dedication ceremony in Leesburg. At top, the U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps plays en route to the ceremony.

vide biographical sketches of the troops. It is uploading biographical information to the Web site and trying to verify information with descendants, historians and others.

At last month’s dedication ceremony, for 500 recently planted trees, Jimmy Cunningham, 14, presented his research on Barringer. Jimmy, who lives in Leesburg, has attended a JTHG summer camp for the past three years and will serve as a junior counselor this summer. He was asked to participate in the research project by the JTHG staff and teamed up with his grandmother to investigate Barringer’s life.

Jimmy found that Barringer was injured in battle but died after he had been discharged. The death was attributed to “leprosy” and “disease of the head.” Jimmy also learned that Barringer’s father was a wealthy man, which

*“It was apparent that we were taking a lot for granted, not just the bricks and mortar but the people who lived on this land and created this country.”*

Cate Magennis Wyatt, founder and president of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, about the motivation for the Living Legacy tree-planting project

raised questions about why he went to war.

“It stimulated a lot of conversation in our home,” said MaryKirk Cunningham, Jimmy’s mother.

Cunningham said her son’s research also helped him become interested in family history. An ancestor on her side, Briscoe Goodhart, was a member of the Loudoun Rangers, a partisan cavalry unit that fought for the Union in the Civil War.

“For us, it’s really great. . . . He went beyond our family but stayed connected to his nana through our family,” Cunningham said.

Michelle Kellogg, director of the JTHG National Heritage area, said the stretch where the trees are being planted, rich with historic sites, is a fitting place for such a tribute. She noted the region’s nine presidential homes and high concentration of Civil

War battle sites.

“This region is essential in helping Americans and visitors understand our history,” Kellogg said.

The Hallowed Grounds partnership was created several years back by Magennis Wyatt, a former Virginia secretary of commerce, and others worried about development’s effect on the historic area. They were motivated, in part, by Disney’s attempt in the 1990s to create a historic theme park in the region and by proposals to build a casino in Gettysburg and condos near Monticello.

“It was apparent that we were taking a lot for granted,” Magennis Wyatt said, “not just the bricks and mortar but the people who lived on this land and created this country.”

Ellen Vogel, a landscape architect with the Virginia Department of Transportation, said another challenge of the project is finding enough space for the trees in the corridor, about half of which is in Virginia. She said VDOT worked to provide the necessary guidance and flexibility.

“It’s great that Virginia has a scenic byway. There are so few of those across the country,” Vogel said. “But we have a lot of history here. I think it’s fitting.”

Hart’s great-great-uncles Charles and William Davis and Jason Hart were killed in the war. His great-great-grandfather James Hart was wounded twice but survived.

“You combine my love for my family history and my love for trees and this living legacy project has captured me,” Hart said.

Shott, who flew to Virginia for the ceremony last month, said he visited Bosworth’s grave in Sharpsburg, Md., early that Sunday to pay his respects before going to see the rising sun redbud planted in the soldier’s honor.

“I just try to understand why they did what they did to the point they’d die for something they believed in,” Shott said. “The least we can do is remember them.”

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THE DISTRICT

# Students’ gains on test scores questioned

BY EMMA BROWN

A group of education advocates is calling on the District to release more information about students’ performance on city tests, arguing that the limited data released in years past has overstated city schools’ progress.

Elaine Weiss of the Broader, Bolder Approach to Education — a group that has been critical of education policies that have taken root in the District, such as charter schools and test-based accountability — wrote in an analysis to be released Thursday that “lack of transparency, combined with cherry-picking specific numbers” has enabled the city to “paint a false picture of progress,” particularly among poor and African American students.

The call for more detailed information comes as the Office of the State Superintendent of Education prepares to release scores on the 2014 city tests — known as the D.C. CAS — in August.

OSSE officials say they do plan to release additional test score data this year in an effort to be more transparent. But spokesman Briant Coleman said the agency “strongly disagrees” with Broader, Bolder’s report, which he said contained “numerous errors and inaccurate information.”

“We stand by the validity and reliability of the DC-CAS,” Coleman wrote in an e-mail. “We appreciate the work and progress our students continue to make.”

OSSE annually releases data showing the percentage of students who fall into each of four categories on the test: below basic, basic, proficient and advanced. In 2013, the percent of children considered proficient or above jumped four points, gains that Chancellor Kaya Henderson and Mayor Vincent C. Gray (D) celebrated as historic.

Weiss argues that D.C. CAS proficiency rates are an ineffective way to assess student progress because the definition of “proficiency” is vague.

D.C. CAS tests are scored on a 99-point scale, and students are deemed proficient if they meet or exceed a “cut score” set by educators and test developers. Last year, D.C. teachers recommended setting a new and higher bar for proficiency to reflect higher expectations of students under the Common Core State Standards. OSSE quietly decided not to adopt the new bar — which would have resulted in lower proficiency rates — in order to maintain the comparability of scores over time.

Weiss said the city should release students’ underlying test scores, separated by race, poverty and disability status.

Those underlying scores show that during the past few years, the city has made less progress than leaders have claimed and that gaps between white and black children, and poor and low-income children, are growing across many grade levels, according to Weiss’s analysis.

OSSE officials said they plan to release underlying scores for each school and student subgroup for the first time this year.

The District made the largest gains in the country on the 2013 National Assessment of Educational Progress, supporting the gains that city leaders announced on the 2013 CAS. But Weiss — echoing D.C. Council members, D.C. activists and others — said the NAEP gains masked growing achievement gaps and were driven by demographic change as city schools enrolled more high-scoring white students.

Melissa Salzmanowitz, a D.C. schools spokeswoman, said the school system is confident in the accuracy of D.C. CAS results that showed widespread gains.

“It’s incredibly disappointing that this group refuses to believe what is clear in the D.C. CAS data, that our students are making historic progress,” she said. “They’re using fuzzy math and distortions to create a narrative that simply is not true. Every indicator, from test scores to attendance to student satisfaction, shows how DCPS is moving in the right direction.”

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THE DAILY QUIZ	MEMBER EXCLUSIVES	2014 TREASURE HUNT	
<p>Where is Phoenix Handcraft, a mosaic and metalwork shop, based?</p> <p><i>(Hint: The answer is in today's Local Living section.)</i></p> <p><b>EARN 5 POINTS:</b> Find the answer, then go to <a href="http://washingtonpost.com/postpoints">washingtonpost.com/postpoints</a> and click on "Quizzes" to enter the correct response.</p>	<p><b>Spend \$250 on Offenbacher's In-Stock Replacement Cushions and Get a Throw Pillow Free!</b></p> <p>World Cup scores have you feeling low? Let the Offenbacher's special cushion the blow. With more than 46 years of experience and eight convenient locations shop outdoor furniture, pads, umbrellas, hammocks, lamps, rugs, mirrors and more. Swing by today; see what's in store. See details at <a href="http://washingtonpost.com/postpoints">washingtonpost.com/postpoints</a>, Coupons &amp; Discounts.</p>	<div><p>Hook is craving a "new-wave" red. Shiver me timbers, it's stuck in his head. He considers going straight to a pub. But then orders a case from <i>The Post Wine Club</i>. What is the name of this <i>new-wave red</i> that Hook wants so badly?</p><p><i>(Hint: See <a href="http://washingtonpostwine.com">washingtonpostwine.com</a>)</i></p><p><b>EARN 5 POINTS AND A CHANCE TO WIN GREAT PRIZES!</b> Answer our Treasure Hunt question, then go to <a href="http://washingtonpost.com/postpoints">washingtonpost.com/postpoints</a> and click "Quizzes" to enter your response.</p></div>	<div><p><b>5 WINNERS EVERY WEEK!</b></p><p><b>Not a PostPoints member yet? It's FREE! Sign up to start reaping immediate rewards.</b></p><p><b>PostPoints</b></p><p><a href="http://washingtonpost.com/postpoints">washingtonpost.com/postpoints</a></p></div>