

Fixer Upper

NEWS, PAGE 4

Neglected for more than 14 years, the Clifton Town Council is hoping to find a way to restore Old Town Hall.

SPORTS, PAGE 18 ♦ FAITH, PAGE 9 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 21

PHOTO BY AMBER HEALY/THE CONNECTION



inside



73 Years For Murder

NEWS, PAGE 3

Soldier Thinking Of Home

NEWS, PAGE 8

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CRIME

Activities reported by the Sully District of the Fairfax County police department through May 19.

BURGLARY OF OCCUPIED

DWELLING/ARREST
5400 block of Gladewright Drive.
A 57-year-old Centreville woman witnessed a burglar in her home on Wednesday, May 14 around 3:45 p.m. She was in the basement of her home in the 5400 block of Gladewright Drive when she saw a man run out the sliding glass door. It appeared that nothing was taken and the suspect entered through an unlocked sliding door. An investigation led police to question Scott Sanford, of 5400 block of Goldmoore Court in Centreville. Sanford, 27, was taken to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged with burglary.

LARCENIES

4000 block of Airline Parkway. GPS stolen from vehicle.
5300 block of Indian Rock Road. Money stolen from residence.
13900 block of Lee Jackson Memorial Highway. License plate stolen from vehicle.
Newton Patent Drive/Manassas Gap Court. Stereo stolen from vehicle.
6700 block of Rockledge Place. Clothing stolen from business.

VEHICLE THEFTS

Virginia Chase Drive/Braddock Road. 1994 Acura Integra reported stolen.

Activities reported by the Franconia District of the Fairfax County police department through May 19.

ARMED ROBBERY

9700 block of Hagel Circle. Two Lorton men were robbed at gunpoint on Wednesday, May 14, in the 9700 block of Hagel Circle. The victims, 18 and 20 years old, were walking from a friend's house around 11 p.m. when the two suspects pointed guns at them. The suspects ordered the victims to the ground and stole several items. The 18-year-old victim was struck with the gun by one suspect. Both victims ran away. There were no injuries. The suspects were described as black, in their 20s. They were about 5 feet 9 inches tall and weighed 180 pounds. Both suspects wore black, hooded sweat shirts covering their faces and blue jeans.

ASSAULT/ARREST

3400 block of Campbell Drive. Police are investigating a reported assault that occurred on Wednesday, May 14 around 1 p.m. at Cameron Elementary School, 3434 Campbell Drive in Alexandria. A 12-year-old student was allegedly assaulted by his teacher, Maria Waugh, while in class. There appeared to be some discussion about the student's behavior that led to the alleged assault. The student was not injured. He went home and reported the incident to his parents, who called police. On Thursday, May 15, Waugh, 42, of the 6200 block of Quander Road in Alexandria, was issued a summons for assault. She was served with the warrant at the Franconia District Police Station and was released on her signature.

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All in the Family

Fairfax Station family helps Chinese orphans on road to adoption.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

Ben and Sandi Glass believe doing good in the world begins at home. Inspired by a Christian rock concert they attended several years ago, the Fairfax Station couple, who already had four children, opened their homes and their hearts to Kevin, then practically an infant, a Chinese boy with a cleft lip.

"When you start on that process, it's scary," Ben Glass said. "At first, we didn't qualify because we had too many children at home and the law in China is very strict about international adoptions."

One of Ben Glass' sisters had recently found a Web site specializing in adopting children with medical problems, such as cleft lips, a common birth defect in which a child's lips and mouth do not properly form while in the womb. It was on this Web site that the Glasses found Kevin and began the long process of making him their son.

"He was 18 months old when we first found him, and it was about an 18-month process to bring him home," Ben Glass said. "There were so many questions during that time, like can we afford another child, what would it be like to adopt a child who isn't exactly an infant, how he would fit into our

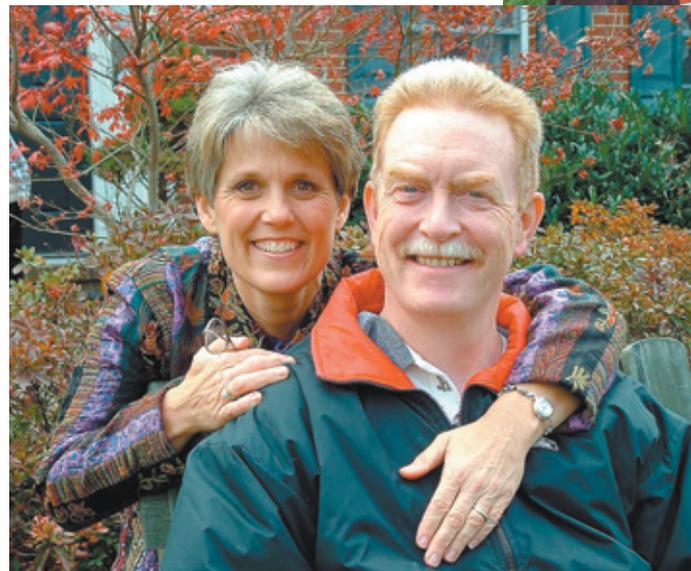
Help Children

For more information about Love Without Boundaries, go to www.lovetheboundaries.com.

family."

Following his surgery, Kevin, now almost 7, quickly became a beloved member of the family, and Ben and Sandi Glass started to

SEE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES. PAGE 7



DONATED PHOTOS

Looking to their parents for guidance, Ben and Sandy Glass' seven children are often involved in philanthropic endeavors. From left: Caitlin, Patrick, Kevin, Emma, Brian, Matt and Casey.

Ben and Sandy Glass of Fairfax Station have seven children, train for marathons and help provide funds for a house that treats cleft lip and pallet children in China.

73-Year Sentence for Cabbie's Murder

Lorton man, 23, shot Springfield man in June 2006.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

The night of his second wedding anniversary, Pervez Ahmed, a taxi driver from Springfield, was murdered by a customer he picked up at the King Street Metro Station in Alexandria on June 11, 2006.

Ahmed was not able to take his wife out for the dinner he promised her.

Father's Day was four days later, and Ahmed's daughter placed the Father's Day card she made at school in his basket.

"His murder has shattered my life and our daughter's and the lives of both our families and friends," Faiqa Ahmed wrote in a victim impact statement to the judge. "I still play his answering machine to hear his voice; feeling that the door will open

and he will come home soon."

Judge Stanley P. Klein sentenced Ahmed Izzelden Osman to 73 years in prison, 40 years for first-degree murder, 30 for robbery, and three years for use of a firearm during the commission of a felony. A Fairfax jury recommended the sentence after convicting Osman during a five-day trial in March.

"A very just and appropriate sentence," Klein said, at the conclusion of Osman's sentencing hearing on Friday, May 16, in Fairfax County Circuit Court.

"**THIS VICTIM** was just trying to make a living," said Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney John R. Murphy.

Ahmed, 46, recently began work as a taxicab driver the night of June 11, 2006, when he lined his cab up fourth in the queue at King Street Metro Station in Alexandria.

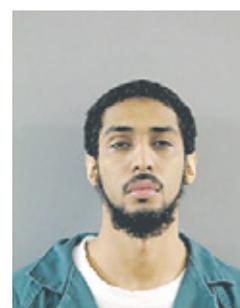
Osman approached the first driver in the line, an experienced cab driver, around 9:30 p.m. But Osman, 23, wouldn't tell the driver a precise location where he wanted to be driven.

"No, I'm not going to take you anywhere," the cab driver told Osman, Murphy said during Osman's trial.

Two other drivers also turned down the fare.

"Last thing they see is [the defendant] hop into the fourth cab, the new cab driver who doesn't know the right questions to ask," Murphy said.

Approximately 20 minutes later, Fairfax County Police found the Alexandria Yellow Cab driver lying next to his cab in the 3300 block of Arnold Lane. Ahmed had been shot twice, fatally through his back and heart



Ahmed Izzelden Osman

POLICE PHOTO

and once in the hand, which blew off part of his finger.

Emergency personnel transported Ahmed to Inova Fairfax Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

"Just thinking of the night ... makes me want to cry my heart out," Faiqa Ahmed wrote in her impact statement. "How much pain he must have endured when the bullets pierced through his body. I'm left with wondering questions; what were his last words? Did he call for help?"

Osman, formerly of Lorton, took Ahmed's American Express Card, which Osman used the day after the murder to buy Lacoste and Prada sunglasses and sports sneakers among other things.

"He killed him for no good reason except greed," said Murphy.

OSMAN TRIED to trade the murder weapon to an undercover police officer
SEE 73 YEARS. PAGE 8

"His murder has shattered my life and our daughter's and the lives of both our families and friends."

— Faiqa Ahmed, victim's wife

Robbery on Hagel Circle

Fairfax County Police are investigating a robbery on Hagel Circle last week.

Two Lorton men, ages 18 and 20, were robbed at gunpoint in the 9700 block of Hagel Circle as they were walking from a friend's house on Wednesday, May 14 at 11 p.m., according to a police release. They were approached by two suspects who pointed guns at them and ordered the victims to the ground. After the suspects stole several items, one suspect hit the 18-year-old with the gun and the suspects ran away.

The suspects were described as black men in their 20s, standing 5 feet 9 inches tall and weighing about 180 pounds. Both men were wearing black hooded sweatshirts that covered their faces and blue jeans at the time.

Anyone with information is asked to call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131, Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, send a tip via e-mail to www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or by text messaging the information and TIPS187 to CRIMES/274637.

Meet the Master Developer

The Laurel Hill Adaptive Reuse Project Advisory Committee will host a meeting on Monday, June 9 at 7p.m. to introduce the Alexander Company, a firm from Madison, Wisc. that has been selected to help plan the first phase of development at the former reformatory and penitentiary site.

The meeting, at the Laurel Hill Community Center, will be a time for residents to ask questions about the future vision of the site and plans for what may be developed there. The initial vision for the site, as outlined by the Board of Supervisors, includes retail, residential, commercial and educational uses on the 80 acre site, which features 15 structures from the former penitentiary.

For more information, contact the Department of Planning and Zoning at 703-324-1380.

Clifton Horse Society Awards Scholarships

The Clifton Horse Society recently presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Leslie Rhodes, a fourth-year veterinary student at Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech. This scholarship is presented each year to a VMRCVM student with a primary interest in equine medicine.

Additionally, the Clifton Horse Society also made a donation to Virginia Tech's Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center for a state-of-the-art equipment in the school's new molecular research lab, part of the equine hospital at Morven Park in Leesburg.

Workshop for Adoptive Parents

A workshop sponsored by the Jewish Social Services agency will discuss the development and emotional issues faced by adopted teenagers on Thursday, May 29 from 8:30-10 a.m., at Commonwealth Academy, 1321 Leslie Ave. in Alexandria. The second half of the presentation will be dedicated to discussion and a question and answer session for parents and presenters. For more information, call Earl Harris-Nichols at 703-548-6912.

Panel Discussion on Virginia Tech Aftermath

A panel discussion on the aftermath of the shootings at Virginia Tech last year is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10 in the auditorium of St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 11900 Lawyers Road in Reston. Carroll Ann Ellis, a member of the Virginia Tech panel and director of the Fairfax County Police Department's Victim Services Division will host the meeting, along with State Senator Janet Howell (D-32), member of the Virginia State Crime Commission and Commission on Mental Health Law Reform; Del. Chuck Caputo (D-67); Joe Samaha,

SEE NEWS, PAGE 9

NEWS



PHOTO BY AMBER HEALY/THE CONNECTION

Old Town Hall on Chapel Road in Clifton is once again up for sale, after a local developer withdrew his bid to restore the building.

Town Hall Still For Sale

Proposal to renovate Old Town Hall withdrawn after several years.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

With heavy hearts, the Clifton Town Council announced a local contractor's bid to buy and renovate Old Town Hall has been withdrawn, leaving the Council to debate the future of the historic building.

"It's a bit discouraging," said Clifton Mayor Tom Peterson. "It was one of the first things we started doing when we took over the Town Council two years ago."

Plans for purchasing Old Town Hall, across Chapel Road from where the Town Council currently meets, and renovating the building were submitted by Royce Jarrendt, a contractor and developer well-known in the small town. Jarrendt's plan for the property included renovating the structure, making some improvements and adding meeting space, then giving ownership over to the town for public use and taking care of maintenance in perpetuity.

Jarrendt said he initially submitted the plan to the former Town Council, which left office in 2005, and had been hoping the new Council would finalize the plan.

However, after months of negotiation and no apparent deal in sight, Jarrendt decided to withdraw his offer.

"It was not an easy decision," Jarrendt said. "I live here. I don't want to start a battle, but I didn't see any other option than not to buy the place."

OVER THE PAST few years, Jarrendt said he spent several thousand dollars in feasibility studies on the property to determine the ground quality and if the land were located in a flood plane.

"I was just trying to do what was easiest for the

town," he said. "The place needs to be fixed and with this plan, they would not have had to spend a dime."

Council member Pat Layden, who sat on a three-person committee on the Old Town Hall plan with fellow Council member Mike Anton and former Council member Brant Baber, said the structure has fallen into disrepair and will need a good deal of work before it can be used for any purpose.

"The gutters are all clogged with leaves, water isn't draining properly off the back of the house. We had a pipe freeze and break last winter which did some cosmetic damage but it's been repaired," said Layden, adding that the building had not been worked on in 10 to 14 years.

But the Town Council has decided it has three options, Layden said.

"We can make this a top priority and start doing some maintenance on the building to protect it," he said. "We can go out and start looking for brick-and-mortar grants from the state or other agencies to repair the building, and we can look at possibly doing some kind of public-private agreement using Royce's plan as a starting point."

Peterson and Layden both said they were disappointed the plan was withdrawn, but agreed they wanted to keep pursuing some kind of renovation for Old Town Hall.

"We will continue trying to find a way to make this work," Layden said. "This is one of the most valuable assets we have in this town."

Joyce said he hopes Old Town Hall does not follow in the footsteps of another town landmark, the Hetzel House. That house was neglected for years before it was torn down and rebuilt in 2006.

"I don't want to be the dark horse in town and I really hope the Town Council can find a way to make it work," Jarrendt said. "They really should do something to secure the house and stop the deterioration."

Peterson said he was grateful to Jarrendt and the Old Town Hall committee for all their hard work to the project.

"I think this is another loss due to the economy," Peterson said. "Royce had a great project for the town and spent a lot of his own money designing the plan to build on it and renovate it for the town, but then the market went up and fell off."

"We will continue trying to find a way to make this work."

— Clifton Town Council member Pat Layden

COMMUNITY

Open Door Policy

Clifton homeowners welcomed visitors to their homes as part of the 36th annual charity homes tour.



The Aspesi-Sawyer home on Henderson Court in Clifton featured a collection of lightning rods and weather vanes under a skylight.

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

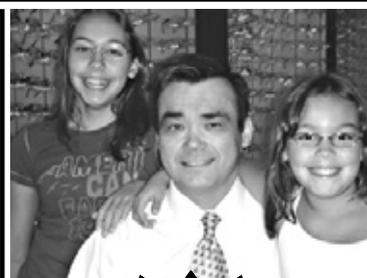


A Red Hat Lady for 20 years, Nancy Farrell of Fairfax greets guests.



Visitors inspect the dining room of the Aspesi-Sawyer home during the 36th Annual Clifton Charity Homes Tour.

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PEOPLE

Getting To Know ...

Christine Morin, parent and education activist.

As the mother of three, Christine Morin has more than a passing interest in what Fairfax County Public Schools has to offer. Since moving to the area in 2004, she has become involved in the ongoing effort to build a South County Middle School. Here, she shares a little about her past and what motivated her to become an education activist.

Number of years in the community. I grew up in Springfield and attended Bush Hill and Garfield Elementary, Key Middle School, and Lee High School. After graduating from college, I spent four years in Charlotte, N.C. then moved back to Burke and then Laurel Hill in 2004. I'm a native and I love it here.

PROFILE Family. My husband, Topher, and I met at Virginia Tech and have been married for 14 years. We have three boys who attend Silverbrook Elementary Alex, 8; Ben, 6; and Chase, 6. My mom also still lives in Springfield.

Education. I attended the business school at Virginia Tech and graduated with a B.S. in business management and minor in international studies.

Your first job. I started working at our Greek family restaurant in Old Town Alexandria when I was 8. I went in early with my mom and my dad would pick me up on his way home from work. I answered phones, ran the carryout window, chatted with customers and helped wherever I was needed. I spent every summer working there until my mom sold the restaurant in 1986. It was a great experience that taught me the importance of a strong work ethic and customer service.

Activities/interest/hobbies. I love to

cook, read, ride bikes with my kids, walk, travel, spend time with our friends and go to concerts. I'm a foodie at heart, but don't have a lot of free time to eat out. We are huge Virginia Tech football fans and try to visit Blacksburg often during football season. Also, over the last few years, I've become an education activist and have been involved in several local school issues. I have served as the South County Federation Education chair for the last three years.

Favorite local restaurants. Our go-to restaurant is Mike's American Grill. Closer to home, Five Guys has the best burgers, Pane e Vino and Dixie Bones are also very good.

Community concerns. Silverbrook Road used to be a quiet two-lane road surrounded by trees; now it's a bustling Main Street. The growth has brought families, businesses and traffic to the area. The biggest concern for me is completing the South County school pyramid and building a middle school. Safety is also a concern and a police substation is needed for our area since we are currently served by three different police precincts. Local roads are sometimes a problem and need to be maintained; it would also be very beneficial if Silverbrook Road were widened.

When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up? I always wanted to be a marketing or business executive. I also thought about becoming a writer or restaurant owner.



Christine Morin

PHOTO BY AMBER HEAVY/THE CONNECTION

had an elementary, middle and high school on it with dates. I was not familiar with the School Board, CIP, or the budget process and assumed the schools would be ready and built as promised. I learned quickly that was not the case and became involved with the group during the first boundary process in 2005. I started attending meetings that summer and have been going non-stop ever since.

It has been a long road, but we are making tremendous progress and I'm cautiously optimistic that a South County Middle School will become a reality. The middle school group is comprised of a phenomenal group of people who are passionate about this issue and doing what's right for our kids and the community — it has been a privilege and very fun getting to know all the "activists" from all over South County.

What should people know about this effort? The South County community is strong and committed to having a stand-alone middle school built, and although we have made great progress over the last few years, our work is not done. The community has come out many times in support of this effort but until the first shovel of dirt is moved, we need to continue to persevere with all levels of government and county staff. Please visit our Web site [www.southcountymiddleschool.org] and get involved.

How did you get involved with the South County middle school group? When we bought our new home in 2003, we were shown a neighborhood map that

— MICHAEL O'CONNELL

BUSINESS NOTES

Bill Smith of Fairfax Station's WEStar Illumination has been certified by The Association of Outdoor Lighting Professionals (AOLP) as a Certified Low Voltage Lighting Technician (CLVLT).

Nomadic Display of Springfield is spearheading a pajama drive for the charitable organization Helen's Pajama Party to Protect Women, at EXHIBITOR2008. The pajamas will be donated to The Shade Tree, a Las Vegas shelter that serves 3,355 homeless and abused women and children each year.

Professional Grounds of Lorton was recently awarded the 2007 Angie's List Super Service Award.

The Huntington Learning Center of Fairfax has been recognized for its professional learning standards by the Commission on International and Trans-regional Accreditation (CITA).

VIEWPOINTS

What price do you think a gallon of gas will hit at its peak this summer?



"I believe it will get to \$4.50, but not above five dollars because there would be a public backlash."
Colin Hood, Springfield



"It will go up to \$4.30 for Premium."
Ligia Altayi, Springfield



"I think somewhere between \$4.45-\$4.50, because of people traveling."
Jerome Dendy, Springfield



"Highest it will get is \$4.25."
Mnt Mack, Falls Church

— WADE RICE

COLLEGE NOTES

Jay Strotman was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Bridgewater College. Strotman was also named captain of the varsity basketball team. He is a 2004 graduate of Robinson Secondary School.

Christopher Newport University recently announced that several area students have accepted scholarships for the President's Leadership Program beginning fall 2008. Fairfax Station students are **Rebecca Davis,**

Jonathan Nickerson, Kaitlin Ryan; Lorton student is **Lindsay Christensen;** and Springfield students are **Calvin Campbell, Christopher McDonald, Caitlin Smith, Kimberly Wentz.**

Civilian Alexander F. Hoover, a 2004 graduate of W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, recently enlisted in the U.S. Navy under the Delayed Entry Program at Navy Recruiting District, Pittsburgh, Pa. The program allows re-

cruits to enter the Navy and take up to one year to complete prior commitments. Hoover will report for active duty to undergo basic training at the Navy's Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

Love Without Boundaries

FROM PAGE 3

wonder if they should adopt one more child.

INSPIRED A SECOND time, not by a rock concert but by a sermon on taking risks in life, they once again turned to China, where they found their daughter, Emma.

"Sandi felt there was a girl out there for us to find," he said, "and then we found her."

Emma was 6 at the time and, like Kevin, needed some surgery on her hands for some missing fingers. The condition has not slowed her down, her proud father said, and she has adjusted well to living in Fairfax Station.

Once again, the couple had concerns about bringing home a child who would remember

being in an orphanage, old enough to know the difference between living in China and living in the U.S. However, Emma surprised her new family by learning English fast

enough to start at Fairview Elementary shortly after she arrived.

"She's got a terrific sense of humor," Ben Glass said. The family is looking forward to a little reunion this summer, for Emma to see some of the friends she lived with in the orphanage.

The other Glass children — Brian, 24; Caitlin, 22; Patrick, 19; Kelsey, 16; and Matt, 8 — have not only fallen in love with their new brother and sister, they have taken up the family tradition of doing charitable work for others into their own hands.

Patrick, a student at Christopher Newport University, spent a week in South Africa last summer with 25:40, a Fairfax Station-based nonprofit organization that raises money to fight and treat AIDS in South Africa.

Caitlin, a recent graduate from the University of Virginia, will be attending Lutheran seminary in the fall. She accompanied her mother on a recent trip to China to open a home for children waiting for cleft lip surgery.

"A group called Love Without Boundaries just opened this house and it's fantastic," Sandi

Glass said.

The home provides a place for children to get healthy and gain enough weight in preparation for cleft lip surgery, she said. Once children have the surgery, their odds of being adopted rise dramatically.

Orphanages cannot be forced to provide paperwork on each child that needs the operation, but groups like Love Without Boundaries helps to encourage them to comply, she said.

Sandi Glass has made jewelry that was sold on Love Without Boundaries' Web site to help raise money for the organization, and her three youngest children have set up lemonade stands to pitch in as well.

"One day, they set up the stand on our road, which doesn't get much traffic, to raise money to give to Love Without Boundaries and 25:40," Sandi Glass said. "They didn't raise much, but they were so proud to give the \$1.25 to each group."

Emma, Kevin and Matt have also asked if they can adopt another child.

"I think seven is enough," Sandi Glass laughed.

SANDI AND BEN GLASS are delighted that their giving nature has passed on to their children, who have made meals for the Bethany House for women struggling with drug abuse in Washington, D.C. and volunteered time to build homes in Neon, Ky. during the summer.

Patrick, who has been enrolled in the ROTC program at Christopher Newport, said he is considering joining the National Guard when he graduates, so he can continue giving time to 25:40.

"I'd like to get a group of guys from my fraternity to go to South Africa and start up a day-care center," he said.

Last year, Caitlin joined her father in running the Marine Corps Marathon to raise money for 25:40, and Ben Glass plans to run again this year, to raise money for Love Without Boundaries.

In addition to raising their children, Ben Glass is a personal injury lawyer in Fairfax, who trains for marathons and gets up in the morning to make breakfast for his family.

"I think he should be father of the year," said Laura Lee Sparks, Glass' personal assistant who has worked for him for several years from an office in Florida.

"He tells me all the things he does and I just don't know where he gets the time," she said. "He's a really special person and their family is wonderful."

"When you start on that process, it's scary."

— Ben Glass

AROUND TOWN

Send community notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6440. Photos/artwork encouraged. Deadline is Friday.

The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office will photograph and fingerprint children for free at several upcoming events: Saturday, June 7, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, June 8, noon-4 p.m. at Celebrate Fairfax at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax; and Saturday, June 14, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the outreach ministry of the Greater Morning Star Apostolic Church, at Mark Twain Middle School, 4700 Franconia Road, Springfield.

The ID card gives authorities vital information to help them locate children if they are ever missing. This community service is available for county and Fairfax City residents, ages 0-17. For more information or to schedule a public safety event, contact Captain Sean

Whitmore at 703-246-7521 or e-mail sheriff@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fair Lakes Farmers' Market is now open on **Wednesdays**, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., with a Sunday morning market to be added later in the season. These are producer-only markets hosted by the Whole Foods Market Fair Lakes, 4501 Market Commons Drive, Fairfax. Visit www.smartmarkets.org.

The Fairfax County Public Library Grants and Funding Research Center is located at Fairfax County Public Library, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Hours Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 703-324-8343

The Virginia Business and Professional Women's Foundation offers a variety of scholarships, grants and fellowships to assist women to enter the job market or further their

education and careers, as well as to support the study of women's issues. Visit www.bpwva.org.

The Fairfax County Park Authority offers an off-leash dog park at South Run Park, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. It has a capacity of 85 dogs and is sponsored by Lorton Dogs, Inc. For more see southrundryogs.com.

Fairfax Little League Baseball spring registration is ongoing at <http://eteamz.active.com/fairfaxll/>. For more call 703-732-8532.

The City of Fairfax Parks & Recreation Department has partnered with Activenet to create a new online "office." This will allow online registration for classes and trips, and facility rental inquiries. Online registration will be provided at the same fee as in office. To learn more, visit visitfairfax.gov, Parks & Recreation.

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Soldier in Iraq Dreams of Coming Home

Clifton woman prepares to come home after 15 months in Baghdad.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

When she graduated from Paul VI Catholic High School, Allie Weiskopf Chase had a free ride to any school in Virginia, with intentions to study journalism.

She took a detour, however, and applied to Boston College on a whim. When she was accepted, her parents told her she needed to find a way to pay the tuition.

"Seventeen-year-old girls should not be able to make big decisions," Chase laughed. "But I decided to join the ROTC program with the plan of doing one day and then calling my parents and saying it was too hard."

Several years later, Chase is now a captain in the Army, working as the executive assistant to the commanding general of the 3rd Infantry, stationed in Baghdad.

Chase graduated from Boston College and was commissioned as an intelligence officer, so she is still able to use the skills she learned in her journalism classes.

The commanding general is responsible for about 20,000 officers, Chase said, and before every trip to visit soldiers and every meeting he has, Chase has to brief him about what has been going on and the important news of the day.

"We go out to the battlefield every day," she said. "Because the war is going well now, it doesn't make the front pages of the newspapers back home, so people don't hear about all the good stuff we see daily."

For example, Chase said she attended nearly 50 memorial services for soldiers killed in action last May. This year, it has been so long since a soldier was killed, she does not remember the last time she had to go to one.

STATIONED IN southern Baghdad and the four surrounding provinces, Chase said people are starting to come out of their homes more frequently during the day. A boat on the Tigris river is no longer seen as something to fear or shoot at, as it was a short 15 months ago when she first arrived.



Clifton native Capt. Allie Weiskopf Chase is serving in Iraq.

DONATED PHOTO

Chase credits the additional troops sent to Iraq by President Bush at the start of 2007 for the transformation.

"The 3rd Infantry Division was deployed last May as part of the surge, and the soldiers have worked hard to stabilize this part of the country," she said.

When one division is sent home this summer, no plans are in place to replace them, which Chase said is a test to see if the area is ready to be left unattended.

"About 100 of our guys live in the towns and villages with Iraqis, and we're trying to build relationships with them, showing them that coalition forces are there to help and have become their neighbors," she said.

Seeing U.S. soldiers every day has encouraged Iraqi citizens to trust them, and has in turn led some Iraqis to let soldiers know when "a bad guy comes into the village," Chase said.

"I really think the increase in troops plus the cooperation with the Iraqis has helped things go so well," she said.

Still, Chase admits she is living in a war

zone, as quiet as things may be lately. She does not tell her parents, Jim and Kamay Weiskopf, too much about the daily activities of her job, just to let them know she's doing fine.

"You're always nervous," she said. "One suicide bomber could kill X number of people without warning."

Iraqis are starting to find jobs and rebuild their lives, as electricity becomes more constant and schools start to reopen. The mission has not officially become a peacekeeping one for the 3rd Infantry, but the majority of their work is in that direction, she said.

"I really think the increase in troops plus the cooperation with the Iraqis has helped things go so well."

— Capt. Allie Weiskopf Chase **CHASE WILL** be returning to the U.S. in

a few weeks, coming back to her family's home in Clifton around June 20. She's excited to reunite with her family and friends and to have a two-month vacation before going back to work.

Two people in particular are anxious for Chase to return home: her young nieces, Meghan and Amanda McCabe.

"Aunt Allie deployed to Iraq on Meghan's sixth birthday and just before Amanda's

fourth birthday," said their mother, Jennifer McCabe, one of Chase's older twin sisters. "We told the girls that they would be 7 and 5 by the time Aunt Allie came home. We tell them Aunt Allie is in Iraq to protect our country from bad people and that our country is safe thanks to Aunt Allie and all the other soldiers," she said.

When Chase returns home, McCabe said her daughters are planning a trip to a local Build-A-Bear workshop to make teddy bears with their aunt, followed by a trip for ice cream.

"It's one of their favorite things to do with their Aunt Allie," McCabe said.

Even while she is gone, Chase is frequently in their thoughts and prayers, she said.

"Every so often, the girls ask to call Aunt Allie and we have to explain that it's not possible," McCabe said. "If they have something to share with Aunt Allie, we send her an e-mail. We keep her picture visible and pray for her every day."

Chase's parents and sister said they are proud of her and the work she is doing in Iraq.

"Allie has not complained about the conditions or hardships of her situation, but rather, she has kept her focus on her responsibilities," McCabe said.

Jim Weiskopf, a retired Army soldier who served for 26 years, said he and his wife support their daughter and will be thrilled to have her home.

"I'll miss her homecoming, but her mother and her best friend are driving to Fort Stewart in Georgia to meet her," Weiskopf said.

As a parent, Weiskopf said he is always concerned about Chase's safety, but as a former soldier, he knows all the precautions the Army takes to protect its own.

"We are unbelievably proud of Allie and her choice of profession, whether she chooses to do something else or stay in the Army for her career," he said. "We love her and want her to come home safely in three weeks."

In the meantime, Chase will continue to make her daily round, visiting with soldiers and writing thank you notes to anyone who sends her a care package.

"Sometimes I think I'm just a big kid, trying to make light of the light situations we have here because there are so many tough situations," Chase said. "But I get to see the progress we're making every day. Fifteen months ago, people were quiet and hunkered down in their homes. Now we see people outside, hanging up their laundry."

Judge Gives Osman 73 years for Murder

FROM PAGE 3
the day after the murder.

"I would simply suggest to the court, that as much as the jury heard, they didn't hear the half of it," Murphy said, during the 10-minute hearing on Friday. "And if they had heard everything that happened with that firearm ... and if they knew the defendant had no remorse, that might have been the

"He killed him for no good reason except greed."

— John R. Murphy, assistant commonwealth's attorney

difference between the sentence he received and a life sentence."

Osman was convicted, and sentenced in January 2007 for other charges in a different case, including maiming and receiving a stolen firearm.

Judge Klein asked Osman, who plans to appeal his conviction, if he had anything he wished to say to the court or victim before he was sentenced.

"No, sir," Osman said.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

MOMS Club of Springfield and Lorton is a support network for stay-at-home mothers of the Springfield and Lorton area. It meets the last Monday of every month at 10:30 am at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church on Carleigh Parkway. Activities for stay-at-home mothers and their children include picnics, playgroups, concerts, movies, and moms' nights out. For more, visit www.momsclubspringfieldva.or. To join, call Meagan Murphy at 703-569-1357.

NEWS

FROM PAGE 4

father of shooting victim Reema Samaha and founder of the Angel Fund; and Peter Read, father of shooting victim Mary Read.

The panel discussion is designed to help victims of crime, specifically family members of homicides, along with the support services available, legislation and other efforts to address the issues that contributed to the shootings on April 16, 2007.

For more information, contact Lu Ann Maciulla McNabb at contactus@angelfundva.org.

County Staff Error Results In Oversized Home

Despite several complaints from neighbors and the local supervisor's office, county staff failed to stop a large 14-bedroom home with two main entrances from being constructed on a site that previously held a modest, one-story brick rambler in Springfield.

Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay (D) said he raised questions with officials in the county's department of planning and zoning and department of public works for two and half months before anyone admitted mistakes in the case.

In early May, after the house was on its way to being completed, staff determined that the house's setback from Backlick Road, approximately 10 feet, was inadequate, said McKay. They have issued a stop work order at the house, which also abuts Highland Street and Amherst Avenue.

McKay said the incident has hurt the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors' credibility in an area where residents had already grown skeptical of county government. He added that, upon seeing the house, any person with common sense would have been able to tell something had gone wrong.

"Sometimes board offices and neighbors do know best when something just does not seem right," said McKay.

The residential area surrounding the large home has struggled with overcrowding and illegal boarding houses in recent years. The county only recently started to address these issues through a zoning enforcement team called the "strike force" established last year.

Supervisors chair Gerry Connolly (D) said he was concerned that staff appeared to have ignored residents, especially those who feel the county has neglected them.

"There were months of reports from the community and supervisor's office that seem to have been discounted," he said.

Other supervisors worried about what would happen to the large home and others like it around the county.

Several of these structures were designed and built to be boarding houses, not single-family homes, and some had gone into foreclosure after the strike force crack-down on overcrowding.

"What happens now? You have a structure with 14 bedrooms. What is its future?" said Mason District supervisor Penny Gross.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

COUNTY NOTEBOOK

FAITH NOTES

Fairfax Baptist Temple will be hosting a free **Community Fun Fest** on Memorial Day, **Monday, May 26**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The day will include: moonbounces, inflatable activities, games, face painting, hot dogs, popcorn. Free. Fairfax Baptist Temple is located at 6401 Missionary Lane in Fairfax Station. For more, contact events@fbtministries.org or 703-323-8100 or visit www.fbtministries.org.

Fairfax Presbyterian Church's summer worship schedule, with one service of worship at 9:30 a.m., begins **Sunday, May 25**. Glebe Sunday is set for **June 1**, with a casual, outdoor service at 9:30 a.m. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, parasols and fans. A picnic lunch will follow in Fellowship Hall. The church is located at 10723 Main St., Fairfax. Call 703-273-5300 or visit www.fairfaxpresby.com.

Jewish Community Legislative Review. The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia hosts Del. Steve Shannon (D-35) to recount the key legislative issues in Virginia. **Tuesday, May 27**, 7:30-9 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Free admission, but RSVPs are requested; contact Nina Betru at nbetru@jccouncil.org or 703-962-9230.

Shabba-Be-Que at Adat Reyim, 6500 Westbury Oaks Court, Springfield, 6:30 p.m. at **Friday, May 30**. Fun, food, song, and prayer. Cost is \$15 per adult, \$10 per child (5-16 years) or \$36 maximum per family. Children under 5 are free. RSVP to membership@adatreyim.org, and for more information call the office at 703-569-7577.

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OPINION

Remembering on Memorial Day

Local families turn grief into service.

Ami Neiberger-Miller of Sterling lost her brother, U.S. Army Specialist Christopher Neiberger, in August 2007 when he was killed by a roadside bomb while serving in Baghdad, Iraq. He was 22 years old when he died.

"He was wickedly funny and empathetic," Neiberger-Miller says, remembering her brother. "In many ways, I feel like I was just beginning to know the man he was becoming."

As we approach the seventh Memorial Day since the beginning of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, we recognize that here in Northern Virginia, many local families bear

the personal sacrifice that comes with the loss of life there.

EDITORIAL

More than 4,075 U.S. military members have been killed in

Iraq and more than 500 more have died as a result of operations in Afghanistan since Sept. 11, 2001.

Many local people have responded to their loss by reaching out and helping others. Since her brother's death, Neiberger-Miller has devoted herself to the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (www.taps.org), which provides peer-based emotional support and other services for families of the fallen.

Scott Kirkpatrick, 26, died on Aug. 11, 2007 in Arab Jabour, Iraq. Kirkpatrick, who graduated from Park View High School in Sterling, and also considered Herndon and Reston as his hometowns, was a champion slam poet. His father, Ed Kirkpatrick, wrote: "Those of us who are already struck by this loss must add the numbers of those who are wounded [to those who have died]. That far greater number and the pain associated with it goes unnoticed and yet it is the one that is most alive around us. My wife and I try to help those at Walter Reed through the Yellow Ribbon Fund (www.yellowribbonfund.org). It was my son's wish that we help the families and soldiers who come back wounded and we try to do all we can to honor him and his last wish." Many of Kirkpatrick's friends also work to raise funds for the Yellow Ribbon Fund.

Beth and Michael Belle of Vienna are mother and stepfather of U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Nicholas Kirven, who, at age 21, was killed in Afghanistan in 2005 during a firefight in a cave with insurgents. He enlisted while still in high school after 9/11. Beth Belle was notified that her son had died on Mother's Day. She also has a special bond with the mother of the soldier buried next to her son at Arlington National Cemetery; both mothers lost their sons on the same day. The other mother lives in Connecticut, so Beth brings extra flowers and tends to her son's grave, as well as Nicholas'. They also hold an annual golf tournament to raise funds for scholarships they distribute to remember Nicholas.

Xiomara Mena and Rafael Anderson of Vienna are mother and brother of U.S. Army Corporal Andy Anderson, age 24, who was killed by enemy fire during combat operations in Iraq. Rafael will soon deploy to Afghanistan with his National Guard unit (and with his twin

brother Randy). Xiomara Mena is described as the unofficial "mayor" of the section of Arlington National Cemetery where her son is buried; she is at the cemetery every day.

More than 30,000 soldiers have been wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. More than a million soldiers have served in Iraq and Afghanistan in that time, with their lives forever changed by that experience.

Those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan are there because of their sense of duty to serve the rest of us, to put their lives on the line to defend the country. They join more than 24 million men and women, veterans, who have made great sacrifice in serving in the military.

A good place to start in showing respect for those now serving would be to provide them with the equipment and services they need while they are there, and the services they will need when they get home, including impeccable, first class health care, and an expanded GI Bill that will provide a college education for every veteran who is so inclined.

HERE ARE the names of some of the local men and women who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. We repeat these names several times a year to honor their service and to keep their memories in our consciousness.

If you know of someone who should be included in this list, or if you would like to share how you are honoring the memory of a family member or friend lost, or about the progress of someone injured, please let us know.

The full editorial appears on our Web site, www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.

❖ Staff Sgt. Jesse G. Clowers Jr., 27 of Herndon, died when an improvised bomb exploded near his vehicle in Afghanistan on Aug. 12, 2007.

❖ Jonathan D. Winterbottom, 21, of Falls Church, died in Iraq on May 23, 2007 of wounds inflicted when an "improvised explosive device" exploded near his vehicle.

❖ Nicholas Rapavi, 22, of Springfield, died Nov. 24, 2006 of wounds suffered during combat in Anbar province in Iraq.

❖ Army Cpl. Andy D. Anderson, 24, was killed on Tuesday, June 6, 2006. He and another member of the 46th Engineer Battalion were killed when their camp in Ar Ramadi, Iraq came under "indirect enemy fire during combat operations," according to Department of Defense documentation. He had been a respected football and basketball player at Jeb Stuart High School and had proposed to his high school sweetheart about three weeks be-



U.S. Army Specialist Christopher Neiberger's headstone at Arlington National Cemetery.

fore he was killed.

❖ Airman 1st Class Lee Bernard E. Chavis, 21, was killed Oct. 14, 2006 by sniper fire in Iraq, trying to protect civilians from a roadside bomb.

❖ Spc. Robert Drawl Jr., 21, who graduated from T.C. Williams High School in 2003, was killed by a bomb in Kunar, Afghanistan, on Aug. 19, 2006.

❖ Capt. Shane R. M. Mahaffee, 36, a 1987 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, died May 15, 2006. He was a lawyer, married, with two chil-

dren. His parents live in Alexandria.

❖ Maj. William F. Hecker III, a 1987 graduate of McLean High School, was killed in action in An Najaf, Iraq, Jan. 5, 2005.

❖ Ayman Taha, 31, of Vienna, was killed Dec. 30, 2005, when an enemy munitions cache he was prepping for demolition exploded.

❖ Army Capt. Chris Petty of Vienna was killed Jan. 5, 2006.

❖ George T. Alexander Jr., the 2,000th soldier to be killed in Iraq, was literally born into the Army here in Northern Virginia, at DeWitt Army Hospital at Fort Belvoir. Alexander died at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 22, 2005, of injuries sustained in Samarra, Iraq, Oct. 17.

❖ On Nov. 5, 2005, Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wren, 44, of Lorton, died in Tallil, Iraq.

❖ Marine Capt. Michael Martino, 32, of the City of Fairfax, died Nov. 2, 2005, when his helicopter crashed in Iraq.

❖ Fairfax Station resident Pfc. Dillon Jutras, 20, was killed in combat operations in Al Anbar Province of Iraq Oct. 28, 2005.

❖ Laura M. Walker of Oakton was killed on Aug. 18, 2005, in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Among other local lives lost: Tavon Lee Hubbard, 24, of Reston; Alexander Wetherbee, 27, of McLean; Jeff Kaylor, 25, of Clifton; Nathan B. Bruckenthal, 24, of Herndon; Sharon T. Swartworth, 43, of Mount Vernon; Jim Blankenbecler, 40, of Mount Vernon; Jim Adamowski, 29, of Springfield; DeForest L. Talbert, 22, of Alexandria; Marine Cpl. Binh N. Le, 20, of Alexandria; Russell Verdugo, 34, of Alexandria. Army Capt. Mark N. Stubenhofer, 30, from Springfield; Marine Gunnery Sgt. Javier Obleas-Prado Pena, 36, from Falls Church; Marine Sgt. Krisna Nachampassak, 27, from Burke; Army Staff Sgt. Nathaniel J. Nyren, 31, from Reston; Marine Lance Cpl. Tenzin Dengkhim, 19, from Falls Church; Navy Chief Joel Egan Baldwin, 37, from Arlington.

PHOTO TAKEN BY DR. RICHARD E. NEIBERGER

THE CONNECTION

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Michael O'Connell

Editor / 703-917-6440

Paula Friedrich

Assistant Editor / 703-917-6459

Amber Healy

Community Reporter

703-917-6458

ahealy@connectionnewspapers.com

Julia O'Donoghue

Education and Politics

703-917-6433

Nicholas Horrock

Business and Transportation Editor

nhorrock@aol.com

Ken Moore

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Editor in Chief

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Managing Editors

Steve Hibbard, Michael O'Connell,

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Photography:

Robbie Hammer, Louise Krafft,

Craig Sterbutzel

Art/Design:

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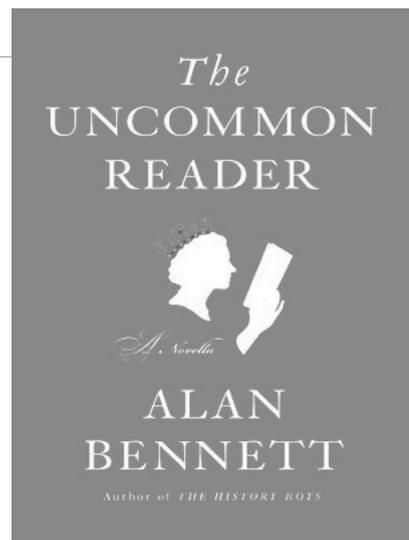
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Get Literate

Every adult who lives, works or goes to school in Fairfax County is invited to participate in "All Fairfax Reads" a "one book, one community" project through September. All Fairfax Reads is one of more than 100 similar initiatives across the United States that encourages residents to read and discuss the same book.

This year's selection is "The Uncommon Reader," a novella by award-winning English playwright Alan Bennett. In *The Uncommon Reader*, the Queen of England stumbles upon a mobile library on the grounds of Buckingham Palace and begins to explore new horizons. Bennett's comic romp can be read both as satire and a more serious treatise on the subversive power of reading. Visit the library's events page at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library for more information.

The Northern Virginia Review is accepting entries for the next issue, slated for publication in March 2009. The Review, an annual journal of essays, fine art, photography, poetry and short stories, accepts submissions from residents of the Northern Virginia and the greater Washington metropolitan area. People may submit two essays, two works of fiction, three pieces of artwork and four poems, with a limit of five items per person. The deadline for entries is Thursday, Sept. 18. Learn more at: www.nvcc.edu/depts/nvreview/nvr-submit.htm.

ENTERTAINMENT

Negative Self Image

Pa. band promotes autobiographical album at local show.

BY ASHLEIGH HILL
THE CONNECTION

Before the band dipped its toes into the pool of the Philadelphia, New York and Washington, D.C. music scenes, the humble and historical Lancaster County, Pa. served as the home of alternative rockers Negative Space.

"There's a lot of really great hometown talent [in Lancaster]," said lead singer Josh Nice. "There's general support for the arts and for youth. I don't know if that comes from Philly, N.Y.C. or D.C. but, I'm glad it's here." In addition to Nice, the band's current line up — Rick Lienhard and Britain Roda on guitars, Mark Reinmiller on bass and Jimmy Everly on drums — has been together for three years, growing out of variations dating back to 2002.

Storylines, Negative Space's third release, autobiographically details the lives of the bandmates both individually and as a group. "It's cliché to say that we've matured, but there've been a lot of growing pains over the last few years," said Nice. "Due to that, we've been forced to put that foot forward. There's been a lot more experience plus, we've added more songwriters and more heart into [the band in the past few years]."

As all five members contribute to the songwriting process, the product turns out to be a mix of tales including accounts of debt, loss of friendship and family. The album's fist single, "Honestly," wraps the fear and acceptance of the distance that can shatter relationships into an uplifting rock



Negative Space performs Friday, June 6, at 8 p.m., at Fat Tuesday's in Fairfax.

tune with a raw punk vigor, a genus carried throughout the album.

"One of our stories is that we've been blessed to work with so many talented people," said Nice. Having hooked up with producer Kirk Kelsey for a previous EP, the band rejoined him in his Georgia home studio to track, mix, eat and sleep their way into a brand new album. "Living with a family for the process, allows you to grow as an artist and as a person."

Since then, the group has been toting around the brand new CD, stopping at Fairfax's Fat Tuesdays on June 6 and trying out various marketing techniques within a rapidly changing industry. Capitalizing on the popularity of video hosting site YouTube and fans' love of singing along to "Honestly," they've created a contest challenging listen-

"I've learned that promotion is an art within itself."

— Josh Nice, Negative Space

Listen Up

Negative Space performs Friday, June 6, at 8 p.m., at Fat Tuesday's, 10673 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Find music and more show dates at www.myspace.com/negativespace.

ers to create and post their own video of the song, promoting not only themselves but a creative outlet for others. Aside from a good time, the handpicked winner receives \$500 straight out of the band's pockets.

"Most guys get into bands and think it's just going to be about playing music but, when you get down to it, everything begins to get complicated," said Nice. "I've learned that promotion is an art within itself and there's music on the other side of that. If you don't learn to balance that out, you're not going to get anywhere."

Negative Space has chalked up a degree of success, winning over fans from Vermont, all the way down to Key West. Their efforts have earned the band a spot on stage with the likes of Eve 6, Fuel and 3 Doors Down.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6440. Deadline is Friday.

DANCING

Dudney School of Irish Dance in Springfield is currently enrolling children 5 and older. Classes are located near Braddock Road and the Beltway and are taught by Jordan Dudney, a Washington native and champion step dancer. 703-899-5317 or www.DudneyIrishDance.com.

Israeli Dance Class. Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Beginner, intermediate and advanced. \$5/session/JCCNV member; \$6/non-member; \$4/student or senior. 301-982-0937.

Irish Step Dance Classes. Fridays at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Open to beginners ages 5-15 at Studio One, 6208 Rolling Road, Springfield. Call Jordan Dudney at 703-899-5317.

Singles' Dance. Hearts in Motion School of Music & Dance hosts Don and Colleen's Singles' Dance the third Friday of each month, 8 p.m.-midnight. Dances include cha cha, waltz, swing, hustle, El Paso, slow dances and line dances. Cost is \$12 (\$20 for a couple). Light snacks are provided, soda and water are available for purchase. The school is located at 8600 Rolling Road, Springfield. Call Colleen at 703-437-1190.

Learn Carolina Shag dancing with the Northern Virginia Shag Club. Lessons take place at Rene's Supper Club, 3251 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Adult lessons are 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Lesson is free, adults' cover charge is \$6. Social dancing follows the lessons. See www.nvshag.org or call Cathy Metcalf at 703-690-2631, or e-mail ccmetcalf@verizon.net.

Scottish Country Dancing classes are Mondays from 8-9 p.m. at Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. No partner necessary. Call City of Fairfax at 703-385-7858.

City of Fairfax offers Swing Performance Routine sessions each Tuesday from 8-9 p.m.

at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. For intermediate dancers. \$72. Call 703-385-7858.

ARTS

Registration for Art Camp in Burke.

Camp instructor Carol Zeitlin, a public school art teacher, has been conducting art camp for over 15 years in Burke. This year, she will offer four weekly sessions, Monday through Friday, June 21-25, July 14-18, July 21-25 and Aug. 4-8. Camps are for children 5-8 years old and 8 and up, and include fine arts and crafts, crafts and drawing fun, and drawing. For more, visit www.geocities.com/czeitlinschneier or call the instructor at 703-250-6930.

Learn To Knit. Knitting classes are offered at The Yarn Barn, 9413-C Old Burke Lake Road, Burke. For more, call 703-978-2220 or 1-800-762-5274, or e-mail burkeyarnbarn@yahoo.com.

CALENDAR

To have community events listed, send to southcalendar@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6440 with questions. Deadline is Friday.

THURSDAY/MAY 22

Jack Hidle, through May 24 at Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 North Backlick Road, Springfield. Call 703-866-0860 or visit www.katesirishpub.com.

FRIDAY/MAY 23

Jack Hidle, through May 24 at Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 North Backlick Road, Springfield. Call 703-866-0860 or visit www.katesirishpub.com.

Ponderings - Pond Explorations. Net tadpoles and other critters and watch a Mondo Pondo presentation. Dress to get messy. \$5 per person, reservations required. 4-5:30 p.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield, 703-451-9588.

SATURDAY/MAY 24

Jack Hidle at Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 North Backlick Road, Springfield. Call 703-866-0860 or visit www.katesirishpub.com.

MAYHEM show featuring 10 bands. All ages. \$10 in advance, \$12 day of. 2 p.m. at Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets available at the club or through Ticketmaster. Call 703-569-5940 or visit www.jaxxroxx.com.

Sunset Cruise. Admire the sunset and relax cruising the lake shoreline. An interpretive history of the park and area is included. Beverages served on board. \$5 per person, reservations required. 7:30 p.m. at Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield, 703-569-3464.

Butterfly Days. Hand decorate paper butterflies and hang them on a special tree. These butterflies symbolize the new beginning for children within the Foster Care system. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in JC Penney Court at Springfield Mall, 6500 Springfield Mall. Call 703-971-3600.

SUNDAY/MAY 25

Karaoke at Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 North Backlick Road, Springfield. Call 703-866-0860 or visit www.katesirishpub.com.

MONDAY/MAY 26

Memorial Day.
Open Mic at Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 North Backlick Road, Springfield. Call 703-866-0860 or visit www.katesirishpub.com.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 28

An Evening of Jazz 2008: Jazz Through the Decades at South County Secondary School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. 6:15 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. performance. \$8 per person for dinner and show, pre-order only. \$3 for dessert and show with admittance at 6:45 p.m. Hosted by the SCSS Band Boosters. Visit www.southcountyarts.org.

Lake Braddock Middle School orchestra concert 7:30 p.m., in the Little Theater, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. For more, call Stephanie Holmes, 703-426-1074.

THURSDAY/MAY 29

Springfield Days Festival. This annual community celebration has expanded to four days of family fun, featuring a parade through



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

During 2007 Cardboard Regatta at Lake Accotink Park, Shoshana Oppenheim, left, and Rebecca Oppenheim are dumped into the lake when their boat, the Octopus' Garden, capsizes. The Regatta is part of the annual Springfield Days festival, which takes place May 29-June 1.

downtown Springfield, children's rides and games, food, an art show, an entertainment stage, outdoor movie and more. Burger King Family Festival with Children's Rides and

Games, 4-9 p.m. at the Springfield Mall. Visit www.springfielddays.com.
Lake Braddock High School orchestra concert 7:30 p.m., in the Little Theater, 9200 Burke Lake

Road, Burke. This event features senior soloists from our members selected to the Virginia State

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13



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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

Orchestra. Admission \$5. For more, call Stephanie Holmes, 703-426-1074.

FRIDAY/MAY 30

Springfield Days Festival. This annual community celebration has expanded to four days of family fun, featuring a parade through downtown Springfield, children's rides and games, food, an art show, an entertainment stage, outdoor movie and more. Burger King Family Festival with Children's Rides and Games, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. at the Springfield Mall; Old-fashioned barbecue at American Legion Post 176, 5-9 p.m. Visit www.springfielddays.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 31

Car, Truck and Motorcycle show to benefit the South County Secondary School Automotive Tech Center. Show includes all make/models of cars, trucks and motorcycles, as well as a chili cook-off and automotive flea market. Early registration by May 15 is \$5-\$15 in different categories, day-of registration is 9 a.m.-noon. Event is 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the school, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. Visit www.southcountycarshow.org or contact frank.cannon@fcps.edu or scott.saylor@fcps.edu.

Springfield Days Festival. This annual community celebration has expanded to four days of family fun, featuring a parade through downtown Springfield, children's rides and games, food, an art show, an entertainment stage, outdoor movie and more. Events 9 a.m.-11 p.m., for a full list visit

GALLERY

Common Forms, Uncommon Beauty



'Occoquan Coffee House' by Jack Dyer of Springfield. Dyer finds uncommon beauty in everyday common settings. As a plein air artist, Dyer paints on location bringing beauty to his watercolor creations of the buildings and landscapes before him.

www.springfielddays.com.
Where's the Beat? Tap dance concert presented by the Metropolitan Youth Tap Ensemble and the Soles of Steel tap ensemble. Family-friendly event, 8 p.m. at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$10 children 17 and

under; purchase at www.metroyouthtap.org. Contact MetroYouthTap@gmail.com.

SUNDAY/JUNE 1

Karaoke at Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 North Backlick Road, Springfield.

The Artists' Undertaking Gallery in Historic Occoquan presents "Common Forms, Uncommon Beauty," an exhibit of watercolor paintings by Jack Dyer of Springfield and basketry by Barbara Weber of Arlington and Claudia Warszawski of Dale City. The exhibit runs June 3 - July 7, with an Artists' Reception, Saturday, June 21, from 2-5 p.m. The gallery is open 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily, and is located at 309 Mill St. in Occoquan. For more information contact the gallery at 703-494-0584 or at www.theartistsundertaking.com.

Send listings about area shows to southcalendar@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6440.

Call 703-866-0860 or visit www.katesirishpub.com.

Springfield Days Festival. This annual community celebration has expanded to four days of family fun, featuring a parade through downtown Springfield, children's rides and games, food, an art show,

an entertainment stage, outdoor movie and more. Events 10 a.m.-11 p.m., for a full list visit www.springfielddays.com.

MONDAY/JUNE 2

Open Mic at Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 North Backlick Road, Springfield. Call 703-866-0860 or visit www.katesirishpub.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 4

U.S. Navy Band Cruisers contemporary entertainment ensemble group performs 7:30 p.m. at the Lee District Park, 6601 Telegraph Road, Springfield. Free, no tickets required. Call 202-433-2525, or visit www.navyband.navy.mil.

SATURDAY/JUNE 7

Picnic at the Park from 12-3 p.m. at Burke Lake Park Shelter B, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, to raise money for children fighting cancer and their families. Tickets price includes catered picnic lunch and all entertainment — Banjo Man Frank Cassel, Face Painting, Balloon Animals, Soccer and more. Advance tickets \$12 per person, \$15 at the gate. www.BryceFoundation.org, 703-266-0146.

52nd Annual Spring Rose Show sponsored by the Arlington Rose Foundation at the Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Exhibits on display 1-6 p.m. Free, no reservations required. For more, call 703-860-0071.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 14



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

PhotoB@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:

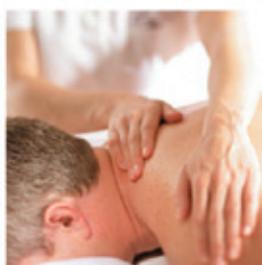
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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 13

THURSDAY/JUNE 12
George Mason University's College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) announces the first Mason Festival of the Arts June 12-29 on GMU's Fairfax campus, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. This three-week festival includes performances by Theater of the First Amendment (TFA), The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, The Fairfax Choral Society, the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra and the World Children's Choir. Ticket prices vary. Tickets: 888-945-2468, www.tickets.com. Visit www.gmu.edu/cfa.

FRIDAY/JUNE 13
Ice Cream Sundaes and Sweet Treats to celebrate the retirement of Pamela Botts and Jane Moore after a combined 35 years of service. Friday, 3:45-5 p.m. in the Clifton Elementary

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to southcalendar@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-917-6440. Deadline is Friday.

THURSDAY/MAY 22
Virginia Commission on Immigration Public hearing. 2-5 p.m. and 6-9 p.m., at the Johnson Center Cinema on the campus of George Mason

University, Fairfax. Commission is seeking public input on how immigration issues are affecting Virginia. Public comment will be limited to three minutes per person. Sign up for public comment will be onsite from 1-5 p.m. Written comments can also be submitted in advance to Virginia Commission on Immigration, c/o Matt Gross, 7 North 8th St., 6th Floor, Richmond, VA 23219 For more, contact Matt Gross at 804-726-708.

Courtyard, 7010 Clifton Road, Clifton.

SATURDAY/JUNE 14
Concert. The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra performs "Dream of America" with Theatre of the First Amendment actors 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. See www.gmu.edu/cfa or www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 15
Fathers Day Train Show. N Scale model trains will be running 1-4 p.m. in the caboose and community room at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. The Northern Virginia NTRAK model train club will host its monthly setup. \$2 adults, \$1 children. Call 703-425-9225.

SATURDAY/JUNE 21
Civil War Bus Tour. The Stuart-Mosby Historical Society hosts a tour through northern Virginia's Civil War history, starting 8:30 a.m. at the Truro Rectory, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Led by Don Hakenson and Gregg Dudding with Thomas Evans. E-mail dhakenson@cox.net, wdudding@cox.net or call 703-971-4984 to register.
Artists' Reception. The Artists' Undertaking Gallery features work by watercolor paintings by Springfield artist Jack Dyer and other area artists. 2-5 p.m. at the gallery, 309 Mill St., Occoquan. Exhibit runs June 3-July 7. Call 703-494-0584 or visit www.theartistsundertaking.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 26
"I Love You More than Rainbows" author Susan Crites signs copies of her children's book, 2-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Barnes & Noble, Fair Lakes Promenade. Call the store at 703-278-0300.

TUESDAY/MAY 27
Jewish Community Legislative Review. The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia hosts Del. Steve Shannon (D-35) to recount the key legislative issues in Virginia. 7:30-9 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Free but RSVPs at 703-962-9230.



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Thursday, May 29	Saturday, May 31
<p style="text-align: center;">Burger King Family Festival with Kids' Rides and Games Springfield Mall 4pm – 9pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Burger King Family Festival with Kids' Rides and Games Springfield Mall 10am – 9pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, May 30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Burger King Family Festival with Kids' Rides and Games Springfield Mall 10am – 9pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Old-fashioned B-B-Q at Old-fashioned Prices American Legion Post 176 6pm – 8pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Family Fitness 1K Run/Walk Starts at Hanover & Monticello 9am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Springfield Days Parade & Paws on Parade Starts at Hanover & Monticello 10am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Taste of Springfield Art Show, Exhibitors, Child Car Seat Safety Checks Organized by the Fairfax County Police Springfield Plaza 11am – 6pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, June 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Burger King Family Festival with Kids' Rides and Games Springfield Mall 10am – 9pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">19th Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta Lake Accotink Park 12pm – 4pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Springfield Hilton Movie at the Park featuring Under the Same Moon Lake Accotink Park 6pm – 11pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Springfield Toyota Entertainment Stage featuring Junkyard Saints Deanna Bogart the High Middlin String Band Springfield Plaza 11am – 6pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Silver Diner Children's Celebration Station Springfield Mall 12pm – 6pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Springfield Hilton Movie at the Park featuring Bee Movie Lake Accotink Park 6pm – 11pm</p>





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CAMPS & SCHOOLS



STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

South County High School's Cappie nominees are, front row, Mariah Kalil, Costumes; Claire Bridger, Lead Actress in a Musical; and Elizabeth Ensminger, Costumes; back row, from left, Ally Barrale, Featured Actress in a Musical and Best Song; Adam Scott, Best Song; Ray Yankey, Lead Actor in a Musical; and Sammi Santini, Best Sets; (Not pictured) Alex Dyson and Drew Jenkinson, Best Ensemble in a Musical; and Sarah Stephens, Sets. The Cappies Awards ceremony will be Sunday, June 8 at The Kennedy Center.

SCHOOL NOTES

GT Preparation/Critical Thinking sessions: Learning Fun School is now offering GT prep classes for rising first- and second-graders. Countywide testing will be done in fall, 2008. Ages 7 and up. E-mail: mylearningfun@gmail.com.

Gunston Community Blood Drive, sponsored by the American Red Cross, will be Friday, June 6 from 3 - 7 p.m. at Gunston Elementary School

Gym. Each blood donation can save the lives of up to three people. The goal is 40 units. Appointments are encouraged. Walk-ins are accepted. Contact Anne Gorham at 703-850-6843 to schedule your donation.

Burke Racquet & Swim Club

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HEALTH NOTES

Health notes are for support groups, exercise classes, blood drives and similar events open to the public at no or minimal cost. Send information to south@connectionnewsletters.com or call 703-917-6440. Deadline is Friday.

The Northern Virginia Alliance on Smoking or Health has published "Your Springfield and Burke Guide to Smoke-Free Dining." The guide was published with grant funds from the Virginia Department of Health's Tobacco Use Control Project. The guide lists restaurants in Springfield and Burke that offer smoke-free dining.

The guide is free. To obtain a copy, visit the South Run RECenter, 7550 Reserva-

tion Drive, Springfield. To receive a copy by mail, call Fairfax County Community and Recreation Services at 703-324-5213.

People living with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia are invited to the program, "Living Well with CLL," on Saturday, May 31, 9:30 a.m.-noon, at the Life with Cancer Family Center, 2700 Prosperity Ave., #100, Fairfax. The program will include an update on new treatments with Georg Aue, M.D., of the National Cancer Institute and a panel presentation of people living with CLL. To register for this free program, call The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at 703-960-1100, ext. 231 or e-mail sarah.singer@lls.org.

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PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

The South County softball team poses behind their Patriot District championship banner.

Stallions Crowned in Extra Innings

South County wins nine-inning Patriot District championship game.

BY ERIC J. GILMORE
THE CONNECTION

South County head coach Al Thompson — selected as the Patriot District Coach of the Year — joked with his team after the game that he'd already purchased the district championship banner, because he knew his team would win.

He may have been eventually right, but the fiery coach and his talented team were staggering for the majority of Tuesday night. But a never-give-up attitude, and crucial hits lifted South County to its second straight Patriot District title in only the school's fourth year of existence.

SOFTBALL

WEST SPRINGFIELD	1
SOUTH COUNTY	2

Stallion sophomore Michelle Boynton drilled a walk-off single, driving in sophomore Karly Thompson in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift the Stallions to a 2-1 victory over West Springfield on the Spartans' home field.

"It's all a blur," said South County junior first baseman Kayla Reisinger, who reached base on a one-out single. "I was standing on first base watching Stephanie [Sbardella] (who was on second) run around as I was rounding second and I kept running. I knew we got it and was ecstatic."

THE STALLIONS went 14-0 through the regular season and had a league-best five representatives on the first team all-district squad, including Pitcher of the Year Chelsey

Dunham.

South County, riding Dunham's right arm, blasted through eight-seeded T.C. Williams, 18-0, and fourth-seeded Lake Braddock, 8-4, to earn the championship berth. Meanwhile, the Spartans, just 5-9 within the district, had to endure battles with third-seeded Hayfield (2-0) and second-seeded West Potomac (1-0).

"We saw them win and we had to get ready because West Springfield is not a team to joke around with," Reisinger said.

Riding a 1-0 lead, the Spartans had an opportune time to add much-needed insurance runs in the sixth inning. Christen Gibson, daughter of head coach Maggie Gibson, drilled a 3-1 pitch to the right out-field gap for a triple. Senior Kathryn Rogers reached second on fielder's choice, putting two runners in scoring position with no outs.

"It's a heart attack," Reisinger said. "With no outs, you're scared out of your mind. We knew we had to do something."

Dunham buckled down, earning three consecutive strikeouts to end the inning.

"I thought for sure that we'd get something out of it," Gibson said afterward.

In the bottom of the seventh, the Spartans still maintained a one-run lead. Needing three outs to earn its first district title since 2006, West Springfield relied on powerful senior right-hander Jessica Thomas.

"Jess is a battler," Maggie Gibson said. "Out of all my players, she's the toughest one so if anybody is going to be on that mound, it's going to be Jess. No one wants it more than her. I felt confident with her up there."

Thomas relinquished a single to Thompson, who came off the bench to earn two

hits, to open the inning. After a bunt attempt failed, Sbardella's short blooper set up runners at first and second. A subsequent walk loaded the bases, sending Reisinger, a first-team all district selection to the plate.

"I kept looking at my parents and everyone out in the stands thinking, 'oh my gosh, if I mess up, it's the game on me,'" Reisinger said. "I knew I had to do something."

A sacrifice fly sent the game-tying run in, and ensured the game would go into extra innings.

"I just knew that our team would get it back and that we would never quit," Dunham said.

Both teams will host the first round of the 16-team Northern Region tournament, which starts on Friday. The Stallions will face Madison, the fourth seed from the Liberty District at 7 p.m. With a 20-3 record, South County is one widely considered to be one of the favorites to compete for the regional crown. Thompson told his team they still have work to do and Dunham reiterated it after the game.

"Our goal is to win regionals," she said. For West Springfield, who will face McLean, the Spartans are hoping for continued success in close games after losing six one-run games, and nine by three runs or less this season.

"I think when you go through the fire, it really tempers you," Maggie Gibson said. "We've been in close games all season so we know what we can do."

Thomas, a first-team all-district first baseman, echoed her coach about still having something to play for despite the tough loss.

"It is a new game, new tournament and a new season," she said.

TITLE WEEK

2008 District Titles

BASEBALL

Concorde: Chantilly High School (Chantilly 5, Oakton 3)
Liberty: Stone Bridge High School (Stone Bridge 10, Madison 0)
Patriot: Lake Braddock Secondary School (Lake Braddock 12, West Springfield 8)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 4, Edison 1)

SOFTBALL

Concorde: Robinson Secondary School (Robinson 4, Herndon 2)
Liberty: Langley High School (Langley 9, Stone Bridge 8)
Patriot: South County Secondary School (South County 2, West Springfield 1)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 9, Mount Vernon 4)

GIRLS SOCCER

Concorde: Robinson Secondary School (Robinson 2, Westfield 1)
Liberty: Madison High School (Madison 3, McLean 2)
Patriot: West Springfield High School (West Springfield 2, South County 1)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 2, Mount Vernon 0)

BOYS SOCCER

Concorde: Herndon High School (Herndon 1, Westfield 0)
Liberty: Thomas Jefferson High School (Jefferson 2, Stone Bridge 0)
Patriot: T.C. Williams High School (T.C. Williams 3, Lake Braddock 0)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 1, Wakefield 0)

BOYS TRACK

Concorde: Westfield High School
Liberty: South Lakes High School
Patriot: West Potomac High School
National: Edison High School

GIRLS TRACK

Concorde: Westfield High School
Liberty: Stone Bridge High School
Patriot: Lake Braddock Secondary School
National: Edison High School

GIRLS LACROSSE

Concorde: Robinson Secondary School (Robinson 14, Chantilly 13)
Liberty: Stone Bridge High School (Stone Bridge 14, Woodson 11)
Patriot: Annandale High School (Annandale 11, West Springfield 10)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 9, Falls Church 6)

BOYS LACROSSE

Concorde: Chantilly High School (Chantilly 9, Oakton 7)
Liberty: Langley High School (Langley 8, Woodson 3)
Patriot: Annandale High School (Annandale 7, Lake Braddock 6 OT)
National: Falls Church High School (Falls Church 10, Yorktown 6)

BOYS TENNIS

Concorde: Robinson Secondary School
Liberty: Thomas Jefferson High School
Patriot: Lake Braddock Secondary School
National: Stuart High School

GIRLS TENNIS

Concorde: Oakton High School
Liberty: Thomas Jefferson High School, Woodson High School (Tie)
Patriot: Lake Braddock Secondary School



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Robinson softball team celebrates their first district championship since 2004.

Rams Emerge As Concorde Champs

Robinson softball earns first district title since 2004.

BY PAUL FROMMELT
THE CONNECTION

After a 8-1 loss to Centreville on April 1 that dropped the Rams to 1-6 on the season and 0-2 in the Concorde District, Robinson softball head coach Barry Gorodnick had a talk with his squad.

"I knew the potential that we had but the kids didn't really believe," said Gorodnick, whose Rams were the defending Northern Region champs, but graduated Division I recruits Dorian Shaw (Michigan) and Taylor Cunningham (Radford).

"It was a rough start. We hadn't come together as a team yet," said senior pitcher Erin Henning.

Since that start, the Rams have won 13 of 16, including nine straight victories. Robinson's latest victory, a 4-2 win over Herndon, secured the Rams their first district tournament title since 2004.

"Nobody expected us to be here. They knew that we were going to be competitive because we have good players, but I don't think that anybody thought this," said Gorodnick.

At the end of the regular season, the Rams finished in a four-way tie for the second seed in the district tournament. Due to the flip of a coin, the Rams earned the No. 2 seed and dispatched Fairfax (18-1) and Westfield (9-7) to earn a spot in the championship game. Instead of facing No. 1 seed Centreville, who had beaten the

Rams twice this year, Robinson was surprised to see Herndon emerge as their opponent.

"We didn't really care who we played, we just wanted to be here," said Gorodnick, whose Rams split the season series against the Hornets — each game separated by one run.

IT WAS THE HORNETS that jumped out to an early lead against the Rams at Westfield High School on Monday night when

Herndon pitcher Katie Briggs stroked a Henning offering over the center field fence for a 1-0 lead. Briggs added another RBI in the third inning, scoring pinch runner Carly Horne on a single to give the Hornets a 2-0 lead.

"She can hurt us, hitting and pitching," said Gorodnick of Briggs, who held the Rams to one hit through three innings.

The Rams used smart base running to climb back into game in the fourth. Sophomore Marcy Bowdren led off the inning with a single to center field and then stole second. With one out, Henning drew a walk and sophomore Kathryn Lohr advanced both run-

ners with a grounder to second.

Briggs threw a wild pitch to the next batter, allowing Bowdren to walk home. Gorodnick, noticing that the Hornets were not paying attention, sent Henning to home as well, knotting the score at 2-2.

"It felt like the tide was changing a little bit," said Gorodnick of tying up the game.

Doubles by junior Christine Cunningham and Bowdren gave the Rams a 4-2 lead and Henning scattered four hits in the final four innings to secure the Rams' victory.

Robinson will begin its Northern Region title defense this Friday when the Rams host National District No. 4 seed Edison at 7 p.m.

"I knew the potential that we had but the kids didn't really believe."

—Robinson head coach Barry Gorodnick



ROBINSON REBOUND

CONCORDE DISTRICT SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	W/L	Score
3/28	Westfield	Loss	10-3
4/01	Centreville	Loss	8-1
4/11	Chantilly	Win	11-0
4/16	Oakton	Win	4-1
4/18	Westfield	Win	2-0
4/22	Centreville	Loss	7-6
4/24	Herndon	Loss	1-0
4/29	Fairfax	Win	11-4
5/02	Chantilly	Win	14-2
5/06	Fairfax	Win	6-1
5/07	Oakton	Win	5-1
5/10	Herndon	Win	3-2
5/14	Fairfax	Win	18-1
5/16	Westfield	Win	9-7
5/19	Herndon	Win	4-2

A Walk in the Park

Lake Braddock earns first Patriot District title since 2004.

BY ERIC J. GILMORE
THE CONNECTION

Despite winning 18-plus games for the past four straight seasons, a Patriot District banner had evaded Lake Braddock's baseball team. The Bruins captured a Northern Region title two years ago, but ever since 2004, they hadn't been crowned as district champs.

Not until now.

The Bruins went on the road and spurned West Springfield, 12-8, in a three-hour-plus marathon game on Tuesday evening. It was Lake Braddock's 15th consecutive victory, after starting the season 3-3 following a 6-2 road defeat to West Springfield on April 1.

But the Bruins buckled down, and reeled off win-after-win to mark the fifth consecutive year they've won 18-plus games.

"To do it to West Springfield on their field makes it that much more sweeter," said sophomore infielder Ryan Lindemuth, who finished with a game-high three runs. "It feels like a bunch of hard work is finally paying off. This is a great reward."

Lake Braddock earned 13 walks — 11 of the 12 runs reached base via walk — from four West Springfield pitchers, who allowed the Bruins to tally multiple runs in five of their six innings.

"We really grinded out at-bats," said sixth-year Lake Braddock head coach Jody Rutherford. "We got in situations where they were ahead and we ended up battling our way back, drawing a walk or getting a base hit. We are able to put pressure on them with the base stealing."

The Spartans took a three-run lead in the top of the first off University of Virginia-bound pitcher Shane Halley, who made only his fourth appearance because of an early season forearm injury. The senior struggled in the opening frame, eventually shortening his season-high three-inning outing.

"It seemed like everybody had runners on base every inning," Rutherford said. "With the way we swung the bats on offense, we didn't feel like we were down giving up three. We just needed to do a better job throwing strikes."

The Bruins responded with two runs in the bottom of the first and four more in the second to take a 6-2 advantage.

West Springfield starting pitcher Bobby Wahl lasted just one inning, giving up three runs, while junior Tucker Tobin relinquished four in less than two innings. Without ace Mike Kent, who pitched a complete game to rally past two-time defending district champ South County, 4-3, in the semifinals, juniors Shannon Smith and Richie McMahon didn't fare much better.

"We took really good at-bats," Lindemuth said. "Anytime you get on base without any outs, it's going to produce runs."

Lake Braddock senior Shannon Mark went 2-for-3 with a team-high three RBI's, while catcher Steven Lindemuth batted in two runners. The Bruins were seven-of-14 with runners in scoring position.

"Lake Braddock has been the best team in our district all year so they deserved it," said West Springfield head coach John James.

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- Bachelors Degree in Accounting
- Minimum of 3 years of accounting experience, including bank and account reconciliation work in an automated system environment

General Qualifications for both positions include:

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T.C. Williams offers in excess of 180 courses and is one of the few Virginia schools that teach organic chemistry. Advanced placement and International Baccalaureate programs are part of a broad and challenging curriculum offered for students. The faculty is outstanding and many serve as readers and consultants for the national AP program. Students participate in a wide variety of interscholastic sports and clubs.

The principal supervises 7 administrators and a faculty and support staff in excess of 200. T.C. is the cornerstone of the community and was the featured high school in the Disney film "Remember the Titans". Alexandria City is located in the Washington, D.C. metro area and is home to a richly urban and diverse population.

For more information contact our web site at www.acps.k12.va.us. A profile of the school is located at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/twilliams.php>.

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<p>3 RE for Rent</p> <p>"Cabin in the Woods" is available to rent starting 1st of April. Charming, authentic, romantic cabin sitting on over 50 acres, backing into Furnace Mountain just north of Lucketts. \$1575/mo Call today and start living in "a little piece of history"! 571-277-7710</p>	<p>4 RE for Sale</p> <p>ESCAPE TO WV FARMS, LAND, MTN TOP CABINS W LAKE VIEWS WOODED BLDG SITES W LOG HOMES 800-651-5540 OR mikehaywoodgroup.com</p>	<p>4 RE for Sale</p> <p>FORECLOSURES AND FIXER-UPPERS IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA Call 703-383-6139 24 hours for a free list Prudential Carruthers Realtors</p>	<p>26 Antiques</p> <p>We consign/pay top \$ for antique/semi antique furn. including mid century & danish modern Teak furniture, sterling, mens watches, painting/art glass, clocks, jewelry, costume jewelry, etc. Call Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790.</p>	<p>29 Misc. for Sale</p> <p>\$250 KING Pillow Top Mattress & Box set (3pc)- Brand New, Never Used w/warranty. (Retail \$500+) Deliverable 571-926-1990</p> <p>7 PC Cherry Sleigh Bedroom set - Brand new in boxes, Worth \$1200+ (Can help deliver) Asking \$575 571-926-1990</p>	<p>101 Computers</p> <p>HDI EASY COMPUTER SOLUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS & SMALL BUSINESSES JENNIFER O. SMITH COMPUTER CONSULTANT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > TRAINING > INSTALLATION > TROUBLE-SHOOTING > LET US TAME THAT BEAST FOR YOU <p>Serving Area Since 1995 (703) 765-2222 JSMITHHDI@aol.com</p>	<p>116 Childcare Avail.</p> <p>St. George's UMC Preschool is Enrolling for the upcoming school year. We offer a fun learning environment for children ages 2 1/2 to 5 years old. We also offer an exciting extended day program. For more information, please call (703)385-4422.</p>
<p>21 Announcements</p> <p>Make a difference in the life of a child who needs you. Help a child and learn new ways to teach positive behaviors. Generous monthly stipend; 24-hour support; ongoing training provided. Call Phillips Programs for more information or visit our website. www.phillipsprograms.org. PHILLIPS Teaching Homes (703) 941-3471 ext. 217 or (301) 470-1620 ext. 195. Homes are needed in VA and MD. Training starts in June 2008</p>	<p>21 Announcements</p> <p>WANTED SPORTS CARDS & MEMORABILIA Huggins & Scott Auctions is looking to buy or consign your VINTAGE (Pre-1970) Sports Cards & Memorabilia + older Americana collectibles including Toys, Games, Trains, Comics, Coins, Political Items, etc. for our next World Wide Internet Auction Call Craig 703-220-4718 to discuss your collection hugginsandscott.com</p>	<p>26 Antiques</p> <p>28 Yard Sales</p> <p>Burke, Huge multi-family yard sale, 5/24, 8-noon, 6709 Wooden Spoke RD.</p> <p>Multi-family yrd sale, 5/24 8-1 r/s Something for everyone! 7321 Lightship ct Burke</p> <p>Yard sale, boys sports articles, toys, shoes, clths, misc h/h 9942 Hemlock Woods Lane, S'fld</p>	<p>29 Misc. for Sale</p> <p>29 Misc. for Sale</p>	<p>21 Announcements</p> <p>21 Announcements</p> <p>21 Announcements</p>	<p>116 Childcare Avail.</p> <p>BURKE Childcare avail in my home, OFC Lic, FT & PT, days, evenings, Back-up care & special needs children welcome. Large yard for lots of</p> <p>117 Adoption</p> <p>Loving couple seeks to adopt newborn. Will pay legal/medical expenses. Helen/Larry 888-834-3646</p>	<p>21 Announcements</p> <p>21 Announcements</p> <p>21 Announcements</p>

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

TAX NOTICE
CITY OF FAIRFAX

REAL ESTATE TAX
PAYMENTS ARE DUE

Real Estate tax bills have been mailed and are due
JUNE 5, 2008

LATE PAYMENT PENALTY

To avoid a 10% late payment penalty and interest charges, payment must be made in full in person or postmarked by close of business on
JUNE 5, 2008

Taxes may be paid in person Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Treasurer's Office, Room 234, City Hall

IMPORTANT

Even if you do not receive a bill,
You are responsible for paying real estate taxes by
JUNE 5, 2008 to avoid a late payment penalties

For Additional Information, please call 703-385-7904

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08	HONDA	ACURA TL	\$31,780	\$28,995	07	HYUNDAI	VERACRUZ	\$26,995	\$24,995
07	DODGE	CALIBER SE	\$13,500	\$12,795	06	CHEVY	COBALT LS	\$11,950	\$9,995
07	HYUNDAI	AZERA LTD	\$23,250	\$19,995	04	HYUNDAI	SANTA FE	\$13,995	\$11,995
07	FORD	MUSTANG GT	\$24,995	\$22,995	06	FORD	TAURUS SE	\$13,975	\$9,995
07	HYUNDAI	SONATA SE	\$19,995	\$14,995	06	HYUNDAI	SONATA GLS	\$16,975	\$13,995
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06	FORD	FOCUS SE	\$11,550	\$10,995	05	HYUNDAI	SANTA FE LX	\$15,995	\$12,995
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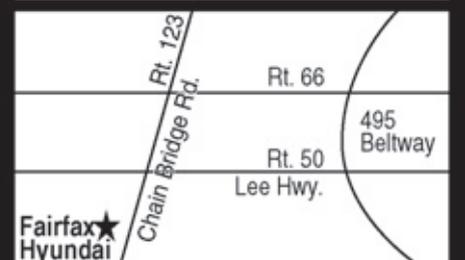
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Dare Tulloch 540-895-9951



Fairfax Station \$849,950
Immaculate! Impressive! Updated colonial on gorgeous 1/2 acre lot in South Run Community. Many recent updates include kitchen appls, granite counter-tops, ceramic floors, new dual zoned HVAC, sunroom, 2 story great room w/ floor to ceiling windows & fireplace. Fully finished lower lvl. Very impressive landscaping.
Marsha Wolber & Carol Hermandorfer 703-618-4397 or 703-216-4949



Fairfax/Middlebridge \$514,000
Stunning, Updated, Immaculate, Seldom Seen 4-level Split Level w/hardwood Floors on 2 Levels & New Windows. Kitchen Updates include Cabinets, Granite Counters, & Appliances. 5 BRs, 3 Full Baths (Updated). Walk-out Family Room w/FP.
Sheila Adams or Ann Witherspoon 703-503-1895 or 703-503-1836



Lorton \$945,000
FINE LUXURY
Five bedrooms, 5 1/2 bath home on the best lot in the community. Luxurious upgrades and unique floor plan. This one is one in a million and worth every penny!
For 24-hour recorded info, call 1-888-495-6207 x223.
Ron Kowalski



Woodbridge \$127,900
Bank Owned!
3 level townhome with 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. Nice deck. Priced way below market.
Ramesh Amini 703-309-8948



Fairfax Station \$684,900
All brick colonial on 2.89 private wooded acres! Parklike back yard with patios, pond w/waterfall, hot tub! Quiet country street, just minutes from shopping, commuter routes & VRE! 4 BRs + den up, au pair suite in WO lower level! Updated corian kitchen, extensive hardwoods, family room w/walls of glass!
See photos at www.marshawolber.com
Marsha Wolber & Carol Hermandorfer 703-618-4397 or 703-216-4949



Burke Centre \$620,000
4 BRs, 3.5 Baths, Kitchen & Foyer ceramic tile. Recent frig, DW & FR carpet. FR off-kitchen w/fireplace & SGD to brick patio & fenced back yard. Basement with Rec. Room, full bath & den.
Joel Lutkenhouse 703-969-6442



Centreville \$215,000
Perfect 2 bedroom/2bath Townhome. Conveniently located 1 mile from I-66/Rt 28 & Rt. 29, Metro, shops & schools. 15 minutes from Dulles Airport. Schools: London Towne West Elem., Stone Middle, Westfield High.
Kinder Saund 202-369-5597



Clifton \$684,900
Acorn Custom Contemporary. Pottery barn inspired, walls of glass, vaulted ceilings, flooded with sunlight! Private 1 acre, backs to common woods, on a quiet country road just 1 mile from town of Clifton! Delightful screened porch, master suite w/fireplace, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. So many updates, perfect!!!
Marsha Wolber & Carol Hermandorfer 703-618-4397 or 703-216-4949



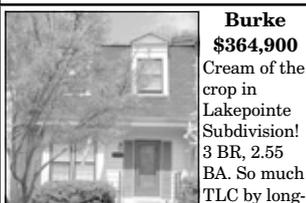
Lorton \$339,000
Brick rambler with 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Great neighborhood. Close to schools & transportation.
Mary FitzHenry 703-731-9178



Lorton \$439,900
Close to Everything
Beautiful home close to all that Lorton has to offer! Brazilian cherry hardwoods on the main level, step-down living room, and formal dining area. Kitchen has stainless steel appliances, bump-out eating area & breakfast bar. Large deck with great views! Close to shopping, transportation, and recreational activities! Don't miss it!
24-hour recorded info, call 1-888-495-6207 x227
Ron Kowalski



Alexandria - Rose Hill \$379,900
4 bedroom brick rambler. Quiet cul-de-sac; great yard in well established neighborhood. Close to schools, shopping center. Must see!
Mary FitzHenry 703-731-9178



Burke \$364,900
Cream of the crop in Lakepointe Subdivision! 3 BR, 2.55 BA. So much TLC by long-time owners. Upgrades/up dates galore.
Brand new carpet thruout. Gorgeous refin hdwd floors. New appliances, A/C, remodeled bathrooms, new deck & fence. Walkout rec. rm w/frpl. Backs to woods. Pool, tennis.
Jim Fox 703-503-1800



Alexandria \$379,900
3 bedroom, 2 bath Split level. Close to Metro, shopping, transportation. Nice yard in well established neighborhood.
Mary FitzHenry 703-731-9178

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TIME: 7:00-9:00 PM

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TO REGISTER: Please contact Mary Ann Plonka at 703-503-1898 or maryann.plonka@longandfooster.com



Fairfax \$479,900
Colonial Beauty
Immaculate Colonial in Fairfax Club Estates. A Community that offers so much enjoyment for the whole family--Swim Club, tennis, basketball, tot lot & lake. This beauty has 3 BRs, 2 1/2 BAs, updated from top to bottom. Wonderful lower level family room w/walk-out, 2 car garage, deck & a great yard. Within a mile to GWU & VRE.
Sheila Adams 703-503-1895



Fairfax \$1,799,000
Absolutely Perfect! This home has it All! Stately colonial with over \$100k in recent improvements. Top of the line custom pool with waterfalls and stone and brick patios, extensive landscaping and outdoor lighting. Beautiful neighborhood with 15 gorgeous homes all on 5 acres.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Clifton \$574,888
Great value in this 5 BR, 3 BA Colonial with approx. \$60,000 worth of recent upgrades. 1st & 2nd floor MBR's. Lux. MBA. Updated gourmet Kit w/ granite, etc. Hardwoods, Skylights, Deck & much more.
Claudia Callis 703-620-2790



Fairfax City \$889,500
3 BR, 4.5 BA brick courtyard home. 1st floor MBR plus 2nd MBR on upper level. New hardwood floors, 2 story foyer, upgraded kitchen with vaulted ceiling & gas fireplace, private yard with fountain.
Nancy Basham 703-772-2066



Clifton \$599,500
Inspired by Nature
Clad in cedar & beautifully perched in the treetops, this 3 BR, 1.5 BA contemporary home brings the outdoors in thru walls of glass & skylights! Dramatic two story great room, kit w/greenhouse windows, terra cotta tile & SS appliances, hrwd frs throughout. Two + car garage. Private wooded 1 acre lot.
Debbie Besley 703-346-5103



Clifton \$299,900
Truly charming 3-level TH in Centreville Green (Clifton address). New carpet, paint, and light fixtures. Hardwoods on the main level. Two Master bedrooms each with connecting bath. Shows great!
David Levent 703-503-1821



Fairfax \$499,000
Fabulous Landscaping & Sunroom Addition
Beautiful 4 BR colonial set on quiet street w/loads of updates! 21 x 12 Sunroom addition, 42" cabinets, appliances, hardwoods, baths, built-ins, premium windows/doors, roof, HVAC & more! Community amenities include walking paths, large lake, tot lots, Pentagon bus, close to VRE, Robinson school district.
Mary Hovland & Cathy DeLoach 703-503-1445 or 703-503-1864



Alexandria \$279,000
Alexandria Racquet Club & Pool
Premier location with Metro van shuttle, 36 acres of country club living with rare indoor/outdoor tennis & pool complex with putting green. Large Lux. 2 BR/2 bath w/garage, huge balcony. Very sunny and updated.
Patricia Rehill 703-503-4186



Alexandria \$749,000
Beautifully updated 4/5 BR, 3 BA home w/ over \$150,000 updates. Custom gourmet chef's kitchen & delightful four seasons room perfect for entertaining. Master suite remodeled with top of line details. Other recent updates include windows, siding & doors. WULL w game room, bar, office area & workshop. The classic design reflects the unique quality of one of Mount Vernon's finest communities.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



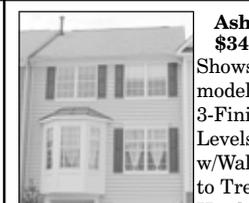
Fairfax Station \$899,000
Priced below assessment. 5 BR, 4.5 BA, 3 level Tudor on 5 acres in equestrian community backing to Sandy Run. Family room off eat-in kitchen, large master suite, screened porch, deck, hardwood floors, 2-car garage.
Cheryl Hanback 703-864-4321



Woodbridge \$260,000
Backs to Woods
Beautifully maintained 3 BR, 2.55 BA, 4-level TH features 2-story MBR w/vaulted ceiling, ceiling fans and loft. Wood Flrs in LR & Foyer. Eat-In Kit, newer appliances. Fin LL Rec. Rm w/ Gas FP & French Door to Deck and Fenced Yard.
Barbara Nowak 703-503-1802



Herndon \$425,000
Rare Kingston Chase 3-Level
4BR, 2.5 BA, 3 Lvl Colonial. Updated Kit & Baths. Hardwood Kit & FR w/gas FP & SGD to 35X12' patio and fenced yard, LR & Sep DR w/built-in Cabs. Fin LL RR & Sep Den AND MUCH MORE!
Gerry Staudte 703-503-1894



Ashburn \$344,500
Shows like a model! 3-Finished Levels w/Walk-out to Trees! Hardwood Floors, New Carpet, New Roof (2007), Bay Window, Deck, Vaulted Ceilings, Deluxe Master BA w/Separate Tub & Shower, Gas FP.
Ann Witherspoon 703-503-1836



Fairfax Station \$1,689,900
5 BRs on upper level! Spectacular manor home on 5 gorgeous landscaped acres w/ pool, spa & gazebo, 9,000 fin SF, 1st fir master suite, exceptional Sun Rm w/2 sets FR doors leading to paneled study/lib. Plus 6 BR, 2nd lib, 4 FB, 2 HB, gourmet kitchen w/granite & natural gas, 3 car gar. Expansive fin LL perfect for entertaining. See this property at www.GraingerTeam.com.
Ann Grainger 703-503-1870

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Oakton
\$589,000

Easy Elegance

Beautiful SF home w/ over 2,700 sq. ft. Lrg MBR and two additional BRs connected by a balcony

overlooking the Living Rm w/ skylights, fireplace and vaulted ceiling. Lrg Kit w/ breakfast area, full fin lower level w/ fireplace, full bath and separate room perfect for den or exercise room. Convenient to schools, shopping and Metro.



Elegant Random Hills
\$454,900

Spacious TH w/ 2 MBRs, 3.5 BAs, & 1-Car Gar. Hrdwd flrs on main lvl & foyer. Kit w/ 42" Cherry cabinets & granite counter. Recessed lighting, crown molding, 2 fpls, deck, fenced patio plus much more. Both MBRs w/ cath. ceilings, ceiling fans, & 2 lrg closets. MBA w/ Sep tub, shower & skylight. Terrific location - easy access to transportation and Fairfax Corner!

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Gainesville **\$495,000**

4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath on 18th green in Virginia Oaks. Hardwood floors on main level. 9 foot ceilings. Spacious rec. rm., den, exercise rm. & full bath on LL. 2 story foyer. Great family rm. & kitchen with center island & lots of cabinets/counter space. Minutes to golf club house.



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Burke **\$198,900**

BANK OWNED FORECLOSURE!!

3 finished levels * walk out recreation room * courtyard * walk to shopping and public transportation.

Call Judy at 703-503-1885.



Burke **\$295,900**

BANK OWNED FORECLOSURE!!

3 levels * 3 BRs * 2 full + 2 half baths * stepdown living room w/ fireplace * walk out recreation room to fenced yard * walk to VRE station.

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Burke Centre

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Lorton

Crosspointe Gem!

\$650,000

Stately 4 BR, 2.5 BA colonial on premium cul-de-sac lot! Updated kitchen w/ stone counters! Hrdwd flrs! Tall ceilings Large bedroom sizes! Immaculate!

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Fairfax City
\$629,900

Beautiful wooded lot, single family home with 2-car garage. 3BR/2+BA. 3 finished levels. Beautifully remodeled and meticulously maintained.

Small enclave of private homes. Community swimming pool. Across from Army/Navy CC. Please call for a private showing.

Laura 703-380-8993



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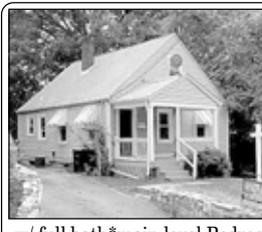
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Arlington
\$499,900

SALE OR RENT

Great location * 2/3 bedroom * 3 bath 3 level * Updated kit * level lot * modified floor plan * Large bedroom up

w/ full bath * main level Bedroom w/ full bath * lower level bedroom/den w/ full bath * call for an appointment to see.

Buzz Jordan 703-503-1866



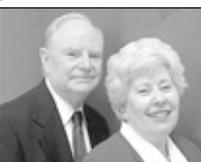
Alexandria/Kingstowne Area

\$335,000

JUST LISTED!

COMMUTER'S DREAM! Immaculate Townhome close to Old Town and DC! Prof decorated w/ 3 finished levels! Firepl in Liv Rm. Patio/Deck off Rec Rm w/ Powder Rm in walk-out basement. New appliances in kitchen include Refrigerator w/ IM & Ceran top stove w/ SC oven!! Many other extras/upgrades!!

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Fairfax Station

PRIVATE LAKE!

\$970,000

Charming Colonial on 5+ park-like acres w/ 250' waterfront on private lake & only 5 mins from VRE. 4 BR, 2.5 BA, 2 FP Lib, Hrdwd flrs, large studio over garage. Multi-level deck, heated pool & spa. Many recent improvements inc. Pella windows & doors, gutter toppers.

See this home at www.GraingerTeam.com



Clifton

Idyllic Setting

\$1,095,000

Charm exudes from this New England Salt Box Colonial with Contemporary flair! 5 perfect acres w/ creek. Spectacular views from Great Rm w/ 25' ceiling. Cherry wood floors. Granite Kitchen, 2nd flr Gallery w/ built-ins, 3-car garage & matching Gatehouse. Fin. bsmt. One of the prettiest streets in Clifton!

See this property at www.CliftonMLS.com.



Barbara Nowak & Gerry Staudte

"My Virginia Home Team"

703-503-1802, 703-503-1894

gerry.staudte@longandfooster.com
www.MyVirginiaHomeTeam.com

Catie & Steve

Direct: **703-278-9313**

Cell: **703-362-2591**

NVAR Top Producers

Multi-Million Dollar Sales Club



Springfield
\$725,000

Elegant Living

This 4 BR, 2.5 BA Colonial features gourmet

Kit w/ Work Island, 5-burner gas cook top, dbl wall oven & granite counters. First floor hardwoods, large MBR w/ luxury MBA & 2 W/I closets, and much more!



Clarendon
\$549,000

Beautifully refurbished 3 level colonial in Lyon Park! 4 large bedrooms, updated bath, new granite countertops and new kitchen cabinets

and appliances. Hardwood floors through the home have all been refinished! Huge, flat, back yard and detached garage. Enjoy everything Clarendon has to offer! Walk to the Metro station, restaurants, gym and more!

Call Catie & Steve: 703-278-9313

LISTING YOUR HOME? CALL LONG AND FOSTER'S #1 OFFICE!
Call Dale Gabardy at 703-425-8000 • Email: gabardy@longandfooster.com