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**CONNECTION**

Clifton ❖ Lorton ❖ Lorton Valley ❖ ...nte

# Stallions Win Region

NEWS, PAGE 4

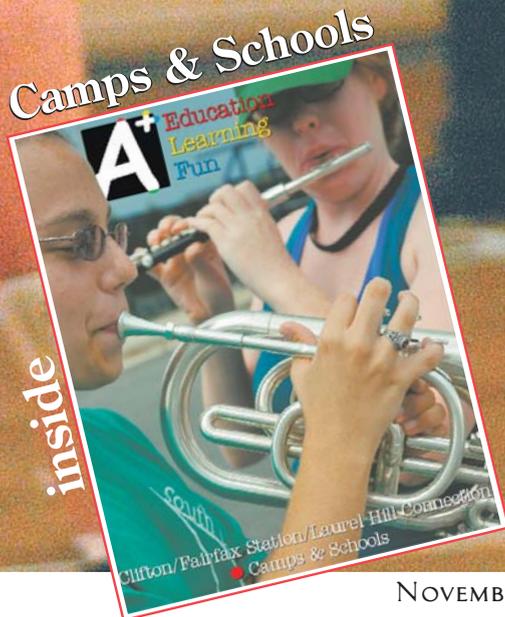
South County's  
Regan Jansen sets  
a ball during the  
Northern Region  
volleyball  
tournament. South  
County captured  
their first  
Northern Region  
title on Nov. 14.

## Suffragist Marker At Workhouse

NEWS, PAGE 3

## Gift Packages For Soldiers

NEWS, PAGE 4



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SPORTS, PAGE 12 ❖ CALENDAR, PAGE 7 ❖ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 15

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## Marking a Place in History

### Daughters of the American Revolution unveil marker at Lorton Workhouse.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n Nov. 15, 1917, Alice Paul and dozens of other suffragists withstood a night of abuse at the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton in what ultimately proved to be a turning point in the women's voting rights movement.

Ninety-two years to the day later, the Fairfax County Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) gathered on the same grounds to honor those sacrifices and to honor the accomplishments that were spawned from that terrible night with a dedication of a historical marker.

"The marker is a permanent, poignant reminder that will enrich the lives of the visitors by educating them," said Deborah Robinson, chairman of the Fairfax County History Commission. "Because of this marker, people will remember what happened here."

The marker was unveiled at a ceremony at the Workhouse on Sunday, Nov. 15 that was attended by nearly every member of the Fairfax Chapter of DAR, members of the Lorton Arts Foundation and local elected



PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

**All of the Fairfax Chapter's members stand and invited guests in front of Building 9, the site of the future National American Women's Suffrage Museum.**

officials. At the ceremony, Jennifer Krafchik of the Sewell-Belmont House and Museum and Irma Clifton of the Lorton Arts Foundation each gave presentations describing the 1917 "Night of Terror," and how that brutal event shaped the future of the women's suffrage movement.

According to Krafchik and Clifton, Paul and other suffragists were imprisoned on trumped up charges at the Occoquan Workhouse in 1917 for protesting at the White House for women's voting rights. While

there, Krafchik and Clifton said, the women were subjected to horrendous treatment, including beatings and forced feedings, culminating in the "Night of Terror."

During that night, guards attacked Paul and 33 other women under orders from the prison superintendent while the National Guard was called in to surround the prison so that no reports of what was happening inside could get out. While the night's

SEE DAR, PAGE 6

## Election Date Set

### GOP to choose Senate candidate On Dec. 1.

**T**he Republican Party will conduct a "firehouse primary" to select its nominee for the 37th State Senate seat on Dec. 1 at Centreville High School from 6-10 p.m. The Fairfax County Republican Committee had previously said the primary would take place Nov. 21.

Current state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) won an election to become Virginia Attorney General in early November and said he intends to resign from his Senate seat Jan. 12.

Gov. Tim Kaine (D) has also set the general special election — the Republican nominee, a Democratic nominee and possibly some independent candidates will run against each other — for Jan. 12. The Virginia General Assembly's 2010 session begins Jan. 13.

Three Republicans are vying to replace Cuccinelli but it is not clear yet who the Democratic nominee for the empty senate seat will be.

In the Republican firehouse primary, voters will get to choose between former Environmental Protection Agency acting administrator Marianne Horinko, former at-large Fairfax County School Board member Steve Hunt and Greenspring retirement community's executive director Will Nance in the upcoming Republican primary.

Those who want to vote in the "firehouse primary" will be required to sign a Republican Party pledge. In other election pledges, voters have typically been asked to state their allegiance to the Republican Party and intention to support the Republican nominee, no matter who it is, in the general election.

Since voters are not allowed to register with a specific political party in Virginia, both Republicans and Democrats use such pledges to discourage "crossover voters" — people who are not aligned with their political party — from taking part in primary contests.

As for Democratic candidates, Del. Dave Marsden (D-41) said last week he is seriously considering running for the office.

Marsden's delegate seat overlaps with the 37th Senate District in 10

SEE 37TH DISTRICT, PAGE 17

## A Good Deed Done by Local Scouts

### Patriot District Boy Scouts lead annual 'Scouting for Food' project.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**P**atriot District Boy Scouts can be found throughout the year organizing a myriad of community service projects and events. After all, one of their mottos is "do a good turn daily." This past weekend, once again, they could be found dutifully executing that directive, continuing one the scouts' longest running traditions.

The Scouts wrapped up the week-

long "Scouting for Food" food drive at the Burke Safeway Saturday, Nov. 14, collecting, sorting and packing thousands of canned food items for donation to the Capital Area Food Bank. The project, which is one of the Scouts' largest and most comprehensive, involved not only nearly all of the 2,300 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers in the Patriot District, but also drew many other volunteers and even a community service group, as well.

"One of the Boy Scouts' mottoes is to do a good turn daily, and if we didn't do this, nobody would," said Scout Matthew Honey,

an Order of the Arrow member. "It's important that somebody does it."

According to event coordinator Cynthia Yellen, the food drive began Nov. 7, when the scouts distributed specially made Safeway plastic grocery bags to homes across their district, which comprises Burke, Fairfax and Fairfax Station. Initially, Safeway gave the bags to the National Capital Area Boy Scouts, which distributed them to each of the districts in its region. When the local scouts received them, they were split into groups by their scout leaders and covered as many neighborhoods as they could.

A week later, the scouts went back to the same neighborhoods and collected the bags that people filled and left on their doorsteps and group by group, brought the food to the Safeway parking lot. More than 80 volunteers, comprised of scouts, parents and even George Mason University's Alpha Phi Omega co-ed community service fraternity then sorted the food and loaded it into large

SEE FOOD, PAGE 6

**"One of the Boy Scouts' mottoes is to do a good turn daily, and if we didn't do this, nobody would."**

— Matthew Honey, Order of the Arrow

## South County Girls Claim Region Volleyball Title

When South County Secondary School varsity volleyball coach Dave Prahel met with his varsity team for the first time in August, he set a team goal of reaching the Northern Region semi-finals.

On Nov. 14, the Stallions surpassed his goal with a 3-1 victory over Langley High School in the Northern Region Finals, claiming the school's first region volleyball title.

"It's so surreal," he said. "You don't expect it to happen, but it actually happened."

The region victory comes just one week after South County claimed the Patriot District title with a victory over W.T Woodson High School.

South County put together an impressive string of victories against top teams in the region, including Chantilly High School and Stone Bridge High School, to reach the finals.

"I didn't expect us to get past Chantilly," he said. "But we fought past them. It was a great effort by the girls."

Prahel said the team hit its stride during the Patriot District playoffs and could tell the girls were playing their best volleyball of the season.

"We just got better and better as the season went on," he said. "Then I was like 'wow, we can win this.'"

The Stallions now advance to the Nov. 20-21 State Tournament.

While the competition will get even tougher at the state level, Prahel is confident his team has a chance to take the title.

"We can play with anyone at anytime," Prahel said. "We match up well against the State opponents."

## Mass Vaccination Clinic

The Fairfax County Health Department will operate a mass vaccination clinic for the H1N1 virus Saturday, Nov. 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

The vaccine is voluntary and will be offered on a walk-in basis, free of charge. The clinic will target pregnant women; people who live with or provide care for infants younger than 6 months; health care workers who have direct patient contact; people 6 months through 24 years of age and people 25 years through 64 years of age who have certain medical conditions that put them at higher risk for influenza-related complications. The Health Department has the capacity to vaccinate a maximum of 12,000 people. To help reduce crowds and keep the line moving, only those who are in the target groups should plan to come to the clinic.

Those planning on attending are encouraged to check [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/flu/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/flu/) prior to coming for any updates or breaking news on the clinic. Details for other vaccination opportunities can also be found on the Web site.

## Basket Sponsors Sought

This year, Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) will provide more than 1,500 holiday food baskets to families in need in Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fair Oaks and Fairfax Station. So it's seeking local residents and businesses willing to either sponsor a family, by providing food for a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal, or donate supermarket gift cards in any denomination.

Gift cards may be dropped off at the WFCM food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly (near Backyard Grill and Bar). For more information or to sponsor a family, contact Pam Ryan at 703-988-9656, ext. 3, or via [development@wfcmvva.org](mailto:development@wfcmvva.org).

To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying "food basket program" and send them to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153. Checks should be made payable to WFCM.

# Joy to Soldiers Overseas

## Democratic Women of Clifton collect items for soldiers.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Tables inside the Clifton Town Meeting Hall were covered Sunday, Nov. 15 with snacks, toiletries, playing cards and more. But within an hour, the Democratic Women of Clifton (DWC) had packed it all in boxes to send to soldiers overseas.

"It's our third year doing this," said Project Coordinator Debbie Nagy of Little Rocky Run. "I'm just delighted and honored to do this for our soldiers, and they always tell us how much they enjoy receiving our packages and using everything in them — and how much it means to them."

Besides the DWC, also contributing items for the boxes were members of the Clifton community, Burke VFW Post, Mountain View School faculty and the VISTA Dynamo U-14 boys soccer team of Clifton/Centreville.

"Even more this year than in the past, we had an outpouring of support from the local community," said Nagy. "It's one of our favorite service projects, and about 30 people came today to help pack."

One of them was Clifton's Betty Boyd. "It's a wonderful thing to do, and I'm excited that I can do a small part," she said. "But I can't believe I'm doing this again; I did this for my husband and his friends in WWII."

Tom Troy, representing the Burke VFW Post, brought three boxes of paperback books, plus items including hand sanitizers, uniform clips, peanut butter, candy, chip, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and small Beanie Babies teddy bears dressed in camouflage uniforms. "The soldiers give them to the kids, and the kids tell them where the baddies with the bombs are," said Troy.

His post often sends out care packages and already had things on hand, but not yet packed. So when Troy learned of the DWC's project, he brought it all to Clifton for the women to package, and the VFW contributed to the postage. "We're a service organization and this is what we do," he said.

Also helping was Little Rocky Run's Betty Jacob. "My son was an Army soldier in Iraq, so this is really important," she said. "They need to know there are people at home thinking about them, and they need

something to bring smiles to their faces. This reminds me of all the times my husband and I, family members, friends and neighbors did it for our son — and how much he and his colleagues appreciated it — so it's very special."

Jill Waters of Fairfax Station brought her daughter Jenny, 10, to help pack on Sunday. "It feels good to

give back and I wanted her to do some community service, too," said Waters. "And when you give kids an opportunity to help, they're happy to do it. I often quote JFK, who said, 'To whom much is given, much is expected.' So when Jenny asks me what that means, I can tell her it's this."

Yvonne Garcia of Centreville's Cabell's Mill community purchased items such as razor blades, batteries, deodorant and healthy snacks. "Every time I participate in this, I feel like I'm doing something in honor of my father," she said. "He wanted to fight during WWII, but couldn't get into the military because of a leg injury. So he always tried to do what

he could to help, and I'm carrying on in his tradition."

Receiving and distributing the packages to more than 30 soldiers stationed in Afghanistan will be Pfc.



From left are Chris Randon of Fairfax Station; Tom Troy, Burke; and Betty Jacob and Debbie Nagy, both of Little Rocky Run, prepare to pack up boxes.

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

## More Ways To Help

❖ From now until Dec. 31, the DWC is also collecting monetary donations and grocery-store gift cards in any amount for Our Daily Bread's food-distribution program feeding needy families in Fairfax County. Gift cards and checks payable to Our Daily Bread, with "Food Program" on the memo line, may be mailed to: DWC, P.O. Box 143, Clifton, VA 20124. So far, DWC's collected \$645 in food cards and checks to give to ODB in time for January distribution.

❖ Contribute to the troops at [www.soldiersangels.org](http://www.soldiersangels.org) or via Valorit (also on that Web site) which gets enabled technology, such as voice-activated software, to battle-wounded soldiers and veterans.

# Soldiers

FROM PAGE 4

Ronald Gravois, an Army medic who's the nephew and godson of Clifton resident Jeanne Chutuape. Just 21 and a newlywed, he's been there since spring.

"I'm really proud of him and all the young people over there representing us," said Chutuape. "They have such good hearts and believe in what they're doing. Of course, we worry about his safety but, after joining the Army, he gained maturity and was proud to get his national certification as an EMT. He has a real, strong sense of purpose and enjoys helping our soldiers, as well as local people who, otherwise, wouldn't get medical care for their injuries in such a remote area."

Chutuape was at the Clifton Post Office on Monday when the DWC mailed off the 37 boxes at a cost of \$480 postage. "I remembered when I went to college in Chicago and the overwhelming homesickness I felt," she said. "What a difference it was from my home in New Orleans. Our soldiers are also far away from home, but it's even worse for them, being in a foreign country during a war."

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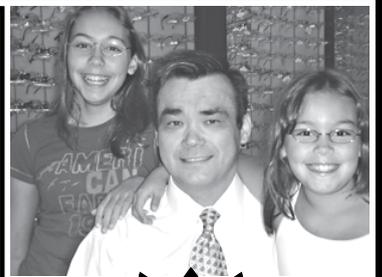
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# DAR Unveils Suffragist Marker

FROM PAGE 3

events resulted in many injuries and even a heart attack, it actually pushed women's suffrage closer to fruition, as Paul and the others spread word about their treatment. According to Clifton, once the nation found out, the call for equal voting rights picked up significant momentum.

"These women gave so much up to silently picket for the right to vote," said Chapter Regent Ellen vanHully-Bronson. "When I think about how my vote doesn't mean anything today, I think about what those women gave up and the years that they fought and the days they spent held here."

**THE IDEA** for the marker was conceived about a year ago, according to DAR's Holly Lynne Schmidt, when she and fellow DAR members decided that such a significant event in the nation's history that occurred in the area could not go unrecognized. Schmidt said after the idea was discussed and supported by the chapter, per national DAR rules, the national headquarters had to sign off on the marker and have the information on it be validated by historians. So, DAR approached Krafchik and Clifton to read over the information and make sure that it was completely accurate.

After academic approval, Schmidt said that DAR asked the Lorton Arts Foundation, which operates the Lorton Workhouse, if they could get the marker attached to the building only to find out that the county owned the property. The DAR then got ap-

**"It is my hope that visitors, particularly young women, will recognize the freedom won for them by the women imprisoned here."**

— Sharon Mason, Lorton Arts Foundation executive director

proval from the county to place the marker, and finally, the marker was affixed.

"We felt that this [event] was incredibly important, and with it being in our backyard, it was an opportunity that we could not pass up," Schmidt said. "It was the biggest turning point in the suffrage movement."

The marker is permanently affixed to Building Nine at the Workhouse, where, in time, it will welcome visitors to the future National American Women's Suffrage Museum that will be opening in the building after a series of renovations. In the meantime, however, DAR and Workhouse officials are more than pleased that something to honor and remember Paul and the other imprisoned women is finally in place.

"This will be a cornerstone for our future museum," said Sharon Mason, Lorton Arts Foundation executive director. "It is my hope that visitors, particularly young women, will recognize the freedom won for them by the women imprisoned here."

# Food Collection

FROM PAGE 3

metal crates. Finally, employees from the Capital Area Food Bank put the crates in their trucks, filling two trailers.

"We were founded by a Boy Scout, and our chapter ideals are built on the basics of the Boy Scout Law," said Alpha Phi Omega member Sarah Mabbitt. "So, we love doing things like thing this with the scouts. We're here to help with whatever they need."

Last year, the Patriot District Scouts collected 28,325 pounds of food for the Capital Area Food Bank, and while that success drives many scouts to participate year after year, the brotherhood and camaraderie that the event promotes is just as important to them. Many of the scouts said that in addition to the satisfaction of helping those in need, getting together with their fellow scouts and friends at events other than pack or troop meetings was just as rewarding.

"I've been doing this since I was little," said Order of the Arrow member David Mathis. "It's everybody I know, they're all my friends, and we do a lot of good for people."

Bryan Dieter, who has participated in the event for 12 years with the last 10 as a member of the Order of the Arrow, said that "it tends to be a lot of fun. Part of it is tradition, because we're helping out a lot of people with the amount of food we collect, but it's also a good chance to see a bunch of friends."

While the scouts enjoy the event for several different reasons, their parents and scout leaders are just as fond of the event.

"It's the most wonderful feeling to be around people that give unselfishly to others," Yellen said. "These kids grow up remembering what we did and then turn around and do it for somebody else. It's more than just a club or community service. It's fellowship."

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# CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

## THURSDAY, NOV. 19

**Workshop Jazz Band Concert.** 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

**Turkey Tales.** 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Thanksgiving story time. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

**P Is for Pilgrims and Pumpkin Pie.** 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 6315 Backlick Road, Springfield. Stories and activities. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-451-8055.

**Stories and Science.** 4 p.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Stories, activities and an age-appropriate science experiment. Age 4-6 with adult. 703-971-0010.

**"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."** 7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Call 703-913-3934 or go to www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/academic/perf/theatre/theatre.html to purchase tickets.

**Neil Simon's comedy "Rumors."** 7:30 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at www.RobinsonDrama.org or at the door. More information is on the Web site, or call 703-426-2123.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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## Local Real Estate Company Offers Free Loan Modification Assistance

Dynamic Duo & Associates (DDA), a local Real Estate Firm brokered by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Northern Virginia gives back to the community by offering FREE Loan Modification assistance and Short Sale Services to any person in need of assistance. DDA has helped many families to restructure their loans with their mortgage company. This process can be quite cumbersome to a consumer who is inexperienced in negotiating with their mortgage company. Joan Williamson of DDA states "many homeowners just don't know what to request from their lender or are not experienced in completing the lender's financial documentation to standard. As such many homeowners find themselves only being denied". As part of the loan modification process, DDA will contact your lender and obtain the necessary paperwork to initiate the loan modification process, review financials and provide recommendation and follow-up with your lender every 72 hours for a response. Consumer options may include a reduction of the principle balance; re-negotiate interest rate or a restructure to a fixed loan. DDA will review all options with you to help you determine the best option for you. Joan adds "we are Loan Modification & Short Sale specialists and can help you save your home from foreclosure. Some companies charge a substantial amount of money for loan modifications, but we offer this service as a free service to homeowners. Donations are optional."

DDA also specializes in Short Sales. Over 10 million homeowners are upside down with their mortgages; which means they owe more than their home's value. A Short Sale, sometimes referred to as a "pay off" or "short pay", is a transaction authorized by the mortgage company / lender in which they agree to the sale of the home for less than the Seller owes on the mortgage. As a part of the Short Sale, the Mortgage Company / lender "usually" agrees to write-off / forgive the balance difference in order to avoid greater losses of their mortgage loan that a foreclosure would cause. In order for the Seller to be pre-qualified for a short sale the Seller must be experiencing a financial hardship that meets the lender's criteria.

DDA has helped over 69 people in either a Loan Modification or Short Sale. One of their clients refers to DDA as "Angels sent from GOD". Over the past 3 years, DDA has managed over 1100 properties and SOLD over 920 properties in the last 2 years. Recent accolades include Wall Street Journal Top 400 Real Estate Professionals, Ranked # 19 in June of 2009. DDA also specializes in Commercial, Luxury Estate, Foreclosures, Investment and Property Management Services. The team is committed to taking care of all of your real estate needs with a focus on customer service. Please contact Dynamic Duo & Associates today at 703-680-9551 or email [asharpton@cbmove.com](mailto:asharpton@cbmove.com) for assistance.

## Discover the Magic of Christmas at Merrifield Garden Center A Special Holiday Tradition

Collectible Ornaments & Decorations  
Artificial Trees and Greens  
Holiday Ribbon & Handmade Bows  
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November 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>

Plus the "Real" Santa arrives  
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Holiday Demonstrations  
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**MERRIFIELD** 8132 Lee Hwy., Merrifield, VA 703-560-6222  
**FAIR OAKS** 12101 Lee Hwy., Fairfax, VA 703-968-9600  
**GAINESVILLE** 6895 Wellington Rd., Gainesville, VA 703-368-1919

Fall Hours: Monday - Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. • Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

[www.MerrifieldGardenCenter.com](http://www.MerrifieldGardenCenter.com)

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5690 Oak Leather Drive  
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703-764-0456  
[www.BurkePresChurch.org](http://www.BurkePresChurch.org)

SERVICES:  
Saturday — 5:30 pm Coffee House Worship  
Sunday — 8:30 am & 11:15 am  
Sunday school — 9:45 am

**All are Welcome!**  
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Rev. MaryAnn Dana, Associate Pastor

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Disciples  
THROUGH  
Sabbath  
Study &  
Service**

OPEN YOUR HEART TO THE POSSIBILITY  
OF HOPE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

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My sheep hear my voice and I know  
them and they follow me — John 10:27

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY AT:  
**WILLIAM HALEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
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10AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL - 11AM - MORNING WORSHIP  
PASTOR ARLETTE JOHNSON, PASTOR AND FOUNDER

9800 Old Keene Mill Rd.  
703-455-7041

Sunday School  
9:15 AM

Worship Service  
10:30 AM

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Sunday School 10:10 AM  
Sunday Evening - 6:30 PM Youth Meeting  
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Harvest Assembly  
Baptist Church...  
703-799-7868

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703-799-5155

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Baptist Church...  
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Shiloh Baptist Church...  
703-550-8557

Virginia Korean Baptist Church  
703-425-1972



**Buddhist**  
Ekaji Buddhist Temple...  
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St. Clare of Assisi...703-266-1310  
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703-440-0535

**Church of God**  
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No. Va...703-250-7980  
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Senor...703-550-1204

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St. Peter's in the Woods...  
703-503-9210

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Living Savior Lutheran Church  
703-352-1421

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Christ Church of Fairfax  
Station...703-690-3401

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Church...703-339-2119

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Church...703-764-1310

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Sikh Foundation of Virginia...  
703-323-8849

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# OPINION

## Calling All Young Artists, Writers

Local children, teens may submit work for Children's Connection.

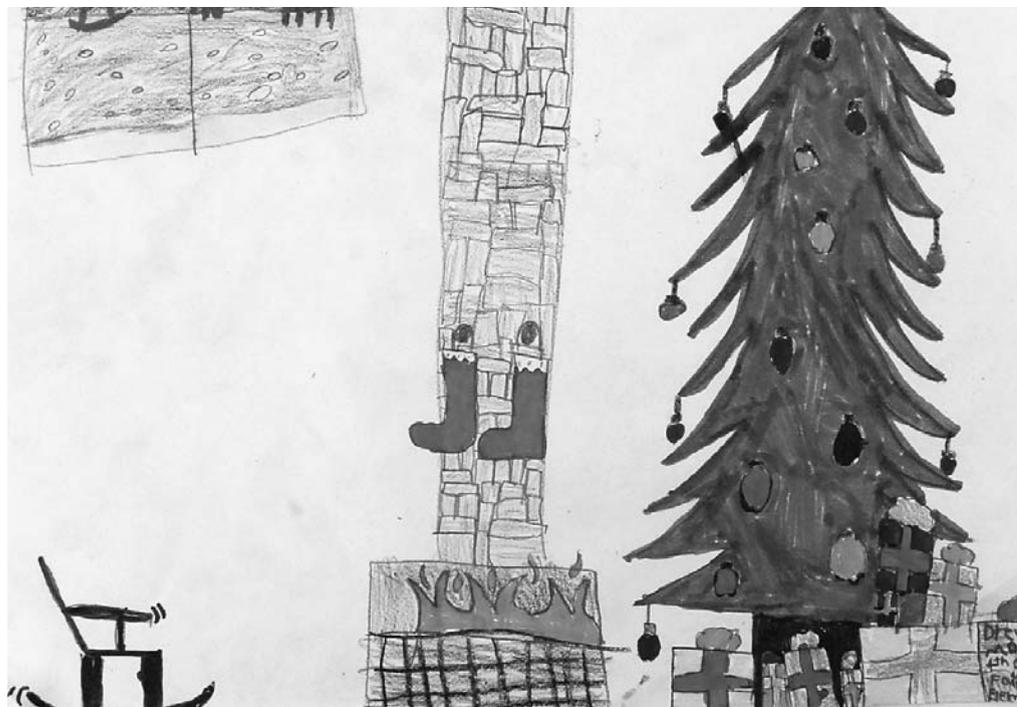
Every year, over the winter holidays, the Connection turns the pages of one entire issue over to the contributions of local students.

We will feature artwork of many kinds, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories, reflections and more. Artwork can include paintings, drawings or any media; photos of sculpture, ceramics or other works too large to submit are also encouraged.

We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled. Past contributions have come from children from nursery schools through those preparing to graduate from high school.

Sometimes an art or English teacher will assign a project and submit the work of an entire class, but individual submissions from any young person in the community are welcome.

You can see last year's Children's Connections on our Web site. Go to [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com), click on "print Editions Online" in the red bar and scroll down to "Children's Connection."



Drew Morris, Fairview Elementary

We prefer digital submissions, delivered on CD or via e-mail. Please send in submissions as soon as possible. Our address is 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. E-mail to [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com). Please be

sure to include the name of the artist or author, and include age, grade, school attended and name of the home town, along with address and phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

### Exceptional Experience

To the Editor:

In light of the recent article in the Connection ["Virginia Says School Failed Student with Disabilities," Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection, Oct. 15-21, 2009] which was critical of the exceptional, or special, education program and staff at South County Secondary School, we would like to present additional reference information related to this program. This may further enhance the ability of your readers to draw objective conclusions regarding the performance of the school system in addressing the needs of students with disabilities.

Our son has been involved in the special education program of the Fairfax County Public School system for more than 10 years. We feel that at each level of his education — elementary, middle and high school — he has received outstanding services from an incredibly talented and dedicated staff that have been consistently committed to insuring that our son and other students received the most appropriate services to meet their needs. Their primary concern has always been maximizing the potential of each and every student within their program. We

have also been impressed throughout our son's educational experience with the desire of the FCPS staff to engender a sense of positive learning in both educational and social settings.

In our case, South County Secondary has excelled in addressing our son's needs with a sense of stewardship and a desire for continuous improvement and innovation.

LETTERS  
The staff at this school, from Principal Jane Lipp, to the exceptional education administrative personnel, to the individual exceptional education teachers and instructional assistants, continues to demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to students involved in the special education program. For example, they have been diligent and highly responsive in developing and executing an individual education plan that best suits our son's strengths and needs. They have been innovative in encouraging and promoting the involvement of South County students in working with and supporting exceptional education students through the Partners Club and participation in extra curricular activities which fosters friendships along with social awareness and development. We remain humbled and grateful for their care and dedication not only for

our son, but for all students within their reach. Our experience has been a positive one, balanced with a sense of concern and realism. The success of our son's educational experience has been served by open minds, creative and committed educators, and students who reach out to help those not as fortunate as themselves.

In short, we have been blessed with a positive developmental experience for our son. We readily admit a sense of biased subjectivity that has been impacted by talented educators such as Lisa Novick, who has set an example of excellence and heartfelt commitment in schooling our son and helping him learn and grow. Others, such as Linda Basnight, are

capably preparing him through essential vocational experiences to move beyond the school environment to the world of work. It has been a team effort. It has not been easy. It never will be. But as parents who wish to best serve the needs of a son with intellectual disabilities, we would be lost without the teamwork, expertise and dedication of the staff at South County Secondary.

Your original article attempted to address a difficult situation. We hope that this information will impart further objectivity in weighing the exceptional education program at South County.

Patrick and Lori Stillman  
Fairfax Station

### Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-778-9416.

By e-mail: [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com)

## THE CONNECTION

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

Newspaper of Fairfax Station, Laurel Hill & Clifton  
An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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703-224-3014  
[ralbers@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:ralbers@connectionnewspapers.com)

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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 7

## FRIDAY/NOV. 20

**"Bye Bye Birdie."** 7 p.m. at Edison High School, 5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria. \$8 adults, \$6 students. 703-924-8014 or [www.edisondrama.com](http://www.edisondrama.com).

**Aquila Theatre Company Presents "As You Like It."** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$17-\$34. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468. [www.patriotcenter.com](http://www.patriotcenter.com).

**Lunch Bunch.** 12 p.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Bring lunch and join us for stories. Birth-5 with adult. 703-971-0010.

**"Meet Me in St. Louis."** 7:30 p.m., in the auditorium at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. Tickets are \$10 at the door and food and drinks will be sold at intermission. A pre-show performance of TJ Drama's VTA competition piece "The Idiot and the Oddity" will be presented at no extra charge. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology is located at 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria.

**"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."** 7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Call 703-913-3934 or go to [www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/academic/perf/theatre/theatre.html](http://www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/academic/perf/theatre/theatre.html) to purchase tickets.

**Neil Simon's comedy "Rumors."** 7:30 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at [www.RobinsonDrama.org](http://www.RobinsonDrama.org) or at the

door. More information is on the Web site, or call 703-426-2123.

**Newington Forest Holiday Bazaar,** at Newington Forest Elementary, 8001 Newington Forest Ave., Springfield. Havefamily portraits done by a professional photographer ([www.provinepictures.com](http://www.provinepictures.com)) for half the price of local studios, from 3:30-6 p.m., then enjoy some holiday shopping opportunities (6:30-8:30 p.m.) with community vendors, Kid's Santa Shop and Bingo with prizes from the vendors and gift cards for your thanksgiving turkey.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 21

**"Bye Bye Birdie."** 7 p.m. at Edison High School, 5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria. \$8 adults, \$6 students. 703-924-8014 or [www.edisondrama.com](http://www.edisondrama.com).

**Annual Craft/Gift Fair.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria. Proceeds benefit arts/crafts community and TJ Crew team. [www.tjgiftshow.com](http://www.tjgiftshow.com) or [tjgiftshow@gmail.com](mailto:tjgiftshow@gmail.com).

**GMU Saxophone Ensemble.** 3 p.m. at the George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-945-2468 or [www.gmu.edu/cfa](http://www.gmu.edu/cfa).

**Fairfax Symphony Orchestra,** with Chu-Fang Huang, piano. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$25-\$55. 888-945-2468 or [www.gmu.edu/cfa](http://www.gmu.edu/cfa).

**PAWS to Read.** 11 a.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Read to a trained therapy dog. Call to register. Arrive early to check in. 703-339-7385.

**Fireworks, The Wonder Years and more.** 1:15 p.m. Jaxx Night Club,

6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. 703-569-5940 or [jaxxroxx.com](http://jaxxroxx.com).

**"Meet Me in St. Louis."** 7:30 p.m., in the auditorium at Thomas Jefferson High School. Tickets are \$10 at the door and food and drinks will be sold at intermission. A pre-show performance of TJ Drama's VTA competition piece "The Idiot and the Oddity" will be presented at no extra charge. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology is located at 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria.

**"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."** 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Call 703-913-3934 or go to [www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/academic/perf/theatre/theatre.html](http://www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/academic/perf/theatre/theatre.html) to purchase tickets.

**Neil Simon's comedy "Rumors."** 7:30 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at [www.RobinsonDrama.org](http://www.RobinsonDrama.org) or at the door. More information is on the Web site, or call 703-426-2123.

**Burke Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus. [www.buffas.com](http://www.buffas.com).

## SUNDAY/NOV. 22

**Aventura.** 7 p.m., at The George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. \$98, \$78 and \$58. Tickets available through [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or via Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT. [www.aventuraworldwide.com](http://www.aventuraworldwide.com) or [www.patriotcenter.com](http://www.patriotcenter.com).

**GMU Various Chamber Ensembles.** 2 p.m. at the George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 888-945-2468 or [www.gmu.edu/cfa](http://www.gmu.edu/cfa).

**Birding for Beginners.** 8-11 a.m. Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Observe the transition of the bird community as the summer breeding population moves south and winter residents arrive. A park naturalist teaches bird identification skills. Meet in the parking lot. Reservations required. \$6. 703-768-2525.

**Burke Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus. [www.buffas.com](http://www.buffas.com).

## TUESDAY/NOV. 24

**The Land of Nod.** 6:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Sleepy stories. Age 13-23 months with adult. 703-249-1520.

**Acoustic Open Mic with Bob Gaynor of The Roadducks.** 8 p.m. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. 703-569-5940 or [jaxxroxx.com](http://jaxxroxx.com).

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 25

**Mother-Daughter Book Club.** 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. For girls age 9-11 and their mothers. 703-249-1520.

**Practice Your English.** 6:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.

**Veil of Maya, Animals As Leaders, Escape Takes the Lead, Ends in Blood, Salvation Through**

**Struggle and more.** 5:15 p.m. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. 703-569-5940 or [jaxxroxx.com](http://jaxxroxx.com).

## FRIDAY/NOV. 27

**Escape to Black Friday.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Gift basket raffle, gifts and artwork for sale. Live music by Potomac Jazz Project from 2-4 p.m. Free admission. 703-495-0001.

**Wizzard, Sinbad, Cherry Smash and The Roadducks.** 8 p.m. Jaxx Night Club, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$10. 703-569-5940.

## SATURDAY, NOV. 28

**A Chanticleer Christmas.** 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$24-\$48. Pre-performance discussion 45 minutes prior to the performance. 888-945-2468 or [www.gmu.edu/cfa](http://www.gmu.edu/cfa).

## MONDAY/DEC. 1

**Tiny Tots Concert.** 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. at Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield. Featuring holiday music and costumed characters from animated movies and cartoons. Tickets \$2. Reservations required for matinee. 703-956-0447.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 2

**Tiny Tots Concert.** 10 a.m. at Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield. Featuring holiday music and costumed characters from animated movies. \$2. Reservations required. 703-956-0447.

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## Be a Part of CHILDREN'S (& TEENS') CONNECTION

Every year between Christmas and New Year's, the Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection turns its pages over to the contributions of local students. We are seeking artwork, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories and reflections. We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled.

E-mail to: [PhotoB@connectionnews.com](mailto:PhotoB@connectionnews.com), or mail or deliver contributions by Dec. 4, to 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Please be sure to include the student's name, age, grade, school and town of residence along with each submission. For information, call 703-778-9410.

THE CONNECTION  
NEWSPAPERS

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## SEASONAL HAPPENINGS

# Holidays at the Workhouse

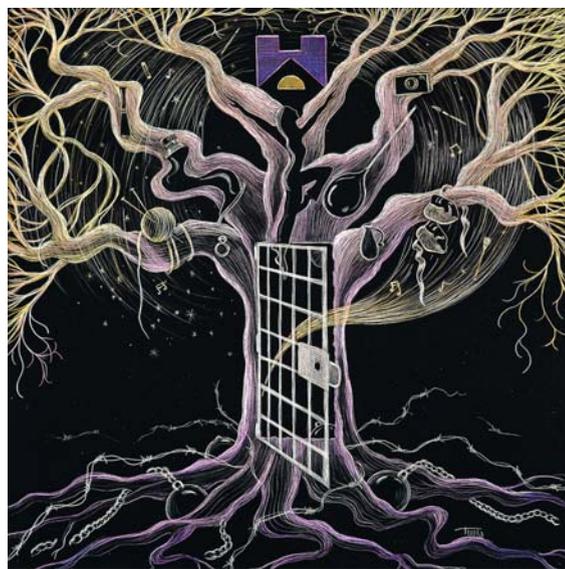
Shop for gifts, browse galleries at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

**H**ow about enjoying some hot cider and cool art? Looking for an exciting alternative to the busy shopping malls on the day after Thanksgiving? Avoid the long lines at the mall and escape to the Workhouse with friends and family for a day filled with gifts, fabulous artwork, and live music on Nov. 27, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Gifts will be available in all price ranges, created by the more than 100 Workhouse artists available for purchase. This all day event will serve as the opening reception for the Workhouse Works: The Third Annual Small Works Exhibition, which will run Nov. 27-Jan. 3.

As part of the Escape to Black Friday festivities, Potomac Jazz Project, who recently performed at the Workhouse as part of its "Stars on Sunday" concert series, will perform 2-4 p.m. As guests mingle and shop, they will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for the "Workhouse Gift Raffle."

Three tickets will be sold for \$5 and baskets with wonderful items valued at \$350 or more will be up for grabs. Each individual basket will contain items from the Gift Shop and the Art Supply Store. In addition, each building will be personalizing every gift basket so that it is distinctive to that house. Cooperative pieces of artwork, a private lesson from an artist, and tea with the artists are just a few possible items that may be inside.

Shoppers can also show their support for the Lorton



Escape to Black Friday on Nov. 27.

Arts Foundation and the Workhouse Ceramics Program by attending the Second Annual "Glaze Your Own Ornament Fund raiser." Join the Workhouse Ceramic Resident Artists on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. for a chance to create a surface design and decoration on a pre-bisqued ornament. Patrons will have the option to either Raku Fire their ornament or we can fire for them in one of our electric kilns.

Ornaments are \$22/each and all proceeds go to benefit the Lorton Arts Foundation and the Workhouse Ceramics Program. If patrons choose to have their ornament fired in the electric kilns, they will be called for pick-up of ornaments when ready. All Raku Fired ornaments are available for pick-up the day of the event.

### HOLIDAY GIFTS

## Two Events, One Night

**O**n Dec. 12, two events are taking place to benefit the Workhouse Arts Center. Pillow Talk: The Designer's Showcase will take place 6-8 p.m. on the first floor of building W-16. Pillows specially designed by members of the Association of Interior Design Professionals will be auctioned. Tickets are \$25 per person and include fabulous appetizers, live music from Royce Campbell, wine tastings and chance to win an interior designer's pillow masterpiece. Then, from 8-11p.m. on the second floor of building W-16, the Workhouse will host the Collector's Showcase Event, Fete d'Etoile: A Feast of Stars! Each ticket holder will leave with one original

piece of artwork and be entitled to attend Pillow Talk. Tickets are \$150 per person and \$175 per couple and include an original piece of artwork. Art will be chosen by a lottery system in the order that tickets are purchased. This event will include participation in a lecture and Q&A on the topic of collecting art, and will feature specialty hors d'oeuvres and desserts courtesy of Bistro L'hermitage. Tickets for this event can be purchased online at [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org) or by calling 703-584-2900.

*The Workhouse Arts Center is located at 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. For more information, call 703-495-0001 or visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).*



## Gift Bag Raffle

**Until Dec. 12, visitors to the Workhouse will have the chance to purchase tickets for the Workhouse Gift Raffle. Throughout the Workhouse Campus, visitors will find seven Gift Bags, created especially by the Workhouse and the artists in each building. Three tickets will be sold for \$5 and baskets with items valued at \$350 or more will be up for grabs.**

## HOLIDAY CALENDAR

*The following holiday events are taking place in locally during November and December.*

Campus. [www.buffas.com](http://www.buffas.com).

### WEDNESDAY/NOV. 25

**Workhouse Works Show.** The Workhouse Works Show will feature original works of art no larger than 8 x 10 created especially for this exhibition by Workhouse Artists. The exhibition, which runs through Dec. 24, will be in Gallery W-16. The Workhouse Arts Center is located at 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. For more information, call 703-495-0001 or visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).

**26th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service.** Join members of Congregation Adat Reyim, Burke Presbyterian Church and St. Mary of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church 7:30 p.m., at Burke Presbyterian, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke.

### SATURDAY, NOV. 28

**A Chanticleer Christmas.** 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$24-\$48. Pre-Performance discussion 45 minutes prior to the performance. 888-945-2468 or [www.gmu.edu/cfa](http://www.gmu.edu/cfa).

### MONDAY/DEC. 1

**Tiny Tots Concert.** 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. at Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield. Featuring holiday music and costumed characters from animated movies and cartoons. Tickets \$2. Reservations required for matinee. 703-956-0447.

**West Springfield High School Tiny Tots Concert. 10 a.m.** Familiar nursery and show tunes for 4-5 year olds. Some of their favorite costumed characters will be there to add to the enjoyment. Tickets available at the door. [ladesio@verizon.net](mailto:ladesio@verizon.net).

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 2

**'A Christmas Carol'** opens at the Lazy Susan Dinner Theatre, Route 1 at Furnace Road in Woodbridge. The show will run through Dec. 30, with matinees on selected dates. Call 703-494-6311 or visit [www.lazysusan.com](http://www.lazysusan.com) for showtimes and ticket prices.

**Tiny Tots Concert.** 10 a.m. at Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield. Featuring holiday music and costumed characters from animated movies and cartoons. Tickets \$2. Reservations required. 703-956-0447.

**West Springfield High School Tiny Tots Concert. 10 a.m.** Familiar nursery and show tunes for 4-5 year olds. Tickets available at the door. [ladesio@verizon.net](mailto:ladesio@verizon.net).

### FRIDAY/DEC. 4

**Opera Recital: "Amahl and the Night Visitors."** 8 p.m., at the Harris Theater, George Mason University's Fairfax campus. Purchase tickets at [tickets.com](http://tickets.com) or at 888-945-2468.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 5

**Welcome the Holidays in Historic Clifton.** Holiday Horseback Parade and Contest, 2-2:30 p.m.; visit shops in Historic Town of Clifton and take photos with Santa, 2:30-4:30 p.m.; Town of Clifton

SEE HOLIDAY, PAGE 11

### THURSDAY, NOV. 19

**Turkey Tales.** 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Thanksgiving story time. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

### P is for Pilgrims and Pumpkin

**Pie.** 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 6315 Backlick Road, Springfield. Stories and activities. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-451-8055.

### FRIDAY/NOV. 20

**Newington Forest Holiday Bazaar,** at Newington Forest Elementary, 8001 Newington Forest Ave., Springfield. Have family portraits done by a professional photographer ([www.provinepictures.com](http://www.provinepictures.com)) for half the price of local studios, from 3:30-6 p.m., then enjoy some holiday shopping opportunities (6:30-8:30 p.m.) with community vendors, Kid's Santa Shop and Bingo with prizes from the vendors and gift cards for your thanksgiving turkey.

### SATURDAY/NOV. 21

**Annual Craft/Gift Fair.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria. Proceeds benefit arts/crafts community and TJ Crew team. [www.tjgiftshow.com](http://www.tjgiftshow.com) or [tjgiftshow@gmail.com](mailto:tjgiftshow@gmail.com).

**Burke Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus. [www.buffas.com](http://www.buffas.com).

**The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia's 29th Annual Fall Gala.** 7:30 p.m. at Westfields Marriott, 14750 Conference Center Drive, Chantilly. Casino night, art auction, dancing and entertainment, dinner buffet stations, desserts and open bar. Tickets start at \$180 per individual/\$360 per couple, sponsorships begin at \$550. Proceeds benefit the JCCNV's Special Needs program. [www.jccnv.org](http://www.jccnv.org) or Sara Moore, 703-537-3024 or [SaraM@jccnv.org](mailto:SaraM@jccnv.org).

### SUNDAY/NOV. 22

**Northern Virginia Mineral Club 18th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Student Union II Building, George Mason University, Fairfax. Sponsored by GMU's Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences. \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens and age 13-18. Age 12 and under, Scouts in uniform and GMU students with ID free. Over 20 gem, mineral and fossil dealers with specimens for sale, demonstrations, exhibits, door prizes and a silent auction. Children's area with mineral related activities, quizzes and puzzles, mini-mines and a Miocene fossil dig. [rockclctr@aol.com](mailto:rockclctr@aol.com).

**Burke Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, Northern Virginia Community College Annandale

# HOLIDAY CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

**Candlelight Homes Tour**, featuring live music and strolling Dickens Carolers, 4:30-7:30 p.m.; Caroling, refreshments and Christmas Tree Lighting in Ayre Square, 7:30-8 p.m. Tickets before Dec. 5: \$20 for adults; \$5 for children under 12; after Dec. 5, \$25 for adults; \$10 for children under 12. Purchase tickets at Clifton Café, Cottage Art, T&K Treasures and a Flower Blooms in Clifton; Picket Fence in Burke and Banner's in Centreville. For more, e-mail Jennifer Chesley at townofclifton@aol.com or Lynne Garvey Hodge, lghassoc@erols.com.

**20th Annual Model Train Display.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Many different gauge model trains will be running in the main building, caboose and on the grounds surrounding the station. Come enjoy some hot chocolate and a gingerbread man while you admire the trains. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$1 for children. 703-425-9225.

**Opera Recital: "Amahl and the Night Visitors."** 8 p.m., at the Harris Theater, George Mason University's Fairfax campus. Purchase tickets at tickets.com or at 888-945-2468.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 6

**20th Annual Model Train Display.** 12-4 p.m., at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Many different gauge model trains will be running in the main building, caboose and on the grounds surrounding the station. Come enjoy some hot chocolate and a gingerbread man while you admire the trains. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$1 for children. 703-425-9225.

**Christmas Market.** Ravensworth Baptist Church, 5100 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, will sponsor a Christmas Market on 9:30-10:45 a.m. Honor loved ones with a gift that will benefit local or international charitable organizations. 703-941-4113; www.rbc-va.org.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 9

**DC101 Festivus with Weezer, Jack's Mannequin and Motion City Soundtrack.** 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. \$49.50. Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.dc101.com or www.patriotcenter.com.

## THURSDAY/DEC. 10

**Tiny Tots Holiday Concert.** 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. at South County Secondary School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. \$3 per person. 571-332-5920 or redroc26@aol.com.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 11

**Pianist George Winston's "The Winter Show."** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Adults \$21-\$42. Youth through grade 12, half price when accompanied by an adult. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa. www.georgewinston.com.

**Plantation Christmas.** 6-9:30 p.m. Ride in a horse-drawn carriage, sip warm cider by the bonfire, and sample period recipes in the hearth kitchen at Gunston Hall. Enjoy live holiday music, candlelight mansion tours, and costumed characters engaged in seasonal merriment. Admission to "Plantation Christmas"



**Bill Harrah of Clifton is one of the 80-plus artists displaying their work at the 27th annual Thanksgiving Weekend Art and Craft Showcase in Vienna.**

## Local Artist at Vienna Showcase

Clifton artist Bill Harrah joins more than 80 local artisans of the Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild that are showcased at the 27th annual Thanksgiving Weekend Art and Craft Showcase at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E. The show dates and times are Friday and Saturday, Nov. 27 and 28, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 29, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3. Harrah specializes in pencil drawings of historical buildings, memorials, interesting sites, wildlife and different breeds of dogs and cats.

is \$15 for adults, \$8 for ages 6-18, and \$2 for ages 2-5. Reservations are not required.

**Plantation Christmas Yuletide Dinner.** This delicious meal features a generous selection of traditional fare and includes admission to Plantation Christmas at Gunston Hall. The Yuletide Dinner is \$49.95 for adults and ages 11 and older, \$24.95 for ages 6-10, and \$9.95 for ages 2-5. Call 703/550-9220 for reservations. Gunston Hall is located at 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. For information, call 703-550-9220 or visit www.GunstonHall.org.

**Living Nativity.** See the angels, shepherds, wise men, Mary, Joseph and live animals as they reenact the night Jesus was born at Harvest Church, 7401 Beulah St., Kingstowne. Performances are 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided at each performance. Free. Call 703-971-7070 or check out www.harvestchurchag.org for more information.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 12

**Breakfast with Santa.** 9 a.m. at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Continental buffet breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Tickets are \$8.50 at www.wshschorus.org.

**Canadian Brass: A Canadian Brass Christmas.** 8 p.m., at the George Mason University Concert Hall, Fairfax. Pre-performance discussion 7:15 p.m. Tickets: \$48, \$40, \$24. Purchase tickets at tickets.com

**Plantation Christmas and Yuletide Dinner.** 6-9:30 p.m., at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. See Dec. 11 listing for details.

**Living Nativity.** See the angels, shepherds, wise men, Mary, Joseph and live animals as they reenact the night Jesus was born at Harvest Church, 7401 Beulah St., Kingstowne. Performances are 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Hot chocolate and cookies will be

provided at each performance. Free. Call 703-971-7070 or check out www.harvestchurchag.org for more information.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 13

**Christmas Cantata: Morning Star.** 11 a.m., at Franconia United Methodist Church. Franconia United Methodist Church is located at 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. The Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall are handicapped accessible. 703-971-5151 or www.franconiaumc.org.

**George Mason University Symphony Orchestra and Choruses Holiday Concert.** 7 p.m., at the George Mason University Concert Hall, Fairfax. \$20. Purchase tickets at tickets.com.

**Christmas Market.** Ravensworth Baptist Church, 5100 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, will sponsor a Christmas Market 12-1 p.m. Honor loved ones with a gift that will benefit local or international charitable organizations. 703-941-4113; www.rbc-va.org.

## TUESDAY/DEC. 15

**Radio City Rockettes Christmas Spectacular.** 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center. www.ticketmaster.com.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 16

**Radio City Rockettes Christmas Spectacular.** 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center. www.ticketmaster.com.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 20

**Christmas Market.** Ravensworth Baptist Church, 5100 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, will sponsor a Christmas Market 12-1 p.m. Honor loved ones with a gift that will benefit local or international charitable organizations. For more information, call 703-941-4113 or e-mail www.rbc-va.org.

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7157 MAIN ST.....	\$314,900 ..Sat 1-3.....	Century 21.....	Mark Gaetjen.....	703-402-7524
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**Springfield (22150, 22151, 22152, 22153)**

8506 FORRESTER BLVD .....	\$249,950 ..Sun 1-4 ..	Weichert.....	Kathleen Quintarelli.....	703-862-8808
8606 CLYDESDALE RD.....	\$449,000 ..Sun 12-4.....	Avery-Hess.....	Susan Metcalf.....	703-472-6512

**Kingstowne/Alexandria (22310, 22315)**

3113 MADISON HILL CT.....	\$520,000 ..Sun 1-4 ..	HomeFirst.....	Christine Hines.....	703-302-0632
1 NEELY ANN CT.....	\$825,000 ..Sat 1-4 ..	Coldwell Banker.....	Phyllis Patterson.....	703-408-4232
7352 SPRINGLEIGH WAY.....	\$399,900 ..Sun 1-4 ..	PenFed.....	Olga Gribanova.....	703-409-8187
6282 TALIAFERRO WAY.....	\$449,000 ..Sun 1-4 ..	Coldwell Banker.....	Joy Deevy.....	703-930-5198
6539 GRANGE LA, #104.....	\$307,000 ..Sat 12-3.....	Long & Foster.....	Natalie McArtor.....	703-200-4703
6531 GRANGE LA, #204.....	\$329,000 ..Sat 12-3.....	Long & Foster.....	Natalie McArtor.....	703-200-4703

**Fairfax (22030, 22031, 22032, 22033)**

3114 PLANTATION PKWY .....	\$459,000 ..Sun 1-4 ..	Weichert.....	Ron Fowler.....	703-598-0511
3522 LAUREL LEAF LA.....	\$1,250,000 ..Sun 1-4 ..	Long & Foster.....	Carolyn Wilson.....	703-599-5125
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## SPORTS



The Lake Braddock girls' cross-country team, coached by Michael Mangan, poses with the Virginia AAA State Championship trophy at the Plains, Va.

# Bruin Girls State Champs

**Cross-country team keeps Midlothian High School from passing Lake Braddock in record book.**

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

For the Lake Braddock Secondary School girls' cross-country team, competing in the Virginia AAA State Championship race presented an opportunity to keep the Bruins in the record books.

Entering the meet, Lake Braddock and Midlothian High School shared the record for consecutive AAA State Cross-Country Championships with four apiece.

Midlothian has won the past four State Championships while Lake Braddock's string of wins came in the 1990s.

"We didn't want to let Midlothian pass us," said Lake Braddock head coach Michael Mangan.

Driven by the tradition of the Lake Braddock program, the girls' cross-country team successfully kept an eraser from removing its name from the record books by winning the Virginia AAA State Championship on Nov. 14 at The Plains, Va.

Although the two high schools will share the record, Mangan said it was the team's goal to foil Midlothian's record attempt. "Before the race we talked about our cross-country tradition," Mangan said. "We talked about how we didn't want to lose our place in the record books."

The Bruins were led once again by the heroics of freshman Sophie Chase who finished second overall with a time of 18:28.

Chase turned in strong races at the Patriot District and Northern Region Finals earlier in the month, but Mangan said that her state race is only beginning to show how good she can be.

"It's going to be unbelievable to watch [Chase]

develop," Mangan said. "She is so talented. We knew she was pretty darn good, but I don't know if we knew she was as fast as she's been."

The State Championship is also the final cross-country race for senior Liana Epstein who has been the Bruins leader on and off the track.

Epstein finished in 11th place with a time of 18:57 and battled with side effects from a bout with dehydration during the Patriot District Championship.

Although Epstein is more accustomed to finishing in the top five, her 11th place finish was critical in helping the Bruins earn the state title.

"[Epstein's] been our horse all along,"

Mangan said. "She didn't get to see the fruits of her labors because of the dehydration, but she's led the team all year and her presence allowed Chase to find her own way."

While Epstein and Chase are the team's two star runners, Mangan said the depth of the team was the biggest reason for the team's success all season.

Mangan credited the senior girls' drive to leave the program on a good note as another driving force in the victory.

"The senior girls wanted to get a title before they left," Mangan said. "The kids are very special. This team was ultra-motivated since day one to get that championship."

The Lake Braddock boys' team also competed and finished fourth overall in the team competition.

Junior Luke Sohl was the top finisher from the boys' team placing 19th with a time of 16:37.

**"This team was ultra-motivated since day one to get that championship."  
— Head coach Michael Mangan, Lake Braddock**

# Andrews, Stallions Sneak Past Westfield

South County head to semi-finals with 27-23 win.

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

South County Secondary School's Division 6 AAA playoff match with Westfield High School on Nov. 14 wasn't just a chance for the Stallions to extend the season by at least one more week.

For senior quarterback Aaron Andrews, it was also his chance to avenge an ugly 40-13 loss to Westfield during his first varsity season on Nov. 9, 2007.

"I started as a sophomore [against Westfield] and it didn't have a good turnout," Andrews said. "But I've learned to play with my teammates who I've been around for three years."

Andrews ran for 55 yards, threw for 130 yards and ran in a nine-yard touchdown in South County's 27-23 victory over the Bulldogs.

"Three years ago, we came out here and [Andrews] got the tar beat out of him," said South County head coach Pete Bendorf. "He played his butt off tonight and made big plays for us."

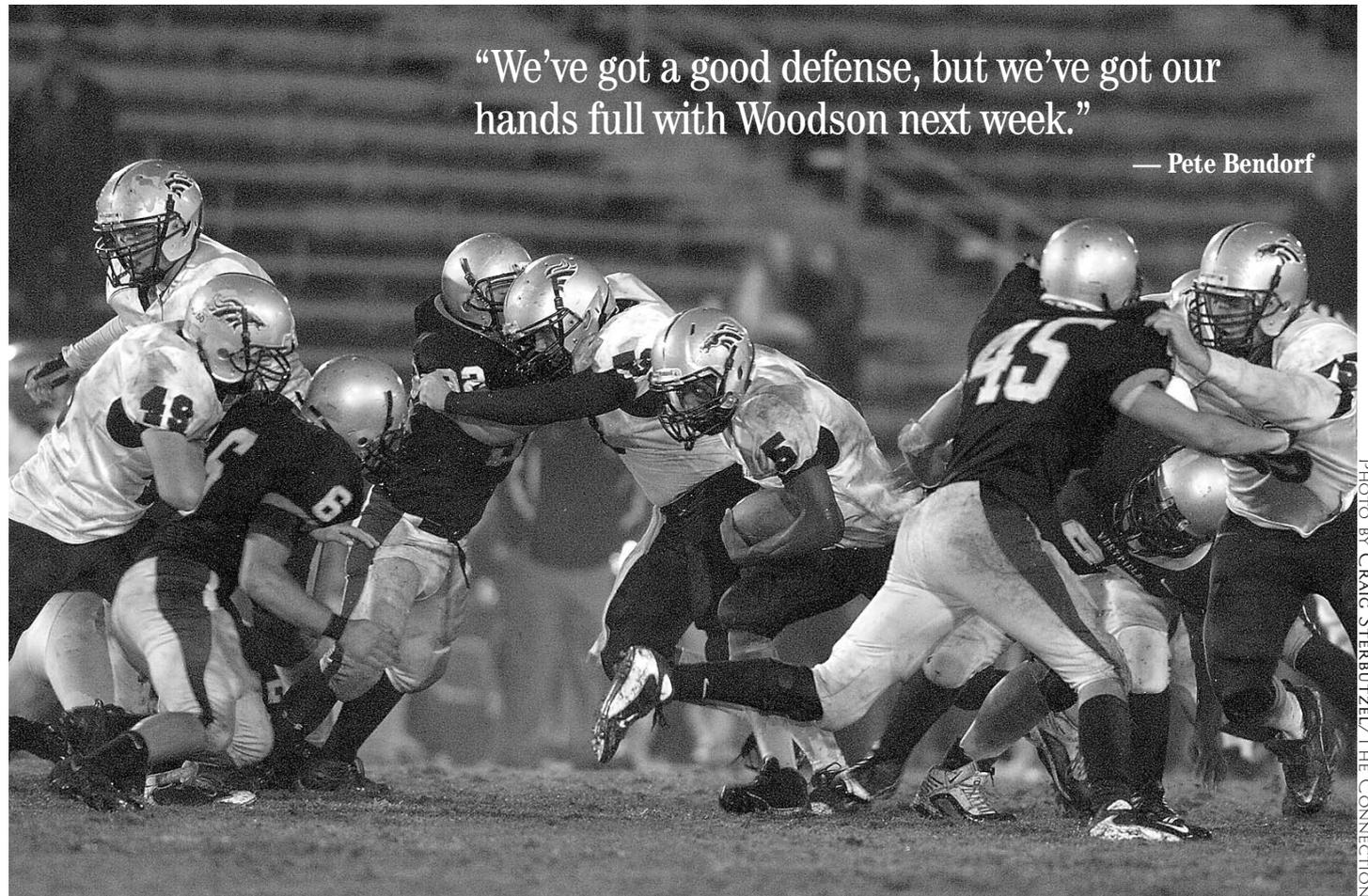
The victory against Westfield, however, wasn't a one-sided affair.

The Stallions charged out to a 7-0 lead in the first quarter, but gave up 23 points before managing to break the Westfield attack.

"We didn't do a very good job tackling," Bendorf said. "We had to get adjusted to the game."

The Stallions trailed the Bulldogs 23-7 in the middle of the second quarter, but a late second-quarter rally led by Andrews and senior running back David Jordan put 16 unanswered points on the board, giving the Stallions a 27-23 lead at the half.

"Jordan had a rough week against Woodson and turned the ball over twice,"



Running back David Jordan bounces back from a tough game against Woodson and rushed for 80 yards and two rushing touchdowns.

Bendorf said. "But he came to play and he's got great character. He got it done tonight."

Jordan finished the game with 80 yards and two rushing touchdowns.

**ACCORDING TO** South County defensive back Mark Jorgenson, the decisive moment in the game came during halftime, when the South County defensive coaches gave an impassioned speech to fire up their squad.

"It the best pep talk we could have," Jorgenson said. "They stared at us for a good minute or two and then just let loose and got our hearts pumping."

"We've got a good defense, but we've got our hands full with Woodson next week."

— Pete Bendorf

Although the first half was a wild, back-and-forth game between two potent offenses, the second half saw the Stallions' defense emerge as the team's playmaker.

Jorgenson delivered the game-winning play for the Stallions when he intercepted Westfield quarterback Danny Fenyak's pass late in the fourth quarter.

"I felt like the game was put away," Jorgenson said. "We started out shaky in the beginning, but we came together in the end."

The Stallions now face No. 1.-seeded W.T. Woodson High School on Nov. 20 at Woodson.

The Cavaliers' powerful offense, led by quarterback Connor Reilly and running back James Johnson, will test South County's defense, but Bendorf said the key to the game is to establish an offensive rhythm early.

"We have just got to continue being consistent on offense," Bendorf said. "We've got a good defense, but we've got our hands full with Woodson next week."

South County's regular season ended with a 35-0 loss to the Cavaliers, and quarterback Andrews said his team is anxious for a re-match. "We have a score to settle with them," he said.

## Bowdren Signs With Virginia

Marcy Bowdren of Robinson Secondary School took advantage of the NCAA's early signing period and signed her National Letter of Intent to play women's softball at the University of Virginia on Nov. 11.

Marcy has been a member of the Robinson Rams varsity softball team since her freshman year, playing third base, catcher, and in her junior year, pitcher.

She is also a member of the Shamrocks 18U Gold Travel Softball team where she is a catcher and third basemen.

Last year, she garnered player of the year honors for the Concorde District and for the Northern Region with a 1.3 earned run average on the mound, a .568 batting aver-

age, along with 5 homeruns and 22 stolen bases.

## Colts Go Undefeated, Win Championship

On Nov. 14, the South County 110-pound National Colts defeated the American Pride 20-0 in the 110-pound Championship.

The title win ends a perfect 9-0 season for the Colts.

Driven by a powerful offense, the Colts recorded 268 points while the defense shutout eight of their nine opponents this season.

The only team to score a point against the Colts was the American Pride, which defeated South County in overtime during the regular season.



The South County National 110-pound Colts pose for a photograph with the championship trophy.

WEEK IN SPORTS

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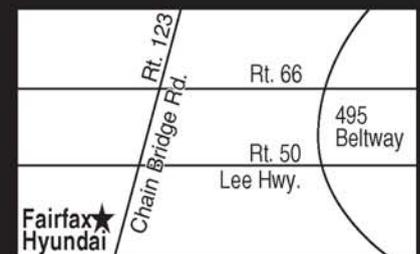


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AT&T intends to submit a Section 106 submission for an existing AT&T tower located at 5755 Revercomb, Fairfax, VA. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with federal regulation 37CFR 1.1307, the NEPA and the ACHP 36 CFR 800. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed activity on Historic Properties may do so by contacting Carolyn Mitchell, (AT&T) at 7150 Standard Dr. Hanover, MD 21076, 410.712.7544 or CM2431@att.com

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**NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE**

As of 10/15/09, the medical office of Mert Kivanc, D.O. has been closed. At this point, Dr. Kivanc does not intend to return to the practice of medicine. All current patient records have been transferred to Dr. Mahadevappa Hunasikatti (2826 Old Lee Highway, Suite 330, Fairfax, VA 22031), who will serve as the records custodian. Patients needing records transfer should submit a written request to Dr. Hunasikatti's office. A processing fee will be applied and patients should allow for a 3-4 week processing time. Patients will be informed by telephone to pick-up their records in person from Dr. Hunasikatti's office. The records will remain with Dr. Hunasikatti for six years and will then be shredded pursuant to state and federal medical record privacy laws."

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# 37th District Senate Race

FROM PAGE 3

voting precincts. But Marsden's Burke home, where he has lived since the late 1970s, is not located in the 37th District and the elected official would have to move to run for the office.

That the Democrats could not find a current resident of the 37th District to run for the office should be viewed cynically by the voters, said Cuccinelli.

"I think that is pretty pathetic. There are 200,000 people who live in the district. Are you telling me you can't find one capable, competent person who lives here already?" said Cuccinelli.

Cuccinelli also said Kaine was "playing politics" by waiting until Nov. 18 to announce the date of the special election. The senator, who notified the governor of his intentions to resign on Nov. 6, suspects the governor waited to see what day would benefit the Democratic candidate the most.

"That is the only explanation. It takes no time at all to pick a date," said Cuccinelli.

Kaine spokesman Gordon Hickey said setting a date for the special election was a little more difficult than Cuccinelli suggests.

Though Cuccinelli had officially turned a

letter stating his intention to resign, Kaine was waiting for similar statement from State Sen. Ken Stolle (R-8), who was elected sheriff in the Virginia Beach area and is also leaving his Senate position early.

**THE GOVERNOR** wanted to hold the two special elections on the same day to save taxpayer dollars, said Hickey.

Also, strict rules exist regarding the voting machines, which must be locked down for a certain number of days before they can be used again. Kaine was waiting to obtain more specific information about when the machines could be opened up and used again, said Hickey.

Cuccinelli would like to have a candidate in place by the time the 2010 General Assembly session starts Jan. 13, he said.

"I want the folks in this district to be represented every single minute of the session," said Cuccinelli.

But Hickey said the options were limited as to when he could schedule the election.

"We wanted to give the candidates time to run. That can be difficult during the holiday season," said Hickey.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOP COHEN PHOTOGRAPHY

**Spiritual Milestone** Twenty-two adult members of Temple B'nai Shalom, a Jewish congregation in Fairfax Station, observed their B'nai Mitzvah on Oct. 31, after three years of study with Deborah Coblenz and Rabbi Amy Perlin. 'B'nai Mitzvah' is the gender-neutral plural form of the commandments. While one traditionally becomes a Bar or Bat Mitzvah — a spiritual adult in the eyes of the Jewish community — at the age of 13, it is also a milestone one can attain later in life.

## COLLEGE NOTES

**Sarah (Ashley) Hinman** of Fairfax Station, a senior majoring in management, sociology in the Pamplin College of Business, college of liberal arts and human sciences, was chosen to be a resident advisor at Virginia Tech for the 2009-10 academic year.

college of science, was chosen to be a resident advisor at Virginia Tech for the 2009-10 academic year.

**Alyssa Ackerman** of Clifton, a senior majoring in communication in the college of liberal arts and human sciences, was chosen to be a house supervisor at Virginia Tech for the 2009-10 academic year.

**Angela Zanchi** of Fairfax Station, a junior majoring in mathematics, psychology in the

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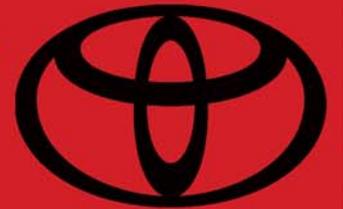
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 Lovely 4 Bedroom, 3 1/2 Bath Colonial, sited on a perfect lot, Large Gourmet Kitchen w/Centre Island, Breakfast Room w/ Glass Slider views Gorgeous Deck w/built-in Hot Tub, Manicured yard completely fenced with Privacy Fence, Lower Level offers theater Room, exercise Room, 5th Bedroom & full Bath.  
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**Alexandria City** \$279,300  
 Location! Close in! 3 bedroom, 1 bath, large fenced yard, carport, large basement. Potential!  
**Cheryl Hanback 703-864-4321**



**Fairfax City** \$899,000  
 4 BR, 4.5 BA on one of the largest & most private lots in prestigious Farrcroft. New hwdw floors, granite kitchen, gas flpl, 9+' ceilings, library, 3 fin levels. Perfection! Close to shops & restaurants.  
**Nancy Basham 703-772-2066**



**Fairfax/Colchester Hunt** \$669,900  
**Backs to Parkland**  
 Charming New England Colonial on hard to find almost one acre lot. 4BR, 2.5BA, 3 fin lvls. Separate entrance den/office/5th BR on main level. Recent updates, spacious rooms. Exc. Location close to Fx Cty Pkwy. See this property at www.GraingerTeam.com  
**Ann Grainger 703-503-1870**



**Springfield** \$399,900  
 Backyard - Treed & Fenced Detached w/garage, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Comfortable entry level w/Family Rm, Bedroom & spacious Den w/free-standing fireplace. Upper level HW floors. Updated baths and sliding door from Dining Rm to patio. 14,813 sq ft private lot.  
**Joel Lutkenhouse 703-969-6442**



**Manassas** \$529,000  
 Beautiful 21-Acre Level Lot with 2-acre Pond ready for you to build your dream home or build 2 homes. Certified 4BR Perk on one lot. Ride your horse into the Manassas Battlefield Park Equestrian trails and Bull Run Regional Park trails. Easy access to Routes 234, 15, 29, and I-66.  
**Ngoc Do & Associates 703-798-2899**

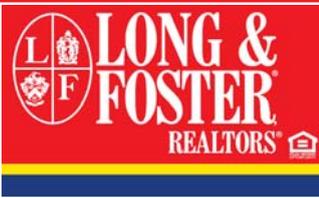


**Fairfax Station** \$1,100,000  
 Stunning, 4 bedroom, contemporary, custom built, 5+ acres, sunroom/solarium, great room, extensive landscaping with breathtaking views, peaceful, privacy, energy efficient, Robinson schools.  
**Mary FitzHenry 703-250-8915**



**Mason Neck** \$475,000  
 Waterfront lot in Mason Neck! This .61 acre lot is perfect for building the home of your dreams. Utility lines are already in place. Property is ready for a dock. Fantastic view of Massey Creek & Belmont Bay with access to the Potomac River.  
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**Springfield \$550,000**

A true passive solar home! Beautiful California styled contemporary with remodeled kitchen and baths. Pristine hardwood flooring - vaulted ceiling - large sunfilled windows - open spacious floor plan - 3/4 bedrooms, 3 full baths - rec room - family room - den - 2 car garage. Fantastic location.



**Lorton/Laurel Hill \$849,900**

**Price Drop!**  
Exceptional 5BR, 4.5BA, luxury home with many upgrades. Spacious gourmet kitchen, home theater, tree-lined views of the Nature Preserve and more.  
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**Sheila Adams**  
**703-503-1895**  
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**Fairfax Station \$698,900**

**Crosspointe**  
This attractive brick front colonial features 4 BRs, 3 1/2 Baths, gorgeous hardwood floors through-out.

Granite counters grace the large updated kitchen, adjacent family room opens to wonderful deck perfect for entertaining. The Lower level is unbelievable with Media Room, Recreation Room w/Wet Bar & Study area. Great Location, minutes to Parkway, Metro & I-95.  
For a private showing call Ann Witherspoon 703.503.1836.



**Fairfax Station \$969,900**

**Country Living, Close In**  
This lovely Colonial is sited on a wooded paradise, 6+ acres. 4 BRs, 3 1/2 Baths, Updated

Kitchen w/Granite Counters, Center Island, Updated appliances, Huge Fam. Rm & Sun Rm w/wall to wall windows, Formal LR & DR, Brazilian Cherry Flooring on Main level, Stairs, Hall & MBR, Finished LL Level is fun filled and ready for entertaining. All this plus a Inground Pool & Hot Tub. Call Sheila Adams 703.503.1895



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**Middleridge \$549,900**

You'll definitely be living the sweet-life in this exquisite Payne colonial, sited on a gorgeous landscaped lot! Featuring a remodeled kitchen with granite counters and upgraded appliances, 4 large bedrooms, 2.5 updated baths, gleaming hardwood floors, new wall-to-wall carpeting, fireplace, and a wonderful walk-out lower level. This one won't last! Call Catie, Steve & Assc. today for information! 703-278-9313

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[cherylh@inf.com](mailto:cherylh@inf.com)



**Springfield \$380,000**

Wow! Imagine cooking your Christmas breakfast surrounded by granite counters, Kraftmaid cabinets, and upgraded stainless steel appliances in your new kitchen! Shows like a model with room to room updates! 3 level, 3 bedroom, 2.55 bath garage TH backs to trees- minutes to VRE, Fairfax Co Pkwy, I-395 and Metro! In the WSHS school district! A regular sale and only \$380,000!



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**Clifton \$769,000**

**RESORT SETTING!**  
Enjoy the in ground pool and spa, mutil level decks for entertaining, private 1.4 acres backing to woods! Quiet neighborhood cul de sac, 4 BR, 3.5 BA, granite/island kitchen, 3 car garage! Unbelievable price reduction! Clifton ES and Robinson SS! See [www.marshawolber.com](http://www.marshawolber.com) for photos... call me to see!



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**Manassas \$499,900**

Gorgeous 4BR, 2.5BA Colonial on 1.13 acre lot! Two-story foyer, formal living & dining, large family room w/gas fireplace, sunroom & gourmet kitchen with granite. Huge master suite w/luxury bath & walk-in closets. Large walk-out lower level is ready to be finished the way you'd like!



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