

# Flashy Play

SPORTS, PAGE 10

Lawrence Rouse makes a flashy lay-up look easy against Robinson. Rouse finished the game with 27 points.

## Hunt, Marsden Square Off

NEWS, PAGE 2

## Collecting Bikes For Africa

NEWS, PAGE 2

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION SPORTS, PAGE 10 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 13

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## Hunt vs. Marsden in 37th

Voters will choose new state senator in Jan. 12. election.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he last time voters elected a new representative to Virginia's 37th State Senate district in Western Fairfax County was during an August 2002 special election.

Republican Ken Cuccinelli, winning just over 10,000 votes, was the victor in that contest. A little over 18,000 residents participated overall, though the district included well over 100,000 eligible voters at the time.

Despite the low voter turnout, Cuccinelli was able to capitalize on the success of that first political victory seven years ago. He went on to win two more State Senate elections and, last month, Cuccinelli was elected to be Virginia's next Attorney General.

Before he can take on the duties of his new statewide office in January, Cuccinelli must step down from his State Senate seat.

Former Fairfax County School Board member Steve Hunt, a Republican, and Del. Dave Marsden (D-41) are vying to replace Cuccinelli in the 37th State Senate District.

They will face off in a special election Jan. 12, a contest that history shows us is likely to determine who is the state senator for the next several years.



COURTESY OF MARSDEN CAMPAIGN

**Del. Dave Marsden (D-41) trudges through snow in early December, while knocking on doors.**

The 37th District includes Chantilly, Centreville as well as parts of Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Burke and Springfield. Local political observers consider it to lean Republican, though its electorate has also favored

Democrats in some recent elections.

Cuccinelli beat his Democratic opponent by slim margin of 92 votes during the most recent 37th District State Senate contest in 2007. In 2008, President

Barack Obama also won the 37th Senate District with 55 percent of the vote.

However, this past November, 37th District voters appeared solidly in the Republi-



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

**Steve Hunt (R) garnered a little more than 50 percent of the vote in a three-way Republican primary.**

can camp. Virginia's Gov.-elect Bob McDonnell (R) won 57 percent of the vote in the State Senate District during the 2009 general election

**APPROXIMATELY 1,900** people also showed up to participate in the seat's Republican primary on Dec. 1, a much higher turnout than local Republican activists expected.

In a three-way race, Hunt won the Republican primary with 955 votes, just over 50 percent of all ballots cast. Opponent Marianne Horinko garnered 479 votes, approximately 25 percent of all ballots cast, and another candidate, William Nance, collected 469 votes, also about 25 percent of

SEE SPECIAL ELECTION, PAGE 7

## Man Dies In Jail

Suspect arrested for videotaping in Fair Oaks Mall dressing room.

**A** 44-year-old inmate at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center died two days after being arrested at Fair Oaks Mall. Police say Paul Antonio Calvan of 4873 A South 28th St. in Arlington, was found unconscious, Monday, Dec. 14, with a bed sheet wrapped around his neck.

Around midnight, a deputy made a routine check and found the inmate fine and nothing amiss. But about 12 minutes later, Calvan was discovered with one end of the sheet around his neck and the other end tied to a metal grate in the cell door.

Authorities entered the cell, untied the sheet and immediately began CPR. Calvan was taken to Inova Fairfax Hospital where he was pronounced dead at approximately 9:56 p.m. Police say no foul play is suspected, but crime-scene technicians and detectives are investigating the death.

He came to the jail after police arrested him last Saturday, Dec. 12. Police say a 20-year-old woman reported a man videotaping her while she was in the dressing room of a specialty store at Fair Oaks Mall on Friday, Dec. 11, shortly after 7 p.m.

She heard a noise, looked down and noticed a bag with a hole in it under the door of her dressing room. When she realized there was a camera in the bag, she opened the door and saw a man carrying that bag while running from the dressing room area. She notified store management who called police, and his description was given to officers assigned specifically to the mall.

Then on Dec. 12, around 5 p.m., mall officers were alerted to a man matching that description in the same store. Officers assigned to the plain-clothes, Retail Anti-theft Team responded. They located and arrested the man, who was still in possession of the video camera.

They identified him as Calvan and transported him to jail, where he was charged with two counts of unlawful filming, videotaping or photographing another person.

— BONNIE HOBBS

## Small Deeds, Big Difference

Sixth-grader Dalton Roeber is collecting new and used bikes for charity.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**M**ost 11-year-old boys spend their free time playing video games, watching television or deciding whether to shoot hoops or toss the football. Dalton Roeber, on the other hand, is always looking to make a difference.

Roeber, a sixth-grader at West Springfield Elementary School, has started his own community service project as a school requirement. Instead of viewing it as just another homework assignment to complete, however, he is seeking to bring his project to the next level and is thinking globally

and acting locally.

"I wanted to do a good deed for people who don't have as much as we do," Roeber said. "There are people out there who are less fortunate than we are, and they need help."

Roeber's community service project, supporting the Bikes for Africa Initiative, had its roots in West Springfield Elementary's Community of Caring outreach program. According to School Counselor Jenny Barajas, the program, which has been in place for years, is a school-wide effort to get its students and their families involved in their communities. The program has many outreach efforts, which includes a

### How To Help

To donate a bicycle to Dalton's community service project, e-mail Deb Roeber at flygirlsgems@gmail.com.

community service requirement of six hours for every sixth-grader.

So, this fall, as in years past, Roeber and the other sixth graders were tasked with creating their own community service project. Each student was told to think of a way to help other people, create a plan and then spend six hours carrying that plan out.

"We try to engage the community and the school [through the program] and we emphasize the character traits that make for a

SEE SIXTH-GRADER, PAGE 12

# Volunteers Build Bridge to Freedom

**New outreach organization to help victims of human trafficking gain independence.**

BY AMBER HEALY  
THE CONNECTION

Each year, countless women and young children are sold or deceived into slavery — sexual, domestic, any kind of servitude against their will in which a human being is treated as little more than property. Northern Virginia is no exception, and Cassandra Clifford is hoping to help those victims find a way to discover their self-worth and independence again through her Bridge to Freedom Foundation.

She began the organization a year ago after a spending a few years volunteering with other organizations.

“Slavery is everywhere — it’s in Virginia, it’s in D.C. There’s no way to escape it,” said Clifford, a Fairfax resident who got her start in human trafficking activism after traveling through Eastern Europe shortly after the fall of the Soviet Union.

She quickly learned the warning signs of human trafficking: a person appears to have

restricted movement; shows signs of physical or sexual abuse; is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts; shows fear or depression; is unwilling to speak on his or her own behalf and does not have a passport or any other form of identification.

Her organization began a year ago, but her work will not be alone or done in a vacuum.

Right now, Clifford and her volunteer staff have been collecting clothes and personal care items to help provide personal and professional development to women and men,

in the hopes of helping them boost their self-esteem and become independent, employed citizens.

But the Bridge to Freedom Foundation will not provide shelter for victims — that is where Courtney’s House comes in.

Courtney’s House, located in Washington, D.C., is slated to open a shelter for girls between the ages of 11 and 17 next year. In the meantime, founder Tina Frundt and her volunteers conduct outreach every Friday and Saturday night, from midnight until 5

**“Slavery is everywhere — it’s in Virginia, it’s in D.C. There’s no way to escape it.”**

— Cassandra Clifford, founder, Bridge to Freedom Foundation



Tina Frundt, left, and Cassandra Clifford, at the Walk Against Child Trafficking earlier this year.

## How To Help

For more information on the Bridge to Freedom Foundation and how to donate clothing or personal care items, go to [www.bridgetofreedomfoundation.org](http://www.bridgetofreedomfoundation.org).

a.m., talking to young men and women who might be victims of the human sex trade.

This is work that Frundt takes seriously. She was a victim herself, taken into a prostitution ring when she was just 14, held

against her will by a man who beat her as an example to the four other young women in his prostitution ring.

Now, she wants to help others who are in that position.

Clifford was one of her volunteers before starting the Bridge to Freedom Foundation, and Frundt said she sees the two groups working together for a long time.

“There’s a need for an organization that

SEE BRIDGE, PAGE 4

# Local Churches Prepare for Christmas Worshipers

**Area churches host myriad Christmas Eve and Day services for all of the community.**

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

Area churches of all denominations are opening their doors to the community this Christmas Eve and Day for a variety of services and events. Many adhere to the long-established traditions of the holiday, while others are offering fun and unique ways to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

In Burke, several Churches are hosting events that are open to the public. At Burke United Methodist Church, located at 200 Burke Centre Parkway, four services will take place on Christmas Eve. According to Jean Williams, the services are at 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., with the first two services geared toward children. Williams said that at the first two services, children are invited to be a part of the proceedings by dressing up in costumes and creating a live nativity scene. The remaining two services, she said, are traditional

candlelight services where communion is served.

“The first two [services] are more oriented to families with young children,” Williams said. “They’re pageant-type services, and the children will be able to be a part of them. They can come early and dress in costumes as angels or different animals

**“We pull out all the stops and include all of our musicians for the last service.”**

— Rev. Beth Braxton, Burke Presbyterian Church

from the manger scene.”

The members of Burke Presbyterian, located at 5690 Oak Leather Drive, are hosting three services on Christmas Eve, according to Pastor Rev. Beth Braxton. At 5 p.m., a family service will be celebrated with the children’s and youth choirs singing and a

tableau of the Christmas story done in poetry form. At 7:30 p.m., the “Service of Lessons and Carols” will take place, continuing a long-standing tradition at the church. Scripture will be read, interspersed with Christmas carols and the chancel and bell choirs will perform. At 11 p.m., the church will host a candlelight service with communion. Braxton said that she will deliver a Christmas message and all of the church’s choirs will perform.

“We pull out all the stops and include all of our musicians for the last service,” Braxton said. “It’s very beautiful.”

St. Peter’s in the Woods Episcopal Church, 5911 Fairview Woods Drive, Fairfax Station, like so many others, is celebrating Christmas Eve with a children’s service, this one at 5 p.m. Parish Administrator Kristy Kowalski said that the 5 p.m. service is essentially a traditional Christmas Eve ceremony complete with communion, but will also have a portion where the children will all take part in a living nativity scene.

“We do a version of this service every year, but we change the stories that we tell,”

Kowalski said. “This year, we are trying to include any child that comes through the door whether they are regular members [of the church] or not.”

In Lorton, Pohick Church, based at 9301 Richmond Highway, is kicking off Christmas Eve with a service for the whole family, followed by two adult services. At 6 p.m., a full service geared toward children with music will take place. Later, at 10:30 p.m., a carol service is scheduled at which attendees can sing Christmas carols. The carol service will lead directly into an 11 p.m. Holy Eucharist service. The next day, a Christmas service will be offered at 10 a.m.

“The children’s service is a full service where the sermon will be on their level of understanding, and it is at a child-friendly time, too,” Troknya said. “The Christmas Day service will be a very quiet communion service for the whole family.”

Springfield-area churches are also hosting many Christmas Eve and Day services. St. Raymond of Penafort Roman Catholic Church, located at 8750 Pohick Road, is hosting a bevy of services over the two days for both children and adults. On Christmas

SEE CHURCHES, PAGE 5

## Man Shot During Burglary

A 56-year-old West Springfield man defending his home was shot by a burglar Wednesday, Dec. 16 in the 6100 block of Hillside Road.

According to Fairfax County Police, around 11 p.m., the victim encountered an armed man breaking into his residence. The victim and suspect exchanged gunfire and the victim was struck once in the chest. The suspect, Jonathan E. Anderson, 21, of the 8900 block of Arley Drive in Springfield, fled on foot but was intercepted by responding patrol officers.

On Friday, Dec. 18, police charged a second suspect, Anthony Box-Johnson, 21, of the 8800 block of Winding Hollow Way in Springfield, with burglary while armed. Detectives believe that Anderson and Box-Johnson are the only two suspects involved in this incident.

The victim was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital with serious but non life-threatening injuries. Anderson was charged with malicious wounding and burglary while armed.



**Anthony Box-Johnson**

POLICE PHOTO

— JUSTIN FANIZZI

## Shoulder Tap Operation Nets One Arrest in Alcohol Sting

A “Shoulder Tap” operation carried out by members of the West Springfield Police District and a member of the Traffic Safety Services unit in the Burke and Springfield areas Tuesday, Dec. 17 resulted in one arrest.

A “Shoulder Tap” is an undercover operation that is part of the ongoing Youth Alcohol/Business Compliance enforcement campaign. Fairfax County Police cadets dressed in plain clothes attempted to have adults purchase alcohol for them in parking lots of businesses that possess state ABC licenses to sell alcoholic beverages. The cadets were advised to approach adults in the parking lots and ask them to purchase alcohol for them. If asked by the adult if they were 21, the cadets were told to respond with their true age. If the illegal purchase of alcohol took place, a plainclothes officer watching the transaction would intervene and appropriate charges would then be placed.

As part of the operation, 59 adults were approached, and one arrest was made for illegal purchase of alcohol at the 7-Eleven Store located at 8319 Old Keene Mill Road in Springfield.

# Bridge to Freedom

FROM PAGE 3

focuses on collecting clothing, because when people come to us, they have nothing,” Frundt said. “Right now, Cassandra’s working on a big clothing drive for Christmas and our clients would be among the ones benefiting from that.”

Another group that will work with Clifford is the Virginia chapter of Stop Modern Slavery, which was started just a few months ago by Jessica Johnson, who lives only a few blocks away from Clifford.

Johnson got her start in advocating for an end to human trafficking in a somewhat serendipitous way. She was between jobs but always had an interest in this kind of work. She decided it was time to get up and do something, and it just so happened there was a high profile meeting the next day, at which Ambassador Mark Lagon and Polaris Project director Brad Myles were speaking on the very subject. She attended the conference and was struck with a new dedication to this kind of activism.

So often, people assume women and children are sold into to the sex trade overseas, or are brought to the U.S. for that purpose. But, both Clifford and Johnson said, this kind of slavery is happening frequently right here, and in different forms: massage parlors, domestic service, a form of indentured servitude in which a person is brought into the U.S. legally but is told that if he or she tries to leave the family for which they work, they will be deported.

**PEOPLE IN** these situations feel they have no choice but to remain in their existing situation and have little hope of breaking free, and many people don’t even realize this kind of slavery still exists.

This is where Stop Modern Slavery comes in, Johnson said. Her group is geared more toward raising awareness, lobbying Congress and working to get legislation passed that would have human trafficking and modern slavery be the subject of its own laws and punishments. Currently, no law exists in Virginia that outright prohibits slavery or human trafficking, Johnson said, and if someone is brought up on charges related to those crimes, it is under abduction charges unless the FBI or other federal

agency is called in.

Having a law specifically banning trafficking or slavery would provide harsher penalties for offenders, Johnson said.

While her organization doesn’t provide any direct services for victims, she thinks the Bridge to Freedom Foundation will do just that, and help those trying to gain their independence do so with confidence.

Clifford appreciates the assistance she’s receiving, especially from her all-volunteer staff. They have spent many hours sorting and collecting clothing, currently stored in a number of locations until the organization has its own space, which should happen in 2010.

Clothing, make-up and other personal care needs aren’t the only services the organization will provide, however. Clifford is looking for people who can provide in-kind donations of time and skills training. Ideally, that volunteer would help draft resumes and practice interviews, so when a person is ready to try and look for a job, they’re prepared to do so with a wardrobe, professionally drafted resume and the belief that they deserve to be treated with respect.

One of Clifford’s volunteers, Seda Nak, was first interested in the human trafficking trade following a visit to Cambodia. Nak, who started focusing on trafficking after college, is now an intern for the Bridge to Freedom Foundation.

When a person is a former victim, just having a new set of clothes is a huge step forward, Clifford said.

“It’s unbelievable. When someone takes an interest in you and how you look and that you’re a person, when you feel like an attractive person for the right reasons for the first time in your life. ... That’s what we want to do, because that’s such an important step,” Clifford said.

Her group is quickly getting attention, with more than 700 “friends” and followers on Facebook.

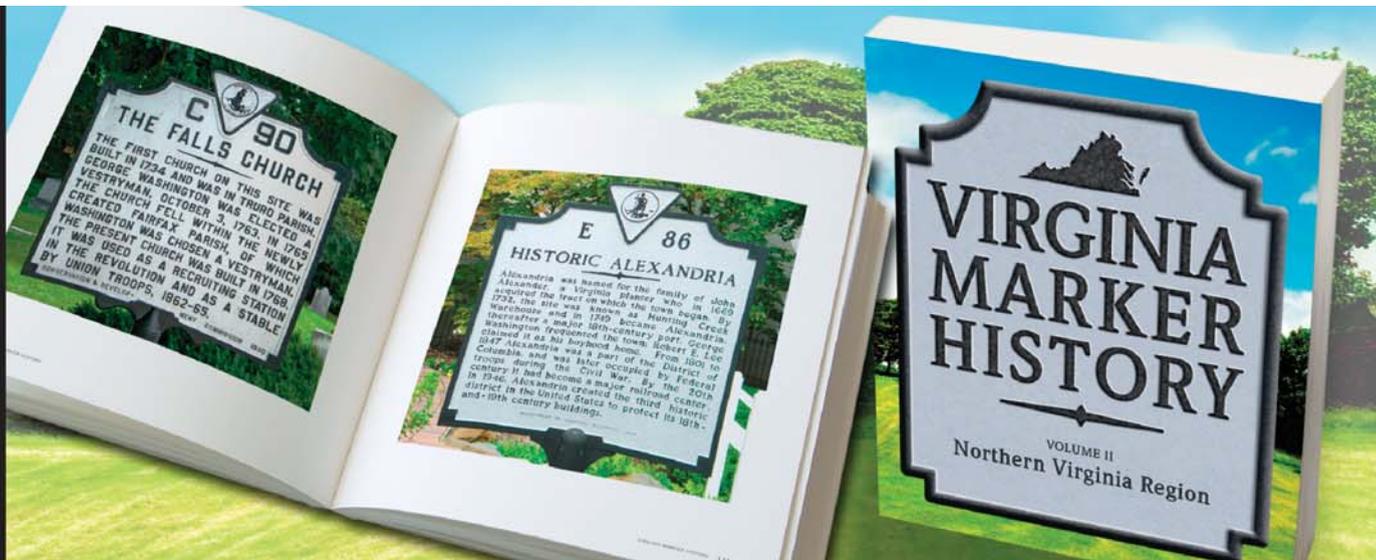
She’s learned that the group is already helping to build self-esteem in some victims.

“To have someone help create that sense of importance, or to help draft a resume so you can get a job and take care of yourself, that’s awesome,” Clifford said.

**“There’s a need for an organization that focuses on collecting clothing, because when people come to us, they have nothing.”**

— Tina Frundt

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# Churches Prep for Christmas

FROM PAGE 3

Eve, four services are slated for 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. According to Paul DeRosa, the first two masses are family-oriented, while the final two are Christmas vigil masses. The following day, traditional Christmas Day services are scheduled for 7 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 5 p.m. "The masses at 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. are for children," DeRosa said. "There will be a nativity play

that the children will take part in."

Sydenstricker United Methodist Church, based at 8508 Hooes Road, according to Youth Pastor Barbara Ruffell, is conducting three services on Christmas Eve. At 5 p.m., a children's mass will take place which, Ruffell said, consists of a pageant with children in costume, followed by an 8 p.m. service that the church calls "Love Feast," where attendees will share cookies and spiced tea. The night concludes with an 11 p.m. traditional candlelight service.



W.T. Woodson High School DECA students hold up signs outside of the White House.

## Raising Awareness of Homelessness, Illness

On Thursday Dec. 10, students from W.T. Woodson's DECA chapter joined in front of the White House at Lafayette Park in recognition of homeless struggling with disease. The students looked to raise awareness for those without a home who have been affected by different illnesses during this season, especially H1N1.

Colds and seasonal flu's are difficult for the homeless population because they do not have the knowledge or supplies to protect themselves. Lori McLean, nurse practitioner of the Fairfax County Health Department and the Katherine K. Hanley Shelter, spoke on how the homeless are affected by disease.

Due to the harsh conditions for the homeless, these students have worked with Katherine K. Hanley Shelter, and Shelter House Inc. to help provide needed medical supplies, and to spread awareness throughout the nation to help the homeless during this time.

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# OPINION

## Happy Holidays

A time to reflect, a time to share.

For the observant of any faith, and even for the more secular among us, the close of the year brings ritual, magic, reflection and hope.

In events around the area, a sense of community has infused holiday parades, Christmas tree lightings, menorah lightings, choral performances, singing of carols, and other traditional events with warmth and joy.

In Great Falls, it was the 19th lighting of the Christmas tree, with holiday songs by the Langley Madrigals. In Reston, Santa arrived by boat across Lake Anne in a snow squall. In Alexandria, the Scottish Christmas Walk announced the beginning of the season despite the wet snow. In Clifton, the Christmas spirit was celebrated in a candlelight homes tour, among other events. In Fairfax, one congregation built a 7-foot-tall menorah out of Legos. And in every community, volunteers have come together to provide food, clothing and some holiday cheer for the needy.

2009 has been a challenging year for many families, businesses, schools, charitable organizations. As the year comes to an end, we can count our blessings. Here in the Washington suburbs most of us have been spared the intense difficulties of the economic downtown. We'll all likely to welcome 2010 with optimism

and relief.

Next week between Christmas and New Years, look for our annual Children's Connection, when we turn our entire paper over to the contributions of area students — artwork of many kinds, poetry and other writing. Our next regular edition will come out the week of Jan. 4, 2010.

From the all the staff here, we wish you a merry Christmas, a happy Hanukkah, joyful holidays and a wonderful beginning to the New Year.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### Give Locally

Remember that more local families are in need right now than ever before; thankfully, most of us are in a position to help. It's not too late to brighten the holidays for a needy family as many organizations are reporting record demand for holiday meals and help with providing children at least one present. The need will continue into the New Year as well.

### Where To Donate

- ◆ Food for Others  
2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, 22031

703-207-9173.

- ◆ United Community Ministries, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306. UCM's Food Pantry is open weekdays 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. the first Sunday of each month (except January, July and September, open on second Sunday). Enter through gates on right side of building, drive around to opposite side of building and ring bell at green door.
- ◆ Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), 703-569-9160, www.echo-inc.org. Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield weekdays from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7 - 9 p.m.
- ◆ Lorton Community Action Center, 9518 Richmond Highway, www.lortonaction.org. lacvolunteer@msn.com, 703 339-5161, ◆ FACETS, 703-352-5090.
- ◆ National Capital Food Bank, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia. 703-541-3063, www.capitalareafoodbank.org. Food donations accepted Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fully equipped with refrigeration and freezers, so can accept non-perishable food items, plus produce, any kind of meat or dairy products and frozen food.
- ◆ Good Shepherd in the Route 1 area, 703-768-9404
- ◆ Our Daily Bread, Central Fairfax, 703-273-8829
- ◆ Western Fairfax Christian Ministries, 703-988-9656
- ◆ Lorton Community Action Center, 703-339-5161
- ◆ Koinonia Foundation, 703-971-1991
- ◆ Northern Virginia Family Service, Oakton, 703-385-3267
- ◆ Our Daily Bread, 10777 Main St. #320, Fairfax, 703-273-8829
- ◆ Shelter House, www.shelterhouse.org, operates two homeless shelters in Fairfax County, in Centreville and Seven Corners. 571-522-6800
- ◆ Fairfax City Area FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), 703-222-0880.

“open door” to all constituents.

Steve Hunt will be a strong ally of Gov.-Elect Bob McDonnell (R), fighting to keep taxes low, ensure our fair share of transportation dollars and maintaining our quality schools. Steve has managed squadrons, school systems (and their budgets) and has the proven leadership experience to tackle the Senate in Richmond.

As a small business owner, a mother, a wife, and a Fairfax County resident for nearly two decades, I know Steve will do the right thing for us in Richmond. Please vote for my friend Steve Hunt in this special election on Jan. 12.

Marianne Horinko  
Chantilly

### Steve Hunt for State Senator

To The Editor:

As a former candidate in the 37th District, I wholeheartedly endorse Steve Hunt for State Senate. He is someone who has selflessly served our nation as naval flight officer and our community as an advocate in many realms. He served as a member of the Fairfax County School Board from 2004-07, managing budgets and fighting for the interests of our citizens. On School Board, he supported an open and transparent process. As a state senator, he will continue to support more accessible government and keep an

LETTERS

### Peacekeepers

'Tis for our Freedom Christ hath set us free;  
 Prince of Peace: born to die upon a tree  
 Sacrificing self for all — even for me !  
 Brothers-in-arms — Peace-keepers all — full cups do toss;  
 And, hearing Freedom's call, take up their cross  
 Knowing — in His will — suffereth they no loss.  
 This Christmas we would be loath to forget  
 Their sacrifices made, the blood they shed,  
 For Evil doth abide here with us yet!  
 The duty still is ours: for us to pray  
 For those whom He hath chose to lead the way  
 That they might not be moved to lead astray.  
 [In the world ye shall have trouble, Jesus spoke,  
 But in Me ye may have Peace and rest — and Hope !]

POETRY

Sonja N. Bohm  
Springfield

### 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: burke@connectionnewspapers.com

### Look for Creative Budget Solutions

To the Editor:

With a median income of 126,910, Fairfax County is in a strong position to address the budget shortfall without cutting public schools, safety or health services. Times like these test the character of our community and our commitment to each other. I

urge the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to look creatively at our resources with an eye to developing solutions that build on and improve the integrity of our community. I urge my fellow citizens to get ready, roll up our sleeves and contribute.

Lucero Beebe-Giudice  
Fairfax

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# NEWS

## Special Election Jan. 12

FROM PAGE 2

all ballots cast.

Fairfax County Republican Committee Chairman Anthony Bedell said Hunt's large primary victory over two other people should give the candidate momentum headed into the special election. The Republican, who was an at-large member of the School Board from 2004-07, also has more name recognition than many other candidates would.

But many people said the Republicans can take nothing for granted in a special election, where very few people are expected to show up at the polls.

"Special elections are always unpredictable. It is always about who comes out," said Supervisors Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield), who is backing Hunt in the election.

**MARSDEN**, who has been a member of the House of Delegates since 2005, is also an unusual Democrat. The candidate was, in fact, an active Republican for most of his life.

Marsden worked for his Republican predecessor in the General Assembly, Del. Jim Dillard (R-41). He also served as a political appointee, the head of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, in former Republican Gov. Jim Gilmore's administration.

Marsden decided to switch political parties as a result of his experience working for both Gilmore and Gov. Mark Warner (D). The candidate was still running the commonwealth's juvenile justice agency when the Warner replaced Gilmore in 2002.

"I was in the Gilmore administration and they were very narrowly focused on some very ill-advised public policy matters. The Warner administration was so good when it came in. ... They were interested in helping those of us who were running agencies. They wanted to make us better at what we did and that was very inspiring," said Marsden.

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 12

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For more information about our dental practice please visit our website at [www.larryfoxdds.com](http://www.larryfoxdds.com)



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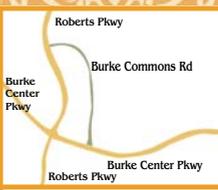
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## CALENDAR

To have community events listed, send to [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

### THURSDAY/DEC. 24

**Good for the Jews featuring Rob Tannenbaum and David Fagin.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20. 703-255-1566 or [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

### FRIDAY/DEC. 25

**A Day to Play at the 'J'.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. The Center opens its doors to the community for a day of play. [www.jccnv.org](http://www.jccnv.org).

### SATURDAY/DEC. 26

**Hotspur.** 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance/\$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Virginia Ballet Company:** Working Stage Rehearsal for The Nutcracker. 6:30 p.m. at NVCC Annandale Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale. \$10. Purchase in advance at [www.virginiaballetcompany.org](http://www.virginiaballetcompany.org). 703 249-8227.

### SUNDAY/DEC. 27

**Dana Wells CD Release and Dream Dirt (Justin and Mark from Jonasay).** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. 703-255-1566 or [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**With These Hands.** Classical pianist Carlos Alberto Ibay performs 4 p.m.

at St. Mary of Sorrows, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. \$25 donation towards victims affected by typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng in the Philippines. For tickets, contact 703-323-5834 or 703-250-0520. Tickets also available at St. Mary's business office.

**Virginia Ballet Company:** The Nutcracker. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at NVCC Annandale Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale. Adults \$30; children, students and seniors \$20. Purchase online at [www.virginiaballetcompany.org](http://www.virginiaballetcompany.org). 703-249-8227.

### MONDAY/DEC. 28

**Bliss FM and DJ M.A.F.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Inova Blood Drive.** 12:30 p.m. at City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Photo ID required. Appointments preferred, call 1-866-256-6372. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Reptiles Alive!** 2:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. See and touch live animals. Find out how they adapt to wintertime in all eco-systems. Age 6-12. 703-644-7333.

**Virginia Ballet Company: The Nutcracker.** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at NVCC Annandale Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale. Adults \$30; children, students and seniors \$20. Purchase online at [www.virginiaballetcompany.org](http://www.virginiaballetcompany.org). 703-249-8227.

### TUESDAY/DEC. 29

**Harlem Globetrotters.** 7 p.m. at the

George Mason University Patriot Center. Tickets are \$22-\$26.50, available through all Ticketmaster outlets including the venue box offices, online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and via Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT. [www.patriotcenter.com](http://www.patriotcenter.com).

**Poor Man's Lobster and The Arctic Groove.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Inova Blood Drive.** 1:30-6:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Photo ID required. Appointments preferred, call 1-866-256-6372. Adults. 703-644-7333.

**Virginia Ballet Company: The Nutcracker.** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at NVCC Annandale Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale. Adults \$30; children, students and seniors \$20. Purchase online at [www.virginiaballetcompany.org](http://www.virginiaballetcompany.org). 703-249-8227.

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 30

**Missing Pieces: Each Child is an Essential Piece to Our World.** 5-7 p.m. at Chick-Fil-A, Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Hosted by Robinson High School DECA at Chick-Fil-A's Family Night. To learn more, call 703-426-2307 or e-mail [chepner@fcps.edu](mailto:chepner@fcps.edu).

**Virginia Ballet Company: The Nutcracker.** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at NVCC Annandale Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale. Adults \$30; children, students and seniors \$20. Purchase online at [www.virginiaballetcompany.org](http://www.virginiaballetcompany.org). 703-249-8227.

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**Non-Denominational**  
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**Burke Presbyterian Church** events are open to everyone, at 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. All events are free. Contact 703-764-0456 or [www.BurkePresChurch.org](http://www.BurkePresChurch.org). Christmas Eve Services on Thursday, Dec. 24, 5 p.m. Children's Pageant with children's and youth choirs; 7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service with chancel and bell choirs; 11 p.m. Candlelight and Communion Service with folk group and flute choir.

**Bush Hill Presbyterian Church**, 4916 Franconia Road, Alexandria, will have Advent and Christmas services. Contact 703-971-1171 or [www.bushhill.org](http://www.bushhill.org). Family Christmas Eve Service with Communion on Thursday, Dec. 24, 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Communion on Thursday, Dec. 24, 11 p.m.

**Volunteers are needed Dec. 25 for the Phoenix Rising Meal Program** at Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Help serve bagged meals to homeless people living along the Route One corridor between North Kings Highway and the Fairfax County Parkway in Alexandria. All ages can help assemble the bag lunches and assist in delivery. Meals will be prepared Wednesday, Dec. 23, at 6:30 p.m., and delivered Friday, Dec. 25, at 5:30 p.m. 703-971-5151 or [www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org).

**Christmas Eve Services.** 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 24 at Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. 703-971-5151 or [www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org).

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# Rams, Spartans Split Two

**Robinson boys earn win, girls fall victim to West Springfield's press.**

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Robinson boys' basketball game with West Springfield on Dec. 15 was a bit too close for Robinson head coach Brian Nelson's liking.

After jetting out to a 36-21 lead at half-time, the Rams, who had dominated with their size and shooting, watched as the Spartans chipped away at the lead.

"In the first 10 to 12 minutes of the game, we showed what we are capable of," Nelson said. "But we got complacent and we showed our inexperience."

When the third quarter ended, West Springfield had cut the Rams' lead down to 11, turning what started as a blowout into closely contested game.

Robinson was able to hold on to the lead — leading by a point at one stage of the fourth quarter — and claim a road victory against the scrappy West Springfield squad.

The Rams' record improved to 2-3 with the 65-60 defeat of West Springfield (1-3).

Junior guard Mike Rice led the Rams with 18 points and Matt Zanelatto and C.J. Cleaves finished with 10 and 14 points respectively.

Rice's strong shooting from all around the court helped to keep the surging Spartans at bay during the fourth quarter.

His 18-point performance followed a season high 24-point game against Fairfax, earning a glowing endorsement from his coach.

"[Rice] is a natural scorer," Nelson said. "But he's not a traditional scorer. He scores on a lot of garbage baskets, he's a great guy on ball reversals and he gets to the foul line."

With 81 points on the season, Rice is becoming one of the Rams' top scoring threats and the junior is just warming up before Concorde District play ramps up next month.

"I'm playing well and the team's playing great," he said. "It's going to be great leading us to the playoffs and the district tournament."

## Ram Standouts

- ❖ Mike Rice: 18 points, 7-for-10 from foul line.
- ❖ C.J. Cleaves: 14 points.
- ❖ Lauren Denham: 10 points.
- ❖ Christie Michals: 5 points, 5-for-8 from foul line, 4 rebounds, 2 steals.



**Senior guard Diana Fontanez drives around a West Springfield defender, looking for a clear shot.**

The Rams also showcased their physical style of defense that contained the Spartans for the first half.

When West Springfield entered the offensive zone, it wasn't long before two Rams surrounded the ball-carrier, trapped him and forced an awkward pass.

"We put five guys on the floor that bring a lot of intensity on defense," Nelson said. "When we [play as a team], we can defend a lot of teams."

With the Rams looking to even up their record at 3-3 on Dec. 18 against Lake Braddock, Nelson said the close call with West Springfield is just another block in building a winning team.

**"We showed what we are capable of and what we look like when we don't compete."**

— Brian Nelson

"This should make us hungry," he said. "We showed what we are capable of and what we look like when we don't compete."

Robinson forward Christie Michals might have a few bumps and bruises on her body after the Rams' (4-1) 55-24 loss to West Springfield (3-0) on Dec. 15.

The sophomore guard spent much of the game low in the paint, drawing hard fouls as she tried to convert lay-ups and short

## WEEK IN SPORTS

### Tournament Of Champions

Lake Braddock will be hosting its annual basketball tournament from Dec. 28-30 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

The Tournament of Champions will feature Lake Braddock, Osbourn, Edison, Colonial Forge, Cosby and Kima Public Charter School.

Games start at 2:15 p.m. on Dec. 28 and 29, with the championship game played Dec. 30, at 7:30 p.m.

### Bruins Break Slump Against Westfield

After three losing efforts, the talent of the Lake Braddock boys' basketball team is beginning to come out.

On Dec. 15, the Bruins defeated Westfield 50-43, improving the team's record to 1-3.

Garrett Trump led the Bruins in scoring with 15 points and Patch McLucas added another 14 to the team's total. Christian Collier rounded out the top performers with a 10-point effort in the game.

Lake Braddock's next game is on Dec. 18 against rival Robinson (2-4), followed by a match with West Potomac (2-2) on Dec. 22 before taking part in the Tournament of Champions.

### Woodson Girls Dominate Court

The W.T. Woodson girls didn't allow Dominion to score in double digits in any of the game's four quarters, routing the Titans 59-22 on Dec. 16.

Junior Taylor Hayes led the Cavaliers in scoring with 11 points. Senior center Christiane Murray added another nine points to the total and Melissa Gallo and Keara Finnerty both tallied seven points in the game.

Woodson's record moves to 4-1 on the season and the girls' next match is on Dec. 18 against Lee (1-2). The team ends its December games with a game against T.C. Williams (1-2) on Dec. 22.

### Submit Youth Sports Items

To have youth sports items printed or posted on the Web, send the information in an e-mail to Sports Editor Reed S. Albers at ralbers@connectionnewspapers.com. Photographs should be attached in an e-mail. Include both first and last names of each person in a photo.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZ/THE CONNECTION

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 14

# HOME SALES

NOVEMBER 2009  
\$595,000 ~ \$178,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
10430 HERITAGE LANDING RD	4	2	2	BURKE	\$595,000	Detached	0.57	BURKE CENTRE		
6108 EAGLE LANDING RD	4	3	1	BURKE	\$590,000	Detached	0.20	BURKE CENTRE		
5603 TILIA CT	4	2	1	BURKE	\$560,000	Detached	0.35	BURKE ESTATES		
9701 TINY CT	4	3	1	BURKE	\$510,000	Detached	0.22	FOUR OAKS ESTATES		
5907 OAK LEATHER DR	4	2	1	BURKE	\$488,000	Detached	0.21	BURKE CENTRE		
9703 CHURCH WAY	4	3	1	BURKE	\$480,000	Detached	0.27	BURKE RIDGE CLUSTER		
9612 SCORPIO CT	4	2	1	BURKE	\$475,000	Detached	0.26	CARDINAL GLEN		
5629 FORT CORLORAN DR	4	2	0	BURKE	\$425,000	Detached	0.20	SIGNAL HILL		
9700 WATERLINE DR	4	3	1	BURKE	\$420,000	Detached	0.23	LONGWOOD KNOLLS		
10119 SCHOOLHOUSE WOODS CT	4	2	2	BURKE	\$415,000	Detached	0.09	BURKE CENTRE		
10191 MARSHALL POND RD	4	3	1	BURKE	\$365,000	Detached	0.17	BURKE CENTRE		
9025 ANDROMEDA DR	3	2	1	BURKE	\$362,000	Detached	0.23	ROLLING VALLEY WEST		
5600 CASTLEBURY CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$360,000	Townhouse	0.06	CROWNLEIGH		
9307 KITE ST	3	2	0	BURKE	\$351,000	Detached	0.22	CARDINAL ESTATES		
6307 CAPELLA AVE	4	3	0	BURKE	\$350,000	Detached	0.24	BENT TREE		
5825 PIN OAK COMMONS CT#6	3	2	1	BURKE	\$345,000	Townhouse		BURKE CENTRE		
9944 WHITEWATER DR	3	2	2	BURKE	\$330,000	Townhouse	0.03	LAKEPOINTE		
9852 BURKE POND CT	4	2	1	BURKE	\$330,000	Townhouse	0.07	BURKE CENTRE		
6310 SHIPLETT BLVD	5	3	0	BURKE	\$326,266	Detached	0.20	ROLLING VALLEY WEST		
6025 LIBERTY BELL CT	4	2	2	BURKE	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.04	HERITAGE SQUARE		
5648 SUTHERLAND CT	3	2	2	BURKE	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.04	CROWNLEIGH		
5825 WOOD POPPY CT	3	3	1	BURKE	\$306,000	Townhouse	0.05	BURKE CENTRE		
6146 MARTINS LANDING CT	3	2	2	BURKE	\$305,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.05	BURKE CENTRE		
9530 CHERRY OAK CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$305,000	Townhouse	0.04	OLD MILL COMMUNITY		
6107 MARTINS LANDING CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$296,500	Townhouse	0.04	BURKE CENTRE		
9867 BURKE POND CT	2	2	1	BURKE	\$289,000	Townhouse	0.06	BURKE CENTRE		
5741 NORDEEN OAK CT	4	2	1	BURKE	\$286,000	Townhouse	0.04	BURKE CENTRE		
5122 DAHLGREEN PL	3	1	1	BURKE	\$276,000	Townhouse	0.05	LAKE BRADDOCK		
5461 TILLARY CT	2	3	1	BURKE	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.05	HILLSDALE		
9500 MEADOW GROVE CT	3	3	1	BURKE	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.05	OLD MILL COMMUNITY		
6010 MARDALE LN	3	3	1	BURKE	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.04	BURKE STATION SQUARE		
6008 TICONDEROGA CT	2	3	1	BURKE	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.04	HERITAGE SQUARE		
5102 ARRIT CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$248,000	Townhouse	0.03	LAKE BRADDOCK		
5414 CROSSRAIL DR	3	2	2	BURKE	\$244,900	Townhouse	0.03	GREENFIELD FARM		
6427 FENESTRA CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$239,000	Townhouse		KEENE MILL WOODS		
4941 TIBBITT LN	3	2	0	BURKE	\$235,000	Townhouse	0.05	LAKE BRADDOCK		
9717 ASHBOURN DR	3	2	1	BURKE	\$211,000	Townhouse	0.03	GREENFIELD FARM		
10336 ANNABERG CT #221	2	3	0	BURKE	\$191,900	Townhouse		OAKWOOD COMMONS BURKE		
5433 CROSSRAIL DR	3	1	1	BURKE	\$187,500	Townhouse	0.03	GREENFIELD FARM		
5812 COVE LANDING RD #303	1	1	0	BURKE	\$186,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		BURKE COVE		
6371 FENESTRA CT #114B	3	2	1	BURKE	\$178,000	Townhouse		KEENE MILL WOODS		

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To search for a home online, visit [www.HomesDatabase.com](http://www.HomesDatabase.com).

## 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 notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

**Haven of Northern Virginia**, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, will be offering a free Widow/Widower's support group. Haven also offers one-on-one support. A volunteer will meet with a person grieving the death of a loved one, as needed, to provide individual support. Volunteers will be selected to match individual need. 703-941-7000, [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) or e-mail [havenofnova@verizon.net](mailto:havenofnova@verizon.net)

**Life with Cancer** has a variety of support programs for cancer patients and their families at the Cancer Family Center, 2700 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax. 703-776-2841 or [www.lifewithcancer.org](http://www.lifewithcancer.org).

**The Clifton Presbyterian Church has a Caregiver Support Group** that meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. This group is for caregivers of seniors with

Alzheimer's, dementia, and other age-related problems. 703-830-9175 ext. 17.

**Body & Soul Fitness** classes are cardio and strength training sessions set to contemporary Christian music. Mondays and Fridays from 9-10:15 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Until Nov. 23. 703-372-2332 or [salbanese@cox.net](mailto:salbanese@cox.net).

Registration for weekday and weekend **Lamaze childbirth** classes in Springfield is available at [www.lamaze-dc.com](http://www.lamaze-dc.com) or by calling 703-549-2226.

**Alzheimer's Family Day Center**, located at 2812 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, hosts various classes. Reservations are required, and classes are open to people who are caring for a relative or friend with dementia. 703-204-4664 or [www.alzheimersfdc.org/classes.htm](http://www.alzheimersfdc.org/classes.htm).

The **Parkinson Foundation of the National Capital Area** offers the following support group opportunities:

♦ **Fairfax Sully Group and Exercise Class.** The Support Group meets monthly on the fourth Saturday, from 10-11 a.m., with an exercise class at 11 a.m., at the Fair Oaks Sunrise Assisted Living Facility, 3750 Joseph Siewick

Drive, Fairfax. 703-378-9213 or [www.parkinsonstories.com](http://www.parkinsonstories.com).

♦ **Fairfax Little River Glen Support Group** meets on the third Thursday of the month at 1 p.m., at Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. 202-966-4450.

♦ **The Springfield Parkinson's Disease Support Group** meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 2 p.m., at Greenspring Village, 7400 Spring Village Drive, Town Center Building, Music Room, Springfield. 703-569-2630 or 703-913-0270.

♦ **Fairfax Little River Glen Exercise Class** meets weekday mornings at Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. 703-503-8703.

**TLC: Teens Living with Cancer.** Monthly social activities for 13 to 18-year-olds who have cancer give them a chance to meet others with cancer, share a little, and have fun. Call 703-208-5623 for details. At the Life with Cancer Family Center, 2832 Juniper St., Fairfax. 703-698-2841 or [www.lifewithcancer.org](http://www.lifewithcancer.org).

**Fibromyalgia/Arthritis Support Group.** Meets the third Friday of each month at 1 p.m. at Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Call Barbara at 703-913-0890 or Maxine at 703-451-4558.

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# Election To Replace Cuccinelli

FROM PAGE 7

**MARSDEN** considers himself a political centrist who said he could appeal to moderate Republicans and independent voters.

As a Democrat in the House of Delegates, he voted to eliminate the estate tax, which he saw as barrier for people who want to pass on small family businesses and farms to their children to run.

In the midst of this economic downturn, Marsden has also said he would be very reluctant to raise taxes. Instead, he thinks the General Assembly should focus on providing incentives to the business community, which would create new job and ultimately improve Virginia's economy.

Even when Virginia is short on state funds, Marsden is in favor of preserving the "Governor's opportunity fund," which provides financial help to businesses willing to bring new jobs to Virginia. Unlike many other Democrats in the State Senate, Marsden is opposed to raising the gasoline tax to help fund transportation, he said.

"We are going to using less and less gasoline. It is not the world's greatest source for transportation funding," said Marsden.

The Democrat's re-election this past November also proved that he is appealing to some Republican voters in the 37th State Senate seat. As a state delegate, Marsden currently represents just about 28 percent of Cuccinelli's district already.

During the 2009 election, Marsden won re-election by a slim margin of just 1 percent. But McDonnell won Marsden's seat by 10 percentage points on the same day, in-

dicating the several hundred voters who favored McDonnell also decided to vote for Marsden.

But several Republicans said Hunt is a far better choice than Marsden for people who are interested in keeping taxes low.

Hunt has signed a "no new taxes" pledge, a commitment that Marsden has not made. Other Republicans point out that Marsden has voted to raise taxes and fees several times over the last four years as a member of the House of Delegates.

For example, Marsden voted in favor of the 2007 transportation-funding package, which allowed local governments to implement an array of new taxes, including those on commercial real estate and vehicle repairs.

"I am hearing that people want government to stop intruding in their lives," said Hunt. "They want government to stop trying to do things for them and to let them do things for themselves."

If elected, the Republican said his priorities for the state budget would lean toward "core services" like public safety and transportation, which only the government can provide.

Hunt also considers education to be a core service of the government, though he said a lot more could be done to spend public education dollars more effectively.

"We have to make sure more education money is getting into the classroom. You don't get a more effective education system by just continually throwing money at it," said Hunt, who added that he has first-hand knowledge of Fairfax County Public Schools'

wasteful spending as a former School Board member.

Hunt is also in favor of promoting charter school alternatives, an initiative McDonnell and Obama have also publicly supported.

"I think there needs to be an alternative in the way we present public education, and I think charter schools are good options, especially in areas where the regular school system is struggling," said Hunt.

Hunt's other proposals for education reform include more "pay-for-performance" measures for public school teachers and principals. Specifically, Hunt would like to create a bonus or incentive pay system for elementary school principals whose former students excel academically in middle school.

"If students from an elementary school are performing particularly well in middle school, a principal should be awarded for that," said Hunt.

Hunt is considered a conservative when it comes to social issues.

The Republican has worked as an abstinence counselor for high school students, asking them to wait until after marriage to have sex. As a School Board member, he advocated to have some references to contraception and birth control removed from a sexuality pamphlet distributed to Fairfax County students.

While on the Fairfax County School Board, Hunt also pushed for speakers who described themselves as former homosexuals to come speak to local high school students.

The Republican is pro-life and would likely favor most legislation that restricted access to abortion in Virginia.

Hunt also said he would support bills that allowed people to carry concealed guns into Virginia bars and restaurants, as long as they refrained from drinking alcohol. Currently, restaurant and bar patrons are required to wear a weapon "exposed" when they enter a bar or restaurant so that other patrons and the establishment's staff can see that they were armed.

"We need to stop treating law-abiding citizens as if they were guilty first. We should treat people who have not broken the law as people who have not broken the law," said Hunt about the conceal weapon issue.

**MARSDEN** and other Democrats said Hunt's views on social issues are out of the mainstream, particularly for residents living in the 37th Senate District. But Hunt points out that Cuccinelli shares many of Hunt's conservative views on social issues and has represented the district for seven years. He also added that the 37th State Senate District voted in favor of Virginia's constitutional ban on gay marriage.

Moreover, Republicans insist that social issues are not a priority for voters in turbulent economic times like these.

"The issues that matter right now in Northern Virginia are the budget and taxes and how we are going to deal with funding transportation and education. ... I don't know any survey of top issues that includes the divisive social stuff Dave Marsden seems to want to focus on," said Herryty.

# Sixth-Grader Collects Bikes for Africa

FROM PAGE 2

responsible person," Barajas said. "Some of the students collect blankets for shelters, some do book drives."

Dalton's plan to support the Bikes for Africa Initiative arose from his love of riding bikes, he said. At first, Roeber said, he was not sure what he wanted to do for his project until his mother, Deb, discovered the charity program on her employer's Web site. His mother read him a description of the program, he said, and he immediately knew that this would be his project.

The Bikes for Africa Initiative, which was created by Former President Bill Clinton's Clinton Global Initiative, collects new or used bicycles from around the country and sends them to people in need. The recipients, according to Deb Roeber, are children

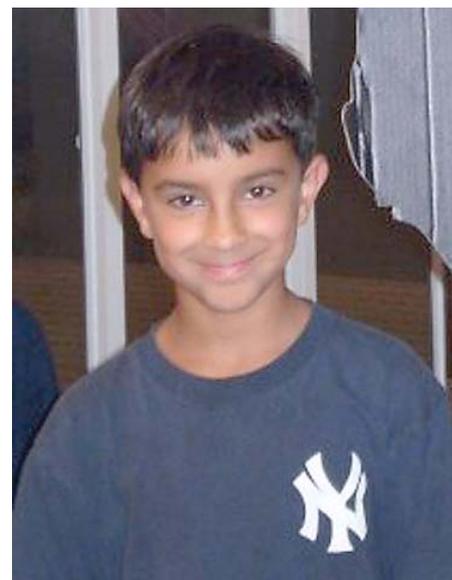
and adults in Africa who need bicycles to get to school or work and obese children in the U.S. who do have the means to purchase bicycles. The idea, Dalton said, is to help people in Africa deal with limited transportation options and for obese children to get healthier.

**"There are people out there who are less fortunate than we are, and they need help."**

— Dalton Roeber

"In Africa, they don't have enough transportation, so if we gave them bikes, it would be better for them because they wouldn't have to walk long distances to work or school," Dalton said. "If they keep walking, there's no telling what they could step on or they can try to take shortcuts and get lost."

After deciding to get involved with the initiative, Dalton set out to spread the word about his efforts. He first called and e-mailed his family and family friends to see if they had any bicycles they were not us-



Dalton Roeber

ing. He then turned to his school. Dalton said that he, his brother Mason and two classmates designed a flier advertising the project and got the teachers in his school to put the fliers in their "Tuesday Folders,"

which are folders that teachers put homework, graded assignments and other communications in and send to parents. Then, the group put fliers on walls and windows throughout the school.

"We are also hoping that Santa will bring new bikes to some kids so that they will be able to recycle a bike," Deb Roeber said. "Nobody knows what to do with a bike when they are done with it, so we are hoping that we can use those to make a difference in the life of adults and children."

Dalton has collected 15-20 bicycles and said that he would like to collect 300 before the end of January. Though the total may seem optimistic, with the support of the West Springfield community and many generous friends, the goal appears to be attainable.

"Everyone here at the school is pretty excited about Dalton's project," Barajas said. "His commitment to such a big project is admirable. Some sixth graders do their six hours and are done with it, but his will obviously take more than that. It's very exciting."

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Robinson head coach Brian Nelson talks strategy with the boys' basketball team during a fourth quarter timeout.

# Hoops Doubleheader

FROM PAGE 10

jump shots to help her team chip away at the Spartans' large lead.

"It's the price you have to pay," she said. "You have to go up strong and expect contact. It's what you have to do to score."

While some players prefer to take clean shots from the outside or will shy away from body-contact, Michals said the Rams make it a point to learn how to draw fouls.

"During practice, we'll practice making contact and getting fouled," she said. "It helps us prepare for foul situations, so when they come up in the game we can use them."

Her play resulted in only five points against the Spartans, but her hard-nosed attack on the rim stood out among the Rams' top performers.

But Michals' five points and Lauren Denham's 10 simply weren't enough to overcome West Springfield's defense.

After two quarters, the Rams trailed the Spartans 21-16, one of the Patriot District's top teams, but a 22-2 third-quarter meltdown put the Rams in a hole they couldn't climb out of.

Robinson fell victim to West Springfield's aggressive full-court pressure defense, leading to numerous turnovers, breakaways and a fast paced tempo that was outside the Rams' comfort zone.

Head coach T.J. Dade said the game exposed some weaknesses in the team and showed the young players what they need to work on.

"We didn't handle their pressure well," he said. "It exposed our youth and we couldn't handle them in the second half."

One point of frustration for Dade was the team's inability to create an inside shooting game during the first half.



Megan Green takes off to shoot a lay-up during the Lady Rams' 55-24 loss to West Springfield.

"I don't know how many lay-ups we missed," he said. "We've got to get the ball inside and finish if we want to win."

Despite the lopsided loss, Dade said the game shed some light on how good the Rams can be this season. "I saw that for a half we could play with anybody," he said. "Hopefully, we learn from it."

Michals said she pinpointed ways her team could improve.

"We have to start playing all four quarters hard," she said. "We also need to think about our game, not what the other team is going to do."

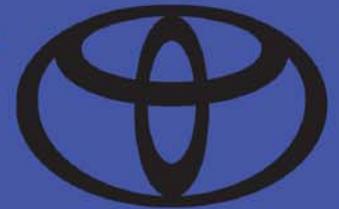
## MILITARY NOTES

**Marine Corps Pvt. Antonino M. Mautino Aguirre**, son of Marco Mautino Tinoco of Burke, recently completed the Ma-

rine Corps Enlisted Warehouse Basic Course at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Mautino Aguirre joined the Marine Corps in May 2009.

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