

# Burke CONNECTION

## Guy And Doll

NEWS, PAGE 3

As the two leads in Lake Braddock Secondary's production of 'Guys and Dolls,' Liz Cole and Scott Koven embrace.

## Marsden Wins Senate Race

SPORTS, PAGE 2

## Boundary Study Expands by Five

NEWS, PAGE 2

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION SPORTS, PAGE 10 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 12

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:  
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL.  
REQUESTED IN HOME 1-15-10

VERIFIED  
AUDIT PENDING  
PRSRPT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MARTINSBURG, WV  
PERMIT #86

# Marsden Takes Special Election

## Democrat defeats Steve Hunt (R) in special election for 37th District Senate seat.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**D**el. David Marsden (D-41) and his fellow Democrats celebrated an election victory Tuesday night, Jan. 12, that proved significant for not only the candidate, but for the party as well.

Marsden, a two-term member of the House of Delegates, defeated Republican challenger and former School Board member Steve Hunt 11,954 to 11,627 in Tuesday's special election to fill Attorney General-elect Ken Cuccinelli's vacant 37th District State Senate seat. While the margin was a slim 327 votes, the victory perhaps reversed a Republican trend in recent Fairfax County elections and helped strengthen a Democratic Party majority in the Senate.

"We knew it was going to be close, but we felt we had momentum," Marsden said. "Nobody can analyze what happened in November. There were a lot of folks who stayed home and didn't vote [in November] that started thinking 'We need something else' and came out tonight."

Turnout, as both candidates were fully aware, is the key in special elections, and that was the case Tuesday night. In a special election for the same seat in 2002,

slightly more than 18,000 residents participated overall, while 23,602 cast a ballot this year. Though Marsden won the overall vote, Hunt actually won two more precincts, but the race seemed to be decided in the lopsided absentee ballot totals. Marsden garnered 800 absentee votes to Hunt's 395, which proved to be a larger margin than the final overall vote total.

"I hate it when they say I need 11,000 votes [to win] and I get 11,000 and I don't win," Hunt said with a laugh. "We worked really hard and got an incredible turnout, but [Marsden's team] did well. The margin in absentee ballots was larger than the final count. It was a smart move on their part [to target absentee voters]."

**ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER** the unofficial election results came back and a victory speech was given, Marsden had to hop in a car for a late night trip to Richmond for the beginning of the General Assembly Wednesday morning. Marsden will be sworn in as senator later in the day at the General Assembly, but as of Tuesday night, was already ready to get to work in his new position.

Marsden said that he is eager to work on legislation to create more jobs in his district and throughout the state, something he believes would solve many of the region's



PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

**Del. David Marsden (D-41) with wife Julia smile after Marsden defeated Republican Steve Hunt in Tuesday's special election to fill the vacant 37th District State Senate seat.**

economic woes. He said that he would work on legislation that will allocate money to the Governor's Opportunity Fund and other bills that would attempt to bring more businesses into the area. In addition, he said that he wants to continue his work to improve the juvenile court system and expand

**"We knew it was going to be close, but we felt we had momentum."**

— Del. David Marsden (D-41)

a program to keep custodial spouses out of jail.

"As a senator, I want to work on legislation to create an environment to create jobs and get our revenue back," Marsden said. "The budget is going to be an overriding concern, though, and I look forward to being able to have discussions on both sides of the aisle and work together."

As for Hunt and his fellow party members, the loss stung a bit more. The 37th District has been a Republican district since 1992, and Hunt said that he was disappointed that he could not keep the seat within the party. However, Hunt would not rule out another run for public office, saying that he could not ignore his desire to serve his community.

"It's a little too early to tell [if I would run again for public office]," Hunt said. "I have a great need to serve people. We had a lot of people that got behind us, so we'll see what opportunities present themselves in the future."

**THE NEXT STEP** for both parties is to prepare for the special election for the now

SEE MARSDEN, PAGE 7

# Five More Schools Added to FCPS Study

## Twenty-eight schools from Centreville to Lorton in play to address overcrowding.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**I**n a narrow six to five vote, Fairfax County School Board members voted to include five more elementary schools in a sprawling study about how to address student overcrowding in the western county during a work session Jan 11.

Lees Corner and Navy in Fairfax, Waples Mill in Oakton, Silverbrook in Fairfax Station and Terra Centre in Burke now join 23 other elementary schools that could potentially see building additions, boundary changes or academic program shifts as the result of a recent school population boom that officials predict will continue for the next several years.

The School Board also pushed back the time frame to vote on any permanent solutions to western county overcrowding — such as a boundary adjustment or new fa-

cility approval — from June to at least next fall.

The school system's chief operating officer Dean Tistadt said this was a prudent decision, given that some cuts to the school system's operating budget next year would have an impact on several of the overpopulated schools capacities. The School Board finalizes its operating budget in May.

For example, if the School Board cuts full-day kindergarten or the elementary music program, it will free up extra classroom for overflow students at some facilities, he said.

"There will be substantive impacts depending on what happens with the operating budget," said Tistadt.

**MOST OF THE** elementary school student growth is taking place north of Route 29 in the Centreville and Fairfax areas, with

SEE TERRA CENTRE, PAGE 14

### Impacted Schools:

Officials said that some or all of the following schools could be impacted by changes made to alleviate students overcrowding in western Fairfax County. These changes could include boundary adjustments, building additions or shifts in academic programs — such as the moving of a gifted and talented center or foreign language program to another location. The Fairfax County School board added those **schools in bold** to the list at a work session Jan. 11.

- Bonnie Brae Elementary School, Fairfax
- Brookfield Elementary School, Chantilly
- Bull Run Elementary School, Centreville
- Centre Ridge Elementary School, Centreville
- Centreville Elementary School, Centreville
- Clifton Elementary School\*, Clifton
- Cub Run Elementary School, Centreville
- Deer Park Elementary School, Centreville
- Eagle View Elementary School, Fairfax
- Fairfax Villa Elementary School, Fairfax
- Fairview Elementary School, Fairfax Station

- Greenbriar East Elementary School, Fairfax
- Greenbriar West Elementary School, Fairfax
- Laurel Ridge Elementary School, Fairfax
- Lees Corner Elementary School, Fairfax**
- London Towne Elementary School, Fairfax
- Navy Elementary School, Fairfax**
- Oak View Elementary School, Fairfax
- Poplar Tree Elementary School, Chantilly
- Powell Elementary School, Centreville
- Providence Elementary School, Fairfax
- Sangster Elementary School, Springfield
- Silverbrook Elementary School, Fairfax Station**
- Terra Centre Elementary School, Burke**
- Union Mill Elementary School, Clifton
- Virginia Run Elementary School, Centreville
- Waples Mill Elementary School, Oakton**
- Willow Springs Elementary School, Fairfax

\* Clifton Elementary is the only school proposed for closure



From left, Claudia Amenabar, Kelli Boyle, Katie Lee, Andrea Harmon, Emily Piraino, Illana Dvoran and Michala Apel pose for a photo during rehearsal.

# 'Can Do' Musical

'Guys and Dolls' take the stage at Lake Braddock's Little Theatre.

Actors in Lake Braddock Musical Theatre are currently rehearsing the Broadway musical "Guys and Dolls." Performances will be Thursday, Jan. 21, at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Jan. 23, at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., in Lake Braddock's Little Theatre, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Tickets are \$12 at the door. Tickets may be purchased in advance during school lunches and before show time. For more information, visit [www.freewebs.com/lbmusical/](http://www.freewebs.com/lbmusical/).



Above, Nathan Detroit, played by Reid Bigman, joins fellow gamblers shooting craps in a floating crap game that he's organized.



At left, Lake Braddock senior Andrea Harmon plays Adalaide, one of the two female leads in 'Guys and Dolls.'

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL

## Community Reaches Out To Help Cancer Patient, 20

Blood drive slated for Ryan Dillon.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

The thing about cancer is that it doesn't play fair. But every time it deals a blow to 20-year-old Robinson grad Ryan Dillon, he comes back fighting.

At the moment, Ryan is recuperating from a surgery he received last month, and Clifton Elementary, where his father, Don Dillon, is a PE. teacher, is hosting a blood drive in his honor.

The drive is set for Monday, Jan. 25, from 3-8 p.m., at Clifton Elementary. Appointments may be scheduled online at <https://www.membersforlife.org/rccm/mobilesch/login.php?sponsorcode=16336>.

**"We're just happy he's still with us."**

— Don Dillon, Ryan's father

[Clifton Elementary's sponsor code is 16336.] Donors may also just show up without appointments.

"We feel like it's important to offer the family our support," said Clifton guidance counselor Melanie Lessard, who is coordinating the blood drive at the school. "One way we can do that, and honor Ryan, is by holding a blood drive for him."

Lessard is also a friend and neighbor of the Dillons, who live in Burke Centre. She says that the goal is to obtain 41 units of

blood. Clifton teachers, staff and parents are already signing up, with Principal Arthur Polton leading the way.

"Ryan's a wonderful kid and is also dearly loved at Robinson," said Lessard. "He's a kind, gentle spirit and he's gone through this with such dignity. He's just a trooper who handles anything that comes his way."

Ryan has two brothers, Mac and Liam, a Robinson senior and sophomore, respectively, plus two sisters, Samantha, a senior at Radford University, and Shea, a Clifton fourth-grader. His mother Hallie is an assistant principal at Bailey's Elementary and his father formerly taught PE. for years at Fairview Elementary, where Ryan also attended school.

Although Ryan Dillon is autistic, his father described him as "highly functional."

"He articulates well and loves people," said Don Dillon.

Ryan Dillon was first diagnosed in 2003 with osteosarcoma (bone cancer) at age 13. He had chemotherapy for a year and several surgeries to repair his left leg. The tibia was removed and replaced with a titanium rod.

But, said Don Dillon, "He dealt with it beautifully. Because of the autism, Ryan treats things as black and white: 'I'm sick;



DONATED PHOTO

Several schools are taking part in a blood drive in Ryan Dillon's honor.

I've got to get treatment.' He doesn't get emotional about it; he just deals with it."

For three years, through 2006, Ryan's life was filled with treatment and surgeries. Then in 2006, the Make-A-Wish Foundation contacted him and, since he'd read all the "Harry Potter" books and was a big fan, his wish was to meet the cast of the "Harry Potter" movies.

"So that May, they flew the whole family to London," said Dillon. "They took us to

the studio where they were filming 'Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix.' He spent all day on the set and got to hang out with Daniel Radcliffe [who portrays Harry]. They were unbelievable to us, so nice. Ryan talked to Daniel and the other cast members for the longest time. It was wonderful."

Afterward, Ryan Dillon started to heal and

SEE RYAN DILLON, PAGE 13



**Paul Trkula, right, receives his \$1 million prize from Virginia Lottery Executive Director Paula Otto.**

## Burke Man Wins \$1M Raffle

Paul Trkula of Burke bought four Virginia's New Year's Millionaire Raffle tickets, which he used as stocking stuffers for members of his family and himself. After the New Year's Day Drawing, he discovered that his ticket won the top prize of \$1 million. "We kind of went into shock for a minute," said Trkula, a federal worker.

On Jan. 8, Virginia Lottery Executive Director Paula Otto presented the \$1 million check to Trkula, who purchased the ticket, #270023, at Burke Centre Texaco, located at 6054 Burke Commons Road in Burke. For selling the top-prize-winning ticket, the store received a \$10,000 bonus.

Trkula's ticket was one of three \$1 million winners in Virginia's New Year's Millionaire Raffle. The other two were bought in Richmond and Yorktown. Six tickets won \$25,000 each. Those tickets were bought in Petersburg, Fredericksburg, Radford, Jarratt and two in Collinsville. An additional 300 tickets each won \$500. A total of 330,000 tickets were printed for the raffle.

### VIEWPOINTS

## What do you think of the program cuts proposed by the FCPS superintendent?



"I feel like it's ridiculous. They say we have the right to a free education, but yet they're trying to make us pay. Also, if they cut teachers, it's like saying that they don't matter, and it's like a slap in the face. Every teacher in a school is important."

**Miranda Duke**

"For one, they should cut the higher-ups, like the executives. Teachers and class sizes shouldn't be affected, because our children can't excel if they continue to cut the funding."

**Samantha Benson**



— TIFFANY DANIELS

## NEWS

# Dust Off That Old Violin

## Instruments in the Attic program collects used musical instruments.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**J**ohn Kilkenny, the George Mason University percussion teacher and Potomac Arts Academy assistant director, knows that the only way to create beautiful music is to put instruments in the hands of brilliant minds. Too often, though, those instruments do not end up in the right hands and opportunities are squandered.

In response, Kilkenny, the Mason School of Music and the university's Potomac Arts Academy created the Instruments in the Attic program. The program, administered by the Potomac Arts Academy, the community arts umbrella for the College of Visual and Performing Arts, is a charitable drive seeking new and used instruments in any condition for music students of all ages.

"We are in very trying times and to find this simple yet tangible way to work together and help music education is so valuable," said Libby Curtis, director of the Potomac Arts Academy. "There are so many people that have instruments sitting around and we want to see them in the community being used."

The program started in early 2008 as the brainchild of Mason Board of Trustees Member and Vice-Chair of the Arts at Mason Board J.P. Phaup. According to Kilkenny, a neighbor gave Phaup a used trumpet and asked him if the Mason Music Department could put use to it. Phaup held on to the instrument until two weeks later when John Casagrande, professor of music education at Mason, met with Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts Bill Reeder and his staff to discuss the growing problem of the lack of instruments for music education students at the university. When Phaup heard about the issue, he immediately approached Casagrande and the idea for Instruments in the Attic was born.

Initially, according to Kilkenny, the immediate goal of the program was to remedy the lack of instruments in the school of music. Kilkenny said that all music education majors in the school are required to learn to play all instruments that they plan on teaching and, therefore, almost all students in the school are required to have several instruments on hand for classes. The gap, he said, was about 150 instruments, which if purchased by the school, would cost more than \$250,000, which the university simply did not have. So, all of the first instruments received were tabbed for the university's students.

"Initially, the idea was to use the instruments for university students as a cost-effective way to provide instruments for our method classes. But J.P. wanted to expand the program," Kilkenny said. "Now, we are still continuing to use instruments for Mason students, but we are also examining our area's needs and trying to get into the community."

That expansion occurred over the summer, as Phaup had the desire to use the program to assist not only Mason students, but also music students in local schools and area community organizations. Phaup enlisted the help of Mason's Potomac Arts Academy, which offers music, theater and art classes, private music lessons and summer programs, to branch out into the community and forge relationships with interested groups.

Since then, the program has taken off substantially, bringing several community groups into the fold. According to Kilkenny, Potomac Arts Academy has formed partnerships with the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, City of Fairfax Band, NOVA Manassas Symphony Orchestra and several other groups in which those organizations reach out to their supporters and concert attendees to donate instruments to the program. In addition, Kilkenny and Phaup both said that program representatives will be approaching community organizations like Rotary Clubs and Chambers of Commerce to seek additional assistance.

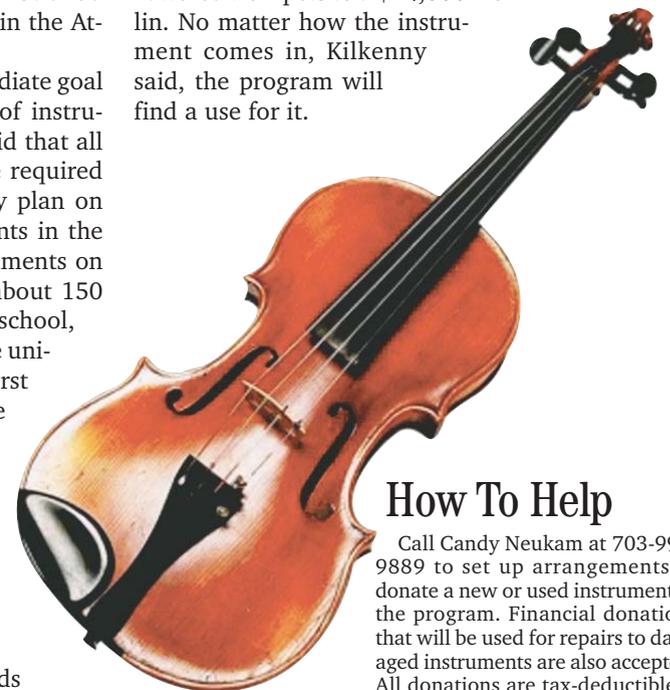
The final step in the program, according to Kilkenny, is to expand into local schools and community centers. Kilkenny said that Mason wants to

create additional music education programs in local middle and high schools and community centers, and use instruments donated to the program to instruct those students. These programs could become especially valuable if band and strings programs are cut in the upcoming fiscal year.

"In January 2010, we will begin visiting those business and organizations we have identified as potential supporters of the College

of Visual and Performing Arts and the university in general," Phaup said. "Because we believe that there is far greater use for the instruments we collect beyond Mason, it is important that we communicate to these organizations the investment that they will be making by choosing to donate an instrument."

So far, 127 instruments have been donated, Kilkenny said, and have come from a variety of donors in a variety of conditions. Kilkenny said that all types of instruments have been donated, from battered trumpets to a \$14,000 violin. No matter how the instrument comes in, Kilkenny said, the program will find a use for it.



### How To Help

Call Candy Neukam at 703-993-9889 to set up arrangements to donate a new or used instrument to the program. Financial donations that will be used for repairs to damaged instruments are also accepted. All donations are tax-deductible.

## PEOPLE

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.

The following Fairfax County Public Schools teachers earned national board certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) in 2009: **Erin Fortenberry** and **Julie Smith** (Ravensthorpe Elementary).

**Anthony D. Gai**, a resident of Burke, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2009 semester at Alfred Univer-

sity. He is a freshman in the Inamori School of Engineering. Students must earn at least a 3.3 grade point average to qualify for dean's list. Gai is a biomedical materials engineering science major at Alfred University. A graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary School, Gai is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David L. Gai of Burke.

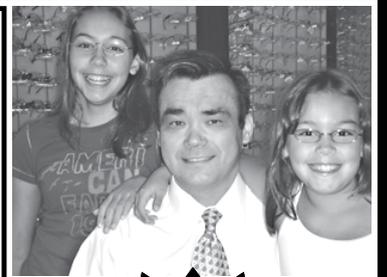
**Melanie Akwule** of Burke earned the distinction of faculty honors for fall semester 1999 Lake Braddock Secondary grad.



**Genaille**

2009 at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Undergraduate students earning a 4.00 academic average for the semester gain the distinction of faculty honors at Georgia Tech.

**Air National Guard Airman 1st Class Michael A. Genaille** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Genaille is a



# USE YOUR TRICARE BENEFIT!

- Comprehensive Eye Exams • Treatment of Eye Diseases
- 14 yrs. Naval service, 6 yrs. Active Duty
- Laser Vision Consultants • Over a thousand frames in stock
- We carry all major brands of contact lenses • In-house lab

Most Insurances Accepted:

Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Care First, Medicare, Tricare In-network Doctor, Vision One, Blue Choice, Avesis, VCA, Aetna HMO/PPO/POS, PHCS, Spectera, VSP® Network Doctor

WE WELCOME YOUR DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION

**DR. GENE SWEETNAM**  
OPTOMETRIST

5204A Rolling Rd.  
Burke Professional Center  
Burke, VA 22015  
**703-425-2000**

8951 Ox Rd., Suite 100  
Shoppes at Lorton Valley  
Lorton, VA 22079  
**703-493-9910**

www.drsweetnam.com

**THE CONNECTION**  
NEWSPAPERS

If you do not get The Burke Connection delivered to your home...

**FIRST CLASS MAILED SUBSCRIPTIONS**

are now available for the first time with timely postal carrier delivery: \$30 for six months. Help us meet the costs of providing first-rate community journalism on newsprint to your household.

Call 703-778-9426 (or -9427) or e-mail circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

**CA COMMONWEALTH ACADEMY**

*Success in School Starts here!*

Find out more about our award-winning program for students with learning differences or AD/HD.

College Prep, Grades 6-12  
Remediation, Grades 4-5

Join us for an Open House  
Sun, Jan 31, 1-4 pm  
or call to arrange a tour.

1321 Leslie Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22301  
703.548.6912

**Grades 4-12. CommonwealthAcademy.org**

EMPOWER THE CHILD. EMPOWER THE MIND.



Join Us for an Evening of Romance and Passion  
**The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra**  
invites you to attend the  
**2010 Valentine Pops Gala and Silent Auction**

*Amore!*

Friday, February 5, 2010  
Hilton McLean Tysons Corner

6:30 pm – Silent Auction and Cocktail Reception

8:00 pm – Dinner

9:30 pm – Fairfax Symphony Orchestra in concert, featuring Robert Petillo, tenor, and Jeanine Thames, soprano

Tables of 10 available for \$3,000, \$5,000 and \$7,500.

Individual tickets available for \$300 each.

R.S.V.P. by January 22, 2010 • Black Tie Optional

info@fairfaxsymphony.org

The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors  
and the 2010 Valentine Pops Gala Committee

## Where Your Dental Needs Come First!



Family Dentistry

NEW PATIENT SPECIAL

**\$79**

Includes Exam, Cleaning and Polishing with this coupon

- Crowns, Bridges, Partials, Full Dentures and Implants
- Denture Relining, Dentures and Partials Repaired While You Wait
- Saturday and Evening Appointments Available
- Most Insurances Accepted
- Free Consultation

**703-323-9394**

yourdentalfirst.com

**Raja Gupta, DDS**  
**Dental First Associates, LLC**

9570 A Burke Road, Burke, VA  
in Burke Village II

## Large Classes, Tough Choices

**With overcrowding in public schools, it's time to open doors for more charter schools in Virginia.**

One reason for growth in the student population in public school systems in the area right now is the effect of the recession on family budgets. With more than 70,000 unemployed people in Northern Virginia, and thousands more underemployed, some families who did have children in private schools have switched to public school. Given the stellar reputations of the schools in question, it's a rational financial move.

But now growing enrollment and costs combined with stagnant budgets are forcing some local public school systems to rework their budget calculations as well, resulting in more

than 30 students in many classes, more than 40 students in some classes.

This will no doubt send some parents back to the family budget drawing board, seeking a way to afford private school and smaller class sizes for their children.

Most parents don't care very much about the size of the average class, only the sizes of the classes in which their children are trying to learn.

Very large classes, especially classes with 30 or more students in them, are a detriment to learning. Students with any sort of challenges are particularly poorly served by large classes.

### EDITORIAL

### Preserve and Protect

To the Editor:

On Monday, Jan. 18, Virginians from all over the state will gather on the Capitol Grounds in Richmond to commemorate Martin Luther King's birthday and his message of obtaining peace through non-violence. In addition, we will remember the approximately 800 Virginians who lose their lives every year to gun violence. We will meet with legislators to encourage them to pass bills that protect the public while preserving the Second Amendment right to bear arms.

This year, the following bills have been filed: HB 32, allowing faculty at state colleges and universities to carry concealed handguns on campus; HB 49, repealing Virginia's one gun-a-month law; HB 54, allowing the carrying of handguns into a courthouse when the courthouse is being used for non-judicial purposes; HB 69, declaring that firearms and ammunition made and/or retained in Virginia not be subject to federal or Congressional law; HB 72, changing the penalty for possession of a firearm on school property from a Class 6 felony to a Class 1 misdemeanor; HB 106, allowing a person with a valid permit to carry a concealed handgun in a place of worship with permission of the leader of the religious meeting and eliminating the restriction against carrying a concealed handgun in a restaurant that serves alcohol.

Presently, Virginia law allows citizens to carry weapons in every venue, except K-12 schools, churches and courthouses. Citi-

zens may open carry in a restaurant or establishment that serves alcohol but may not conceal carry. The Board of Visitors of each individual college or university determines whether students, faculty or staff may carry firearms on campus. Currently, Virginia citizens may only purchase one gun per month and federal law traditionally overrules state law.

Should the above bills pass, Virginia will allow the following: Virginia citizens to purchase an unlimited number of guns, the right of faculty to conceal carry on our campuses, allow guns in our courthouses and churches during "off" hours, lessen the penalty for those carrying firearms on K-12 school property, allow concealed weapons in establishments that serve alcohol and allow Virginia to ignore laws passed by the United States Congress.

My question has been and continues to be, how can Virginia, the place where the worst mass tragedy in American history occurred, and which loses more than 800 people every year to gun violence, continue to ignore the loss of life and create policies that leave families and communities devastated? Join us on Jan. 18 -please go to the Virginia Center for Public Safety Web site: <http://www.vacps.org/>.

**Lu Ann Maciulla McNabb**  
Centreville

### Promises, Promises

To the Editor:

Today, I ran several errands in

Northern Virginia and found that most of the roads I traversed were in a poorly maintained condition. Quite frankly, the roads in Northern Virginia are falling apart with many having budding pot holes, some large enough to jar your car when you run over them.

But, we should have no anxiety about this matter because Governor-elect Robert McDonnell (R), "Fairfax's Own" and my delegate, David Albo (R-42), who is "Working Hard" for the people up here in Northern Virginia, will fix this horrible transportation mess. The question I have is where will Mr. McDonnell and Mr. Albo get the money, and lots of it, to fix the transportation problem up here in Northern Virginia? You cannot build new roads and maintain the existing roads without money. And selling the ABC stores does not sound like a good idea, unless someone can explain to me where the Commonwealth will get a \$100 million a year to replace the annual profit it receives from the ABC store sales?

The citizens in Northern Virginia should make sure that our elected officials in Richmond live up to the promises they made to us during last year's campaign. Quite frankly, I am tired of having promises made to me during the election that are quickly forgotten by elected officials after the election is over.

**Lon Caldwell**  
Springfield

### Lifesaving Bill

To the Editor,

As a two-time cancer survivor I was encouraged that the Senate passed its health care reform leg-

islation before the Christmas holiday. It was an early gift for cancer patients, survivors and their families, who are closer than ever to reaping the benefits of historic legislation that will dramatically improve the health care system in this country.

Schools would do well to focus first on limiting very large classes, worrying a bit less about average class size.

It's also an excellent time to begin paving the way for charter schools in Virginia. What, in the middle of a financial crunch? If we start now to develop more encouraging guidelines for charter schools in the region, by the time the first schools are open, the economic climate will be vastly different.

Public schools cannot meet all the needs of all the students that come through the doors. Families deserve some well-constructed alternatives. Governor-elect Bob McDonnell, along with President Obama, is right to push to open the doors for more charter schools in Virginia.

— MARY KIMM

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

### Write

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314

[burke@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:burke@connectionnewspapers.com)

# NEWS

## Marsden Wins

FROM PAGE 2

vacated 41st District House of Delegates seat. According to state election laws, a special election to fill the seat must take place no less than 30 days and no more than 90 days after the seat opens and will be scheduled by the governor. According to Fairfax County Democratic Committee Chair Rex Simmons, if Marsden resigns his delegate seat before the General Assembly begins on Wednesday, at 12 p.m., Gov. Timothy Kaine (D) can set the date for the election before his term expires on Saturday. If Kaine does not set a date before then, Simmons said, Governor-elect Bob McDonnell (R) will make the decision. The delegate seat will remain open until the election takes place.

Simmons said that as of Wednesday morning, no one declared intentions to run for the Democratic Party nomination but that there is interest. He expects to hear something official by Wednesday afternoon.

According to Fairfax County Republican Committee Chairman Anthony Bedell, Kerry Bolognese, who lost the delegate race to Marsden last November, has announced that he would vie for the nomination but that others might still enter their names as well. Regardless of the final candidate, however, the Republicans agreed that to win that election, they would have to alter their strategy.

"It's unfortunate to come up a little short here," Cuccinelli said. "As aggressive as we were, we needed to be more aggressive and that's what the next election is for."

### FAITH NOTES

**Seniors are invited to the Lunch N' Life** sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke on Thursday, Jan. 21, from 12-2 p.m., at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. The program will be presented by Phyllis Verhalen performing as Abigail Adams in period costume. Seating is limited. For reservations, call Faye Quesenberry 703-620-0161 by Jan. 14. \$8; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office 703-323-4788. See [www.fairfax-burkesc.org](http://www.fairfax-burkesc.org).

**United Methodist Men Breakfast** is on Saturday Jan. 23, at 8 a.m., at Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. The men of Franconia UMM (United Methodist Men) will begin another year in ministry to the men of the congregation with their annual kickoff breakfast to plan out the entire year of 2010. All men are welcome. 703-971-5151 or [www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org).

This is IT!

# SALE

Friday, Jan. 15 - Tuesday, Jan. 19  
5 Days Only

**HUGE EXTRA SAVINGS ON ALL  
OUR ALREADY REDUCED CLEARANCE ITEMS  
Up to 75% Off**

**SWEATERS • TOPS • JACKETS  
PANTS • HANDBAGS • GIFTS  
HATS AND GLOVES • BABY**

SHOP NOW FOR THE BEST SELECTION  
USE OUR CONVENIENT LAYAWAY  
TO RESERVE SOMETHING NEW

JAG JEANS • SPANX • BRIGHTON •  
KAREN KANE • KIDORABLE • ZUTANO

## Judy Ryan

O F F A I R F A X  
Twinbrooke Centre • 9565 Braddock Rd.  
Open 7 Days • 703-425-1855  
[www.judyryanoftfairfax.com](http://www.judyryanoftfairfax.com)

### INSTANT GRATIFICATION

**SAVE UP TO 40% ON  
CAR INSURANCE RIGHT NOW**

Why wait to save money? Call me any time day or night for a free quote or to purchase car insurance.

Call my office 24/7.



**Rudy Shields, Agent**  
9415 Old Burke Lake Road  
Burke, VA 22015-3127  
Bus: 703-978-5700  
[rudy.shields.bvxz@statefarm.com](mailto:rudy.shields.bvxz@statefarm.com)



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.®  
Providing Insurance and Financial Services

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company  
Bloomington, IL • Insurance and discounts subject to qualifications.

*Your Friendly, Neighborhood Thrift Shop*

## YESTERDAY'S ROSE

*where you never see the same thing twice*

**Super Saturday**  
**50% OFF**  
**Clothes & Shoes**  
Saturday 1/16/10  
10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Not valid with other discounts or sales.

**50% OFF**  
**SCARVES**  
Tuesday 1/19/10  
10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Not valid with other discounts or sales.

**Clothing • Furniture • Housewares**  
**BRING IN THIS AD AND RECEIVE AN EXTRA  
20% OFF NON SALE ITEMS GOOD THRU 1/20/10**  
9960 Main St. Fairfax, VA • 703-385-9517 • [www.yesterdayrose.org](http://www.yesterdayrose.org)

## COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



**BURKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
5690 Oak Leather Drive  
Burke, VA 22015  
703-764-0456  
[www.BurkePresChurch.org](http://www.BurkePresChurch.org)

**Sunday Worship:**  
8:30 & 11:15 am  
9:45 am Sunday School

**Saturday Worship:**  
5:30 pm CoffeeHouse  
*casual, guest musicians*

First Monday & Tuesday of the month: Labyrinth Prayer Walk  
Great offerings for children, youth and adults throughout the week.  
Wonderful opportunities in music and mission.

### IMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH

*Weekend Worship Services* Check out our

SATURDAY	6:30PM
SUNDAY	8, 9:30, 11AM
VENTURE (YOUNG ADULTS)	11AM
HISPANIC	12:30PM

- Creative ministry to children, including Union Station, AWANA, and VBS
- Relevant ministry to middle and high school students
- Vibrant ministry to men, women, and couples
- Young Adults service at 11am
- Spanish-language service at 12:30pm
- ESL classes (fall/winter/spring)
- Immanuel Christian Bookstore

6911 BRADDOCK RD, SPRINGFIELD, VA 703.941.4124  
on the web at [www.immanuelbible.net](http://www.immanuelbible.net)

### Messiah United Methodist Church

[www.messiahumc.org](http://www.messiahumc.org)

Check out our:

- dynamic youth group
- both men's and women's ministry
- wonderful choir, bell choirs and a full orchestra

Sunday Services 8:15, 9:30 and 11 am	6215 Rolling Road, Springfield
Sunday School 9:30 and 11 am	(near West Springfield High School)
<i>Childcare is available during worship</i>	<b>703-569-9862</b>



9800 Old Keene Mill Rd.  
703-455-7041

Sunday School  
9:15 AM

Worship Service  
10:30 AM

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

[www.calvaryfamily.com](http://www.calvaryfamily.com)  
*"Continuing the ministry of Christ on earth"*

### Jubilee Christian Center

*Celebrating the Sounds of Freedom*

Realtime Worship - Sunday 8:45 & 11 AM  
Sunday School 10:10 AM  
Sunday Evening - 6:30 PM Youth Meeting  
Family Night - Wednesday 7:15 PM  
Call for Sunday Evening Worship Home Group Schedule visit our website: [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org)

4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax  
Bill Frasnelli, PASTOR 703-383-1170  
"Experience the Difference"

**Baha'i Faith**  
Baha'is of Fairfax County Southwest  
703-912-1719

**Baptist**  
Preservation of Zion Fellowship  
703-409-1015

**Catholic**  
Church of the Nativity  
703-455-2400

**Christian Reformed**  
Grace Christian Reformed Church  
703-323-8033

**Episcopal**  
Church of the Good Shepherd  
703-323-5400

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
703-455-2500

**Lutheran**  
Abiding Presence Lutheran Church  
703-455-7500

**Methodist**  
Burke United Methodist Church  
703-250-6100

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church  
03-978-8724

**Non-Denominational**  
Burke Community Church  
703-425-0205

Calvary Christian Church  
703-455-7041

Knollwood Community Church  
703-425-2068

**Presbyterian**  
Burke Presbyterian Church  
703-764-0456

Sansaug Korean Presbyterian  
703-425-3377

**Unitarian Universalist**  
Accotink Unitarian Universalist  
703-503-4579

To Advertise Your Community of Worship, Call 703-778-9418

## THINGS TO DO

# Seven Little Roommates

**Robinson Production Co. presents Disney-free 'Snow White.'**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**W**alt Disney didn't have a lock on "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves." A century earlier, the show played on Broadway.

"It was professionally produced, with a really good script," said Robinson Secondary Theater Director Chip Rome. That's the version the Robinson Production Co. is bringing to life on the school's stage.

The show will be presented Friday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 23, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$7 at the door or via [www.RobinsonDrama.org](http://www.RobinsonDrama.org), or \$5 by mail to: Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA 22032.

The Robinson Production Co. is a theater class comprised mainly of freshmen, but students must audition or interview to get in, and all 35 of them are involved in the show in some way.

"It's something of an experiment, in that the class focuses on learning theater skills by doing," said Rome. "So it's less academic and more hands-on and requires an enhanced level of commitment and discipline toward working individually and as an ensemble."

**"So she's vulnerable, but stays alive by living with the seven dwarves."**

— Carys Meyer,  
as Snow White

brave."

Meyer is enjoying her role because Snow White "goes through lots of different emotions." She said playing the lead is "a lot of responsibility because you have to set a good example for the rest of the cast. I think the audience will love the show because the dwarves are really cute and people will relate to the love story."

Portraying the evil Queen Brangomar is Emily

Rowson. "She's very self-centered," said Rowson. "When she finds out from the witch that Snow White is, indeed, more beautiful than her, she wants to kill her. So she plots with the witch to do that."

She said it's a fun role because "playing the villain gives you a chance to portray something totally opposite of yourself. We have some fantastic actors and suspenseful moments in the show, so children and adults will both enjoy it."

Alyssa Michener plays Hex, the witch. "She's magical and wants to be better and not hurt anybody," said Michener. "She likes doing spells, but has a really good heart, deep down, so she's a really fun character to play. She's unique and has her own humorous personality. She's fun-loving."

Delighted to be in a children's show, Michener said,



DONATED PHOTO

**In this rehearsal picture, the littlest dwarf, Quee (played by freshman Dora Maxwell), prepares to remember all of the items to bring back to the others tomorrow. Also seen here are, from left, John Turner, Hannah Selz, Talisa Caldwell, Papsi Kabia, Shelby Weatherbee and Laura Newcome.**

"When it's geared toward children, you get to be more creative and playful to make it more real and exciting for them. Kids want to laugh and get excited about a play. They'll also learn the morals that beauty is skin deep – real beauty comes from the inside – and that good triumphs over evil."

The student director is senior Marisa Brown. Besides being in charge of makeup, she's helped the freshmen transition to high-school theater and says their parents will be able to see their progress as actors.

"It's been a great learning experience for me," said Brown. "It was a lot harder than I thought." Toughest was getting organized and figuring out each day's plan. She made sure the actors were running their lines and knew their cues; and at first, she even directed them.

Now, she's glad to have had the opportunity. "Mr. Rome said I could do anything I set my mind to," she said. "And the fact that I accomplished so much and achieved this goal means a lot to me." She also predicts the dwarves will be big hits. "They're so cute," said Brown "The audience will just adore them."

"I think the audience will really like our characterizations," said Rome. "They're great, lively and fun, and the storyline moves along nicely. The kids are working hard and it's paying off, so we're confident the audience will have a wonderful time."

## CALENDAR

### Snow Dates for 'Nutcracker'

**T**he Ballet Arts Ensemble of Fairfax presents "Nutcracker in a Nutshell," on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Jan. 17, at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 North Beauregard St., Alexandria. Tickets for all shows are \$20. These performances have been rescheduled from their original December dates due to the winter storm that plagued the area on Dec. 19. Tickets from the December shows will be honored. To learn more, go to [www.thecenterforballetarts.com](http://www.thecenterforballetarts.com) or phone 703-273-5344.



**Lake Braddock student Kailey Leinz as Clara**

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

### THURSDAY/JAN. 14

**The Grandsons.** At The Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. 7:30 p.m. beginner lesson, 8-10 p.m. live music. \$10. 703-424-1745 or [www.headoverheelsdance.com](http://www.headoverheelsdance.com).

**Chess Club.** 3:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn the rules and strategy, play the game. Age 6-14. 703-644-7333.

**Jammin' Java's Mid-Atlantic Band Battle II.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Moms Club of Burke-North Ninth Annual Preschool Fair.** 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Burke Volunteer Fire Department Community Hall, 9501 Old Burke Lake Road, Burke. Free and open to the public. Over 25 preschools will be represented. 866-841-9139 ext. 1581 or [www.joannewalton.com/preschoolfair](http://www.joannewalton.com/preschoolfair).

### FRIDAY/JAN. 15

**U.S. Navy Band's 33rd International Saxophone Symposium.** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With clinics, recitals and vendor displays, 3-7 p.m. 202-433-2525 or [www.navyband.navy.mil/saxophonesymposium](http://www.navyband.navy.mil/saxophonesymposium).

**Chelsea Lee.** 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Sonos.** 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Daedalus Quartet.** 8 p.m. at The Barns at Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$35. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org) or 703-938-2404.

**Flying Cows of Ventry.** 7-9:30 p.m., at The Auld Shebeen, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. 703-293-9600

### SATURDAY/JAN. 16

**U.S. Navy Band's 33rd International Saxophone Symposium.** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With clinics, recitals and vendor displays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 202-433-2525 or [www.navyband.navy.mil/saxophonesymposium](http://www.navyband.navy.mil/saxophonesymposium).

**Chelsea Lee.** 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**John Eddie (full band).** 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**So You Think You Can Dance Fairfax County Competition for Teens Audition Rounds.** 3-5 p.m. All contestants will need to fill out a Team Registration Entry Form prior to the audition, at any teen center or at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec); go to Teen Services.

Audition locations are: James Lee Teen Center, 2855-A Annandale Road, Falls Church; Mott Teen Center, 8100 Braddock Road, Fairfax; Reston Teen Center, 12196 Sunset Hills Drive, Reston; Hideaway Teen Center, South County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria.

**Springfield Community Theatre presents 'Heroes.'** 8 p.m. at The John Swayze Theatre at the New School, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. \$18 general admission, \$15 seniors and students. 703-866-6238 or [www.sctonline.org](http://www.sctonline.org).

**John Jennings & Friends.** 8 p.m. at The Barns at Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$22. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org) or 703-938-2404.

**Animal Lovers Event.** 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax City Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Information pertaining to animals, pets, wildlife. Free. 703-293-6227 or 571-236-9056.

**Providence Players One Act Competition.** 7:30 p.m. at James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. With "LoCo SloMo

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

PoMo" by David Lawson, "The Celibacy Club" by Kristin Hansen, "The Great Irony Heist" by Eric Burchett, and "An Original Monologue" by Nick Snow. [www.providenceplayers.org](http://www.providenceplayers.org).  
**Flying Cows of Ventry.** 7-9:30 p.m., at The Auld Shebeen, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. 703-293-9600

## SUNDAY/JAN. 17

**NAACP Fairfax County Youth Council Meeting.** 4 p.m. at the George Mason University Johnson Center, Robeson Room, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Meetings are open to youth ages 10-20. [restonbell7@gmail.com](mailto:restonbell7@gmail.com).  
**Hungry For Music Benefit.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
 Springfield Community Theatre presents 'Heroes.' 2 p.m. at The John Swayze Theatre at the New School, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. \$18 general admission, \$15 seniors and students. 703-866-6238 or [www.sctonline.org](http://www.sctonline.org).  
**Annandale High School Chorus: Broadway Desserts.** 1:30 p.m and 7:30 p.m. at George Mason University Cultural Arts Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Broadway show tunes. Tickets \$8-\$20. 703-916-0232 or [pam.odon@verizon.net](mailto:pam.odon@verizon.net).

## MONDAY/JAN. 18

**Give Together: A Family Volunteer Day.** 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Dewberry Hall in the Johnson Center, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Volunteer for multiple nonprofit agencies at one central location. Service projects will benefit populations served by



## Joy of Sax

**U.S. Navy Band presents its 33rd International Saxophone Symposium Friday and Saturday at George Mason University's Center for the Arts. The event includes clinics, recitals and vendor displays. View listings for more information, or go to [www.navyband.navy.mil/saxophonesymposium](http://www.navyband.navy.mil/saxophonesymposium).**

FACETS, Fairfax 4-H, the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia and the Orphan Foundation of America. Pre-registration encouraged at [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org). Contact 703-246-3826.

**Preschool Open House at Spring-Mar Cooperative Preschool.**

9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. 703-239-1213 or [www.spring-mar.org](http://www.spring-mar.org)  
**Open Mic Showcase hosted by Ron Goad.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$2. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).



FAIRFAX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
 Christopher Zimmerman | Music Director

## Passion and Beauty!

**Saturday, January 23, 2010, 8:00 p.m.**  
**Augustin Hadelich, violin**

**GMU's Center for the Arts**

- HAYDN: Symphony No. 92 *Oxford*
- BARBER: Violin Concerto
- SIBELIUS: Symphony No. 1

Single tickets from \$25  
 Call 888-945-2468 or visit [www.fairfaxsymphony.org](http://www.fairfaxsymphony.org)  
 Call 703-563-1990 to subscribe to the 2nd half of the FSO's 2009-2010 season.

**60,000 POTS**  
 Buy 1 at Regular Price  
 Get 2 FREE  
 Ask cashier for details



**35% TO 75%**  
 OFF ALL Trees & Shrubs

**25% OFF**  
 BONSAI, ORCHIDS,  
 CACTI, PERENNIALS



9023 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, VA  
**CravensNursery.com**  
 2 miles west of I-495 on Rt. 50.  
 1 mile from I-66 (Vienna Metro)  
**703-573-5025**  
 Major credit cards accepted  
 Open 9-5, 7 days a week

**CARDIOLOGY**

**DERMATOLOGY**

**EMERGENCY/CRITICAL CARE**

**INTERNAL MEDICINE**

**ONCOLOGY**

**RADIATION ONCOLOGY**

**RADIOLOGY**

**REHABILITATIVE THERAPY**

**SURGERY**

**RADIOCAT**  
 Centers for the Treatment of Feline Hyperthyroidism

**WE LOVE THEM LIKE YOU DO**

6651 BACKLICK RD.  
 SPRINGFIELD, VA 22150

**703.451.8900**

[WWW.VETREFERRALCENTER.COM](http://WWW.VETREFERRALCENTER.COM)

OPEN 24 HOURS 365 DAYS A YEAR

THE  
 REGIONAL  
**VETERINARY**  
 REFERRAL  
 CENTER

## REACH NEW HEIGHTS

AT THE AREA'S BEST ALL INDOOR FITNESS FACILITY

**Burke Racquet & Swim Club**

**ENROLL IN WINTER TENNIS**

**ACTIVITIES**

- Adult & Children's Tennis\*
- Swimming
- Racquetball\*
- Cybex Weight Equipment
- Cardiovascular Equipment
- Aerobics/Pilates/Glides
- Yoga/Ball/Bosu
- Sauna
- Post Rehab Conditioning\*
- Personal Trainers
- Massage Therapy\*
- Masters Swim Program

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

- Team Building Activities
- Kidfit\*
- Birthday and Team Parties\* (using our climbing wall, XERGYM, and/or pool)
- Kids Nite Out\* (4 hours of fun & play give Mom and Dad a "date night")
- KidZone\*

**PARTY PACKAGES AVAILABLE**

**JOIN OUR SPORT CLIMBING AND XERGYM EXPERIENCE**

**Home of the Nationally Ranked Curl Burke Swim Team**

**Water Fitness Classes Available—Drop-ins Welcome**

**703.250.1299**

6001 Burke Commons Rd.  
 Burke, Virginia

15 minutes from Springfield, Newington, Fairfax & Centreville.

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

# Rams Shoot for Regionals

Senior Bethie Graver, Rams' gymnastic team set their sights on continued success.

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

For Robinson senior Bethie Graver, the road to success on the Robinson gymnastics team has been long.

As a freshman, Graver struggled through tough times on the team, but her perseverance and leadership are now helping the Rams to one of their best seasons in recent history.

"It's been the best season I've ever had since I've been on the team," she said. "Over the years, we've just gotten better and better. We've improved a lot since my freshman year."

Last season, the Rams qualified for the regional tournament, a first for the Robinson gymnastics team.

Graver said the momentum from the 2008-09 season has now carried over to 2009-10, in which the Rams have two first-place finishes so far this season.

"We had a really strong opening," she said. "We got first at our first meet."

The Ram's first-place finishes include a confidence-boosting win at the South Lakes Invitational meet on Dec. 12.

"Winning South Lakes was really big for us," Graver said. "We beat nine teams. It's just a big deal for this team to win that competition."

The team is currently building on a 2-2 record, but in its Jan. 6 home meet with



Junior Jessi Marco prepares a jump during her balance beam routine.

Chantilly, Herndon, Stone Bridge, McLean and Marshall, the Rams finished with a 134.45.

The Rams' score was only 6.8 points behind Chantilly's winning score of 141.15, displaying Robinson's ability to compete with one of the area's best programs.

Robinson's recent winning streak isn't just a testament to the girls' skill, but also to the team's unity.

"There's no problems on the team or with any of the girls," junior Jessi Marco said. "We all just work hard and get along. It's fun to come to practice and be with the team."

The hot start and sense of teamwork is also breeding hopes that the team can make another appearance at the regional meet in February.

"A lot of the same girls from [the regional]

team are on this year's team," said Head Coach Megan Smiley. "It's our goal to get back to regionals."

But Smiley is cautiously optimistic about her team, knowing that in the sport of gymnastics, sometimes you're on and sometimes you're off.

"We're good at beam and our vault can be hit-or-miss," she said. "All events are like that. You can have a good day one meet and a bad one the next. That's just how this sport is."

**WITH THE SEASON** approaching an end, the team needs to continue its strong practices if they want to see the same success they saw in 2008-09, Smiley said.

"We just need to go out there and put in the practice," Smiley said. "It's not one particular thing, we just have to work hard."

## WEEK IN SPORTS

### Cavs Strong at Newport Meet

The W.T. Woodson indoor track team turned in a strong effort at the Christopher Newport University High School Track Invitational on Jan. 8-9.

The meet was capped by Erica Howes' fourth overall finish and 5:25 time in the 1,600-meter race and Paul Gates' fifth overall finish and 4:36 time in the 1,600-meter race.

Other standouts included Will Phillip's 6.77 time in the 55-meter dash and Tiffany Waters' 44.44 in the 300-meter dash.

### WSLL Spring Registration

Registration for the 2010 spring Little League season is ongoing and parents will have two more chances to sign their youngsters up in January.

Parents can visit Washington Irving Intermediate School on Sunday, Jan. 17 from 1-5 p.m. or on Saturday, Jan. 23 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The spring season is open to players ages 5 to 12.

### Umpires Needed

Fairfax Adult Softball (FAS), the largest softball organization in the area, is seeking umpires for its adult slowpitch softball leagues in Fairfax County. Flexible scheduling is based on availability. Contact FAS at 703-815-9007 or e-mail to: office@fairfaxadultsoftball.com

## 5 Qs with Robinson Gymnast Jessi Marco

# 5Qs:

**Q: What's the song that's always playing in your head?**

A: It's that song "Replay" by Iyaz. It's been stuck there for a really long time.

**Q: If you could train with any athlete, who would it be?**

A: I'd want to train with [Robinson gymnast] Alex Fields. She's a team player and she's a lot of fun to be around. Even when she messes up, she can laugh about it.

**Q: Any favorite sporting moments?**

A: It's actually just every practice [with the Robinson gymnastics team]. It's fun to come and take a

break with the girls. It's my favorite part of the day and the gymnastics meets are just the icing on the cake.

**Q: What's the best part about being a gymnast?**

A: I like being flexible and I like how you do things others can't. It's fun when people ask if you can do back-flips and you're like, "yeah, I can."

**Q: So if you weren't a gymnast, what sport would you play?**

A: Something like volleyball, lacrosse or basketball. I'd like to use my height to my advantage and because it doesn't always help in gymnastics.

— REED S. ALBERS



Junior Jessi Marco is one of the Rams' key gymnast.

REED S. ALBERS



PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/THE CONNECTION

Taylor Hayes sends a pass past a South County defender during her team's 42-29 loss on Jan. 8.

# Growing into the Role

**Woodson's junior point guard Taylor Hayes provides scoring and boost to team confidence.**

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he W.T. Woodson girls basketball team has at least one clear leader on the roster — senior guard and Boston University recruit Melissa Gallo. But playing the role of understudy, ready to inherit 2010-11's team, is junior Taylor Hayes.

"[Hayes] has taken over as the point guard this year," Head Coach Pat Neri said. "And she's really turned into a great floor leader as well."

**"She's giving us scoring from a position that we haven't had [scoring] from before."**

— Pat Neri

would be expected of her next season.

One of them is taking control of the court and setting up plays to feed the Cavaliers' offense.

During Woodson's 42-29 loss to South County on Jan. 8, Hayes would often glance at Neri and

receive a play to run, just like Gallo does.

"[Hayes] knows the offenses, knows how to get into them and run them," Neri said.

Although 2010-11 might not be soon enough for the tenacious point guard, Hayes is growing accustomed to her new role.

"I'm excited [about being a leader]," she said. "I've learned from [Gallo] and I hope that next year I can be the same type of player for my teammates."

Hayes' new role on the team hasn't gone unnoticed by younger players. Freshman Keara Finnerty said the dual-leadership is a bonus in the locker room.

"I'm learning a lot from [Hayes and Gallo] as leaders," she said. "They know how to pick up the team and they're great role models."

While the ultimate goal is to transform the junior into the team's commander on court next season, Neri said Hayes' value also comes in her scoring ability as a point guard.

"She's giving us scoring from a position that we haven't had [scoring] from before," he said.

So far this season, Hayes has racked up 133 points for the Cavs, including a season-high 22 points against Centreville on Jan. 5.

"We've had good point guards before," Neri said. "But we haven't had one who is as much of a scorer. It gives us a whole new element in our offense."

Although the loss to South County cooled down Hayes' hot-streak, the junior said her recent performances might help spur other players to post stronger games.

"The team feeds off every other player's confidence," she said. "If the entire team has confidence, then we'll be rolling."

Woodson's next game is on the road at West Potomac on Jan. 14, followed by a home game on Jan. 15 against T.C. Williams. The Cavaliers are currently 8-4 this season.

## THIS IS "VALENTINO"



D.O.B. January 6, 2007. Lab Mix Neutered Male, 40 lbs. Found as a stray and cared for by an animal-friendly neighborhood, Valentino was brought to us to find his forever home. He's only 2½ yrs. old, is a handsome fella and gets along well with most dogs (he especially loves the ladies) He's a little shy with strangers, but is very friendly and loving once he knows you. He is smart and knows several commands, walks nicely on a leash, and would spend his days snuggling if you let him. Come meet Valentino today! Attributes: To know him is to love him!

### HUMANE SOCIETY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

Hours: Monday-Friday 10-4 and Saturday 10-3 • www.hsfcc.org  
4057 Chain Bridge Rd., Fairfax, VA 22030 • 703-385-7387

## OPEN HOUSES SAT./SUN. JAN. 16 & 17



**7317 MIZZEN PL • \$589,950 • Sun 1-4  
Weichert • Kathleen Quintarelli • 703-862-8808**

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) and click the Real Estate links on the right side.

**Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.**

### Fairfax Station (22039)

11611 YATES FORD RD .....\$767,500 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Keller Williams ..... Karen Paris ..... 571-220-7503

### Lorton (22079)

9173 FUREY RD .....\$399,900 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Agragami LLC ..... Sridhar Vemuru ..... 703-851-5372

### Burke (22015)

7317 MIZZEN PL .....\$589,950 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Weichert ..... Kathleen Quintarelli ..... 703-862-8808  
9667 PIERRPONT ST .....\$340,000 ...Sun 1-4 ..... RE/MAX ..... Alberta Gajewski ..... 540-341-1094  
5909 HOLLOW OAK CT .....\$519,000 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Long & Foster ..... Cyndee Julian ..... 703-503-1458

### Springfield (22150, 22151, 22152, 22153)

8133 VIOLA ST .....\$550,000 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Long & Foster ..... Becky Berning ..... 703-930-3400  
6303 ALBERTA ST .....\$375,000 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Avery-Hess ..... Karen Smith ..... 703-307-9595

### Kingstowne/Alexandria (22310, 22315)

1 NEELY ANN CT .....\$825,000 ...Sat 1-4 ..... Coldwell Banker ..... Phyllis Patterson ..... 703-408-4232  
5644 GLENWOOD DR .....\$799,000 ...Sat 1-4 ..... Coldwell Banker ..... Phyllis Patterson ..... 703-408-4232  
6707 ROYAL THOMAS WAY .....\$449,900 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Avery-Hess ..... Michael Malferrari ..... 703-399-5774

### Annandale (22003)

3601 ANNANDALE RD .....\$399,000 ...Sun 12-4 ..... Weichert ..... Brenda Feichtl ..... 703-691-0555  
4817 DODSON DR .....\$725,000 ...Jan 24 1-4 ..... McEneaney Assoc. Joanne Gunn ..... 703-786-1586

### Fairfax (22030, 22031, 22032)

10725 NORMAN AVE .....\$539,000 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Weichert ..... Ron Fowler ..... 703-598-0511  
5330 SIDEBURN RD .....\$535,000 ...Sat & Sun 1-4 ..... Century 21 ..... Diana LeFrancois ..... 703-930-6682  
3126 BARBARA LA .....\$599,900 ...Sat 12-5 ..... Weichert ..... Theodosia Dampier ..... 703-919-2212  
9929 COMMONWEALTH BLVD .....\$499,000 ...Sun 1-4 ..... Long & Foster ..... Cathy DeLoach ..... 703-503-1864

**To add your FREE Realtor Open House listing in Springfield/Kingstowne, Burke, or Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill, Contact Steve Hogan at [shogan@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:shogan@connectionnewspapers.com) All listings due by Tuesday at noon.**

ZONE 2 • BURKE  
• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD

# EMPLOYMENT

703-917-6464  
ZONE 2 Ad DEADLINE:  
WEDNESDAY 11 A.M.

ZONE 2 • BURKE  
• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD

# HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM CONTRACTORS.COM

703-917-6400  
ZONE 2 Ad DEADLINE:  
TUESDAY NOON

**TELEPHONE**  
A great opportunity to  
**WORK AT HOME!**  
NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER  
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!  
**301-333-1900**  
Weekdays 9-4

**TELEPHONE**  
A great opportunity to  
**WORK AT HOME!**  
NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER  
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!  
**301-333-1900**  
Weekdays 9-4

## 2010 EXPANSION Great Pay!

FT/PT. Temp/Perm. Ideal for students/others. Sales/Svc, Flex Schedules. Conditions apply. All ages 18+.  
**703-359-7600**

**MAID WANTED**  
Proficient in English. Detail work. 8 hours per week. \$15/hr. Must have transportation. References required.  
Call: 443-414-4298

**TEACHERS & ASSISTANTS**  
Play & Learn @ Dulles Corner in Herndon, VA is seeking F/T Teachers and Assistants. Please call 703-713-3983 or fax resume to 703-793-2298 or email at [Sangley@va-childcare.com](mailto:Sangley@va-childcare.com).

**P/T MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST**  
Friendly, energetic person needed for solo practice in Burke. P/T, Mon, Tues & Wed. Must be organized, detail oriented and have excellent interpersonal skills. Please call **703-978-8100**

**VETERINARY TECHNICIAN ASSISTANT**  
P/T position for experienced, reliable person. Must have excellent client service ability and be dedicated to superior animal care. We offer competitive salary and generous discounts.  
**CLIFTON-CENTERVILLE ANIMAL CLINIC**  
703-830-8844

**Landscape**  
Chapel Valley Landscape Company in Dulles, VA is seeking a Property Manager with Landscape Management experience, to manage crews, customer service oriented, computer knowledgeable, organized, goal oriented, fluent in English. 2 year college degree in hort. or related field pref. Landscape sales exp. req. Must have DL & clean driving record. Competitive wages & benefit package. Fax or e-mail resume to Carmen Palacios at 703-406-9251, or [carmenp@chapelvalley.com](mailto:carmenp@chapelvalley.com). EOE. Substance-free workplace.

**SEEKING SPONSOR**  
Not for profit organization is looking for a family or person to sponsor a female adult with intellectual disabilities in their home. This family or person will provide daily care and supervision to the individual. Community integration will play a big role in the services provided. Day programming will be provided by an area agency for 30 hours a week. Experience with someone with intellectual and physical disabilities is a must. Nursing experience a plus. Agency will provide nursing oversight, program support, wheelchair accessible vehicle and relief staff. The family or person would receive a tax free stipend in the range of 35 - 40k. Please e-mail your resume to: [krinehimer@sunrisegroup.org](mailto:krinehimer@sunrisegroup.org)

**RN Case Manager**  
Guardian Medical is a fast growing new company with tremendous advancement potential. Seeking experienced RN with WC Case mgt exp. Part time or full time depending on existing customer following. Prefer CCM with desire to grow with company into a mgt/marketing role. Strong organizational, writing, and computer skills a must. Fax resume to  
**866-703-9941 or send to [info@guardianmedicalconsulting.com](mailto:info@guardianmedicalconsulting.com)**

## Internships Available

Unusual opportunity to learn many aspects of the newspaper business. Internships available in reporting, photography, research, graphics. Opportunities for students, and for adults considering change of career. Unpaid. Email [internship@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:internship@connectionnewspapers.com)



**CAREER EDUCATION**  
**WESTWOOD COLLEGE**  
Earn a bachelor degree in just three years at Westwood College  
Call 877-852-9712 today to receive your free Career Success Kit!  
[www.westwood.edu/locations](http://www.westwood.edu/locations)

**THE CONNECTION CLASSIFIED**  
NEWSPAPERS  
*Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:*  
**703-917-6400**  
  
*Employment: 703-917-6464*  
*Fax: 703-917-0992*  
  
E-mail: [classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

**CLEANING**  
**Y & Y CLEANING**  
13 yrs Exp.  
Excellent Refs,  
Guaranteed Satisfaction,  
Call Yamilet  
**703-967-7412**

**CARE MORE CLEANING SOLUTIONS**  
Residential & Commercial  
10% Senior Citizen Discount  
**703-862-5904**  
OR  
**703-780-6749**  
[caremorecleaning.com](http://www.caremorecleaning.com)

**A CLEANING SERVICE**  
Since 1985/ Ins & Bonded  
Quality Service at a Fair Price  
Satisfaction Guaranteed  
Comm/Res. MD VA DC  
[acleaningserviceinc.com](http://www.acleaningserviceinc.com)  
**703-892-8648**

**ELECTRICAL**  
**K & D ELECTRIC**  
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE  
Family Owned & Operated  
Recessed Lighting  
Ceiling Fans  
Phone/CATV  
Computer Network Cabeling  
Service Upgrades  
Hot Tubs, etc...  
Licensed/Bonded/Insured  
Office 703-335-0654  
Mobile 703-499-0522

**GUTTER**  
**PINNACLE SERVICES, Inc.**  
• LEAF REMOVAL  
• GUTTER CLEANING  
**703-802-0483**  
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE  
FREE EST

**MR. GUTTER**  
GUTTER CLEANING & REPAIRS  
Townhouses \$50  
Houses \$85  
Ext. Painting • Power-Washing  
LIC **703-323-4671** INS

**Metro Gutter**  
Clean/Install/Repair  
• Wood Replace & Wrapping • Pressure Washing  
• Chimney Sweeping & Repair  
20 YEARS EXP.  
**703-354-4333**  
[metrogutter.com](http://www.metrogutter.com)

**HANDYMAN**  
**RCL HOME REPAIRS**  
Handyman Services  
Springfld • Burke • Kingstowne  
Light Electrical • Plumbing • Bathroom Renovation • Ceramic Tile • Drywall Repair  
**703-922-4190**  
LIC. [www.rclhomerepairs.com](http://www.rclhomerepairs.com) INS.

**THE #1 HANDYMAN**  
SERVICES  
LICENSED • INSURED • RELIABLE  
• BATHROOMS • DECK REPAIR  
• KITCHENS • STORM DOORS  
• CAULKING • ELECTRICAL  
• PLUMBING • PAINTING  
No JOB TOO SMALL • LOW PRICES • ON TIME  
[www.the1handyman.com](http://www.the1handyman.com)  
**CALL: 703-444-0806**

**IMPROVEMENTS**  
**M. C. Lynch Home Improvement**  
Family Owned & Operated  
Rotten Wood, Wind Damage, Trims, Windows, Doors, Deck, Stairs, Vanity, Basement Framing, Garbage Disposal, Painting, Power Wash, Siding Repairs.  
Licensed, Bonded, Insured  
**703-266-1233**

**R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.**  
Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting  
We Accept All Major Credit Cards  
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic  
Phone: **703-887-3827** Fax: **703-830-3849**  
E-mail: [rncontractorsinc@gmail.com](mailto:rncontractorsinc@gmail.com)

**CLASSIC BUILDERS INC.**  
Complete Home Improvement and Handyman  
2nd Story additions to Decks  
Since 1998  
**703-867-0119**  
Class A

**HOME REMODELING**  
KITCHENS, BATHS, TILE, TRIM, INT. ALTERATIONS, all HOME REPAIRS!  
**Steve's Remodeling**  
LIC. • INS. BONDED Call Steve Paris OWNER OPERATED  
**(703) 830-5681 - 703-932-0270**  
30 YEARS EXPERIENCE • FREE ESTIMATES

**R&N Carpentry**  
♦ BASEMENTS ♦ BATHS ♦ KITCHENS  
Foreclosure specialist/Power washing  
♦ Exterior Wood Rot More!  
Deck & Fence repair, Screen Porches  
No jobs too large or small  
Free est. 37 yrs exp. Licensed, Insured  
**703-987-5096**

FROM PAGE 3

was doing well. He graduated from Robinson in 2008, but still took job-training classes there. He also learned office procedures at Westfield High and played baseball and basketball on Special Olympics teams.

"The oncologists told us he pretty much had this beat," said Don Dillon. "Ryan was doing great and was only going back once a year for follow-ups."

Then in March 2009, Ryan Dillon said his back was bothering him and X-rays determined the cancer had spread to both lungs. So again, he had chemo and responded well, but it wasn't enough.

In August, surgeons removed a tumor in his right lung, plus four ribs, because the cancer had invaded them, too. Because of it, said Don Dillon, Ryan could no longer do contact sports.

But that's not all. On Dec. 10, he underwent another operation to remove a tumor from his left lung. "They expected to use two units of blood, but used 12," said Don Dillon. "An artery opened up and they had to go back in the next day."

"Ryan's still recuperating from that and trying to get stronger every day," said Don Dillon. "He still has more chemo and radiation to do but, meanwhile, a tutor comes to the house, two or three days a week. He visits with friends now and, over the last week, they've gone out to dinner and movies."

Ryan's latest pathology reports "came back great," said his father. "So right now, he's clear [of cancer]. We'll just wait and see. His goal is to get back to school, follow through and live and do the things he wants to do, including eventually work in the post office."

Sarah Engel, Partner's Club sponsor at Robinson, also heads the school's Work Awareness and Transition program, and she's gotten to know Ryan through his involvement in both things. As a result, she described him as a lover and a fighter.

"When I first met Ryan in the spring of 2008, I had no idea about his previous battle with cancer," she said. "Every time Ryan came into my class, it was evident to everyone he was always happy to be there and anxious to get to work."

Don Dillon said the family prays a lot for Ryan, and "people keep telling us they're praying for him, too. And the prayers are working, so we're just happy he's still with us."

Calling the upcoming blood drive a "great thing," Don Dillon said that, for people going through chemotherapy, their red blood cell and platelet counts drop drastically and need to be replaced through transfusions. So this drive will replace the blood that's been used and will be there in the future for anyone else.

Those interested may also follow Ryan on his Web site: [www.caringbridge.org](http://www.caringbridge.org) and type ryand in the guestbook. "People can read his story and progress and send him messages," said Don Dillon.

**HAULING**

**ANGEL'S TRASH HAULING**  
Construction Debris,  
Residential, Office  
& Tree Removal  
703-863-1086  
New#- 571-312-7227

**AL'S HAULING**  
Junk & Rubbish  
Concrete, furn., office,  
yard, construction debris  
Low Rates NOVA  
703-360-4364  
703-304-4798 cell  
7 DAYS A WEEK

**IMPROVEMENTS**

**The HANDYMAN**  
A DIVISION OF NURSE CONSTRUCTION  
BATHROOM REMODELING  
REPAIRS, CERAMIC TILE,  
PAINTING, DRYWALL,  
CARPENTRY, CUSTOM  
WOOD REPAIR, LT. PLUMBING &  
ELECTRICAL, POWER WASHING  
Since 1964  
We Accept VISA/MC  
703-441-8811

**LANDSCAPING**

**ANGEL'S LAWN MOWING**  
•Trimming •Edging  
•Mulching •Yard Cleaning  
•Hauling •Tree Work  
703-863-1086  
New# 571-312-7227

**MASONRY**

**PRESTIGIOUS PATIOS**  
*Beat the spring rush!*  
Patis, Retaining Walls, Walkways  
& Masonry Repair  
\* Pavers/ Stone/ Etc.  
\* Free Estimates  
(703) 334-1452  
[www.prestigiouspatios.com](http://www.prestigiouspatios.com)

**ProfessorToolbox.com**  
"Where you can find any Construction  
Professional in one place!"  
**Homeowners Looking For...  
Qualified, Licensed, Insured  
Contractors**  
[www.ProfessorToolbox.com](http://www.ProfessorToolbox.com)

**ROOFING**

**DBS Roofing, LLC**  
Whether it's Repair or Replace... Relax,  
We've Got You Covered.  
Residential & Commercial Roofing Expert  
**Full Service Roofing Company**  
Repair • Refurbish • Replace  
All Major Roof Types  
703-455-Roof (7663)  
Call today for your Free Estimate Lic. & Ins.

**PAINTING**

**PATRIOT PAINTING**  
[www.PatriotPainting.net](http://www.PatriotPainting.net)  
Wallpaper Removal,  
Carpentry,  
Power Washing,  
Int/Ext Painting  
Free Est. • Satisfaction Guar!  
Lic./Ins. Int./Ext.  
703-502-7840  
Cell  
571-283-4883

**ROOFING**

**Roofing & Siding**  
(All Types)  
Soffit & Fascia Wrapping  
New Gutters  
Chimney Crowns  
Leaks Repaired  
No job too small  
703-975-2375

**TREE SERVICE**

**ANGEL'S TREE & HEAVY TRASH HAULING**  
Mulch  
•Clean-up Grounds  
•Lot Land Clearing  
703-863-1086  
New#- 571-312-7227

Nothing is too small to know, and nothing too big to attempt.  
-William Van Horne

**MASONRY**

**101 Computers**

**HDI EASY COMPUTER SOLUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS & SMALL BUSINESSES**  
JENNIFER O. SMITH • COMPUTER CONSULTANT  
> TRAINING > INSTALLATION > TROUBLE-SHOOTING  
> LET US TAME THAT BEAST FOR YOU  
Serving the Area Since 1995  
(703) 765-2222  
JSMITHHDI@aol.com

**THE CONNECTION CLASSIFIED**  
NEWSPAPERS  
Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:  
703-917-6400  
Employment: 703-917-6464  
Fax: 703-917-0992  
E-mail: [classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

**3 RE for Rent**

C'ville, TH 3 lvl end, 3br, 2+, fpl, w/d, pool, ten, bcks to wds \$1495/mo o/a 703-864-5881

**21 Announcements**

**ABC LICENSE**  
Alam Enterprises, Inc trading as Ledo Pizza & Pasta 11725 Lee Hwy, suite A9 Fairfax, VA 22030 is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Akim Alam, Director, Owner

**26 Antiques**

We consign/pay top \$ for antique/semi antique furn. including mid century & danish modern Teak furniture, sterling, mens watches, painting/art glass, clocks, jewelry, costume jewelry, etc. Call Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790.

**29 Misc. for Sale**

100% Seasoned red oak \$125 1/2 cord & \$225/cord 703-347-2499

**30 Misc. Wanted**

**BUYING**  
Estates, foreclosures, moving sales, antiques, bottles, old clothing anything old. Professional & dependable 40 yrs exp 301-514-4234

**115 Childcare Wanted**

Looking for live-in nanny/housekeeper in Alexandria ASAP. 2 children (one in school and the other will start in a few months). Must like kids. Driving required. French, Spanish or Chinese preferable. Competitive salary with benefits. Pls call 571-277-5814.

The reward of a thing well done, is to have done it.  
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

**101 Computers**

**HDI EASY COMPUTER SOLUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS & SMALL BUSINESSES**  
JENNIFER O. SMITH • COMPUTER CONSULTANT  
> TRAINING > INSTALLATION > TROUBLE-SHOOTING  
> LET US TAME THAT BEAST FOR YOU  
Serving the Area Since 1995  
(703) 765-2222  
JSMITHHDI@aol.com

**THE CONNECTION CLASSIFIED**  
NEWSPAPERS  
Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:  
703-917-6400  
Employment: 703-917-6464  
Fax: 703-917-0992  
E-mail: [classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

**21 Announcements**

C'ville, TH 3 lvl end, 3br, 2+, fpl, w/d, pool, ten, bcks to wds \$1495/mo o/a 703-864-5881

**21 Announcements**

**ABC LICENSE**  
Alam Enterprises, Inc trading as Ledo Pizza & Pasta 11725 Lee Hwy, suite A9 Fairfax, VA 22030 is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Akim Alam, Director, Owner

**26 Antiques**

We consign/pay top \$ for antique/semi antique furn. including mid century & danish modern Teak furniture, sterling, mens watches, painting/art glass, clocks, jewelry, costume jewelry, etc. Call Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790.

**29 Misc. for Sale**

100% Seasoned red oak \$125 1/2 cord & \$225/cord 703-347-2499

**30 Misc. Wanted**

**BUYING**  
Estates, foreclosures, moving sales, antiques, bottles, old clothing anything old. Professional & dependable 40 yrs exp 301-514-4234

**115 Childcare Wanted**

Looking for live-in nanny/housekeeper in Alexandria ASAP. 2 children (one in school and the other will start in a few months). Must like kids. Driving required. French, Spanish or Chinese preferable. Competitive salary with benefits. Pls call 571-277-5814.

The reward of a thing well done, is to have done it.  
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

**21 Announcements**

**Finance Your Garage!**

90 Days No Monthly Payments & No Interest if Paid Within 90 Days!

Building Size	Cost	Monthly
24 x 32 x 10	\$7,500	\$112.50
30 x 40 x 10	\$9,500	\$142.50
30 x 50 x 12	\$14,000	\$210.00
40 x 60 x 14	\$19,500	\$292.50
40 x 80 x 12	\$23,500	\$352.50
60 x 120 x 16	\$54,500	Call Now

Special include: 11' garage door • 11' entry door • material delivery • construction

**CONESTOGA BUILDINGS**  
AFFORDABLE QUALITY

1-877-434-3133  
[www.cbstructuresinc.com](http://www.cbstructuresinc.com)

**21 Announcements**

**HEATER SALE! 45% OFF**

**Infrared Miracle Heater**  
**CUT YOUR HEATING BILLS UP TO 50%**  
Heat up to 1000 sq. ft. for Pennies a day

Was \$499 • Cannot start fires • Full factory warranty  
Now Only \$279 w/ COUPON • Safe around kids & pets • Money Back Guarantee

**1-877-497-4427**  
Must Mention Coupon Code 6566  
Call Now, Supplies Limited

**21 Announcements**

**Go Painlessly™**  
**THERA-GESIC**  
MAXIMUM STRENGTH ANALGESIC  
Pain Relieving Creme  
Net Wt. 3 oz. (85 g)

**For Real Pain Therapy...**

**THERA-GESIC® Pain Cream**  
It Really Works...Compare and SAVE.

**21 Announcements**

**OCEAN FRONT AUCTION**  
**Two NEW Isle of Palms SC Showplaces**  
Jan. 30 at 2 p.m. at 2208 & 2504 Palm Blvd

**Either WILL SELL to the highest bidder at or above \$3.5 million - 8% Buyer's Premium**

- Appraised at \$6.3 & \$6.4 million
- Huge 1.5 acre ocean-front lots - no erosion issues
- 100+ page FREE Info Package at web site

**HARPER AUCTION & REALTY**  
[www.AuctionMyRealEstate.net](http://www.AuctionMyRealEstate.net)  
Mike Harper, Auctioneer/BIC SCAL #3728 (843) 729-4996

# Families To Feel Crunch in School Budget

Superintendent asks Board of Supervisors for additional \$57.8 million from budget.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

Superintendent Jack Dale wants to ask the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for an additional \$57.8 million in funding to help meet Fairfax County Public Schools budget needs next year, according to a presentation he made to the School Board Jan. 7.

Fairfax already allocates the school system approximately \$1.7 billion annually, or about 53 percent of the county's overall revenue. But Dale said the schools are facing a projected shortfall of \$166 million in the 2010-11 school year, in part due to rising costs that are out of the system's control.

The additional money equates to an increase of 3 cents per \$100 of assessed land value in the Fairfax County real estate property tax rate. Fairfax schools draw approximately 75 percent of its funding from the local county government, which in turn, almost exclusively relies on real estate taxes for revenue.

**IN ADDITION** to requesting more money from the county, Dale has suggested \$108.2 million in spending cuts to assist in closing the schools system's projected funding gap for next year.

The superintendent added that the quality of Fairfax County public education system would suffer as a result of the cuts.

"We spend the same amount of money on schools as Montgomery County, Md. but we have 30,000 more students than they do," said Dale, referencing Fairfax's largest public education rival in the region.

Dale does not ultimately make the decision about the Fairfax schools' budget. The School Board — largely relying on the superintendent's budget proposal as a template — will make its formal request for funding from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors next month.

In late April, the supervisors will pass an annual countywide budget and announce

how much they intend to allocate to Fairfax schools overall next year.

Some School Board members have already indicated that they would like to ask the county for funding above and beyond what Dale has suggested.

"Let's just say \$57.8 million is not my favorite number," said School Board member Brad Center (Lee).

## New Fees For Families

To make up for the budget shortfall, Dale is proposing \$3.4 million in new fees for families and students, such as:

- ❖ a \$75 charge for any Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exam a student takes
- ❖ a \$100 student fee for participating on a sports team

## Proposed programs for elimination

Dale has proposed the elimination of the following services:

- ❖ "behind the wheel" drivers education. Fairfax students would now have to depend on the private sector for such training.
- ❖ bus service to "gifted and talented" centers if a base school has "gifted and talented" equivalent classes available.
- ❖ bus service to academy programs if there are fewer than five students enrolled in the program from a high school.
- ❖ freshman athletics, indoor track and winter cheerleading
- ❖ foreign language in the elementary schools (not including immersion programs)
- ❖ elementary "focus" programs (currently present at Riverside, Fort Hunt, Hollin Meadows, Woodley Hills elementary schools in Mount Vernon; Lake Anne and Forest Edge elementary schools in Reston; Kent Gardens Elementary School in McLean; Daniels Run Elementary School in Fairfax)
- ❖ Pimmit Hills Alternative High School in Falls Church
- ❖ Modified School Calendar (currently present at Dogwood Elementary School in

## VIEWPOINTS

What do you think of the program cuts proposed by the FCPS superintendent?

"It's upsetting that freshman sports maybe getting cut, my daughter was looking forward to playing sports, like cheerleading. It's also really hard to believe



that a county as wealthy as Fairfax is having such severe budget issues."

**Penny Henslee**

"I feel like it's ridiculous. They say we have the right to a free education, but yet they're trying to make us pay. Also, if they cut teachers, it's like saying that they don't matter, and it's like a slap in the face. Every teacher in a school is important."



**Miranda Duke**

"It's not right because freshman wouldn't have their own team to try out on, and it would be harder for them to get on JV and varsity sports and, also, my sister in the third grade is in strings, and she enjoys it, so I hope they keep the band and strings programs up in elementary schools."



**Kristiana Moore**

"I think that the school system wastes money on things that aren't important, and if they re-prioritized it wouldn't be as bad as it is now."



**Bethany Cubbage**

— TIFFANY DANIELS

Reston, Franconia Elementary School in the Springfield area, and Timber Lane Elementary School in the McLean area)

- ❖ Project Excel (currently present at Bucknell, Hollin Meadows, Hybla Valley, Mount Vernon Woods, Riverside, Woodlawn, Woodley Hills and Fort Belvoir elementary schools in the Mount Vernon area; Dogwood Elementary School in Reston; Hutchinson Elementary School in Herndon; Halley Elementary School in Fairfax Station; and London Towne Elemen-

tary School in Centreville)

- ❖ Most traditional summer school programs

## Other Budget Actions

- Dale has also proposed the following:
- ❖ To increase class size by one student per teacher for all classes except special education.
  - ❖ To freeze employees salaries and not give school system staff a "cost of living" increase in the next year.

# Terra Centre Elementary Added to FCPS Study

FROM PAGE 2

Powell and Eagle View elementary schools seeing the most severe overcrowding problems. But schools in Burke, Fairfax Station, Chantilly and Clifton are also on the list of those that could be impacted.

The School Board added the five new schools to the list at the recommendation of the school system's Southwestern Regional Planning Study Committee, comprised of two representatives from each of the 23 schools originally included on the list. Representatives from the five additional

schools will now be allowed to join the committee, which started to meet last fall.

Some School Board members were opposed to expanding the number of schools that would both potentially be impacted by the study and who would have representation on the committee. There is always reason to include one more school in a discussion of this sort, they said.

"If we include Lees Corner, Waples Mill and Navy, we have to think about including Crossfield. ... Where does it end?" said School Board member Kathy Smith (Sully).

Other School Board members were wor-

ried that by including more schools — and pushing back the timeline for producing a solution — the school system was not addressing the overcrowding problem at some facilities fast enough.

"If we don't do a boundary study this spring, we don't get any relief for two-and-half years from now. We have some schools that are at 140 percent capacity and need relief," said School Board member Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill).

The facilities staff will be looking into temporary fixes for some of the elementary schools overcrowding problems, including

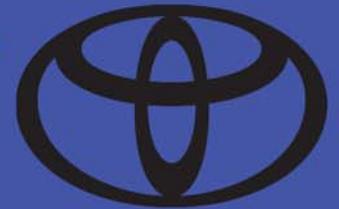
additional trailers, while a permanent solution is developed, said Tistadt.

Most School Board members said they wanted to give the committee, which had requested more time, the benefit of the doubt. School Board members said they feared cutting off the work of the advisory group, especially since the school system had been accused of not involving the public enough in boundary decisions in the past.

"If this is done poorly, we will have more shed more heat than light on this process," said School Board member Dan Storck (Mount Vernon).

# JACK TAYLOR'S ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

**FANTASTIC  
DEALS!**



**CELEBRATING OVER 35 YEARS OF BUSINESS!**

**WWW.ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM**

**ALL NEW  
3RD GENERATION  
PRIUS  
AVAILABLE NOW!**



**GREAT DEALS ON ALL HYBRIDS!**

**NEW '10 PRIUS**



**48  
MPG\*\***

**COME GET  
YOURS NOW!**

**GOT  
MPG?  
WE DO!**

**NEW '10 CAMRY**



**34  
MPG\*\***

**COME GET  
YOURS NOW!**

**FANTASTIC  
LEASES!**

**GREAT  
FINANCING  
OPTIONS!**

**GET YOUR 2010 PRIUS WHILE THEY LAST**

**NEW '10 CAMRY**



**31  
MPG\*\***

**\$179 /MONTH  
FOR 36 MONTHS\*\*\***

**OR \$500  
CUSTOMER CASH**

**OR 2.9% APR  
FOR 60 MONTHS**

**NEW '10 SIENNA**



**23  
MPG\*\***

**OR \$750  
CUSTOMER CASH**

**OR 3.9% APR  
FOR 60 MONTHS**

**NEW '10 RAV4**



**28  
MPG\*\***

**\$199 /MONTH  
FOR 36 MONTHS\*\*\***

**OR 1.9% APR  
FOR 36 MONTHS**

**NEW '10 COROLLA**



**35  
MPG\*\***

**\$149 /MONTH  
FOR 36 MONTHS\*\*\***

**OR \$500  
CUSTOMER CASH**

**(703) 684-0700 WWW.ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM OPEN SUNDAY 12-5**

3750 Jefferson Davis HWY Alexandria, VA South of Reagan National on Rt. 1

PRICES PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT OF \$750 FOR CARS, \$800 FOR VANS, SUV'S, AND TRUCKS, PROCESSING FEE OF \$379 & ACQUISITION FEE OF \$850 ARE EXTRA. NO SECURITY DEPOSIT. APR FINANCING ON APPROVED CREDIT. INCLUDES ALL INCENTIVES. \*CUSTOMER CASH PROVIDED BY CAT. ALL CUSTOMER CASH MUST BE TFS SPECIAL LEASE TO QUALIFY. \*\*EPA HIGHWAY FUEL ESTIMATE. \*\*\*CAMRY AND RAV4 LEASE: \$1,999 DUE AT SIGNING, COROLLA LEASE: \$2,599 DUE AT SIGNING. OFFER ENDS 1/20/10.

**CHECK OUT OUR  
PRE-OWNED  
VEHICLES ONLINE!**



The Best New Cars Make The Best Used Cars

The Toyota Certified Used Vehicles Advantage  
3 month / 3,000 mile Comprehensive Warranty  
7 year / 100,000 mile Limited Powertrain Warranty  
7 year / 100,000 mile Roadside Assistance Plan  
160 Point Quality Assurance Inspection  
CARFAX Vehicle History Report  
Certified customers are eligible for standard new car financing rates



**XD**



**33  
MPG\*\***

**TC**



**29  
MPG\*\***

**XB**



**28  
MPG\*\***



# LONG & FOSTER # 1 in Virginia

703-425-8000



**JIM WHITFIELD and CYNDEE JULIAN**

703-503-1830

TopAgent@Realtor.com

Success Built on Trust through Excellent Service!



**OPEN HOUSE 1/17**

**Burke Centre \$519,000**

CLASSIC 3-level Colonial on cul-de-sac sited on almost 1/4 acre wooded lot! Move right in! Remodeled kitchen features GORGEOUS Silestone cntns & maple cabinets! Hdwood floors & new carpet! Extra LARGE bedrooms w/ tons of closet space! CONVENIENT location incl walk to Metrobus. Fairview ES / Robinson Secondary.



**BETTY & BOB BARTHLE**  
703-425-4466

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
e-mail: betty@bettybarthle.com  
website: www.bettybarthle.com

**Ron & Susan Associates**

Ron Kowalski & Susan Borrelli  
Make the Right Move  
1-888-495-6207  
ronandsusanonline.com



**Springfield \$543,000**

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 - 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths - rec room - family room - den - 2 car garage. Fantastic location.

Ron & Susan Associates is proud sponsor the

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual **MONOPOLY** Tournament



Top Prize



\$500

Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

More info at [www.LortonMonopoly.com](http://www.LortonMonopoly.com)



**Mary Hovland**  
703-946-1775  
**Cathy DeLoach**  
571-276-9421  
Your REALTORS\*  
Next Door

**Save A Date To Attend Long & Foster's FREE Real Estate Career Seminar**

**DATES IN 2010: TIME:**

February 3 7:00-9:00 PM

March 3

LOCATION:  
Long & Foster's Northern Virginia Training Center  
3069 Nutley St.

March 31

April 28  
Fairfax, VA 22031

From the Beltway (495), take Rte. 66 West to the Nutley St. South Exit (exit 62) towards Fairfax. Go through the intersection of Lee Highway and Nutley Street. The training center is located in the Pan Am Shopping Center on the left.

**TO REGISTER:**

Please contact Mary Ann Plonka at 703-503-1898 or [maryann.plonka@longandfoster.com](mailto:maryann.plonka@longandfoster.com)



**Fairfax \$499,000**

Completely remodeled 4 BR/ 3 BA home in sought-after community. Amazing yard that backs to Crooked Creek. Well designed eat-in kitchen w/brand-new 42" cabinets & granite counters, hardwoods throughout main level. Completely updated baths, new windows, new HVAC. This one you need to see!

**MARSHA WOLBER**

Lifetime Member NVAR Top Producers  
Top 5% of Agents Nationally  
[www.marshawolber.com](http://www.marshawolber.com)  
Cell: 703-618-4397



**OPEN SUNDAY**

**2 GREAT HOMES IN ROBINSON!**



12174 Queens Brigade Dr., Fairfax  
MOVE IN READY! NEW HARDWOODS! IN GROUND POOL! MORNING ROOM ADDITION! 0.5 ACRES! \$629,000



12132 Queens Brigade Dr., Fairfax  
SO MANY UPDATES! MAIN LEVEL MASTER SUITE WING! IN GROUND POOL! PRIVATE 2.0 ACRES! \$649,000

Thinking of Selling?  
**Stand Out From The Crowd!**  
List With Christine and your home will!  
**Christine Zinser, REALTOR®**  
703.503.1861  
[www.ListWithChristine.com](http://www.ListWithChristine.com)



**Come to the Heart of Real Estate**  
**KAY HART**  
703-503-1860

**FLORENCE BOWIE**

(571) 277-5099 or (703) 503-1879

Personalized, Efficient, Dedicated Service! Working for You!  
[florence.bowie@longandfoster.com](mailto:florence.bowie@longandfoster.com)



**Annandale \$1795 Beautiful Rental**  
Gleaming hardwoods on main and upper levels, tile in kitchen and tiled finished lower walk-out level with fireplace. Fenced patio backs to trees. 3 BR, 3.5 BA, 3 lvls. A well-maintained TH in a nice community near Rt 236, inside the beltway.  
Call Kay for information: 703-503-1860

**BEAT THE RUSH!!!**  
Buying/Selling?? This may be the best time for you! Get honest, thorough, and Efficient Access to Professional Service in guiding you through the maze of options of selling or buying in today's real estate market of traditional versus short sales & foreclosures transactions. Call me, please. I want to be Your Agent for Success!  
Florence Bowie  
(571) 277-5099 or (703) 503-1879



CRS, Associate Broker  
Life Member, NVAR Multi-Million Dollar Sales Club  
Life Member, NVAR TOP PRODUCERS  
**Ann Witherspoon**  
703-503-1836



**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.

**Sheila Adams**  
703-503-1895

Life Member, NVAR Multi-Million Dollar Sales Club  
Life Member, NVAR TOP PRODUCERS



**Woodbridge \$449,900 Picture Perfect**  
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. Sheila Adams 703-503-1895



**NGOC DO & ASSOCIATES**  
703-798-2899  
[www.ngocdo.com](http://www.ngocdo.com)



**Laurel Hill \$600,000**  
Gorgeous 4BR, 3.5 BA Jamestown model in the sought-after Laurel Hill Community. Great main level with gourmet kitchen, formal living & dining rooms & family room. Upper level master suite with luxury bath. Completely finished walk-up basement with den & full bath.



**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.



**Richard Esposito**  
703-503-4035  
[Richard@LNF.com](mailto:Richard@LNF.com)  
Service is the difference I provide



**Burke**  
Beautiful colonial featuring a pool & spa in fenced back yard overlooking one of Burke Centre's ponds. Updated eat-in kitchen and baths. Wood floors. Raised hearth brick fireplace in family room. 3 finished levels. Updated windows, siding & roof.  
**Richard 703-503-4035**

**ELLIE WESTER**  
703-503-1880

L&F Founder's Club  
Lifetime NVAR Top Producer  
Life Member, NVAR Million Dollar Sales Club  
[ellie.wester@longandfoster.com](mailto:ellie.wester@longandfoster.com)



**Alexandria \$323,000 Parkside at Alexandria**  
Updated, upgraded, and shows like a dream. Two level, two bedroom townhome in sought after Parkside offering the best of conveniences including shopping, public bus service and minutes to I-395. Brazilian Cherry Hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen with center island, decorator touches throughout.

**LISTING YOUR HOME? CALL LONG AND FOSTER'S #1 OFFICE!**  
Dale Gabardy, Manager Search the Entire MLS for Your Next Home in Northern Virginia at [Burke-FairfaxStation.info](http://Burke-FairfaxStation.info)