

Uncorking a Business

NEWS, PAGE 3

Paradise Winery server Erica Fornaris discusses one of Paradise Springs Winery's eight selections during the winery's grand opening on Saturday, Jan. 16.

Postman To the Rescue

NEWS, PAGE 3

Some Sports On Chopping Block

NEWS, PAGE 4

PHOTO BY AMBER HEALY/THE CONNECTION
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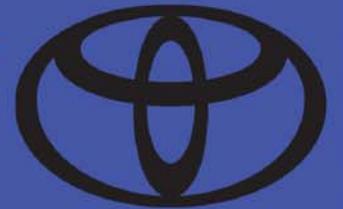
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A Toast to Success

After years of planning, Paradise Springs Winery opens in Clifton.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

Almost 300 years ago, Lord Fairfax drafted a deed for 1,000 acres of land in what is now known as Clifton, with gentle rolling hills and rich soil, to a member of the Kincheloe family.

Today, the same family is looking to the future, grapes in one hand, wineglasses raised in triumph in the other. It has taken three years, which sometimes may have felt like 200, for Jane Kincheloe-Wiles and her son, Kirk Wiles, to turn Paradise Springs Winery from a dream into a reality. But success, even in its early stages, is sweet for the

"It's wonderful to have a winery in the street where you live."

— Sylvia Hanvey

mother-son team.

"This has been one of my dreams," said Jane Kincheloe-Wiles,

SEE CLIFTON, PAGE 5

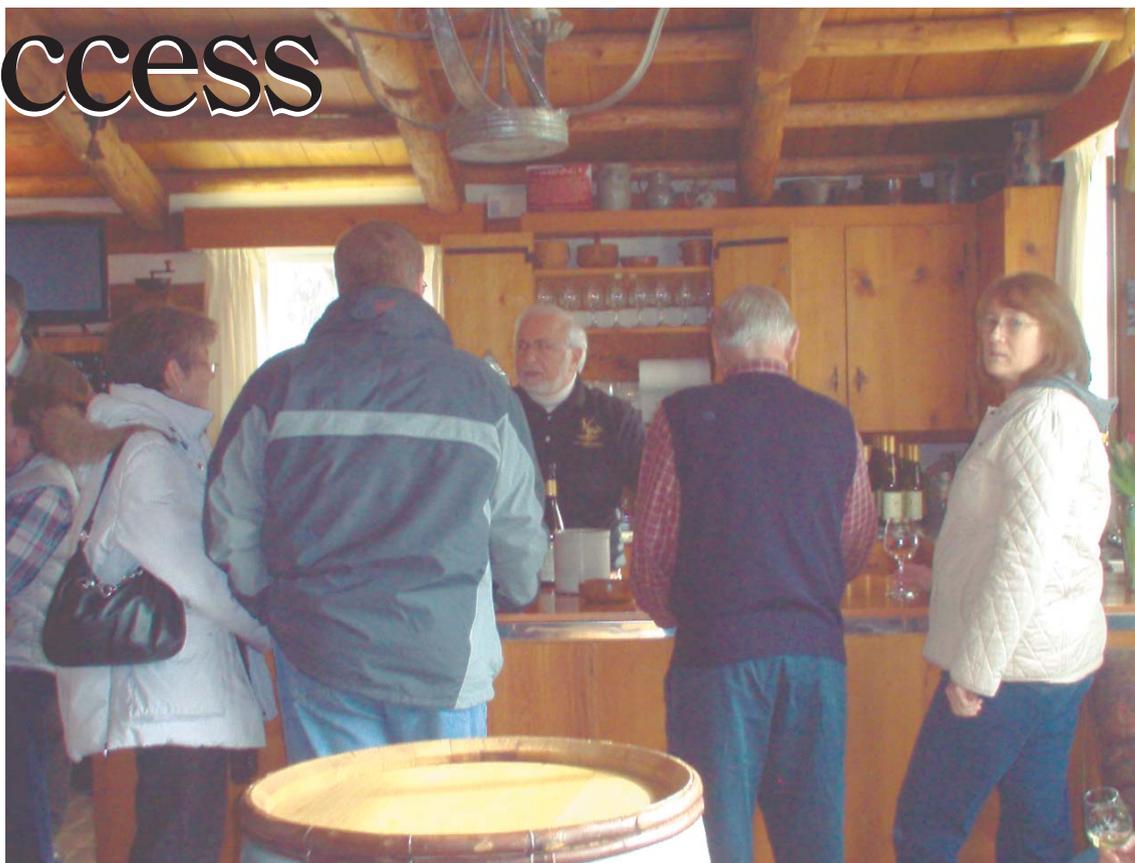


PHOTO BY AMBER HEALY/THE CONNECTION

Richard Talomie, center, walks patrons through the eight wines offered at Paradise Springs Winery in Clifton, during the establishment's grand opening on Saturday, Jan. 16.

Mailman Rescues Woman

U.S. Postal Service honors Fairfax Station mailman Gustavo Galindo.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

Gustavo Galindo has been delivering mail to the residents of Fairfax County for more than 21 years with the last six spent exclusively serving the Fairfax Station community. Over the course of those 21 years, he has seen it all, good and bad. Last December, however, he encountered perhaps the worst of circumstances and was able to make it one to remember.

Galindo saved the life of a customer Tuesday, Dec. 15, pulling an injured elderly woman from the snow while on his route. For his actions, Galindo became one of the 300 U.S. Postal Service employees nationwide to be honored as an "employee hero" at a ceremony Tuesday, Jan. 19 at the Fairfax Turnpike Post Office.

"We're very proud of what Gus did," said Postmaster Jamie Congleton. "This was an unfortunate accident, but it is

"It was just the right thing to do at the right time."

— Gustavo Galindo

reassuring to know that our carriers are in the neighborhood, always willing to assist customers when an emergency arises."

According to Galindo, Dec. 15 started just like any other day. Galindo, a resident of Alexandria, was delivering mail on his typical route, which takes him through the Woodford Street neighborhood off of Little Ox Road. Galindo said that he walked up the woman's long driveway to her mailbox, which he said is situated under a covered breezeway that connects the home to the garage. As he approached the mailbox, he found the woman lying on a concrete floor.

"She has a hardship delivery, so I go up to her house everyday," Galindo said. "I noticed that she had fallen on the ground, but I didn't know how long she was there for. I thought she had a heart attack."

Galindo said that he approached the woman, who was conscious, and when he asked her what happened, he found out that she had fallen the previous day and had been lying there ever since. Galindo said



CONTRIBUTED

Mailman Gustavo Galindo

that he quickly put a pillow under her head and covered her with a blanket and called 911. The 911 operator told him what to do and had him ask the woman questions to get an idea of her condition. He worried about the risk of hypothermia, frostbite and the fact that she had not been able to take any of her prescribed medications for more than a day.

"I was very surprised when I found out she had been [lying] there for that long,"

SEE ELDERLY, PAGE 7

Dems Elect New Leader

Rex Simmons new FCDC chairman.

BY STEPHANIE MARTINEZ
THE CONNECTION

Rex Simmons, the new chairman of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC), found an inter-

est in government as a young boy in his hometown in North Carolina. He knew he would follow in his father's path into the public service sector after helping him run for several positions including the Board of Education.

"I was standing outside in polling places handing out his literature and trying to convince voters to vote for him," said Simmons, "I've had this public notion in my blood for a long time."

In 2007, Simmons ran unsuccessfully as the Democratic candidate for the House of



Rex Simmons

FILE PHOTO

SEE NEW PARTY, PAGE 7



Sandwich Makers

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) joined Gov.-elect Bob McDonnell (R) in the

kitchen of the Carpenter's Shelter in Alexandria during McDonnell's pre-inaugural tour of community services facilities across Virginia. Following meetings with shelter staff and clients, Connolly congratulated McDonnell, wished him luck as governor, and noted that 'Bob McDonnell makes a heck of a grilled cheese sandwich.'

Filler-Corn in Delegate Race

Springfield resident Eileen Filler-Corn announced that she would file the required paperwork to be a candidate for the Virginia House of Delegates in the 41st District. Filler-Corn is seeking to be the Democratic nominee for the special election on March 2 to fill the seat left vacant by Sen. David Marsden (D-37), who was elected to the Virginia State Senate last week.

Filler-Corn served as senior advisor to the governor for state and federal relations under former Gov. Tim Kaine (D). Prior to that, she was the deputy director for the Virginia Liaison Office for former Gov. Mark Warner (D) for his entire term.

Filler-Corn has resided in the 41st District for 15 years and lives with her husband Bob and their children Jeremy and Alana.

Republican Kerry Bolognese announced his candidacy for the vacant 41st District Seat last week.

'Electric Sundays' Kicks Off

The 2010 Electric Sunday recycling schedule will kickoff Sunday, Jan. 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Interstate 66 Transfer Station located at 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax. Residents will be able to recycle televisions, computers and peripheral devices, including keyboards, speakers, printers, external drives and other such materials and fluorescent light bulbs and tubes.

The Electric Sunday recycling program is a free service to Fairfax County residents made possible in partnership with Covanta Fairfax, Inc. This year's Electric Sunday events are scheduled monthly through November 2010. Last year, 500,000 pounds of electronic equipment were recycled.

Complete details on this event and other recycling opportunities planned for 2010 can be found on the Solid Waste Management Program's Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling or by calling the Recycling InfoLine at 703-324-5052, TTY 711.

Summer Camp Jobs Available

The Fairfax County Park Authority is looking for creative, high-energy candidates to work part-time as camp leaders

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 17



Members of the Lake Braddock, South County and West Springfield indoor track teams participate in a relay. For the second year in a row, indoor track is on the county's planned budget cuts.

Budget Cuts Threaten Athletics

Proposal slashes freshman level sports, indoor track, and winter cheerleading.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

At a freshman basketball game between South County and Lake Braddock on Jan. 14, South County parent John Butler watched as his son Jacob took the court with the Stallions.

For Jacob the transition from club-level basketball to high school has been eased through a year of play on the freshman squad.

"You can't just jump into varsity sports," Butler said. "You have to prepare for it. That's what makes freshman basketball good for younger kids. It helps them prepare."

Butler said Jacob is considering playing in college, but for now his son will work his way up the South County basketball hierarchy.

In 2011, however, incoming freshmen may not get the same chance.

On Jan. 7, Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) Superintendent Jack Dale proposed \$104.8 million in program cuts for Fairfax County schools.

On the chopping block are all freshman sports, winter cheerleading and indoor track.

Under the proposal, swim and dive teams also would have their practice time cut in half and all athletes would pay a \$100 per sport fee to participate in a Virginia High School League sport. The money would go to the county's general fund.

Bill Curran, FCPS director of student activities, said the drastic cuts represent how the lagging economy has forced the county to scale back its spending in 2011.

"The cuts are more for preserving what we can for the students," Curran said. "Not what we could take away."

Curran said the proposed athletic budget cuts would save the county \$1.8 million, but would also displace 2,200 freshmen athletes and 300 coaches, roughly 12 coaches per school.

"There weren't really any other options," Curran said of cutting the freshman programs.

The \$100 athletic fee is estimated to bring in \$900,000, half of what is being cut from the activities' budget.

Students who cannot afford the \$100 VHSL fee would be covered similar to those who receive free and reduced lunches, Curran said.

The proposed cuts also affect sophomore and junior athletes who would have to compete with incoming freshmen for limited spots on junior varsity teams.

"Coaches are going to have to make player evaluations," Curran said. "They'll have to make cuts at the junior varsity level."

Not surprisingly, the budget cuts aren't that popular with local parents.

"It's placing kids in a bad situation because you're taking opportunity away from them," Butler said. "[Freshman] sports help students transition from middle school to high school. It's not just about sports."

On the opposite side of the court during the recent South County-Lake Braddock freshman basketball game, Lake Braddock parent Tonna Roberts also expressed displeasure with the proposed cuts.

"There weren't really any other options."

— Bill Curran

SEE CUTTING, PAGE 18

Clifton Winery Opens

FROM PAGE 3

standing in a room preserved as a historic reminder of the origins of the property.

Twenty years ago, she was discussing the future of the property with her aunt, Esther Podolnick, who had ownership of the property at the time. They envisioned a small winery, true to the historic nature of the property, but at a time when Virginia was not known as a winemaking state.

When Kincheloe-Wiles inherited the property from her aunt, she wanted to find a way for the estate to be self-sufficient. She could have sold the property, located just across the street from Hemlock Regional Park on Yates Ford Road in Clifton, to a developer, but that would have "broken the chain," taking the property out of her family's hands for the first time since the deed was written in 1716.

Joined by her eldest son, a 2004 graduate of the University of Miami, Kincheloe-Wiles and her family got down to business, picking out grapes, renovating the cabin and getting all the necessary permits to open a winery. They encountered some bumps along the road, but now that the winery is open and hoping to make its first vintage from grapes grown on the estate this fall, Kincheloe-Wiles is hoping her neighbors, along with the rest of Fairfax County, will come by for a sip or two.

Clifton Mayor Tom Peterson and his wife, Jean, were on hand for the winery's grand opening on Jan. 16. Sipping some of the winery's red wine offerings, Peterson said the winery was a great addition to the town and the wines sold there are already a big hit at the restaurants and pubs in Clifton.

"They've worked so hard," Peterson said of the Kincheloe-Wiles family. "When they first came up with the idea, people were enthusiastic about having Fairfax County's first and only vineyard here in our area."

The winery is "within walking distance" from the Town of Clifton, about 2 miles from the Peterson house, Jean Peterson noted.

Tom Peterson said he got an early taste of what was to come from Paradise Springs Winery over a year ago, when Kirk Wiles brought him a bottle of wine from their first batch.

"It was great," he said. "I didn't expect it to be that good."

Tasting a glass of Norton, the only wine indigenous to Virginia, Fairfax resident Serena Mui said she was impressed with the eight wines offered for tasting during the grand opening.

"I didn't know how it was going to taste, but I like it," she said, glass of deep red wine in her hand. "I wanted to come out and take a look around. I'm really looking forward

to walking around outside."

While he could not be in attendance for the grand opening, Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) said he was proud of what the winery has become, even in its early stages.

"It's always a great day when we can open a new business that creates real jobs, especially in this tough economy. The winery will be a great addition to Clifton, one of the best-kept secrets of Fairfax County," Herrity said in an e-mail. "The winery is also important because it preserves the agricultural heritage here in Clifton and our county — at a time when our county is almost built out, it's important to celebrate rural enclaves like this that have been preserved for hundreds of years."

The cabin houses two tasting rooms, one upstairs in a light-filled room, the other downstairs. The downstairs tasting room features a large wine rack along the back wall, installed in the cabin during the 1955 renovation by her aunt, Kincheloe-Wiles said. The beam used to reinforce the ceiling and floor above it has since settled into the top of the wine rack, and

Kincheloe-Wiles, with a twinkle in her eyes, takes it as a sign that she was meant to serve wine there.

In the downstairs tasting room, Bill Noxon and Nick Nawrontzky started their tasting flight with the Sauvignon Blanc, a slightly dry white wine, and worked their way through to the Norton, served with a handful of chocolate chips to bring out the chocolate undertones in the slightly sweet red wine.

"Normally, I'm not a fan of Nortons, but this has a nice easy flavor," Noxon said, popping a few more chocolate chips into his mouth after purchasing a glass of Viognier. "Everything was quite good, but for me the best was the Viognier."

If Jane Kincheloe-Wiles needed some support from her neighbors, she found it in Sylvia and Forrest Hanvey, who live just down Yates Ford Road from the winery.

"We think it's wonderful," Sylvia Hanvey said. "It's wonderful to have a winery in the street where you live."

Rachel Verville of the City of Fairfax came along with her friends to explore the place and was impressed with what she found.

"The Sauvignon Blanc was the best, it was very good. I think they're doing a great job here," she said.

As for the winery itself, the place may be a little small for now, but she's eager to see if any expanding is done once the business starts booming.

"It's nice to know the cabin is the original one and that the property stayed in the family," she said.

Take a Sip

Paradise Spring Winery is located at 13219 Yates Ford Road in Clifton. More information on the winery, including a full description of the eight wines available for tasting, can be found at www.paradisepingwinery.com. The winery is open Saturdays, Sundays and holiday Mondays from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Longer hours will be posted after May. The wine is also offered at Trummer's, the Heart and Hand and Main Street Pub in Clifton.

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Partners with CCH in the Haiti relief effort include: MedAssets; Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children; Missionary Flights International; and MTS Services.



"In addition to our prayers, the people of Haiti are in great need of our compassion and assistance."

— Charles Mann, Inova Health System Board Member



"Luciana and I have worked with the Community Coalition for Haiti and we ask you to join us in supporting the humanitarian efforts that are under way."

— Robert & Luciana Duvall



"We all need to take swift action to make sure that relief reaches the people of Haiti as quickly as it can."

— Darrell Green, NFL Hall of Fame

Photo by © Cameron Davidson

CAMPS & SCHOOLS

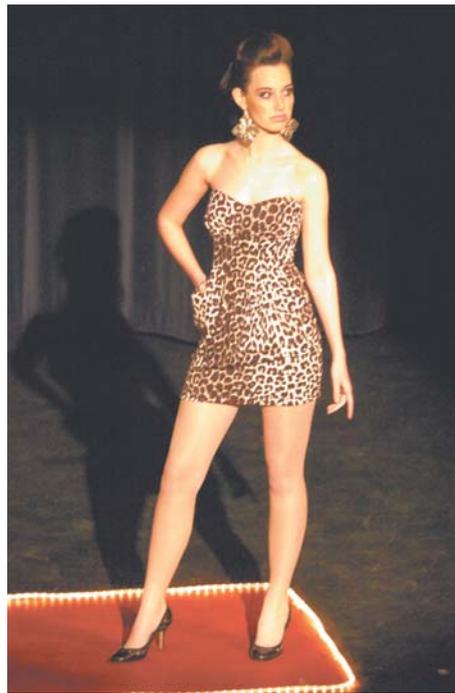
Fashion for a Cause

Robinson DECA hosts fashion show in support of victims of domestic violence.

To spread awareness of the victims of domestic violence, the Robinson Secondary School DECA chapter put on its annual fashion show on Wednesday, Jan. 13. With the theme "Game Time is Anytime," the show included students modeling clothes showcasing eight scenes based on children's board games. DECA members picked Amelia Kakar's, one of Advanced Fashion Marketing students, concept as the theme for the Jan. 13 show.

Working with the Richmond-based charity Stuffed with Love, DECA members also collected toys to be donated to children in domestic abuse shelters in Northern Virginia.

The following businesses provided support and products for the show: Paul Mitchell School, DELiA*s, and Jessica McClintock in Tyson's Corner; Banana Republic in Potomac Mills; Papaya and Lord and Taylor in Fair Oaks Mall, The Men's Wearhouse in Springfield, Clifton Saddlery, Fairfax Hudson Trail Outfitters, LAX World, Burke Sporting Goods and Alpha Industries Distribution Company.



Sophomore Katie Jones strikes a pose in a leopard print.



Robinson students model a variety of fashion styles.



From left, Kaylan Cetestin, senior, and juniors Taryn Hayes and Valerie Agyeman were among the models in Jan. 13's DECA fashion show.

live learn lead

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New Party Chairman

FROM PAGE 3

Delegates against Del. Tim Hugo (R-40). It was after that race that he was first offered the position as FCDC chair. Feeling that he had not been involved with the committee process enough to go on board, he turned down the offer. However, he did accept a position as chairman of the State Affairs Committee.

By increasing his involvement in the community and being co-host for "The Road to Richmond" brunch, Simmons had the opportunity to learn more about the people in the community. Last year, he was again asked to run for FCDC chair. "Thought long and hard about it," said Simmons. At this point, with 32 years of experience in the federal government, Simmons decided to pursue the position. He was elected as new chair at the 2010-11 Biennial Reorganization Meeting that took place on Jan. 5.

"I think it's terrific," said Del. Scott Surovell (D-44), the former FCDC chair. "It's good to have people to run as candidates before because they can make the candidate's job easier. Rex has always been one of the hardest working people."

"Rex has always been one of the hardest working people."

— Del. Scott Surovell (D-44)

It was evident for Surovell that as new chair, Simmons would face many challenges in his new position. "It's a lot bigger than when I took over, and with all that increase in budget and staff, comes increase in responsibility," said Surovell.

Simmons pursued a bachelor's in political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel

Hill. It was there, 32 years ago, that he met his wife Nancy. In 1973, he moved to the Washington, D.C. area to pursue a master's degree in public administration at American University.

Simmons worked in the Government Accountability Office during the first 16 years of his professional career. Soon after, he was an assistant inspector general for two bank regulatory agencies. At that stage, his priority was the creation of the Department of Defense's Office of the Inspector General. "It's been a sticking point because there were a lot of objections," said Simmons. He made creativity and innovation part of his career which ultimately helped him with what he thought was the biggest challenge in his governmental career — trying to get things done with fewer resources. He retired in Jan. 3, 2007 after running for the House of Delegates.

Former President John F. Kennedy, Simmons' first inspirational figure, began making an impact on him as a young boy. The famous phrase "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country" has always resonated with him. "You see this man with a great amount of wisdom and you just wonder the potential of this country had he had not been assassinated," said Simmons.

As the new chair of FCDC, Simmons' main goals include overseeing elections and promoting the stability of the FCDC. "As an organization, I believe that we are the premier Democratic grassroots organization in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We want to maintain that," he said. "I want to see an FCDC that looks more like the population of the Fairfax County that it is today. That means the inclusion of more minorities and younger people."

Elderly Woman Saved

FROM PAGE 3

Galindo said. "I was very worried, because she couldn't take her medication and she was on a concrete floor so she was really cold."

Emergency responders soon arrived and took the woman to the hospital. According to Galindo, the woman did not suffer any life-threatening injuries and was treated for exposure and discharged. However, she has suffered lingering effects from the experience. Currently, he said, the woman is staying in a rehabilitation center in the City of Fairfax, and that he is planning to visit her soon.

"I didn't do it for the recognition," Galindo said. "I did what came naturally. Any of my coworkers would have done the same. To me, it's not a big deal, it was just the right thing to do at the right time."

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The Waterlase® allows us to prepare teeth with less trauma which results in significantly less tooth sensitivity after new fillings.

Additionally, using the Waterlase® for gum procedures reduces bleeding, post-operative pain, swelling and the need for pain medication in many cases. That means a new level of comfort and satisfaction for your entire family.

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The laser sterilizes the tooth as it removes decay. This is very important. Because of bacterial contamination, many of you have had old fillings replaced with either new fillings, or in many cases, with crowns--and sometimes even root canals!! The reoccurrence of decay under fillings is a primary reason so many root canals are needed. Since this new laser sterilizes the tooth as it removes decay, and since many dentists now use 'bonded' filling materials enriched with fluoride, the chances of ever having recurrent decay under that new filling are much lower.

■ Great for Teenagers

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Technology is something that makes life better. Better in this case is better clinical results, improved patient comfort, less use of anesthesia and antibiotics.

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OPINION

Many Numbers Point to Needs

Challenging times as we mark Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision, inaugurate new governor.

Unemployed, uninsured, homeless, hungry. While on a percentage basis, Northern Virginia is better off than most of the rest of Virginia, in raw numbers, we have more people here who are unemployed, more people here who lack health insurance, more people who spend parts of most months without enough food on the table, more people who are homeless.

Some sobering numbers as we celebrate the day of hope and aspiration that is Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Sobering statistics as we inaugurate a new governor who has many good ideas, but no plans for new revenue. Cuts in the state budget will affect everyone in Virginia, even those who are not needy.

In November, more than 68,000 unemployed people were looking for full time work here in Northern Virginia, according to the Virginia Employment Commission, up from just under 50,000 in November, 2008.

Later this month, officials and advocates will conduct the annual "point in time" census of homeless. Last January, there were 1,730 homeless people in Fairfax County at the "point in time" count, more than 1,000 of those are

members of families, most of the adults with jobs. In the City of Alexandria, there were 360 homeless people. In Arlington, 527 homeless, about 200 of those were people in families.

According to the latest U.S. Census numbers, from 2008, there were about 200,000 people (under 65) in Northern Virginia without health insurance. These are people who can't get preventative care, can't get routine care for minor illnesses.

In Arlington County 38,018 or 21.1 percent of the population lacked health insurance.

That number jumped to 62 percent of those living below 200 percent of poverty line.

In Fairfax County, 149,642 people or more than 16 percent of the population lacked health insurance. In the City of Alexandria, 22,399 people lack health insurance, or 18.2 percent of the population. In the City of Fairfax, 3,685 people lack health insurance, or 18.8 of the population.

Another measure of need, and a way of identifying concentrations of poverty, is to look at students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals in public schools.

In Alexandria more than 50 percent of stu-

dents are eligible for free or reduced meals.

In Arlington, more than one-third of students are eligible for free or reduced meals.

More than 37,000 students in Fairfax County Public Schools are eligible for free and reduced meals, that's 22 percent of the student body. And the needy students also tend to be concentrated in particular schools. For example, some schools, like Wolf Trap Elementary, had no students qualifying for free or reduced meals. Then consider Graham Road Elementary, with more than 78 percent of its students qualifying for free and reduced meals, Lynbrook Elementary with more than 76 percent of its students qualifying; Mount Vernon Woods, more than 75 percent; Mount Eagle more than 74 percent. The uneven distribution showed dozens of schools with very high rates of poor students lumped together; dozens with poverty rates in the single digits.

Food for thought. These numbers don't indicate a tiny population of needy people, they indicate a region with ongoing problems of "haves" and "have-nots." Those 15-30 percent of our populations in local jurisdictions who "have not" are about to have quite a bit less as the state and local budget processes move forward.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Planning Review

To the Editor:

In response to the Connection's recent article on FCPS's Southwestern Study ["Five More Schools Added to FCPS Study," Connection, Jan. 14-20, 2010] I thought it important to clarify a few issues:

❖ The School Board's Comprehensive Planning Review Committee (CPRC) consists of three School Board Members from FCPS, the chair of the Fairfax City School Board and leadership staff from FCPS's Department of Facilities and the Department of Community Outreach.

* All meetings are open to the public and public input is sought during these meetings. Information on these meetings and all documents used can be found on the FCPS Web site.

❖ The CPRC has been meeting close to a year and is currently developing a Facility Planning Advisory Council. Already developed and active is the Ad Hoc Committee process to respond to the need for community engagement with regard to school enrollment, capacity, programming, additions, renovations and new construction.

❖ Community engagement is considered the utmost importance

and has been sought throughout the development of this process and during the current Ad Hoc Southwestern Study Committee.

❖ Schools involved in the current study are in the Springfield, Sully, Providence and Braddock districts. There are no schools from Lorton involved in this study.

❖ Clifton Elementary was built in 1954; the facility is not 100-years old as referred to in the article.

LETTERS * To avoid bias School Board members are not part of

the process, the process was designed to seek engagement from the community on specific study concerns and to assist the community to understand the complexities of enrollment, capacity, programming, bonding and construction in our school system. The end of the process requests two separate reports from the Committee and staff to the School Board stating possible options for consideration.

The School Board members have spent considerable time working on this process to foster improved community relations and community trust. Speaking as a parent who has gone through five boundary studies in a period of 10 years, it is time to establish a process that seeks value from those we serve. I

expect there will be some bumps in the road as we test out this new process, but none from which we can't learn from and improve upon.

Elizabeth T. Bradsher

School Board Chair of the Comprehensive Planning Review Committee
Springfield District School Board Representative

Opposed to 'Reform' Bill

To the Editor:

I am opposed to the Senate version of the Health Care "Reform" Bill as approved (60 For, 39 Against, 1 Abstention) by the U.S. Senate this past Christmas Eve morning. The Senate Leadership, and others, acted inappropriately, and perhaps illegally, when Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, along with certain other individuals, negotiated with Sen. Nelson of Nebraska to obtain Nelson's vote in exchange for an "exclusion;" a "favor" that exempts Nebraskans from paying for certain services [i.e. Medicaid] that residents living in every other state must pay for, including Virginians. Perhaps even more disconcerting is the fact that Virginians will be required to

"foot the Bill" for the services that Nebraskans will become entitled to receive, free of charge, compliments of both of Virginia's U.S. senators, Mark Warner (D) and Jim Webb (D), who voted 'For' passage of the Bill.

Perhaps of greater concern to the community at large is the fact that this "deal" was negotiated "off" the Senate floor, out of public view, and in a private room. When Reid and Nelson finally emerged, Reid indicated that Nelson had agreed to become the 60th vote Reid needed to assure procedural cloture of the bill, thereby ending any substantive debate on the issue, in exchange for Reid's promise to insert a provision in the bill that benefited Nelson's constituents. The problem with such an arrangement is that Reid acted beyond the scope of his constitutional authority when he negotiated this agreement, because Reid was not elected by Virginians, or any other state, except Nevada. Reid cannot possibly argue that he secured the authority to negotiate on behalf of all 50 states (100 U.S. senators) on whose behalf he in-fact negotiated, because not one Republican senator agreed with Reid. So what were Sens. Warner and Webb

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

thinking when they agreed to “give” our votes, Virginia’s votes, to Harry Reid?

The larger question now becomes whether U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) will vote against the Healthcare Bill, as he should, or will he vote for passage? While no one knows for sure, and since final passage of the Bill rests with the U.S. House of Representatives, it is incumbent upon each one of us to contact Connolly and demand that Congress correct the constitutional misgivings inherent within the current version of the Healthcare Bill.

On Dec. 20, I wrote to Connolly and voiced my protestations. My letter to Connolly, and Connolly’s “templated” e-mail response of Jan. 12, 2010, may be read in their entirety at www.JoeBury.com. Based upon Connolly’s reply, it appears that Connolly, like Sens. Warner and Webb before him, is not interested in passing legislation which adheres to the constitutional principles upon which our great nation was founded. Perhaps even worse, you and I get to pay for the mess, and the mess isn’t even in Virginia.

Joe Bury
Springfield

Independent Thought

To the Editor:

Are the Republicans about to show us, once again, that they are incapable of effectively governing the Commonwealth of Virginia? Are we going to have a bunch of Don Quixote’s in Richmond for the next four years? Do the taxpayers of Virginia really want to spend a bundle of their money supporting its attorney general’s pursuit of his personal agenda? I would imagine that Eric Holder has more and better paid lawyers than does Ken Cuccinelli.

Why doesn’t Gov. Robert McDonnell (R) and his administration just work on real problems such as transportation, education and public safety? I think that this is what most of the citizens of Virginia want — I may be wrong and only the next election will confirm the truth of this matter.

Why don’t the members of the General Assembly enact legislation that would permit the citizens to register as Independents. We hear so much from politicians that they appeal to Independents — so, if they can register as such then we would all know who they are.

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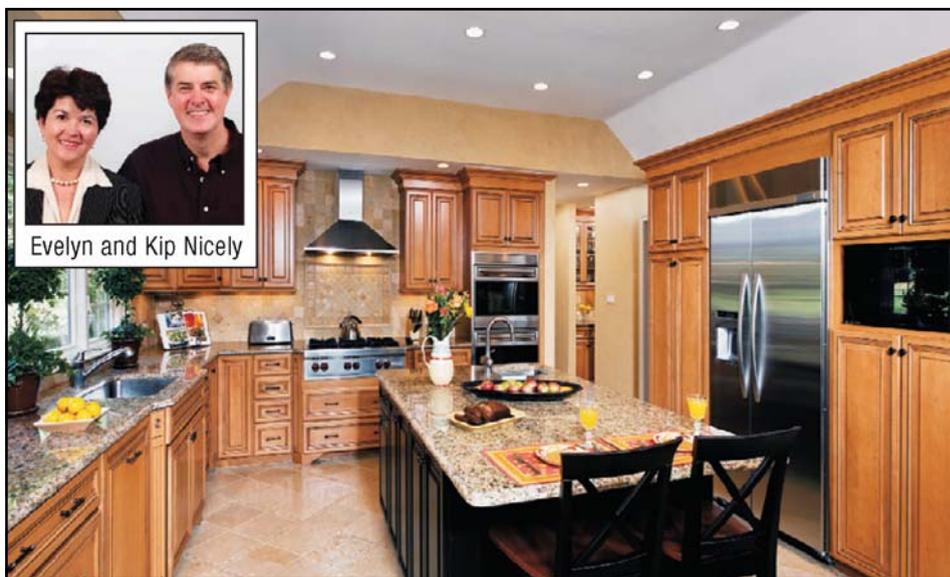
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Slam Time at South County

Mohamed Alie-Cox's dunks head leap Stallions to stellar season.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

At South County, the winning formula for the boys' basketball team is quite simple. When 6-foot 4-inch forward Mohamed Alie-Cox performs a slam dunk during a game, the Stallions win.

Simple, right?

"Right now, we're undefeated in games when [Alie-Cox] dunks," head coach Wendell Johnson joked. "We want to make sure he dunks in every game now."

The good-luck dunks came in handy against Lake Braddock on Jan. 14, as the Stallions escaped with a 62-60 road win after dominating for the first half.

Alie-Cox rammed home a pair of jams during the game, quieting the Lake Braddock crowd and halting the Bruins' comeback attempt.

"We want to make sure he dunks in every game now."

— Wendell Johnson

While some opposing teams and fans are awed by Alie-Cox's aerial superiority, to the junior it's just his job.

"It's just coincidence," said Alie-Cox, a transfer from Mount Vernon about his unusual stat. "It's just how I play."

Alie-Cox's dominant post play is a major reason the Stallions

are enjoying one of their best seasons ever. He's also one of the reason's teams are leaving games against South County with a mark in the loss column.

"He's a force inside that teams don't expect us to have," Johnson said. "He prevents teams from getting that second and third shot. It frustrates them."

The junior's impact isn't just felt on defense, but also in making his teammates lives a bit easier on offense.

"[Alie-Cox also sets up our outside game and can control rebounds for us," Johnson said. "Teams have to cue in on him and leave other guys alone."

Then there's the slam dunk, a power move that not every big man in high school basketball can execute, a tool his



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

South County forward Mohamed Alie-Cox hangs onto the rim after a successful slam dunk. When the 6-foot 4-inch junior dunks, his team has been victorious.

teammates find useful.

"On offensive, I know he has the dunk and we can work with

SEE FIRST, PAGE 11

Robinson On Stroke

Strong swim team continues its domination.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE CONNECTION

At the start of every season, the Robinson swim and dive team hears the same old predictions.

Rival teams assume graduation has depleted the Rams' talent and the swimmers simply won't be as dominant this year. Senior Cody Cardenas said he and his teammates don't believe those claims for a second.

"At Robinson, we don't settle with losing," Cardenas said.

Other Rams listen in on Cardenas

"At Robinson, we don't settle with losing."

— Cody Cardenas

comments before junior Ricky Munch jumps in with his own take on the team's determination.

"We've always had the mentality that we're going to do well," Munch said. "We don't think about having down years."

In fact, everything's moving along rather swimmingly for the Rams.

After winning the 2009 VHSL state championship, the Rams boys are 5-1 while the girls are a perfect 6-0.

At practice on Jan. 14 at South Run Recreation Center in Burke, first-year head coach Clayton Joyner spoke about his team's dominating season.

"We don't have as many big guns as we did in the past, some might even say it's a down year," Joyner said. "But I don't think that at all. I have faith in my teams. We're a very strong group of swimmers."

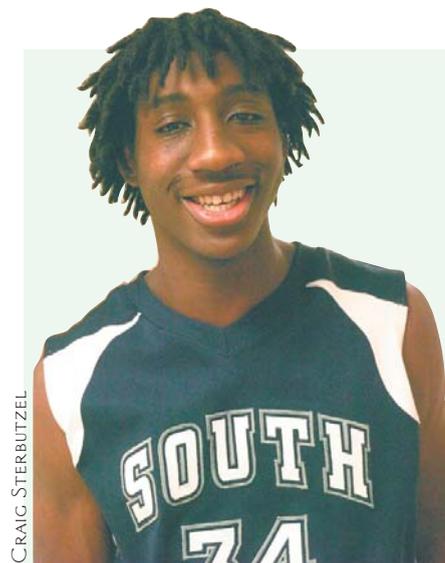
He has high hopes for the girls' team, a group that's been dubbed the "Dream Team."

"Last year, we had a bunch of new kids come up from the middle school ranks and we won the state title," senior Elizabeth Lewan said. "We've got a solid team this year, and hopefully we can do it again."

Inheriting a team after a state title victory would seem to add an extra layer of stress, but Joyner said he isn't fazed by the team's past success.

SEE RAMS, PAGE 11

5 Qs with South County basketball player Mohamed Alie-Cox



CRAIG STERBUTZEL

Junior Mohamed Alie-Cox has been a dominant force for the Stallions this season.

Q: So why did you pick the No. 34 to wear?

A: I really wanted to wear No. 12 because [Orlando Magic center] Dwight Howard is my favorite player. I had to get No. 34 because it's the biggest jersey and I'm one of the biggest guys on the team.

Q: Imagine you're in a slam dunk competition. What dunk are you going to pull out to win it all?

A: Probably a 360 or maybe do a windmill.

Q: Most expensive pair of basketball shoes you've ever bought?

A: A \$120 pair of Jordans. They were worth every penny.

Q: What's the best sports moment you've ever seen?

A: Watching the Pittsburgh Steelers win the Super Bowl last year. I wanted the Arizona Cardinals to win, but it was just a great game.

Q: So who's going to win the Super Bowl this year?

A: The Minnesota Vikings. That's my team and I liked them when they had [current New England Patriot receiver] Randy Moss.

— REED S. ALBERS

5-Qs



PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/THE CONNECTION

First-year head coach Clayton Joyner discusses tactics with his swimmers before beginning a rigorous practice.

Rams Making Waves ... Again

FROM PAGE 10

"I don't really think about [the past]," he said. "I'm just focused on the kids in the water now."

While speed, strength and teamwork might be the cogs that turn Robinson's winning machine, camaraderie and friendship are as important.

"We're not a team, we're a family," Joyner said. "With a family bond, we're fortunate to believe in every swimmer we have."

For many of the swimmers, friendship, not just winning, is a key benefit.

"[I like] the brotherhood [the team has]," Cardenas said. "We all train. We don't fight. We go as hard as

we can. It's the biggest reason we're successful."

The boys and girls teams even enjoy displaying their love of swimming to the entire student body with wacky theme dress-up days.

"[Last Friday] it was animal print for the girls and pretty in pink for the boys," Lewan said. "It's fun to dress up as a team and sing songs on the bus to meets. It's our tradition."

Crazy clothing might help the team's morale, but at the end of the day, the Robinson tradition of winning also drives the team.

"We have a rich history of being [a good team]," Munch said. "It's nice to swim in that atmosphere."

First Winning Season in Sight

FROM PAGE 10

that," senior guard Gabe Jackson said. "It's nice to know I can use that if we need to."

With 159 points on the season, Alie-Cox said he's just beginning to understand how good he can be.

"Last year, I was more timid [as a player] when I was at Mount Vernon," he said. "This year, I just improved on everything. I go harder now and play harder."

In addition to playing with an edge during games, Alie-Cox has brought some of that attitude to practice.

"If the team goes soft, I'll try to toughen them up,"

he said. "I'll swat their shots, make them go harder each time."

The punishing practices haven't helped make him the most popular player.

"Sometimes [my teammates] get mad that I'm blocking them or going hard," he said.

With eight games left in the season, the Stallions (9-4) are one win away from breaking the 10-win plateau for the first time in school history.

In South County's five-year history, the team hasn't recorded a single winning season, but 2009-10 brings the chance to break that spell and start a winning tradition. "[Getting a winning season] is something we're definitely working for," Alie-Cox said.

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CALENDAR

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THURSDAY/JAN. 21

Windy Weather Story Time. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Story time about winter weather. Ages 2-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

Snowy Day. 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 6315 Backlick Road, Springfield, on the second floor of the Bank of America building. Stories and activities. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-451-8055.

"Guys and Dolls." 7:30 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Tickets are \$12. ppir930702@aol.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 22

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

Springfield Community Theatre presents 'Heros.' 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.

Spot-LYTE Company presents: "Incorruptible." 8 p.m., Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. 703-495-0001 or www.workhousearts.org.

"Guys and Dolls." 7:30 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Tickets are \$12. ppir930702@aol.com.

"Snow White and the Seven

Dwarfs." 7 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School. Information and tickets are available online at www.RobinsonDrama.org. Tickets are \$7 online or at the door, or \$5 in advance by mail. Robinson Secondary School is located at 5035 Sideburn Road in Fairfax.

Owls at Night. Come to Hidden Pond Nature Center on from 7 to 9 p.m., and become wise about owls. Learn all about the local owl species in Fairfax County. Join the search for these fascinating creatures of the night on a forest walk. The program concludes around a campfire eating s'mores. This is a family activity recommended for all ages. In case of severe weather, it will be cancelled. Reservations are required. The fee is \$8 per person. To reserve, call 703-451-9588. Hidden Pond Nature Center is located at 8511 Greeley Blvd. in Springfield.

SATURDAY/JAN. 23

So You Think You Can Dance Fairfax County Final Competition. 4-7 p.m. at the Annandale High School in the Gymnasium, 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale. \$3 per person. Sponsored by the Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services' Teen Services Division. 703-324-TEEN (8336), TTY 711.

Springfield Community Theatre presents 'Heros.' 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.

Children's illustrator and political cartoonist Chip Bok. 2 p.m. at Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Bok will discuss his

new children's book, The Great White House Breakout, coauthored with Helen Thomas. Books available for sale and signing. Free, registration required at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or 703-339-4610.

Spot-LYTE Company presents: "Incorruptible." 8 p.m., Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. 703-495-0001 or www.workhousearts.org.

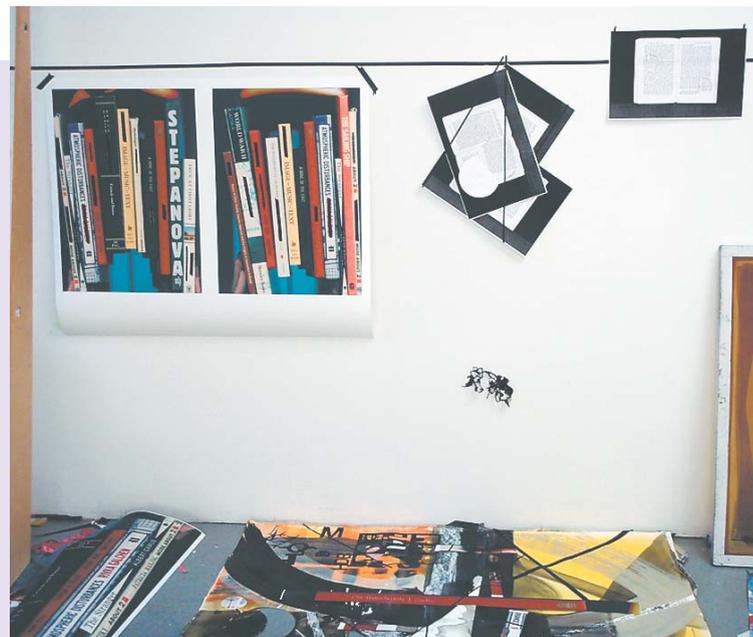
Outerloop Presents: Down N Dirty Fest, The Audition, The Dangerous Summer, Sparks the Rescue, The Right Coast, The Getaways, Brightview, Rescue the Hero, The Kindness of Strangers, Spark to Inferno, We Have the Summer, New Castle (formerly Baigis), Count Your Blessings, What a Night, Counting Out Loud, Another Treehouse Acquaintance, Satellites On Parade, Crash Boom Bang. All ages. \$13 advance, \$15 door. Doors open at 1 p.m., show at 1:15 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road Springfield. 703-569-5940.

"Guys and Dolls." 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Tickets are \$12. ppir930702@aol.com.

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School. Information and tickets are available online at www.RobinsonDrama.org. Tickets are \$7 online or at the door, or \$5 in advance by mail. Robinson Secondary School is located at 5035 Sideburn Road in Fairfax.

SUNDAY/JAN 24

The Band of the Irish Guards and the Pipes and Drums of the Royal Regiment of Scotland. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at George Mason



'Tattoos of Ships'

George Mason University's School of Art brings Maggie Michael's exhibition, 'Tattoos of Ships,' to the Fine Art Gallery in the Art and Design Building on Mason's Fairfax campus through Feb. 13. The gallery is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., unless otherwise noted, and by appointment.

University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The U. S. debut of the Band of the Irish Guards, with marches, sailor ballads and Celtic folk songs. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins 45 minutes prior to the performance on the Center's Grand Tier. \$24-\$48. Youth

through grade12 half price when accompanied by an adult. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Springfield Community Theatre presents 'Heros.' 2 p.m. at The John Swayze Theatre at the New

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

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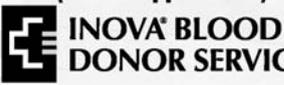
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CAMPS & SCHOOLS

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The Virginia Board of Education has recognized Fairfax County Public Schools as one of 15 school divisions to receive the 2010 Board of Education Excellence Award for meeting all state and federal accountability benchmarks for at least two consecutive years and for making significant progress toward goals for increased student achievement and expanded educational opportunities. The following local schools were also recognized with the Excellence Award: **Clifton Elementary, Lake Braddock Secondary, South County Secondary, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology and Woodson High.**

Fairview Elementary received the Board of Education Competence to Excellence Award for meeting all state and federal benchmarks for at least two consecutive years and for making progress toward goals set by Gov. Tim Kaine (D) and the board.

Gov. Tim Kaine (D) recognized **Frost Middle School** with the 2010 Governor's Award for Educational Excellence. This award is the highest honor bestowed by the Virginia Board of Education under the Virginia Index of Performance incentive program.

Brad A. Surdam of Lorton, was named to the fall dean's list at Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pa. Surdam is a senior studying business administration. Dean's list students must maintain

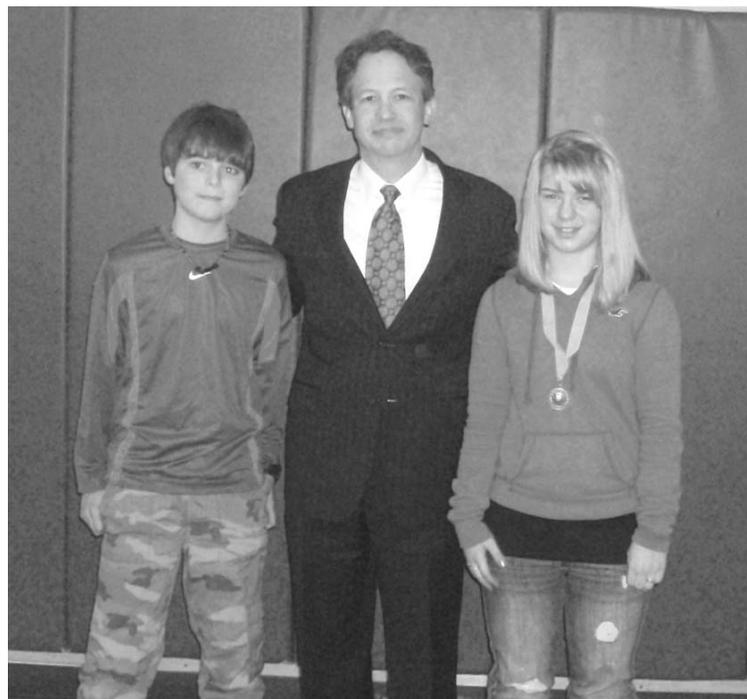


PHOTO BY CHRIS WEBER

Ask Them Directions Fifth grader, **Chris Hopkins** and sixth grader **Raney Velde** were finalists in this year's **Clifton Elementary Geography Bee**. **Raney will take a written test to see if she qualifies to go to the next round at the state level, where 100 elementary students from across the state compete.**

a grade point average of 3.4 or above on a 4-point scale.

Andrew G. Carroll of Clifton received high honors and **Jordan P. Doss** of Fairfax Station received honors

at McDaniel College in its fall 2009 dean's list. Highest honors are earned for a semester grade point average of 3.90 or higher, high honors for a grade point average of 3.70-3.89 and honors for a 3.50-3.69 average.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

School, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. \$18 general admission, \$15 seniors and students. 703-866-6238 or www.sctonline.org.
Outerloop Presents: Bitter Pill, TBA. All ages. \$10 advance, \$12 door. Doors open at 5 p.m., show at 5:15 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road Springfield. 703-569-5940.

MONDAY/JAN. 25

Game Night. 6 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Nintendo Wii and board games. Ages 12-18. 703-249-1520.
Read to the Dog. 3:30-4:40 p.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Read aloud to a trained therapy dog. Call or sign up online for a 15-minute session. Age 6-12. 703-971-0010.
Devildriver, Suffocation, Goatwhore, Thy Will Be Done, Monolith. First 100 tickets purchased get early entry and a meet and greet. All ages. \$20 advance, \$23 door. Doors open at 6 p.m., show at 6:30 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road Springfield. 703-569-5940.

TUESDAY/JAN. 26

Book Discussion Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Call for title. Adults. 703-249-1520.
Lullaby Stories. 7 p.m.

Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Evening stories and activities. Pajamas and stuffed animals welcome. Age 1 to 5 with adult. 703-339-4610.

Design Your Universe North American Tour. Epica, Threat Signal, Blackguard, Todesbonden, Fallen Martyr, Cypher Lock. All ages. \$20 advance, \$23 door, \$50 VIP. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show at 7 p.m. Jaxx Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road Springfield. 703-569-5940.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 27

Practice Your English. 6:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.
Travel Club. 1 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 6315 Backlick Road, Springfield, on the second floor of the Bank of America building. Bring lunch, join the discussion. Adults. 703-451-8055.
Open Irish Song Session. 8:30-11:30 p.m., at Hard Times Cafe, 6362 Springfield Plaza, Springfield. This song session is open to anyone who would like to sing or listen to Irish songs. Songbooks provided, but singers may bring their own songs as well. All kinds of Irish/Scottish songs are welcome, be they ballads, rebel songs and drinking songs. To learn more, contact Wayne Jordan at wvjordan@aol.com. Hard Times: 703-913-5600.

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703-503-9210
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Living Savior Lutheran Church
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Christ Church of Fairfax Station...703-690-3401

Cranford United Methodist Church...703-339-5382
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703-339-5395
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Christ Pentecostal International Church...703-339-2119
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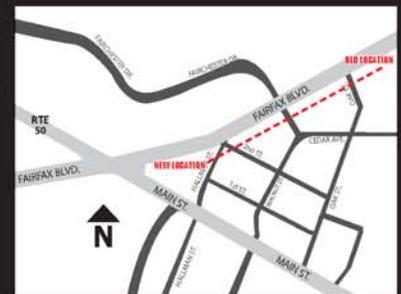
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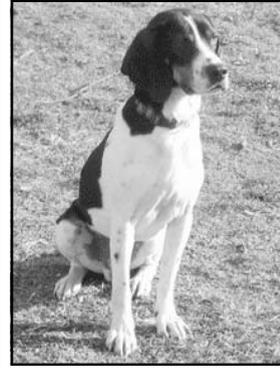
HOME SALES

DECEMBER 2009
\$2,200,000 ~ \$235,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
11319 LONG MANOR LN	5	6	2		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$2,200,000	Detached	5.08		NONE
12030 FAIRFAX STATION RD	4	3	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$1,310,000	Detached	5.05		PATTERNS
10217 POHICK CREST DR	5	4	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$978,996	Detached	0.84		POHICK CREST
7841 GOLD FLINT DR	6	5	1		CLIFTON	...	\$950,000	Detached	5.28		WYCKLAND
8124 RONDELAY LN	4	3	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$905,000	Detached	5.00		RONDELAY
9692 ALEXANDRA NICOLE DR #12	5	4	2		LORTON	...	\$790,360	Detached	1.00		HAMPTONS/OCCOQUAN OVERLOOK
6412 WOODLAND RUN CT	4	3	1		CLIFTON	...	\$786,500	Detached	0.91		LITTLE ROCKY RUN
11119 FLORA LEE DR	4	2	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$775,000	Detached	0.87		BARTON PLACE
9931 SOUTH PARK CIR	4	3	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$770,000	Detached	0.71		SOUTH RUN
9107 OSPREY RIDGE LN	4	4	1		LORTON	...	\$760,000	Detached	0.84		CRANDALL
8854 WESTERN HEMLOCK WAY	5	3	1		LORTON	...	\$750,000	Detached	0.19		LAUREL HILL
8618 EAGLE GLEN TER	6	3	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$735,000	Detached	0.29		CROSSPOINTE
8635 LARKVIEW LN	5	4	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$690,000	Detached	0.29		CROSSPOINTE
8224 WOLF RUN SHOALS RD	3	2	0		CLIFTON	...	\$680,000	Detached	7.45		STILLWELL ACRES
7402 MAPLE BRANCH RD	3	2	1		CLIFTON	...	\$675,000	Detached	1.05		CLIFTON
6735 NEWINGTON RD	5	4	0		LORTON	...	\$647,000	Detached	0.66		HUNTER ESTATES
6801 SPRINGFIELD DR	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$645,000	Detached	2.11		SPRINGFIELD FARMS
9401 LARKDALE TER	4	4	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$637,750	Detached	0.23		BARRINGTON
9259 PLASKETT LN	5	3	1		LORTON	...	\$634,000	Detached	0.29		SPRINGMAN
11501 CHAPEL RD	4	2	1		CLIFTON	...	\$620,000	Detached	2.23		CHAPEL KNOLLS
11802 GRENADIER CT	4	2	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$614,000	Detached	0.52		INNISVALE
7637 BUCKLAND PL	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$585,000	Detached	0.10		LORTON STATION
10997 HIGHRIDGE ST	4	3	1		FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$560,000	Detached	0.50		ARDMORE WOODS
13904 WARM SPRING CT	3	4	1		CLIFTON	...	\$555,000	Detached	0.27		LITTLE ROCKY RUN
8024 ANNETTE DR	4	4	1		LORTON	...	\$550,000	Detached	0.09		GUNSTON COVE
9202 LEE MASEY DR	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$536,000	Detached	0.08		LORTON TOWN CNTR/LANDBAY
13833 SOUTH SPRINGS DR	5	3	1		CLIFTON	...	\$535,000	Detached	0.23		LITTLE ROCKY RUN
8055 PAPER BIRCH DR	5	3	1		LORTON	...	\$530,000	Detached	0.20		LAUREL HILL
8400 WHITEHAVEN CT	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$500,000	Detached	0.12		LORTON VALLEY
8109 CROSBY ST	4	2	1		LORTON	...	\$475,000	Detached	0.52		HARBOR VIEW
8145 GILROY DR	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$465,000	Detached	0.09		LAUREL HIGHLANDS
9133 FUREY RD	3	2	1		LORTON	...	\$405,000	Townhouse	0.05		LAUREL HIGHLANDS
7963 WILLIAM AUGUSTUS CT	4	2	1		LORTON	...	\$400,000	Detached	0.08		LORTON STATION
8411 CHAUCER HOUSE CT	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$387,000	Townhouse	0.04		LORTON VALLEY
12377 HENDERSON RD	3	2	0		CLIFTON	...	\$365,000	Detached	1.96		CLIFTON
9307 DENALI WAY	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$348,638	Detached	6.02		G B GALYON SR PROP
8104 DOVE COTTAGE CT	3	3	1		LORTON	...	\$348,500	Townhouse	0.03		LORTON STATION SOUTH
9052 TWO BAYS RD	3	2	2		LORTON	...	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.04		WORTHINGTON WOODS
13570 JASPER LN	3	3	2		CLIFTON	...	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.05		SEQUOIA LEA
9644 EATON WOODS PL	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$290,000	Townhouse	0.03		GUNSTON SQUARE
7351 RHONDDA DR	3	3	1		LORTON	...	\$270,000	Townhouse	0.05		WORTHINGTON WOODS
7359 RHONDDA DR	4	3	1		LORTON	...	\$263,000	Townhouse	0.03		WORTHINGTON WOODS
7501 DEVRIES DR	3	3	0		LORTON	...	\$260,000	Detached	0.31		POHICK ESTATES
9515 SALUDA CT	3	2	2		LORTON	...	\$259,000	Townhouse	0.04		WILLIAMSBURG SQ
9504 SALUDA	3	4	1		LORTON	...	\$235,000	Townhouse	0.00		WILLIAMSBURG SQUARE

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8863 BENNINGTON BLVD.....\$569,900..Sun 1-5....Coldwell Banker..Joe Correy.....571-213-9644

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7042 BALMORAL FOREST RD..\$949,000..Sun 1-4....RE/MAX.....Zen Carague.....571-213-7331
13529 ORCHARD DR, #3529.....\$224,900..Sun 1-4....Long & Foster.....Pat Bogenn.....703-307-1215

Burke (22015)

7002 BARNACLE PL.....\$539,950..Sun 1-4....Weichert.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....703-862-8808
9500 CLAYCHIN CT.....\$749,900..Sun 12-4....Weichert.....Mahala Hart.....703-691-0555

Springfield (22153, 22152, 22151, 22150)

6452 SUMMERTON CT.....\$609,000..Sun 1-4....Coldwell Banker..Hugo Romero.....703-518-8300
5613 QUEENSBERRY AVE.....\$419,900..Sun 12-4....Weichert.....Preston Lewis.....703-850-0978
6126 LEE BROOKE PL.....\$515,000..Sun 2-4....Long & Foster.....Betty Barthle.....703-425-4466

Kingstowne/Alexandria (22315, 22310, 22309)

5572 JOWETT CT.....\$475,000..Sun 1-4....RE/MAX.....Dane Work.....703-869-4567
7352 SPRINGLEIGH WAY.....\$399,900..Sun 1-4....PenFed.....Olga Gribanova.....703-409-8187
7204 RACEPOINT WAY.....\$599,950..Sun 1-4....Long & Foster.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....703-822-0207
6177 WINDHAM HILL RUN.....\$494,950..Sun 1-4....Long & Foster.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....703-822-0207
6227 DUNWICH WAY.....\$569,950..Sun 1-4....Long & Foster.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....703-822-0207
124 N GRAYSON ST.....\$479,000..Sun 1-4....Weichert.....Ron Fowler.....703-598-0511
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
8825 COOPER RD.....\$340,000..Sat 1-4....Weichert.....K. Joyce Clevenger.....703-851-6929

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Megan Teresa Caulfield and Salvatore Cordaro

Italian Nuptials for Caulfield, Cordaro

John and Lynn Caulfield of Fairfax Station, along with Antonino Cordaro of Bronte, Italy are pleased to announce the marriage of their children, Megan Teresa Caulfield and Salvatore Cordaro. The wedding took place Oct. 23, 2009, in the Palace Cavalli, Venice, Italy. The happy couple met five years ago while both were serving internships in Madrid, Spain.

The bride is a graduate of Robinson Secondary and a 2004 graduate of James Madison University. The groom received his degree from the Foscarei School of Culinary Arts in Venice. The ceremony was attended by close family and the witnesses for the bride and groom were Kathryn Caulfield and Agata Longhitano. The couple will reside in Centreville.

FROM PAGE 4

and site directors. Open hires take place March 5, May 7 and May 21, from 12-5 p.m. on at the first floor office of the Park Authority in the Herrity Building located at 12055 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax. Open hires will also take place on March 12 at Hutchison Elementary School and on April 22 at Fort Hunt Elementary School,

NEWS BRIEFS

from 4:30-8:30 p.m. on both days. The Park Authority will also be hiring staff for summer camps at several other locations.

Applicants must bring their original Social Security card and employee eligibility verification, such as a driver's license, passport or school photo ID. Additionally, applicants should bring a voided check to assist in setting up direct deposit. For additional information and requirements visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks or e-mail RecPAC@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Mission: 'Saving Some Lives'

Fairfax County Search and Rescue Teams are in Haiti.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Following the 7.0 earthquake in Haiti, Fairfax County's Urban Search and Rescue Team (Virginia Task Force 1) was sent last week to look for and rescue victims.

Under the auspices of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), a 72-member team left Tuesday night, Jan. 12, arriving the next day and it quickly achieved success.

"We had a save Thursday morning [Jan. 14]," said county Fire and Rescue Department spokesman Dan Schmidt. "A U.N. security officer of Estonian descent was detected in a rubble pile and extricated in good condition by members of Virginia Task Force 1. And that's the essence of why firefighters do what they do — they want to save lives. So when they did, it was an incredible, adrenaline-booster for them."

But with the situation there still so dire, said Schmidt, "The USAID asked us to send a second team, and County Executive Anthony Griffin and Fire Chief Ron Mastin approved the request." So a 42-person contingent left Thursday, Jan. 14, arriving early Friday morning.

The team comprises two doctors, structural engineers, paramedics, specialists in search-and-rescue and hazardous materials, plus a search canine and handler. The structural engineers include rigging specialists who help shore up unsafe areas using block and tackle, plus other methods, so firefighters can continue to extricate people.

"The federal government funds all costs associated with training and deployment," said Schmidt. The team will be in Haiti, 10-14 days, while other firefighters fill in for them here. They flew on a chartered aircraft, with their bags of personal items, while a second plane carried their equipment, such as jackhammers, cameras, listening devices, concrete-cutting saws and medical supplies. Water and military MREs (meals, ready-to-eat) also went along.

"This team deployed to Haiti in November 2008 for a school collapse, and many of those same members are returning," said Schmidt. The team's first mission was in December 1988, when it responded to an Armenian earthquake with a small, technical-rescue team. Since then, the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team has been deployed all over the world, including to



From left, rescue squad officer Rodney Vaughan and hazmat specialist Mark Menton, who works the Alexandria-Lorton corridor, confer about the deployment.

Kenya, Iran, Taiwan, Turkey, Oklahoma City and the Pentagon after 9/11. It also responded after Hurricanes Katrina and Isabel.

LAST THURSDAY, team members reported to the county's Fire and Rescue Academy throughout the day. Some were accompanied by family members; each brought one red and one yellow bag. Lt.

Diron Powell, who works at the Franconia, Kingstowne, Springfield and West Springfield stations, helped them check in.

Each person's bags had to be less than 90 pounds total for the two, and Powell made sure they contained all the necessary gear. Filling the red bags were uniforms, toiletries and personal items. The yellow bags were stuffed with operating gear such as flashlights, batteries, gloves, safety glasses, hearing protectors, rain gear, insect repellent and hand cleaner.

Team members went through several check-in stations. They started with medical and passport checks and turned in their cell phones, keys and pagers. Deputy Fire Chief Mike Reilly, of Centreville's Virginia Run community, worked as the mobilization manager, in charge of sign-in reception, food, equipment and getting everything to the departure point.

"I coordinate with the Family Support Services Team (FSST), making sure people get a checklist of everything required of them," he said. "If something's missing, such as their shot card, ID or equipment, they'd be non-deployable. So they come to me and

I see that their issue is handled." Reilly also had a canteen unit bring the members hot and cold beverages and ordered dinner for them from Firehouse Subs.

Teresa MacPherson of Catlett is the canine search specialist. She's not a member of the fire department, but has been on the team since 1993. Her partner's a 5-year-old black Labrador named Banks.

"We were in Haiti in '08 for the school collapse," she said. Before Banks begins a search, MacPherson unclips his leash so he's unencumbered. "We don't want any snagging," she said. "He can go places we can't. I say, 'Go find,' and he starts looking for live, human scent in the rubble. He covers a lot of area in a short amount of time. Where he finds the strongest scent, he starts barking; then someone will start searching."

MacPherson was eager to leave and get busy. "We train hard for this," she said. "We want to go and help."

Lt. Rodney Vaughan is a rescue squad officer on the team. Formerly of Centre Ridge, in Centreville, he now lives in Gainesville and has been a team member since 1998. He responded to numerous hurricanes, including Katrina, plus Taiwan in 1999 and Iran in 2003. In Haiti, eight to 10 people will be assigned to him.

"When Technical Search locates victims, through listening devices, dogs or hearing them yell out, we'll confirm how deeply they're embedded," said Vaughan. "For example, they could have been on the first floor of a six-story building that collapsed, so we coordinate the rescue effort."

The Fairfax Rescuers will probably work in 24-hour shifts, to start, with down time, here and there. Normally, half the team would work days, and the other half, nights. But, said Vaughan, "Due to the amount of work, it's 'round the clock now."

Cutting Sports

FROM PAGE 4

"It doesn't surprise me because the county has thrown us out before," she said. "I don't think they think freshman sports are important."

Like Butler, Rogers' also focused on how future students would deal with the leap from middle school to high school.

"It's hurting the opportunity to get fully acclimated with the school," she said. "It's huge to become part of the school. To not allow [freshmen] to have activity with each other in the school is criminal."

For the second straight year, indoor track is also at risk, a move that Lake Braddock indoor track coach Mike Mangan said could displace as many as 2,700 athletes.

"It's amazing that we're re-fighting the same battle we did last year," he said. "But as a group, we're ready to show that we provide a lot of opportunity for the kids."

He pointed out that indoor track serves a diverse group of students who benefit from the sport's existence.

"We're the largest female sport, we're one of the largest minority and low-income sports, and there's virtually no money barrier to enter our sport," he said. "You just have to have a pair of shoes. You don't have to have prior training and there's no cuts."

THE SPORT also has launched some of the area's top athletes, including nationally ranked runner Liana Epstein of Lake Braddock.

"If there isn't indoor track, [Epstein] never runs," he said. "She started out with indoor track and moved to cross-country from there."

Mangan also questioned if the county really had explored alternatives to removing freshman sports, winter cheer and indoor track.

"It's hard for me to believe that we can't find a way to take care of these kids," he said. "Instead of having one group taking a hit for everyone, we should look at other ways to [save sports] by cutting our costs."

Community members will have a chance to speak on the proposed budget cuts at public hearings taking place Monday, Jan. 25 and Tuesday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m., at Luther Jackson Middle School in Falls Church.

An online petition opposing the cuts was started on Jan. 11 with a goal of gaining 1,000 signatures. It is available at www.thepetitionsite.com. As of Tuesday night, Jan. 20, the petition had 758 virtual signatures.

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



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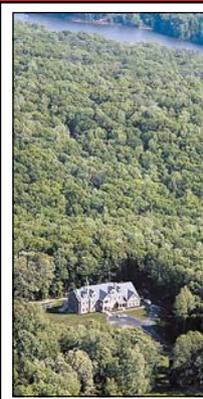
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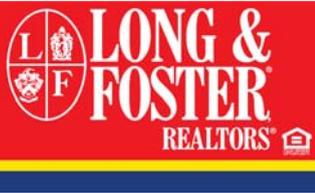


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Fairfax Station
\$685,000

Coming Soon!
Charming wonderfully priced 3 level Cape Cod on peaceful 1+ acre lot, Walking distance to Fountainhead Park. Quality built, mostly brick, 5BR, 3BA, Fin walk-out LL, Hdwd floors, scrnd Porch, updated Kitchen & Baths. Walk-in Attic, storage galore! Deck overlooks woodland, beautifully landscaped.



Fort Belvoir
\$2750/mo. Rental

Immaculate 4-level brick townhome in Inlet Cove, close to Lorton VRE, Metro, and minutes to Fort Belvoir. Gorgeous open floor plan w/hardwood floors, 9 ft+ ceilings, huge kitchen w/island. MBR w/tray ceiling, walk-in closet, soaking tub w/separate shower. Finished walkout level w/gas fireplace, patio, deck plus 2-car garage. Must see this beautiful 1st time rental.
Call Judy McGuire 703-581-7679



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Woodbridge
\$449,900

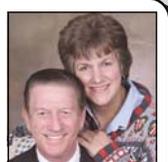
Picture Perfect
Lovely 4 Bedroom, 3 1/2 Bath Colonial, sited on a perfect lot, Large Gourmet Kitchen w/Centre Island, Breakfast Room w/ Glass Slider views
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Alexandria **Coming Soon** **\$450,000**

Very spacious 5 BR, 4 BA, 3 level house in Hayfield Farms. In need of a little TLC to make it home and value priced to sell. Sunroom off kitchen, hardwood floors on upper 2 levels. Finished lower level with walkout to fenced back yard. Convenient to Ft. Belvoir, schools, shopping, restaurants & transportation.

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