

# Still Snowbound

NEWS, PAGE 3

Cars are buried along  
Burke Commons Court  
Saturday, Feb. 13  
following two of the  
worst snowstorms to  
hit the region.

CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 15

PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

State  
Honors  
NVCC Teacher

NEWS, PAGE 4

Swimmers  
Head  
To States

SPORTS, PAGE 10

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COURTESY PHOTO

Members of Oak View Elementary and Burke Basketball watch as Oak View Assistant Principal David Fee cuts the ribbon on the school's new gym floor.

## New Gym Floor at Oak View

**Burke Basketball renovates aging gym floor at Fairfax school.**

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

**O**ak View Elementary students may not realize it, but their brand-new \$39,880 basketball court is the culmination of a dream that was hatched before they were born.

On Jan. 10, representatives of youth athletics group Burke Basketball and Oak View

Elementary cut the ribbon on the new gym floor that will be used for the group's games and the school's physical education classes.

"Our players and families go to this school, so we wanted to help," said Dave Baciocco, president of Burke Basketball. "Oak View Elementary serves everyone from our youth to the adult groups."

When Burke Basketball was formed in 1997, its founders wanted to buy a facility and turn it into a recreation center where

teams could play games, Baciocco said.

But various factors, including a lack of money, forced the group to change its plans.

"We decided to look at a few schools to [try renovate the gym]," he said.

After looking around the community, Burke Basketball settled on renovating the Oak View gymnasium since many of its 2,000 members were Oak View students, Baciocco said.

"Oak View is not just part of the Fairfax County Public Schools family, but it is also part of Burke Basketball," said Richard

SEE NEW GYM, PAGE 4

## Burke Faces Rough Week of Digging

**Slow snow removal raises concerns.**

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**L**ast week's record-breaking snowstorms that battered the entire region and a half disrupted many facets of the lives of area residents with closed schools, power outages and cancelled social events. No issue, however, caused as much strife and anger among the populace of Burke than snow removal.

The storms dumped more than 3 feet of snow in the Burke area, leaving nearly ev-

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ery major roadway and most residential and secondary streets completely covered. Though plows eventually cleared the roads or at least made one-way lanes through them, many area residents and officials were left questioning the effectiveness and efficiency of the government's response to the storms.

"The impact of the storm has been substantial on our area," Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) said. "Some of the conditions were quite bad as recently as last Saturday, as many roads didn't see their first plow

until then. A lot of people have frustration, and it's understandable. It's been a rough week."

The frustration began, Cook said, after the first storm ended on Saturday, Feb. 6. Plows were slow to clear Burke, he said, and by the time that the second storm came through Wednesday, Feb. 10, many of those roads were not even cleared yet. As a result, many Burke roads were buried under 3 feet of snow. This left residents snowed in and upset enough to place or send hundreds of calls and e-mails to Cook's office, demanding to know when their streets were

SEE RESPONSE, PAGE 13

## Marsden Bill Moves Forward

**Bill aims to protect sex offenders' employers.**

BY VERONICA GARABELLI  
CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

**A** bill making headway in the General Assembly seeks to protect employers of sex offenders by not listing the name of the offender's workplace on the Virginia Sex Offender Registry.

Senate Bill 635, sponsored by Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37), would still list a sex offender's work address. The bill passed the Senate this month unanimously and now will be considered by the House of Delegates.

Marsden said SB 635 is meant to help sex offenders integrate back into society. Currently, the Virginia Sex Offender Registry's Web site [<http://sex-offender.vsp.virginia.gov>] displays a photograph and description of each offender; lists the offender's crime; and shows the offender's home address and the name and location of the offender's employer.

As a result, some sex offenders lose their jobs, because a customer complains or because the employer fears the stigma of being associated with the sex offender registry.

"It's the address and the location that is still important, not the name of the business," Marsden said. "We don't want businesses to be harmed, and we don't want the offender, if they're doing everything they're supposed to do, being harmed."

A group called Reform Sex Offender Laws of Virginia approached the senator about filing the bill.

Mary Devoy, organizer for the group, said employers who are willing to give sex offenders a second chance despite the negative publicity should not be punished. Devoy said that when sex offenders are unemployed, they can't meet their parole requirements.

"We want the folks on the registry to be able to survive," Devoy said. "Let them live their lives, have a job and raise their children. This bill is one step toward that."

Several people have posted comments about the bill on the Richmond Sunlight Web site. One said that by listing the employer's name, the sex offender registry has "effectively applied the 'social pariah' label to responsible businesses."

## Man Shot in Annandale

According to Fairfax County Police, officers were called to a residence in the 8300 block of Little River Turnpike on Monday, Feb. 15, around 10:30 p.m. for a report of a shot person. They located the body of Nathan Smiler, 37, of 8317 Little River Turnpike, with head trauma from a gunshot. All individuals inside the residence at the time have been identified and there is no threat to public safety.

"The victim was found deceased at the scene," said Officer Shelley Broderick. "Police are still investigating and no charges have been filed at this time."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

## Virginia on Track To Allow Concealed Guns in Bars

The General Assembly is poised to loosen up restrictions on guns in bars, clubs and restaurants that serve alcohol despite objections from the hospitality industry and public safety officials.

By this time next year, residents will likely have the right to carry a concealed gun into any eatery, as long as they have the appropriate permit and agree not to consume alcohol.

But on Feb. 10, the Senate's Committee for Courts of Justice voted eight to seven to extend the benefit of "conceal carry" in alcohol-serving establishments to most residents who desire it.

Vienna and Fairfax state Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) and former gubernatorial candidate Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-25) were among the committee members who voted for the bill. Northern Virginia Sens. Janet Howell (D-32), Toddy Puller (D-36) and Dick Saslaw (D-35) voted against it.

Now that the measure has made it out of committee, the full Senate and House of Delegates are likely to pass it. Both branches of the General Assembly approved similar legislation in 2009, only to see it vetoed by former Gov. Tim Kaine (D).

Gov. Robert McDonnell (R) has said he will sign the expansion of gun rights into law.

## Offshore Drilling Bill Killed

On a party-line vote, the Democratically-controlled state Senate killed a bill tied to Gov. Robert McDonnell's (R) plans for offshore oil and natural gas exploration.

Twenty-two Democrats — including all senators from Arlington County, City of Alexandria and Fairfax County — voted down a bill that would have designated 80 percent of revenue and royalties produced by drilling off the shore of Virginia for the commonwealth's transportation trust fund. All 18 Republicans supported the measure.

While on the campaign trail this past fall, McDonnell had promoted drilling for oil and natural gas off the shore of Virginia Beach, saying, among other things, that it could bring money to Virginia for transportation projects.

Critics, including Democratic Majority Leader and Fairfax County Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35), called McDonnell's offshore drilling proposal ridiculous.

Saslaw, who made money running gasoline and service stations, doubted that there was easily accessible oil off the shore of Virginia. Even if oil or natural gas could be retrieved, it would be 10 years before Virginia would receive any financial benefits and long after a new source of transportation funding was needed, said the Democrat.

# State Honors NVCC Teacher

## Dr. Terry Alford one of 12 from across Virginia to receive Faculty Award.

BY STEPHANIE MARTINEZ  
THE CONNECTION

It's the end of the day and, as usual, Dr. Terry Alford is playing a couple of games of online chess. His daughter is around and hears his advice for his chess opponent after a poor move: "Why Pawn to K3? Would Knight to K4 be better?" he asks.

Alford's daughter looks at him. "You can't stop being the professor, can you?" she said.

After a long history of achievements, history professor Alford was honored with the 2010 Outstanding Faculty Award, highest faculty honor for Virginia's public and private colleges and universities.

During high school, Alford realized he would dedicate his life to enriching others. "I recall very distinctly a conversation I had with my older brother in the bedroom we shared when I was in the ninth grade," he said. "He asked me what I wanted to be, and I replied a teacher. At that time, I didn't know what I wanted to teach, but I knew early on that good teachers were people of intelligence, integrity, and inspiration."

As a Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) instructor, Alford was recognized for his superior work on research, teaching and public service. Student and teacher feedback, his accomplishments, contributions and awards allowed Alford to become one of the 12 recipients of the award that recognizes top faculty members in Virginia.

"I vividly recall Dr. Alford's most recent student evaluations," said Dr. William Kinsella, NVCC's assistant dean of history. "Students noted his enthusiasm, passion, energy and dynamic teaching style. They were impressed by Dr. Alford's organized, structured and concise methodology in presenting his



Dr. Terry Alford

story. Dr. Alford is not only a nationally recognized scholar, but most importantly, he is a superior teacher who reaches every student. He inspires and educates each person in his classroom. I know that his colleagues share this assessment

of a truly outstanding educator."

Alford attended Mississippi State University for his bachelor and master's degrees and his Ph.D. in history. In 1972, he joined the NVCC family. Over the years, he has received various offers to teach elsewhere but he hasn't considered them.

Alford is author of two well-known biographies such as "Prince among Slaves" and one about Lincoln's assassin John Wilkes Booth, which will be published in 2011.

"My work on slavery led ultimately to Abraham Lincoln, and for some years I have researched the life of his assassin for a biography titled 'Fortune's Fool: The Life of John Wilkes Booth,' which Oxford University Press will publish," said Alford. In his first book, "Prince among Slaves," Alford narrates the story of an African prince enslaved for 40 years in early America. The book portrays the African slaves more as individuals, as he said, it "puts a personal face on slavery by telling

the story of one individual." "Academically, the thing I have done that has been most notable is writing the book 'Prince among Slaves,'" said Alford. "It's been in print for over 30 years, an unusual distinction, and in 2008 was shown as a documentary on PBS to a national audience of over 3 million people."

SEE HONORING. PAGE 5

**"I knew early on that good teachers were people of intelligence, integrity, and inspiration."**

— Dr. Terry Alford

# New Gym Floor for Oak View

FROM PAGE 3

Esposito, Burke Basketball director of community relations.

**OAK VIEW** Assistant Principal David Fee said the group approached school officials about a year ago to discuss renovating the gym's floor.

"They, and we, were very excited [about the opportunity]," he said.

The aging floor definitely needed an upgrade, Fee said.

"[The floor] was OK, but it had tile," Fee said. "The tiles were hard and slippery. Kids would slide during games and [physical education] class. ... It looked like they were playing on ice."

Months passed and Fee said he'd nearly forgotten

about the proposal until Burke Basketball representatives let the school know they were ready to renovate.

"In the fall of this school year, it all went in place," he said. "Over the winter break, they had [the floor installed]."

Although basketball was the main driver for purchasing the floor, Burke Basketball made sure the gym is accessible for other sports.

Foursquare, hopscotch and other physical education courts were mapped out on the floor along with the basketball court lines.

After a month of enjoying their new gift, Fee said the reviews from Oak View students have been first-rate.

"The kids love it," he said. "It's just a really nice [floor]."



DONATED PHOTO

Janette Moman teaches as class from an igloo that her son made. She broadcast the class over the Internet.

## Ice Home Schooling

### Local woman teaches class from backyard igloo that son built.

When faced with a lot of time away from school and an historic snowfall, Carl Moman, a sixth grader at White Oaks Elementary School, took perhaps the once-in-a-lifetime-opportunity to build an igloo in his backyard.

But with an igloo to show off and no way for friends to get there, Carl decided to put his igloo on the Internet and invited his friends to join his Web cast from iGLOO Studios to see the igloo.

Carl's mother, Janette Moman, a fifth grade AAP teacher at Springfield Estates Elementary, invited her class to join in as well. After Carl's successful Web cast, many of Janette Moman's students wanted to have a virtual class taught from the igloo, and so on Friday, Feb. 12 that is what she did

Janette Moman taught a science lesson on the El Niño effect from inside the igloo over the Web, with students from Springfield Estates, White Oaks and even from as far away as Missouri and Illinois. Students were able to interact during the class via chat, asking questions and providing comments for the group.

"When my students asked me to teach a class from the igloo via Web cam, I thought it would be a great opportunity to explain weather patterns and how far away events like a 1 degree temperature increase in the eastern Pacific Ocean can cause such record snowfalls on the East Coast," said Janette Moman. "I also wanted to encourage my students to take this opportunity to be creative and do something out of the ordinary."

## Honoring Educator

FROM PAGE 4

The documentary became the winner of the Best Documentary at the 2007 American Black Film Festival. He was featured in the documentary as an expert commentator. Additionally, he has also made appearances on C-SPAN, The Biography Channel, the Arts & Entertainment Channel, The History Channel and the Discovery Network.

He currently teaches United States history survey courses at NVCC, but he has also taught classes on history of western civilization, 19th century American theater, Washington, D.C. in the Civil War, George Washington, John F. Kennedy and Historical research methods.

Alford was nominated five times for the Student Government Association's Golden Apple Award and twice for the NOVA Alumni Federation Faculty of the Year Award. Additionally, he was the winner of the NOVA Educational Foundation Award for Excellence in Teaching and received additional honors from Phi Theta Kappa, the SGA and the Muslim Students Association.

"I strive in my classes and my scholarship to make history relevant to my students," said Alford. "Historical figures were actual people. Some were extraordinary, some just got caught up in extraordinary times, but they were all flesh-and-blood like you and I. If you can convince your students of that, you're half-way home."

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#### ■ Sterilization

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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

# New Housing Blueprint

Ending homelessness, moving beyond preservation of affordable housing.

BY SHARON BULOVA

Several years ago, on a freezing February morning, I rode the VRE into Washington, D.C. for a Council of Governments meeting. As I was leaving Union Station, I noticed a middle-aged woman, with sacks of belongings and bedding gathered around her. She was clearly a person with mental illness, muttering to herself and batting the air at imaginary objects.

I remember thinking, "I'm so glad I live in Fairfax County. We have social services programs that would help someone like this woman." But later that week, while jogging down an old alignment of a road near my home, I spotted a tent tucked way back in the woods. It was a homeless person's encampment.

Fairfax County has established a "hypothermia program" to shelter homeless individuals during the cold winter months. The program

is a partnership among county agencies, area houses of worship and nonprofit organizations. The hypothermia program has served to crystallize how inadequate our human services network is for dealing with homelessness.

In March 2008, our Board of Supervisors endorsed a "Housing First" strategy to end homelessness as we know it. Working with houses of worship and charitable organizations, Fairfax County has adopted a strategy for making sure people in our community have a roof over their heads and receive the help they need to get back on their feet.

GUEST EDITORIAL

At our Jan. 26 meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved a new Housing Blueprint to address the challenge of ensuring there is accessible, affordable housing for all members of our community. Affordable housing was a key topic when the Board considered our current Fiscal Year 2010 budget and the Board dedicated considerable time to discussing housing issues at our post-budget retreat last June.

At the retreat, we agreed that our housing programs must emphasize serving those with the greatest needs, that affordable housing represents a spectrum of needs, and that we can be most effective in accomplishing these goals by working with Faith Community and non-



FILE PHOTO

Sharon Bulova

profit partners in the community.

The Housing Blueprint is a strategy for addressing these priorities and represents a new direction compared to the previous policy of preservation. The new goals stated in the Blueprint are comprehensive: to end homelessness in 10 years, to provide affordable housing options to those with special needs, to cut the waiting lists for affordable housing in half over 10 years, and to produce workforce housing to accommodate projected job growth.

The Blueprint is the product of impressive collaboration by county agencies, concerned citizens, houses of worship and local nonprofits. Because of the metrics it includes, the Blueprint sets short and long term goals and can be used to evaluate our programs.

TO VIEW the Housing Blueprint, please visit <http://www.effordable.org/>.

If you would like more information, or would like to volunteer in efforts to address homelessness, the County's Office to End Homelessness can be reached by going to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless>.

Sharon Bulova is chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

## Blueprint Highlights

Resolved: End homelessness; provide affordable housing options to those with special needs; cut the waiting lists for affordable housing in half; produce workforce housing to accommodate projected job growth.

# Progress Made at Last

Marsden's bill on pellet guns passes Senate with bipartisan support.

BY SEN. DAVID MARSDEN  
D-37

During the last three sessions of the General Assembly, I have attempted to deal with the issue of juveniles carrying dangerous pneumatic weapons (pellet guns) that look like real guns and can cause real damage. I was unsuccessful in my first two attempts while a member of the House of Delegates, but this year I focused just on the illegality of underage possession of these weapons in schools (Senate Bill 580). The weapons must discharge a projectile at a rate of speed greater than 250 feet per second to qualify as illegal to possess, which is an industry standard of sorts that delineates toys from harmful weapons. In a bipartisan effort with two Republican senators, who assisted me with amending my original bill, we crafted a bill that would receive support from Democrats and Republicans, and it passed the Senate 33-5. We compromised on the bill to the extent

that pneumatic weapons constructed with an orange tip to delineate them from firearms, would be excluded from this offense, a Class I Misdemeanor if committed by someone under 18.

This bill would create greater safety in our schools, as the carrying of these dangerous but non-lethal weapons has become very popular with youth gang members. Armed robberies have been committed with these weapons in various parts of the Commonwealth. As the former head of Virginia's Department of Juvenile Justice, and former superintendent of Fairfax County's Juvenile Detention Center, I feel that this common sense measure is of critical importance. A member of Fairfax County's Gang Unit I spoke to agreed. He stated that it gives them leverage to talk juveniles out of carrying these weapons and gives them an enforcement tool to deal with juveniles who bring these weapons to school. Currently, the only recourse that school administrators have is to suspend or expel juveniles possessing these weapons at school based on violations of school policy rather than law.

COMMENTARY

SEE PROGRESS, PAGE 7

## Snowed In

To the Editor:

While I'm thrilled at the response — thanks to Del. David Bulova's (D-37) staff — to my complaint about snow removal last week, it seems that Holden Street is now suffering from an embarrassment of snow removal riches. We currently have a large snow removal truck with a scoop parked on our street that worked its way up and down Holden Street for about five hours yesterday widening the traffic lanes. While this is greatly appreciated by all residents, I'm sure, we are around

the corner from both Oak View Elementary and Robinson Secondary schools and not much has been done to widen the lanes on Sideburn so the school buses can get through tomorrow. Holden Street has never been a through street for school buses and given VDOT's limited resources, I find it odd that we're being treated so lavishly.

Who makes these emergency plans? It seems that either nothing gets done or the squeaky wheels receive entirely more grease than they need.

Danelle Springer  
Fairfax

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# OPINION

## Progress

FROM PAGE 6

I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed the atmosphere of cooperation that exists in the Virginia Senate. As you may know, I recently won a special election to finish the last two years of now Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli's (R) Senate term. My early experiences have reinforced my belief that the bipartisanship I have experienced in the Senate is closer to what citizens expect of their elected lawmakers.

While getting this bill through the Senate was significant, I now have to present this bill to the House of Delegates, a more daunting task. I can only hope that they will see this bill as critical to public safety and not an assault on the Second Amendment. In any case, it is very hopeful that a bill like this received bipartisan support in at least one of the two bodies in the General Assembly.

To contact Sen. David Marsden (D-37), call 571-249-3037; e-mail [district37@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:district37@senate.virginia.gov); or mail to P.O. Box 10889, Burke, VA 22009.



Kristen Calcatera

### COLLEGE NOTES

**Kristen Calcatera** of Burke, a 2007 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary, has been selected to participate in Rhode Island School of Design's European Honors Program. Calcatera departed Jan. 17 for Italy and will be living and working in a 15th century palace in the heart of Rome. She will spend five months completing independent study in painting under chief critic Holly Hughes, as well as studying art history and Italian. Calcatera is the daughter of Vincent and Deborah Calcatera, also of Burke.

**Mary Ann Chipkevich**, daughter of Bob and Cara Chipkevich of Burke, made the dean's list for the fall 2009 at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She is a senior business student majoring in marketing and logistics.

**Caitlin B. Landsman** of Burke was named to the Marist College dean's list for the fall 2009 semester. Landsman is a member of the Class of 2013 and is majoring in communications/public relations.

**Christopher Martin**, a bachelor of science major from Burke, graduated from Ball State University in fall 2009.

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# CALENDAR

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

## THURSDAY/FEB. 18

**Afternoon Reading Group.** 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Make New Friends.** 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories, songs and activities about friendship. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

**David Choi.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

**Fairfax Antique Arts Association.** 10:15 a.m. at City of Fairfax Senior Center (Green Acres Center), 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Speaker Ivan Dietrich will speak about life in Hershey, Pa. Free; annual membership fee required to attend subsequent meetings. \$15 single; \$25 couple. 703-359-2487.

**Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.'** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Black Box Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$6, students and seniors \$3. Tickets to performances cancelled due to snow will be honored. 703-993-8888 or 703-993-1120.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 19

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

**The Bigger Lights, Sing Me Insomnia and Action Item.** 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day

of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

**The D.R.A.M.A Kings and The Blackjacks.** 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

**Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.'** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Black Box Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$6, students and seniors \$3. Tickets to performances cancelled due to snow will be honored. 703-993-8888 or 703-993-1120.

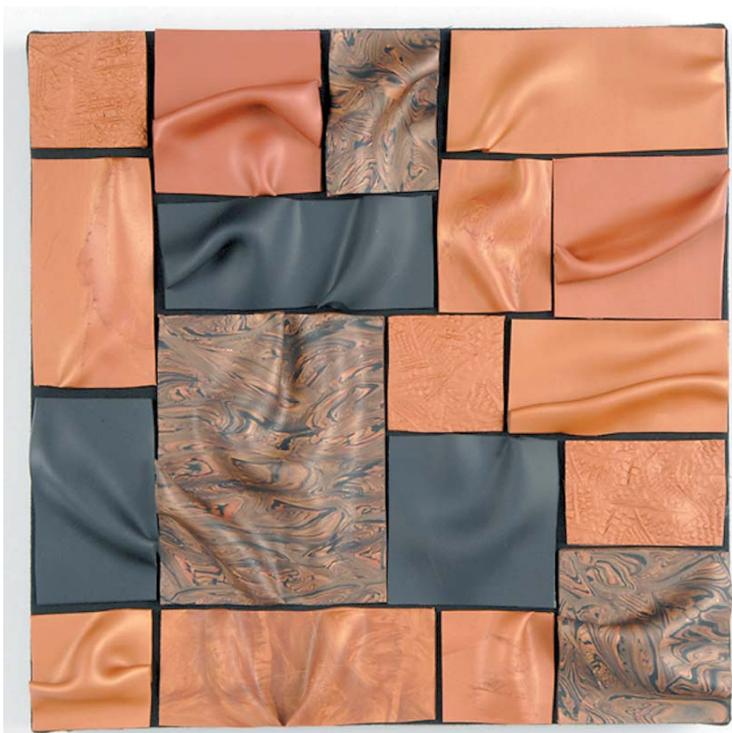
## SATURDAY/FEB. 20

**The City of Fairfax Band: American Treasures.** 8 p.m. at Fairfax High School Auditorium, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Gould, Persichetti, Hanson, Sousa, Rodgers and Gershwin and more. \$13 adults, \$7 seniors, age 18 and under free. www.fairfaxband.org or 703-757-0220.

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

**Simply Sinatra, with the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra and Vocalist Steve Lippia.** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4500 University Drive, Fairfax. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets are \$21-\$42. Charge at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 10-11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to use a computer, navigate the Internet, and work with common software applications. Call for an appointment. Adults. 703-249-1520.



'Underground Vista 2008' by Fran Abrams

**Minh 'Dreamgirl's Heart' Release.** 2 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566.

**Rockoceros Family Happy Hour.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

**Middle East MicFest Tour 2010.** 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance, \$12 day of show. 703-255-1566

**Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.'** 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at George Mason University Black Box Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$6, students and seniors \$3. Tickets to performances cancelled due to snow will be honored.

## SUNDAY/FEB. 21

**NAACP Fairfax County Youth**

## New 'Visions' At JCCNV

The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia presents the exhibit "Visions" through April 13. The three "Visions" artists are united in their use of color and design yet has a creative and varied approach to their art. Fran Abrams creates her images out of polymer clay capturing "the fluid sense of fabric caught at a moment in time." Mina Oka Hanig's paintings consist of small squares that create a mosaic-like effect. Cherie M. Redlinger creates abstractions from her life experiences, reflecting the artist within. An artists' reception is Sunday, March 7, 5:15-7:15 p.m. The JCCNV is located at 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax.

**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.

**"Unchained Memories."** 2 p.m. at City of Fairfax Regional Library,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9



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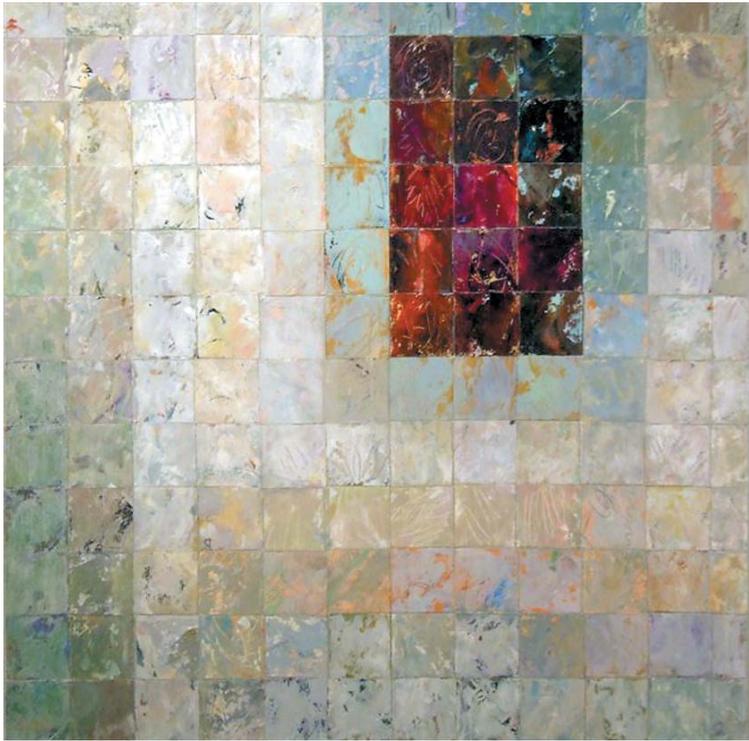







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# CALENDAR



**A painting by Mina Oka Hanig**

FROM PAGE 8

10360 North St., Fairfax. A movie and discussion on slave narratives. With historian Felicia A. Bell, Ph.D., Director of Education and Outreach for the U. S. Capitol Historical Society. Age 12 and up. Free, register at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library) or 703-293-6227.

**Felicia A. Bell Unchained Memories.** 2 p.m. City of Fairfax

Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. A movie and discussion program on slave narratives with historian Felicia A. Bell Ph.D., director of education and outreach for the U. S. Capitol Historical Society and author of "The Negroes Alone Work." 703-293-6227.

**The Northern Virginia NTRAK Model Train Club.** 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax

Station. N Scale Model Trains will be running in both the station and the caboose. \$2 for adults, \$1 ages 4-10. 703-425-9225.

**Alternative Takes: An Acoustic Evening with The Verve Pipe.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$17 advance, \$20 day of show. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Burke-Fairfax, Virginia Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, Inc., Black History Forum 2010.** 3 p.m. at the Flint Hill School, Olson Theatre, 10400 Academic Drive, Oakton. Black history trivia competition and celebration of African-American history with contestants from area high schools. Speaker, Dr. Greg E. Carr, chair of the Department of Afro-American Studies at Howard University. Free. Register at [Black.History.Forum@gmail.com](mailto:Black.History.Forum@gmail.com).

**Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.'** 2 p.m. at George Mason University Black Box Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$6, students and seniors \$3. Tickets to performances cancelled due to snow will be honored. 703-993-8888 or 703-993-1120.

## MONDAY/FEB. 22

**Jessie & James.** 2:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. See a pack of mutts present a comic dog show with juggling, rope walking and crowd play. 703-644-7333.

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

**Bushwalla.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Monday Bird Walk.** 7:30-9:30 a.m. at Eakin Community Park. Discover resident birds of the Accotink Stream Valley. Boardwalk is for all ages. Meet at the Prosperity Avenue parking lot. Activity is free. 703-941-1065.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 23

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

**Teen Book Group.** 6 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Find out what's hot and what's not. Age 12-16. 703-644-7333.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 24

**Picnic Time.** 11:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Bring a bagged lunch for stories, fingerplays and songs to break the winter blahs. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-644-7333.

**Steve Moakler (full band), Ben Rector and Andrew Ripp.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## THURSDAY/FEB. 25

**Trevor Hall (full band) and Jer Coons.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$12. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Lavay Smith.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$60-\$177.

703-938-2404 or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

## FRIDAY/FEB. 26

**The Virginia Opera presents Mozart's Don Giovanni.** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com).

**Brendan's Voyage.** 7 p.m., at The Auld Shebeen, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. 703-293-9600.

**Friends of the Burke Centre Library Big Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 703-249-1520.

**Jammin' Java's Mid-Atlantic Band Battle II Finals.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## SATURDAY/FEB. 27

**Brendan's Voyage.** 7-9:30 p.m., at The Auld Shebeen, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. 703-293-9600.

**Civil War Author Book Mart.** 12-4 p.m. at The Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Local and regional Civil War authors and film directors will discuss, sell, and sign their fiction and non-fiction books and film productions. Sales include a 20 percent donation to the preservation of Historic Blenheim. Cash or checks only. Light refreshments served. For more, call 703-591-0560.

**Inova Blood Drive.** 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Photo ID required. Appointments preferred, call 1-866-256-6372. Adults. 703-644-7333.

## FAITH NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday.

**Sydenstricker United Methodist Church,** 8508 Hoopes Road Springfield, has scheduled several community events for February. Contact [www.sumcdisciples.org](http://www.sumcdisciples.org) or 703-451-8223.

❖ **Sweetheart Dinner.** Saturday, Feb. 20, 6 p.m., including dinner and entertainment. Reservations requested.

❖ **Blood Drive.** on Sunday, Feb. 28, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., will be in the church's Hottle Hall. Call to reserve, walk-ins also welcome.

**Messiah's Marriage Matters Ministry** will also offer the six-week class "Dream Team: Building Unity in Marriage," on Sundays, Feb. 21-March 28, 9:30 a.m., and on Wednesdays Feb. 24-March 31, 7:15 p.m., at Messiah United Methodist Church, 6215 Rolling Road, Springfield. Free child care will be available. Register at 703-569-9862.

**Praise Service at Springfield United Methodist Church,** 7047 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, on Sunday, Feb. 14, at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome. Come sing, enjoy coffee and donuts and praise God. 703-451-2375 or [www.springfieldvaumc.org](http://www.springfieldvaumc.org).

**Congregation Adat Reyim Shabbat and Prayer Service for Haiti.** 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 19 at Adat Reyim, 6500 Westbury Oaks Court, Springfield. Join a special Shabbat service offering prayers and support for Haiti. Mrs. Mompont of the World Ebony Network, a Haitian native and founder of Faibien Corporation, will speak about the recent tragedy and hopes for the future. [adatreyim.org](http://adatreyim.org) or 703/569-7577.

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703-323-8033

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

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

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

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# SPORTS

## Area Swimmers Qualify for State Finals

South County, Robinson, Lake Braddock and Woodson swimmers compete in Regionals.

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock head swim coach Miriam Lynch is optimistic for the Bruins' future. At the Northern Region boys' meet on Feb. 15 at Washington and Lee, she saw two building blocks her team could use in upcoming seasons.

First, her junior boys swam a strong meet, earning three state cut times, giving Lynch a glimpse at the club's future.

Junior John McKenzie earned a trip to Virginia Beach on Feb. 19, for the state finals with a 1:46.24 in the 200-yard freestyle event, and junior David Maquera punched his ticket with a 53:88 in the 100-yard backstroke. In addition to the individual feats, the boys' 200-yard medley relay, featuring four juniors, beat the state cut time of 1:41.69 with a time of 1:40.37.

"My junior boys were awesome," she said. "[This meet] will motivate them for next year."

**DESPITE MORE** than a week of separation due to snowstorms, the team's unity remained strong, Lynch said.

"The meet kind of distanced us from each other," she said. "But the kids were still cheering for each other and were focused [on the meet]."

The meet's move from its usual site of Oak Marr Recreation Center — considered by some coaches as the fastest pool in the Northern Region — to Washington and Lee also forced the team to adapt.

"Our kids stepped up considering the circumstances they were given," Lynch said. "It wasn't the same venue, but [the meet] had the same feeling."

Of course that didn't mean the swimmers were pleased with swimming in a "slower" pool.

"I wasn't that excited about [the meet] because I really like the pool at Oak Marr better," said junior Troy Chewning, a member of the 200-yard medley relay.

Lynch was pleased with her team's results. "It was a great meet," she said.

A blizzard wasn't enough to stop the Robinson boys' swim team from making its mark on the Northern Region swim meet on Feb. 15 at Washington and Lee.

Eight Robinson swimmers exceeded state cut times for their events, some even surpassing state cuts they set at previous meets.

"I'm proud of my guys," head coach Clayton Joyner said. "They were in a tough situation with this break."

### Northern Region Final Team Results

1. Oakton - 244 points
2. Fairfax - 215 points
3. Langley - 198 points
4. Robinson - 193 points
5. W.T. Woodson - 188.5 points



The Robinson boys' swim team finished in fourth place at the Northern Region swim meet on Feb. 15. Although Robinson did not qualify as a team for the state finals on Feb. 19 in Virginia Beach, the Rams will be sending eight boys to the meet in individual and relay events.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERLITZ/THE CONNECTION

**"My junior boys were awesome."**

— Miriam Lynch

Five Rams also earned All-American Consideration (AAC) times across four events.

Junior Ricky Munch earned his AAC time in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 58.51 and finished third in the event.

Munch earned another AAC time in the 200-yard freestyle relay alongside junior Matt Osiecki, freshman Johann Shim and junior Cameron Boster with a time of 1:28.26. The 200-yard freestyle relay team finished fourth in the event.

The 400-yard freestyle relay, featuring Munch, Boster, junior Ben Zajic and junior Kyle Bumiller, finished with a time of

3:12.47, good enough for fourth place and an AAC time.

With the Northern Region meet over, Joyner said it's time to focus on the state meet in Virginia Beach on Feb. 19.

"[The Northern Region meet] was a tough, but every team had its ups and downs," Joyner said. "We're all about preparing for states now."

### WEEK IN SPORTS

#### Robinson To Host Region Tourney

On Feb. 26, Robinson Secondary School will play host to the Northern Region's best basketball teams for the 2010 Northern Region Basketball Tournament.

The opening rounds of the tournament will be played at the top seeds' locations, but the tournament moves to Robinson on Feb. 26 for the quarterfinals. The girls' matches will start at 6 p.m. and the boys' matches will start at 8 p.m. On Feb. 27, the semifinals will commence at 3 p.m. for the girls and 6 p.m. for the boys. The Northern Region final is March 1 with the girls final at 6 p.m. and the boys at 8 p.m.

#### Cooly Football Camp June 5-6

Washington Redskins tight-end Chris Cooley will offer his annual Old Spice Chris Cooley Football Camp on June 5 and June 6, from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at Fairfax High School.

The camp is open to all boys and girls from ages 7-14.

Cooley will be on site to direct the activities and provide instruction to campers. The camp also features a selection of the top prep and collegiate coaches in the Washington, D.C. area.

The cost of the camp is \$199. Additional information can be found at [www.chriscooleycamp.com](http://www.chriscooleycamp.com) or by calling 513-793-CAMP.



West Springfield head coach Bill Gibson said he wasn't worried about his team losing any chemistry. "[The storm] has given every team a chance to start all over again," he said.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERLITZ/THE CONNECTION

## Hoops Teams Prep for Post-Season

Teams complete two of the previously cancelled games.

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

The South County boys' basketball team couldn't have asked for a better season. For the first time in school history, the boys were enjoying a winning 14-4 record and looking to ride their momentum to a top spot in the Patriot District tournament.

"We were getting into a routine," head coach Wendell Johnson said.

Then Old Man Winter paralyzed Northern Virginia with a blizzard that closed schools and cancelled the final four games of the Patriot District basketball season.

"It's frustrating," Johnson said. "But we weren't sure what we could do about [playing the rest of the season.]" Coaches were resigned to the fact the season could not continue under the circumstances and discussions began to try to save the post season.

"Basketball is a tournament game," Johnson said. "We didn't want the season to end without a tournament."

The back-up plans, which included advancing the top two teams from each

district based on regular season record to the Northern Region finals in late February, may be shelved.

**AFTER A WEEK** and a half suspension of high school sports, teams in the Patriot District are lacing up their shoes to pick up where they left off and finish the season by playing two of the final four games.

**"These kids want to play."**

— Doug Craig

On Feb. 16, teams resumed district play and finished the season on Feb. 17. The Patriot District tournament follows the season end on Feb. 19.

T.C. Williams will host the Patriot District tournament over the weekend with the girls' finals set for 6 p.m., and the boys' final at 8 p.m. on Feb. 22.

"The [Patriot District Council] did a good job of trying to get some games back," W.T. Woodson boys' basketball coach Doug Craig said. "These kids want to play."

Coaches were thrilled to finish at least two of the previously cancelled four games, but a week spent cooped-up in a house rather

than on the court had some cursing the missed practice time.

"We had installed new [offenses before the snow]," Lake Braddock girls' basketball coach Carl Harris said. "We were preparing for the district tournament. ... It was frustrating [to not have games or practice]."

Harris, whose team is 3-13, prepared his team for an extended break.

"I told the girls on Thursday before the snow to get to a court and have a basketball in their hands," he said. "We just had to wait [the snow] out."

To Harris, games lost equaled experience lost, and game-time experience is crucial for his young team.

"When you lose, you can learn something from it," he said. "You learn from the experience of that game."

West Springfield girls' basketball coach Bill Gibson also gave his players a pre-snow warning, asking them to "stay in shape" during the break.

Gibson, whose Lady Spartans' lead the Patriot District girls' table with a 16-1 record, said he wasn't worried that missed practices might hurt his team chemistry, but mentioned the break will give teams new life for the post season.

"[The storm] has given every team a chance to start all over again," he said.



Craig Longmire

— REED S. ALBERS

# FCPS Sees Ups, Downs of Funding Fight

School Board lays out budget and governor agrees to give Fairfax schools more money.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

While Maryclaire Ramsey appreciates the Fairfax County Public Schools is in a difficult budget position, she also wishes she saw more outside-the-box thinking from the school administration and School Board members.

"I don't feel like they are taking a good, hard, long look at operations on a higher level," said Ramsey, who lives in the Fox Mill area of Oak Hill.

Instead of being creative, the School Board and schools Superintendent Jack Dale are trotting out the same list of potential cuts — popular programs like elementary school foreign language instruction — that they do whenever they face a budget downturn, according to Ramsey.

A skeptic might think the School Board does this because it scares parents and motivates them to go the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to advocate for more money to be transferred to the school system.

Ramsey, for her part, resents the fact that releasing a list of vulnerable programs tends to pit one parent community against another at a time when the school advocates should be working together.

**"We are going to be fighting for any money we can get."**

— School Board member  
Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill)

"Everybody is going to have their favorite program. How do you tell parents that freshman sports is more important than band?" she said.

Instead, Ramsey wishes the school board offered more creative solutions to solving the current budget crisis. She would like the school board to explore "revenue generation" or offer more cuts to the central administration for example.

SEE SCHOOL BUDGET, PAGE 17

## The Fairfax Schools Budget So Far ...

The Fairfax County School Board took its first pass at its operating budget for the 2010-11 school year during a Feb. 4 meeting, tacking on approximately \$23 million in additional spending to the plan originally proposed last month.

Schools Superintendent Jack Dale had presented a \$2.3 billion budget for Fairfax County Public Schools in January. Dale's plan included \$100 million in spending reductions and a request for the Fairfax County government to provide \$57.8 million more to the school system than it did last year.

Fairfax County already devoted more than 50 percent of county revenue, approximately \$1.7 billion, to the school system last year.

The School Board amended Dale's proposal slightly, deciding it could not live with some of the cuts that the superintendent had proposed, and asking for more from the county. The School Board increased the public schools' funding request to the county by \$81 million over what was provided last year.

During its own budget deliberations, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will decide how much of the county's total revenue to give to the school system. If the amount of funding is less than the school system requested, the school board will have to make additional cuts to the budget currently proposed in the late spring.

The following are some of programs and services the School Board would use the additional \$23 million from the county to fund

and those programs they have agreed to eliminate.

The School Board voted to put the following programs and cuts into the budget:

- ❖ \$17.1 million added to avoid increasing class size by an additional student per teacher
- ❖ \$1.4 million added to keep assistant principals positions
- ❖ \$800,000 added for instructional assistant positions
- ❖ \$1.6 million added for instructional coaches' positions
- ❖ (\$900,000) reduction via additional cuts for central administration
- ❖ \$2.2 million added for the Foreign Language in Elementary Schools program
- ❖ (\$110,000) reduction, cutting a fifth grade field trip to the International Children's Festival
- ❖ \$250,000 added to help students from Pimmit Hills Alternative High School transition to another program. The School Board has agreed to eliminate the following programs:
- ❖ \$1.2 million for "Focus," a special academic program in place in schools with high-risk student populations
- ❖ \$1.3 million for the Extended Learning Program known as Excel, also in place in schools with high-risk student populations
- ❖ \$6.3 million for summer school
- ❖ \$200,000 for two internal auditor positions
- ❖ \$150,000 for a student suspension program

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# Response Triggers Frustration

FROM PAGE 3

going to be plowed and to voice their displeasure with the response.

"We received over 600 calls and e-mails throughout the week, which is definitely a lot," Cook said. "People were frustrated with the situation and concerned about safety."

Compounding the frustration, according to Burke Centre Conservancy Board of Trustees President Kala Quintana, was the fact that only a portion of Burke's streets were being plowed due to VDOT restrictions and liability issues. Quintana said that within Burke Centre, some streets are owned by VDOT, while the Conservancy owns others and residents pay for those streets to be plowed by a private contractor. Many residents, Quintana said, did not know this fact and as a result, Burke Centre residents living on VDOT roads saw plows clearing the Conservancy-owned streets and not theirs and thought that their streets were being skipped.

"People would see Burke Centre plows pass by and would get upset," Quintana said. "But we can't plow on VDOT streets because of liability issues."

In addition, Quintana said that the problems were further exacerbated when some streets that had been reached by VDOT or plowed privately were not able to be cleared because of illegally parked cars. Quintana said that a long-standing issue exists with overflow parking and parking in prohibited areas within Burke Centre. When it started snowing, cars parked in those areas were snowed in and not moved. So, when plows came, they could not get through. Also, Quintana said that some streets that were plowed quickly filled with snow again because many residents that were shoveling or snow blowing moved the snow in their driveways and walkways into the street. Eventually, she said, the snow that was tossed into the street froze, leaving several-foot-tall "ice burgs" in the middle of the road.

While snowplows eventually came and serviced most areas by the end of last Sunday, Cook said that sidewalks and bus stops were still covered with snow, which could cause problems for students trying to get to school. So, Cook approached School Board Member Tessie Wilson (Braddock) and FCPS Facilities and Transportation Chief Operating Officer Manager Dean Tistadt with an idea to call for volunteers from the community to come out and help shovel sidewalks and the area around local schools.

Wilson and Tistadt agreed to the idea, and on Monday, Feb. 15, hundreds of parent volunteers grabbed shovels and went to their local schools to help dig them out. Cook said that more than 30 parents were

at Cardinal Forest Elementary School shoveling a path on the grass next to the impassible sidewalk, and several more were at Canterbury Woods Elementary School along with police officers to clear 10-foot high mounds of ice around the school. Cook said that inmates from the county's Adult Detention Center's Community Workforce were also out Monday helping to shovel around schools as well.

"We were trying to think outside of the box to come up with some ideas to deal with this problem," Cook said. "The response we saw is really what makes the county a great place to live. That spirit is what we need to cultivate more of."

These efforts, while effective, could not keep school from commencing with its plans to get back on track. According to FCPS Spokesman Paul Regnier, the school system planned to have a make up day of classes Monday, Feb. 15, but because the sidewalks, bus stops and school parking lots were not fully cleared, the schools were not opened. Ultimately, schools were reopened Tuesday, Feb. 16 on a two-hour delay.

"There are 50,000 kids who walk to school, and most of the rest walk to bus stops," Regnier said. "We can't have the bus stops and sidewalks to schools covered."

**"A lot of people have frustration, and it's understandable. It's been a rough week."**

**— Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock)**

**THE ISSUES RESULTING** from the inadequate snow removal, Quintana said, conveyed the need for changes on several different fronts to emergency response tactics and in other areas

as well. Quintana said that Conservancy officials need to discuss ways to provide parking to more people so that in the event of another storm, plows will be able to get through. In addition, she said that an agreement needs to be reached with VDOT to allow Burke Centre plows to clear VDOT-owned roads so that the snow can be cleared and removed as quickly as possible.

Cook agreed with Quintana that changes are needed, but he proposed a different solution to the problem. Cook said that these events showed that transportation should be taken over by the county from the state, as local crews would be better prepared and snow removal would be more efficient and timely. He also said that county and VDOT officials need to gather soon to discuss all of the problems that arose during the storms and to share effective removal tactics. That way, even if transportation remains in the hands on the state, residents can be assured that the next storm will be easier to handle.

"We need to have a sort of a 'snow summit,' an after-action meeting of sorts to find out if there's a better way to communicate," Cook said. "We can't prepare fully for snow storms, but we can work together [to find a better way]."

## MILITARY NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 7703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

**Army Pfc. Jonathan T. Martin** has graduated from the H-8 Tracked Vehicle Recovery Specialist Course at Fort Knox, Ky. He is the

son of Joyce L. and Charles R. Martin of Glenbard Road, Burke. Martin is a 2002 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary School, Burke.

**Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Alexander G. Francia**, son of Maria Del Carmen Francia of Burke and Gabriel Lifshitz, of Alexandria, recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Is-

land, S.C.

**Marine Corps Pvt. Dawson K. Drake**, son of Donna M. Crandall of Burke and Bradley Drake of Canonsburg, Pa., recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C. designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Nothing is often a good thing to say, and always a clever thing to say.

—Will Durant

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## REAL ESTATE



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Members of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors' new Chinese Forum.

# NVAR Begins Chinese Forum

**Real estate group launches forum for Chinese Realtors, consumers.**

BY STEPHANIE MARTINEZ  
THE CONNECTION

**T**o kick off the new year, the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR) has launched a new Chinese Realtor Forum. The group, which will serve as an educational tool for its members, hosted its first meeting last month.

The NVAR along with Chairman of the Board Vinh Nguyen and CEO Christine M. Todd announced the creation of the group, which provides exclusive benefits to members of the association. Tony Yeh of United Realty, Inc. will lead the group in its first year.

"Our Northern Virginia community is a melting pot, comprised of people from all over the world," said Nguyen. "As such, we provide excellent member benefits that address and embrace our rich diversity. Creating the Chinese Realtor Forum is another step towards achieving that."

The NVAR, which also hosts forums for its Vietnamese, Hispanic, Korean and Middle Eastern members, encourages anyone who wants to stay updated about the industry to attend. Even though each forum executes different strategies to suit their target

market, they're still conducted in English and most of the networking portion is conducted bilingually.

The group will provide several membership benefits including opportunity for networking, education and training, discussions of current market conditions, concentration on issues serving the needs of the Chinese consumer and resource of timely information.

The Chinese Realtor Forum was created as part of a movement started in 2007 for improving communications throughout the diversity of NVAR's members. According to staff liaison Anne Gardner, the forum will target Chinese buyers and sellers in particular "through Chinese language media, English language community media and, most importantly, through a coordinated outreach campaign."

"The common denominator is the goal of improving knowledge of the members and to prepare them for meeting the needs of their buyers and sellers in a changing marketplace," said Gardner.

The Northern Virginia Association of Realtors is a locally based association serving as the Real Estate Board for approximately 10,000 members. Its priorities are to promote professionalism, support and conduct success transactions within the real estate business. It was established in 1921 with approximately 40 members as the Alexandria-Arlington-Fairfax Real Estate Board.

"We are delighted to start this new group to create unity among Chinese Realtors," said Yeh. "This will help us to create awareness within the Realtor community and to better serve our clients as they realize the American dream of homeownership."

**"We are delighted to start this new group to create unity among Chinese Realtors."**

— Tony Yeh of United Realty, Inc.

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For those interested in growing professionally, join **Fairfax Toastmasters Club**. The club meets

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**21 Announcements**

**TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE**

Improved by the premises known as 4257 Americana Drive, #102, Annandale, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Sylvia G. Zamora, dated March 7, 2005, and recorded March 16, 2005, in Deed Book 17075 at page 1769 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:  
 Tax Map No. 070-2-14-01-4257D

Commonly known as 4257 Americana Drive, #102, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

**TERMS OF SALE:** A deposit of \$20,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 3.25 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY  
 Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:  
 David N. Prenskey  
 Chasen & Chasen  
 5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #500  
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21 Announcements

TRUSTEE'S SALE

OF VALUABLE

IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as  
 9019 Scott Street, Springfield, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Susan W. Kane and Victor D. Kane, Jr., dated September 7, 2004, and recorded [Deed of Trust Rec Date], [Page] among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 206, Section 2-A, South Run Forest, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 6880 at page 363, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 9019 Scott Street, Springfield, Virginia 22153.

**TERMS OF SALE:** A deposit of \$50,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 5.125 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY  
 Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:  
 David N. Prenskey  
 Chasen & Chasen  
 5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #500  
 Washington, D.C. 20015  
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# School Budget Battle Goes On

FROM PAGE 12

For her and many others, the current school budget proposal offers the same, old-way of thinking.

**STARTING NEXT YEAR**, it seems almost certain that Fairfax County students have to pay a fee to play high school sports and advanced placement tests.

The Fairfax County School Board voted on its initial budget request to the Board of Supervisors at a Feb. 4 meeting, laying out those programs it intends to ask the county to fund and those it will reluctantly agree to cut at this early stage.

The request included are new student fees to participate in high school athletics and to take Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests. The School Board is moving forward with a plan to eliminate Pimmit Hills Alternative High School and two academic programs in elementary schools with large populations of poor students.

Though the School Board can restore such programs after the supervisors approve the public school money transfer in the late spring, it is unlikely board members will have the luxury of restoring funding to programs cut this early on in the budget process.

"We are going to be fighting for any money we can get," said School Board member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill).

**CURRENT CLASS SIZE**, foreign language in elementary schools and freshman sports are among the programs threatened by cuts that so far are still funded.

The School Board budget includes a request for \$81 million more from the county than the approximately \$1.7 billion the supervisors gave the school system to operate last year.

Schools Superintendent Jack Dale had originally suggested the school board only ask the county for an additional \$57.8 million and include several more cuts in the budget.

But School Board members found several of Dale's cuts — including freshman sports, foreign language in elementary schools and

larger class size — to be too drastic. The School Board also restored \$3.8 million in funding for instruction assistants, instructional coaches and assistant principals that Dale had proposed to eliminate.

Without full funding, including the extra \$81 million, the School Board will argue that many of the undesirable cuts they have avoided will have to be made, said School Board members.

"To make any real difference, this budget has to be fully funded. ... And we have no guarantee that even [the superintendent's] original request will be funded," said School Board member Brad Center (Lee.)

**SEVERAL SUPERVISORS** said it is unlikely Fairfax would give the school system an extra \$81 million, especially when other county agencies and departments are seeing cuts in their funding.

"I think trying to provide an extra \$81 million in funding would be extremely difficult to do in this economic climate. Our board has to be sensitive to taxpayers who are struggling to pay their mortgages and stay in their homes," said Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large.)

Fairfax County already allocates more than half of its general funding to the public school system annually. Since the residential real estate tax generates most of the county revenue, an increase in schools funding would most likely correspond to an increase in real property tax rate for homeowners.

According to county officials, \$81 million is equal to increasing property taxes approximately 4 cents per \$100 of assessed property value this year.

Some supervisors questioned whether the School Board had really made all the cuts it could, particularly when it came to central administration staff.

"Until the school system looks at their administrative costs, I think this School

Board will be hard pressed to spend an additional \$81 million on the school system," said Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield).

When compared to Dale's budget proposal, the School Board did vote to reduce spending on central administration functions by \$900,000 in order to fund other

programs, according to school system documents.

Still, other supervisors appeared to be questioning whether the School Board had looked at all of its options.

"I have serious questions about cost and whether there are things not

on the table to be cut," said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) did offer a silver lining in the discussion about schools funding late in the day on Feb. 8.

McDonnell supports restoring the Virginia state education funding formula to its original 2010 proportions, which means Fairfax will get a larger slice of the financial pie of education funding coming out of Richmond.

Last December, former Gov. Tim Kaine (D) proposed "freezing" the education funding formula to proportions used last year, protecting funding for several school districts downstate from losing money but costing Fairfax County Public Schools \$61 million.

It is unclear whether Fairfax will receive the full \$61 million now that McDonnell has "unfrozen" the formula. In light of a massive budget shortfall, the Virginia General Assembly could cut education funding overall, meaning the pool of money for all school districts may shrink.

But Fairfax County will still receive more money than the locality would have, if McDonnell had stuck to Kaine's original proposal.

"By unfreezing the formula, the governor had made sure we will see additional money or, at least, some more money that we would have otherwise expected for our school system," said Bulova.

**"I have serious questions about cost and whether there are things not on the table to be cut."**

— Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville)

## Academies Host Information Nights

Fairfax County Public Schools high school career academies are hosting information nights and open houses for prospective high school students who may be interested in academy courses for the 2010-11 school year.

The open houses are open to students entering grades 10, 11, and 12 in 2010-11.

Information about each academy's information night and open house can be found below.

❖ Chantilly Academy—Engineering, Scientific Technology, Health and Human Services, Thursday, Feb. 18, 5:45-8:30 p.m., <http://www.fcps.edu/ChantillyAcademy>, 703-222-7460

❖ Edison Academy—Engineering and Scientific Technology, Thursday, March 4, 6-7:30 p.m., <http://www.fcps.edu/EdisonAcademy/>, 703-924-1800

❖ Fairfax Academy—Communications and the Arts, Thursday, March 4, 7:30-9 p.m., <http://www.fcps.edu/FairfaxAcademy>, 703-219-2226

❖ Falls Church Academy—Health and Human Services, individual visits are wel-

come, <http://www.fcps.edu/FallsChurchHS/academy/index.html>, 703-207-4011

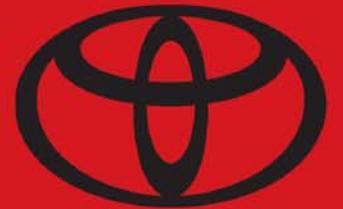
❖ Marshall Academy—International Studies and Business, Engineering and Scientific Technology, Monday, Feb. 22, 7-8:30 p.m., <http://www.fcps.edu/MarshallAcademy>, 703-714-5582

❖ West Potomac Academy—Communications and the Arts, Health and Human Services, individual visits are welcome, <http://www.fcps.edu/WestPotomacAcademy/>, 703-718-2500.

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**Springfield** \$389,000  
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**Lake Anna** \$399,000  
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Dan Racette 540-894-7777



**Middleridge** \$522,000  
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April 28

**TIME:**

7:00-9:00 PM

**LOCATION:**

Long & Foster's Northern Virginia Training Center  
3069 Nutley St.  
Fairfax, VA 22031

**TO REGISTER:**

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

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.



**Clifton** \$769,000  
Brick front beauty with 3 car garage, in ground pool, 3 finished levels! All features you want: upstairs laundry, great room/kitchen, main level library! Private 1.2 acres in a neighborhood setting!  
Marsha Wolber 703-618-4397

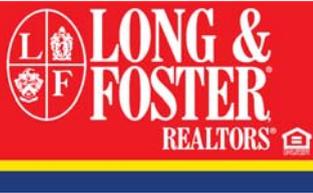


**Clifton** \$1,995,000  
**A MASTERPIECE!**  
Exceptional 5 BR/6BA custom brick home, built in 2009, with the finest in upgrades & detailing. Beautiful 2 story family rm, chef's kitchen, library, huge MBR suite, 4 fpl, elevator, dual staircases, 10' ceilings, media rm, wine grotto, walkout rec room, pool, 4 car gar, 5 acres, spectacular views.  
Nancy Basham 703-772-2066



**Fairfax** \$569,000  
ELEGANT 4 BR, 3.5 BA townhouse in sought after Fairfax Center. Close to Wegman's, Fairfax Corner shops/restaurants. Features gourmet kitchen, built-in speaker system; connecting stairs from deck to garden patio, wood-land view. A must see! Call today!  
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**Centreville**  
\$749,000

Centreville Spectacular Home! New Sunroom addition overlooks wooded backyard, park, and neighborhood trails. Large front porch

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and two decks with composite decks, columns & rails. Luxury Master Suite. Bright WOLL w large office/playroom, full bathroom, Kitchenette, Theatre room, and Shop. Great location; near elementary school, park, kiss and ride, close to route Stringfellow Rd's HOV access to Route 66, major commuter roads and shopping. On a quiet cul-de-sac!



**Fairfax** \$574,900

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**Arlington**

\$189,900

One of the best views in River Place! Panoramic view from Gerogetown to the Capitol. New carpet, fresh paint, updated kitchen and bath. Wonderful rec facilities include health club and pool. Parking space conveys. Walk to Rosslyn Metro station. 1 bedroom & 1 bath.

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**Burke** \$557,900

• 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 \*

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

DATES IN 2010: TIME: 7:00-9:00 PM

March 3

March 31

April 28

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

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with Spencer MARKER & CO.

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Gorgeous home with main level master bedroom suite plus its own fireplace. Luxury master bath with italian tile, jetted tub.

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Susana Vargas  
571-217-2740



**Fairfax Station**

\$685,000

New Listing!  
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.

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**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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**Fairfax Station**

Country Living, Close In

\$969,900

This lovely Colonial is sited on a wooded paradise, 6+ acres. 4 BRs, 3 1/2 Baths, Updated Kitchen w/Granite Counters, Center Island, Updated appliances, Huge Fam. Rm & Sun Rm w/wall to wall windows, Formal LR & DR, Brazilian Cherry Flooring on Main level, Stairs, Hall & MBR, Finished LL Level is fun filled and ready for entertaining. All this plus a Inground Pool & Hot Tub.  
Sheila Adams 703-503-1895



**Reston**

Rarely Available in Reston

\$515,000

Well maintained 4 BR, 3 BA, 1-Car Gar split level on half acre lot in park-like setting. Vaulted ceiling in LR/DR & SGD to screened porch. Expansion provides huge Kit & MBR. Call Barbara at 703-473-1803.

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