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# Moving In Day

News, Page 3

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 12



Carrying dresser drawers and a table from the moving van are, from left, Michelle Marin, Carl Christensen and Nella Farley.

## CUE Bus Raises Fare

News, Page 2

NFL's  
Randle El visits  
Robinson

SPORTS, PAGE 10

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## NEWS



FILE PHOTO

The Fairfax City Council voted in February to raise CUE Bus fares by 10 cents. The new rate of \$1.45 goes into effect April 1.

## Can You Spare a Dime?

CUE Bus fare increases April 1 by 10 cents, but change could be a sign of more to come.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**C**ity of Fairfax residents relying on the city's CUE Bus system will soon have to bring extra money with them the next time they board a bus.

The Department of Public Works, which handles the CUE Bus service, recently announced that it is raising fares on its bus routes to \$1.45 in accordance with the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority's (WMATA) latest fare hikes. The fare, which is a \$0.10 increase, will go into effect April 1 and was approved by the City Council.

"This will increase the base fares for all services across the board," said Department of Public Works Director David Summers. "It will keep us in line with what Metro has done and what other jurisdictions are proposing."

The City Council originally approved City Manager's proposal to raise the fare at its Feb. 23 meeting by a vote of 4-2 with Council members Joan Cross and David Meyer voting no. The fare changes, according Mayor Robert Lederer, are a result of fare increases on Metro buses and bus services in other jurisdictions. Lederer said that over time, the City Council has tended to follow the lead of Metro in regard to fare increases, and that WMATA's decision to raise its fares \$0.10 effective March 1 was the impetus to raise Cue bus fares.

"Over and over again, the public testimony has been 'we would rather see a fare

increase than a cut in service,'" Council member Jeffrey Greenfield said. "A lot of people rely on it for their public transportation, and the increases are not something any of us [on City Council] are totally comfortable with, but this is more in line with what the budget committee recommended last year."

Though the current fare increase is the only major change at the moment, future increases may be in store. Summers presented the Department of Public Works' operating budget for FY 2011 at a March 16 council work session, and it included a proposal to further raise fares to \$1.60 per ride starting July 1.

Summers said that the second increase is also due to planned increases by Metro, and the added cost will create \$45,000 more in additional city revenue. In addition to another fare increase, the department's proposed budget also includes potential service cuts. According to City Director of Transportation Alexis Versosa, four alternatives are on the table to cut service by different degrees in order to lower operating costs.

"We were directed to look at alternative options to cut the service that CUE provides," Versosa said. "So, we have proposed four different options to achieve that."

The first proposal, Versosa said, calls for the elimination of weekend service. Versosa said that the reduction of employee salaries on weekend routes would cover the loss of revenue from weekend riders and even

**"We need to reduce service hours in the areas where it is not productive."**

— Alexis Versosa, Fairfax City transportation director

SEE BUS, PAGE 14

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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Ayanna Childs, 4, of Chantilly eyes the finishing line of the Easter Egg Roll.**



**Children turned out on Saturday afternoon, March 27 for Jubilee Christian Center's annual Easter Eggstravaganza.**

## Of Eggs and Egg Rolls

**Jubilee Christian Center hosts Eggstravaganza for local children at Government Center.**

**O**n Saturday afternoon, March 27, children from around the area enjoyed games, face painting and, of course, Egg Rolling at Jubilee Christian Center's annual Easter Eggstravaganza. This year's event took place on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center. Prizes were raffled off and participants dined on Egg Rolls.

## Families Find Homes Via 'March Move-In Madness'

**FACETS provides housing for five Fairfax families living in local motels.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**I**brahim Nafees and his wife Nosheen know the road ahead of them will still be tough. Son Humza is a happy-go-lucky 4-year-old, oblivious to the monetary challenges his parents face.

However, at least for now, they have a roof over their heads and an apartment of their own in Fairfax. They're among five homeless families who received help from FACETS to keep them out of a shelter.

With a nod to college basketball's March Madness, FACETS recently conducted "March Move-in Madness," helping vulnerable, local families regain control of their lives. The innovative program gives them a fresh, new start and lifts one worry from them while they struggle to make it in Fairfax County.

"This is a pilot program, part of Housing First, the Fairfax/Falls Church community's 10-year plan to end homelessness in Fairfax County," said FACETS Executive Director Amanda Andere. "A motel isn't the best place for families to live; and we found that,

for less money, we could put a family in an apartment and truly practice housing first."

So on Saturday, March 20, more than 50 volunteers, including some GMU students, flexed their muscles and hauled donated furniture into each two- or three-bedroom apartment. By day's end, all five families, who had been living in a motel, were ensconced in their new abodes in a complex in the Jermantown Road area.

"We have a core group of 3,000 volunteers we can call on for help," said Tycie Young, FACETS director of development. "Over the past six years, we've been collecting furniture from people in the community and some churches. Interstate Van Lines in Springfield donated a trailer to store it and then drove it here."

The Nafees family came to Fairfax from Florida, but had no place to live. "I looked for a job there for one year, but couldn't find anything," said Ibrahim Nafees. "We applied for the shelter here and stayed in a motel for three weeks."

Although he has a bachelor's degree in information technology from the College of Applied Science in London, he's now work-



**From left are Nosheen, Humza and Ibrahim Nafees in their new home.**

ing as a pizza delivery driver, which isn't enough to support his family. "I'm still looking for a decent job," said Nafees. "This apartment costs \$1,400/month for rent and utilities, and FACETS is paying for it for 90 days. But I have to have a yearly income of \$48,000 to get into this apartment."

Planning to enroll his son in Waples Mill Elementary, he wants his family to be able to stay here and "not have to move him from

**"We all feel blessed that we have so much and we like to help those who don't."**

**— Carl Christensen, Annandale**

his school and his friends." Nafees said he can also do office-management, sales and customer-service work and hopes someone will hire him soon.

"In the motel, we had no kitchen and couldn't make food; here, we can," he said. "The apartment is excellent, but we only have three months. Still, we are in the danger zone."

**ANOTHER PROBLEM** that the Nafees family faces is that they have no credit cards, nor credit history and "most apartments want you to have [that]," said Nafees. "We got a loan from a friend and have to pay it back."

He also needs time to find a job. "We think it'll be six months to a year before we can survive here," said Nosheen Nafees.

"Although, we are very thankful to FACETS," said Ibrahim Nafees. "We especially

**SEE FINDING, PAGE 14**

## Nine Felonies Are Charged

City of Fairfax Police have charged a 41-year-old City resident with nine felonies as the result of a fraudulent check investigation. He is George Anthony Grant of the 9900 block of Duncan St. Police say that, on Jan. 3, an 88-year-old City of Fairfax man reported that a man he'd hired to do some repair work had stolen his checkbook. He said the theft occurred Dec. 16, 2009, and the thief had subsequently forged several checks made out to himself and cashed them.

As the result of an investigation by the Criminal Investigations Division, police charged Grant with three counts each of obtaining money by false pretense, forgery and uttering. He was taken into custody at his home, last Friday, March 26, and held in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center on \$9,000 bond.

## Fraudulent Check Cashing Alleged

Last Tuesday, March 23, at 2:22 p.m., the manager of the Cash Store at 9766 Fairfax Blvd. reported to City of Fairfax Police that a woman had tried to cash an allegedly fraudulent check at the business. After investigation, Kendall Lauren Brock, 21, of 100 block of Creekside Circle, Sacramento, Calif., was arrested and charged with attempting to obtain money under false pretenses. She was held in the Adult Detention Center without bond, pending her appearance in Fairfax County General District Court.

## Household Item Recycling

Beginning Thursday, April 1, the City of Fairfax will provide a new bin at its 24-hour Recycling Center accepting clothing, shoes, books and other small household items. The blue bin, which will be emblazoned with the city seal, will be clearly marked to distinguish it from the other area containers in the recycling center at the Property Yard, 3410 Pickett Road.

Now, besides the other items accepted, household items in

SEE NEWS, PAGE 5

## NEWS

# Hospital's 'Dream Come True'

## Inova Fairfax Hospital opens pediatric surgery center.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI  
THE CONNECTION

**S**urgery is a frightening prospect for a person of any age, but perhaps even more so for young children. A large, daunting hospital building gives way to long, intimidating hallways and the child is then taken from the parents and led off into the unknown.

The staff of Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children in Falls Church recognizes these problems and is leading the way in allaying fears with the opening the brand-new Pediatric Surgery Center. The center, which is the first of its kind in Northern Virginia, offers a child-friendly atmosphere that specializes in giving the best pediatric care possible while providing a comforting environment.

"This is something that the hospital has wanted for years," said Mary Urso, the center's nursing director. "No child wants to have surgery, but if they have to, we want them to have it here and be glad that they did."

**ACCORDING TO** Urso, plans for the \$3.3 million, dedicated surgery center have been in the works for more than three years. Urso said that originally, children having surgery at the hospital were being sent to the hospital's main operating room and would then be transferred to general recovery. This set up, she said, did not work for a number of reasons, most notably in pre-surgery preparations and post-surgery recovery.

Urso said that before surgery in the main unit, parents were not able to accompany their child to the operating room, and after surgery, were required to wait in a central waiting room. These logistical requirements, Urso said, made the experience more frightening for the children as they were essentially going into the surgery alone and had to wait for parents afterwards. In addition, in post-surgery recovery, Urso said that many children are in pain and cry loudly, which disrupted the recovery room and became a nuisance for older patients who were in beds alongside the children.

"It really was not the ideal situation for children or adults," Urso said. "Children do not want to be alone before surgery, and when an adult wakes up from anesthesia after surgery, hearing is heightened and waking up next to a screaming kid was bad."

So, after identifying the problems that the existing setup produced, Urso said that the hospital began a planning process to build the surgery center. She said that the hospital created a building committee that identified the center's needs and then met with an architect who designed it. After nearly two years of planning, designing and con-



DONATED PHOTO

**Dr. Robert Mesrobian, pediatric anesthesiologist, and Dr. Allyson Askew, pediatric surgeon, check out the new equipment in the Pediatric Surgery Center.**

struction, the center was completed.

According to Hospital Spokeswoman Jeanne Mayer, the surgery center is equipped with a slate of child-friendly rooms and features.

A new pre-operation area was constructed in which Child Life Specialists will be available to comfort the child and family and offer information on exactly what will happen before, during and after the procedure. The center will also allow parents to walk with the child to the operating room and also has a surgical waiting room for parents in which they can receive continuous updates on their child.

In addition, the center has child-friendly operating rooms, procedure rooms and recovery rooms that keep the child isolated from the adult population and contain specially sized beds, tables and more. These rooms are also larger than a standard hospital room so that they can accommodate families and have child-friendly touches such as star and moon painted on the white panel above the beds. A centralized nurses' station was also constructed which allows for open communication among staff and enables nurses to directly see all of the patients.

"We just want to make it less scary," Urso said. "Everything is child-sized and it eases concerns. Everything is bright and cheerful. It doesn't look like a hospital, except for the high-tech equipment."

Urso estimated that the new center would handle about 15-20 patients a day, with the most common procedures performed being appendectomies, hernia surgeries and ton-

sillectomies. The center will have three dedicated pediatric surgeons, and according to pediatric anesthesiologist Dr. Robert Mesrobian, a team of 55 anesthesiologists, 13 of whom specialize in treating "at-risk" children who are undergoing more serious procedures. According to Mesrobian, though the expertise was already there, the center will allow them to do their job even more efficiently and effectively than before.

"We can now put all of the children in one space dedicated to them and their families," said Mesrobian. "We already had the expertise, now it's all in one spot and it's much more efficient."

The center had its grand opening Thursday, March 25, but due to unforeseen delays with its computer systems, as of press time, had not yet opened to the public. Urso said that the hope is for the center to open to patients March 31, and that cases are already scheduled for that date. While Urso and other hospital employees are anxiously awaiting the official opening so they can get to work, they are nonetheless basking in the satisfaction of the completion of a long-awaited project.

"This has been a dream of the hospital's for years," Urso said. "And it's finally here."

## More

Go to [www.inova.org/children](http://www.inova.org/children) for more information on the new pediatric surgery center.

# NEWS

FROM PAGE 4

usable condition may also be recycled here. These include electronics, books, videos, tools, dishes, small furniture items and more. All items must fit inside the bin, which has an opening about the size of a modern microwave oven.

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**Candidates Night.** 7 p.m., at American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. This is an opportunity to hear and meet candidates for City of Fairfax Mayor and Council. Complementary refreshments following the meeting. Further information at 703-273-9152.

### SATURDAY/APRIL 10

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# OPINION

# Write Poetry in April

April is National Poetry Month according to the Academy of American Poets, and we invite our local poets to send submissions for us to print.

The National Poet Laureate serves as consultant to the Library of Congress and "seeks to raise the national consciousness to a greater appreciation of the reading and writing of poetry."

Virginia also has a poet laureate, a position established by the General Assembly and appointed by the governor from nominees submitted by the Poetry Society of Virginia. The current poet laureate of Virginia is Claudia Emerson, [claudiaemerson.org](http://claudiaemerson.org).

Emerson won the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for her collection "Late Wife." She is a professor of English and Poetry at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg.

But some residents are lucky enough to have local poetry as well.

On April 10, 2007, the Alexandria City Council named Mary McElveen as the city's poet laureate for a three-year term. Her replacement for the next three years is set to be announced shortly.

Arlington sponsors poetry competitions, one open to all, one for Arlington public school students, culminating in the display of winning poems (all limited in length) on Northern Virginia Metro busses.

This is one service local government could expand even in these economic times; Fairfax

## Connolly Failing His Own Test

To the Editor:

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) said he would vote for the health care reform bill only if it met these tests:

❖ Will it bring down premium costs for families and small businesses?

❖ Will it reduce the deficit?

❖ Will it protect their choice of plan and doctor?

❖ Will it improve access to care?

❖ Will it protect and improve Medicare?

It failed all those tests, but he voted for it anyway.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget office, Gerry Connolly's health care plan will increase premiums by 11 to 13 percent on average, or \$2,100 a year for middle-class families.

According to an analysis by members of the House Budget Committee, it will increase the deficit by \$662 billion over the next 10 years.

The Associated Press has reported that companies are considering dropping prescription drug coverage for retirees, forcing them into a Medicare plan.

According to the Medicare Chief

Actuary, the Health Care Reform law will put 33 million people, many of them seniors, in danger of losing traditional Medicare.

It will also destroy the military's TRICARE system, which is a dis-service to our veterans, their families and those currently serving overseas.

There is no question that our health care system needs some reform. This is the only major segment of our economy where

choices are not in the hands of the consumer. However, what we do not need is the health care bill that passed, which increases deficit spending, creates a whole new entitlement program, negatively impacts our job creators — small business — and results in government-run health care.

The people of America deserved an open and transparent process focused on bipartisan commonsense solutions to health care problems that lowers costs and offers greater access to affordable health care. We need a plan that fixes what is broken and keeps what is working and not a massive new government program.

Commonsense health care reform includes:

❖ Free-market solutions such as

health savings accounts and pooling by small businesses and cooperatives to allow all Americans access to affordable, private health care.

❖ Implementation of tort reform to reduce the presence of frivolous lawsuits that drive up the cost of insurance for medical practitioners.

❖ Eliminating restrictions on competition between health insurance companies in different states and expanding the portability of plans.

❖ Free-market-based insurance exchanges that individuals could access for coverage.

❖ Using technology to reduce the fraud and waste in the system.

❖ Increasing the length that children are able to stay on their parents plans.

❖ Options for those with pre-existing conditions to access health care.

Health care reform should not increase the federal deficit and the government should not be making health care decisions. Those choices are best left between patients and their doctors. As your representative to Congress, I would work tirelessly to repeal this bill and to bring about commonsense, real health care reform that returns health care

poetry submitted by readers this spring and occasionally throughout the year. We welcome student poetry as well, please list the student's age, grade and school on the submission.

Send poems to [fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM  
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decisions and choices to the consumer.

**Supervisor Pat Herry**  
R-Springfield

Pat Herry serves as Springfield District supervisor and is currently running against Keith Fimian for the Republican nomination to challenge U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) in November. The Republican primary is June 8.

## Letter of Thanks

Dear U.S. Gerry Connolly:

We write to thank you for your courageous vote for healthcare reform in our nation. In a hard fought campaign for the Bill, truth and civility sometimes suffered. We are grateful for your willingness to step beyond the fray and to vote to extend healthcare to 32 million people in the United States while not changing existing law on federal funding of abortion. We affirm your courage and willingness to act for the needs of those who live without access to healthcare. We were heartened by the many faith voices who weighed in on this important issue, even though we did not all

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7

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## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

end up with the same position on the Bill itself. This vigorous dialogue demonstrated our shared core value for the sanctity of life.

As we move on to the other issues of our time, we believe that Abraham Lincoln's words express our fervent prayer: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for [those] who shall have borne the battle and for [the] widow and [the] orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

**Sister Simone Campbell**  
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby  
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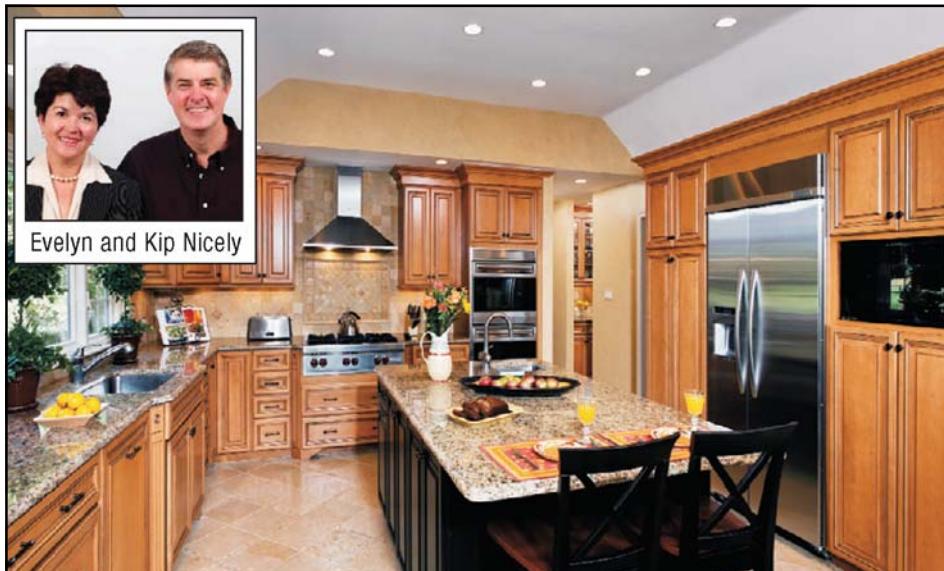
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6:00 p.m. Agape Meal  
7:30 p.m. Eucharist\*

### GOOD FRIDAY FRIDAY, APRIL 2

12:10 p.m. Way of the Cross\*  
7:30 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday\*

### HOLY SATURDAY SATURDAY, APRIL 3

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Saturday  
8:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter

### EASTER DAY SUNDAY, APRIL 4

7:30 a.m. Eucharist  
9:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist\*  
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# CALENDAR

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

## THURSDAY/APRIL 1

**Benjy Davis Project CD Release, Matt Duke and Seth Glier.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**The Holmes Brothers.** 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Roots, R&B, gospel and country influenced music. \$22. [www.wolftap.org](http://www.wolftap.org).

**Bunny Tales.** 10:45 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Bring a plush bunny for hopping fun stories. Age 13-23 months with Adult. 703-249-1520.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 2

**Tango Band Cuidado.** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Dewberry Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Music and dance from a contemporary tango ensemble. Pre-performance discussion at 7 p.m. \$10, tickets available night of performance only at theater box office. 703-993-1380 or [www.pghtangoconnection.com](http://www.pghtangoconnection.com).

**City of Fairfax/Chick-fil-A Egg Hunt** at Fairfax High School Football Field, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Hunt time for age 2-3 at 10 a.m., age 4-5 at 10:20 a.m., age 6-7 at 10:40 a.m. and age 8-9 at 11 a.m. All eggs will have candy, some will have tickets redeemable for prizes at the event. Meet and play with the Chick-fil-A cow. [www.chick-fil-a.com/](http://www.chick-fil-a.com/)

fairoaksmall, [www.chick-fil-a.com/fairfaxcircle](http://www.chick-fil-a.com/fairfaxcircle) or [www.fairfaxva.gov/parksrec](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/parksrec).

**Bill Kirchen and Too Much Fun.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Christine Lavin.** 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk artist. \$20. [www.wolftap.org](http://www.wolftap.org).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 3

**Pianist Lang Lang with the Schleswig-Holstein Festival Orchestra.** 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Under Maestro Christoph Eschenbach, the orchestra performs Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 and Prokofiev's Symphony No. 1. Lang Lang solo with the orchestra on Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets \$30-\$60. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or visit [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

**Willie Nile.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Popa Chubby CD Release Show and Moreland & Arbuckle.** 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

Jonathan Edwards. 7:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk music. \$24. [www.wolftap.org](http://www.wolftap.org).

**Eggstravanza.** 1-4 p.m., at Mott Community Center, at 12111 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Arts and crafts, egg hunt, games, refreshments. Free. For ages 3-12. 703-278-8605



## Contemporary Tango

**Cuidado**, a contemporary tango ensemble of young musicians, offers an evening of music and

dance Friday, April 2, at 8 p.m., at George Mason University's Dewberry Hall, ground floor of the Johnson Center. Pre-concert lecture by Dr. Greg Robinson, 7 p.m. Admission is \$10, and \$5 for students with George Mason University ID. Tickets available night of performance only at theater box office. For more information call 703-993-1380. To hear Cuidado's music, go to [www.pghtangoconnection.com](http://www.pghtangoconnection.com)

**Easter Egg Hunt.** 10 a.m. at Yesterday's Rose, 9960 Main St., Fairfax. Face painting, balloons and more. 703-917-6461.

**Read to the Dog.** 1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Read aloud to a trained therapy dog. Call or sign up online

for a 15-minute session. Age 6-12. 703-644-7333.

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 10 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.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 4

**In Alcatraz 1962, Life After Hours, Kodiak, A Gentleman Calling, Villiska and more.** 4:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## MONDAY/APRIL 5

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

**Calling All Guys.** 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Book discussion group for boys. Blood on the River: James Town 1607 by Elisa Lynn Carbone. Age 9-12 with adult. 703-978-5600.

## TUESDAY/APRIL 6

**DC101's Last Band Standing.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Teen Book Club.** 6:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Food, fun and reading. Age 12-18. 703-249-1520.

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 7

**One Woolly Wombat.** 10:30 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Australian stories and traditions. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-978-5600.

**Kid Science: Color.** 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories, discussion and experiments. Age 3-5

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

with adult. 703-644-7333.

**Writers' Roundtable.** 6 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Discuss work with other writers. Adults. 703-644-7333.

**Needlework Group.** 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Bring a project to work on in the company of other needlecrafters. Adults. 703-249-1520.

**One-on-One Genealogical Research Assistance.** 6 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Get started on genealogical research with the assistance of experienced volunteers.

Adults. 703-249-1520.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 8

**Swing Dance with Natty Beaux.** 7:30 at The Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-424-1745 or [www.headoverheelsdance.com](http://www.headoverheelsdance.com).

**Afternoon Book Discussion Group.** 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Call for title. Adults. 703-249-1520.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 9

**Rocknberos Family Happy Hour.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10, age 1-under free.

703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**bob CD Release Show, The 5 L's and The Franchise Players.** 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12 in advance, \$12 at the door. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Lunch Bunnies.** 12 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Bring lunch and listen to stories. Birth-5 with adult. 703-978-5600.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 10

**Garth Fagan Dance.** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive,

Fairfax. A blend of ballet, contemporary dance and Afro-Caribbean movement by the Tony Award-winning choreographer of "The Lion King." Pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets are \$22-\$44, available at 888-945-2468 or [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

**bob CD Release Show, Almost Kings and Feed God Cabbage.** 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12 in advance, \$12 at the door. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia 10th Anniversary Open House.** 3-5 p.m. at 10560 Main St.,

Suite 514, Fairfax. With Del. David Bulova (D-37), Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) and more. GOTR is a developmentally focused youth education program for girls in grades 3-8. 703-273-3153 or [www.gotrnova.org](http://www.gotrnova.org).

**Community Yard Sale.** 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Greater Little Zion Baptist Church, 10185 Zion Drive, Fairfax. Sponsored by the Women's Ministry. 703-249-9557

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 10 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.

## OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS Will Return



To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call 703-821-5050



## Salute to the Spring get fit in the City of Fairfax!

### Women's RunFit at Van Dyck Park starts beginning April

Tuesdays 6-7pm, Sat 9-10am, April 6-May 29 Van Dyck Park. Teaches proper running form, combining form, strength & breathing. Must be able to complete 1 mile (pace doesn't matter). Cost \$170

### Spinning Classes at Lanier Middle School -book NOW

Burn up to 500 calories an hour!!! Two classes offered: Mondays 5-5:45pm beginning April 6, Fridays 6:30-7:15am beginning April 9 6 week session. Cost \$54 per session.

### Free - Spring Yoga Class in Van Dyck Park

Sat, April 10 8:30-9:30am Sun, May 16 & June 27 -8:30-9:30am. Introductory class - flow yoga class incorp breath&movement to increase strength, flexibility & focus. Bring mat, towel or blanket & water. Class cancelled if rains.

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## SPORTS

FAIRFAX CONNECTION SPORTS EDITOR REED ALBERS  
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PHOTO BY REED S. ALBERS/THE CONNECTION

**Seventh and eighth grade students pose for a photo with Antwaan Randle El. Robinson students conducted surveys to find healthy snacks for the school and as a reward, Randle El visited the school.**

# NFL Star Fuels Up Rams

## Former Redskin speaks to middle school students about eating healthy.

BY REED S. ALBERS  
THE CONNECTION

With his fists raised in victory, Robinson Secondary School seventh grader Osama Gharem walked off the Robinson gymnasium basketball court on March 26 to the cheers of his classmates. Gharem had just won a game of "knockout," a basketball challenge in which a player must sink a basket before another shooter can score, knocking the first player out.

Gharem's triumph wasn't just in winning the game. Now he can spend his spring break bragging about knocking out former Washington Redskins wide receiver Antwaan Randle El.

"It felt good to beat him," he said. "It was a lot of fun."

Randle El's first shot bricked off the hoop and while the newly signed Pittsburgh Steeler casually walked to collect his ball, Gharem drained a free-throw shot to eliminate Randle-El. The students cheered and Randle El shook his head when he realized he had just been beaten by a seventh grader.

"I didn't know about the rules," he said, with a laugh. "I'm used to playing it different. I was just trying to play around, but I didn't realize I could lose."

OK, so it's not quite LeBron James getting dunked on during a high school basketball camp, but for Randle El, it was part of delivering a message to the students.

**"It's going to take more than gym class to be healthy."**

— Antwaan Randle El

During a pre-spring break pep rally for the Robinson seventh and eighth grade classes, Randle El appeared as a guest speaker promoting the National Dairy Council and National Football League's Fuel Up to Play 60 campaign.

The campaign's goal is to educate students about healthy eating and lifestyle choices and to encourage children to engage in 60 minutes of physical activity every day.

**NFL PLAYERS** such as Randle El serve as program ambassadors and conduct various school appearances in an effort to educate local youths.

While Randle El said that he never had an athlete come to his school and speak to him, he hoped his presence would help drive home the message.

"That's what makes this so much better," he said. "We only had our parents and coaches telling us to be in shape and eat right. To have an NFL player or NBA player come and talk to the kids about it, they hear it a little more."

During halftime of a student versus teacher basketball game, Randle El spoke about making wise eating choices and urged students to play sports or engage in physical activity after school.

"It's going to take more than gym class to be healthy," he said. "And you can't always go to McDonald's to eat."

The lessons were reinforced by games with the students such as knockout and a football throwing competition with Robinson quarterback Mike LoPresti.

Randle El then earned a victory as coach of the student-led team in the faculty versus student basketball game where the students trounced the faculty 41-21.

SEE RANDLE EL, PAGE II

## Robinson Crew Plant Sale

The Robinson Crew team will be conducting its annual plant sale on May 1 at the Burke Nursery and Garden Center.

The Burke Nursery and Garden Center will be donating a percentage of its total sales to the club when shoppers purchase items at the school's booth on May 1 and with at least one \$10 certificate sold by members of the crew team.

The certificates can be pre-purchased from a member of the crew team at anytime leading up to the fund raiser.

The crew team is not funded by Robinson Secondary School and all fund-raising efforts help pay for the team's coaches, boats and regatta fees.

For more information, contact Chris Veale at cv622@aol.com, Louise Lewis at lewisfamily6@verizon.net.

## Cavalier Charge Golf Tourney

The W.T. Woodson Athletic Boosters will be hosting the seventh annual Cavalier Charge Golf Tournament on April 12 at the Country Club of Fairfax.

Registration is \$150 per player and includes range, green fees, a golf cart, a box lunch, a buffet dinner and a chance to win door prizes.

Additional seating at the buffet dinner and auction for those who do not want to golf is available for \$40.

The tournament will feature a shotgun start and be played in a captain's choice format.

For reservations, contact Andy Sosa at 703-346-3323 or at andy.sosa@tasc.com. An application for the tournament is available at the W.T. Woodson activities office and online at www.wtwoodsonsports.org.

## Senior Softball Registration

Northern Virginia Senior Softball (www.nvss.org) seeks players, men 50 and older and women 40 and older, for fun, fitness, and fellowship.

Participants will play two slow-pitch seven-inning softball games Tuesday and Thursday mornings, April 13-Aug. 12, on Fairfax County fields.

NVSS fields 26 teams, average age 65, organized into three skill-level Conferences.

Players are assigned to a team at their skill level by skill assessment, not a try-out. Eleven play defense. Everyone present bats.

NVSS runs an Indoor Conditioning Program until April 8.

Those interested in player should contact Dave Scheele at 703-524-5576.

## Public Safety Football League

On April 10, Fairfax High School will be the site of the first game of the National Public Safety Football League (NPSFL) of the season.

The game will feature the Washington D.C. Generals versus the Orlando Guardians.

Gates open at 3:30 p.m. and kickoff is at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 a person and children 12 and younger attend for free. Proceeds will be donated to the City of Fairfax Firefighters Benevolent Fund, DC Firefighters Burn Foundation and Washington DC Chapter Concerns of Police Survivors.

Pre-game entertainment will also be presented.

Prior to the kickoff, city fire personnel will have public safety equipment in the parking lot for tours and information.

For more information, go to www.dcgeneralsfootball.org or call 703-309-9220.

## SPORTS

# Deep Pitching To Propel Cavs

**Core of junior pitchers to usher in strong season.**

By R. KYLE ROSENBLUTH  
THE CONNECTION

**W**.T. Woodson head baseball coach Chris Warren enjoys a luxury some Northern Region teams can only dream of — a deep bullpen.

Instead of relying on one pitcher to carry the team, Warren has a group of four juniors he expects to carry the load for the Cavaliers this season.

"We are pretty confident with whoever we send out there at any time," Warren said. "We don't consider one pitcher to be our ace, but we have a core group of young pitching that we are very confident with."

The junior pitching core is led by Tyler Wislocki, Tyler Hough, Joe McGillicuddy and John McGillicuddy and on March 27, the Cavaliers used Wislocki's arm to defeat Chantilly 6-2.

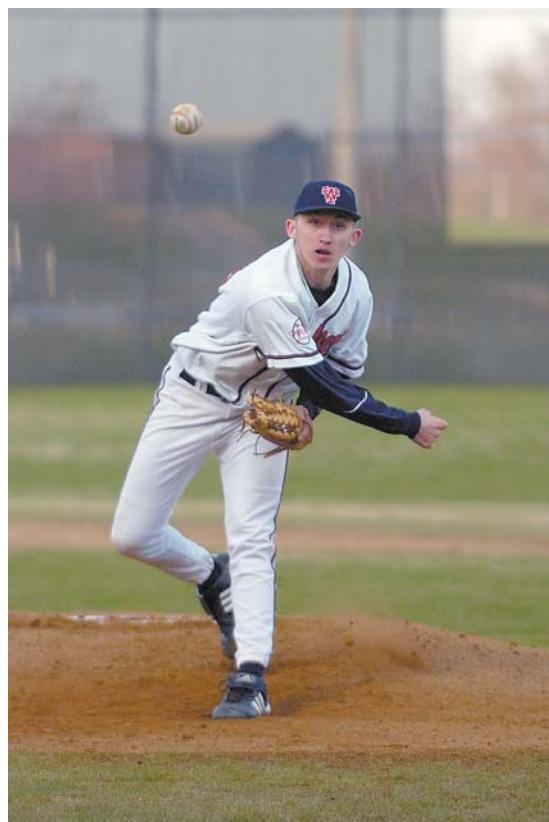
With temperatures nearing the low 40s and inclement weather approaching, Wislocki managed to keep scoring low, allowing his defense to secure the victory and defend a late lead.

"Tyler had a nice outing for us," Warren said. "We played tight, had good defense, and relied on a late hit to solidify the win."

The addition of a strong pitching rotation comes at an opportune time for the Cavaliers. After earning a 11-13 record in the Liberty District last season, the Cavs are hoping their pitching can serve as the team's foundation this season.

A major part of that foundation is the talent Joe and John McGillicuddy bring to the team.

The McGillicuddy twins have been receiving attention around the area since they burst



Tyler Wislocki throws a pitch during the Cavaliers 6-2 victory over Chantilly on March 27.

onto the scene as freshman, but their impact isn't felt just on the pitching mound.

John McGillicuddy, who has a slightly larger frame than twin brother Joe, is an everyday infield starter when not pitching.

"Joe is more of an overall pitcher than his brother, but both contribute in their own way," said Warren.

While John McGillicuddy provides defense on the mound and in the infield, Warren said the brothers have a competitive drive that helps fuel the team.

"They are very competitive with each other," he said. "It's almost like they are coaching each other."

While the Cavaliers are currently enjoying a 3-0 record to start the season, their spring break tournament was cut short by rain on March 29.

The W.T. Woodson baseball team returns to action on April 7 against West Springfield in the Cavs' second Patriot District match of the season.

## Antwaan Randle El at Robinson

FROM PAGE 10

Randle El's visit didn't happen by chance. As part of the Fuel Up to Play 60 campaign, some Robinson students conducted surveys to find new healthy snacks for students to eat after-school.

"They found students wanted to have some additional after-school fitness activities," said Mary Aunon, after-school program specialist. "But they always like to have some healthy snacks."

After surveying the students, popcorn and sherbet were added to the school's after-school snack offerings.

As a reward for the hard work, the school decided to host a pep rally the last day of school before spring break and try to get an NFL player to participate.

"As part of the [Play 60] program, the NFL has player appearances," Aunon said. "We applied for

**"It's not just about an NFL player coming out to speak to the kids. We want them to actually take it and listen to what we said."**

— Antwaan Randle El

one and we got Randle El."

While the event was designed to be fun, Randle El hoped the students wouldn't ignore his message.

"It's not just about an NFL player coming out to speak to the kids," he said. "We want them to actually take it and listen to what we said."

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## EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES

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# NEWS

# Bus Fares Increase

FROM PAGE 2

tually save the city up to \$50,000. The second alternative is to start the bus service one hour later and end it one hour earlier, changing service time from 5 a.m. to 12 a.m. to 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. This alternative would save \$85,000 to \$100,000. The third alternative is to start service one hour later and end it four hours earlier, at 8 p.m. This option would save up to \$370,000. The final option, Versosa said, is to only have the bus service running for four hours during the morning rush hour and for four more during the evening rush hour. Versosa estimates that this option would save the city up to \$230,000.

## CUE Bus

For full fare and route information, go to [www.fairfaxva.gov/CUEBus/CUEBus.asp](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/CUEBus/CUEBus.asp).

would have to pay a larger share of the \$2.8 million CUE Bus operating cost than the approximately \$1 million it is responsible for now.

"GMU is moving into a self-dependent service regardless of what we do," Lederer said. "So we'll have to look at the loss of GMU subsidy and have serious discussions with them [on what they plan to do]."

Though it is not known yet which of the four reduction options will be used, Versosa believes that a reduction in service is the most effective way to cut costs. He agreed with the council members that incremental fare increases would be preferred to service cuts, as it would not only reduce service but also cost several CUE Bus employees their jobs. However, he said that every \$0.10 increase in fare leads to only \$30,000 in additional revenue, so if the city was to rely on only fare increases, the fare would have to rise more than \$1.50 to cover costs. As a result, Versosa recommends service cuts along with the planned fare increases.

"We need to reduce service hours in the areas where it is not productive," Versosa said. "That, along with an incremental fare increase, is the best approach [to solving this problem]."

# Finding a New Home

FROM PAGE 3

appreciated the help from Samantha Gallo of FACETS and Virginia at the Patrick Henry Shelter House."

"The county provided us with Medicaid and food stamps," Nosheen Nafees said.

All five families will work with their FACETS case managers to help find jobs, improve their budgeting skills and begin working toward taking over their apartments' rent. However, Andere said the 90 days "isn't a strict rule."

"We don't want families to have to go to shelters or motels," she said. "If we see they're making progress toward getting a job, we'll work with them to try to keep them in their apartment. These aren't easy times, but this is a better environment for a family to be in and all these families have children."

Among those working together to carry furniture from the moving van into the apartments were volunteers Nella Farley of FACETS, Fairfax High senior Michelle Marin and Annandale resident Carl Christensen. "It's giving to the community," said Christensen. "We all feel blessed that we have so much and we like to help those who don't. That's what it's all about."

They found the furniture on craigslist and enlisted the help of husbands, sons and fathers to pick it up by truck and bring it to

Interstate for storage. "We asked anyone who looked like they couldn't run fast enough to get away," joked Farley.

On a serious note, though, she said it was "exciting to see these people getting housing. I feel so blessed to be a part of it. It's really cool. My husband and I and our children could have been homeless, if not for help from our family. But most of these people don't have families that can do that. It could be anybody [needing help], this is Fairfax County, after all."

Marin said her brother has a drug addiction and is homeless, "despite our attempts to help him. So I wanted to help these people before they get into that position because I don't think anyone should be homeless." She said the toughest part of the day was "lifting dressers that dug into my hands." The best part was "meeting the people we were helping, and a lot of cute, little kids."

Andere said FACETS will continue looking for apartments with affordable rents to participate in this program. The hope over time, she said, is that the families will do well "so we can have the whole housing program be homes, rather than motels." Pleased with the day's accomplishments, she said, "It's a great feeling when you know families are in a more-normal environment and will get to focus on things to get them back on their feet."

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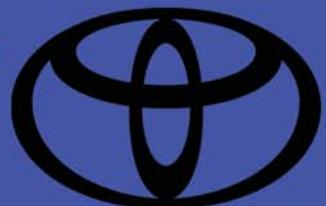
### Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process: Public Participation

Clearwire Wireless Broadband is proposing a telecommunications facility at the following address: 3342 Gallows Road, Annandale, Fairfax County, MD 22003. The proposed developments will include attaching microwave dishes to an existing utility tower and connecting to existing on-site utilities. Members of the public interested in submitting comments on the possible effects that this proposed project may have on historic properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places may send their comments to Alex Bos, RESCOM Environmental Corp., P.O. Box 6225, Traverse City, MI 49696 or call 1.231.947.4454. Project Reference #: 1002092

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4 bdrms, 3 1/2 baths. Totally remodeled kitchen with granite, new cabinets & stainless steel appliances! Bay windows, skylights & MBR cathedral ceiling. Spacious rec rm with bar area & large storage rm. Raised hearth FP in family rm with French doors to deck. Wonderful pond & patio in private flat rear yard.



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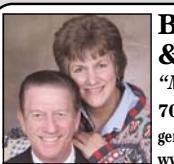


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Walk to Fountainhead Park!  
Charming home 5BR, 3BA, large screened porch, mostly Brick. Finished walk-out basement w/Rec Rm, BR and bath. Updated. Great Buy.  
See this property at [www.GraingerTeam.com](http://www.GraingerTeam.com)

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**Lorton** \$200,000  
Beautiful & updated 3BR/2FB TH in Pohick Square. Beautifully updated kitchen & baths. Convenient to 195, Rt 1, and Fairfax County Pkwy.

**Too New for Photo**

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