

Burke CONNECTION

Burke Historical Society President Suzi Fowler Neal wears a 1780s period dress for the lecture on George Mason.

From The Past

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County Decides Not To Buy

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Bulova Names Lipsev a Champion

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NEWS

Incinerator Purchase Goes Up In Flames

Board of Supervisors chooses to continue lease agreement at Lorton facility.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors ruled out a government purchase of the \$432 million Energy Resource Recovery Center in Lorton, a privately owned facility better known as the county's trash incinerator, on March 29.

The supervisors voted 9-1 to extend Fairfax's public-private partnership with Covanta Energy, which currently owns the plant, under a new agreement. Fairfax County staff is expected to finalize the new contract with Covanta and bring it back before the board for approval over the next 60 days.

"Renewing the contract on the terms county staff has negotiated provides an economical, safe and secure way to ensure Fairfax County residents have reliable, affordable and environmentally preferable trash disposal for the next 30 years," said Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large).

Under the new agreement, Covanta will own and operate the incinerator until 2041, but Fairfax will continue to own the land on which the incinerator sits, said Bulova. This arrangement requires Covanta to lease the incinerator property from the county, even though the private company owns the facility outright.

IN FEBRUARY, Fairfax County Executive Anthony Griffin had recommended that the supervisors purchase the incinerator rather than sign a new lease agreement with Covanta. The company had been asking too much of the Fairfax and buying the plant appeared to be cheaper for the county in the long run, he said.

"Staff believes it is still negotiating with Covanta but [the agreement] is not to a level that we should continue a long-term relationship with them," said Griffin on Feb. 22.

At that time, the supervisors also indicated they weren't satisfied with the deal Covanta presented. The county board unanimously voted to give Covanta a list of "must haves" for Fairfax in the new contract.

If Covanta declined to accept these terms, the supervisors said they would be likely to

move forward with the purchase of the waste management plant.

Bulova said the threat to purchase the incinerator did ultimately produce a better financial deal for the county this month. The new agreement saves Fairfax \$300 million over the life of the 30-year contract when compared with previous agreements that had been presented, she said.

"When we looked into purchasing the incinerator, it gave us some leverage with Covanta and put us in a much better bargaining position," said Bulova.

Other supervisors characterized the new agreement and success of this month's negotiations differently, saying the contract closely resembled the one had been on the table in early February.

"When we looked into purchasing the incinerator, it gave us some leverage with Covanta and put us in a much better bargaining position."

— Chairwoman Sharon Bulova
(D-At-large)

"There has not been any substantial change to the contract," said Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield).

"The terms we laid out were not accepted by Covanta. That is why I think the purchase [of the incinerator] remains the better option. Nothing has moved substantially since Feb. 8," said Supervisor Gerry Hyland

(D-Mount Vernon).

Hyland, who represents the communities that surround the incinerator, was only county board member to vote against extending the county's agreement with Covanta.

"That agreement, in my opinion, does not go far enough," said Hyland, who wanted the county to move forward with purchasing the facility.

In an interview, Bulova acknowledged that the county didn't get everything it wanted from Covanta.

"Time was out and I think we negotiated as good a deal as we possibly could have," she said.

FAIRFAX'S NEW ARRANGEMENT with Covanta doesn't give the county enough power over what outside waste might be burned at the facility, said Hyland.

Given the shortage of landfills and other waste management options on the East Coast, the supervisor worries that the Lorton incinerator might attract trash from several neighborhood states. More trash trucks on the roads could aggravate the traf-

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Finding the Forgotten Founding Father

Burke Historical Society hosts lecture by George Mason historian.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Say the name George Mason and most people think of the university that bears his name. Google “George Mason,” and biographical information about Virginia’s notable statesman does not appear until the fifth entry.

The historic snub is something Tom Moncure, senior counsel for George Mason University, would like to remedy.

“It’s the worst bit of history. Credit should be given to George Mason as much as James Madison as the father of the Constitution,” Moncure said, during a lecture at the Silas Burke House on Sunday, March 17.

Hosted by the Burke Historical Society, Moncure spoke before an audience of about 60 people, many of who were curious about George Mason the man, not the university.

“I enjoy history, but I really did not know that much about George Mason,” said Teresa Croxton of Fairfax. “I thought the lecture was wonderful.”

Moncure said that Mason, born in Fairfax



Thomas Moncure, general counsel for George Mason University, talks with guests Teresa Croxton and author Ruth Rose.

County on Dec. 11, 1725, read avidly as a child, and it was his reading in history that convinced him the liberty of people, and a “declaration of rights,” had to be an essential part of any government’s formation.

During the lecture, Moncure emphasized Mason’s superior intellect, strength of char-

acter and indispensable role in forming the fledgling government of the United States

But George Washington, who chaired the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia’s State House in 1787, did try to dispense with Mason, according to Moncure.

“They sent him an invitation fully antici-

“Credit should be given to George Mason as much as James Madison as the father of the Constitution.”

— Tom Moncure

pating he would not go. He was in his 60s, and he had not traveled outside of Virginia and Maryland. However, Mason was so concerned that we would replace the tyranny of King George III with the tyranny of Philadelphia that he attended,” Moncure said.

Political shenanigans, back-room politicking and oversized egos were as prevalent during the debate to frame the Constitution as any current political convention, Moncure said. As one of Virginia’s delegates, Mason relentlessly spoke out in favor of the rights of individuals and the states as opposed to the federal government. Mason’s Anti-Federalist position eventually fractured the friendship of Washington and Mason.

The Federalists, as Madison, Hamilton and Washington were called, defeated Mason, and Mason retired to his home, Gunston Hall in Lorton, for the final time

SEE LOCAL HISTORY, PAGE 16

Herrity: Lyme Disease Epidemic ‘Largely Ignored’

Governor’s Task Force on Lyme disease hears stories of loss, pain and frustration.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Tricia Platas, a Springfield mother of four, sat in front of Gov. Bob McDonnell’s Lyme Disease Task Force on Tuesday, March 24, clenched her hands together, and testified about losing her 9-year-old daughter, Amber Marie, to Lyme disease.

“It was a few months after her ninth birthday when we really knew something was wrong,” Platas said. “She woke up one morning in so much pain that she could not walk to the bathroom. This was a little girl who loved to laugh, loved to sing and dance, Amber was the light of our lives.”

Platas cried when she told the panel and 120 attendees how desperate she was to make the many doctors she saw with Amber to take her daughter’s “mysterious” illness seriously. In her frantic search for a cure, she took Amber to a doctor who strapped the little girl to a bed, and waved foul-smelling oils in her face. “Amber was screaming. I just can’t believe anyone would do that,” she said.

“I wanted them to treat my little girl right, so I wouldn’t always ask the right questions, or demand answers. I feel terrible about that,” she said. “You have to push for answers.”

Amber Marie Platas died on April 22, 2002, at Children’s National Medical Center.

Platas was one of 25 area patients and caregivers who testified about their experiences with Lyme disease at Immanuel Bible Church in Springfield. They shared stories of pain, fear and fatigue with the eight-member panel of health department officials and legislators’ representatives. It was the fifth public testimony hearing about the spread of Lyme disease in the Commonwealth.

Led by Michael Farris, chancellor of Patrick Henry College in Purcellville, the task force will propose recommendations to the governor after its final hearing April 25. Farris’ wife and seven of his 10 children have been diagnosed with Lyme disease. The task force is comprised of physicians, wildlife officials, veterinarians and other experts.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 900 new cases of Lyme disease were reported in Virginia in 2009, a number the CDC acknowledges could be ten times higher due to under-reporting and inaccurate diagnostic tests. In Fairfax County, 250 cases were reported last year, according to the Fairfax County Health Department.

A deer tick takes about 36 hours to transmit Lyme disease, according to the CDC. The longer the disease goes undiagnosed and untreated, the greater the chances are for brain, heart and joint problems.

“We’re here tonight to listen to people’s stories, hear their recommendations and advocate for more public awareness and education,” Farris said.

A well-known constitutional lawyer, Farris is the founder of the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSDLA) and Patrick Henry College, a Christian liberal arts college that is aimed at home-schooled students.

“Lyme disease is dramatically misdiag-

nosed, and there is too much denial by doctors that chronic Lyme does not exist,” Farris said.

Mikey Pedersen, a 14-year-old Vienna resident, told the panel that his case of Lyme disease went undiagnosed for a year despite seven doctor visits. He said doctors attributed his symptoms to growing pains. The delayed diagnosis allowed Lyme and co-in-

fections to spread throughout his body causing rashes, severe joint pain, and fatigue.

Kristina Sheridan, a Vienna mother of a teenage daughter with Lyme disease, told the panel her fam-

ily spent four years seeing 30 doctors, visiting seven hospitals and receiving more than 15 diagnoses before they found a team of doctors determined to get her daughter well.

She gave the panel a list of specific recommendations for the panel to consider, including spraying the edges of school fields and soccer fields with Permethrin, an in-

SEE LYME DISEASE, PAGE 7

“It saddens me to see how many people are still being made sick by this horrible little bug.”

— Tricia Platas

Ex-GMU Professor Pleads Guilty: Child Porn Charges

A 41-year-old McLean man pleaded guilty in court Monday to six, sexual offenses involving a 15-year-old Centreville girl. He is Joshua Gessler of 1300 block of Nina Court.

Fairfax County police began an in-depth investigation in May 2010 after the girl was reported as a runaway. During the course of the investigation, detectives linked Gessler to her through a series of online interactions.

Police then arrested him, Aug. 9, 2010, with detectives initially charging him with five counts of possession of child pornography and one count of production of child pornography. Authorities alleged that the girl and Gessler met in person and he took photos of a sexual nature and transmitted them electronically.

But that's not all. Following further investigation by detectives assigned to the Child Exploitation Unit, on Sept. 16, 2010, police charged Gessler with 10 additional counts of possession of child pornography.

He was indicted by the grand jury, Jan. 18, on all 16 charges, and was slated for a jury trial, Monday, March 28, in Circuit Court. Instead, he pleaded guilty to six offenses and the other 10 charges were dropped.

Represented by attorney Peter Greenspun, Gessler entered guilty pleas to five counts of possession of child pornography. His charge of production of child pornography was reduced to contributing to the delinquency of a minor – a misdemeanor – and he pleaded guilty to it, too. Judge Jane Roush then set his sentencing for May 27.

Gessler was a corporate and securities attorney with the law firm of Arnold & Porter in McLean. He obtained his law degree in 2000 from GMU, where he was an adjunct professor from 2007-2009.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Pothole Repair Ties Up Fairfax County Parkway

A contractor of the Virginia Department of Transportation tied up traffic in the Burke area along Fairfax County Parkway on the morning of March 29. Workers blocked lanes of traffic during morning rush hour in order to repair potholes on the thoroughfare.

In early March, Gov. Robert McDonnell (R) directed Virginia's transportation department to undertake a "pothole blitz" to fix roads that were damaged during the winter.

In Fairfax County, workers are supposed to refrain from starting morning repairs until 9 a.m., when the traffic on local roads is not as heavy. Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) said it was clear that the contractors had blocked off the road well before 9 a.m. on March 29.

McKay got caught in the backup on Fairfax County Parkway and was late for a Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting as a result.

McKay's commute, which normally takes between 30 and 45 minutes, ended up lasting 2-1/2 hours, he said. When McKay finally got up to the Burke area of the parkway, he found that workers had whittled down the road to just one lane northbound, the source of much of the traffic problems.

"It was absolutely ridiculous," said McKay.

The supervisors voted to send a letter to the Virginia Department of Transportation, complaining about the incident.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

NEWS

Sharing a Love of History

Mary Lipsey, cemetery preservationist, historian, selected as Fairfax County Champion.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

Mary Lipsey is a great friend of history, especially in Fairfax County. The former history teacher at Lake Braddock Secondary School has spent the past few years extensively researching the genealogies of families and connections lost to time in a far-flung group of private cemeteries across the county.

A quick glance at the website for her organization, the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, shows that she's helped organize restorations in almost a dozen private cemeteries since her first project, a restoration of the final resting place of John and Mary Marshall in April 2008.

"We get a lot of candidates for Eagle Scout projects come out with their groups and they clean up the cemeteries while we supervise," said Lipsey, of the organization, now a fully-fledged non-profit organization. That status means they can accept donations from area businesses or good neighbors who want to help Lipsey and her team reclaim historic cemeteries.

The Marshall cemetery was a disaster area when she first came across it, and, along with fellow History Commission member Lynne Garvey Hodge, Lipsey found her calling.

"We thought it would be a great project for the History Commission, but then we decided it'd be better off as a non-profit."

The secret to cleaning tombstones, especially ones that are hundreds of years old, is a soft brush and distilled water, she said.

"It's really rewarding," Lipsey said. And the research that goes along with the restoration work provides for great stories.

"We had a man from Nebraska contact us through the website whose family found letters that said a relative had fought in the Civil War near Camp Franklin in Alexandria in 1861," Lipsey said. "I did as much research as I could and found Camp Franklin in there but no record of a cemetery. He fought at the beginning of the war, but who knows? It's possible they may have moved bodies after the war, or the bodies could still be there."

She gets calls from across the country from people trying to track down their family history, which at some point had a connection to Fairfax County.

When a loved one died, they were buried near a family member's house, because burying them at a nearby cemetery meant they could only pay their respects once a month when they went to services, she said.

"These families thought so much of their loved one that they wanted them nearby," Lipsey said. "Now, no one's here anymore because we've become so mobile as a society. That's not right. No one's around to take care of the cemeteries anymore and they're all overgrown."

"I do this because I feel it's something we need to preserve."

— Mary Lipsey



Mary Lipsey is Fairfax County Board of Supervisor Chairwoman Sharon Bulova's choice for the Fairfax County Champion Award.

The work isn't just important to Lipsey, but to the entire county, and that's why she is the choice of Fairfax County Board of Supervisor Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) for this year's Volunteer Fairfax Champion award.

"She's an outstanding, wonderful person," Bulova said of Lipsey. "She's really generously donated and given of her talent."

Bulova and Lipsey worked together a few years ago on Bulova's book, "Braddock's True Gold," and the two spent time identifying the families and cemeteries around the district to get a better idea of what made the Braddock district and county into what it is today.

"I believe she's now working on a history oriented event for the Oak Hill Celebration Day, which is one of the old mansions that was built around the same time as Mount Vernon," Bulova said.

"When she retired from the school system, Mary said if she could spend the rest of her life doing research, she'd feel like she died and gone to heaven. I think she's living her dream now and I'm so happy to recognize her for her work."

Lipsey doesn't care about the recognition but is happy if the award brings some attention to her work, along with some volunteers.

"I love learning the history of these families," she said. The recognition "humbles me. I do this because I feel it's something we need to preserve."

"Mary works so hard. I think of her as a sister historian," Garvey Hodge said. "In Fairfax County, we're so rich in history. This award makes a statement about how important it is to keep it and not lose it. It's so important to preserve and protect history so we can share it."

Lipsey is a "wonderful servant of history," Garvey Hodge said. "She's also an excellent committee person. She's a delight to work with and her follow-through skills are impeccable."

How To Help

For more information about the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, go to www.honorfairfaxcemeteries.org.

McDonnell Vetoes Extra P.E. Bill

Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) vetoed a bill on March 24 that would have required all elementary and middle school students to have at least 150 minutes of physical activity each week. McDonnell described the bill, which earned his very first veto, as an unfunded mandate for local school systems.

Fairfax County Public Schools had lobbied for the governor's veto, stating that it would cost well over \$10 million for the school

system to implement the new physical education requirement.

"I think the governor did the right thing for the right reasons. I think he understands what challenges we face," said School Board Member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill).

Some were surprised that McDonnell vetoed the bill, which passed the House of Delegates in a 55-40 vote and the state senate 38-2 in February.

McDonnell's wife, Maureen, has made fighting childhood obesity a priority during her tenure as Virginia's first lady. A state wide government survey taken in March

2010 revealed that one in five children ages 10 to 17 is obese. The survey found that the obesity rate in Northern Virginia was approximately 20 percent among students this age.

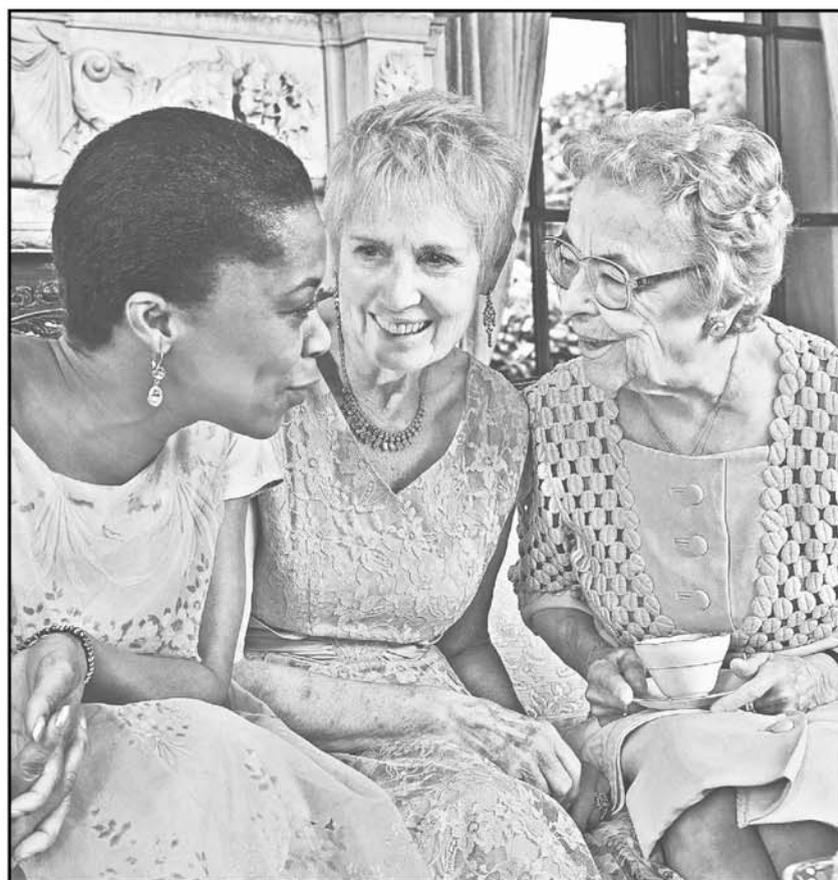
Several local Northern Virginia legislators supported this bill during its initial vote.

VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE BILL - Del. Bob Brink (D-48), Del. David Englin (D-45), Del. Charniele Herring (D-46), Del. Patrick Hope (D-47), Del. Mark Sickles (D-43), Sen. George Barker (D-37), Sen. Mark Herring (D-33), Sen. Janet Howell (D-32), Sen.

Dave Marsden (D-41), Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34), Sen. Toddy Puller (D-36), Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35), Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30), Sen. Mary Margaret Whipple (D-31)

VOTED AGAINST THE BILL - Del. Dave Albo (R-42), Del. David Bulova (D-37), Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34), Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49), Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), Del. Tim Hugo (R-40), Del. Mark Keam (D-35), Del. Kaye Kory (D-38), Del. Jim LeMunyon (R-67), Del. Ken Plum (D-36), Del. Tom Rust (R-86), Del. Scott Surovell (D-44), Del. Vivian Watts (D-39)

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Supervisors Decide Not To Purchase Incinerator

FROM PAGE 2

fic congestion in Lorton and along Interstate 95.

"Additional truck traffic would be a problem," he said.

Hyland had also wanted Covanta to provide more generous community benefits. The company currently helps pay for Fairfax's mass document shredding as well as computer and electronic disposal events, but Hyland said Covanta had done more in other communities where it operates.

Potential innovation in energy production and the power industry lead Bulova to steer clear of purchasing the incinerator.

Under the scenario presented the county executive, Fairfax was not expected to reap any financial benefits from buying the trash burner for another 17 to 20 years. By that time, advancements in technology could render the incinerator obsolete, said Bulova.

"There were many questions about changing technology and what the recycling market will be like 20 years from now. There are no short-term savings with the purchase option and there could be no long-term savings," she said.

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce also lobbied hard for the supervisors to reject incinerator purchase option.

"We are very pleased with the decision. Chairman Sharon Bulova has shown a lot

of leadership on this issue," said Jim Corcoran, president and chief executive officer of the Fairfax Chamber.

"It would have sent a very negative message for Fairfax to take over a facility from a private business," said Corcoran, who confirmed that Covanta is a chamber member.

The entire Board of Supervisors is standing for reelection in Fall 2011 and the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce is one of the most influential players in local politics. Over the last 15 years, the chamber's political action committee has donated approximately \$47,639 to Fairfax supervisors' political campaigns, according to the Virginia Public Access Project, a nonpartisan organization that tracks campaign finance data.

Perhaps more importantly, individual members of the chamber are also among the most generous donors to county board campaigns and frequently give more money to candidates endorsed by the chamber.

When asked if he felt the chamber's outspoken opposition to the incinerator purchase made a difference, Corcoran said: "I think it did. I think that was truly democracy in action."

Bulova and Hyland continue to worry about one aspect of the county's lease extension with Covanta.

The county is obligated to provide the facility with a certain amount of trash, otherwise it has to start paying Covanta a financial penalty, said Hyland. The incinerator also has to receive a large amount of trash in order to produce the energy Fairfax ends up selling to Dominion Power every year, said Bulova.

So a decline in the amount of trash coming into the Lorton incinerator could result in the county have to pay a fine to Covanta and potentially losing revenue from the sale of energy to Dominion, costs that would ultimately have to be covered by the taxpayers.

Until recently, Fairfax has been able to guarantee that a significant amount of trash goes to the Lorton incinerator by requiring that all the county's homeowner associations, civic associations and businesses send their waste to the facility. But it may no longer have the authority to force the flow of all local trash to the local plant.

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that a locality can only compel residents and businesses to use a particular trash disposal facility if a local government was using bonds to pay for the facility's upkeep. A municipality cannot force homeowners and businesses to use one particular waste management site if it is privately owned.

Fairfax finished paying off the municipal bonds taken out to pay for the incinerator's renovations in February and Hyland fears some trash haulers will start taking waste

elsewhere.

"Businesses do not have to continue to use the mass burner. There are [trash] haulers have their own private landfills in other parts of Virginia," he said.

This would not have been an issue if Fairfax had decided to purchase the incinerator this week. The county would once again be using municipal bonds to pay off debt on the facility and could require all local trash flow to the facility, said Hyland.

"Yes. It is absolutely an issue. It was the most compelling reason to support the purchase option," said Bulova.

The business community tends to think it is better to have more flexibility in the marketplace, like the option for businesses and homeowners group to have their trash hauled to a site of their choosing, even if it is not the incinerator.

"We really believe in the forces of the free market," said Corcoran of the trash flow issue.

Herrity also downplayed the threat of Fairfax falling short of its trash quota at the Lorton incinerator.

Open landfills and other trash disposal facilities are still quite a distance from Fairfax County. As long as the incinerator continues to have competitive rates, it was unlikely businesses or homeowners associations were going to find a cheaper for getting rid of their waste, he said.



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FAITH

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) will host an open house at the LDS meeting house at 6942 Sydenstricker Road in Springfield on Saturday, April 9, from 3-6 p.m. The open house will provide an opportunity for the local community to learn more about the LDS faith. The public is invited. Light refreshments will be served. 703-655-0617.

Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive in Burke, will host a small group Lenten Study through April 23. Small groups will meet on a variety of days and times throughout the week to explore John Indermark's book *Gospelled Lives: Encounters with Jesus* which covers varied responses of biblical characters to direct encounters with the living Christ. Choose a group that meets at a time convenient to your schedule. Open to all. www.BurkePresChurch.org or 703-764-0456.

Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax, will present an Easter Cantata on Sunday, April 28, at 11 a.m. The public is invited to sing in the Cantata. Practices will be on Wednesdays at 7 p.m., with no practice on April 6. 703-383-1170. www.jccag.org

The Messiah United Methodist Church Festival Chorus will offer "Requiem" and "Revelations" by Bradley Ellingboe, on Sunday, March 27 at 3 p.m. at Messiah UMC, 6215 Rolling

Road in Springfield. 703-569-9862, ext. 205.

The Truro Parish Choir presents the Duruflé Requiem as part of the Good Friday worship services on Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Truro Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. The Requiem, op. 9, by Maurice Duruflé is a work in which most of the thematic material comes from chant. The choir will be accompanied by organist Andrea Boudra. 703-273-1300.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive in Clifton, offers three levels of ESL Classes every Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. Cost for semester is \$35, including student book. To register, come to the next class. www.lordoflifelutheran.com or 703-323-9500.

Interested in the Catholic Faith? Classes will be held at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in the Guadalupe Room in the Parish Center, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Contact Carolyn Smith at carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com or 703-273-5369.

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road in Oakton, offers services on Saturdays at 4:30 p.m., in addition to Sunday services at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. www.uucf.org.

The Parkwood Baptist Church, 8726 Braddock Road in Annandale, Bible Study Fellowship will study of the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. The Day

SEE FAITH NOTES, PAGE 15

How would you like state of the art LASER dentistry without drills or needles?

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

■ Sterilization

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

■ Great for Teenagers

The Waterlase® is especially great for teenagers. Sure, if the dentist is very good, shots should not really be painful. But **KNOWING** you're getting a shot is psychologically painful even if you can't feel the needle--especially for teenagers. By not getting a shot, not feeling the vibration of the drill, and by not hearing the loud drill, kids never become **afraid of the dentist**, so they don't grow up to be adults afraid of the dentist.

By incorporating laser technology into our dental practice, we are changing dentistry. It is no longer yesterday's world of painful shots, large silver mercury fillings, and fearful patients. Lasers have improved the lives of patients and their dentists.

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

We are proud to be one of the first dentists in Fairfax County to offer this revolutionary technology. Since August 2003, Dr. Fox has completed over 3,000 laser fillings with no needle/no pain/no numbness. If you've been putting off going to the dentist because you were nervous about the drill and needle, you don't have to put it off any longer!

For more information about our dental practice please visit our [facebook](#) page or visit our website at www.larryfoxdds.com



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In Praise of Workforce Housing

Fairfax County needs more affordable housing of all varieties.

After a recent vote to approve 270 apartments that would be rented to families with a variety of income levels, the three members who voted against it — John Cook (R-Braddock), Michael Frey (R-Sully) and Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) — called the project “subsidized luxury housing” which would compete with the private sector.

Fairfax County desperately needs a mix of affordable housing. The county offers a wide variety of options, from tiny efficiency apartments for a single person that can cost less than \$400 a month including utilities, to three-bedroom apartments that cost \$1,100 a month for families of four or more who could earn \$100,000 a year.

But there is not nearly enough such housing available. There are more than 12,000 families or individuals languishing on a waiting list that could take three years or more. Some families are waiting in homeless shelters.

This isn't a case of wanting to spread the wealth around. This is a serious economic development issue.

“Businesses today are seeking young creative professionals with state-of-the-art technology skills,” said Gerald Gordon, of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, calling workforce housing and this project in particular “fuel for the growth of our technology

and other businesses.” These workers often cannot, at the beginning of their careers, afford to live in Fairfax County.

“Opportunities to live close to where they work helps employees reduce commute time and improve their quality of life. And that translates into a business advantage,” said Douglas Koelemay of Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC).

EDITORIALS

More than 70,000 households in Fairfax County have income of less than \$50,000 per year, less than half the area median income for a family of four, \$102,700, according to the 2008 US Census Bureau's American Community Survey, More than 26,000 households in Fairfax County have income of less than \$25,000 per year.

Think about it for a minute. If you're reading the Connection in newsprint, chances are that your household has annual income of more than \$200,000 a year. How can any family survive on less than \$25,000 here?

Fairfax County has the largest number of renters with what is described as “worst case housing” in Virginia: More than 12,000 Fairfax County renter households pay more than 50 percent of their income for housing costs, have incomplete plumbing facilities and/or live in severe overcrowding.

cuss recommended changes.

The School Board and staff are committed to a safe and secure learning environment for all students and that will not change. But we also recognize that any process involving students can and should withstand periodic review that can lead to new procedures. I believe we can make improvements to our discipline process that will benefit our students, parents and schools. I encourage you to stay involved with our progress by visiting <http://www.fcps.edu/news/discipline.htm>.

LETTERS

Kathy Smith, Chairman
Fairfax County School Board

New Vision Of Leadership

To the Editor:

At a public hearing on March 29, I shared with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors how to prevent future governors from denying Fairfax County our fair share of funding for basic education. I shared how to increase local control, how to increase support from

Fairfax County is smart to take underused county-owned property, like the land around Government Center and other “surplus” property to help create more opportunities to expand lower cost rental apartments.

The biggest boom in the county will come in the next few years in Tysons Corner, where the county must engage every creative mechanism to boost housing opportunities for every income of Tysons worker.

Redistricting Maps To Be Released

Don't miss your only opportunity to comment locally in Northern Virginia on newly drawn state district lines for Virginia Senate, House of Delegates and U.S. Congress. The public hearing is Saturday, April 2, 10:30 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, Board of Supervisors Auditorium.

Or travel to Loudoun, the only other Northern Virginia hearing, on Thursday, March 31, 7:30 p.m. in the Loudoun County Board Room, Leesburg.

New districts are on a fast track to approval in time for summer primary elections.

For more, see <http://www.vpap.org/updates/redistricting>, and <http://redistricting.dls.virginia.gov> and www.connectionnewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

placing other children in standard facilities. We will protect and strengthen our safety net of human services. We will award a pay raise to county and school employees for the first time in years. We will provide tax relief. Our budget is a statement of our community's values, not just a book of numbers. We will honor our local priorities. Supervisors have done their best at a difficult time. The question remains, of course, whether they will do this work or wait for new leadership.

Will Radle
Franconia

Lazy Thinking

To the Editor:

When the governor vetoed last week the proposed physical education requirement for our schools, my first thought was “laziness.”

Not the physical laziness from students failing to get the daily activity. Rather, it was the intellectual laziness that arises from smart people blindly adopting statements from our educational estab-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

ishment when those statements are contrary to fact.

The backdrop for this issue is the rapid increase in childhood obesity that now impacts one-third of all schoolchildren. Our children are heavier than at any time in U.S. history. By every objective measure, they engage in less physical activity.

The bill passed by the General Assembly requires at least 150 minutes of weekly physical activity from kindergarten through eighth grade. To provide time for implementation, the law's effect was delayed until 2015.

Rather than embracing this modest use of our public schools to promote healthy living, the proposal was assailed by critics in the educational establishment. Normally, I defer to the leadership of the school system on curriculum issues. Not this time. In fact, these criticisms suffer from inconsistency if not hypocrisy.

CRITICISM #1: The law is an "unfunded mandate" which will cost millions to implement.

RESPONSE: Nonsense. Every school in Virginia has open space and recreational facilities. Nearly all in Fairfax County have full-size gyms. (This is not the simpler era of my youth with P.E. class in the cafeteria). In other words, the public's money has already been spent. Let's use these facilities!

CRITICISM #2: The law will take away from classroom instruction time.

RESPONSE: That misses the whole point. Quite simply, seven hours of class time is more effective if it includes at least 30 minutes of physical activity. Again, daily physical education was a staple in our schools up until 10 years ago. And the U.S. still produced more Nobel Prize winners than any other country.

CRITICISM #3: Physical education should be taught by parents, not the schools.

RESPONSE: This is a remarkable comment, when you consider that state law mandates the teaching of "family life education," otherwise known as sex education, in school. Is encouraging exercise less important than teaching kids about sex?

Our kids need movement every day. Sitting at a desk all day makes for a round student, not a well-rounded one.

Therefore, the legislature should over-ride the governor's veto and put some muscle back into the school day.

Sen. Chap Petersen
D-34th District

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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/MARCH 31

Burn The Ballroom, Safety Word Orange and Turtle Recall. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

John McCutcheon. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk singer/songwriter. \$20. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 1

The Virginia Opera: Puccini's "Madama Butterfly." 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.

The Guggenheim Grotto and Galen Curry at 7 p.m., and Mista Hyde, Shux, Twizm and Nooky Beats at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Fairfax Art League Photographers' Show. 3-7 p.m. Village Gallery, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. With photographers Don Allen, Spencer Cake, Carol Caputo, Glenda Kirkman, Larry Oskin, Allen Pearson, Joan Singer and more. Free. Light refreshments. www.fairfaxartleague.net.

Roger McGuinn. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. The former front man of the Byrds. \$27. www.wolftrap.org.



Mother-Daughter Artists Exhibit

"Connected" will be on display at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax, through May 3. The exhibit by the mother and daughter figurative painters, Lisa Brotman and Erica Leigh Orgen, will be open Sunday through Thursday 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 12:30-6 p.m. www.jccnv.org.

'Girl on Orange' by Erica Leigh Orgen

Mary. Dessert reception to follow. Free. www.BurkePresChurch.org or 703-764-0456.

Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association.

Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Advanced beginners "Two Step" lesson 7:30 p.m., open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. Two step, waltz, line, swing, cha cha and more. Couples and singles welcome. \$5-\$12. www.nvcwda.org or 703-860-4941.

Fairfax Art League Photographers' Show. 5-7 p.m. Village Gallery, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. Reception at 5 p.m. Free. Light

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE II

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To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Connection will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

photoB@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:

The Burke Connection,
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Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 10

refreshments. www.fairfaxartleague.net.
Cravin' Dogs and The Michael Clem Trio. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk music. \$16. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 3

The Virginia Opera: Puccini's "Madama Butterfly." 2:30 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.
Third Annual Used Book Sale. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Geshher Jewish Day

School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Books, DVDs, CDs and more. Most items \$.50-\$2. All proceeds benefit the school. 703-978-9789 or Geshherbooksale@gmail.com.

Collective Change Benefit Concert featuring: Pretend and Release and Talk Like They're Famous. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/APRIL 4

Third Annual Used Book Sale. 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Geshher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Books, DVDs, CDs and more. Most items \$.50-\$2. All proceeds benefit the school. 703-978-9789 or

Geshherbooksale@gmail.com.
Community Climate Conference. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. George Mason University Johnson Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Climate change issues, off-shore wind in Virginia, vegetarianism and updates on Congressional action. Light breakfast and lunch served. Free. 703-993-4426 or cbennet6@gmu.edu.

David Ryan Harris and Hugo. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 5

Third Annual Used Book Sale. 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Geshher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court,

Fairfax. Books, DVDs, CDs and more. Most items \$.50-\$2. All proceeds benefit the school. 703-978-9789 or Geshherbooksale@gmail.com.

Mike Viola and Justin Trawick. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 6

Ezra Furman & The Harpoons, Tristen and The Apache Relay. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Third Annual Used Book Sale. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Geshher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Books, DVDs, CDs and more. Most items \$.50-\$2. All proceeds

benefit the school. 703-978-9789 or Geshherbooksale@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 9

Russian National Ballet Theatre: "Romeo and Juliet." 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With choreography by Petipa and music by Tchaikovsky. Based on Shakespeare's classic tale of star-crossed lovers and family hatreds. Tickets \$27-\$54. Youth through grade 12, half price when accompanied by an adult. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.



MILITARY NOTES

Air Force Airman Buck C. Yoon graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Hyunhee Yoon of Tara Court, and brother of Boram Yoon of Walnut Wood Court, both of Burke. Yoon graduated in 2010 from Lake Braddock Secondary.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj

Invitation

For parents whose children are entering Kindergarten for the 2011/12 School Year

Kiddie Country Developmental Learning Center, 9601 Old Keene Mill Road, will be presenting an overview to assist those parents who are seeking a high quality educational kindergarten experience for their child(ren) on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

This presentation will be conducted by Karen Duffy, Curriculum Specialist and Leigh Ann Kurz, Virginia Licensed Kindergarten teacher. Together Ms. Duffy and Ms. Kurz have a total of fifty-five years of teaching experience between them and are eager to talk with you and answer any questions you may have.

Kiddie Country's Kindergarten program is highly recognized for its advanced curriculum and outstanding students who meet with great success in first grade and beyond. Come join us for a relaxed session that will fully describe the many outstanding attributes of this highly acclaimed curriculum and the reasons why Kiddie Country's Kindergarten is a "best choice" placement for your child.

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COMMUNITY



Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation Executive Director Margery Leveen Sher and W. Jeffrey Carlton, recipient of the Dr. Jorge Arnoldson Memorial Award pose for a photo Saturday night, March 26.



Mindy Rubin of Kaiser Permanente; Harry Klaff, Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation board member; Margery Leveen Sher, executive director of the foundation; and Jorge A. Ramallo-Pardo, far left, a former recipient of foundation services exchange pleasantries before the meal begins.

Gala Evening

Foundation marks 25th years of service with gala at GMU's Mason Inn.

The Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation celebrated its 25th Anniversary with a Dress Up with Grown-Ups Gala on Saturday, March 26 at the George Mason Inn in Fairfax. The organization was established in 1986 as a public/private program to help children from low-income and uninsured families receive health care. Since 1986, the foundation has served more than 85,000 children. Currently the organization serves 9,000 children in Fairfax County.



Wendy Meil and grandson Zachary Meil of the Meil Family Foundation check out items in the silent auction.



Brooke Reynolds and Will Dolin, both of Oakton, help raise funds at the Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation by selling small items table to table. Checking out the goods are Sean and Susan McDermott of Oakton. Sean McDermott is on the Foundation's Board of Directors.



Jorge A. Ramallo-Pardo, a former recipient of Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation services, takes a moment with his former foundation caseworker, Graciella Jones, and his mother Deysi Pardo de Ramallo.



Brian and Eva Williams of Fairfax take a moment to look at items in the silent auction, one of the fund-raising events taking place at the Dress Up with Grown-Ups Gala.

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB

HOME SALES

In February 2011, 32 Burke homes sold between \$592,000-\$192,500. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$295,000-\$192,500 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
10260 QUIET POND TER	3	2	1		BURKE	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.03		BURKE CENTRE
9223 SAND CREEK CT	3	3	1		BURKE	\$292,000	Townhouse	0.04		HERITAGE SQUARE
9677 POINDEXTER CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$270,000	Townhouse	0.03		HILLSDALE
9323 HUMPHRIES DR	3	2	1		BURKE	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.03		LAKE BRADDOCK
5882 BRIDGETOWN CT	3	3	0		BURKE	\$263,000	Townhouse			OAKWOOD COMMONS BURKE
5782 BURKE TOWNE CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$260,000	Townhouse	0.03		TOWNES OF BURKE
10115 SASSAFRAS WOODS CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$255,000	Townhouse	0.05		BURKE CENTRE
5918 KARA PL	3	2	1		BURKE	\$255,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE STATION SQUARE
9548 CHERRY OAK CT	3	3	0		BURKE	\$248,000	Townhouse	0.03		OLD MILL COMMUNITY
5015 HARFORD LN	4	2	1		BURKE	\$242,000	Townhouse	0.03		LAKE BRADDOCK
6346 PINE VIEW CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$225,000	Townhouse			KEENE MILL WOODS
10330 ANNABERG CT #218	3	3	0		BURKE	\$215,000	Townhouse			OAKWOOD COMMONS BURKE
5936 COVE LANDING RD #303	3	2	0		BURKE	\$213,400	Garden 1-4 Floors			BURKE COVE
6104 OLD LANDING WAY #63	2	1	0		BURKE	\$205,000	Townhouse			WOODWALK
5862 FIRST LANDING WAY #153	2	1	0		BURKE	\$192,500	Garden 1-4 Floors			WOODWALK

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BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

THURSDAY/MARCH 31

Fairfax County GOP Committee Campaign Kick Off Fund Raiser. 7:30 p.m. PJ Skidoos Restaurant, 9908 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. With Attorney General Cuccinelli \$30, \$15 student, \$65 family-3 tickets. 703-766-4G0P.

SUNDAY/APRIL 3

Ostomy Support Group of Northern Virginia LLC. 1:30 p.m. Physicians Conference Center, Inova Fairfax Hospital, 3300 Gallows Road, Fairfax. With Dr Michael Isaacson, Urologist on "Bladder Cancer & Robotic Surgery." 703-802-3457 or www.ostomysupportofnova.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 4

Rescheduled Meeting Set For

Monticello Master Planning. 7 p.m. Bonnie Brae Elementary School, 5420 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Monticello is a 6.2-acre park classified as local-serving. The Monticello Park master planning process will use public participation to determine its appropriate uses and facilities. An off leash dog area has been submitted as a potential use. This meeting will be followed by the analysis of public concerns and comments, the creation of a draft master plan, another public meeting, and a 30-day comment period, prior to any decision making. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/monticello.htm or 703-324-8662.

Haven Volunteer Bereavement Training. Haven of Northern Virginia, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. from April 4 -15. 703-941-7000 or

www.havenofnova.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 6

Support Group for Parents of Children and Teens with Special Needs. 7:30 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Gain knowledge, share resources, coping mechanisms and strategies and provide mutual support. Register at 703-896-7615 or 703-537-3040.

Understanding Poverty. 4:15 p.m. Paul VI High School Library, 10675 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. Understanding the characteristics and traits of poverty in society and exploring the differences between social classes. Presented by the Northern Va. Counselors Association. \$10 members, \$15 non-members, \$5 students. Register at www.vacounselors.org.

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6057 Heathwick Ct.	\$349,900	Sun 1-4	Ashley O'Brien	RE/MAX	571-332-1816
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Springfield

7250 Hillmead Ct.	\$279,750	Sun 1-5	Steve Childress	Long & Foster	703-981-3277
6920 Spur Rd.	\$459,950	Sun 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli	Weichert	703-862-8808

Kingstowne/Alexandria

7509 Wexford Pl.	\$379,880	Sun 1-4	Greg Koons	Weichert	703-209-7678
3304 Coryell Ln.	\$240,000	Sun 1-4	Candace Rende	Long & Foster	703-314-2461
3857 Barcroft Ln.	\$960,000	Sat 1-4	Kathy Peters	Long & Foster	703-915-2165
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7150 Twelve Oaks Dr.	\$1,295,000	Sun 1-4	Ashley O'Brien	RE/MAX	571-332-1816
7951 Kelly Ann Ct.	\$1,295,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Hermandorfer	Long & Foster	703-503-1812
8303 Pinyon Pine Ct.	\$825,000	Sun 1-4	Mary FitzHenry	Long & Foster	703-503-1825
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PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The W.T. Woodson High football program is going through some changes as a result of the recent departure of head coach Trey Taylor, who is now at the helm of the Robinson Rams.

Cavs ISO Football Coach

Former coach Taylor now in charge at Robinson.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Woodson High School will begin the interview process for a new head football coach beginning the week of April 11, according to the school's director of student activities Dan Checkosky.

"We closed the position on April 5 and are forming a [interview] committee," said Checkosky.

The opening is the result of Trey Taylor recently stepping down as the Cavaliers' head coach. Taylor, two years ago, guided Woodson to a 13-2 record and a trip to the Division 6 Northern Region finals where the Cavaliers lost to Lake Braddock, 27-20. This past fall season, Woodson struggled and finished 3-7.

Taylor resigned at Woodson in order to become the new head coach at Robinson Secondary, historically one of the top football programs in the region. So Taylor, whose Woodson team competed in the Patriot District, will now be the leader of a Rams' program that is part of the Concorde District.

Robinson, under long time head coach Mark Bendorf, went 9-3 this past season and got as far as the Division 6 region semifinals where their season ended with a 24-23 loss to Lake Braddock.

Bendorf, following the winter school break, informed Robinson personnel of his intentions to retire from both coaching and teaching. Shortly thereafter, he told his players of his plans.

"The kids were shocked," said Marty Riddle, the Robinson director of student activities. "But they have handled it well and that's a tribute to them."

Bendorf will conclude this school year as Robinson's physical education chairman.

"It was perfect timing with his age and the number of years he has in Fairfax County," said Riddle, of Bendorf's retirement timing.

Riddle said Bendorf has helped the coaching tran-

sition by continuing to work with the Rams' players in the weight room this offseason.

"If you had walked into the weight room [in recent weeks], you would not have known he had retired," said Riddle. "[The football program] is maintaining the type of work ethic and preparation that has been a hallmark of Robinson football. Mark's really helped in that respect to make sure the training continues."

RIDDLE SAID six candidates were interviewed for the Robinson football head coach position. Bendorf was not a part of the interview process but Riddle did ask the heralded coach, at the beginning stages in the search for a new coach, for his input on which individuals from around the region should be on their radar screen.

"His knowledge basis was very helpful in knowing a lot of people," said Riddle.

Riddle said Robinson has the right man to take over for Bendorf in Taylor.

"I think he has a solid background in the Northern Region having coached for 15 years," he said, of Taylor. "He brings the experience of having been a head football coach."

Riddle said, in regards to football philosophy, that Taylor believes in building a staunch defense and, on the offensive side, running the football with success. At Woodson, Taylor's teams, at times, had good success both running and throwing the football.

"There will be a [continued] emphasis in the weight room and preparing kids to play in the Concorde District and continuing the Robinson success," said Riddle. "Mark emphasized the same type of approach."

At Woodson, Checkosky said the plan is to bring in a new football coach who is "a strong character person with great knowledge of football."

Checkosky was naturally disappointed to lose Taylor, who will continue the school year as a weight instructor at Woodson, as the Cavaliers' head football coach. But he also wishes Taylor the best in the future.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock freshman midfielder Allie Snow scored six goals during the Bruins' victory against T.C. Williams on Tuesday.

Freshman Snow Leads Youthful Bruin LAX

Lake Braddock midfielder Allie Snow scores six goals.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

As players returned to the field after a timeout with 16:38 remaining in the second half on Tuesday, March 29, Lake Braddock girls lacrosse coach Victor Chen encouraged the Bruins not to be comfortable with their two-goal lead against an athletic T.C. Williams team.

"You've got to keep pulling away," he shouted from the sideline. "They're too dangerous to keep close."

Freshman midfielder Allie Snow took it upon herself to make sure Chen's instructions didn't fall on deaf ears.

In less than a minute, Snow padded the Bruins' lead with a pair of goals, part of a 6-1 run that helped Lake Braddock secure a 19-15 victory at Minnie Howard in Alexandria. The Bruins' record improved to 3-0, including 2-0 in the Patriot District.

Snow led Lake Braddock with six goals. After the freshman

"As a freshman, what an incredible talent."
— Victor Chen

SEE FRESHMAN, PAGE 15

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

SPORTS

Freshman Snow Leads L. Braddock

FROM PAGE 14

scored back-to-back goals coming out of the timeout, she found the net for the final time with 12:56 remaining, giving the Bruins a 16-11 advantage.

"I can't say enough things about her," Chen said. "As a freshman, what an incredible talent."

SNOW IS just one member of Lake Braddock's corps of young talent. Sophomore midfielder Taylor Livick scored four goals for the Bruins, and freshman midfielder Kristen Gaudian and sophomore attack Alexis Torres each added three.

"Probably some of the best talent that Braddock has seen in a long time," Chen said, "has finally come through and pays off."

Junior attack Summerlin Meredith scored two goals for Lake Braddock and junior midfielder Shelby

Crow added one.

Lake Braddock trailed 6-4 late in the first half when the Bruins responded with five consecutive goals and led 9-7 at halftime. TC pulled with one on three occasions in the second half, but Lake Braddock always found a way to gain separation.

The Bruins' 19 goals were a season high, surpassing a 12-goal effort against West Potomac on March 25, but the 15 goals allowed were also tops for the season. The Titans were the first team to score at least 10 goals against the Bruins.

"That's something that we can't do," Chen said. "We're not a team that can go blow-for-blow, especially against a team like TC that's really dangerous [and] that can score quickly. We've just got to play better team defense."

Lake Braddock will host West Springfield on April 4, at 7:15 p.m.

"If we're competitive and we do our job," Chen said, "then everything else will fall into place."

Robinson Tennis Shuts Out Oakton

The Robinson Rams shut out the Oakton Cougars on the home courts on Thursday. Freshman Aaron Christian at No. 3 ran away with his match, winning 10-1. Jacob Schreiman played well at No. 6, using numerous passing shots to win 10-2. David Smiley won easily at No. 4, 10-4. Seniors Tim Ferrell and Michael Cable also won, 10-5 and 10-4, respectively.

The most competitive match was at No. 5 where Dillon Meyer fell behind 5-2 but staged a big come-

back to win, 10-7. His Oakton opponent started out blazing hot. He took Dillon's high bouncing forehands early and controlled the points, hardly missing on his forehand. However, Meyer kept his focus and gradually turned the tide. The Cougar lost his focus and faded out of the match. That completed the singles shutout.

Ferrell and Christian teamed up to win 8-2 as did Amit Gupta and Meyer. Stephen Paul and Dayton Coupland pulled out the third doubles, 8-6.

FAITH NOTES

FROM PAGE 7

Women's Class meets at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, and offers a children's program for ages 6 weeks-6 years. rdmarotto@cox.net.

Congregation Adat Reyim, an independent Jewish congregation, offers services Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7:40 p.m. Hebrew School is Sundays at 9:30 and Mondays at 5:30 p.m. Hebrew High is Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Preschool is Monday-Friday at 9:30 a.m. Adat Reyim is located at 6500 Westbury Oaks Court in Springfield. For more information, contact us at 703-569-7577 or visit www.adatreyim.org.

Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive in Burke, worship services are Saturday Coffeehouse at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. www.BurkePresChurch.org.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church presents Financial Peace University, a video-based small group study that teaches families how to beat debt, build wealth and better manage their finances. Contact Arlene K. Darke at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. 703-323-9500 or adarke@lordoflifelutheran.com.

The Fresh Fire congregation meets every Sunday for a service at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Sackey and his congregation invite all to participate in preaching and teaching, praising and worshipping, in a Christ-centered ministry. Fresh Fire International Center meets at the Chinese Martial Arts Building, 8426-B Lee Highway, Fairfax, opposite the BMW Fairfax; entrance is in the back. 703-815-8950.

WEEK IN SPORTS

Recently retired Robinson Secondary football coach Mark Bendorf will be honored with a special tribute, themed, 'Live The Legacy,' the evening of Saturday, May 14 at the Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks, 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. The special event will celebrate Bendorf's 30 years of coaching "Legacy and Excellence."

The May 14 evening's festivities will begin at 6:30 p.m. with appetizers. Cost is \$25 per person; \$12.50 for youngsters ages 7 to 12; and free for children six and under. Dress: business formal (shirt and tie, no jackets required). For more information on the event, please contact Dan Adams at 617-365-6868.

Baseball Poll: The following is the Northern Region Coaches' top 10 high school baseball poll for the week of March 21: Lake Braddock (No. 1); South County (2); W.T. Woodson (3); West Springfield (4); Madison (5); Westfield (6); McLean (7); Stone Bridge (8); Oakton (9); and Marshall (10). Other teams receiving votes: Yorktown, Fairfax, Washington-Lee, Chantilly, and Langley.

Fairfax Christian School's Spring Scramble Golf Tournament, for students, parents, alumni and friends, will take place Friday, April 29 at Hidden Creek Country Club, 1711 Clubhouse Road, in Reston. Registration on the day of the event will take place at 8 a.m., with a shotgun start at 9. Register ahead of time at <http://golf.fairfaxchristianschool.com>. Cost is \$125 per individual, and \$480 per foursome. Fees include green fees, golf cart, beverage, cookout lunch, and awards presentation. Space is limited, registration deadline is April 22. For more information call Fairfax Christian School at 703-759-5100. Fairfax Christian School is located at 1624 Hunter Mill Road in Vienna.

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Lyme Disease Task Force

FROM PAGE 3

sect repellent, to kill ticks as well as West Nile Virus.

"I've no doubt both my kids got bitten by ticks on soccer fields," she said. Sheridan also said parents of children diagnosed with Lyme need to understand the process for Special Education Certification for "other health issues."

"This certification provides families and the school with the flexibility needed to handle the waxing and waning symptoms, the additional days of absence," Sheridan said.

Sarah Beasley, a 29-year-old Fairfax woman, told the panel that she is living proof chronic Lyme exists. In 2000, she was a senior at James Madison University and participated in Army ROTC for fun. But then she started having serious muscle and joint pains.

"As soon as each day was done, I'd limp to my apartment and crash into bed," she

said. "My whole life, I had been a six-hours-kind-of-sleep-girl. Suddenly, I would sleep for 13 hours and wake up feeling like I had been hit by a Mac truck." After 10 years and more than 10 different doctors, Beasley, the director of a local education association, said she is on the path to wellness.

At the end of her testimony, she dumped out a large bag of medications, herbs, supplements and vitamins. "Please understand that it takes all of these to keep me going in the way that I need to function," she said. "Without them, I will be that girl that is confined again to the downstairs couch." She added that she wants the panel to encourage research and protect doctors who actually understand "this spreading, debilitating disease."

Marjorie Veiga, a Lyme disease patient consultant and mother of a teen daughter diagnosed with Lyme disease, said the biggest myth about Lyme disease is that it is easily diagnosed and treated.

"It is difficult to diagnose due to the unreliable screening tests and due to the migrating and remitting symptoms," she said. "Also, ticks can carry multiple pathogens. If these are not diagnosed and treated, the patient may continue to be unresponsive to multiple therapies."

"These heartrending cases of misdiagnosis, financial ruin, and social isolation are difficult to hear as we travel throughout Virginia," Farris said. "But it is important to gather first-hand testimonies about the personal impact of long-term illness. One of our most important goals is to allow people to be heard."

The final Task Force hearing on the educational needs in Lyme and tick-borne disease will be Monday, April 25, at 1 p.m. in Fairfax. A location has not been announced yet.

"I was so moved by all the stories given at the meeting that night," Platas said in an interview after the three-hour hearing. "It saddens me to see how many people are still being made sick by this horrible little bug."

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) attended the hearing, and has listed Lyme Disease Awareness as one of his priorities.

In 2009, Herrity, along with Supervisor Michael

Fairfax County Tracks Lyme Disease Cases

For the past 10 years, reported cases of Lyme disease have been on the rise in Fairfax County. In 2009, the number spiked to 260 cases.

"Approximately 250 cases of Lyme disease were reported to the Fairfax County Health Department in 2010," said Dr. Peter Troell, medical epidemiologist with the Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD). "These reported cases represent only a portion of the cases of Lyme disease in our community and are used primarily to follow disease trends. We know that many other cases go undiagnosed and/or unreported."

The good news, Troell said, is that Fairfax County employs a more comprehensive approach than many other areas in the nation, where the focus is solely on how to avoid ticks.

The county's approach includes: tracking human cases, tick surveillance, outreach to health care providers to promote early diagnosis and treatment, deer management and public education.

In May 2010, Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) and Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth (D-Providence) hosted a town hall meeting at the Fairfax County Government Center, featuring county staff and two of the two of the nation's leading experts on Lyme disease.

"Lyme disease is on the rise in Virginia and the United States, according to the CDC," said Bulova. "As people spend more time outdoors because of the warm weather, we want them to know how to protect themselves from the ticks that transmit Lyme disease."

— VICTORIA ROSS

Frey (R-Sully), conducted a town hall symposium on Lyme disease at Centreville High School. He said he became concerned about the prevalence of the disease after hearing from many of his constituents afflicted with the disease.

"We have an epidemic that we're largely ignoring," he said, adding that he hopes the panel considers that one of their recommendations should be to pass legislation similar to that enacted in Connecticut, where doctors are allowed to prescribe extended doses of antibiotics without fear of malpractice lawsuits.

According to "The Connecticut Post," passage of the bill in May 2009, which allows physicians to diagnose chronic Lyme disease, and treat it with long-term antibiotics was one of the "cornerstone moments of Lyme disease politics over the last decade."

Similar bills have been introduced in Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York and Maryland that would compel insurance companies to pay for antibiotic treatment for chronic Lyme disease CLD.

"For Swine Flu, we went on full red-alert, but more people are afflicted with Lyme disease, and it's time we take it seriously," Herrity said.

Those who did not attend the hearings, but want to share how they've been affected by the disease may e-mail Farris at lyme@phc.edu.



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Thomas Moncure, general counsel for George Mason University, gives a lecture on "George Mason, the Statesman" to the Burke Historical Society.

Local History Lecture

FROM PAGE 3

in 1787.

Moncure said Mason's hand was clearly the guiding force behind the Bill of Rights, introduced by Madison.

"When George Mason died in 1792, his death went almost unnoticed," Moncure said, but he died knowing that his greatest concern was satisfied."

Moncure said it's difficult to find biographies of this lesser-known revolutionary figure, but he recommends "George Mason: Forgotten Founder" by Jeff Broadwater. In the book, Broadwater quotes Mason's comments after the adoption of The Bill of Rights: "I have received much satisfaction from amendments to the federal Constitution that have lately passed ... with two or three further amendments ... I could cheerfully put my hand and heart to the new government."

Ruth Rose of Arlington, who attended the lecture, said she always enjoys Moncure's lectures. "He puts you right into the history," she said. The Arlington resident wrote the book, "Memories of Beautiful Burke," which the Burke Historic Society sponsored.

Moncure, who was appointed University Counsel for GMU in 2006, was elected Clerk of Court for Stafford County, where he grew up, and served as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates. He also has 26 years of service in the U.S. Army Reserves and the Virginia National Army Guard.

For more information on GMU's Speakers Program — "Connecting the University with the Community" — visit <http://communityrelations.gmu.edu/speakersbureau>.

Preserving the History of Burke

The Burke Historical Society (BHS) was first established in 1978 as an advocate for preserving Burke's heritage. The society procures and maintains the community's historical markers, collects community artifacts for display and sponsored the book "Memories of Beautiful Burke," co-authored by Nan Netherton and Ruth Rose. The historical society also inspired artist Barbara Thelin Preston to paint and donate a painting depicting Old Burke, which the society framed and donated to the Burke post office. The society also hosted an annual Burke Historical Days event promoting an appreciation for history.

"The society was inactive for several years, but since last summer, we have been active again in revitalizing the Burke Historical Society's original efforts to preserve history," said Suzi Fowler Neal, president of BHS. Karla Pringle, membership chair, said the group is comprised of local historians and "historians-at heart."

Meetings and forums take place the last Sunday of the month at 4 p.m. at the Silas Burke House, 9595 Burke Lake Road. For more information about BHS, contact Karla Pringle at pringlekl@cox.net or go to the website at www.burkehistoricalsociety.com.

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21 Announcements
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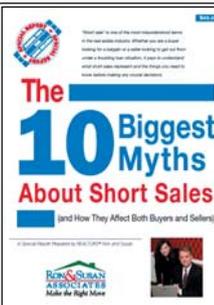
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