

Burke CONNECTION

Allie Mann of Case Design designed this master bathroom for a spring design house.

Arrest in 2008
Homicide Case
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Open for Season
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HomeLifeStyle

Why Personal
Design Matters

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John Ariale Named Community Champion

Relay for Life returns
Friday, May 13.

BY SALMA CHADHA
THE CONNECTION

A few months after Beth Bryan, the former swim coach for their children, died of cancer in 2009, John Ariale and Bryan's girlfriends met at his house to discuss what they could do to keep Bryan's memory alive.

At the meeting, Ariale popped a DVD of a Relay for Life event from Newport News, Va., into the DVD player. The American Cancer Society sent him the DVD as an idea.

"Our jaws dropped," said Ariale of the numbers of people in the video. "None of us knew what a Relay for Life was."

They all felt overwhelmed by the idea and decided to have a team participate at the closest Relay to Springfield, which turned out to be in Centreville. Ariale and the women felt that the residents of Springfield and Burke could use a relay in their backyards and so the Relay for Life Springfield/Burke was born.

The women insisted Ariale be the chairman since he had done some research on it and knew more than they did.

"We were all newbies, though, and had no idea what to expect our first year," said Ariale.

"I will never forget the first time John and Relay co-founder Leslie Carlin walked into



John Ariale and Leslie Carlin, founders of Relay for Life Springfield/Burke.

my office with a plan to start a Relay for Life in Springfield," said Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield). "It was a big idea that was going to require a tremendous amount of work, but you could tell right away that John was going to make it a huge success, no matter what."

"My mother has cancer and I am very proud of the fact that funds from our Relay go to research that is saving her life," said Ariale. The event raised more than \$160,000 in its first year. "We know we won't get the same numbers this year but

I'm hoping to be close."

HERRITY NOMINATED Ariale as a Community Champion for his work with the Relay for Life and the Beth Bryan Foundation, which provides scholarships. In his other life, Ariale is a husband and father of one daughter, who goes to Irving Middle School, and of two boys, one in college and one a senior at West Springfield High School. He is from Florida, but considers Northern Virginia his home. He has a law degree and works as a chief of staff for U.S.

"John has been truly amazing to watch and work with."

— Paul Wardinski, principal
of West Springfield High School

Rep. Ander Crenshaw (R-Fla.) He is also active with his church and reaches out to children through the youth ministries.

This year's Relay for Life takes place on Friday, May 13, at 7 p.m., at West Springfield High School.

"John has been truly amazing to watch and work with throughout the entire process of discussing the idea to bring a Relay to Life event to the Springfield and Burke area through the first event last May and now with our second event," said Paul Wardinski, principal of West Springfield High School. "His passion, compassion and work ethic in reference to this project are second to none. There would be no Springfield Burke Relay for Life event without John's vision, leadership, dedication to the cause, enthusiasm and follow-through. John keeps the focus for all of us, especially when things look bleak or troublesome."

So far, Relay for Life Springfield/Burke has raised more than \$100,00 for this year. To learn more, go to www.springfieldburkerelay.org or www.bethbryanfoundation.com.

Man Indicted for Role in 2008 Ravensworth Murders

In court on May 6, suspect Delante Cook does not contest detention.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

A 34-year-old Prince George's County man was indicted by a federal grand jury on Wednesday, May 4, for his role in an armed robbery that resulted in the stabbing deaths of three men in the Ravensworth neighborhood in November, 2008.

According to the five-page U.S. District Court indictment, on Nov. 19, 2008, Delante Cook and at least two other men, impersonated police officers to gain entry to the Ravensworth home they had targeted for cash and drugs. Cook was indicted on two counts of conspiracy and attempt to commit robbery.

Brothers Ryan C. Strobe, 26, and Terence J. Strobe, 38, who rented the home on Moultrie Road in the Ravensworth neighborhood, were fatally stabbed. Andres A. Yelicie, 26, a friend who was visiting the brothers, was also stabbed.

On Friday, May 6, a detention hearing was held in the U.S. District Court in Alexandria. "Mr. Cook, through his counsel, did not contest detention at this time and was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals without bond pending further court action," said Peter Carr, a spokesman for the U.S. District Attorney's Office. Lana Manitta, who was appointed Wednesday afternoon to represent Cook.

The brutal slayings traumatized the typically peaceful Springfield neighborhood two years ago.

"This was a horrific thing when it happened, and it really shook up the neighborhood," said Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) Wednesday night, May 4. "Ravensworth is the community next to mine (in Kings Park). We have very peaceful, quiet neighborhoods. There was a lot of angst in the community over this." At the time, several community meetings were held to allay residents' fears, John Cook said.

"As a community, we are relieved and certainly very pleased that they have caught a suspect. I know this has been a top priority for our police, and they've worked very hard to connect the dots and get this indictment. It should be reassuring that police believe this was not some random attack, but a very targeted crime," Cook said.

The indictment alleges that the defendant, Delante Cook, along with other named and unnamed co-conspirators, conducted "physical surveillance" of the home two days before the robbery. On the night of the robbery, the men armed themselves with knives and other weapons, disguised themselves as police officers and threatened the victims with violence before stealing laptops, cell phones, marijuana and cash.

Neither Delante Cook nor any other conspirators have been charged with the mur-

ders, and the investigation is ongoing, according to Fairfax County Police, who investigated the case.

However, it is possible that Raymond E. Morrogh, Fairfax County Commonwealth Attorney, will file separate charges against Cook and other in the next few months.

Calling the crime "vicious, brutal and heinous," Fairfax Police Chief David Rohrer said that the brothers' home may have been targeted because of their alleged marijuana dealing. "These three men did not deserve to die," Rohrer said, during a news conference last week at the Alexandria courthouse held with Neil H. MacBride, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia.

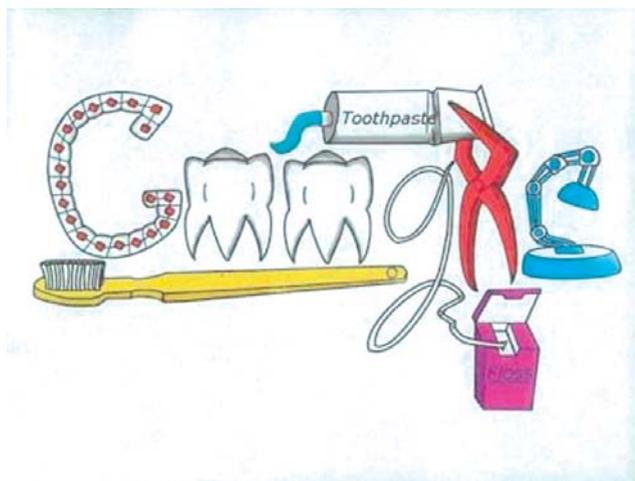
Supervisor Cook praised Chief Rohrer and the detectives and officers who worked the

"It should be reassuring that police believe this was not some random attack, but a very targeted crime."

— Supervisor John Cook
(R-Braddock)

SEE ARREST, PAGE 7

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ARTWORK BY OMAR AMIN

Amin's entry, 'Smile for Life,' earned him a trip to New York City as a regional finalist in the Doodle 4 Google competition

Student Doodles 4 Google

Kings Glen Elementary School sixth grader Omar Amin found out that doodling can be a good thing. His artistic doodles won him a spot as a regional finalist in the Doodle 4 Google competition, a national art competition sponsored by Google.

He is one of 40 regional finalists whose design of a Google logo or doodle was inspired by the statement, "What I'd like to do someday ..." Until May 13, regional finalists' entries will be displayed online at www.google.com/doodle4google, where people can vote for their favorite entries. The top four vote-getters will be named national finalists. The competition invites K-12 students to use their artistic talents to think big and redesign Google's homepage logo.

Amin's entry, "Smile For Life," includes the narrative: "As the sun shines and spring blooms around me, I enter my clinic. This clinic is built upon my dreams of dentistry and desire to help people smile beautifully. My mission and dream: help each and every patient of mine to have a sparkling smile."

"Our doodle team, volunteer Googlers and incredibly talented guest judges helped us determine the 40 regional finalists. Whoopi Goldberg, Evan Lysacek, Michael Phelps and Jim Davis, just to name a few, lent a hand to help find the cream of the artistic crop," said Marissa Mayer, vice president of product management at Google in a statement released last week.

On Thursday, May 19, Google will announce the national winner at the awards ceremony in New York City. The national winner will receive a \$15,000 college scholarship and \$25,000 toward a new computer lab for his or her school, and the winning design will appear on google.com on Friday, May 20.

All of the top 40 Regional Finalists will also have their work publicly displayed at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York and at SFMOMA in San Francisco.

Amin has been invited to attend the Doodle 4 Google awards ceremony in New York City. A total of 107,000 entries were submitted by students in grades K-12 across the country.

Board OKs \$250 Million School Bond Referendum

In an unanimous 10-0 vote, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved a \$250 million school bond referendum on Tuesday, May 10. The referendum will go before voters on Nov. 8.

For the Braddock District, the proposed bonds would fund renovations and improvements to Canterbury Woods Elementary, Keene Mill Elementary, Terra Centre Elemen

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 8

Mother's Day Comes Early

Victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence receive day of pampering.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Mother's Day came a day early for dozens of local women who received a day of pampering, free babysitting and a spa lunch.

On Saturday, May 7, The Duffy House provided mani-pedis, massage therapy, facials and other treats for more than 60 survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault at the Burke United Methodist Church.

"It's my first time here. I'm glad to see they care about us," said Betty, 22, of Fairfax, a sexual abuse survivor, whose third child is due in August.

Sarah, a 37-year-old Fairfax County mom, brought her three young children her mother to the event. "It

"It's my first time here. I'm glad to see they care about us."

— Betty, 22

sounded like a fabulous activity for the kids, but I didn't realize I would get treated too." A victim of domestic violence, Sarah said she was in an abusive marriage for years and is now going through the legal process to keep her abusive ex-husband out of her life.

Since the women are victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse, The Connection is not publishing their full names.

"I think that as a mom, I kept saying 'I can handle it,' but when I saw the affect it was having on my children, then I realized I had to move out," she said.

"Oh my gosh, look at me. I feel pretty," she said,



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Michelle Gates, left, and Christine Eads, founders of The Duffy House, take a ride on the Fun Bus with Aidan Eads, 9, and Gates' daughters, Emma, 3, and Carly, 2 during The Duffy House's third annual day of pampering.

after seeing her long-brown hair swept up in a chic chignon. Her mother placed a flower in her new 'do. "I haven't had this much fun in a long time."

"Moms in this situation don't have the money to hire a babysitter or go to a spa. This is not something I would ever spend money to do. It means a lot to me," Sarah said.

Burke moms Christine Eads and Michelle Gates founded The Duffy House three years ago. The women met through their children's preschool and discovered they had something in common: both

SEE DAY, PAGE 6



A woman gets a manicure during The Duffy House's third annual day of pampering.

MILITARY



Air Force Airman Daniel O. Ononiwu graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Mary Ononiwu of Falcon Landing Court, Burke. Ononiwu graduated in 2008 from Robinson Secondary School.

Coast Guard Seaman Apprentice Spencer Pearson, son of Denise Johnson of Burke and Michael M. Pearson of Silver Spring, Md., recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

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COMMUNITY

Day of Pampering Provided

FROM PAGE 4

were survivors of abuse.

The women are still trying to find a permanent house for abuse victims, but they've managed to link up with other Fairfax County shelters and programs to provide services to their clients, most of whom they get through referrals from other agencies.

The non-profit organization currently provides temporary shelter, legal advocacy, counseling, job training and an annual day of pampering. But Eads and Gates' goal is to establish a safe haven for women and children of domestic violence.

"Right now, safe housing for families of domestic violence is so limited in Fairfax County because of the overwhelming need. The Duffy House will be a safe haven in an undisclosed location for survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault," Eads said.

Eads, a SiriusXM Satellite radio host, was the victim of a sexual assault in college in 1994. "It was a random assault, and he still hasn't been caught," she said. "I was lucky. I was blessed to have the love and support of my family and friends, but it still took me years to feel like I was ready to talk about it and reach out to others."

Eads just launched a new radio show, *Broadminded*, which focuses on domestic abuse and sexual violence. The program airs on the second Tuesday of every month, from 8-10 a.m., on Sirius Channel 102/XM Channel 155.

Her first guest was Liz Seccuro, a wife, mother and victims' rights activist, who was drugged and raped when she was a 17-year-old freshman at the Univer-

The Duffy House will be a safe haven in an undisclosed location for survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault."

— Christine Eads

sity of Virginia in 1984. She detailed her story in the popular memoir, "Crash Into Me: A Survivor's Search for Justice."

Gates, an accountant and mother of two girls, said that ending domestic violence is her passion. "I think it's so important that women get the support they need, and children get help so they won't repeat the cycle of abuse. Domestic violence has no face, race, or income level."

In addition to the spa services on Saturday, women could take positive parenting classes and obtain business suits and shoes for themselves and clothing for their children.

Children got to ride on the Fun Bus, take horseback riding and grooming lessons and play laser tag.

"If nothing else, moms get a much-needed day to themselves and children get to have some fun," Gates said. "We want them to have an extra-special Mother's Day. They deserve it."

For more information on The Duffy House, go to www.theduffyhouse.org.



PHOTO BY GEORGE BURKE

Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) pilots the Team Bulova bed in the May 7 Annandale Chamber of Commerce Bed Race for charity.

Connolly's Team 2nd

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) cheered on Team Connolly, which finished second out of 23 teams at the annual Annandale Chamber of Commerce Bed Race on Saturday, May 7. With help from Beanetics Coffee Shop, Team Connolly was edged out by a team from Silverado Restaurant. Despite a team made up of firefighters, Fairfax Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova's (D-At-large) bed did not fare as well, nor did teams sponsored by Supervisors Penny Gross (D-Mason) and John Cook (R-Braddock). The beneficiary of this year's race was the Special Olympics.



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Homicide

FROM PAGE 3

case. "I have been updated on this investigation during my entire term in office. Our police department never gave up. They tracked down every lead." They left no stone unturned," Supervisor Cook said in a statement last week.

According to Fairfax County Police reports, the victims were found on Nov. 19, 2008, at 9:42 p.m., after Yelcie, bleeding, was discovered outside the home by a neighbor who placed the 911 call. Yelcie alerted the officers to the two brothers still inside the home.

When officers arrived, Yelcie had what was described as "multiple stab wounds to the upper body." Officers determined that additional wounded victims were inside the home. All three men were taken to Inova Fairfax Hospital on Gallows Road, and all three died shortly afterwards.

Less than a week after the murders, more than 150 members of the Ravensworth Farm community attended a community meeting at Ravensworth Elementary School, where Fairfax County Police attempted to allay fears.

During that meeting, police said that "all evidence suggests the crime was not random in nature," and there is "nothing to indicate in our investigation that you are in any jeopardy." In 2008, the triple slayings were the 20th murders in Fairfax County, which has a population of more than 1 million.

Delante Cook faces a maximum of 40 years in prison if convicted of the charges. Assistant United States Attorneys Jonathan Fahey and Sean Tonolli are prosecuting the case on behalf of the United States. Cook's arraignment hearing is scheduled for Friday, May 13 at 9 a.m. before U.S. District Judge Claude M. Hilton.

MILITARY NOTES

Army Cadet Jefferson L. Lansford received the George C. Marshall Award during an awards ceremony at the Marshall Center, Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Va. The award is named in the honor and legacy of General of the Army George C. Marshall, who served in World War II as the Army Chief of Staff and in the post-war era served as secretary of state and secretary of defense. The cadet is a student at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville. Lansford is the son of Jackson Lansford of Oakcrest Drive, Fairfax, and Amy Lansford of Wye Oak Commons Circle, Burke. He graduated in 2007 from J.W. Robinson Jr. Secondary School.

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BURKE CONNECTION ♦ MAY 12-18, 2011 ♦ 7

NEWS

FROM PAGE 4

tary, North Springfield Elementary, Fairfax Villa Elementary, and West Springfield High School.

“Our children are our greatest resource. We are not talking about luxury here. We are talking about necessary long-term renovations to bring these aging structures up to adequate standards,” said Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock). “This money will provide some needed relief and remodeling to our schools, and really, probably the most-used facilities in our county.”

If voters pass the referendum this fall, the bonds would provide:

- ❖ \$14.9 million for Canterbury Woods Elementary and \$16.6 million for Terra Centre Elementary for infrastructure improvements and renovations that could include new floors, new ceilings, and sound systems. At Terra Centre, according to Cook, this also means new walls, since it was originally built with open classrooms.

- ❖ \$5.5 million for West Springfield High School, \$723,000 for North Springfield Elementary and \$908,000 for Keene Mill Elementary for evaluation and planning that will go toward future capital renovations and improvements

- ❖ \$3.129 million for Fairfax Villa Elementary for a

necessary addition as a result of the Southwest boundary changes.

“Some of our schools are in desperate need of repair and renovation. Quite frankly our children deserve better,” said Cook. “My children attend FCPS schools that were recently renovated. I want all Braddock children to have the same opportunity.”

— VICTORIA ROSS

History in the Making

Several creative Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students won first place awards in the Virginia History Day competition held recently in Williamsburg.

- ❖ Chloe Baker of Lorton Station Elementary School, who took home the first prize for her documentary, “The Alien and Sedition Acts: An Open Violation.”

- ❖ Andy Chen, Alyssa Debra and Danielle Hafer of West Springfield High School won first place in the Senior Group Exhibit for “Rice, Potato, and Pasta into the Melting Pot?”

- ❖ Alex Moree and Patrick Kelly, seniors at West Springfield High School, took first place for their website “Peace? The Congress of Vienna and the Revolutions of the 19th Century.”

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- Nationwide, the tourism industry employed 7.4 million people, and domestic travel expenditures totaled \$704.4 billion

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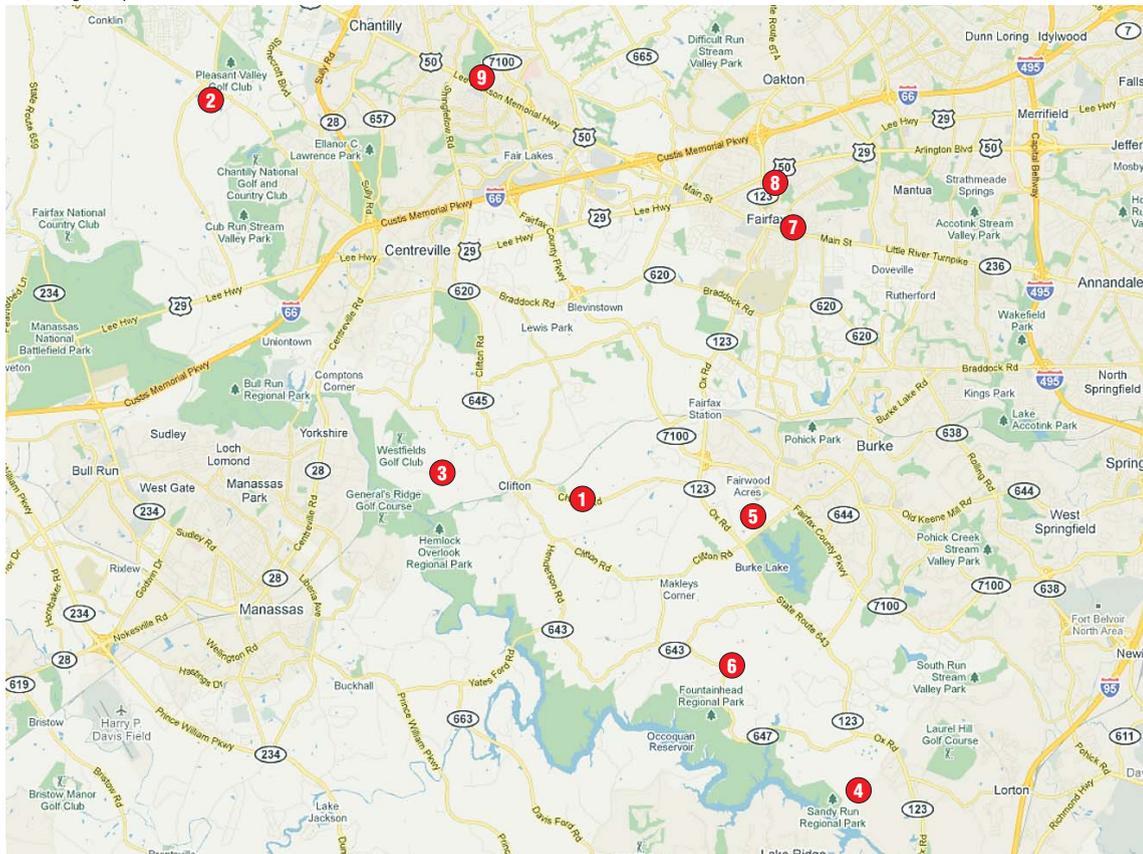
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Some Top Sales in March 2011

4 9311 Occoquan Overlook Drive, Lorton — \$1,000,000

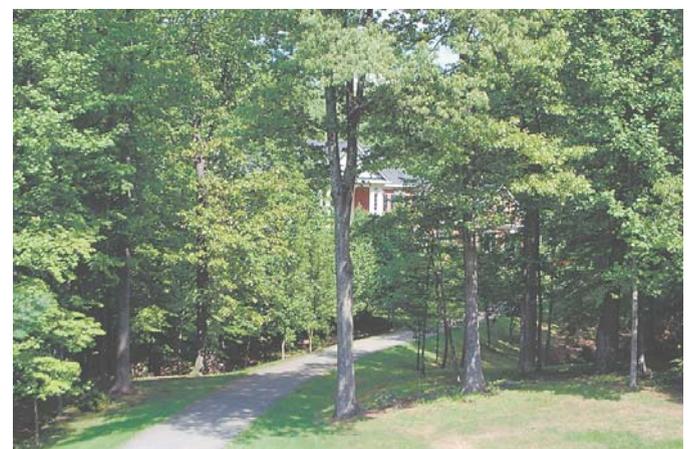
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9 4014 Topsham Square, Fairfax — \$712,967



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Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 12100 SANGSTERS CT	5	4	2		CLIFTON	\$1,174,175	Detached	5.14	SANGSTERS STATION	03/31/11
2 5201 ROSALIE RIDGE DR	5	4	1		CENTREVILLE	\$1,095,000	Detached	1.23	PLEASANT VALLEY	03/25/11
3 13309 BALMORAL HEIGHTS PL	5	5	1		CLIFTON	\$1,050,000	Detached	2.00	BALMORAL GREENS	01/18/11
4 9311 OCCOQUAN OVERLOOK DR	5	7	1		LORTON	\$1,000,000	Detached	0.84	OCCOQUAN OVERLOOK	02/10/11
5 10600 DONOVANS HILL DR	6	4	1		FAIRFAX STATION	\$976,000	Detached	3.83	DONOVANS RIDGE	03/31/11
6 10718 SHADOW LN	4	4	1		FAIRFAX STATION	\$952,500	Detached	5.00	SHADOWWALK	03/11/11
7 3993 BALLYNAHOWN CIR	5	4	1		FAIRFAX	\$810,000	Townhouse	0.07	FARRCROFT	03/28/11
8 3577 SHARPES MEADOW LN	4	3	2		FAIRFAX	\$790,000	Detached	0.30	WINDY HILL	03/15/11
9 4014 TOPSHAM SQ	4	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$712,967	Townhouse	0.10	KENSINGTON PARC	03/01/11

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Home LifeStyle Universal Appeal?

More renovations include accessible details.

BY BILL MILLHOLLAND
CASE DESIGN/REMODELING

Whether you realize it or not, a look at today's newest appliances or a visit to a home design showroom is likely filled with elements of universal design. Some can be subtle, such as a drawer in the middle of your refrigerator door. Others are a bit more obvious, such as grab bars in showers and bathtubs.

Today, universal design concepts are taking root in modern home design, making homes more accessible to users of all backgrounds, ages and physical abilities. But don't worry – this doesn't have to take away from the beauty of a home remodeling project. Rather, even the smallest home modification can adhere to the look and feel of a home while enabling owners to enjoy their investment even longer.

Incorporating universal design elements into a home remodel or building project benefits homeowners of all ages and abilities – from families with young children to older, retired couples. As a family grows and evolves, so too does the way in which it uses a home. Once children have grown up and moved out, many couples face the prospect of relocating to a home or community that is more accommodating of older residents – single-story dwellings, for instance. Universal design, however, can offer a reprieve to homeowners wishing to remain in their homes and maintain an independent lifestyle, as they "age in place." This is especially important given the current economy, as more people choose to remain in the same home rather than sell it.

Major upgrades can require considerable time and money, but it's never too early to incorporate small changes – such as replacing door knobs with handles – that can help with ease of use. Even families with young children reap the benefits from appliance drawers in the kitchen and seating in showers. Other slight, but helpful, modifications include increased task lighting, hand rails on stairs,

SEE UNIVERSAL, PAGE 14

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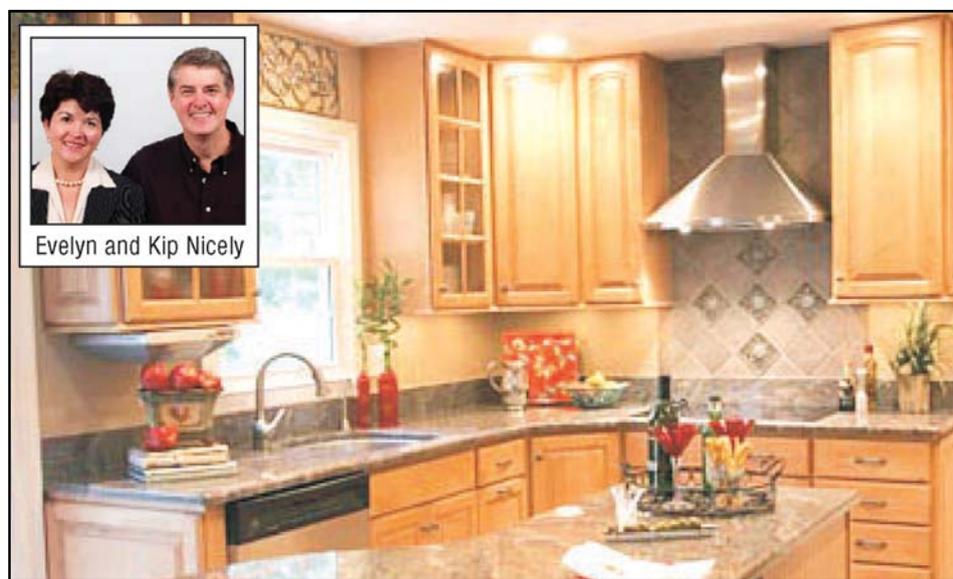
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Home Life Style

Your Home Should Make You Happy'

Design trends include more personal touches, smaller spaces, lower maintenance materials.

BY CLAIRE MCKENNA
THE CONNECTION

Many local interior designers participated in this Spring's design house to benefit Children's National Medical Center. Several reflected on recent trends and offered insight on why good design matters.

"Most of us are looking at our home now as more than an investment," said Barbara Franceski of Alexandria, who designed the family room in the design house. "We plan to stay in place for a longer period of time, and with that comes a desire to enjoy life right where we are."

For that reason, "personal expression is more center stage than ever," Franceski said. Homeowners want to use original, unique art to animate spaces, and can even turn to digitally printed wallpaper to create something unique for themselves. People are mixing materials like contemporary Lucite pieces with wood and alabaster and metals. "We're embracing originality rather than a stale, decorated look."

DESIGNER MICHAEL ROBERSON of Arlington also referred to "a new eclecticism." This style consists of an "interesting mix of things we've never mixed before."

It used to be that eclectic design combined different historic and modern styles that in one way or another related to each other, she said. But now this is not always a requirement.

"Literally everything in the room is unique from everything else," Roberson said. "People seem to be simply putting what they like in a room."

This design technique can "sometimes be wonderful," but Roberson also implies that it also has the potential for disaster.

That's one reason Nancy Colbert of McLean, who designed the library in DC Design House, recommends consulting a designer, as well as checking other resources.

"Whether you're planning on going it alone, or choose to seek help [from a designer], spend time investigating current design magazines or websites to get a sense of what feels good for you."

In gathering ideas from these different sources, Colbert says new decorators may find "a place to build their vision."

One trend Colbert observes: "We're seeing less and less brown wood." Until recently,

most furniture finishes consisted of some variation of brown wood. Now, however, decorators are noticing more painted and combination finishes on furniture pieces.

LAUREN LIESS OF HERNDON was the designer of a "hideaway" bedroom in the design house that was designed as a relaxing place to enjoy the window seat, take a nap, write at the Parson's desk or share a cup of tea.

Her wing chair in the hideaway bedroom included its back upholstered in a Michael Smith floral while the seat and front of the chair are dark velvet.

For home decorators looking for a casual design, Liess suggests "using a casual mix of patterns and textures is a more relaxed way to design a room."

Grass-cloth wallpaper, in bedrooms or living areas, is one way to add texture.

MANY DESIGNERS have welcomed more business lately as clients look to redecorating as an alternative to relocating. "People seem to be re-doing what they already have rather than moving" says Juliana Cunningham, head of Juliana's Home Interiors in Clifton.

Cunningham commented on the recent trend for clients to simplify the redecorating process themselves. She said that renovating window treatments like panes, blinds and shutters "used to be a more labor-intensive process," but people now seem to be turning to simple shades to compliment their windows.

The designer also echoed many of her fellow designers in commenting on the lack of bold colors seen in homes recently.

"We're seeing much more middle-of-the-color-wheel combinations in all rooms," Cunningham said.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

Beyond two conversation chairs at the library entrance from the foyer two milled bookcases were added to the entrance to the garden room to contribute to the library's symmetry. Designed by Nancy Colbert of McLean.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

'Nature inspired and quirky' describe well the hideaway designed by Lauren Liess. Grasscloth wall and ceiling coverings, diamond patterned sisal rug, an oversized window seat and a pair of distressed silver sconces are just a few of the cozy elements of Lauren Liess' hideaway at the Design House.

Allie Mann of Case Design agreed, saying "Grey is the new beige."

The designer assures anyone looking for a color change in their home that grey is a safe and smart option. "It can work in many rooms," using the successful blend of "Charleston Grey" in the master bedroom in the design house with the "Corn Forth White" she used in the master bathroom which she designed to support her argument.

Like Cunningham, Mann has noticed many of her clients seeking a less laborious approach to redecorating their homes. Rather than the big additions Mann saw in the early 90s, the designer has noticed "a resurgence of people making better use of smaller spaces."

Mann added that many clients were "asking for more low-maintenance projects." Rather than purchasing materials for their new countertops or floors that require constant upkeep, homeowners are looking for lower maintenance options.

For example, Mann, who specializes in kitchen and bathroom remodeling, said that while before her clients have sought out natural stone tiles for their kitchen and bathroom floors, many have now caught on that porcelain tiles look about the same without requiring nearly as much work to maintain.

Mann offered several tips for getting the most from a modest change: "I'm a big fan of stripes- they can often play up the size of a room." Adding crown-molding can quickly make a room look more formal.

When looking to change the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The family room, above, by Alexandria designer Barbara Franceski, ASID, left.



look of a room, often the easiest thing to do is switch out accessories, including pillows, shades, furniture covers and chairs.

"SIMPLY PUT, I believe your home should make you happy," said Franceski.

"Allow yourself the freedom to create an environment that makes you smile. Doing so brings immeasurable joy."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Master bath project designer Allie Mann.

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11115 Devereux Station La.	\$1,450,000	Sat 1-4	Denene Crabbs	Century 21	202-487-4949
11124 Robert Carter Rd.	\$774,950	Sun 1-4	Betsy Voegtlin	Keller Williams	703-798-9882
11128 Clara Barton Dr.	\$769,900	Sun 1-4	Brett Billington	RE/MAX	703-568-6609
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Home LifeStyle

Universal Appeal?

FROM PAGE 11

and a refrigerator with side-by-side doors.

Some of the most popular, yet larger, universal design upgrades include altering home's structure and layout. For example, widening halls and doorways has the benefit of better accommodating wheelchairs and walking aids for older or physically challenged inhabitants. These changes can also aid in circulation patterns and make a home feel more spacious, regardless of square footage.

It is also not uncommon for today's homeowners to request a first-floor master bedroom and bathroom, eliminating the need for walking up and down a flight of stairs. Even installing elevators in residential homes is becoming a trend.

The bathroom is the location of many universal design projects, both large and small.

Some homeowners are now opting for low or no-threshold showers and sinks and vanities of custom heights. Increasing in popularity is the "comfort-

height" toilet that is easier to sit down on than older, shorter models.

As is true with any design element, universal design additions should coordinate with the overall flow and aesthetics of the home. Designers, contractors and architects should incorporate changes while refraining from taking away from the beauty of a home. Many manufacturers keep this in mind when developing new products for both home construction and upgrades.

When considering a universal design project of any size or scope, homeowners should ask themselves:

- ❖ How long do I plan to live in my home?
- ❖ How can I make my house more accessible to people of varying abilities?
- ❖ How much can I afford to spend?

If you are overwhelmed or unsure of how you can introduce universal design concepts to your home, discussing these topics with a Certified Aging in Place Specialist.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

Allie Mann of Case designed the master bathroom of the DC Design House, exemplifying a trend of low or no-threshold showers.

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Immac col on premium flat .66 acres w/ flag stone patio, updated eat-in kit w/ new granite, SS appl & porcelain tile, new carpet, fresh paint, wonderful fin bsmt w/ recessed lts & loads of storage, lovely hrdwd flrs, elegant moldings, MBR w/ walk-in closet, many updates & more.



Springfield \$449,950
Premium 1/3 Fenced Acres

Immac home loaded w/ updates on premium 1/3 acre lot w/ deck & fence, updated eat-in kit w/ granite & 42" cabs, 4BR, updated baths, fin lower lvl w/ wood flrs & gas frplc, walk to school, replaced roof, siding, HVAC, garage dr, windows, sliders & more.



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COMMUNITY



Julia Weik of Burke contemplates a flower from the Lynnvale Farm at the Burke Farmers Market on Saturday, May 7.

Open for Business

Burke Farmers Market starts new season at the Burke Centre VRE Station parking lot.

Residents of Burke flocked to the opening of the Burke Farmer Market on Saturday, May 7, happy to see the regular vendors of fresh, local produce, flowers and other

goods, and welcomed a few new vendors. Open Saturdays, through Nov. 19, from 8 a.m.-12 noon, the market is located in the parking lot of the Burke Centre VRE/Amtrak Station, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke.



Silke Fundaro of Burke shows off hard-to-find Ramps — a spring vegetable with a strong garlicky odor and onion flavor. Difficult to cultivate, the Spring Valley Farm and Orchard, one of the vendors at the Burke farmer's market, collects them from the wild on their property and sells them at the market.

PHOTOS BY
DEB COBB



Charlotte Moore of Springfield gets to try a strawberry Danish from the Bonjour La Parisienne booth at the Burke Farmers Market on Saturday, May 7, as a treat after her gymnastics class.



Amy Small, Bailey Small and Lorainne Elder, all of Annandale, search out annuals at Glascock Produce stand at the Burke Farmers Market on Saturday, May 7.

ENTERTAINMENT

Doing Good 'Without Really Trying'

Good Shepherd Players stage 'How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.'

The Good Shepherd Players of the Church of the Good Shepherd present the musical "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," a satire about big business in the 1960s currently going through its second revival on Broadway. In its 30th year, the theater group demonstrates a commitment to and skill with theater arts — great talent, lighting, costumes and a live orchestra will provide patrons with an excellent night out. In addition, a portion of the proceeds is distributed to good causes.

This year, the Good Shepherd Players is hosting a contest for local students. If four or more members of a student club attend a show, get a picture with a cast member and submit the photo with a 150-word (or more) essay that describes how "being together as members of a school group/organization now will help us succeed as individuals later in life," a winning organization will receive a monetary donation from the Good Shepherd Players.

Upcoming shows are Thursday, May 12 and Friday, May 13, at 8 p.m., and a Sunday matinee on May 15, at 3 p.m. For information about the complimentary production, contact goodshepherdplayers@gmail.com.



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

At a May 4 dress rehearsal, the cast of Good Shepherd Players runs through its current production of 'How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.'



Courtney Ashmore, playing Hedy LaRue, shows up for her first day of work at the World Wide Wicket Company. To her right is personnel manager Bert Bratt, played by Jim Mroz.



In a May 4 rehearsal, Smitty, played by Holly Gilcash, tries to bring together characters J. Pierrepont Finch and Rosemary Pilkington, played by Chris Finch and Dorian Mroz in an upcoming production of 'How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying' by the Good Shepherd Players.



Bill Abernathy, left, wakes up Chris Bird on the stage of the Church of the Good Shepherd at a May 4 dress rehearsal of the Good Shepherd Players' upcoming performance of 'How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.'

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/MAY 12

National Foster Care Month Appreciation Event. 6:15-8 p.m. Adolescent and Family Growth Center, Inc., 8000 Forbes Place, Springfield. Honor National Foster Care Month with a celebration to pay tribute to foster parents and their children. Come find out why "Kids Grow Better in a Family." 703-425-9200 or www.afgcinc.com.

Zoo Trip. 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Stories and activities. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-293-6227.

FRIDAY/MAY 13

Mercury In Summer at 6 p.m. and Chad Dukes, Danny Rouhier from

106.7 The Fan and After-Party at 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

"The Clockmaker." 8 p.m. Hub Theatre, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. Part comic love story, part murder mystery, in a look at how relationships change how we see the world. \$25, \$15 students and seniors. www.thehubtheatre.org or 703-674-3177.

Art & Design Senior Show Reception. 6-10:30 p.m. George Mason University School of Art, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Over 90 artists and performances by The Attractions, Ketura, Solace Sovay, Jelly Gums, Atlast and Stanley Cooley. Complimentary refreshments and food. Free admission and parking. dmoos@gmu.edu.

"Grease." 7:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Tickets available online at www.fxplayers.org for \$8 or at the door for \$12.

Jason Linett, Comedy Stage Hypnotist. 7 p.m. W. T. Woodson

High School, 9525 Main St., Fairfax. \$8. Proceeds benefit the school's drama students. 703-503-4759 or www.VirginiaHypnosis.com.

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Choice selections offered by the Friends of the Pohick Regional Library. All ages. 703-644-7333.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." 8 p.m. The Good Shepherd Players, The Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Musical comedy. 703-323-5400 or www.good-shepherd.net.

SATURDAY/MAY 14

Franconia in the Civil War. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Robert E. Lee Recreation Center, 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia. Two days of history, music, artifacts and information relating to the Franconia area during the Civil War, with artisans, historians and authors from

Franconia and Fairfax County. Period music by elementary school groups. Adults \$5 for both days, age 62 and up and age 14-18 \$2.50, under age 14 free. dhakenson@cox.net or 703-971-4984.

Rocknoceros Rocks for Preemies.

11 a.m. Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. A benefit concert for nonprofit Preemies Today, with children's entertainers Rocknoceros. Silent auction, food and beverages. Proceeds support families affected by prematurity. Tickets available at www.preemiestoday.com.

Tracy Grammer at 7 p.m., and drumfish at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Virginia Ballet Company in "Coppelia." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Cultural Center Theater, 4001 Wakefield Chapel Road, Annandale. A light-hearted classical ballet full of romance, comedy and dance. \$30 adults, \$20

children, students or seniors. atwww.virginiaballetcompany.org or 703 249-8227.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. More than 200 choristers, soloists and musicians performing Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 2, "Resurrection." With Jeanine Thames, Janine Hawley, Fairfax Choral Society and The Reston Chorale. Pre-concert discussion at 7 p.m. free to ticketed patrons. Adults \$25 - \$55, ages 6-18 \$5. 888-945-2468.

"The Clockmaker." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Hub Theatre, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. Part comic love story, part murder mystery, in a look at how relationships change how we see the world. \$25, \$15 students and seniors. www.thehubtheatre.org or 703-674-3177.

Kid's Stuff Sale. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. St. Mary's Catholic Church, 5222

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 16

Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Toys, infant and maternity items and clothing to size 14. All proceeds support the church's Mother's group and charity projects. 703-426-9191 or decot@verizon.net.

"Grease." 7:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Tickets available online at www.fxplayers.org for \$8 or at the door for \$12.

Sesquicentennial Civil War Tour of Fairfax County. 8:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Beginning at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Civil War historian John McAnaw will lead the tour to earth works in Centreville, Mt. Gilead and more as well as a tour of Civil War weapons at the National Firearms Museum. Space is limited. \$25 for Fairfax Station Railroad members, \$30 non-members. 703-278-8833 or www.fairfax-station.org.

Children's Concert. 1 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School Little Theatre, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Featuring more than 15 different Disney songs. Proceeds benefit ECHO, serving families in need in Springfield and Burke. Two cans of food or \$2 per person. www.lakebraddockchorus.org.

Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Meet Local Author Suzi Weinert. 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Weinert will talk about her new mystery, *Garage Sale Stalker*. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.

Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association answers gardening questions. 703-978-5600.

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Choice selections offered by the Friends of the Pohick Regional Library. All ages. 703-644-7333.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." 8 p.m. The Good Shepherd Players, The Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Musical comedy. 703-323-5400 or www.good-shepherd.net.

SUNDAY/MAY 15

Franconia in the Civil War. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Robert E. Lee Recreation Center, 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia. Two days of history, music, artifacts and information relating to the Franconia area during the Civil War, with artisans, historians and authors from Franconia and Fairfax County. Period music by elementary school groups. Adults \$5 for both days, seniors and ages 14-18 \$2.50, under age 14 free. dhakenson@cox.net or 703-971-4984.

Elizabeth and The Catapult with Rene Breton. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Virginia Ballet Company in "Coppelia." 2 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Cultural Center Theater, 4001 Wakefield Chapel Road, Annandale. A light-hearted classical ballet full of romance, comedy and dance. \$30 adults, \$20 children, students or seniors.

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"Grease." 2 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Tickets available online at www.fxplayers.org for \$8 or at the door for \$12.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 1-4 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 703-644-7333.

Used Book Sale. 1-4:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Choice selections offered by the Friends of the Pohick Regional Library. All ages. 703-644-7333.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." 3 p.m. The Good Shepherd Players, The Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Musical comedy. 703-323-5400 or www.good-shepherd.net.

MONDAY/MAY 16

Sailing into Summer! 10:30 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Stories and fun about summer. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-978-5600.

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

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Kennedy, McCloud Shine on Senior Night



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

Woodson senior Naomi Kennedy entered the seventh inning with a two-hit shutout against Lake Braddock on May 10, but had to survive a Bruins rally to earn the win.

Cavaliers survive Lake Braddock rally in battle of district's top teams.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Tuesday's home game against Lake Braddock was shaping up to be everything the Woodson softball team could ask for in a senior night.

The Cavaliers entered the seventh inning with a three-run lead in a battle for first place in the Patriot District, and each of Woodson's three seniors had played a role in getting there. Pitcher Naomi Kennedy was throwing a two-hit shutout, center fielder KJ Johnson scored the go-ahead run in the second inning and catcher Shannon McCloud smacked a home run over the center field fence in the sixth. All the Cavaliers needed were three more outs to put the finishing touches on a memorable evening.

Lake Braddock assured that would be no easy task.

Ashley Flesch reached on a Woodson error to lead off the top of the seventh and back-to-back RBI doubles from Kelly Plescow and Nicole May made things interesting. However, a disputed look back violation call at third base derailed the Bruins' rally and Woodson held on for a 3-2 victory on May 10.

May, who had doubled in a run to cut Woodson's lead to 3-2, later advanced to third base and rounded the bag. Woodson eventually threw the ball to Kennedy in the pitching area and May was ruled out for being off the base once the Cavalier pitcher had the ball in the circle.

"The kids hung in there like they did all year."

— Woodson head softball coach Bob Coleman

After the game, the home plate umpire told The Connection the call was originally going to be for obstruction on Woodson, but it was determined the Lake Braddock runner had committed a look back violation.

Lake Braddock head coach George Rumore was not pleased with the call.

"He called obstruction," Rumore said. "The fielder got in the way and the runner had already made the turn heading for home. Normally, when there's obstruction, he awards the next base. He said, she could have gone back to third base, which is not the call. She's not out because she was still off the bag. He's saying the pitcher had the ball on the mound, but she never went back to the bag, so she's fine, so it was a bad call."

Woodson head coach Bob Coleman saw the play differently.

It was the "correct call," he said. "Good for us, bad for them. You hate to see it come down to that because both teams played very hard."

With the victory, Woodson improved to 14-2, including 11-2 in the district. The Cavaliers can clinch the No. 1 seed in the Patriot District Tournament by defeating Lee in the regular season finale at 6:30 p.m. on May 12. Lake Braddock (13-6, 10-3) closes the

regular season with a home game on May 12 against T.C. Williams and will likely be the No. 2 seed in the tournament. Woodson and Lake Braddock split their regular season meetings, with the Bruins winning 3-2 on April 11.

Kennedy earned the victory on Tuesday, throwing a complete game. The right-hander allowed two runs — one earned — and four hits while walking none and striking out four. She pitched with a one-run lead for four innings before getting a pair of insur-

SEE WOODSON, PAGE 19

Robinson Girls Can't Slow Down Unbeaten Chantilly

Chargers win district lacrosse semifinals contest, but Rams still headed to regionals.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

It's as if winning has become second nature for the Chantilly High girls' lacrosse team this season. That was certainly the case during the regular season where the Chargers went a perfect 16-0 and finished first in the Concorde District standings.

And on Monday, May 9, Chantilly added a postseason victory to its spring resume when it held off a determined and persevering Robinson Secondary team, 15-11, in a district tournament semifinals playoff contest played on a brilliant spring evening at Chantilly.

Chantilly, which earned a first round tournament bye as a result of its top seeding, was scheduled to meet No. 3 seed Oakton in the district title game on Thursday, May

12, at 5:30 p.m. The finals contest will take place at Chantilly. Oakton reached the championship game by defeating No. 2 Westfield in another semifinals game on Monday.

The top four district tournament finishers — Chantilly, Oakton, Robinson, and Westfield — each will compete at next week's 16-team Northern Region tournament.

Chantilly, now 17-0, has good talent, a solid work ethic in practices and games, and a winner's mindset. All of those qualities have made the Chargers one tough team to beat.

"We never lose," said senior midfielder Sonia Wang, not intending to sound boastful of her club's accomplishment, just matter-of-fact. "So teams come out fired up and really trying to beat us."

Robinson (7-6), which lost its regular sea-

son meeting at Chantilly, 11-8, on April 6, has shown improvement this season after last year's 4-9 record. While not overpowering — the Rams were 2-3 in regular season district games — they play all out and don't seem to get discouraged when they fall behind. Throughout a good portion of Monday's semifinals against the Chargers, Robinson, while never having a lead, stayed with the elite Chantilly team much of the game.

ROBINSON trailed just 5-3 at halftime and got within 5-4 early in the second half on a catch-and-shoot, close range goal by Campbell Collier, who, for the game, scored six goals to lead the Rams. But Chantilly scored the game's next five goals, two of those scores coming from Wang, to build up a nice 10-4 advantage with less than 17 minutes remaining.

The Rams hung tough, scoring four of the game's next six goals, two apiece from Collier and Katie McHugh, to stay within striking distance at 12-8 with just over five

minutes left. The Chargers curbed the Rams' late game momentum with goals from Wang and Maddie Wallace to take a fairly commanding 14-8 lead. Collier answered with consecutive scores to get the guests within 14-10 with 90 seconds still to play. It was a gallant effort by Robinson, which got no closer and fell by the 15-11 outcome.

"There are so many good things they do," said Robinson coach Sally Collier, of her Rams. "They fought hard to the last second of the game. I feel like we're right on the verge of winning a game like that."

Perhaps the Rams will get such a win at regionals. Coach Collier said her squad has progressively improved throughout the season and gotten better at executing the game's fundamentals, such as throwing and catching, curtailing loose balls, and moving well on defense. Robinson, during the regular season, did not lose a district game by more than three goals.

Along with Campbell Collier's six goals

SEE CHANTILLY, PAGE 19

SPORTS

Chantilly Still Unbeaten

FROM PAGE 18

on Monday, the Rams also got three scores from McHugh and one each from Alexis Mooney and Austin Courtney.

Chantilly's top scorer in the win was Kacey Norwood, who scored six times. Wang also came up big with four goals.

Coach Collier said the Rams, while getting some good scoring chances against Chantilly, had a difficult time in beating Chantilly goalie Liz Graviano, a First Team All-

District selection at the position. Time and time throughout the game, Graviano, although not perfect in the net, made sparkling saves to keep the game's momentum in Chantilly's favor.

"She is a great goalie," said Collier, of the Chantilly junior. "She was the goalie of the year for the Concorde District. She has a lot of respect from our team and the other coaches in the Concorde District."

The Rams gave Graviano a good workout on Monday.

"It was nerve-wracking," she said, of going up against a good team in such a big game. "A lot of times their girls got through [for good opportunities]. But I love playing goalie. I'm not very fast but

have good reflexes."

"She's very focused and has very good reactions and good placement and instincts," said Chantilly coach Tina Plaughner.

PLAUGHNER, a former head coach at Marshall High who is in her first season at Chantilly, liked her team's

aggressive approach offensively against Robinson. At times, the Chargers would set up their offense and work the ball around patiently for a good opportunity. When a

scoring chance appeared, Chantilly went hard to the goal area for shots.

"I felt we knew when to drive to the goal and took the opportunities when we had it," said Plaughner.

While Chantilly did get its share of scoring chances and goals in the playoff win over Robinson, nothing came easily against the Rams and their goaltender, Cassie Raithel, who, like her counterpart on the other end of the field, made some spectacular saves on some straight-on, sizzling shots on the net.

Both Chantilly and Robinson have more postseason play ahead of them with the Chargers having reached the district finals and both teams looking forward to regionals.

"They fought hard to the last second of the game."

— Robinson coach Sally Collier

Woodson Wins

FROM PAGE 18

ance runs in the sixth. Kennedy was on her way to a shutout before running into trouble in the seventh. After the game, she acknowledged assuming victory.

"I was subconsciously telling myself, 'Oh, hey, we got this,'" she said. "But I [told myself], 'No, don't do that.'"

Kennedy threw 60 of 84 pitches for strikes and delivered a first-pitch strike to 16 of 26 batters faced. She is the only Cavalier to throw a pitch this season.

"Naomi's battled all year," Coleman said. "She's why we're where we're at. ... She's been above and beyond anything we could imagine."

Juniors Kelsey Schwartzbach and Alexa Senio each delivered a run-scoring single for Woodson. The big hit of the night came from McCloud, who led off the bottom of the sixth with a line drive homer to center field, giving the Cavaliers a 2-0 advantage.

"It was huge," Coleman said of McCloud's round-tripper. "She had two ugly at bats before and then came through."

McCloud, who signed with the University of Mary Washington, said she didn't think the drive was going to be a home run.

"I thought it was to the fence," McCloud said. "But when I looked up and it was gone, it was a good feeling."

Flesch, a freshman, suffered the loss for Lake Braddock, allowing three runs and five hits in six innings while walking three and striking out five.

The Patriot District Tournament begins May 16.

"The kids hung in there like they did all year. That's what these guys do," said Coleman, whose Cavaliers finished district runner-up last season. "We don't kill anybody or impress anybody or anything like that, we just hang in there."

FAITH NOTES

A new Women's Bible study, "Discovering Who We Are in Christ - Part III," will be at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road in Fairfax, 9:45 a.m. Tuesdays through May 31. \$15. Child care available. Register at 703-383-1170 or www.jccag.org.

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.

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.

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OPINION

Support Small Businesses

Show support for local businesses May 15-21, small business week.

Small businesses, especially locally owned retail stores and restaurants, are part of what defines any community. Their livability depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active as a volunteer in fundraising and advocating for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing community events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores and restaurants, have weathered some very tough times in the last few years. Many of the costs of doing business have increased, (price of gas, for example) while many businesses defined a successful year in 2010 if revenues did not decline — again — from the previous year.

And small businesses are critical to economic recovery. In Virginia, small businesses make up more than 97 percent of employers and nearly 50 percent of non-government employment.

And while Northern Virginia's economy has fared far better than almost any other region in the country, small, locally owned, community-oriented businesses have not universally shared in bounty.

The small business owner must be master of the budget and doing more with less. He or she must stay up to date on changing regulations while they market their business, manage benefits and employee schedules and maintain the company's edge in serving its customers.

From May 15-20, show support to your locally

owned small businesses. Shop locally. Eat locally. Greet the business owner and tell her that you're there this week to support small, local business.

Then be sure to come back on a regular basis. Your hometown quality of life depends on it.

Local Winners

Washington Metropolitan Area District Office of the Small Business Administration will honor several local business people and organizations this week.

This year's Washington Metro Minority Business Champion is Danny Vargas of Herndon, president of VARCom Solutions, a marketing and public relations firm. A U.S. Air Force veteran and former Fortune 500 executive,

he served as chairman of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce, the first Hispanic to chair a mainstream chamber in Virginia, according to the chamber.

Vargas grew the Dulles Hispanic Business Council and developed a professional support program for local small business owners. Vargas also serves on the advisory board of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, the Commission of the National Museum of the American Latino, the Virginia Workforce Council, and the Board of the Northern Virginia Family Service.

Small Business Development Center of Excellence and Innovation award this year honors the Mason Small Business Development Center at George Mason University for providing value to small businesses through innovation. The Mason Small Business Development has a team of certified small business counselors who have helped more than 765 entrepreneurs in the past two years, nurturing more than 60 startup companies and retaining more than 1,200 area jobs.

EDITORIALS

No Fee To Stay Fit

To the Editor:

The arrival of daylight savings gives us more daylight hours to burn stored energy from the winter months. All Fairfax County families should stay healthy with a "No Fee to Stay Fit" program for family exercise. The county should provide outdoor aerobic exercise at any of the many parks locations at least twice a week at no charge.

According to a statement in 2009 by Terry T-K Huang, the director of the Obesity Research Strategic Core of the National Institute of Health (NIH), one-third of children in the U.S. aged 2-19 years are overweight or obese. "Obesity in childhood often leads to obesity in adulthood, resulting in serious medical consequences," he said. The Research Triangle Institute recently found that "the total medical cost of obesity in the U.S. is \$147 billion per year." According to the Gallup-Healthway Well-Being Index, 26.6 percent of American adults, and 25.8 percent of Virginia adults, were obese in 2010. The main reasons are too much (junk) food and too little exercise.

In Thailand, my native country, the climate is tropical with high temperature and humid-

ity most of the year. However, people enjoy exercising outdoors at parks around the capital city of Bangkok. Hundreds of men, women and children line up and follow an aerobics instructor in a routine set to music. It's free with fresh air. It's also fun and healthy and is one way local communities encourage people to exercise more.

Fairfax County could do the same. The program doesn't have to be expensive or elaborate. The county might set up a small stage that is visible and strong enough for an instructor and sound system. This would draw county residents of all ages to exercise as a family and community. Children would always be welcome to exercise with their parents, who would serve as role models.

A healthier lifestyle benefits all in the long run and saves medical care costs to the community and families. If the county cannot provide a paid instructor, perhaps a volunteer exercise program could be offered.

Please make "No Fee to Stay Fit" happen so everyone can access it.

Nuntalux Redmon
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LETTERS

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21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

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 2 YEAR COMPLIMENTARY
MAINTENANCE PLAN
 WITH ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE²
 ON EVERY NEW VEHICLE

COVERS 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, OIL & FILTER,
 TIRE ROTATION, MULTIPOINT INSPECTION



\$1,995 DUE AT SIGNING PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT, \$379 PROCESSING FEE,
 ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. EXPIRES 5/31/2011.

BRAND NEW 2011 TOYOTA
COROLLA
 SEDAN, AUTO TRANS, MODEL #1832
\$4 PER DAY
 OR, \$189 PER MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS



\$1,995 DUE AT SIGNING PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT, \$379 PROCESSING FEE,
 ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. EXPIRES 5/31/2011.

BRAND NEW 2011 TOYOTA
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 SEDAN, AUTO TRANS, MODEL #2532
\$5 PER DAY
 OR, \$219 PER MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS



\$1,995 DUE AT SIGNING PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT, \$379 PROCESSING FEE,
 ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. EXPIRES 5/31/2011.

BRAND NEW 2011 TOYOTA
RAV4
 2WD, AUTO TRANS, MODEL #4430
\$8 PER DAY
 OR, \$259 PER MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS



- 7 Yr. / 100K Mi Roadside Assistance Plan
- 160 Point Quality Assurance Inspection
- CARFAX Vehicle History Report

- 2.9% APR Financing Available (3).
- 3 mo. / 3K mi Comprehensive Warranty
- 7 Yr. / 100K Mi Limited Powertrain Warranty

(1)BASED ON BLACK BOOK FAIR TRADE VALUE MINUS CONDITION, MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF A NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE. (2)WITH PURCHASE OF A NEW VEHICLE. COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE. PLAN IS FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET, OR A DELIVERY OR TAXI VEHICLE. SEE PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER FOR DETAILS. (3)WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THRU TFS. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER ADVERTISED OFFER. OFFERS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION DUE TO MANUFACTURER CHANGE IN INCENTIVES. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE CAMPAIGN DETAILS. 1.9% APR FOR A LIMITED TERM ON APPROVED TIER1 + CREDIT THRU TFS. DEALER RETAINS ALL FACTORY REBATES AND INCENTIVES. (4)PRICE EXCLUDES \$379 DEALER DOC FEES. EXPIRES 5/31/11.

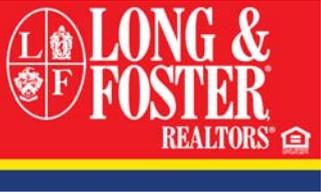
Jack Taylor's
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TOYOTA / SCION
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 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305

"QUOTE"
 See what people
 are saying about
 Alexandria Toyota!

"I got a completely no non-sense transaction from these professionals - that's how a dealership should be. I am a senior govt official and I didnt have time to waste - we agreed a deal and they delivered - no hidden extras, no games, and a good price. Highly recommend."
 - Dealerrater Quote

DEALERRATER
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COMING SOON

Chantilly \$399,900

JUST LISTED! Original owners have taken exceptional care of this 4 Bedroom / 2.5 Bath colonial located in popular Brookfield. UPDATED kitchen with granite counters and newer appliances > DELIGHTFUL sunroom with access to fenced back yard > SPACIOUS living room and separate dining room! Main level bedroom can be used as office / study! Call Cyndee for more information!



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Fairfax Station \$759,900
4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths. All new kitchen, updated baths, new deck, new carpet, refinished hardwood floors. 9 ft ceilings in living room & library. 2 story foyer.

Ron & Susan Associates

Ron Kowalski & Susan Borrelli
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Lorton Station \$469,900
Beautiful end-unit, 2-car garage townhome with rare 4th level loft! Top-line upgrades, hardwood floors, deck, surrounded by trees! Best on the block!
Call Ron Kowalski at 1-888-495-6207 for information.

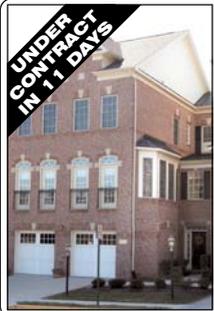


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UNDER CONTRACT IN 11 DAYS

Burke \$625,000
Gorgeous, Luxury, former model dream home! Bright, Open & Cheerful! Loaded with Bells & Whistles! Hardwood Floors on First & Second levels - 3 BR, 3.5 BA + Study/Library - 2 Fireplaces - Large, Gourmet Kitchen w/ Butler's Pantry & Adjacent Fam Rm - Deck & much, much more.



Fairfax Station \$795,000

This Home Has it All!!!
6+ acres - 5 car garage - pool - fabulous solid brick beauty!!! Featuring 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, huge family room addition w/wall to wall windows - center island kitchen w/granite counters - finished lower level. Location, Location, Location.
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Springfield \$815,000
Big and beautiful - this spacious home has it all! Two-story foyer & family room, banquet size dining room, gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, 4 bedroom, 4.5 baths, hardwood floors PLUS MAIN LEVEL MASTER BEDROOM SUITE! Huge fully finished basement plus den and 2 car side-load garage. Commuter's dream location nestled in lovely treed neighborhood with Fairfax County Pkwy, I95, metro nearby.

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Gainesville \$279,999
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ANNANDALE-1 Bedroom, 1 Bath Condo. Move in ready!
\$190,000

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GAINESVILLE - 2.5 Bath Condo. Great view!
\$165,000

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ALEXANDRIA - 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 3 level townhouse.
\$319,000

Recorded message about this property at: 877-202-0571 ext.33



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Next Door



Vienna \$765,000
Lovely Rambler in sought-after Lakevale Estates offers 5BR/3BA, updated baths, huge kitchen with new SS appliances & granite, hardwoods on main level, freshly painted, and walkout lower level with new carpeting and fireplace. Over 3200sf of living plus two car garage. Fabulous yard backing to parkland. Madison school district.

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Clifton \$585,000
Country Living!
Charming country rambler on 5.9 acres! Classic red barn, rolling & fenced pastures, detached 2 car garage! 4BR, 3BAs, no HOA! Perfect for horses & hobbies, super low price! Great price & opportunity to move to Clifton! Robinson Schools!



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Fairfax - \$649,900



Fairfax - \$499,000

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Plus a Beautiful, Colonial Single Family in Fairfax Station and Robinson School District!
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Spectacular View
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