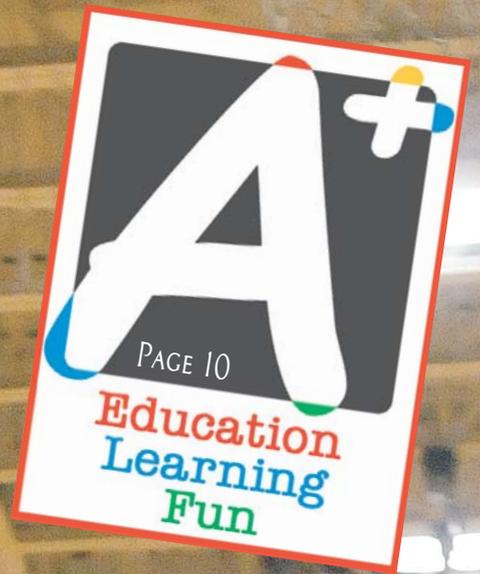


# Burke CONNECTION



Lake Braddock senior guard Brendan McHale scored 10 points in the Bruins' first Patriot District loss of season against West Potomac on Jan. 17.

United We Serve  
A+, PAGE 10

Allen Declares War on Unions  
NEWS, PAGE 2

# Bruins Experience First Loss

SPORTS, PAGE 18

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JANUARY 19-25, 2012

## THE COUNTY LINE

# Allen Declares War on Unions

Seeking his old Senate seat, former governor goes on the offensive against organized labor.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

**H**oping to capitalize on anti-union sentiment in Virginia this year, Republican George Allen is giving labor issues a starring role in his bid to recapture the Senate seat he lost to Jim Webb in 2006. In a meeting with Connection Newspapers reporters and editors, Allen proposed a series of specific measures to undercut the power of unions. The agenda would undercut the power of the National Labor Relations Board, prohibit mandatory labor agreements on federal projects and ensure secret ballots before a labor union can be created.

“Unions are a big part of the Democrats’ political operation,” said Allen. “There’s no secret about that.”

Allen says the series of proposals were inspired by the National Labor Relations Board’s lawsuit against airline manufacturer Boeing, which sought to punish the company for locating a new plant in South Carolina in retaliation for strikes by unionized workers at its existing facility in Washington state. The lawsuit was dropped last month, but Allen and other Republicans are now hoping to capitalize on the issue on the campaign trail.

“This is an issue that hits a sweet spot for Republican voters,” said Kyle Kondik, political analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. “So it certainly helps him in the primary against Jamie Radtke. It remains to be seen whether it’s something that would appeal to voters in the general election against Tim Kaine.”

**ALLEN SAYS** the freedom to work is “under assault,” and repeatedly used the lawsuit against Boeing as a reason for the federal government to take decisive action. But Allen’s agenda is broader than simply undercutting the power of the National Labor Relations Board. He would also like to amend the National Labor Relations Act to prevent workers from being compelled to pay union dues or fees to get or keep a job, essentially expanding Virginia’s Right To Work law nationwide. He would also work to guarantee that workers have the opportunity to cast secret ballots before a union can be organized.

“None of George Allen’s proposals would help workers in Virginia like me in any way,” said Karen Conchar, Fairfax County employee and member of Local 5 Service Employees International Union. “Taking away



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

**Former governor George Allen discusses campaign issues as candidate seeking the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate.**

“Unions are a big part of the Democrats’ political operation. There’s no secret about that.”

— George Allen

rights at the workplace doesn’t help the middle class put food on the table or pay the mortgage, and it doesn’t help businesses create good jobs.”

As governor in the 1990s, Allen says he saw firsthand how the commonwealth’s Right to Work Law helped encourage investment and expansion of business in Virginia. If elected to the Senate, he says, he wants to advance an agenda to undercut the power of unions in a way that would help businesses create jobs, save taxpayers money and protect the liberty of non-unionized workers. One of his goals would be to repeal the Davis-Bacon wage laws that he says diminish competition and inflate costs to taxpayers for construction when the federal government is involved. Ultimately, Allen said, he’s hoping that voters send a mandate for action.

“The reality is that it matters who the president is,” said Allen. “President Bush didn’t allow project labor agreements. This president is all for them.”

**ONE OF ALLEN’S** proposals would have particular resonance in Northern Virginia: It would prohibit the federal government from entering into mandatory project labor agreements, a collective bargaining agreement that establishes terms and conditions for a specific construction project. These are frequently large-scale infrastructure projects, such as bridges or Metro expansion to Dulles International Airport. Allen says that taxpayers would get more bang for their buck if the federal government was prohibited from engaging in collective bargaining on these projects.

“The reason you don’t want to have these is that they increase the cost of a project, on average by 22 percent,” said Allen. “You

have less competitive bidding.”

Union groups dispute this notion, questioning if taxpayers would really save money by hiring low-wage workers. Supporters of project labor agreements say unionized workers are paid more money because they produce better work. As a result, supporters say, they also create infrastructure that is less likely to break down or fail — sometimes with catastrophic consequences.

“Sometimes what you see is that without project labor agreements you end up with a more exploitable workforce,” said Julie Hunter, spokeswoman for the Virginia AFL-CIO. “These are workers that tend to not have the same training that the union workforce has.”

**ALLEN’S OPPONENTS** don’t have much to say about his specific proposals. Campaign officials for Jamie Radke, the Tea Party candidate hoping to challenge him in the Republican primary, declined to respond to multiple requests for an interview. Her campaign website says she would oppose laws that would require a worker’s secret ballot in union elections. The site also says she would support Virginia’s Right To Work Law and oppose collective bargaining between government entities and public employee organizations and unions.

“The fundamental right to associate with those we choose assures workers the right to form labor organizations,” Radke said in a written statement on her campaign website. “However, this fundamental right of association also guarantees the individual the right not to associate.”

If he’s successful against Radke, Allen will face former Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine — pitting two former governors against each

other in a Senate race. Like Allen, Kaine also supports Virginia’s right-to-work law. When contacted about Allen’s labor proposals, the Kaine campaign issued a statement saying that the former Democratic governor upheld the law as governor and will continue to support states’ rights to establish their own rules on this issue as senator. The campaign did not respond to a request to address Allen’s specific proposals.

“The answer to our economic challenges is not tinkering with workplace rules, as George Allen suggests,” said communications director Brandi Hoffine in a written statement. “The real answer is building a high-talent economy by investing in education and workforce development.”

**ALLEN’S SUITE OF PROPOSALS** will pit traditional political opponents against each other, labor unions and their Democratic allies on one side and business leaders and allies in the Republican party on the other. What’s different about this election is the recession, with the unemployment rate in Virginia currently at 6.2 percent. Another difference with this election cycle is the growing Occupy movement, which seeks to cast a spotlight on the same wealth inequality that gave rise to the original labor movement in the late 19th century. Now, Allen says, it’s time to move away from that model and adopt a more free-market approach.

For voters in Northern Virginia, the stakes are high.

“This artificially increases the costs and it also ends up with less competition so you end up with a higher cost to the taxpayers,” said Allen. “If you look at the Metro extension to Dulles, the ones who will ultimately have to pay for these unnecessarily higher costs will be the taxpayers.”

# NEWS

## 'Common Sense' Proposals

Allowing schools to open before Labor Day part of task force recommendations.

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

**R**epeal of the "Kings Dominion law," which requires Fairfax County schools to obtain a state waiver to open schools before Labor Day, is high on the list of legislative priorities announced Monday, Jan. 16, by Governor Robert McDonnell.

During a news conference in Richmond, Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield), who chaired the Governor's Task Force for Local Government Mandate Review, joined McDonnell in announcing a number of legislative proposals to eliminate "burdensome state mandates" on localities.

"(This) report contains common sense recommendations which will provide fiscal relief to localities and the Commonwealth, and will enable both to more efficiently serve Virginia's residents," Herry said.

Allowing Northern Virginia schools to open before Labor Day without a waiver – a move championed for years by local school boards and educators – was just one of 60 mandates the task force recommended eliminating or modifying.

**A THIRD** of the recommendations dealt with education, including removing the requirement that schools must offer online Standards of Learning (SOL) testing in middle schools.

"In Fairfax County alone this program costs over \$4 million to set up, then an additional \$4 million plus per year to run," Herry said. "While online testing is a worthwhile objective, an additional \$4 million a year would enable FCPS to hire nearly 60 new teachers."

The task force also set a goal for the Department of Education to reduce "unnecessary" state and federal reporting requirements for Schools by 15 percent, such as abolishing the mandate for annual reports on remediation programs.

"The removal of these mandates on localities will save time, tax-payer dollars and ultimately result in better, more accountable services for Virginians," said Joan Wodiska, president of the Virginia School Board Association and a member of the Falls Church City School Board, during Monday's news conference.

Other legislation proposed by the task force includes:

- ❖ Removing the mandate for state inspections of erosion and sediment control programs where localities have inspections.

- ❖ Eliminating the mandate that requires VDOT approval of the location of locally-placed red light cameras.

- ❖ Eliminating the mandate for localities to give first priority for vending contracts to the Department of Blind and Visually Impaired.

In September 2011, the Governor announced the creation of the five-member task force, a result of legislation introduced by Sen. Steve Newman (R-



**Governor Bob McDonnell (left) listens as Springfield Supervisor Pat Herry comments on legislation to reduce "unnecessary" mandates on localities during a news conference in Richmond Monday, Jan. 16.**

Bedford County) to review state mandates imposed on localities, and to recommend temporary suspension or permanent repeal of such mandates.

"Burdensome mandates on localities exacerbate the challenge of balancing a budget in these tight fiscal times," McDonnell said at the news conference. "On the state level, we don't like it when the federal government hampers us with mandates and red tape."

Herry said localities need relief from state mandates, and are not in a position to accept new ones after several tough budget years.

"These recommendations have taken on greater importance as the cumulative budget gaps in local governments likely exceed the budget gap experienced by the Commonwealth," Herry said. "The vast majority of localities are projecting revenue growth less than the Commonwealth's projected growth of 3.1 percent."

**IN ADDITION** to the legislative proposals, Governor McDonnell is recommending \$10 million in his Fiscal Year 2013 budget and \$15 million in Fiscal Year 2014 to help offset previous reductions in aid to localities.

Herry said Monday's announcement was just the first step of the task force that has been meeting since November 2011.

"It's important to point out that this is only an interim report to meet the deadline Gov. McDonnell gave us for the 2012 General Assembly session, and these recommendations are only the beginning of our work," he said.

Several bills have been introduced in the 2012 General Assembly session at the request of the Governor and other legislators reflecting the vast majority of the Task Force recommendations, according to a statement released by the Governor's office on Monday.

The full report from the Task Force for Local Mandate Review is available at: [www.governor.virginia.gov/utility/docs/Interim Report 1 16 12.pdf](http://www.governor.virginia.gov/utility/docs/Interim Report 1 16 12.pdf)

## \$2.4 Billion School Budget Proposed

Budget includes new positions, salary increases to address growing student population.

**F**airfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Superintendent Jack D. Dale presented a \$2.4 billion budget proposal to the school board on Jan. 12, reflecting a nine percent – or \$202.3 million increase – in next year's operating budget.

With a projected enrollment of 181,608 students, the proposed budget includes an additional 721.3 positions to support an additional 3,900 students, as well as cost-of-living increases for all eligible employees. Since 2008, the district's enrollment has grown by more than 15,000 students.

"Over the past five years, we have added the (student population) equivalent of a high school, middle school and 16 elementary schools," Ted Velkoff (At-large) said after the Jan. 12 school board meeting, during which Dale released details of the budget.

Velkoff added there is a "pent-up need" for increased funding. "The funding has been pretty flat over the past five years, while we've been absorbing that many students and we've had no corresponding increase in funding," Velkoff said.

"We are seeing the greatest increases in the numbers of our students with additional needs," Dale said. "Since 2008, the number of students enrolled in English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) has risen 48.3 percent, and the number of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals is up 35.4 percent."

This fall, FCPS will open two new schools: a middle school at the South County site and an elementary school at the Lacey site.

The proposed budget includes the addition of 26 positions to address large class sizes and 12 positions to support the expansion of the World Lan-



**Jack Dale**

guages program in elementary schools. Eight schools will add the Foreign Languages in the Elementary Schools (FLES) pro-

gram, and two new schools will implement the Foreign Language Immersion program.

Under Dale's plan, extended learning time for students and extended time for teachers are included in the budget, as well as a 2-percent cost-of-living increase for employees. Teacher salaries have been frozen for two years.

"It is imperative for FCPS to stay competitive in the marketplace in order to continue to attract the best employees to support student success," Dale said. "We continue to dedicate the majority of our budget, 85.9 percent, and the majority of our positions, 94.6 percent, directly to instructional programs."

"I was content to see that teacher compensation was again prioritized in this year's budget. Sustaining compensation increases from last year shows Fairfax's commitment to ensuring that those who teach here can afford to live here," said Ryan McElveen (At-large).

"However, I was disappointed to see that athletic fees were not addressed in the budget. In terms of cost, they are a low-hanging fruit at less than \$2 million," McElveen said athletic fees, as well as booster fees, fundraisers and spirit-pack payments, can be a significant burden on students of low-income families. "I hope that the board will remember these students and their families in the coming months,"

— VICTORIA ROSS

### Budget Facts

- ❖ Funds to expand Pathways to the Baccalaureate, part of the College Success program, to four additional schools - Centreville, Chantilly, South County and Westfield High Schools - and to expand the program to 10th and 11th grades at Annandale, Edison, Falls Church, Lee, Mount Vernon, South Lakes, and Stuart High Schools and Hayfield Secondary School.

The Fairfax County School Board will hold public hearings on the FY 2013 budget on Jan. 30 and 31 at Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road. A speakers' list for those public hearings opened on Jan. 13 at: [www.fcps.edu/schlbld/meetings/requestspeak.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/meetings/requestspeak.shtml). For complete information on the FCPS FY 2013 budget, including the budget calendar, visit [www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/index.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/index.shtml)



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## NEWS



PHOTO BY  
MONTIE MARTIN/  
THE CONNECTION

**Local tattoo veteran Kenny Brown works on Jeremy Fleming from Burke.**

## Inked in Arlington

**DC Tattoo Expo draws crowds and bodywork.**

BY MONTIE MARTIN  
THE CONNECTION

**I**nk aficionados from across the country crowded the Crystal Gateway Marriot in Arlington for the second DC Tattoo Expo, held Jan. 12-15.

Organizers estimated that twice as many people were in attendance as the previous year's event.

"Tattoo conventions in D.C. have been tried before, but they never had the local expertise and weren't marketed well," said Greg Piper, organizer of the DC Tattoo Expo and owner of the Manassas-based Exposed Temptations Tattoo. "It's about gathering great artists, and DC is lucky to have some incredibly talented guys.

The event drew 184 of the top tattoo artists from across the country, including James Marlowe from Marlowe Ink in Fairfax, Jason McCarty from Body Art Tattoo Studio in Berryville, and Kenny Brown from Jack Brown's Tattoo Revival in Fredericksburg.

Appointments from the experts tend to have lengthy waiting periods, some as much as nine months, and expo goers were quick to take advantage of the big names.

Nineteen-year tattoo veteran Kenny Brown worked on Jeremy Fleming, from Burke, who noted that being inked grabs attention from women. "I got tattoos for the girls, and it works," said Fleming.

Reasons for permanent body art are as varied as the many diverse styles. Bonnie Owen, a bartender from Lancaster, Ohio, had a tiger inked in remembrance of the Oct. 19, 2011 mass killing of escaped exotic animals. "So many endangered species were shot, including three tigers," said Owen. "It was devastating, the tattoo is me in mourning."

Others expo goers came to simply appreciate the works of art.

**"I got tattoos for the girls, and it works."**

— **Jeremy Fleming, Burke**

"I'm not here to get one, but there is definitely some beautiful work," said Arlington resident Aeryn Kimball. "I'm here to support all the artists."

With attendance well into the thousands, the area has now been placed firmly on the radar as a top tier destination for quality inked art.

"So many people talk about N.Y. but there is a huge subculture in D.C. The region isn't recognized because it's associated with government jobs, but one out of three people has a tattoo and many of them have suit-and-tie jobs," said Piper. "With a professional and educated population, patrons become more discreet and picky; they want professional and quality art."

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The Robinson Secondary School DECA fashion show, organized and run entirely by students kicks off Jan. 11 with a scene of looks designed and made by students. Pictured here (in no particular order): Marissa Meyers, Cheyenne Guard, Jackie Mains, Tess Tedrick, Courtney Leonardo, Marcela Balderama, and Nicole Nohra.

## Robinson Stages Fashion Show

On Wednesday, Jan. 11, the students of the Robinson Secondary School DECA club, a chapter of an international organization aimed at preparing high school students for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management, held its sixth annual

DECA Fashion Show, showcasing the designs and fashion-stylings of DECA members at Robinson. The massive effort, involving 108 students is entirely student organized and run. Proceeds from the show are used to fund activities of the DECA club at the school.

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/  
THE CONNECTION



Student Cheyenne Guard models her own design.



Marcela Balderama wears a look designed by Robinson senior Paul Warren.



Robinson student Jackie Mains models a look designed and made by fellow student Adna Guled.



Robinson Secondary School students glam it up during the DECA Fashion Show. Looks in the show were organized into scenes from popular television shows. This final scene was from "The Bachelor." Pictured here (in no particular order): Jana Abutayeh, Hayley Aguayo, Mora Azez, Katie Jones, Charlie Nguyen, Rachel Thomas, Sarah Thompson.

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# OPINION

## Building on Pro-business Culture

New industry sectors are critical to Fairfax County's continued economic success.

BY SHARON BULOVA  
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Sharon Bulova

critical element in the county becoming the economic engine of the Washington area as well as the Commonwealth of Virginia. And, of course, the commercialization of government technology, including the Internet, has also helped create businesses and jobs in

Fairfax County.

We are proud that 66 of the nation's 100 largest government contractors have a presence in the county, including 22 that are based here. Government contractors employ Fairfax County residents and perform some of the most vital tasks required by the nation.

Of course, no community can sustain itself over time unless it has a diverse economy. Fairfax County will continue to foster the business-friendly climate that has attracted so many corporate relocations in the last several years, and we will continue to welcome government contractors to our community. But, we also will redouble our efforts to attract companies from a wide array of appropriate industry sectors to diversify our economic base.

The county, working through the Economic Development Authority, has in recent years landed the headquarters of high-profile large employers that are helping us diversify our economy. Volkswagen Group of America and Hilton Worldwide give us important inroads in the automotive and hospitality industries, for example. Most recently Bechtel, one of the largest engineering and construction companies in the world, announced it would relocate its global operations headquarters to Fairfax County. That is the kind of progress that the county can build upon for future economic success.

In my inaugural speech, I also referred to a business owner who moved his IT firm to the county. He told me how much he liked the mood here and that he wanted to be in a place where people enjoy what they do and are "charged up" about their work and their community. Our corporate leaders, like our residents, appreciate that, during these challenging times, Fairfax County has developed and improved on our pro-business culture. That will continue to be important in these difficult times as we look for new opportunities to improve the economic stability of the county in 2012 and beyond.

*Sharon Bulova chairs the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.*

In the speech I gave Dec. 13 as I was sworn in as chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I quoted Albert Einstein, who said, "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." The continuing economic problems that afflict the nation, and the federal budget cuts that could take effect soon, provide Fairfax County an opportunity to continue the significant and diversified economic development successes of the past several years.

Fairfax County is fortunate to be at the doorstep of the nation's capital. Our proximity to Washington has made us a natural base for companies that want to do business with the federal government, and our ability to attract and retain government contractors has been a

RICHMOND DIARY

## Re-writing the Rules State senator reflects on the first week of the 2012 General Assembly session.

BY STATE SEN. DAVID MARSDEN  
(D-37)

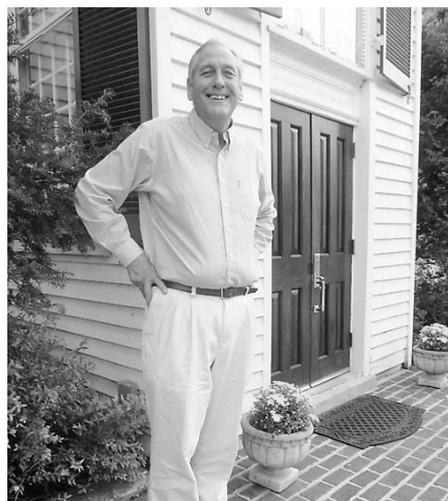
SUNDAY, JAN. 8

I packed up the car and stopped by a constituent's house to pick up information regarding 100 percent disabled veterans whose homes are in trusts, and who are not receiving the intended property tax relief. We spend a lot of time in the legislature trying to fix loopholes like this one in the bills we pass. Later that afternoon we held a Democratic senate caucus meeting, where we discussed our options under the Constitution and the rules of the Senate to deal with who will organize as the majority party, or how to establish power sharing. We will be dealing with this in three days.

MONDAY, JAN. 9

In the days leading up to the first session, legislators meet with individuals and groups having business with the General Assembly. My day started with a meeting with interior designers. They are worried that Gov. McDonnell's budget removes the requirement that they be certified and licensed to perform their duties. They made a compelling case as to how important interior design can be towards creating safe environments. I met also with the Department of Juvenile Justice, and we discussed how to reorganize our Juvenile Justice resources to create a more efficient and effective system.

My last meeting was with the Commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles, who updated me on the great strides they have made



State Sen. David Marsden (D-37)

in online services and reducing wait times at DMV customer centers. Northern Virginia customer centers still have the longest waits due to volume.

TUESDAY, JAN. 10

Many of my bills are reflections of the good ideas brought forth by constituents, members of the business community, or the administration. I agreed to sponsor two bills today. The first is on behalf of the Humane Society, which deals with the boom in the creation and operation of fox pens. Foxes are purchased and placed into fenced enclosures ranging from 100 to 900 acres. Competitions are held between dog owners as the dogs track the foxes. Often the end result is the fox being killed by the

### Short Bio

A graduate of the private Randolph Macon College, State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37), 63, recently won his first full term to the Virginia Senate this November. "I grew up in a small farm house that was the original Woodburn Elementary School," he said. "I saw the changes that have taken place in the county, and I have a pretty good awareness that things are always in flux."

Marsden has lived in Burke since 1977 with his wife of 40 years, Julia, where they raised three sons — Nathan, 41; Stuart, 36; and Connor, 34.

In 1970, Marsden began a career as a probation officer in Fairfax County after receiving a social work degree from Randolph Macon in 1970. He went on to establish and operate Fairfax County's shelter home for youth with severe family problems, and in 1982 became the chief administrator for the Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center, a 121-bed center that served as a model for other centers. He is particularly proud of the fact that during his 17-year tenure as chief of the detention center, there was never an escape or serious injury.

dogs. This is not hunting, this is not sporting, and this is not the Virginia way. Virginia has 41 of these pens.

I was also asked by the Secretary of Education to carry a bill for Gov. McDonnell ending what is called the Kings Dominion rule, which prohibits starting school before Labor Day. The current practice leads up to two weeks of dead time after the Standards of Learning (SOL) tests. If passed, this bill will create more classroom time for students, and make us more competitive nationally. I also met with two groups of University of Virginia students who needed my perspective on mock bills that they were introducing for a class.

SEE RICHMOND DIARY, PAGE 7

## Burke CONNECTION

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# NEWS

## Richmond Diary

FROM PAGE 6

### WEDNESDAY, JAN. 11

Opening session began at noon, and, after the swearing-in ceremony, the Lt. Governor broke a tie and established Republicans as the majority party. They were able to re-write the rules that the Senate operates by, and determine committee chairs and assignments. Later that night we returned to the Capitol to hear the Governor's "State of the Commonwealth" speech. It is always an exciting time, and one that fills you with a sense of pride as to Virginia having the western world's oldest continuously-serving elected body. The Governor agreed to meet with me next week on Juvenile Justice issues.

### THURSDAY, JAN. 12

Today was "Banker's Day" at the General Assembly Building, and I was visited by a number of bankers from Fairfax. The Asian Chamber of Commerce reception was held during the day, where I was able to speak for several minutes about tax issues.

My first transportation committee meeting was held this afternoon, and I was asked to serve on a sub-committee that will deal with the more complicated bills. The day was capped off with the biggest event of the session, which is the Agriculture Council dinner, featuring Virginia food products. It is a time for all of us to reconnect with each other and get ready for the session.

### FRIDAY, JAN. 13

I learned today that my bill to co-designate The East Sea as the name for the Sea of Japan in Virginia textbooks would be heard on Monday. I arranged to have people come down to Richmond to testify in favor of the bill. William Hong, president of the Virginia Korean American Association, agreed to come with a host of others.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 14

We held a press conference with print, television, and radio representing the Korean community in the Washington D.C area, and apparently this issue is resonating in Korea, where it has been on television and radio news shows.

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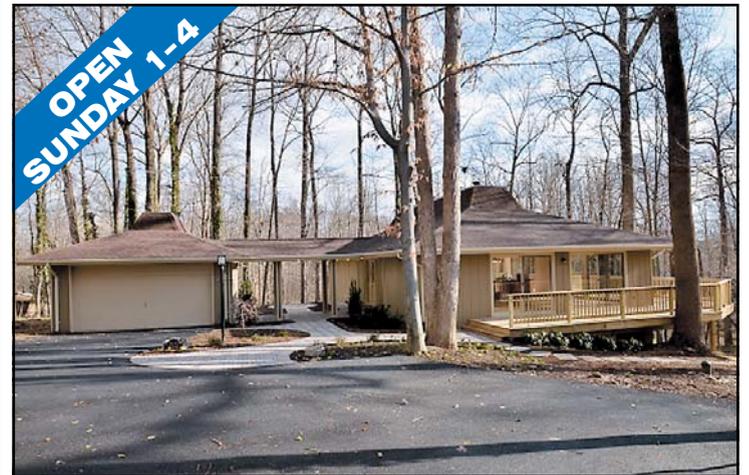
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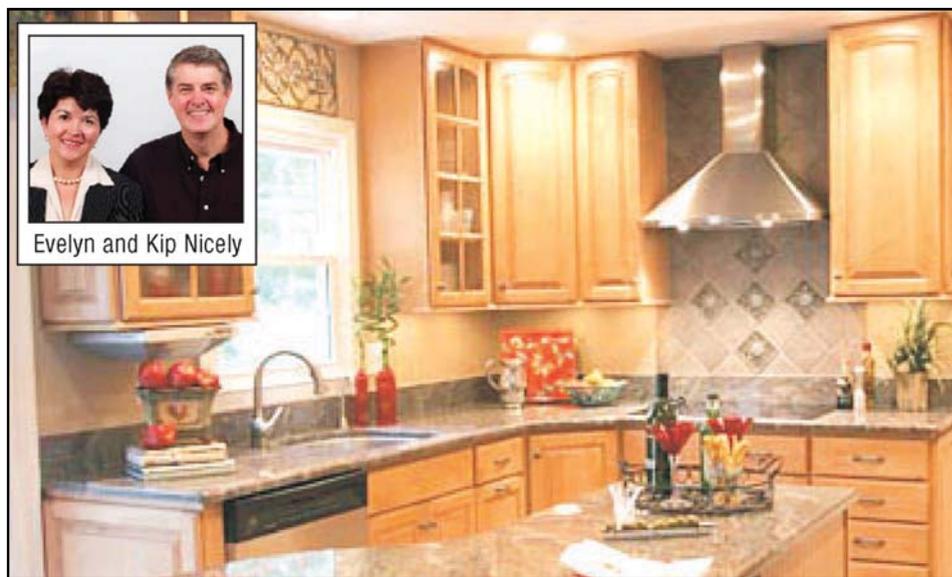
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# Free Resources Ease Isolation, Fear

**Inova's Life with Cancer brings information, support to local survivors.**

BY JENNIFER FEDOR  
THE CONNECTION

**A** diagnosis of cancer can be overwhelming, isolating, and frightening. "I always use the analogy with people that have landed on a foreign planet and use a whole different language in the cancer world," social worker Michelle Touissant, from Life with Cancer, said.

Touissant is an oncology counselor who manages a support group for women with gynecological cancers. For more than 20 years, Life with Cancer, part of the Inova Health System, has served cancer survivors (as individuals are considered from the day of diagnosis through lifetime) and their loved ones.

Founded in 1987 at Inova Fairfax Hospital, Life with Cancer was conceived after Nando DeFilippo lost his wife to leukemia. Frustrated by the lack of support services for families affected by cancer, he made a generous donation to Inova Health System to help others dealing with the same dearth of information.

"We started with one support group," said program manager Sabina Gnesdiloff, also a licensed social worker, with Life with Cancer since 1989. "The whole idea was to support families living with cancer so they didn't just hear information in hallways."

**THE PROGRAM** has since expanded to boast a team of 26 staff members from a variety of disciplines and more than 90 volunteers. Its mission is to "enhance the quality of life of those affected by cancer," including family members and other caregivers, by providing diverse resources free of charge. Services are available in each of Inova's five hospitals, as well as the newly erected, 16,000 square-foot Family Center in Fairfax, on land donated by Sid Dewberry of Dewberry, Inc.

Life with Cancer offers classes, diagnosis-specific support groups, and informational sessions to cancer survivors. The range of offerings includes Laughter Yoga, Writing for Wellness, and Mah Jongg Club. From leveled fitness to mind-body classes to art and play therapy sessions, survivors can find experiences suited to their present level of health and interests. "Sometimes I think people surprise themselves by what appeals to them here," Touissant observes.

In addition, there are support groups for couples and families affected by cancer, as well as bereavement groups for children, teens, and adults with timely sessions such as dealing with loss at the holidays. Information sessions incorporate pertinent topics to particular age groups, such as fertility issues for young adult cancer survivors.



**The Dewberry Life with Cancer Family Center in Fairfax combines the comforts of home with cancer education.**

As a result of donations from individuals, foundations, and corporate donors, all services through Life with Cancer are free, with the exception of oncology massage.

The programs are facilitated by certified oncology nurses and licensed clinical social workers. According to Gnesdiloff, "the nurse is to help explain the side effects, the treatments, how to help people understand what they were going through from the medical perspective. Then we have social workers whom we call oncology counselors who help people deal with the fallout for the children, how to live as a couple when cancer is a part of it, how to adjust to illness, how to develop some coping skills."

One of the nurses on staff, Marsha Komandt, says, "I love what I do. I feel like I learn so much from [the cancer survivors]. They enrich my life immeasurably and I'm always learning something new from them." With Life with Cancer for 22 years (including a brief retirement), she coordinates the exercise programs, which include four levels of fitness starting at chair-based classes, as well as a spiritual quest group. In addition to running the leukemia support group, Komandt oversees the resource library of brochures, pamphlets and books with information on symptom management, side effects, and treatments.

Carolyn Sam, a breast cancer survivor and a volunteer for six years, is appreciative of her experience at Life with Cancer because "it's not just what I get from the staff or from classes but what I get from fellow survivors. It's a feeling of safety and comfort. Here, people may not have the same cancer but we've all been there, done that. I call it the club nobody wants to belong to."

With its lobby fireplace, bright rooms decorated by quilts and paintings from local artists, and serene, woodsy backdrop, the Dewberry Family Center was designed as an escape from the cold, sterile environment of a hospital. From an expansive ex-

ercise studio to a cheerful playroom to a game room for teens, the center houses rooms for diverse activities.

Similarly, Sam says the offerings allow survivors to take some of the focus off of cancer. Everybody pours their heart out in a support group, she notes, but in a knitting circle, "if they want to talk about it, they can, but they don't have to." She has benefited from the wellness classes, which promote physical activity and nutrition. Life with Cancer offers information about options for cancer treatment in the form of presentations by physicians with knowledge on the latest medical research as well as classes for complementary approaches such as yoga, reiki, and tai chi.

**LIFE WITH CANCER** understands that different people experience cancer differently. Culture can play a role in how some survivors navigate through treatment and beyond. Veronica Martinez, Hispanic Outreach Program Coordinator and registered nurse, works with many individuals who "are so overwhelmed with the stressors of the diagnosis on top of what they've already been dealing with: social demographical issues, poverty, language barriers." Often these survivors question how they will continue to work to support their families, how they will afford treatment without insurance, how they will travel to treatment sessions, and how they will take care of their families.

Martinez helps patrons overcome the specific issues impacting each individual's experience with cancer. She runs three monthly support groups, along with her co-chair David McGinness, and disseminates information about available community resources. She is currently working on developing a survivorship plan in Spanish with instructions on what questions to ask the doctor following treatment, including symptoms that indicate a recurrence. In Novem-



**Carolyn Sam, a volunteer with Life with Cancer for six years, leads the knitting circle.**

ber, Life with Cancer co-hosted "Viviendo con Esperanza (Living with Hope)" for Hispanic cancer survivors and their caregivers.

Terry Meade passed away this past December, having been diagnosed with kidney and renal cell carcinoma in 2007. For about eight months he used the resources at Life with Cancer and was impressed by the multitude of offerings that were completely free. His wife had passed away the previous December of leukemia and at the time he was unaware of the organization. He explained, "I needed a little bit more support, as having a grown-up household with no one around, it's pretty quiet. I felt really empty as you can imagine." Hospice recommended Life with Cancer and he began to take advantage of the exercise classes because "you've got to keep going, no matter how limited" and enjoyed new experiences in a gentle yoga class and a seat-based class about learning to kayak.

Life with Cancer offered him what "you need to know to function, like a bereavement class for those who have lost somebody significant in their family" taught by knowledgeable and caring instructors. He felt supported by fellow survivors and connected by the fact that they understood each other's experience. He was comforted by the warm and inviting environment of the Dewberry Family Center and awed by the list of classes they offered, reminding him of a junior college. His only regret was that he didn't know about it when his wife was ill.

Gnesdiloff notes that Life with Cancer has been described as "the jewel in the crown of Inova" and that people are often not aware it exists as a resource to those affected by cancer. Thanks to Nando DeFilippo, there will be fewer individuals and families who will face a cancer diagnosis without the needed information and support. For more information and to view a current calendar of events, visit [www.lifewithcancer.org](http://www.lifewithcancer.org).

PHOTOS BY JENNIFER FEDOR/THE CONNECTION

## AREA ROUNDUPS

### Comment on Outdoors Plan

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is conducting statewide public meetings to gather citizen input for the 2013 Virginia Outdoors Plan. It's the state's comprehensive plan for meeting outdoor-recreation, land-conservation and open-space needs. It also helps Virginia prioritize projects and allocate funds for outdoor recreation and land conservation. A local public meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 25, at the Northern Virginia Re-

gional Commission, 3060 Williams Drive, Suite 510, in Fairfax. For more information, call Janit Llewellyn Allen at 804-786-0887.

### Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices – such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, as well as household hazardous wastes – including fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, for free, during Fairfax County's "Electric Sunday" events. The next one is slated for

Sunday, Jan. 29, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

### Fire Causes \$130,000 Damage

Fire officials say an early-morning fire last week caused an estimated \$130,000 damage to a Fair Oaks home. According to fire investigators, the blaze was accidental and was caused by a bathroom exhaust fan.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Depart-

ment units responded last Wednesday, Jan. 11, around 11:15 a.m., to a single-family townhouse at 12207 Apple Orchard Court. Upon arrival, firefighters encountered heavy smoke coming from the eaves and attic.

They conducted an aggressive attack by gaining access to the attic and quickly extinguishing the bulk of the flames. Firefighters also undertook extensive over-haul and salvage operations to ensure that the fire hadn't spread to concealed and voided areas.

As crews extinguished hot spots in the attic, considerable damage to roof trusses

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 13

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PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Angela Williamson of Fairfax brought her two 10-year-old sons, Cameron (left) and Christian (right) to the Family Volunteer Day hosted by Volunteer Fairfax on Monday, Jan. 16, a federal holiday celebrating the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.



Karen Schofield of Fairfax helps daughter Dana, 8, create Valentine's Day cards during the Family Volunteer Day hosted by Volunteer Fairfax on Monday, Jan. 16. Dana is a member of the Caring Kids Club at Greenbrier East Elementary School.



Nine-year-old Mackenzie Chase of Springfield reads a story to her mother, Kerri. "We made a New Year's Resolution that we would volunteer somewhere once a month," said Chase.

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

# United We Serve

Volunteer Fairfax mobilizes more than 1,100 residents to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy.

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

Sitting together at large round tables, children and their parents cut out pink and red paper hearts, pasting them on cards for nursing home patients, or stuffed socks and blankets into kits for the homeless. Emily Davis of Volunteer Fairfax circulated among the tables, chatting with the children and their parents about their volunteer projects.

"So what was your favorite activity?" Davis asked Dana Schofield, a second-grader at Greenbrier East Elementary School in Fairfax.

"I liked making the Valentine's Day cards," Schofield said, "Probably because they don't get many in their own mailbox."

Davis said her favorite part of Family Volunteer Day was "Reflection Time." "We want people to have these conversations, and reflect on what they accomplished by volunteering, how they are helping others," Davis said. "This was our best year so far."

**MORE THAN 1100 PEOPLE** participated in Volunteer Fairfax's third annual Family Volunteer Day on Monday, Jan. 16, a federal holiday celebrating the life and legacy

of Martin Luther King Jr. Taking place each year on the third Monday in January, the MLK Day of Service is the only federal holiday observed as a national day of service – a "day on, not a day off."

Volunteer Fairfax, an organization that matches the interests of volunteers with the needs of local nonprofits, expanded its event this

**"I think more people would be fighting all the time if Dr. King hadn't taught people how to be friends and help each other."**

—Cameron Williamson, 10, Fairfax

year to include Herndon and Alexandria, as well as George Mason University's Dewberry Hall, where about 500 parents and their children completed service projects for area nonprofits.

"We wanted to create an event that allows children to experience first-hand how fun and easy volunteering can be, while providing quality family time," said Jeanne Sanders, executive director of Volunteer Fairfax. Sanders said the Martin Luther King Day event is specifically designed to give parents with young children an opportunity to volunteer together.

"The first year we were overwhelmed with responses, and this

room was really crowded," said Sanders. "Last year, we received grants from Youth Services America and UnitedHealthcare that allowed us to purchase more supplies and expand to three locations."

At GMU, children and parents decorated and packed hypothermia prevention kits for Fairfax County's homeless, made Valentine's Day cards for nursing home patients, wrote notes to accompany books for child care centers and made compost bins using clean, hospital wash basins. All of

the projects will go to area nonprofits, such as FACETS, the Fairfax Library Foundation, The Holiday Project and Inova Health System.

"We might be the only people who come in and give nursing home patients Valentine's Day cards, so these children are doing something very special and they should feel good about it," said Bobby Anderson, a board member of The Holiday Project. "They've already made about 100 cards, and these will go to patients throughout the county."

"My favorite part was helping people stay warm," said five-year-old James Prevet of Vienna, after

putting together one of the hypothermia prevention kits. He attended the event with his three-year-old sister, Josie, and his father, Tyler.

"We want to make giving a way of life, not just a one-time event," said Tyler Prevet.

"You do have to start that message when they are young," said Angela Williamson of Fairfax, who brought her twin boys, Christian and Cameron, 10, to the event. "You feel good at the end of the day after doing this."

Cameron and Christian, who attend Willow Springs Elementary School, said they thought Dr. King would like seeing people of all races working together to help those less fortunate. "I think more people would be fighting all the time if Dr. King hadn't taught people how to be friends and help each other," Cameron Williamson said.

Robert Saul of Clifton said he and his family attended the event "to foster the spirit of giving back when they are young, so it becomes a way of life." His wife, Kristen, said their family has made it a priority to volunteer more. "Martin Luther King said to judge people on the content of their character, not the color of their skin. Volunteering gives us a way to build character, to show that a person's character does count."

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on Volunteer Fairfax, go to [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).



Area residents spent part of their Monday volunteering with Volunteer Fairfax for their annual MLK Day of Service event, Give Together: A Family Volunteer Day on the campus of George Mason University.



Talía Schmitt, 16, of Fairfax, helps Tyler Prevet, of Vienna, and his children James, 5, and Jessie, 3, make compost boxes on the campus of George Mason University on Monday morning.



Four-year-old Zachary Barr of Springfield listens as his mother, Nancy Barr, reads him a story. Barr said that she wanted to teach her children the importance of giving back to the community.



Lily O'Donnell of Fairfax Station volunteered part of her Monday morning on the campus of GMU at the Family Volunteer Day event sponsored by Volunteer Fairfax.

VIEWPOINTS

PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

## Volunteering on MLK Day

"I like to try to help people who need it. I like all the things that Martin Luther King, Jr. did to help people."  
—GAVIN SAUL, 10  
CLIFTON



"I think it's important to find the good in each person and try to make a difference in each other's lives. We're a military family, so diversity is a fact of life. We don't always realize how blessed we are, and how important it is to give back to others, to live the Golden Rule."  
—NANCY BARR  
SPRINGFIELD



"It was our family's resolution this year to volunteer more. We want everyone to have the same opportunities that we have. I think that's what Martin Luther King is about."  
—MADISON CHASE, 10,  
WITH MOM KERRI CHASE  
SPRINGFIELD



"Martin Luther King, Jr. said some profound things. He believed that an individual can change the world with peace, compassion and caring. When you give young children the opportunity to volunteer, they learn an important message, one that will stay with them as adults."  
—JEANNE SANDERS  
VOLUNTEER FAIRFAX EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"We want to be here because if Dr. King was never alive, black and white people couldn't be together, or eat at restaurants together or play sports together. We want to celebrate his birthday by helping others."  
—CHRISTIAN WILLIAMSON, 10  
FAIRFAX



"It's a day to do something for other people. I liked making the Valentine's Card for people at nursing homes, because I don't think they usually get cards. I also liked putting the bags together with socks and blankets to keep people warm. I wrote a note inside that said 'Hope to you and all others.'"  
—DANA SCHOFIELD, 8  
FAIRFAX



"Whoever you are, or wherever you come from, you can share your time and do small things that make a big difference to other people. I think that's the message of this day."  
—NURHAENI  
A NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT AND VOLUNTEER FROM INDONESIA



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## SCHOOLS



PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN KILEY

Signaling the launch of Paul VI's new school-wide laptop program are (from left) Principal Ginny Colwell, the PVI panther mascot and Sister Bernadette McManigal, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Arlington Diocese.

## A Computer for Every PVI Student

Paul VI announces laptop program for incoming freshman class.

The School Board of Paul VI Catholic High School and the Office of Catholic Schools of the Arlington Diocese recently approved Paul VI's business plan to implement a student laptop program. The incoming freshman class for the 2012-2013 school year will be the first class on the laptop program, which will be implemented their sophomore year. For the 2013-2014 school year, all incoming freshmen and sophomores will participate fully in the laptop program, followed annually by full laptop implementation for each successive freshman class.

Paul VI's decision to implement a full-scale laptop program had its origins in the school's strategic planning process, which commenced as the school celebrated its 25th anniversary.

In response, the school formed an investigative team, consisting of faculty, school leaders, parents, and outside volunteers, to research the benefits and challenges of bringing classroom technology to each student.

Through research, school visits, technology conferences, and the advice of professional educational consultants, the school's 13-person laptop team recommended that Paul VI pursue and implement a full-scale laptop program. After being unanimously adopted by the Principal and the school's strategic planning team, the business plan was unanimously approved by the school's Board and the Office of Catholic Schools on December 8, 2011.

Classroom management software is a critical aspect of successful laptop programs. The software enables teachers to control and monitor how and when the laptop is being used.

Another one of the school's critical success factors is training and supporting the faculty. The implementation team's training plan will rely on a combination of school instructional technologists, outside volunteers, teacher collaboration, and outside educational consultants.

Want to learn more details about this exciting initiative?

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Bring your guitar and leave with new pickups installed. During the workshop, Frank T., president of JBE will demonstrate why Danny Gatton and others rate these pickups so highly. Larry Smoak, a luthier with over 30 years experience, will be on hand to guide you through the installation of the pickups. (\$30 and take \$30 off a set of Barden pickups during workshop)

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## ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 9  
and the ceiling was discovered. No one was home when the fire broke out, but three adults and a dog were displaced.

## Luncheon to Advance Youth Mentoring

Fairfax Partnership for Youth is hosting a Mentoring Partnerships Luncheon that is free and open to the community. Participants will have the opportunity to meet representatives of mentoring programs throughout Northern Virginia, celebrate the achievements of mentoring programs this past year and learn how to bring more effective mentoring programs to the youth in their community.

This free event will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 24 from noon until 2 p.m., in Room 106 of the Herrity Building at Fairfax Government Center, 12055 Government Center Parkway Fairfax, VA 22030.

For more information and to register, visit:

[http://www.fairfaxyouth.org/event\\_1023.xml?document\\_id=1149](http://www.fairfaxyouth.org/event_1023.xml?document_id=1149).

## Help Find County Executive

Fairfax County Executive Anthony Griffin will retire in April and a national search to replace him will begin soon. The county is seeking public input via a survey available now through Jan. 23. Go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cex/search/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cex/search/).

## Become a CASA Volunteer

A new case of child abuse or neglect enters the Fairfax County Domestic & Juvenile Relations Court system once every 38 hours. These children need caring advocates to help ensure that they grow up in safe and permanent homes. Fairfax CASA trains volunteers to advocate for a child's best interests in Court.

Fairfax CASA is holding an information session at the John Marshall Library on Saturday, Jan. 28, 11 a.m. – noon.

For reservations or information, contact Elisa Kosarin, Associate Director – Recruitment and Training, at 703-273-3526, ext. 22, [ekosarin@casafairfax.org](mailto:ekosarin@casafairfax.org), or visit [www.casafairfax.org](http://www.casafairfax.org).

The best thing about the future is that it only comes one day at a time.  
—Abraham Lincoln

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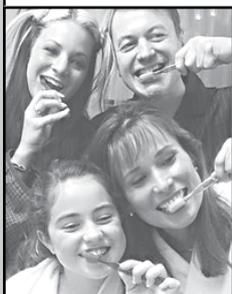


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When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper For more real estate listings and open houses, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) and click the Real Estate links on the right side.  
Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times

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### Centreville

5128 Wyndam Rose Cove #33..\$287,900....Sun 1-4.....Donny Samson.....Samson Props..703-864-4894

### Chantilly

25623 America Sq.....\$415,284..Sat/Sun 11-6.....Carla Brown.....Toll Brothers..703-323-0272  
25918 Sarazen Dr.....\$598,000....Sun 1-4.....Stacy Rodgers.....Long & Foster..703-905-7226

### Fairfax

4210A Mozart Brigade Ln.....\$235,000....Sat 1-3.....Nathan Johnson.....Keller Williams..703-725-2929  
4337 Amnesty Pl.....\$829,000....Sun 12-3.....Katie Nelson.....New Star..703-641-4989  
2849 Hideaway Rd.....\$750,000....Sun 1-4.....Gil Stockton.....Coldwell Banker..703-969-5089  
8610 Chandler St.....\$852,900....Sun 1-4.....Dane Work.....RE/MAX..703-869-4567  
8880 Olive Mae Cir.....\$849,900....Sun 1-4.....Debbie Tritle.....Weichert..703-821-8300  
5510 Yellow Rail Ct.....\$579,900....Sun 1-4.....Joseph Henry.....Keller Williams..571-282-8249  
12779 Fair Briar Ln.....\$219,900....Sun 12-3.....Lynne DePaso.....Land & Homes..703-927-3090  
12814 Holly Grove Ct.....\$1,195,000....Sun 1-4.....Keith Harris.....Samson Props..703-395-6601

### Fairfax Station

10406 Hampton Rd.....\$675,000....Sun 1-4.....Lori Sablone.....RE/MAX..703-642-3380  
11020 Clara Barton Dr.....\$710,000....Sun 1-4.....Betty Barthle.....Long & Foster..703-425-4466  
7514 Wilderness Way.....\$830,000....Sun 1-4.....Marguerite Roland.....RE/MAX..703-577-4538

### Falls Church

6343 Crosswinds Dr.....\$995,000....Sun 1-4.....Dallison Veach.....RE/MAX..703-477-7920

### Kingstowne/Alexandria

6504 Tassia Dr.....\$499,950....Sun 1-4..Tom & Cindy and Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207  
5954 Kimberly Anne Way.....\$319,950....Sun 1-4..Tom & Cindy and Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207  
4717 Poplar Dr.....\$899,000....Sun 1-4.....Rachel Carter.....Coldwell Banker..703-851-4207  
5708 Glenwood Ct.....\$489,999....Sun 1-4.....Doris Crockett.....Weichert..703-615-8411  
5767 Bush Hill Dr.....\$865,000....Sun 1-4.....Brian Hong.....Long & Foster..703-518-8738  
6051 Shaffer Dr.....\$599,900....Sun 1-4.....Charlene Hyneman.....Long & Foster..703-759-9190  
6126 Florence Ln.....\$799,000....Sun 1-4.....Dick McCaffrey.....RE/MAX..703-549-9200  
6804 Brindle Heath Way #263..\$289,000....Sun 1-4.....Bev Tatum.....Weichert..703-549-8700

### Manassas

10210 Leather Leaf Dr.....\$639,990....Sun 1-4.....Marguerite Roland.....RE/MAX..703-577-4538

### Springfield

6293 Kerrydale Dr.....\$319,900....Sat 1-4.....Jennifer Dorn.....Get Sold..540-371-7653

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Steve Hogan at 703-778-9418 or e-mail the info to [shogan@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:shogan@connectionnewspapers.com)  
All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.

# CALENDAR

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

## THURSDAY/JAN. 19

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice and improve your English-speaking skills. Adults. 703-249-1520.

**Christine Lavin.** 8 p.m. Barns at Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk music. \$20. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Aztec Two-Step 40th Anniversary Tour CD Release.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## FRIDAY/JAN. 20

**"Aladdin Jr."** 7 p.m. Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. A stage adaptation of the Disney hit. [www.nvplayers.com](http://www.nvplayers.com).

**English Conversation Group.** 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice English conversation skills. Adults. 703-978-5600.

**Red Molly.** 8 p.m. Barns at Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk music. \$20. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**"A Chorus Line."** 7:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. A musical about aspiring Broadway performers, by Fairfax Academy Dance and Musical Theater students. 703-219-2270 or [dsaunders@fcps.edu](mailto:dsaunders@fcps.edu).

**Front Bottoms, Mansions and Blind Man Leading at 6 p.m.; Three Legged Fox, Quincy Mumford And The Reason Why** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple

Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 21

**"Aladdin Jr."** 7 p.m. Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. A stage adaptation of the Disney hit. [www.nvplayers.com](http://www.nvplayers.com).

**Microsoft Access.** 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Introduction to creating, modifying and mastering your own databases using **Microsoft's Access program.** Age 13 and up. 703-293-6227.

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

**Tom Chapin.** 7:30 p.m. Barns at Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Singer/songwriter. \$22. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Book Talk: Your Emotional Type.** 1 p.m. Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade, Fairfax. Author Michael Jawer on how emotional type affects susceptibility to chronic illnesses and what alternative therapies are likely to help. Free admission. [www.youremotionaltype.com](http://www.youremotionaltype.com).

**"A Chorus Line."** 7:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. A musical about aspiring Broadway performers, by Fairfax Academy Dance and Musical Theater students. 703-219-2270 or [dsaunders@fcps.edu](mailto:dsaunders@fcps.edu).

**Madi Diaz CD Release and Lucy Schwartz at 7 p.m.; Along Those Lines, The Chuck Shaffer Picture Show and The Velvet Ants** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## SUNDAY/JAN. 22

**"The Human Spirit"** Concert. 3 p.m. Center for the Arts, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. American Youth Philharmonic with Music Director Daniel Spalding and harpist Dotian Levalier. Instrument Petting Zoo after the concert. \$14 adult, \$10 seniors and students, free age 18 and under. 703-642-8054 or [www.aypo.org](http://www.aypo.org).

**Recital by Soprano Danielle Talamantes.** 7 p.m. Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Reception to follow. Tickets \$10-\$25. [www.providencechurch.org](http://www.providencechurch.org) or 703-978-3934 ext. 30.

**An Evening with Judy Collins.** 7:30 p.m. Barns at Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Singer/songwriter, performing traditional and contemporary folk, cabaret, show tunes and more. \$45. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**"A Chorus Line."** 2:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. A musical about aspiring Broadway performers, by Fairfax Academy Dance and Musical Theater students. 703-219-2270 or [dsaunders@fcps.edu](mailto:dsaunders@fcps.edu).

**Action Against Hunger with Let's Be Honest, Hit This City and Light Up The Sky** at 1 p.m.; **Aer, Ballyhoo! and Poor Man's Copyright** at 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## MONDAY/JAN. 23

**Tales to Tails.** 4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Read aloud to Beamer, a trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. 703-293-6227.

**Paws to Read.** 4 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice reading with Grace, a trained therapy dog. Call or sign up online for a 15-minute session. Age 6-10 with adult. 703-978-5600.

**Mutts Gone Nuts.** 2:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Jessie and James and their mischievous mutts present a comedy dog thrill show. All Ages. 703-644-7333.

**Country Rocker Rick Caballo.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Call For Fire, TBS, Theycallmepiano and Rick**

**Caballo.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## TUESDAY/JAN. 24

**Eclectic Readers.** 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. The Double Helix: A Personal Account of the Discovery of the Structure of DNA by James D. Watson. Adults. 703-249-1520.

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. Adults. 703-293-6227.



PHOTO BY RICHARD TERMINÉ

Aquila Theatre brings a modern-dress production of "Macbeth" to GMU on Saturday, Jan. 28.

## GMU Presents 'Macbeth'

### Center for the Arts Presents Aquila Theatre 'Macbeth'

"Fair is foul and foul is fair" in this acclaimed British/American touring company's rendering of Shakespeare's classic tragedy. In this brutal and chaotic tale, nothing is as it seems and men combat their own madness and fates. Aquila Theatre brings a modern-dress production of "Macbeth" to George Mason University's Center for the Arts in Fairfax on Saturday, Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins 45 minutes prior to the performance on the Center's Grand Tier III. Pre-performance discussions are sponsored by the Friends of the Center for the Arts.

First published in 1623, "Macbeth" tells the tale of Scottish general Macbeth, who, fresh from victory, encounters three witches in the forest on his journey home. The witches present a fasci-

### More Information

Tickets for Aquila Theatre's production of "Macbeth" are \$20, \$32, \$40. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or visit [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu). The Center for the Arts complex is located on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University at the intersection of Braddock Road and Route 123. Paid parking is located in the deck adjacent to the mainstage Concert Hall and free parking is located in university lot K. Visit [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

nating prophecy: one day, Macbeth will become the King of Scotland. When Lady Macbeth hears the news, she persuades her husband to commit regicide, leading the couple down a murderous and maddening path into war, insanity, guilt and death. Superstitiously called "the Scottish play," "Macbeth" has enjoyed substantial success throughout history, despite its reputation for being a cursed play.

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# BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at [burke@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:burke@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 19

**ESL Class Registration.** 7-9 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Basic, intermediate and advanced classes to meet 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays starting Jan. 24. Registration fee \$15, textbook fee \$25. School-age childcare provided. 703-323-9500 or [www.lordoflifeva.org](http://www.lordoflifeva.org).

## FRIDAY/JAN. 20

**"American Refugees: Homelessness in 4 Movements."** 7:30 p.m. Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. The film presents a portrait of life on the street and features interviews with the homeless and those who try to help. A speaker from the Partnership for Permanent Housing and CHRP Transitional Housing, NVFS will discuss efforts to address homelessness in Fairfax County. Free. 703-503-4579 or [www.accotinkuuc.org](http://www.accotinkuuc.org).

## TUESDAY/JAN. 24

**Dementia Care Givers Support Groups.** 12 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Learn and share with others experiencing similar challenges. Meetings at 12 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, as well as 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday. [eileen.thompson1@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.thompson1@gmail.com) or [www.fairfax-burkesc.org](http://www.fairfax-burkesc.org).

## THURSDAY/JAN. 26

**Piano Class for Older Adults.** 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Potomac Arts Academy, 4260 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Beginning piano for older adults 55 and up. Free. 703-993-9889 or [www.PotomacAcademy.org](http://www.PotomacAcademy.org).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

This picture was taken last week and shows one of the adults carrying a branch back to the nest at Lake Accotink Park in Springfield.

## Lake Accotink Bald Eagle

A pair of Bald Eagles are once again working on their nest at Lake Accotink Park in Springfield for the winter nesting season. Five eagles were seen last week at the park, two adults and three juveniles. The pair should soon be ready to lay eggs and the juveniles will be chased off to protect the nest. The

## SATURDAY/JAN. 28

**Community Workshop: Journey through Grief.** 2 p.m. Haven of Northern Virginia, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Free. Registration is required at 703-941-7000 or [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org).

## MONDAY/JAN. 30

**Blood Drive.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. NVAR Fairfax; 8407 Pennell St., Fairfax. Bring your donor card, driver's license or two other forms of identification, plus the names of medications you are taking. Free lunch provided to all donors by Outback Steakhouse. Make an appointment, contact 703-207-3200, [gkruchko@nvar.com](mailto:gkruchko@nvar.com) or [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

## SATURDAY/FEB. 18

**4th Annual Family Reunion Workshop.** 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks, 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. A one-day seminar with a keynote presentation by Reunions Magazine Editor-in-Chief, Edith Wagner, as well as helpful tips in planning a reunion. Free, pre-registration required at [dmiller@fxva.com](mailto:dmiller@fxva.com).

## TUESDAY/FEB. 21

**MOMS Club of Burke-South Open House for Prospective Members.** 9:30-10:30 a.m. My Gym, 9566 Burke Road, Burke. A nonprofit organization designed to support stay-at-home parents or parents with flexible schedules. [burkesouthmoms@gmail.com](mailto:burkesouthmoms@gmail.com).

## TUESDAY/FEB. 28

**Dementia Care Givers Support Groups.** 12 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Learn and share with others experiencing similar challenges. Meetings at 12 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, as well as 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday. [eileen.thompson1@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.thompson1@gmail.com) or [www.fairfax-burkesc.org](http://www.fairfax-burkesc.org).

## FAITH NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at [burke@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:burke@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

The **Immanuel Bible Church MOPS** group meets on Mondays at 7 p.m. at Immanuel Bible Church, 6911 Braddock Road, Springfield. MOPS is for pregnant or parenting mothers of children from infancy to kindergarten. 703-922-4295 or [www.MOPS.org](http://www.MOPS.org).

The following is a list of events at **Mount Calvary Baptist Church**, 4325 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax:

- ❖ Bible study and Prayer Service every Tuesday starting at 7 p.m.
- ❖ Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., except for the fourth Sunday of the month, when Sunday School is at 9 a.m.
- ❖ Sunday morning service at 11 a.m.
- ❖ Commonwealth Care Center ministry every first and third Thursday night. Call 703-273-1455.

**Beth El Hebrew Congregation** has services on Fridays, 6:30 p.m. and on Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. The temple is located at 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Religious school is on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Adult learning opportunities take place throughout the year. Tot Shabbat is on the first and third Saturdays. Kolot Shabbat, a musical service, is the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. 703-370-9400

or [www.bethelhebrew.org](http://www.bethelhebrew.org).

**First Baptist Church of Springfield**, 7300 Gary St., Springfield, has Sunday services at 10:30 a.m., Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., Hispanic worship service at 9 a.m., and an Ethiopian service at 12:15 p.m. The pastor is Jim Weaver. 703-451-1500 or [www.fbcspringfield.org](http://www.fbcspringfield.org).

**Clifton Presbyterian Church**, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided. Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.

**St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church**, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, conducts Sunday masses at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It also offers a Saturday vigil at 5:30 p.m. and a Thursday Latin mass at 7 p.m. 703-817-1770 or [www.st-andrew.org](http://www.st-andrew.org).

**Messiah United Methodist Church**, 6215 Rolling Road, Springfield, has Sunday Worship at 8:15 a.m., with Holy Communion every Sunday; and 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month. 703-569-9862 or [www.messiahumc.org](http://www.messiahumc.org).

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:45-10:45 a.m. for

children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or [www.poplc.org](http://www.poplc.org).

**Kirkwood Presbyterian Church**, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway in Springfield, supports a Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) program on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Meetings are 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the church. All mothers and children are welcome. The program provides mothers an opportunity to get to know other mothers through discussions and craft activities. Register at the church or call 703-451-5320.

**JCCNV Mother's Circle program**, for women who are not Jewish but are raising Jewish children. Free education in Jewish rituals, practices and values, while respecting the participant's choice to retain her own religious identity. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. Contact Laurie Albert, 703-537-3064 or [LaurieA@jccnv.org](mailto:LaurieA@jccnv.org).

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** is for people interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic Church. A group meets at 7:30 p.m. on July 6 and 20 at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. A group will begin meeting every Wednesday starting September. Sessions are in the Old Parish Hall. All are welcome. Contact Carolyn Smith at 703-273-5369 or [carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com).

# COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



5690 Oak Leather Drive  
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9:45 am Sunday School

Saturday Worship: 5:30 pm  
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**Baha'i Faith**  
Baha'is of Fairfax  
County Southwest 703-912-1719

**Baptist**  
Preservation of Zion Fellowship 703-409-1015

**Catholic**  
Church of the Nativity 703-455-2400

**Christian Reformed**  
Grace Christian Reformed Church  
703-323-8033

**Episcopal**  
Church of the Good Shepherd 703-323-5400  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 703-455-2500

**Lutheran**  
Abiding Presence Lutheran Church  
703-455-7500

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

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church  
703-978-8724

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Sunday School 10:10 AM  
Sunday Evening - Realtime Service & Youth 6 PM  
Family Night - Wednesday 7:15 PM  
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9:15 AM  
Worship Service  
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Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., 3476 Stateview Blvd., Fort Mill, SC 29715, Plaintiff vs. Donna Michelle Peninger & John Doe Peninger, 12201 Lincoln Lake Way, Apt. 5102, Fairfax, VA 22030-7768 and Monticello Gardens Condominium Owners Association, Inc., 16535 W. Bluemound Rd., Ste. 120, Brookfield, WI 53005-5905, Defendants  
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN  
To each person named above as a defendant: You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. Within 40 days after January 12, 2012 you must respond with a written demand for a copy of the complaint. The demand must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 901 N. Ninth Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233-1425 and to Gray & Associates, L.L.P., plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 16345 West Glendale Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151-2841. You may have an attorney help or represent you. If you do not demand a copy of the complaint within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. Dated this 29th day of December, 2011. William N. Foshag, State Bar No. 1020417, Gray & Associates, L.L.P., Attorneys for Plaintiff, 16345 W. Glendale Dr., New Berlin, WI 53151-2841, (414) 224-8404, (414) 224-8182. Gray & Associates, L.L.P. is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. If you have previously received a discharge in a chapter 7 bankruptcy case, this communication should not be construed as an attempt to hold you personally liable for the debt.

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# Lake Braddock Boys Stumble Against West Potomac

**Bruins suffer first Patriot District loss of season.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen the West Potomac boys basketball team missed the front end of a one-and-one with 17.5 seconds remaining, Lake Braddock had an opportunity to escape with a victory despite playing its “worst game possible.”

But on a night when Lake Braddock squandered a fourth-quarter lead and committed 31 turnovers, the Bruins weren't going to catch a break.

After the missed foul shot, 5-foot-9 Tamaric Wilson grabbed an offensive rebound for the Wolverines, drew a foul and knocked down a pair of free throws. Lake Braddock came up empty on its ensuing possession and suffered its first Patriot District defeat, 55-50, at West Potomac.

Lake Braddock led 48-47 when Brendan McHale scored in transition with 3:03 remaining in the fourth quarter. But West Potomac scored eight of the game's final 10 points to pull within one game of the Bruins in the Patriot District standings. Lake Braddock and Woodson are tied for first at 6-1 (the Bruins defeated the Cavaliers 68-52 on Jan. 3) and West Potomac is 5-2.

“We had 31 turnovers. We shouldn't win the game [playing] that way,” Lake Braddock senior guard Dylan O'Connor said. “It was the worst game possible that we could have played. We didn't pass the ball well, we didn't make good decisions, but we'll get them next time.”

Neither team led by more than six points throughout the contest. Lake Braddock led by as many as four in the fourth quarter, but West Potomac responded with a 7-0 run.

Christian McKenrick led the Bruins with 15 points. O'Connor and McHale each scored 10 points for Lake Braddock and Tyler Snow scored nine points and grabbed nine rebounds.

“They were the first-place team, we were third-place team, it was a Patriot District game [and] when we play Lake Braddock it always comes down to something like that,” West Potomac head coach David Houston said. “They don't let you pull away. They're good. They're a good team. They have some solid shooters, solid players, they're big inside. I've got a lot of respect for their squad, but we persevered. I'm really proud of my guys. They didn't give up, they stuck to the plan and got through this game.”

Bryant Fultz led West Potomac with 13 points.



**Lake Braddock senior Tyler Snow (20) jumps for the ball against West Potomac's Bryant Fultz during the teams' Jan. 17 matchup at WPHS.**

**“It was the worst game possible that we could have played. We didn't pass the ball well, we didn't make good decisions, but we'll get [West Potomac] next time.”**

**Lake Braddock senior  
Dylan O'Connor**

DeMornay Pierson-El finished with 12 points for the Wolverines and Randal Brobbey and Wilson each had 11.

“We needed to defend our home court,” Houston said. “In the district, that's what it comes down to: you're going to have to defend. We had aspirations of being [No.] 1 in the district at the end of the year and we knew we couldn't go down three games to Lake Braddock, so this was an important win for us.”

The Bruins had won eight of their previous nine and entered the contest on a five-game winning streak. They dropped to 10-4 overall with seven regular season games remaining.

Lake Braddock will travel to play West Springfield at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 20. The Bruins will host the Wolverines in the regular season finale on Feb. 10.

“That was the worst game possible, so if we only lost by a basket or two, we're still pretty happy,” O'Connor said. “We're just trying to work forward and correct our mistakes and hopefully go undefeated the rest of the season.”

## SPORTS NOTES

**Fairfax Adult Softball** (FAS) is currently accepting applications for the upcoming spring and summer seasons. Leagues are available in the following divisions: Men's, Women's, Coed, Corporate Coed, Senior's (age 50-plus), and Master's (age 35-plus). Applications are accessible via the FAS home page at [www.playsoftballnow.com](http://www.playsoftballnow.com). Contact FAS to register your team before March 1. For those looking for a team to play on, FAS will place you on a team. Visit the FAS website and register as an individual free agent. For further information, please call 703-815-9007 or email [office@fairfaxadultsoftball.com](mailto:office@fairfaxadultsoftball.com).

Fairfax Adult Softball (FAS) is a non-profit corporation registered in the state of Virginia which administers the largest adult softball program in the state with nearly 10,000 participants.

**The Northern Virginia Girls Softball Association** (NVGSA) is holding on-line registration for the 2012 spring season ([www.nvgsa.org](http://www.nvgsa.org)). Registration can also be completed at the NVGSA table during the West Springfield Little League registration from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 14 and Saturday, Jan. 21 at Keene Mill Elementary School (6310 Bardu Ave.).

NVGSA offers both house and select levels of play for girls ages five to 18. The league offers spring, summer, and fall softball and free winter clinics to help its players improve individual and team skills. NVGSA has house league teams at 8-under, 10-under, 12-under, and 18-under age levels, and players have the opportunity to try out for select and travel teams. Registration fees are \$80 (8-under), \$95 (10-under), and \$110 (12-under and 18-under).

Practices will begin in mid-March and games will start in mid-April. The season will run through early June. All-Stars will be selected and compete in a Fairfax County All-Star Tournament in mid-June.

Most of the girls in NVGSA live in the Burke, Annandale, Springfield, Alexandria, Fairfax City, and Fairfax Station areas.

NVGSA's sole purpose is to promote girls fastpitch softball. Registration fees cover house league obligations. For questions regarding registration or NVGSA in general, visit [www.nvgsa.org](http://www.nvgsa.org) or contact [NVGSAsoftball@yahoo.com](mailto:NVGSAsoftball@yahoo.com).

**Virginia Special Olympics' first-ever FANQUEST** is set to take place on Saturday, Jan. 28 at Oakton High School. Special Olympics basketball teams from Oakton and McLean High Schools will play an all-star game beginning at 7:10 p.m. The festive night will include prizes, relays, and other fun crowd participation activities - all in support of the Virginia Special Olympics. Members of the community are invited to ‘volunteer to cheer’ at the event. Sign up at [www.volunteer2cheer.com](http://www.volunteer2cheer.com). Check-in will be at the ‘Volunteer to Cheer’ tables at the gym entrances. Whether cheering for the Cougars or the Highlanders, fans will be given materials to make posters and signs, and everyone who comes out to cheer will get free ‘cheer sticks.’ FANQUEST, presented by Booz Allen Hamilton, is one of many events offered year round by Special Olympics Virginia. For more information on the 2012 FANQUEST, please contact Holly Claytor at [hclaytor@specialolympicsva.org](mailto:hclaytor@specialolympicsva.org), or call 804-726-3025.

**Virginia High School League** (VHSL), the governing body of high school sports in the state, voted on Dec. 7 to develop a new classification model for high school sports teams and leagues to be presented to the VHSL Executive Committee on Feb. 22.

“This latest decision to establish six classifications promises to be the most significant step the [VHSL] has taken in more than 40 years,” said VHSL Executive Director Ken Tilley.

For the 1970-71 school year more than 40 years ago, the VHSL switched from four classifications to the current three classes. The current classifications are single-A (smaller enrollment schools), double-A (middle enrollment), and triple-A (larger enrollment).

“The six classification format recommended greatly reduces size disparities among the classes and eliminates regions altogether,” said Tilley. “Under the new format, there is potential for greater consistency in playoff opportunities. A Football Ratings Committee is already in place to deal with that sport.”

The new format would allow for schools to remain in their current districts.

The VHSL, headquartered in Charlottesville, will celebrate its 100th year of operation next school year.



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