

### Seeking Singers for John Rutter's "Requiem" at Messiah United Methodist Church

Community members are invited to sing! Required rehearsals are Sundays, February 19 & 26 and March 4 & 11 from 7:30-9:30 pm. You must attend at least 3 of the 4 Sunday rehearsals.



There is a mandatory rehearsal with the orchestra on Saturday, March 17 from 9:30-11:30 am. The performance is Sunday, March 18 at 3 pm. Cost is \$10 to purchase the vocal score. To sing with us, contact Fran Underwood at 703-569-9862, ext. 107 or funderwood@messiahumc.org.

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Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, and identify all people and pets in photos. Submission deadline is February 17.





# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927 Fairfax, VA 22035-1118

# **Park Planning Public Comment Meeting Set For Monticello**

The Fairfax County Park Authority will hold a Public Comment Meeting on Monday, February 27, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the Kings Park Library located at 9000 Burke Lake Road in Burke, VA. This meeting provides a forum for interested parties to offer comments on the draft master plan for Monticello Park located at 5315 Guinea Road in Fairfax. A staff presentation will outline the site conditions, planning process and potential future uses.

To view the draft plan, please visit the Park Authority online at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/monticello.htm. If you would like to sign up to speak at the meeting in advance contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662 or via email at Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov. Speakers can sign up at the meeting. Comments can also be offered via email at the address listed previously or mailed to Andy Galusha, project manager, Planning & Development Division, FCPA, Suite 406, Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035. All public comments must be received by March 30 2012.



accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call 703) 324-8563, at least ten working days in advance of the registration eadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354 703-324-8700 • ONLINE : ww.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

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# News

# President Announces Homeowners Bill of Rights

Local homeowners, housing advocates say president's plan gives homeowners important safeguards.

> By Victoria Ross The Connection

ina Kotson of Springfield, a homeowner of five years, said she thought it would be fairly easy to refinance her current 5.65 percent mortgage and take advantage of today's lower rates.

"I think we are homeowners any mortgage company would value. We pay our mortgage in full and on time, and we have excellent credit scores," Kotson said. "But I was surprised at how much things had changed when I called lenders to refinance a few weeks ago."

She said because her home has lost nearly \$100,000 in value since she and her husband purchased it in 2007, lenders told her she could only refinance up to 90 percent of the appraised value, which meant bringing nearly \$50,000 to the table at closing.

"They told me there's no impetus to refinance folks who are paying their mortgage and not in threat of foreclosure. It was very frustrating," Kotson said.

But Kotson said she was hopeful refinancing would be within reach after President Barack Obama announced a Homeowners Bill of Rights in Fairfax County last week.

Calling the continuing depression in the housing market a "make-or-break" moment for the middle class, Obama told a crowd of about 350 people at the James Lee Community Center in Falls Church on Feb.1, that the goal of his proposal is to make it easier for borrowers to refinance their loans, and get out from under oppressive mortgages.

"No more hidden fees or conflicts of interest. No more getting the runaround when you call about your loan. No more fine print," the president said to loud applause. "New safeguards against inappropriate foreclosures. New options to avoid foreclosure if you've fallen on hardship or a run of bad luck. And a new, simple, clear form for new buyers of a home."

Fairfax County housing advocates applauded the president's plan, saying it will give homeowners critical protection from predatory lenders and important safeguards when they purchase a home.

**THE AUDIENCE CHEERED** when the President took Congress to task for dragging its feet on plans he announced during the State of the Union Address last week to kick-start the stalled housing market.

"I am sending Congress a plan that will give every responsible homeowner in America the chance to save about \$3,000 a



President Barack Obama spoke at the James Lee Community Center in Falls Church on Wednesday, Feb. 1 about his plans to revitalize the stalled housing market. His speech was short and pointed.

year on their mortgage by refinancing at historically low rates... What this plan will do is help millions of responsible homeowners who make their payments on time but find themselves trapped under falling home values or wrapped up in red tape."

According to Kerri Wilson, CEO of Reston Interfaith, one of Northern Virginia's largest social services organizations, the nonprofit has received hundreds of calls since the recession from homeowners facing foreclosure or trying to get lenders' attention to reduce their mortgage payments.

"We've heard from those who have lost their jobs and are afraid of losing their homes and everything they've saved for their families. We all know that too many Americans did not fully understand the financial implications of taking out mortgages they could not afford," Wilson said. "Based on our experience then, the Homeowners Bill of Rights will address the issues surrounding foreclosure crisis and offer individuals the help they need to stabilize their budgets and families."

Paula Sampson, executive director of Fairfax County's Department of Housing and Community Development said the president's initiative refocuses attention on the still faltering real estate market and the many homeowners who are still struggling.

"A 'Homeowner's Bill of Rights' and the clarity and transparency it would bring to buying a home could be invaluable," Sampson said. "Just think of the thousands of homebuyers who might have avoided a predatory loan or unexpected rate swings, if the information had been clear and understandable at the closing table."

During his speech, Obama also blasted predatory lending practices, and vowed to tighten regulations.

"(The American people) were hurt. By lenders who sold loans to people who they knew couldn't afford the mortgages...and banks that packaged those mortgages up and traded them to reap phantom profits, knowing that they were building a house

of cards."

"It was wrong. It was wrong," the president said to nods and a buzz of agreement in the audience. "It triggered the worst economic crisis of our lifetimes. And it has been the single biggest drag on our recovery from a terrible recession. Crushing debt has kept millions of consumers from spending."

**THE PRESIDENT** made it clear that his "aggressive plan" was not designed for those who have been irresponsible.

"This plan, like the other actions we've taken, will not help the neighbors down the street who bought a house they couldn't afford, and then walked away and left a foreclosed home behind...It's not going to help those who bought multiple homes just to speculate and flip the house and make a quick buck, but it can help those who've acted responsibly," he said.

He veered off script, and entertained the audience, when he recalled how confusing it was when he and First Lady Michelle Obama bought their first home.

"Now, think about it...How many of you have had to deal with overly complicated mortgage forms and hidden clauses and complex terms? I remember when Michelle and I bought our first condo — and we're both lawyers," he said, triggering laughter from the audience. "And we're looking through the forms and kind of holding it up... reading it again... "What does this phrase mean?" And that's for two trained lawyers."

The president then held up a single sheet of paper.

"So this is what a mortgage form should look like. This is it," he said to loud applause and cheers. "Now that our new consumer watchdog agency is finally running at full steam, now that Richard Cordray is in as the Director of the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau, they're moving forward on important protections like this new, shorter mortgage form. Simple, not complicated. Informative, not confusing. Terms are clear.



Quincy Springs, with the Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, said he thought President Obama does not get enough credit for his plans.

Fees are transparent."

After a pause for effect, the president took another shot at Congress to cheers from the audience: "This, by the way, is what some of the folks in Congress are trying to roll back and prevent from happening."

He called the housing crisis "personal," saying it struck at the heart of what it means to be middle class in America. "Our homes, the place where we invest our nest egg, the place where we raise our family, the place where we plant roots in a community, the place where we build memories," he said.

He ended his speech with an appeal to Congress. "I urge Congress to act. Pass this plan. Help more families keep their homes. Help more neighborhoods remain vibrant. Help keep more dreams defended and alive. And I promise you that I'll keep doing everything I can to make the future brighter for this community, for this commonwealth, for this country."

Quincy Springs, a Fairfax resident with the County's Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, said the president was presenting Americans with an "opportunity."

"So many people have experienced job loss, foreclosures and other hardships. He has the right plan, and he doesn't get the good credit he deserves," Springs said.

Claudia Lupoletti of Burke said she thought Obama struck the right tone in sending a serious message to lenders.

"I'm very happy to hear that he is going to hold lenders accountable and not just homeowners," Lupoletti said. "He's right about the paperwork. We bought our first home in New York City and it was an all-day process with hundreds of complex forms. I think this is long overdue," she said.



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# News

# Green Dot Card Scam

Fairfax County police investigating slew of scams targeting seniors.

hen a 70-year-old Burke woman ansswered her phone this week, the caller told her she'd won 3.5 million dollars and a brand new Mercedes. But there was a catch. The woman was instructed to purchase Green Dot payment cards and provide the caller with the account numbers.

The woman purchased \$13,000 of the Green Dot cards and provided the numbers to the caller, along with her social security number, date of birth and other private information as she was instructed.

By the time a caring relative discovered what had happened, the victim lost much of her money. Green Dot cards are pre-paid, loadable cards similar to other brands of credit and debit cards.

Fairfax County police said these scams are not isolated to any particular financial institution.

"This is another in a series of scams Financial Crimes Unit detectives are seeing in Fairfax County and across the region. Unfortunately, as with many of these scams, once money is wired or sent away, there is very little that can be done to recover the funds," said Lucy Caldwell, spokesperson for the Fairfax County Police Department.

FCPD said detectives are actively providing education and information on some of these schemes and ruses to the public. To learn more, or to report an incident, visit the Financial Crime Online Reporting site of the FCPD website at http:/ /www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/ financialcrimes.

Since the online site went live in October 2011, more than 1,200 crimes have been reported, according to Caldwell. To request a group presentation on the topic of schemes or financial crimes contact Lucy Caldwell, Public Information Office at 703-246-3271.

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# ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE Feb. 11th & 12th

All Burke Basketball Players are asked to bring a "Non-Perishable" food item, or items, to their game on Saturday February 11th or Sunday, February 12th.

The food will be collected and distributed to the Food Banks right here in Fairfax County.

We need your help to make this another successful event.

Please bring your food donation(s) to the gym on Feb. 11th and 12th and they will be collected at the end of each day by Burke Basketball Staff Members.

The food will help provide meals for those less fortunate right here in Fairfax County.

Thank you all for your support! We'll see you next weekend, Feb. 11th and 12th. BURKE BASKETBALL'S ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE.

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT RICHARD AT 703-856-2529

# News

Awareness Month, members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department donned pink shirts to help the American Cancer Society increase awareness of breast cancer. They also sold the pink t-shirts to raise money to fight breast cancer. On Jan. 30, members of the department presented a check for \$2,000 to the Society to advance the battle against breast cancer.

Fire Chief Ronald Mastin of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department presented the check to Liz Davey, the American Cancer Society's Vice President

### Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Help American Cancer Society

ast October during National Breast Cancer for the National Capital Area. The funds were raised by the sale of pink t-shirts by firefighters. Employees within the fire department, and their families and friends, purchased the shirts, including the Fairfax County Professional Firefighters and Paramedics, Progressive Firefighters of Fairfax County and United Health Care.

> Breast cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death among women nationwide. In 2012, the American Cancer Society expects 226,870 women to be diagnosed with breast cancer and 39,510 to die of the disease.



Fire Chief Ronald Mastin of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department presented a check for \$2,000 to Liz Davey, the American Cancer Society's Vice President on Jan. 30, for the fight against breast cancer.







# **OPINION**

# Access for Home Schoolers to School Activities

amilies who home-school their children in this area take a burden off crowded schools, and off taxpayers who pay on average between \$12,000 and \$16,000 per year per child in school depending on where in Northern Virginia.

There is no reason to deny students who live within a school's boundaries access to the extracurricular activities of that school. While a proposal making its way through the Virginia General Assembly would address home schoolers' access to sports, home schooled stu-

dents should also be able to take some classes in school without having to be enrolled as a full-time student.

There is good reason to change the "bright white line" of student or nonstudent in public schools, all or EDITORIALS nothing. Students have a variety of educational needs. Stu-

dents need flexibility and often need several different educational contexts to create success.

Of course these students should be subject to all the same requirements as any other student in trying out for a spot on a team or in viding the best solutions for all students.

the school play or band.

Some local school officials have said it's not fair, homeschooled students don't have to work as hard at their studies as public school students, so they would have an unfair advantage in extracurriculars. First, many homeschoolers work harder than the average public school students. And second, by this reasoning, perhaps coaches should consider some sort of weighted assessment of course load when deciding who should be on the team.

Public schools should be committed to pro-

# Suppressing the Vote And Other Action in Richmond

hile all Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria senators voted against a bill that forces voters to provide one of a short list of identification in order to vote, the bill passed 20-to-20. Here's how: 02/06/ 12 Passed Senate (20-Y 20-N); 02/06/12 Senate: Chair votes Yes

Senators George Barker, Adam Ebbin, Barbara Favola, Mark Herring, Janet Howell, Dave Marsden, Chap Petersen, Toddy Puller and Dick Saslaw voted against the bill, which "eliminates the provision that allows a voter to sign a sworn statement that he is the named registered voter he claims to be in lieu of showing identification." Instead such a voter must cast a provisional ballot if he cannot provide a required

form of identification, and provisional ballots are counted the next day when a committee determines eligibility.

A Commonwealth of Virginia voter registration card will no longer count as one of forms of identification that a voter can present to demonstrate that he is a qualified voter, but a separate bill would add concealed handgun permits to the list of acceptable forms of identification to vote

# One Gun a Month Not Enough?

Virginia's long standing law restricting gun

purchases to one a month was overturned this

In the Senate, all Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax senators voted against the repeal. In the House of Delegates, Barbara Comstock and Tim Hugo voted in favor of eliminating the restriction. Three Republicans joined all the Democrats from our area in voting against lifting the one-gun-a-month restriction: Dave Albo, Jim LeMunyon and Tom Rust voted against the repeal along with Bob Brink, David Bulova, David Englin, Eileen Filler-Corn, Mark Herring, Mark Keam, Ken Plum, Mark Sickles, Scott Surovell and Vivian Watts.

- Mary Kimm

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Keeping Dulles Rail On Track

Support Funding Alzheimer's Project

To the Editor:

To the Editor:

Henry Ford once said that you should not find fault, but find a remedy, because anyone can complain. I believe this principle describes our efforts over the last year to reduce the cost of Dulles Rail and keep it moving forward.

Opponents to this critical project continue to suggest we halt progress in order to study any possible effects. Doing so would not only delay the project but would end up costing Fairfax County taxpayers and Dulles Toll Road users

Today, 5.4 million Americans are

living with Alzheimer's disease, in-

cluding 130,000 Virginia residents.

By 2050 as many as 16 million

Americans will have this disease that

slowly steals memories, indepen-

dence, autonomy and so much more

cause of death, Alzheimer's is un-

matched in the scale of its devas-

tating human and economic im-

pact. There is no other chronic dis-

ease that affects so many without

a way to cure, prevent or even

slow its progression.

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more in the long run, the very scenario these opponents use to justify their opposition. In order to protect taxpayers and commuters, I have worked with our County staff and our funding partners over the last year to successfully reduce the cost of Dulles Rail by over \$700 million all while keeping the project on track. We chose to find remedies instead of faults.

For example, in April I made the case for an aerial station at Dulles International Airport by "walking the walk" — showing people the

short distance between the proposed underground station and the aerial station. Moving the station above ground led to a cost savings of \$330 million. Our County staff worked with their counterparts in Loudoun County and officials from the state and federal government over the summer to identify over \$300 million in additional savings. Our work is consistent with Ford's principle.

Stopping the progress we have fought so hard to achieve also goes against our Board's stated commitment to "vigorously pursue economic development and revitaliza-

coordinate Alzheimer's disease efforts across the federal government. The Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services, created by NAPA to coordinate federal agencies conducting Alzheimer's-related care, services

This is an historic moment. We need a meaningful allocation of resources in the President's upcoming budget if we are committed to finding a cure. Our nation's leaders must follow through and fulfill their commitment with a strong plan supported by the necessary resources

Alzheimer's won't wait. I invite

tion opportunities." Even the most vocal opponents of Dulles Rail cannot ignore its economic development potential.

Complete preliminary engineering estimates on Phase 2 are due out soon. When they are released, our Board will have 90 days to approve our continued commitment to this ambitious project. Rail to Dulles remains my number one transportation goal.

### **Sharon Bulova**

Chairman Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

ing our petition to President Obama at www.alz.org. Urge the President to take the next bold step forward in the fight against Alzheimer's and fulfill the promise of the National Alzheimer's Project Act passed unanimously by Congress more than a year ago. Tell him millions of families are counting on him to fulfill the potential of NAPA when he releases his upcoming Budget Request.

Now is the time to create a world without Alzheimer's. Families won't forget.

#### Susan Kudla Finn, PMP

President and CEO Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter Fairfax



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One in three Americans know someone with Alzheimer's. There are nearly 15 million family mem-

6 ❖ Burke Connection ❖ February 9-15, 2012

bers and friends providing care for a loved one with Alzheimer's and dementia, including more than 422,000 Virginians.

Beyond the sheer numbers of lives touched by the disease, the financial impact on our nation is staggering. Alzheimer's cost the nation \$183 billion today. That amount will soar to \$1 trillion by midcentury. Medicare costs will increase nearly 600 percent and Medicaid nearly 400 percent — if we do nothing.

The National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA), signed into law in January 2011, requires the creation of a national strategic plan to address the rapidly escalating Alzheimer's disease crisis and will

and research, met in mid-January to review the first draft framework of a National Alzheimer's Plan.

to alter the course of Alzheimer's.

you to take action today by sign-

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Coming Forward On Child Sex Abuse

To the Editor:

I am a victim of childhood sexual abuse and a mother of four. I was very happy to see the article "Scandal Highlights Child Sex Abuse" [Connection, Feb. 2-8, 2012] by Victoria Ross which addresses an important issue that is close to my heart.

I want to thank the reporter who covered this issue, the Fairfax County Police and the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services who took a proactive approach to reaching out to victims and educating parents and others who work with children.

The online discussion was a wonderful way for parents, victims and those that work with children to voice their questions and concerns in a safe way. It can be a very difficult subject for many people to discuss. As a victim, I know how hard it can be to come forward and how painful the healing process can be when you feel you are alone. I didn't tell anyone about my abuse until I was 48 years old. Shame and fear of the reaction I would receive kept me silent and suffering. It is my hope that as society becomes more educated and comfortable with

the subject of child sexual abuse that children will feel safer in coming forward. As a child I needed to know that if I told an adult that I would be believed, that I would be reassured that it was not my fault and finally that someone would do something about what happened. When these three things happen, children will feel safer in coming forward. When children come forward, they can begin to heal, and those that abused them can be exposed making all our children safer.

**Becky Ianni** Burke

#### Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed.

Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

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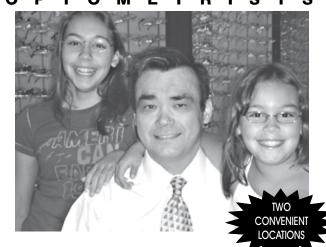
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6050 Estates Dr	\$449,900	Sun 1-4	Tracy Jones	Acquire	703-231-6094
6203 Old Valley Ct	\$299,900	Sun 1-4	Eric Guggenheimer	PenFed	703-550-7653
6254 Marcy Ct	\$450,000	Sun 1-4	Theodosia Dampier	Weichert	703-919-2212
6520 Telegraph Rd	\$535,000	Sun 1-4	Jodi Verboom	Coldwell Banker	703-599-4153
6400 Castlefin Way	\$439,000	Sun 1-4	Karen Chipman	Weichert	703-255-1585
6504 Tassia Dr	\$489,950	Sun 1-47	Tom & Cindy & Assoc	Long & Foster	703-822-0207
6515 Sunburst Way	\$369,950	Sun 1-47	Tom & Cindy & Assoc	Long & Foster	703-822-0207
6619 Haltwhistle Ln	\$474,000	Sun 1-4	Catherine Parker	Long & Foster	703-627-5688
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to these weekly listings, please call Steve Hogan at 703-778-9418 or e-mail the info to shogan@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.

# Home Life Style

# Remodeling: An Opportunity To Follow One's Passion

Adding that personal touch.

> By Joshua Baker Special to the Connection

aving remodeled thousands of projects over the past 25 years, our clients' reactions tell us that some of the most successful projects often address a specific passion or interest. Folks seem to be spending more and more time at home not only working, but also enriching their lives through personal interests. To that end, today's remodeling design often includes developing new areas for pursuing a variety of passions. Here are some local examples:

carefully planned to also function

designed to allow the existing trees to remain in close the aquarium required the floor be reinforced with nal antique movie posters. proximity, and great care was taken to preserve the steel beams, a crane was needed to set the glass tank, surroundings during construction. A professional arborist was engaged to manage the health of the trees in the six months prior to construction to ensure the addition had an almost treehouse feel.

There are a wide range of car enthusiasts each with his (or her) own specifications. Some garage additions, whether attached or detached, are effectively museums. One such addition was designed as an antique car barn, including four-inch thick, rough wood cionados, fully conditioned wine rooms with customfloors, and individual bays for each piece of art. Other made wood racking for storage have become comgarage projects are focused on automobile maintenance and repair. These often have automatic lifts, similar to your local repair shop, which allow for easy or even full-size dining areas, similar to many stylaccess and even provide additional storage. One Great ish restaurants. Falls garage was designed and built so that a father could share his knowledge and interest in cars with

Sports fanaticism often drives remodeling design. Sometimes, modestly designed trophy areas for dis-

playing family victories are included. Other times, whole rooms pay homage to (most often out of town) favorite college or professional sports teams. Real stadium seats, painted murals of favorite scenes, and custom flooring made to look like ball fields are all a part of the fun.

Are salt-water aquariums your thing? While they aren't for everyone due to the significant maintenance. technology and investment required, some homeowners find the colors and peaceful setting captivating. For The homeowners' team loyalties were reflected in this Potomac, one local enthusiast we **Md. home theater renovation by BOWA.** 



In this BOWA project in Great Falls, a gallery was designed to display the A breakfast room addition was **owner's extensive motion picture poster collection.** 

Many designs incorporate a trend towards enjoy-

ing and collecting wine. A very efficient and rela-

tively inexpensive approach is to purchase special-

ized wine refrigerators. These vary in size from small

under-counter units, appropriate for a kitchen or bar

area, to large full-size units most often installed in

unfinished areas of the basement. For the wine afi-

mon in luxury homes. And for a really nice touch,

these rooms are designed to include a tasting area

Art collections, whether pop or classical, often drive

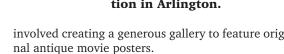
remodeling design decisions. For example, hallways

are widened to create galleries and sophisticated spe-

cialty lighting is installed, based upon the type of art

work, natural light etc. One such project in Great Falls

and a separate control/filter room was added.



So the questions remains, what's your passion? By working closely with an experienced design build remodeler who has access to a whole host of spe-

as a bird watching area. The foundation was specially installed a 7,000-gallon live coral reef. The weight of involved creating a generous gallery to feature origicialty designers and experts, your dreams of an athome museum, sanctuary, tasting room, etc. may well

Joshua Baker is founder of Bowa Builders.

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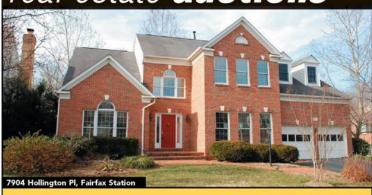
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FREDERICKSBURG, VA • 7009 Lombard Lane. 3BR 3BA 1,536+/- sf. Approx .24ac lot.

LOVETTSVILLE, VA • 39320 Tollhouse Rd. 4BR 3.5BA 4,594+/- sf home on approx 4.9 acres vith 2-car garage, back deck and balcony off master. Interior has comfortable den with wall of built-ins and fireplace, two-story entry, formal living and dining, master suite and partially inished basement. Built in 2002.

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Source: MRIS, Inc. For more information on MRIS, visit www.mris.com

# 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.

#### FRIDAY/FEB. 10

Virginia Opera: Orphée. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Virginia Premiere of Philip Glass's Orphée, based on Jean Cocteau's reimagining of the myth of Orpheus and Euridice. Sung in French with English supertitles. \$44-\$86. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu.

The Vagina Monologues. 8 p.m. GMU Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Proceeds will benefit the Mason

Victims of Violence fund and Dating Abuse Stops Here (DASH). \$25 at http://cfa.gmu.edu/calendar/867.703-993-8892 or sas.gmu.edu.

"The Music Man Jr." 7 p.m. Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Con man Harold Hill travels to River City, Iowa to stir up trouble. Tickets \$10. www.robinsondrama.org or www.brownpapertickets.com/event/ 221557

Chicago City Limits. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Improvisational comedy. \$24. www.wolftrap.org.

Bonita Lestina Performance Series: Suzuki Duo. 8 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Piano and violin/viola. Free admission. 703-352-2787 or www.fairfaxarts.org.

Be My Valentine. 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories, songs and activities about love. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-249-1520.

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

#### SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Jimmy Lange Boxing. 7 p.m. George Mson University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$35-\$500, available at www.ticketmaster.com and 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available at 703-993-3035. www.jimmylangeboxing.com or www.patriotcenter.com.

**Arlo Guthrie: Boys' Night Out.** 8 p.m. George Mason Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With his son Abe Guthrie, his grandson Krisha Guthrie, and longtime collaborator Terry a la Berry. Tickets \$24-\$48 at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Winter Festival. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Bethelem Lutheran Chruch, 8922 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Games, auctions, chocolate, cakewalks, lunch and more. Proceeds benefit youth summer missions. 703-978-3131 or mbakke@blclife.org.

Chicago City Limits. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Improvisational comedy. \$24. www.wolftrap.org.

"The Music Man Jr." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, Con man Harold Hill travels to River City, Iowa to stir up trouble. Tickets \$10. www.robinsondrama.org or www.brownpapertickets.com/event/ 221557.

The Vagina Monologues. 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. GMU Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Proceeds will benefit the Mason Victims of

Violence fund and Dating Abuse Stops Here (DASH). \$25 at http:// cfa.gmu.edu/calendar/867. 703-993-8892 or sas.gmu.edu.

**Microsoft Word.** 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Learn the basics of word processing with Microsoft Word. Adults. 703-293-6227.

#### SUNDAY/FEB. 12

Virginia Opera: Orphée. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Virginia Premiere of Philip Glass's Orphée, based on Jean Cocteau's reimagining of the myth of Orpheus and Euridice. Sung in French with English supertitles. \$44-\$86. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu.

Joel Ayau in Concert. 7 p.m. Fairfax United Methodist Church, 10300 Stratford Ave., Fairfax. As pianist for the United States Army Chorus, Joel Ayau performs across the United States and internationally.

csp826@gmail.com.

Rosi Golan and Cassidy. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Concert by the Wrighteous Brass. 4 p.m. St. John's Lutheran Church. 5952 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Proceeds benefit the new Village of Hope Medical Center in Haiti. Donations accepted. Refreshments served. 703-971-2210 or www.sjlc.com.

"The Music Man Jr." 2 p.m. Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Con man Harold Hill travels to River City. Iowa to stir up trouble. Tickets \$10. www.robinsondrama.org or www.brownpapertickets.com/event/ 221557.

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# SPORTS

# Liberatore Leads Bruins to District Title

Senior wins all-around championship after back-to-back runner-up finishes.

> By Jon Roetman THE CONNECTION

aitlin Liberatore crossed her arms and paced back and forth, staring at the ground while counting her steps outside the wrestling room at Lake Braddock Secondary School. It was the senior's way of keeping herself calm while awaiting her turn on beam during the second-to-last rotation at the Patriot District gymnastics meet on Feb. 3.

Liberatore, a senior at Lake Braddock, would turn in a second-place performance on beam, producing an 8.75. From there it was over to floor, where Liberatore would have a chance to capture the all-around title during the meet's final rotation. After her routine, she cracked a wide smile when judges revealed a score of 9.575. It was enough to win the event, but was it enough to win the all-around crown?

"I knew I did a good routine," Liberatore said. "... I wasn't sure who was going to



Lake Braddock senior Caitlin Liberatore won the Patriot District allaround gymnastics championship on Feb. 3.

As a sophomore in 2010, Liberatore helped Lake Braddock to a runner-up finish at districts by placing second in the allaround competition.

The following year, Liberatore won three of four events, leading the Bruins to a district title. But while Lake Braddock climbed atop the team standings, Liberatore's score in the one event she didn't win — beam —

was far enough behind Lee's Leah Michetti that Liberatore once again finished runnerup in the all-around.

Now a senior, Liberatore was competing in the final district meet of her career. This time she did enough to win, earning the allaround title while helping the Bruins repeat as team champions.

Liberatore finished first on floor and bars (9.225), second on beam and fifth on vault (9.1) for a total of 36.6, enough to hold off Michetti (36.15), Lee's Katie Stewart (36.025) and West Potomac's Monica Thompson (35.8).

"It feels great," Liberatore said. "This entire year, my motivation was to finally get first. At the meet, it was my drive."

Lake Braddock head coach Ellen Hagan-Bowerman called Liberatore's floor routine "fabulous."

"I'm so proud of her," the coach said. "I'm excited. She's a senior. That has always been her goal and I'm glad she was able to accomplish it this year - and we worked hard for it."

Lake Braddock's Sarah Price produced top-eight finishes in each of her three events. She finished second on bars (9.15), fifth on floor (9.1, tie) and sixth on beam

"I think once the last girl went on floor," Price said, "we just knew we had [the team title]."

Lizzie White placed fourth on floor (9.275) and eighth on beam (8.1) for the Bruins.

Lake Braddock posted a team total of 140. Woodson finished runner-up, earning the other team berth to regionals with a total of 136.1.

Regionals will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 9 at Lake Braddock.

# District Indoor Track and Field Championships Completed

# South County girls win Patriot title, Robinson girls second in Concorde.

By Rich Sanders The Connection

he Concorde District indoor track and field championships took place over two days (Thursday, Jan. 26 and Thursday, Feb. 2) at Prince George's County Sportsplex.

On the girls' side, the Oakton High team captured the district crown with 149 points, finishing ahead of second place Robinson (119) and third place Herndon (64). Rounding out the six-team field were Chantilly (57), Westfield (42), and Centreville (31).

Top individual finishers for the Robinson girls were: Genamarie McGant (champion in both the 300 and 500 races, second place in 55); Seye Raymond (third in 55); Elizabeth Roberson (third in 500, fourth in 300); Kacey Wheeler (fifth in 300); Macey Schweikert (second in 1000, third in 1600); Corinne Zinser (third in 55-hurdles); Sara Jones (fourth in 55-hurdles); Uloma Nwaolu (third in high jump); Merika Emery (fourth in pole vault); SuJung Lee Rodriguez (fifth in shot put).

(sixth in pole vault); Chioma Onyekwere (champion in shot put); and Kelsey Stonehocker (second in shot put).

The Robinson girls' 4x400 relay team, made up of Elizabeth Roberson, Kacey Wheeler, Corinne Zinser, and Macey Schweikert, finished first.

On the boys' side at the Concorde championships, Westfield, which began second day action in third place, came through to capture the team title with 117 points, edging second place Chantilly (113). Oakton (92) garnered third place, while the fourth through sixth finishers were Robinson (55), Herndon (46), and Centreville (42).

Robinson's Ayo Raymond won the 55 dash event, and was fifth place in the 300. Ansel Borhauer won the 500 dash race and was second in the 300. Other top place finishers for the Rams were: Patrick Spahn (fifth in the 3200); Tyler Brookins (fourth in the 55hurdles); Zachary Lietzau (third in pole vault); and Jonathan

#### THE SOUTH COUNTY GIRLS

captured the Patriot District team title with 165 points, ahead of second place Lake Braddock (89), third place T.C. Williams (70.50). and fourth place West Springfield (51). Rounding out the eight-team field were Woodson, West Potomac, Annandale, and Lee.

South County's Felecia Majors won seven events - the long, high, and triple jumps; as well as the pole vault, 55 dash, 500, and 300. Other individual event champions at districts included: South County's Morgan Knight (55hurdles); Lake Braddock's Sophie Chase (1600); Lake Braddock's Hannah Christen (3200).

The Lake Braddock girls' 4x800 relay team of Sophie Chase, Katie Roche, Ally Robinson, and Hannah Christen finished first.

On the boys' side, T.C. Williams was the Patriot District champion with 108 points. Finishing behind the Titans were Annandale (91), Lake Braddock (78), West Potomac (51), South County (45), West Springfield (43), Woodson (37), and Lee (12).

District individual champions on the boys' side included Lake Braddock's Sean Daugherty (pole

vault) and South County's Jacob Chang finished first. Butler (300).

Woodson's boys' 4x200 relay team of Sam Rosenblatt, Matt Cumby, James Kern, and Andrew

The Lake Braddock boys' 4x400 relay team of Marcus Dunlap, Edgar Feriera, Viet Huynh, and and Sean Daugherty finished first.



# **Bruins Rumble to Victory**

The Lake Braddock Secondary varsity wrestling team took first place at the First Annual 'Rumble in the Pit,' tournament event, held in honor of Randy Scott - Annandale High's first wrestling coach. The showcase took place on Saturday, Jan. 14. at Annandale High School. The Bruins won their pool by winning dual match-ups versus Loudoun Valley, Battlefield, Centreville, and Woodbridge Senior. They then went on to beat host Annandale, 44-29, for the first place finish. Undefeated Bruin wrestlers at the tournament were: Ryan Haskett (106-weight class), Sean Haskett (138), Rory Renzi (145), and Jake Sage (152). The Lake Braddock wrestling team is under the direction of head coach Scott Matheny, and assistants Ed FosZone 2: • Burke • FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD

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#### **DEADLINES**

Zones 5, 6.....Tues @ 11:00 Zones 1, 3......Tues @ 4:00 Zone 2......Wed @ 11:00 Zone 4......Wed @ 1:00

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#### ZONES

**Zone 1:** The Reston Connection The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection

**Zone 2:** The Springfield Connection The Burke Connection The Fairfax Connection The Fairfax Station/Clifton/ Lorton Connection

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The Mount Vernon Gazette

Zone 4: Centre View North Centre View South The Potomac Almanac Zone 5:

The Arlington Connection The Vienna/Oakton

Connection The McLean Connection The Great Falls Connection

#### 21 Announcements

21 Announcements

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

The deadline to register to vote in the Republican Presidential Primary is Monday, February 13, 2012 at the Sisson House, 10455 Armstrong Street during normal business hours

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#### 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

The following store will be holding a public auction on 2/22/12 starting at 12 Noon

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Unit 1027 Wilton Crouch Jr. lumber, furniture, tools Unit 1055 Tim Fornshill computers, boxes, furniture Unit 4035 Nina Cooper furniture, boxes, totes

25 Sales & Auctions

25 Sales & Auctions

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Complete contents of home February 11, 2012--10:00AM

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12 Commercial Lease

21 Announcements

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#### Richard Esposito 703-503-4035 Richard@LNF.com Service is the difference I provide



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highlighted by the breath-taking views. One that must be seen! Richard Esposito 703-503-4035



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