(From left) Vanessa Spiller and BethAnn Telford last May at Washington, D.C.’s Race for Hope. Telford gave Spiller the “Pick Your Fight” shirt to honor them both and what they’re battling.

Run a Race, Help Save Lives

NEWS, PAGE 13
What Recession? Bucking national trend, Northern Virginia governments have record employment and record spending.

By Michael Lee Pope  
The Connection

As local governments across America are laying off firefighters and teachers, governments in Northern Virginia are experiencing record levels of spending and an all-time-high number of employees. Budgets now under consideration in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria are higher than they’ve ever been. Experts say the trend is driven by the region’s ties to the federal government, which have traditionally insulated the region from downturns in the market. It’s also a reflection of a growing population and an increasing number of students in public school.

“When you have the best economy in the country, people move here,” said Stephen Fuller, director of the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis. “Northern Virginia has been pretty hot — not like it used to be but compared to the rest of the country, it’s doing just fine.”

A look at the past decade shows that spending levels rose dramatically along with the real-estate market. When that bubble burst, local governments across America fell on hard times. Even now, years after the recession technically came to an end, statistics from the Commerce Department show local governments have become a drag on growth. But Northern Virginia believes this trend, in some ways acting as a counterbalance to it.

At least for now. Because the economic health of the region is so closely tied to the fate of the federal government, any changes to federal spending could have dramatic consequences in Northern Virginia. One scenario that has many local governments worried involves the Government Control Act. That was the legislation that ended the debt-ceiling crisis last year by creating a super-committee that failed to reach an agreement in November. That could mean dramatic reductions in discretionary spending early next year. “You’re not going to gain the savings you need by cutting an aircraft carrier, so you’re going to have to cut employees and salaries — the things you need to gain the savings next year, which is required by the law,” said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Government Leadership. “For federal agencies, that means disproportionate elimination of positions.”

Over the last two years, local governments across America have cut about half a million jobs. Since the federal government started recording local government jobs in 1955, the statistic declined in only six of those years. The first three were the beginning of the Ronald Reagan administration. And the second three are the beginning of the Barack Obama administration. In the last three years, government employment is down 2.6 percent. In the last 12 months alone, the government sector lost 276,000 jobs.

Contrast those numbers with Northern Virginia. In the last three years, Fairfax County has added about 1,400 jobs. Arlington and Alexandria have added more than 200 jobs. Budget officials say that growth has been built on the strength of the real-estate market.

“We only had one negative year,” said Richard Stephenson, budget director in Arlington County. “Because our tax base remains stable, we were able to continue the funding of programs that our population wanted. So we didn’t go in and make dramatic cuts to services.”

And yet the budgets in local jurisdictions don’t always reflect that growth. Libraries and parks, in particular, have seen major cuts in all the municipalities. In Fairfax County alone, for example, almost $5 million has been slashed from the library budget over the last four years. And even now that revenues are growing again, County Executive Anthony Griffin’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2013 suggests cutting another $860,000 from the library system.

“We’ve had to make some pretty draconian cuts to the library system, and it’s one of our most used facilities,” said Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth. “A lot of constituents really use the library and they’re feeling that pinch.”

**PART OF THE STORY** of growth in Northern Virginia in recent years has been tied to the growth in the federal government, especially the growth in defense spending as a result of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Government contracts to Northern Virginia businesses such as Northrop Grumman have been a cash cow for years, pumping money and jobs into the region. Census records indicate the Fairfax County population grew 12 percent in the last decade. Arlington grew 10 percent, and Alexandria grew nine percent. Nowhere has that growth been more challenging than in the public school systems, which are pushing the limits of enrollment to the point that school administrators are closely monitoring the fire code.

In the last five years, Fairfax County Public Schools has added 15,000 new students and currently has the largest Kindergarten class ever. And more students are expected next year. Much of that growth is from students who live in poverty and speak English as a second language. Because those students cost more to educate, school administrators are seeing budget demands increase at a time when the rest of the country is cutting back.

“We see a lot of immigrant families arriving to Fairfax County in search of a better life, and we see the economy continue to have an impact on our families,” said Barbara Hunter, spokeswoman for the county school system. “Thus, we see more kids who are falling below the poverty line.”

**When the Great Recession** hit in late 2008, local governments in Northern Virginia responded by imposing hiring freezes and scaling back services. That may seem like an obvious response, but the federal government offered a 7 percent cost-of-living increase at a time when none of the jurisdictions in Northern Virginia were making any cost-of-living adjustments. “They tightened up early,” said Fuller. “They were cutting stuff in 2009 that a lot of people were still waiting and talking about. Maryland particularly was still giving salary raises where they stopped doing that in Virginia.”

The story behind the growing expenditures and government employees couldn’t have happened anywhere else. Unlike jurisdictions across America, local governments in Northern Virginia have benefited from a growing tax base and an increasing population. That means more money for salaries at a time when other municipalities are laying off employees and cutting back on programs. But it also means that other sources of revenue have become increasingly reliant on an economy that’s still considered by many to be a cash cow.
A Mission of Mercy

More than 800 residents receive free dental services during two-day event.

By Victoria Ross
The Connection

The triage center at Saturday’s Mission of Mercy Dental health clinic resembled a modern-day MASH unit. Dentists and volunteers in color-coded t-shirts dodged carts filled with sterilized instruments, greeted hundreds of patients and funneled them through initial screenings to determine what services they needed.

“Do you speak English?” asked one of the volunteers when she spotted an older woman wearing a faded black burqa, the traditional Muslim veil. The woman, whose native language was Farsi, spoke English haltingly.

“She’s in luck. We have a volunteer who speaks Farsi,” said Dr. Peter Cocolis, a Springfield dentist. “In fact, we have volunteers who speak French, Spanish, Korean, Urdu, you name it...”

Cocolis served as chair of this year’s ninth annual Mission of Mercy (MOM) Dental Health Fair held Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, at the Northern Virginia Community College Medical Campus in Springfield.

“We are providing basically any procedure that patients need, from cleanings to extractions and restorations,” Cocolis said.

HE ESTIMATED that this year’s clinic delivered about $250,000 worth of dental services to nearly 900 patients from five counties who qualify as living below the poverty line. The clinic has limited spots for walk-in patients. “I bet if we could add another day to this, we could see another 300 or 400 patients. Sometimes, this is the only time they receive dental services.”

U.S. Representative Gerry Connolly (D-11) attended Saturday’s clinic, chatting with patients and touring the extensive, state-of-the-art facilities. Connolly, who collaborated with MOM when he was chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, said one of the aspects of the clinic is the partnership with public sector and non-profit community to help those in need.

“As chairman of Fairfax County, it was our priority to build partnerships like this,” Connolly said. “This is really an amazing operation. Hundreds of local volunteers work on this each year.”

What is the Mission of Mercy?

In 2000, the Virginia Employment Commission Population Projects estimated that one-in-five Virginians live in an “underserved area.” Typically these are rural communities with a significant impoverished population. Individuals in these areas, primarily the working poor, the elderly, the disabled, or the uninsured, are often left without any dental care to face extreme pain, discomfort, and embarrassment. In response to the lack of access to care and the resulting poor oral health of thousands of indigent Virginians, the Virginia Dental Health Foundation (VDHF) launched the Mission of Mercy (MOM) and began to “make caring visible.” According to the VDHF, individuals who suffer from medical complications such as cancer and AIDS are at an increased risk for developing oral disease.

The mission began in the northern Virginia community of Gum Springs, a settlement between Annandale and Springfield that was once home to the Abbeville Indian Reservation. During the past 19 years, more than 2,500 residents and businesses have been recognized for their contributions to the community.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
The Connection

I t was supposed to be a one-time event, a toy drive to help 50 struggling families in the Gum Springs community along the Route 1 corridor. But that was 15 years ago. Today, Capt. Willie Bailey’s Firefighters and Friends annual toy drive serves more than 4,000 children in need throughout Northern Virginia.

“I never expected it would grow like this,” said Bailey, founder of the toy drive. “But businesses and people in the community have really stepped up to help fill what is a growing need in this area.”

Bailey’s efforts to help serve the community have grown to include a back-to-school backpack drive and fall coat drive and are supported by the entire Fairfax County Fire and Rescue department, the Fairfax County Firefighters and Paramedics union and numerous corporate sponsors.

“It is a huge honor for me to be recognized by Chairman Bulova and the entire Board of Supervisors.”

— Capt. Willie Bailey

Captain Honored for Community Service

Fire and Rescue’s Willie Bailey recognized for 1,000 volunteer hours.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
The Connection

Bailey will be recognized at the 2012 Volunteer Service Awards ceremony on April 27 at the Fire and Rescue headquarters. More information on the awards, visit www.volunteerfairfax.org.
Valón Salon stylists rock the runway in their second season at New York’s Fashion Week!

Going to Fashion Week is a bit like being able to see the future – the looks coming down the runway are guaranteed to shape trends and styles for the rest of the year. For Valary Brown, owner of Centreville’s award-winning Valón Salon, being invited to style hair for the Venexiana runway show was more like getting to create the future.

This February’s Fashion Week, held to showcase designs for Fall 2012, marks the second season in a row that stylists from Valón Salon have worked on the Venexiana show. This year’s theme was “Irreverent Renaissance”. The show’s signature hair style, the Venetian Knot, was designed specifically for the Venexiana show by Philip Pelusi’s Artistic Director, Jeffery Reitz. Pelusi chose stylists to be a part of his Fashion Week Hair Couturier Group as a way to reward the top stylists from among his Philip Pelusi Concept and Partner Salons. Valón Salon’s love of and support for the P2 line of hair styling products has made them a shoo-in for the honor for two Fashion Week seasons in a row.

As they prepare for the upcoming prom and wedding season, Valón Salon’s stylists are excited about getting to use what they’ve seen come down the runway at Fashion Week. The hottest looks for summer and fall are going back to the classics – lots of smoother lines with some added texture to keep the style fresh. Valón Salon’s stylists are excited about getting to use what they’ve seen come down the runway at Fashion Week. The hottest looks for summer and fall are going back to the classics – lots of smoother lines with some added texture to keep the style fresh. The team of stylists from Valón Salon are excited about getting to use what they’ve seen come down the runway at Fashion Week. The hottest looks for summer and fall are going back to the classics – lots of smoother lines with some added texture to keep the style fresh.
Fairfax’s Kevin Dykstra Wins WATCH Award

Fairfax resident Kevin Dykstra is an award-winning actor. He just won a WATCH (Washington Area Theatre Community Honors) award for Best Actor in a Play. He shares the trophy with his co-star, Jim Breen, of Rockville, Md. The two of them played all 13 roles in the Montgomery Playhouse’s production of “Stones in his Pocket.” Their director also won a WATCH award, as did the show, itself, for Best Play. WATCH recognizes excellence in community theater in the Washington Metropolitan area. The ceremony was held Sunday evening, March 11, at the Birchmere in Alexandria.

Randy and Maria Marris’ daughter,
C3C Stephanie Ann Marris, is a 2009 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School for Math, Science and Technology. She is currently a junior at the United States Air Force Academy. Her major is Environmental Engineer with a Minor in Spanish. Stephanie is currently on the Dean’s List and the Commandant’s List.

School Notes

(From left) are Kevin Dykstra and Jim Breen with their WATCH awards.
Hundreds Receive Free Dental Services

FROM PAGE 3
dentists and students volunteer their time, providing these critical services to the underserved in our community.”

Cocolis said in addition to providing a wide range of dental services, oral hygiene education was a top priority.

“In our county, only half of the population has dental insurance, and of those people, only half actually see a dentist,” Cocolis said, noting that every patient received an education packet that included information in English and Spanish on local services and the link between poor oral hygiene and serious medical conditions, such as heart disease, cancer and pneumonia.

Dr. Thomas Wilson, executive director of the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic in Falls Church and one of the event’s organizers, said that Virginia was one of a handful of states in which oral health care is not a mandated service under Medicare.

“Education is key. Many times, patients don’t see the link, but, put it this way, the mouth is the portal to the body. If the mouth isn’t well, neither is the body,” Wilson said.

“This event is so important, because we are serving an underserved population,” said Dr. Howard Kelley of Vienna, chief dentist of NoVa’s Medical Education Campus. “It can be overwhelming to realize how great the need for dental treatment is, not only abroad but right here. Dental problems are not self-healing. Here, we have an opportunity once a year to reach out to people.”

IN ADDITION to the Saturday’s event, MOM projects have been held in Wise, Va., two projects on the Eastern Shore and one in Annandale. For each MOM project, there are hundreds of volunteers who participate. To date, 5,365 patients have been provided with over $1.8 million worth of free dental care. Virginia’s MOM projects have broken records for the largest two and three day dental outreach clinics ever conducted in the United States.

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U.S. Representative Gerry Connolly (D-11) greeted patients Gloria Rodriguez of Woodbridge and Lucinda Wuton-Alva of Reston during the Mission of Mercy’s 9th annual Dental Health Fair held Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, at the Northern Virginia Community College Medical Campus in Springfield.

Volunteers Marcus Emad and Mahdi Majarrad served as triage runners during the Mission of Mercy’s 9th annual Dental Health Fair held Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, at the Northern Virginia Community College Medical Campus in Springfield.

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The County Board of Supervisors voted 6-3 Tuesday, March 6, to advertise the real estate tax rate for FY 2013 at $1.08 per $100 of assessed value. The current FY 2012 rate is $1.07.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) was not present for the vote, and Republican Supervisors Pat Herrity (Springfield), Michael Frey (Sully) and John Cook (Braddock) voted against it.

Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-Large) noted that advertising an increase in the rate does not prevent the board from lowering any advertised tax rate, but a higher tax rate cannot be imposed without advertising the higher rate.

“This gives us the flexibility we need, depending what happens with the General Assembly,” said Bulova.

Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) called the one penny increase “insurance” that could mitigate potential shortfalls from the state or federal government.

But Frey said the additional stormwater management fee increase already hiked the tax rate by two cents to $1.10 per $100 of assessed value. “I cannot support this. I don’t want to get people’s hopes up that they will see more money because of uptick in property assessments.”

The $1.08 rate will provide flexibility of 1 cent or $19.95 million above the county executive’s FY 2013 proposed budget. Each 1 cent increase in the real estate tax rate impacts the average residential taxpayer’s annual bill by approximately $45.

In addition, the board authorized the advertisement of a Stormwater Management Service fee of $0.025 per $100 of assessed value to support stormwater management programs and services and capital project requirements.

The FY 2012 rate is $0.015. This rate increase is required to meet the increasing federal and state regulatory requirements pertaining to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit requirements, and state and federal mandates associated with the Chesapeake Bay, according to Bulova.

A separate public hearing on the effective tax rate will be held on May 1, key budget dates are available online.

Town hall meetings are being held throughout the county to give residents the opportunity to ask questions and discuss specific concerns. The complete schedule is available online.

— Victoria Ross

WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY FOR APPROVAL TO RECOVER HEXANE COSTS CASE NO. PUE-2012-00014
**OPINION**

So Hard to Imagine?

Poor families face challenges that officials and many of the rest of us have trouble envisioning.

The Commonwealth of Virginia and even Northern Virginia includes many poor families and individuals. But officials seem to have trouble wrapping their brains around some of the difficulties this can cause.

In Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria, some analysis of the effect of budget cuts and service cuts on families in the bottom 20 percent of income would be appropriate and revealing.

Cutting library hours and service again? Consider that for many, the public libraries are their only source of computer and internet access. This has a significant impact on school performance, the ability to hunt for a job, the ability to access services and more.

It’s hard for many of us to imagine, checking email at stop lights on our smart phones, that there are families who need to go to the library to check theirs. If anything, in the current environment, the libraries should be open more hours, not fewer.

When Fairfax County Public Schools eliminated the year-round school calendar, followed by some of the county’s poor- est schools, and summer school, poor students were most affected, losing access to meals in the summer as well as a needed boost in instruction.

Similarly, some schools systems eliminated the telephone hotline to find out if schools are closed in inclement weather. Everyone checks that online, right? Or gets their daily email update?

Requirements to present a variety of identification to do a variety of things also present bigger challenges to poorer residents.

**Veto Voter ID Bill**

Gov. Bob McDonnell should read the handwriting on the wall from the U.S. Justice Department about making it harder to vote.

More than 600,000 registered voters in Texas do not have the identification that the voter identification law would require, according to Tom Perez of the Justice Department, including a disproportionate number of minority voters, and more than 10 percent of Latino registered voters.

The analysis will reveal similar disparities in Virginia. The Governor can save Virginia money, time and trouble by vetoing the bill now.

Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Correction: Last week’s editorial failed to correctly identify Del. Charniele Herring (D-86). The full editorial has been corrected online.

**LETTERS**

Representing Constituents

To the Editor:

Senate Democrats in Virginia have decided that they will not vote for the budget. The Senators’ decision spurned from their dis- taste with their committee assign- ments and has thus jeopardized some of the Commonwealth’s biggest issues. Their irresponsible actions are putting our children’s education at risk by cutting off funds for our schools and teachers, threatening the pay for our brave and selfless law enforcement officers, and jeopardizing the pro- grams our senior citizens depend upon most. Important safety nets like Medicaid will go without state funding unless the Senate Demo- crats start doing their job. Their job is to represent the best inter- ests of their constituents—not to further their own personal ambi- tions of power and glory.

Kayla Andriate
Fairfax

**2012 Session Adjourns, Special Session to Follow**

By Chap Petersen
State Senator (D-34)

The General Assembly adjourned its Regular Session sine die late Saturday night. The members are back home briefly, then will return to Rich- mond on March 21 for a Special Session, which will be limited to electing new state judges and fi- nally passing the biennial Budget Bill.

There has been a lot of ink spilled this session over high-pro- file social issues, such as the noto- rious “ultrasound” bill. There is no doubt that the Opening Day coup by the Senate Republicans—which put all levers of power in the hands of one party—caused the legisla- ture to have an “unbalanced” tilt this year. That was unfortunate.

However, there were areas of bipartisan agreement and progress. For me personally, it was my most productive session since I joined the Assembly in 2001.

I had six bills pass the Assembly which are now before the Gover- nor. They included the following:

- **SB 160**, “the Cost-Effective Public Buildings Act,” which re-quires new state buildings to use energy efficiency standards, such as LEED, in order to conserve natu- ral resources and save taxpayer money. This bill was supported by various environmental groups and matched a policy previously adopted by the McDonnell adminis- tration.

- **SB 164**, which tough- ens penalties against persons who conspire with judgment debtors to fraudulently transfer assets— as so as to thwart lawful collec- tions. This bill was supported by the Virginia Creditors Bar and Vir- ginia Bankers Association.

- **SB 171**, which allows Fairfax City and 64 other cities and towns to tailor their VRS pension benefits for first responders (police, firefighters, and EMS personnel) to better reflect the unique stresses of that service. This bill was re- quested by the City and its profes- sional firefighters.

- **SB 627**, the “Solar Freedom Bill,” which allows homeowners to install solar panels on their resi- dences in planned communities, as long as the installations conform to HOA regulations on placement and design. This bill was requested by the solar industry and the en- vironmental community.

In addition, I sponsored SB 622, which made it a crime for respon- sible adults to fail to report rege- nrous events of child sexual abuse. Previously, “mandatory reporters” only faced a $500 fine for failing to notify authorities when they had actual knowledge of overt

**Write**

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

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By e-mail

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Fairfax County REAL ESTATE

2012 Assessments by Zip Code Areas

Hunter Mill Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D) saw her assessment went up 4.80% from $545,440 in 2011 to $570,520 in 2012.

Lee Supervisor Jeff McKay (D) saw an increase of 0.90% in his home assessment in 2012. Last year, his home was worth $645,030 and this year it is valued at $656,920.

Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust (D) saw a 5.69% gain in his property value when compared to 2011. The county valued Foust’s house at $2,884,060 last year and $3,048,110 this year.

Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova (D) saw her home value remain flat this year. Bulova owns a house in Fairfax assessed at $591,990 in both 2011 and 2012.

**2011 County Average (Percent Change)**
- Single Family Detached: $345,279 (0.70%)
- Townhouse: $227,499 (1.20%)
- Condos: $212,764 (-0.06%)

**ZIP CODE AREA 2011 MEAN 2012 MEAN PERCENT CHANGE**

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**SOURCE:** Fairfax County
Local Designers Selected to Make Over D.C. Design House

Annual event raises money for Children's National Medical Center.

By Maureen Campbell

The Connection

ome of the Washington area’s top interior designers are making their creative talents all in the name of charity. Organizers of the 10th Annual event raises money for Children’s National Medical Center.

Great Falls-based designer Susan Nelson, of Susan Interiors (pictured with design student Jacob Oxford), will design a girl’s bedroom.

Annette Hanson, of Annette Hanson Interior Design in Burke, was selected to design the parlor.

Local Designers

Some of the local designers who were selected to make over the house offer a preview of their plans.

Great Falls-based designer Susan Nelson of Susan Nelson Interiors designed a teenage girl’s bedroom. "I combined a variety of black and gold fabric and faux finishes in purple, gossamer, pink, brown and cream to create a cozy haven. By using a mix of new and repurposed furniture, the room has the quality of changing along with the girl," she said. "Our instance, the crocheted fabric is a sophisticated fabric with a water color quality to the flowers on it. The chair is slip covered in a fun cotton print in pink and purple that she might have had as a child.”

Fairfax Connection

creative talent all in the area’s top interior designers who were selected to design rooms, with at least one presentation board. The board included their floor plan, color selections, and finishes they would use. One design team selected the final 23 designers. We invited more than 50 proposals this year, and to reduce fantastic presentations, The competition was really tough." The D.C. Design House serves as a bellwether of local design trends. "Being selected to design for the show house is a bit like being crowned homecoming queen then having to run a marathon in your finery while collecting roses for a scavenger hunt," said Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey of SCW Interiors in Alexandria, who was one of the designers selected. "It is the most prestigious invitation...Not a com- mune of veteran designers and industry leaders to select a de- signer is truly one of the highlights of our career," she says. With no paying clients to please, the designers embark on a creative journey. "I love participating in show houses because it challenges me to create something wonderful and get to create your perfect party," said Susan Hayes Long, chairperson of D.C. Design House.

The DC Design House opens to the public on Saturday, April 14 and runs through April 29. The house is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased online or at the door.

Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey of SCW Interiors in Alexandria is charged with transforming the dining room. "I anticipate wonderful parties and celebra- tions in the dining room, I’ll be creating this year and my use of color and pattern to play on the celebratory mode. I am thrilled to help people who see the space take away some element in the design that might fit their home or their lifestyle,” she said.

Where & When

The DC Design House opens to the public on Sunday, April 15 and remains open until Saturday, May 13. Hours are Tuesday and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. and Thursday through Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased online or at the door.

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From Page 10

**Home Life Style**

### Local Designers

- **Victoria Sanchez of Victoria Sanchez Interiors in Alexandria**
  - **Description:** Victoria Sanchez creates a teenager's retreat. "I have chosen a very lively, colorful design scheme from Missoni and will be using Mid-Century modern furniture," said Sanchez. "This room is designed to be a perfect hangout for teenagers and will reflect the energy teenagers create."

- **Nancy Twomey of Finniam’s Moon Interiors in Alexandria** will design a boy’s bedroom. “I love good design, but I also know children. Children’s rooms are messy places, so it is best if there is an inherent order in the design elements, starting with the palette," said Twomey. “My 2012 D.C. Design House room has a serene quietude in its bones, but it isn’t sleepy. It has timeless, classic ingredients such as menswear fabrics, juxtaposed with modern, playful ones.”

- **Elizabeth Krial of Elizabeth Krial Design in Reston will create a modern nursery.** "The most afforded luxury in my space is the natural sunlight that washes the room," she said. "As a designer, I have added luxurious layers of softness and comfort through textiles. The modern nursery has a lightness that will remind you of the hope and joy that a new baby brings.”

- **Matthew Moore of John Matthew Moore Fine Art in McLean will decorate the foyer and staircase.** "My design philosophy is clean, classic spaces. My favorite period in design is the late fifties as it is now in the fifties," said Moore. "It has timeless, classic ingredients such as beige and terracotta, but I also know children. Peaceful rooms are not necessarily for sleeping, but they are rooms that will create a modern nursery."

### The Chateau in Oak Hollow

One of just four properties in Fairfax County listed at HomesDatabase.com for sale for more than $10 million, this home sits on five acres in Clifton, and is for sale for $12.5 million. The other three properties are in McLean.

The Chateau was designed by architect, Ron Hubbard, who uses innovative green technologies such as three geothermal fields and 14 radiant zones using more than 10,000 feet of buried line to heat and cool the home. This home has more than 27,000 square feet of living space inside (13,500 finished), plus more than 3,000 square feet of exterior living space comprised of balconies and patios. Many of the outdoor living areas are constructed with stamped concrete and provide ample space for large parties, and some for more intimate gatherings.

The property also includes a 3-bedroom guest suite in one wing of the home, and an indoor pool and fitness center in the other. The Chateau has an eight-car garage. The house is listed by Meghan Wasinger of John Realty.

**The parlor is located next to the formal dining room. There are five fireplaces throughout the Chateau (with a potential for 13), set on five-acre estate in Clifton.**

Design in Burke designed the parlor. “The [parlor] is the first living area a visitor will enter,” said Hannon. “My goal was to create a comfortable, luxurious space someone would want to linger in long after the party’s over. I felt it was essential to add layers of interest in the room.”

**Shanon Munn of Ambi Design Studio in McLean will decorate the master deck.** "My concept for the space is to have an outdoor room," said Munn. "I chose pieces that are scaled similarly to indoor pieces and provide a great lounging spot. We chose patterns that are interesting and bold. We plan to take the existing railing, currently an eyeseore, and make it a highlight of the deck with a long row of custom benches and pedestals strategically placed to create focal points and to hide the dated metalwork.”

**Annette Hannon of Annette Hannon Interior Design in Burke designed the parlor.** The [parlor] is the first living area a visitor will enter," said Hannon. "My goal was to create a comfortable, luxurious space someone would want to linger in long after the party’s over. I felt it was essential to add layers of interest in the room.”
Run a Race, Help Save Lives

5K in honor of two local women.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

After surviving breast cancer, chemotherapy and radiation, Centreville's Vanessa Spiller is doing well and hopes to soon receive a clean bill of health from her doctor. Fair Lakes resident BethAnn Telford was diagnosed with a Stage III brain tumor in 2005, and is still fighting for her life.

And on Saturday, March 24, at the Fairfax Corner Shopping Center, the Rev3 Run Rogue 5K will be run in their honor. All proceeds will be split evenly between Life with Cancer (http://www.lifewithcancer.org/) and the National Brain Tumor Society (http://www.braintumor.org/).

But the two local women won’t be sitting on the sidelines. Both are athletes and, on race day, they’ll be running in the 5K. “Vanessa and I will be at the starting line clad in superhero capes, appropriately marked with the words, ‘Beat Cancer,’” said Telford.

The pair will start the race 30 seconds before anyone else, and then – for every 5K participant who passes them – one of the event’s sponsors will donate $1/participant in support of the two charities.

Rogue Racers and Rev3 Adventures are putting on this fund-raiser. Rogue Racers is a Fairfax-based, running/triathlon club. Rev3 Adventures puts on adventure races in, for example, mountain biking, running and canoeing.

THE MARCH 24 EVENT promises to be fun and family-oriented. Participants may walk or run a USATF-certified 5K course at 8:30 a.m., or participate in a 1K kids’ fun run at 8 a.m., before the main event. Both courses start and end in front of Coastal Flats restaurant. Strollers are allowed in the 1K, but no dogs in either race.

Cash prizes will be given to the top three male and female finishers, and the first-place winners will also receive coupons for a free pair of Brooks shoes. There’ll be age-group awards, too, plus over 40 cash prizes. Sign up at http://www.runrogue5k.com/Run_Rogue_5K_Race_Info.html. Donations may also be made there. Registration is $30, 5K; and $15, 1K, ages 8 and under.

The fun includes Starbucks pastries and coffee, face-painting and music. Every finisher will receive a Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream cone, and every child in the 1K will get a medal.

Both Spiller, 46, and Telford, 42, have been good friends for several years. They run and train with Rogue Racers for various competitions, including the upcoming Boston Marathon in April.

In September 2011, Rogue Racers decided to create a 5K for two of its members – Spiller and Telford – and give 100 percent of the proceeds to charity. Spiller’s half will go to Life with Cancer because it helped her so much while she battled breast cancer. Telford’s nonprofit fund-raising organization, Team BT, which raises money for the National Brain Tumor Society (NBTS), will receive the other half.

Since her diagnosis, Telford’s undergone two surgical resections – plus countless hours of rehabilitation to regain her speech and physical function after each one. But she still works full time for the U.S. Government Printing Office, has run the Marine Corps Marathon and participated in endurance races including two Ironman competitions.

She recently qualified for the Boston Marathon for the second time since being diagnosed. Telford also actively campaigns for the NBTS and has raised more than $300,000 for it. But her health problems are far from over. She has trouble sleeping, gets bad pains after eating and, she said, “My brain isn’t telling other parts of my body what to do.”

Her doctor at Johns Hopkins Medical Center plans to tackle these issues; but first, said Telford, she’s running the Boston Marathon, April 10, for her third time. “I was on a walker, the first part of January, after surgery for a pacemaker to regulate my bladder,” she said. “So my doctor knows how much it means to me.”

She’s also looking forward to the Rev3 Run Rogue 5K. “Holly Jashan, race director of Rogue Racers, is one of my dear friends, and she surprised me with this race,” said Telford. “She said it would raise money for Team BT for research to save my life and others’. Vanessa, also a dear friend, has been there for me at my worst, and still is, so the race is for both of us.”

Telford’s also a fan of Life with Cancer. “It’s a great organization and I still go there for counseling,” she said. “There’s a brain tumor support group that meets once a month. And I run the Virginia Run Turkey Trot – which also benefits Life with Cancer – every year in a ballerina tutu.”

She raises money for NBTS from December through May. “I’m tired, but I can’t give up,” she said. “For example, the other day, I met a little girl, Gracie, who’s 6 and struggling with brain cancer – so that’s why I have to keep fighting. Everything I do goes right to the charity, and my friends help keep me going. They send me e-mails and inspirational notes every day.”

“My motto is ‘Never, never give up,’” said Telford. “And when I get down, I look at those words, posted all over my house. My favorite word is ‘hope,’ so if I get down, I just look at the inner side of my left wrist where it’s tattooed.”

She’s also thankful for her friends. “Holly is amazing – she went to chemo with me,” said Telford. “And when I was so sick, Vanessa brushed my hair, told me it was going to be OK and helped me run again. I couldn’t pick a better person to fight cancer with than her.”

Telford said each event she participates in helps raise awareness. “Team BT has so many people who’ve either lost someone to a brain tumor or are struggling with it, themselves,” she said. “I raised $72,000 for it last year.”

Because of her efforts, NBTS has already made two, brain-tumor research grants in Telford’s name. One went to the Cleveland Clinic in 2009; the other, to the University of Florida in 2011.

TO PREPARE for the Fairfax Corner event, she ran a four-mile race last Saturday in Clarendon and will run a half-marathon this week in Virginia Beach. And she’s delighted that more than 700 people have already registered for the Run Rogue 5K.

“When Holly first told me about this race, I thought about all the people who are suffering – especially the little kids – are going to be excited about it,” said Telford. “And what better way to support people with cancer, help both NBTS and Life with Cancer and get in shape for spring, all at the same time.”

Since cancer touches so many lives, Rogue Racers is asking people to share their stories of inspiration and perseverance at the race’s Web site, http://www.runrogue5k.com/Run_Rogue_5K/Our_Heroes.html “A woman wrote about how her young son has a brain tumor and is going to run in the 1K,” said Telford. “She was so pleased that there was something for him. That makes me feel so good.”

West Ox Road facility. The Fairfax shelter will be open on Saturday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The organization will also host a special Sunday opening for adoptions only at its West Ox Road facility from 11 a.m. – 5 a.m.

Available animals will be on view at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030 and at 71 Oglethorpe St., NW, Washington, D.C. For more information, please contact the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at (703) 830-1100.

News

New Center Helps Cancer Patients Preserve Fertility

“Now cancer patients do not have to sacrifice their fertility to save their lives,” says Dr. Steve Lincoln a reproductive endocrinologist and director of the new Fertility Preservation Center for Cancer Patients at the Genetics & IVF Institute (GIVF), Fairfax. Chemotherapy and radiation can have devastating effects on fertility for the 140,000 American men and women under age 45 who are diagnosed with cancer each year, but thanks to advances in cryopreservation (freezing) techniques newly diagnosed cancer patients can preserve sperm, eggs or embryos prior to having chemotherapy or radiation that will impair their subsequent fertility. Consulting with a fertility preservation expert soon after diagnosis is critical.

For more information about preserving fertility, visit http://www.givf.com/fertili...
Entertainment
Hot Music, Cool Vibe

Local students performing in Chantilly Invitational Jazz Festival

By Bonnie Hobbs

The sounds of smooth, cool jazz will fill the air during the 32nd annual Chantilly High Invitational Jazz Festival. It’s slated for Friday-Saturday, March 16-17, in the school auditorium, 4201 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly.

“Almost 40 bands come from Virginia and Maryland, and even one from Connecticut,” said Chantilly’s Band Director, Drew Ross. “We’re fortunate to have a large number of fantastic jazz programs in our area, so we invite as many bands as we can.”

The event is free to the public and runs March 16, from 4:30-10:30 p.m., and March 17, from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. So audience members may come and go as they please to listen to whichever bands they want to hear (see schedule).

“March is also ‘Music in Our Schools’ month, so it’s a great way for people to come here and see these groups,” said Ross. “The audience will be blown away by group after group and seeing how talented these musicians are. It’s overwhelmingly exciting to watch.”

Middle-school jazz bands, as well as high-school jazz combos and big bands, will be performing. They include the Flint Hill School’s jazz band; two big bands from Robinson Secondary School; one from Lake Braddock Secondary School; big bands from Woodson, Fairfax and South County high schools; and two guitar combos and a Gypsy Jazz group from West Springfield High.

“Each combo and band has different styles, and sometimes they play music for an appreciative audience. They also play for three, professional adjudicators and six to eight clinicians who provide feedback on their performances.”

In addition, each middle-school band and high-school band and combo will vie for first, second, and third-place awards in their divisions. “The top three, high-school bands compete at the end of the event on Saturday in a battle of the bands so to determine the jazz-festival champion,” said Ross. “Each of the three bands gets a trophy.”

Awards are also presented to outstanding soloists and rhythm-section performers, and GMU gives scholarships to participate in its Summer Jazz Workshop. Chantilly High also awards three, $500 scholarships to outstanding senior musicians who plan on majoring in music in college.

Besides the school bands, three feature acts will also perform:

❖ Prelude, led by Dave Detwiler, a former Army Blues trumpeter who teaches music and still plays a former Army Blues trumpeter who teaches music and still plays;
❖ The Alan Baylock Jazz Orchestra. Baylock is the arranger for the Air Force’s Airmen of Note and the artist in residence at Shenandoah University;
❖ The National Jazz Workshop Invitational Big Band, directed by Matt Niess and including current, local high-school musicians.

In all, Ross said, the jazz festival is “cool because it’s unique.”

There are very few jazz festivals in the United States that feature such a wide variety of musicians and music. Aside from the middle- and high-school bands, we show-case professional bands and local talent that the audience might not otherwise get to hear and see.”

Performance Schedule

FRIDAY 3/16

4 p.m. - Workshop Jazz
4:20 p.m. - Eagle Ridge MS
4:40 p.m. - JL Simpson MS
5 p.m. - George Washington MS
5:20 p.m. - Stone MS
5:40 p.m. - Rachel Carson MS
6 p.m. - MS Awards/Dinner
6:25 p.m. - West Springfield Gymnasium
6:50 p.m. - Westfield HS Guitar
7:15 p.m. - Colonial Forge 2
7:40 p.m. - West Springfield Gymnasium
8:05 p.m. - George Mason HS
8:30 p.m. - Walter Johnson High School Combo
8:55 p.m. - Break
9:10 p.m. - West Springfield Gypsy Jazz
9:35 p.m. - Colonial Forge 1
10 p.m. - Albermarle HS
10:25 p.m. - Combo Awards

SATURDAY 3/17

8 a.m. - Robinson SS 2
8:25 a.m. - Fairfax HS
8:50 a.m. - Stonewall Jackson HS
9:15 a.m. - Sherando HS
9:40 a.m. - WT Woodson
10:05 a.m. - Prelude
11:05 a.m. - Robinson SS 1
11:30 a.m. - Manassas Park HS
11:55 a.m. - Oakton HS 2
12:20 p.m. - Flint Hill HS
12:45 p.m. - Alan Baylock Jazz Orchestra
1:55 p.m. - Yorktown HS
2:20 p.m. - Westbrook HS
2:45 p.m. - Washington Lee HS
3:10 p.m. - National Jazz Workshop Band
3:50 p.m. - Westfield HS
4:15 p.m. - South County
4:40 p.m. - Oakton HS 1
5:05 p.m. - McLean HS
5:30 p.m. - Walter Johnson High School
5:55 p.m. - Colonial Forge 4
6:20 p.m. - Lake Braddock Jazz
6:45 p.m. - Albermarle HS
7:10 p.m. - Chantilly Jazz

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6939 Fracton Road, Alexandria, has services on Fridays,
6:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.
Religious school is on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings.
Adult learning opportunities take place throughout the year. Tor Shabbat is on the first and third Sat-
days. Kolot Shabbat, a musical service, is the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. 703-370-9400 or
www.franconiaumc.org

Lenten Quiet Times.
12:1 p.m. on March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4. Spend time in a
sanctuary and reflect on Jesus Christ, His suf-
fering and His sacrifice, His life, death, burial and resurrection.

Local students performing in Chantilly Invitational Jazz Festival

By Bonnie Hobbs

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To Advertise Your Community of Worship, Call 703-778-9422
THURSDAY/MARCH 15

Friday Morning Music Club. 11 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Free admission. 703-352-2787 or www.fairfaxarts.org.

Darrell Scott and Grace Pettis. 7:30 p.m. Auld Shebeen Restaurant and Pub, 237 Maple Ave E. Vienna. www.jamminjava.com. 703-764-0456 or info@fairfaxsymphony.org.

National Trumpet Competition. 1:30 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Featuring The U.S. Army Band & Herald Trumpets with guest soloists. Free and open to the public at www.nationaltrumpetcomp.org.

Afternoon Reading Group. 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 9395 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English and improve your skills. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Tales for Twos and Threes: Spring English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 9395 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to use the library’s e-book collection and compatible e-book readers with a one-on-one technology volunteer. Registration required. Adults. 703-978-5600.

FAIRFAX MARCH 16

Rosie Thomas and Bhi Bhiman. 10 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories, songs and activities about spring. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-544-7333.

English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. One-hour session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills and navigating the Internet. Adults. 703-644-7333.

Bob Gibson Big Band. 8 p.m. Old Country Buffet 9650 Main St., Fairfax. Music by Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Harry James, Stan Kenton and more. 703-764-9708.

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

SUNDAY/MARCH 18

Accidents, Derek Evey, Madrone and Today’s Tomorrow. At 1 p.m. Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer Rockin’ the Uke CD Release Concert at 6 p.m. Jammin’ Java, 227 Maple Ave E. Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Spring Book Sale. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227.

Northern Virginia Simcha Expo. 11 a.m. -3 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike. Vendors include DJs, photographers, florists, entertainment, venues, invitations and decorations, careers, make-up, Judaica and more. www.shalomnova.org/simchaexpo or www.jccnv.org.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With pianist Rick Rowley. 703-591-3120.


SUNDAY/MARCH 18

Children’s Music Performance Series. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. First and third Mondays of each month. Free admission. 703-532-2787 or www.fairfaxarts.org.

Book Buddies. 4 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227.

Chess Club. 3:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6398 Nativity Lane, Burke. Learn the rules and strategy by playing the game. Age 8-16. 703-293-6227.


SAVE THE DATE FOR: The World’s Fanciest Rummage Sale BENEFITING

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

Sunday, March 25th, 12-4pm
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Get unbelievable items at ridiculous prices. You can’t afford to miss this!

On-site moving company available for hire for large item purchases. Make your spring cleaning count this year!

Donate new (or like-new) items for the sale now.

Donation receipts provided

Have a really big item to donate?

Contact Helen Kruger (703-748-4068) to make pick-up arrangements.

For more information on the event, item donation and pre-registration visit our website at http://www.fairfaxbgcgw.org/index.php/rummage-sale

Make your spring cleaning count this year!

Admission: $5 per Person

Thursday, March 17, 2011 • 8:00 P.M.
GMU’s Center for the Arts, Fairfax
Sunday, March 18, 2012 • 3:00 P.M.
Hylton Center, Manassas

STRAVINSKY: Firebird Suite
LISZT: Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 2 in A major
Rick Rowley, piano

SIBELIUS: Symphony No. 7
SIBELIUS: Finlandia

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16 Antiques
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Busy internal medicine office needs part-time front desk staff. Must be able to multi-task. Experience preferred. Call Pat: 703-764-4850

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Paul VI Boys, Girls Win Basketball State Championship

Panther boys and girls basketball teams win respective VIS State titles.

Both the girls’ and boys’ basketball teams from Paul VI Catholic High School won their respective Virginia Independent Schools Div. I Championships on Saturday, March 3.

The Paul VI Lady Panthers defeated Liberty Christian Academy from Lynchburg to capture the team’s sixth consecutive state crown. The Panthers overcame a slow start offensively but clung to a narrow lead midway through the second quarter. Paul VI then took control of the contest when junior guard Marlena Tremba scored four 3-pointers in the final three quarters. They held a 10-point lead with just over a minute to play and held off Episcopal for a 62-61 state championship game win. (A 3-pointer at the buzzer by Episcopal provided the one point final margin).

The Paul VI High boys’ basketball team celebrates following its state finals win over Episcopal High.

ON THE BOYS’ SIDE, the Panthers’ championship game promised to be a battle from the jump as Paul VI squared off against a tough Episcopal team from Alexandria. Paul VI had played Episcopal earlier in the year - a non-conference game in which the Panthers overcame a 14-point deficit late in the third quarter in a stirring comeback win.

Paul VI players were determined to make sure that, in Saturday night’s state tournament finals versus the Maroon, there would be no need for a similar comeback. The Panthers, in the finals, controlled play over the final three quarters. They held a 10-point lead with just over a minute to play and held off Episcopal for a 62-61 state championship game win. (A 3-pointer at the buzzer by Episcopal provided the one point final margin).

Paul VI’s Patrick Holloway provided the second half spark for his team, scoring all 16 of his points after intermission, and Tilman Dunbar posted 12 points, 11 assists, and four rebounds. Marcus Derrickson recorded a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

The All-Tournament Team included Coleman Johnson, Patrick Holloway and Marcus Derrickson. Derrickson was also named Tournament MVP.

The Paul VI boys were scheduled to compete in the prestigious Alhambra Catholic Invitational Tournament, held at Frostburg State University. Additionally, the Panthers’ recent win in the WCAC tournament earned them the right to play in the Abe Pollin City Title Game. That game is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20 at the Verizon Center against Coolidge.

Emerson Set for One Final Season as Paul VI Baseball Coach

Panthers have enjoyed incredible success under longtime skipper.

In an emotional address to players and families last Thursday night, March 8 at the Paul VI High baseball team’s annual ‘First Pitch Dinner,’ Billy Emerson announced he will step down as the Panthers’ head baseball coach at the end of this upcoming spring season.

Emerson, beginning his 10th season as the Panthers’ baseball coach, is the longest tenured baseball coach in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC). He will continue his duties as the Paul VI High Athletic Director.

Jeff Nolan, Emerson’s longtime assistant and current associate head coach, will be the Panthers’ next head coach following the 2012 season.

Emerson, who also serves as an associate scout for the Detroit Tigers, indicated he may return to coaching at some point.

“I’ve dedicated a good part of my life to coaching,” said Emerson. “I have new challenges as the A.D., I’m working on a Master’s degree and most importantly I will get to spend more quality time with my family. It’s time to step away, but I wouldn’t say I’m out of coaching forever.”

Emerson has coached at the high school and collegiate levels for nearly 20 years. As a high school head coach he holds a career record of 217-114 (196-75 in 9 seasons at PVI). He has been named Coach of the Year on eight occasions, including honors from the WCAC and the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association (VISAA). He was also a finalist for Baseball America’s National High School Coach of the Year in 2008.

Paul VI has won two WCAC Championships and three VISAA State Championships under Emerson’s direction, along with multiple regular season titles, invititional tournament crowns and national rankings. The Paul VI baseball program has sent more than 50 players to college baseball over the last nine years, a mark rarely matched in the Mid Atlantic Region.

While doubling as a manager in the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Summer Baseball League from 2006-2009, Emerson has coached a total of 315 games (high school and collegiate combined) with a record of 226-89. He was the only baseball coach in America to guide a nationally ranked high school team and a nationally ranked collegiate team in the same years (2008, 2009).

“I will miss the camaraderie, competition and the opportunity to coach so many great players,” said Emerson, who during his earlier days as a high school baseball coach once led T.C. Williams to the Northern Region semifinals - the furthest the Titans have ever gone. “As the Athletic Director I will still have a hand in supporting Paul VI students and athletes.”

Nolan has coached both high school and college players for the last 25 years. He has coached at Paul VI during Emerson’s entire tenure at the school and has helped Emerson establish the program as a perennial local and national powerhouse.

Nolan is named Mid Atlantic Assistant Coach of the Year in 2009 by the National High School Baseball Coaches Association.

“The program won’t miss a beat with Jeff in charge,” said Emerson. “It can only get better. Jeff Nolan is the kind of coach who gets the most out of his players and the kind of man you want your child to learn from. As our pitching coach, he made more of our guys into All-Conference and college pitchers than anyone. Jeff has been essential to building this program.”
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