

Ben Sisson holding his plaque after being named Fairfax County's 2012 Volunteer Rookie Firefighter of the Year.



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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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PHOTOS BY PAUL MCMAHON

The Robinson women's chorus performs at the 2012 Robinson Gives Back benefit concert. The chorus figures to be a highlight of the concert again this year.

Robinson Gives Back

School's Music Honor Society holds annual benefit concert at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Fairfax.

For Robinson senior and trumpet player Matt McMahon, just pulling off Saturday's Robinson Gives Back concert will be a success in and of itself. The president of the secondary school's 90-member Tri-M music honor society assumed most of the responsibility for organizing the annual event this year when the faculty sponsor and choral director Michael Horanski took paternity leave.

But for McMahon, the difficult work of lining up eight different performing ensembles from across the school's diverse musical disciplines—guitar, band, orchestra and chorus—is well worth the end result: bringing good, live music to the community and donating proceeds to this year's recipient, the Wounded Warrior Project. "I do want to earn a lot of money for this charity, because it really means a lot," said McMahon.

The senior is intimately familiar with the Wounded Warrior organization, which offers medical assistance and transitional support to injured soldiers. McMahon's father Paul served 27 years in the Navy Corps of Engineers and his cousin was recently discharged from the Marine Corps after several tours. Last year, Robinson Gives Back raised donations upwards of \$1,500.

The mixed program includes some familiar works by Mozart and Tchaikovsky, as well as pieces from composers including Johann Pezel and Eric Whitacre. Offering an ensemble for seemingly every musical taste, the program features a cello quartet, clarinet choir, women's choir, string quartet, brass quintet, guitar ensemble and Robinson Singers mixed choir.

"It's going to be a night of great music, great camaraderie as a music department," said McMahon. "And you get to help our US combat veterans, who deserve our respect and our love, and our help however we can."

"Robinson Gives Back" takes place Saturday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Admission is free, but



A brass quintet performs at the 2012 Robinson Gives Back benefit concert. From left, Matt McMahon (of Kings Park West), Natasha Penfield (of Fairfax Station), Brian Kropaczek (of Kings Park West), Zach Miller (of Burke) and Ben Flint (of Burke).



The Robinson guitar ensemble performs at the 2012 Robinson Gives Back benefit concert. This year, the ensemble will perform works by Darin Au and Eric Whitacre.

donations are encouraged as all proceeds go directly to the Wounded Warrior Project.

—TIM PETERSON



PHOTO BY SARAH FERCUSON/COURTESY OF RICHMOND BALLET

From left to right, Elena Bello and Ben Malone of Richmond Ballet II in "Classical Symphony" by Malcolm Burn.

A Passion for Dance

Richmond Ballet II to perform and teach master class.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Where and When

The importance of dance is clear to Stoner Winslett, artistic director of the Richmond Ballet. "Dance is the expression of the human spirit through movement. It is the instinctive language of our hearts and minds," she wrote.

The Richmond Ballet has been designated the "State Ballet of Virginia." This year the Richmond Ballet added a second professional company, Richmond Ballet II (RB II). RB II performs and provides education and community outreach programs. Soon the RB II troupe will dance at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia for non-members and members alike.

RB II will also teach a master class to dance students of the JCCNV Dance Academy.

"Ballet is a major component of our Dance Academy," said Dan Kirsch, JCCNV Cultural Arts director. "We wanted to present dance from local and regional companies that would show different styles of dance and engage our students and audience with great storytelling."

Why learn ballet? "Ballet is a great foundation for all dance, as vocabulary and proper technique are key to being successful in any style, and both are learned through ballet," said Alicia Ronquillo, JCCNV dance director.

"There are so many attributes to a ballet class that push past the classroom and into life," added Ronquillo. These include discipline, respect for oneself and learning your limitations.

In her reactions to the forth-

Richmond Ballet II at Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. The master class for JCCNV Dance Academy students, held Friday afternoon, March 1, is taught by Igor Antonov, Richmond Ballet II director.

Richmond Ballet II performance at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia on Sunday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. for non-members and members. Tickets: \$18-\$22. 703-573-3000 or www.jccnvarts.org.

coming RB II master class, Elle Cryan, one of the Dance Academy students, noted "I really appreciate the opportunity to take a master class with the Richmond Ballet II because I will be able to experience what it is like to work with a professional ballet company."

The RB II performance will include a number of distinct works. Some of the works will be "Classical Symphony," with choreography by Malcolm Burn, the Richmond Ballet's own ballet master, with music by Prokofiev. Another is "Fairy Doll," set in a late 19th century toyshop where at night a toymaker's dolls magically come to life and dance.

There also will be "Djangology" with choreography by Val Caniparoli, with music by jazz master Django Reinhardt, as well as songs such as "Georgia on my Mind" and "Ain't Misbehavin'."

The piece was described as "exciting, zany, and utterly irresistible."

The RB II is led by Igor Antonov, who danced leading roles with the Richmond Ballet.

Inviting Northern Virginia audiences to the Richmond Ballet II performance, Kirsch said that "the quality of their storytelling" is just outstanding.



PHOTO BY GRETCHEN BULOVA

Del. David Bulova (D-37) addresses colleagues on the floor of the House of Delegates Monday, Feb. 18.

Life and Death Online

Virginia lawmakers pass “digital assets” bill to ease parental access to deceased child’s accounts.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

In a rare display of bipartisan unity, the Virginia General Assembly overwhelmingly passed a bill Tuesday that makes it easier for parents and guardians to swiftly access minors’ online accounts after their death.

The digital assets bill—co-sponsored by Delegates David Bulova (D-37) and Tommy Wright (R-Amelia)—is now headed to Governor Robert McDonnell’s desk for signature.

Specifically, the bill allows a representative of the minor to obtain access to his or her digital accounts within 30 days of submitting a written request and death certificate to the social media site.

Bulova said he met with the governor earlier this week and is “hopeful” McDonnell will sign the bill, which would then become law on July 1, 2013 and could be applied retroactively.

“Honestly, when I submitted the bill, I had absolutely no clue what I was getting into. ... But, what I am most grateful for is that my colleagues allowed Delegate Wright and me lots of time to get this all figured out,” Bulova said, noting that the bill went through numerous committees, hearings and versions before four separate bills were rolled into one bill.

On Monday, the Virginia Senate unanimously passed the legislation; on Tuesday evening, the House passed the Senate version of the bill.

“Most other bills with these kinds of implications would probably have been looked upon sympathetically, but tabled,” Bulova said.

One Family’s Journey: ‘When the silence was broken ...’

In 2010, Ricky and Diane Rash, who owned a dairy farm in rural Nottoway County, had little use for social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

They were happy to raise their four children in the same house Ricky Rash grew up in, and wanted to impart the same values of faith, family and community service that they had grown up with as a foundation.

But their life was suddenly and irrevocably changed on the morning of Jan. 20, 2011, when they learned their 15-year-old son, Eric, had committed suicide.

“The silence was broken that morning at 5 a.m., when the sheriff called and said a body had been found, and they thought it was Eric,” Rash said.

Rash said the shock of seeing his son’s body—lying in field not far from the family’s dairy farm in rural Nottoway County—could have easily broken the family’s spirit as well. But the grieving parents, who have three young daughters, were determined to find answers instead.

“When I was at scene, investigators asked me a whole litany of questions, and I answered them,” Rash said, pausing. “The one question I could not answer, do you have any idea why?”

Why, they thought, would Eric, a straight-A student who had plans to attend Virginia Tech and dreamed of going to Harvard Law School, take his life?

SEE DIGITAL ASSETS. PAGE 14

Fairfax Attracts 8,400 New Jobs

Intelsat U.S. headquarters relocation most prominent announcement of the year.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Gerald Gordon

In 2012, the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority (FCEDA) worked with 186 businesses adding 8,438 jobs to the Fairfax County economy.

Companies in the professional services and information technology sectors dominated the year’s announcements.

The most prominent announcement during the year came from Intelsat, the world’s leading provider of satellite services. It will relocate its U.S. headquarters to the Tysons Corner area from Washington, D.C., bringing more than 430 employees when it relocates in 2014.

Another high-profile announcement came from TASC, which provides systems engineering and decision-support services to intelligence and defense communities and is adding 494 jobs to the county economy.

“For close to 200 companies to announce the addition of almost 8,500 jobs in 2012, while much of the rest of the Washington area continued to struggle economically, is a testament to the kind of economy that we have worked so hard to create in Fairfax County,” said Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D., president and CEO of the FCEDA.

“It also is gratifying to see our strategy of diversifying the economic base pay off with companies from many different fields, of all sizes and backgrounds, and from the U.S. and abroad, contributing to job growth here,” Gordon said.

Of the 186 companies, 138 are U.S.-based businesses. Announcements in 2012 came from healthcare provider Kaiser Permanente, adding 146 jobs with the opening of a Tysons Corner medical center; IT solutions provider Carahsoft Technology, adding 109 jobs; and Fulcrum IT Services, an IT ser-

VICES PROVIDER, ADDING 80 JOBS.

“Carahsoft has grown from zero to more than \$1.4 billion in eight years and as we continue to grow we are pleased to call Fairfax County home because of the access the county provides to a high-caliber workforce and the kind of amenities that help us attract and retain our team members,” said Craig P. Abod, president of Carahsoft. “In 2012, we hired more than 100 new employees to expand our business development, sales, marketing and government contracting resources, and we anticipate hiring more than 150 employees in 2013.”

Seventeen minority-owned or veteran-owned companies are among the U.S.-based expansions. They include OMNIPLEX World Services Corporation, which provides security services to government agencies, adding 325 jobs; DISYS, a minority-owned IT staffing and consulting firm, adding 150 jobs; and Onyx Government Services, a service-disabled veteran-owned small business that provides data management services, adding 25 jobs.

Thirty-one foreign-owned firms announced expansions in 2012, including Volkswagen Group of America (Germany), adding 107 jobs; Newgen Software (India), adding 40 jobs; ASCOM Network Testing (Switzerland), which develops technologies to analyze mobile networks and is adding 11 jobs; and MobileAccess (Israel), adding 15 jobs. Almost 400 foreign-owned firms from 44 companies maintain operations in Fairfax County.

—VICTORIA ROSS

Pathways to a Successful Future

Local students can enroll in cybersecurity and engineering technology programs.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

In the coming weeks, freshmen, sophomores and juniors in Fairfax and Woodson high schools and Robinson Secondary School will be planning their class schedules for fall. And before they do, Joan Ozdogan, career experience specialist at Chantilly Academy—a Governor's STEM Academy—wants them to know about two new programs they might want to take.

One is Information Technology, or Cybersecurity, and the other is Engineering Technology-Advanced Manufacturing. Both will prepare graduates for high-paying jobs in high-demand careers.

Each year, the academy attracts students from a wide variety of high schools throughout the county, including many from Robinson, Fairfax and Woodson. So on Wednesday, Feb. 27, from 6-8 p.m., it'll hold an open house so people may find out more about all the classes it offers.

But Ozdogan's especially excited about what's happening that night from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the school lecture hall. That's when the two new programs will be showcased for all current freshmen, sophomores and juniors and their parents.

Also attending will be the college and industry partners involved in these new programs

Cybersecurity

"Both government and industry are looking to hire experts in cybersecurity," said Ozdogan. "It is literally the 'it' technology in information technology. It's network-security specialists who are defending computer networks from unauthorized, illegal access or—worse, yet—from someone trying to get in and shut them down."

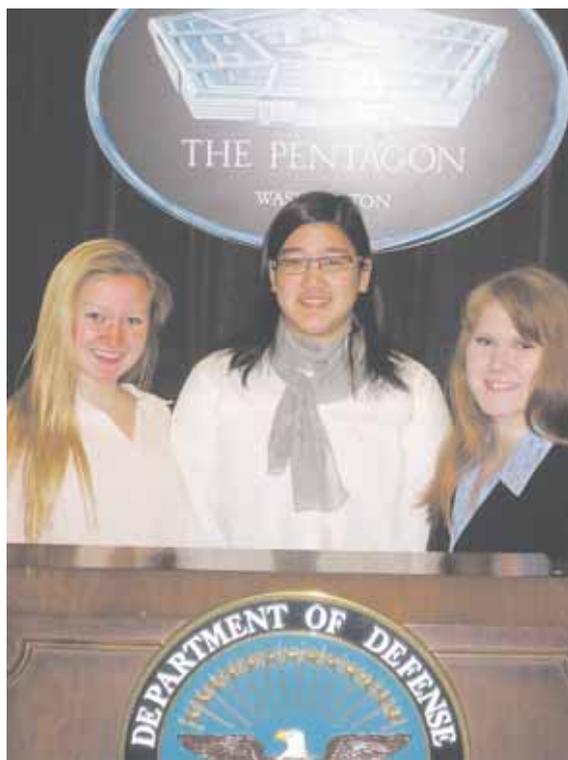
At risk are transportation systems, bank and medical records, water-distribution systems, the nation's electrical grid, air traffic control systems, etc. So, said Ozdogan, "The need could not be more apparent."

In Cybersecurity, students can take three paths to prepare them for careers at various levels of this field. They may obtain a certificate in Network Security; an AAS (Associate of Applied Science) degree in Information Systems Technology-Network Security; or a BS in Information Technology-Information Security.

"We've developed a dual-enrollment program here with NOVA's Manassas campus so students can take high-school courses for high-school and college credit, at the same time," said Ozdogan. "So by the time they finish our two-year program, they could earn 37 college credits."

It's also much cheaper to take the classes in this course at the academy than in college. "This year, the cost per credit hour at NOVA is \$150, and that doesn't include parking, fees and books," said Ozdogan. "Here, it costs just \$21.79/credit hour because our academy teachers—who've been approved as adjunct NOVA professors—are teaching it."

These students will also have completed nearly three semesters of college work while in high school. That's because the classes in this program include pre-calculus with trigonometry, plus English 12, so they'll fulfill their core requirements for both high-school and college graduation.



Students from Chantilly Academy, a Governor's STEM Academy, in the Air Force Association's CyberPatriot program participated in a federal IT Job Shadow Day at the Pentagon, last Thursday, Feb. 7. Learning that the Pentagon's chief information officer is a woman, future cyber-defenders (from left) Westfield High students Jackie Lasky and Tanya Sutan-Tanon, plus Fairfax High's Jessica Miers, are encouraged in their plans for successful careers in cybersecurity.

They'll get a slew of technical certifications, too, with FCPS paying for them to take their certification exams. These same exams, taken in college and beyond, would cost hundreds of dollars. The academy plans to enroll 200 students in this program initially and grow it from there.

"If parents ask me what career their child can go into that will take them 30 years into the future, the one that comes to mind first is cybersecurity," said Ozdogan. "A student earning his or her associates degree in Network Security—and having earned a couple cybersecurity certifications, plus a security clearance—can start a job at \$80,000/year. Students going on to complete a four year degree in this field can earn \$100,000/year, plus a signing bonus."

Engineering Technology

"This program builds on our more than 12 years of history teaching engineering," said Ozdogan. "We've got good kids with great hands, creative minds and great problem-solving skills. They think outside the box, but may not choose to pursue a BS in engineering." This program provides them a way to get that degree in engineering technology.

"Engineers design an object and the engineering technician operates, maintains and troubleshoots it,

SEE NEW PROGRAMS, PAGE 7



Proud parents, George and Anne Sisson with their son Ben, Fairfax County's 2012 Volunteer Rookie Firefighter of the Year.

Following in His Dad's Footsteps

Ben Sisson is county's Volunteer Rookie Firefighter of the Year.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Ben Sisson is just 20, but he's just been honored as Fairfax County's 2012 Volunteer Rookie Firefighter of the Year. He received the recognition and a plaque last Tuesday, Feb. 12, along with other volunteer firefighters, during a ceremony before the Board of Supervisors.

"I feel honored," he said afterward. "I don't do it for the recognition; I just do things the best I can to serve the community."

A member of the Centreville Volunteer Fire Department (Station 17), Sisson was nominated for this prestigious award by VFD Chief Jeff Sargent and President Marva Williams. He was then selected by the Volunteer Fire Commission and county Fire Chief Ron Mastin.

SISSON'S BEEN ACTIVE with the fire department since age 14 when he joined its Explorer Post 1949. While there, he was promoted and served as captain. When he was 16, he joined the Centreville VFD as a junior member.

Meanwhile, he graduated from Paul VI Catholic High School in June 2011 and, that September, he began classes at NVCC to become state-certified as one of the youngest Emergency Medical Technician Basics in Virginia.

Sisson continued attending

firefighter classes at the Fire and Rescue Academy, and in December 2011, completed the required national training enabling him to serve as a fully qualified, county firefighter. And during 2012, he racked up more than 2,000 hours of volunteer service while attending college full time.

Currently, besides going to NVCC, he's also completing the hospital rotations required to become a nationally certified paramedic—which he plans to achieve next January. Sisson's taking some fire-science technology classes, as well. We had open-cab firetrucks when I started; the technology has grown leaps and bounds since then."

During last week's ceremony, Sean Stokes with the county Volunteer Fire Commission said, "Members of Fairfax County's Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department are second to none when it comes to their commitment and dedication. They are the best of the best."

Presenting Sisson's plaque, volunteer liaison Jeffrey Katz said, "He garnered the respect of his supervisors and he's become a role model for others. He's always ready to help them and answer their questions."

Sisson's family, friends and colleagues were at the county Government Center for the ceremony, and no one was prouder than Sisson's father, George,

SEE ROOKIE, PAGE 7

Virginia Lawmakers Strike Down Bike Safety Bills

Local cyclists vow return in 2014.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Virginia may be for lovers, but bicyclists? Not so much. On Monday, the Virginia House of Delegates killed the last bicycle bill to come before the body in a vote of 55-42. The bill, SB1060, would have added bicycles to the list of vehicles that cannot be tailgated.

Other bills killed by the House include another version of the tailgating bill, and a bill that stated car doors should not be recklessly swung into traffic.

"All of these bills applied to and benefited all vehicles, not simply bicyclists. All are part of universal vehicular safety," said Michael Gilbert, co-founder of RideRichmond.

The Republican-controlled House had previously rejected an identical measure (HB1950) from Del. Alfonso Lopez (D-Arlington County.) Both bills would have added bicycles and other non-motorized vehicles to the list of those that can't be followed "more closely than is reasonable and prudent."

In addition to legally tailgating bicyclists, it is also permissible to open your car door into the path of



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS

State Senator Chap Petersen (D-34) works the phones in his Richmond office after Monday's General Assembly session.

an oncoming bicyclist.

Sen. Chap Petersen's (D-34) "anti-dooring" bill passed the Virginia Senate, and then a House transportation subcommittee. It looked like a win.

But it was essentially struck down when the House transportation committee voted 7-7 on the question of reporting it to the full House, since a tie vote equals a loss in the General Assembly. Virginia now remains one of only 10 states in America that do not prohibit "dooring."

"Cycling has become an increasingly popular way of getting around Northern Virginia, and providing for rider safety on our congested roads would not

SEE BILLS KILLED, PAGE 10

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OPINION

To 'Get That Vote We All Deserve'

From Fix Gun Checks tour to White House.

BY OMAR JOSEPH SAMAHA
BROTHER OF REEMA SAMAHA

GUEST EDITORIAL



After my sister Reema was killed at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007, our lives changed forever. I say "our lives" changed forever because gun violence doesn't just affect the direct family of the person killed, but an entire community. As I learned more and more about gun violence, I found that on a daily basis, this ripple of pain and suffering is repeated 34 times in 34 communities around the country, that's a Virginia Tech massacre every day.

This all became even more apparent when I drove around the country on the Fix Gun Checks tour. The campaign promoted respect for the second amendment and fixing our background check system on gun purchases to prevent dangerous, prohibited purchasers from acquiring them.

The campaign began shortly after the Tucson, Ariz. massacre where U.S. Rep. Gabby Giffords was shot along with many other innocent Americans. For months I campaigned across the country, holding public events in small towns and big cities. When I made it to Tucson, Gabby was still recovering from her gunshot to the head, yet I had the opportunity

to meet her sister and those affected by the shooting. Her sister gave me a bright blue bracelet that had inscribed on it, "Gabby," along with a peace sign and a heart. I've cherished it and worn it ever since along with my "Hokie Hope" bracelet as I've hoped and prayed for her recovery and for all those affected by gun violence.

IN EVERY STATE I traveled to, I met with families and survivors of gun violence, mayors, congressional members, law enforcement officials, doctors, gun owners and NRA members. From the rural countryside, to the suburbs, to the inner cities, I witnessed the same thing: gun violence affects people in every community and from all walks of life. The resounding plea

from everyone I met along the way is that we must do more to prevent gun violence in our country while respecting our second amendment rights. This can and must be done in a comprehensive manner in order to have real results.

After the Newtown shooting, everything changed, and Americans could not bear the thought of inaction. We can see that a push from citizens could cause the president and Congress to finally act to prevent these tragedies from occurring.

I went to the White House last Tuesday to speak with the first lady and other policy advisors and on Capitol Hill I spent much of the day meeting with congressional members. Everyone is now committed to working on the

complex issue of gun violence prevention around our country while making sure our Constitutional rights are not infringed.

On Capitol Hill, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran has been a very strong vocal leader in gun violence prevention and has worked closely with us over the years. He invited me to be his guest to the State of the Union. I was honored to attend along with many others who have experienced gun violence in their lives and even more so when President Obama acknowledged our presence.

The president spoke strongly about how the time for talk is over and the time for action, to vote on gun violence prevention measures, is now. He reiterated, "They deserve a vote!" when referring to those who have been murdered in the growing number of massacres, for the 34 Americans killed every day, for the families and communities affected, and for the survivors who live their lives with permanent injuries and trauma.

SHORTLY AFTER the State of the Union address, as I was leaving, I randomly got to meet one of those survivors, Gabby Giffords. She was being escorted by her husband, Capt. Mark Kelly. I had the feeling that one day we would cross paths. I introduced myself to her and though I don't believe she knew who I was, when I showed her the bracelet with her name on it her expression changed to one of excitement and enthusiasm.

Although Gabby is still recovering and re-learning how to speak, the words we exchanged were enough to give us more hope and energy, to continue on until we get that vote we all deserve, for our safety, for our children, and for our families and communities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time to Vote On Gun Control

To the Editor:

A powerful moment was reached during the State of the Union address when President Obama spoke of America's responsibility to survivors of gun violence. The president said, "they deserve a vote" — on gun reform. Representatives from Virginia should heed this call.

"They" also applies to the countless Americans who, like myself, remain concerned and disheartened by horrific gun violence. Though I was hundreds of miles away at school in Washington, D.C., on the day of the Virginia Tech massacre, just watching the images on television and knowing I had friends at Va. Tech at the time invoked a tremendous sense of shock and sadness that I still have to this day.

Congressman Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) has the responsibility, in his capacity as chairman of the House

Judiciary Committee, to make a serious effort to find ways to make our communities safer. Our Congressman Frank Wolf (R-10) should, too, take this opportunity to strengthen our state's, and our nation's, gun laws.

The time for a vote is now. It is time to close loopholes and increase preventative measures that were not, but should have been, in place.

These are just some of the meaningful reforms that will reduce gun violence.

Some lawmakers may declare that today's most pressing issue is the economy and looming sequester, but that should completely not rule out a plan for gun reform. Simply sweeping any chance for gun reform under the rug is foolhardy. It's time to tackle the issue head on, because we, as concerned citizens of Virginia and of the nation, deserve a vote.

Velginy Hernandez
Great Falls

Does VRE Need More State Oversight?

To the Editor:

Two bills (SB 1210 and HB 2152) before the Virginia General Assembly would give the state two more votes on the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Operations Board. The board strongly objects because it was not consulted in advance and state taxpayers contribute just 16 percent towards its budget. They were shocked by this request because the state's lone representative has never complained about this 20-year arrangement. They feel that this matter should be negotiated instead of forced down their throats.

Over the last 20 years, the railway has grown by leaps and bounds. Station parking lots have been massively expanded numerous times. Seventy new coaches

and 20 new locomotives were purchased. Ridership records are routinely broken to the point that close to 20,000 trips are made per day. On-time performance now reaches an astonishing level of 97 percent. This transit system passed the stress test of 9/11 with much praise.

All local members of the current board are selected from a pool of elected officials. If they make bad decisions they could lose their bids for reelection. This "club" works fine because board members keep getting reelected, and VRE's ridership and on-time performance keeps rising.

What the railroad really needs is more money. The funding amount in the transit portion of the governor's plan needs to be greatly expanded so VRE can be extended to Gainesville/Haymarket and can build a new mid-day train storage yard.

Dick Peacock
Manassas

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New Programs Lead to High-paying Jobs

FROM PAGE 4

is involved in its quality control and is a valuable partner in determining how to improve it and innovate its next generation," explained Ozdogan. "And the greatest need in Virginia today is for skilled workers, especially engineering technicians working in advanced manufacturing."

Virginia's number-one product today is memory chips, and they're produced in an advanced manufacturing environment. Micron Technology in Manassas—one of the academy's partners—is the top memory-chip producer in the U.S. and employs both engineers and engineering technicians, who they call manufacturing technicians.

"It's a modern, clean-lab environment and is all automated," said Ozdogan. "Another major employer of engineering technicians in Virginia is the pharmaceutical industry—the second-largest manufacturing industry in the state. Advanced manufacturing isn't the old-fashioned, blue-collar assembly line; it's a world of white-collar, professional, skilled workers."

And, she added, "Because the baby boomers in today's skilled workforce will retire in the next five to 10 years, there'll be upwards of 100,000 job openings for skilled workers in advanced manufacturing."

The academy's program in this field will also offer

three paths to success. Students may become manufacturing technicians to then obtain on-the-job training, or they may obtain either an AAS or BS in engineering technology.

Or the student could obtain an AAS degree in engineering technology, good for 17 college credits, if they complete the required Academy classes in the program and go on to NOVA. For a BS in this field, academy grads could then take their accumulated credits from high school and NOVA and obtain their degree at Old Dominion or Norfolk State.

"Beginning engineering technicians start at \$50,000-\$65,000/year, and those with BS degrees would begin at even higher salaries," said Ozdogan. "And their salaries would increase as they acquired more certifications and skills."

"We believe preparation for a great career can begin in high school," she continued. "And both these programs—cybersecurity and engineering technology—represent high-demand, high-value and high-impact futures relevant to where the top jobs are in today's workforce."

So, said Ozdogan, "We want students and parents to join us for our open house and learn more about these exciting programs directly from our higher-education and industry partners." For more information, contact her at 703-222-7464 or jeozdogan@fcps.edu.

Rookie of the Year

FROM PAGE 4

who retired in March 2010 after serving more than 30 years with the county Fire and Rescue Department. He was Station 17's commander for six years, from 1992-98, and then headed the West Centreville Station 38 for 11 years, from 1999-2010. He's now a civilian fire inspector, testing fire-alarm systems for the Arlington County Fire Department.

"I'm very proud," said George Sisson. "Ben's picked up the torch and is still carrying it. We have video of him at 4 years old putting my boots on and falling over. Filling Daddy's boots was hard, but he's all grown up now and doing that. This was his focus since he

was a child, and he's never wavered or wanted to do anything else."

GEORGE AND WIFE ANNE, of Fairfax's Hampton Forest community, have two other children, Nick, 19, who attends West Virginia University, and Abby, 17, a senior at Fairfax High. "I'm proud of all my children and particularly proud of Ben today," said Anne after the ceremony.

"Like most parents who send their kids to college and never see them, I feel like we sent Ben to the fire department and never see him," she continued. "Even though he lives at home, he's either at school or volunteering."

"Ben's always been interested in firefighting," said his mom.

"Whenever George came home from work, Ben would grill him, asking what kinds of calls he ran that day, was it a fire, how many alarms and what stations responded. He wanted all the details. He's a really good kid, and there's no doubt in my mind this is what he was born to do."

Agreeing, Sisson said, "I'm absolutely following in Dad's footsteps and hopefully doing this as a career. Growing up and visiting him at work was always a highlight of the week for me; I was definitely influenced by his service. I have memories of playing around the firetrucks and getting a ride around the block in them. It was always fun, and now I get to do it for real."

The Capitol Symphonic Youth Orchestras



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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. 22

Friday Night Film Series: Brother Outside. 7:30 p.m., at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10215 Lakehaven Court, Burke. The film takes a multifaceted approach to telling Bayard Rustin's story, creating an aesthetic that reflects Rustin's position as an outsider, troublemaker and an eloquent speaker; a non-religious event, guests are welcome to come with friends and bring dinner to eat. 703-503-4579, www.accotinkuuc.org or administrator@accotinkuuc.org.

1-3 p.m., at Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. An afternoon of dance, recitals and music and recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. www.fairfaxnaaop.org.
Irish Gathering. 2-5 p.m., at the Auld Shebeen Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Rd, Fairfax. Celtic Marc will provide music all afternoon and local musicians and dancers are invited to play a few tunes and dance a few dances during the course of the afternoon. www.theauldshebeenva.com.
Around the World in 80 Days. 8 p.m., at George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4400 University Dr., Fairfax. Philadelphia's Walnut Street Theatre brings the tale of the

eccentric gentleman Phileas Fogg who circumnavigates the world on a bet. \$20-\$40; half-price for youth accompanied by an adult; free for GMU students. cfa.gmu.edu.
Robinson Gives Back. 7 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. A benefit concert organized by the Tri-M Music Honor Society members at Robinson, including small ensembles representing String Quartet, Cello Ensemble, Woodwind Quintet, Brass Quintet, Guitar Ensemble, and two choirs, Robinson Singers and Select Women's Ensemble. All donations will go to The Wounded Warriors.

SUNDAY/FEB. 24

Schubert in the Age of the Sound-byte. 7 p.m., at the GMU Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The distinguished pianist Jeffrey Siegel performs as he explores the question of how Schubert's dramas in tones fit into our robotic society with today's limited attention span. \$19-38 and half price for youth through grade 12 when accompanied by adult. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 27

Chinese Scrolls From the Collection of Dr. Chi Wang. 6-8 p.m., at the Fine Art Gallery in the Art & Design Building, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Confucius Institute at Mason and GMU's School of Art host Dr. Chi Wang, president and co-chair of U.S.-China Policy Foundation in D.C. and Georgetown professor who has been responsible for developing the Chinese collection at the Library of Congress for the past 30 years. The exhibit is open from

Feb. 25 to March 20. 703-993-8898 or avt@gmu.edu.

THURSDAY/FEB. 28

Chocolate Lovers Festival Spirit Night. 5-8 p.m., at the Chick-fil-A, 9509 Fairfax Blvd. The Chocolate Lovers Festival Committee (CLFC) and the Chick-fil-A at Fairfax Circle are partnering to raise funds in support of the 2013 festival; when the Chocolate Lovers' Festival is mentioned during an order, 20 percent of the purchase goes to support 2013 CLFC grant recipients. www.cfarestaurant.com/fairfaxcircle.
Fifth Annual Empty Bowls. 6-8 p.m., at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Proceeds benefit Our Daily Bread's efforts to provide food, financial assistance and financial education programs and related service to needy individuals and families. Advance: \$30; at the door: \$35; Child: \$10. www.odbfairfax.org, info@odbfairfax.org or 703-273-8829.

Esther, the Musical. 7 p.m., at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. A musical by local playwrights Martin and Janice Landry based on the story of Esther, the secretly Jewish queen who becomes the Queen of Persia and must take a huge risk to save her people, who are to be annihilated by royal decree. Reservations. Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org.

Esther, the Musical. 7 p.m., at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. A musical by local playwrights Martin and Janice Landry based on the story of Esther, the secretly Jewish queen who becomes the Queen of Persia and must take a huge risk to save her people, who are to be annihilated by royal decree. Reservations. Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 1

Esther, the Musical. 7 p.m., at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. A musical by local playwrights Martin and Janice



PHOTO BY PETER SCHAAF

Pianist Jeffrey Siegel

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel

Schubert in the Age of the Sound-byte, so titled Jeffrey Siegel's program, asks how Franz Schubert's irresistible lyric dramas in tones fit into our robotic society with today's limited attention span. The distinguished pianist performs as he explores that question with commentary in a family friendly environment. On Sunday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. in the Center for the Arts at GMU, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$19-38 and half price for youth through grade 12 when accompanied by adult. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Landry based on the story of Esther, the secretly Jewish queen who becomes the Queen of Persia and must take a huge risk to save her people, who are to be annihilated by royal decree. Reservations. Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 2

Let's All Be Green. 3:30 p.m., at the City Of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Cody & BJ's music show for children 2 to 10 years old;

songs about keeping the Earth clean with interactive musical activities. 703-293-6227, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/tx/.

Esther, the Musical. 7 p.m., at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. A musical by local playwrights Martin and Janice Landry based on the story of Esther, the secretly Jewish queen who becomes the Queen of Persia and must take a huge risk to save her people, who are to be annihilated by

royal decree. Reservations. Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 3

A Streetcar Named Desire. 2 p.m., at George Mason University's Fairfax Campus, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. This haunting tale tells the story of Blanche DuBois, a Southern belle who moves to New Orleans. \$48, \$80 or \$98. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Esther, the Musical. 3 p.m., at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. A musical by local playwrights Martin and Janice Landry based on the story of Esther, the secretly Jewish queen who becomes the Queen of Persia and must take a huge risk to save her people, who are to be annihilated by royal decree. Reservations. Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org.

Olam Tikvah's Rock the Preschool. 4-7 p.m., at Olam Tikvah Social Hall, 3800 Glenbrook Road, Fairfax. Children's band Rocknoceorus, DJ Tova Dance Party, crafts, a magic show, face painting, kosher meal deals and raffle make it a party; bring cash or check for silent auction. \$5 per adult; \$8 per child (\$10 after Feb. 24); \$30 family cap. www.olamtikvahpreschool.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 8

Riout Ensemble. 8 p.m., at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The dance company of former French track and field star Pascal Riout, who came to the U.S. in 1981 on a modern dance fellowship, brings his ensemble's signature style and much-lauded choreography to the area. \$23, \$38 and \$46. 888-945-2468 or

cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/MARCH 9

Children's Book Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Thousands of gently-read books and nonbook media priced between \$.25 and \$2, organized into categories including picture books, early reading, middle reading, and chapter books. 703-293-2132 or friendsoffairfaxcitylibrary@gmail.com.
AAUW 2013 Spring Fling. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax. Internationally renowned foreign affairs specialist Michael Colopy speaks on "How China Looks at the U.S." at the AAUW luncheon with a silent auction. RSVP by March 4. \$38. 703-256-6246.

Beethoven Orchestra Bonn. 8 p.m., at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Conductor and Music Director Stefan Blumier leads a 106-member orchestra in an all-Beethoven program featuring renowned French-Canadian piano soloist Louis Lortie. \$30, \$52, \$60; students in grades 12 and lower receive half price tickets when accompanied by an adult. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

FRIDAY/MARCH 15

Children's Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Thousands of gently-read books and nonbook media priced between \$.25 and \$2, organized into categories including picture books, early reading, middle reading, and chapter books. 703-293-2132 or friendsoffairfaxcitylibrary@gmail.com.il.com

SATURDAY/MARCH 16

Children's Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Thousands of gently-read books and nonbook media priced between \$.25 and \$2, organized into categories including picture books, early reading, middle reading, and chapter books. 703-293-2132 or friendsoffairfaxcitylibrary@gmail.com.
Fairfax Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks V. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Conductor Christopher Zimmerman performs J. Strauss' Emperor Waltz and Tick Tack, Pizzicato, Trisch-

Tratsch Polkas and Overture to Die Fledermaus; R. Strauss' Suite from Der Rosenkavalier, Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks and Salomé's Dance. \$25-\$55. 703-563-1990 or www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 17

Children's Book Sale. 1-3 p.m., at Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Thousands of gently-read books and nonbook media on sale for \$5 for as many books as fit into a bag; books are organized into categories including picture books, early reading, middle reading, and chapter books. 703-293-2132 or friendsoffairfaxcitylibrary@gmail.com.

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To add your Realtor-represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Karen Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-mail the info to: kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com
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Bike Bills Killed

FROM PAGE 5

seem to be controversial. Cyclists also sought the law so that insurance companies could not reject their medical claims by saying that no fault had been assessed by police after a bike-vs.-car door accident," said Gilbert.

The down vote on SB1060 ends the 2013 session's bicycle safety package, advocated by Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling (FABB), the Virginia Bicycling Federation, Bike Virginia, RideRichmond, and other regional bicycling organizations.

"Making our roads safe for all users—drivers, pedestrians and cyclists is simply good public policy," said Champe Burnley, Northern Virginia president of the Virginia Bicycling Federation.

"As we transition to other forms of transportation over the coming years, it is critical that the laws

protect all our road users and penalize those who cause injury or death to others. These bills would help make our roads safer for everyone. How someone would vote against them is beyond me," Burnley said Monday.

"We only have one year left before the 2015 World Road Cycling Championships. The vast majority of other states have these laws, and once again, Virginia is being left behind due to ... backwards views on universal vehicular safety," said Gilbert.

In 2015, Virginia will be host of the UCI World Road Cycling Championships with an estimated viewership of 300 million. The United States has not hosted the event for 29 years, since 1986.

More than 450,000 spectators from around the world are anticipated in the Central Virginia region.

House Fire Displaces Six

A fire at a Fairfax home, Sunday afternoon, displaced six adults and caused an estimated \$175,000 damage. The incident occurred around 12:15 p.m. at 9620 Braddock Road, near George Mason Park.

Upon arrival at the single-family home, firefighters reported dark, heavy smoke and fire coming from the left side and carport area of the two-story house. Firefighters conducted an aggressive attack from the interior and exterior of the home, despite heavy winds pushing the flames into the eaves and attic.

They were able to bring the blaze under control in approximately 25 minutes. A passing motorist had called 911 and alerted the home's occupants, who escaped unharmed. According to the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, there were no working smoke alarms. No one was injured.

The damage included two vehicles in the driveway near the carport. Fire investigators say the fire was accidental and originated in the attached carport area. The specific cause of the fire remains undetermined; however, evidence of a damaged power strip and a junction box

in the carport were present.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Recycle During Electric Sunday

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

The next one is slated for Sunday, Feb. 24, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

School Boundary Meeting Set

Chantilly High, Fairfax High, Falls Church High, Oakton High, Robinson Secondary, Woodson High, Franklin Middle, Frost Middle, Jackson Middle, Lanier Middle and Rocky Run Middle are all schools involved in the boundary study students to relieve overcrowding at Fairfax High and Lanier Middle School.

And the public is invited to participate in a community dialogue regarding possible scenarios for

the movement of students from one school to another. It's set for Tuesday, Feb. 26, from 7-9 p.m., at Woodson High School, cafeteria, 9525 Main St., Fairfax (snow date—March 6).

For more information, to sign up for the meeting and to submit questions and comments, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/fts/planning/fairfaxlanier/index.shtml>.

Help Prevent Teen Suicide

On March 18, 2009, FCPS student Joshua Lee Anderson was just 17 when he committed suicide. Afterward, his grieving family formed The Josh Anderson Foundation (JAF) to keep his memory alive and to raise funds for the education and prevention of teenage suicide. Its goal is to promote youth, mental-health awareness by bringing innovative, creative and effective programs directly into high schools.

By the end of the 2012-2013 school year, JAF will have funded programs in 11 Fairfax County schools and impacted more than 17,000 students. These programs aim to reduce the negative stigma associated with mental and emotional challenges; increase the dialogue between students, peers and adults; and let students know they're not alone and resources exist to help them.

Area residents can also help prevent teenage suicide by donating to JAF's largest fundraiser of the year, The Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon/Marathon run slated for Saturday, March 16. More than \$25,000 was raised for the Foundation in 2012 and this year's goal is to raise \$30,000.

To help, go to www.active.com/donate/joshafoundation2013 or make checks payable to The Josh Anderson Foundation and send them to 1300 Carpers Farm Way, Vienna, VA 22182.

Police Say: Lock, Take, Hide

City of Fairfax Police are re-emphasizing the importance of taking simple precautions to prevent thefts from parked vehicles. Recently, many unlocked vehicles parked in the Cobbdale neighborhood were entered during the overnight hours, and easily visible items such as GPS units were stolen from several of them.

People parking vehicles in both residential and commercial areas of the City are encouraged to always lock them and take the keys and their belongings with them. If valuables are to be left in the vehicle, hide them out of view. These measures will help prevent the vehicle and its contents from becoming the target of thieves.

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Choosing a Summer Camp

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BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

While most of Washington is braving the winter weather, April Toman has been planning for summer. At the top of her list: choosing a camp for her two children, Claire, who is in fifth grade, and Will, who is a second grader.

"I start thinking about it in January," said Toman, who lives in Alexandria. "I talk to my kids about what they are interested in taking. There are so many options and the popular camps fill up quickly."

Education experts say summer camp is an important part of a childhood experience, and parents should start considering options well before the end of the school year.

"I think summer camps are wonderful for kids," said Tammy Davis, a doctor of education and a professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "Sometimes kids lose ground over the summer, especially with regard to their mental activity. Summer camp can continue brain development, especially with regard to creativity, mental activity, physical activity and social activity."

Davis, who is a former camp counselor, elementary school teacher and school counselor, said children who are not exposed to new social activities could become isolated. "If your kids are only playing video games or going to the pool every day, they run the risk of cocooning themselves," she said. "Choose a camp that expands your child's horizons, that will be stimulating and engaging and where they will develop new friendships without the pressure of an academic environment."

Toman, whose children will attend summer camp at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, says that from traditional day camps to specialty camps, the options for children are plentiful. "My children have done junior veterinarian camp in the past, and this year we might try an



PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. STEPHEN'S & ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Students show projects that they made during a physics camp at SummerTimes Camp at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School last summer.

eco-adventures camp."

FROM SPORTS TO SCIENCE, the Washington region is filled with camps that will suit almost every child. For example, Annie Moyer, director of the Sun & Moon Yoga Studio in Arlington and Fairfax, says yoga camps are options for children who have never practiced yoga. "No yoga experience is necessary," she said. "We do yoga games and poses, breathing, artistic expression and, weather permitting, outdoor playground time."

For youngsters with a passion for all things artistic, Jeanne Loveland, education director for the Greater Reston Arts Center, suggests art camp. "Our camps are based on the GRACE mission, which is contemporary art" she said. "There are some discussions and there are art projects. There is one camp of messy art projects that your

mom would never let you do at home. The camps are educational, but also fun. We will bring in local artists."

Loveland added that during one session, students will learn about public art, and "will create a public art work that will be displayed publicly after the camp."

"Choose a camp that expands your child's horizons and will be stimulating and engaging."
—Tammy Davis, Marymount University

Jim Supple, director of summer programs at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, encourages parents to consider specialty camps as well as traditional day camps. "Specialty camps are great ways to try new things, to expand horizons, and to challenge yourself," he said. "Children are naturally curious and specialty camps provide a way for children to learn more about their interests. If a child is not the most athletic and would rather learn about fashion or photography, acting or magic, specialty camps provide that outlet. They allow children to find

things that they are good at and lets them be proud in that activity."

While the thought of academic camps might cause some children to cringe, Mollianne Logerwell, Ph.D., director of science education at George Mason University's Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and Achievement, says that does not have to be the case. George Mason hosts science camps, and "students frequently tell us that camp was not only fun, but also increased their interest in science," she said. "Additionally, classroom teachers have told us that students who attended a VISTA camp ask higher-level questions and are more engaged in science lessons than students who did not attend camp."

Logerwell said VISTA camps are geared toward low-income students. "It's also a great way to expose families with limited knowledge to the possibility of attending and affording college."

WITH SO MANY OPTIONS for summer camps, choosing the best camp for your child can be overwhelming. "When parents are looking for a camp, they should try to find a camp where they're comfortable with the facility, the programming, and counselors and staff," said Kevin Rechen, camp director for the Norwood School in Bethesda, Md.

Gabrielle Summers, who is planning to send her children to summer camp at the Norwood School, says that she considers safety first. "Second, [I consider] the qualifications of counselors and leadership and their love of the children. [Then] I look at cost, early bird discounts, payment due dates and cancellation policies."

For those who may not be able to afford the cost of summer camp, Rechen suggests that parents do a little research. "Many summer camps offer financial aid," he said. "There are also foundations that give grants for camps."

No matter which camp a child attends, however, Davis has one caution: "Be careful about over-scheduling camps, doing back-to-back camps and not giving children down time," she said. "Some people use camp as day care and that is not always a good thing."



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SPORTS

Lake Braddock Wins First District Title Since 2002

Gregorits named MVP of Patriot District tournament.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Lake Braddock boys' basketball team conquered the Patriot District tournament's top seed in the semifinals, beating Woodson 57-54 on Feb. 14.

The following evening, when Lake Braddock trailed late in the district final, the Bruins had enough gas left in the tank to overcome a fourth-quarter deficit and capture their first championship in more than a decade.

Lake Braddock won its first Patriot District title since 2002 by defeating South County 50-40 on Feb. 15 at Lake Braddock Secondary School. The fourth-seed Bruins held a four-point advantage entering the fourth quarter, but the seventh-seed Stallions took the lead a minute later after a 3-pointer and a layup by Justin Williams. The South County senior scored again with 3:05 remaining in the contest, giving the Stallions a 37-35 lead, but Lake Braddock closed the game on a 15-3 run to secure the title.

"We knew they were going to come in there, give us a run for our money," Lake Braddock sophomore A.J. Alexander said, "but we just had to stay settled down, keep a cool head and we knew we were going to pull it out."

Alexander and junior Will Gregorits led Lake Braddock, with each making a significant contribution in the paint. Gregorits finished with 21 points and six rebounds, and Alexander scored 16 points and grabbed eight boards.

"We don't win if [Alexander] and Will don't rebound like they did," Lake Braddock head coach Brian Metress said. "That was our whole emphasis before the game: we said, championship if you rebound."

"It's the best feeling in the world," Gregorits said. "I've never had a feeling like this. It's probably the single-greatest event of my high school career so far. To be over 10 years without winning [a district title], we had to get it—we just had to."

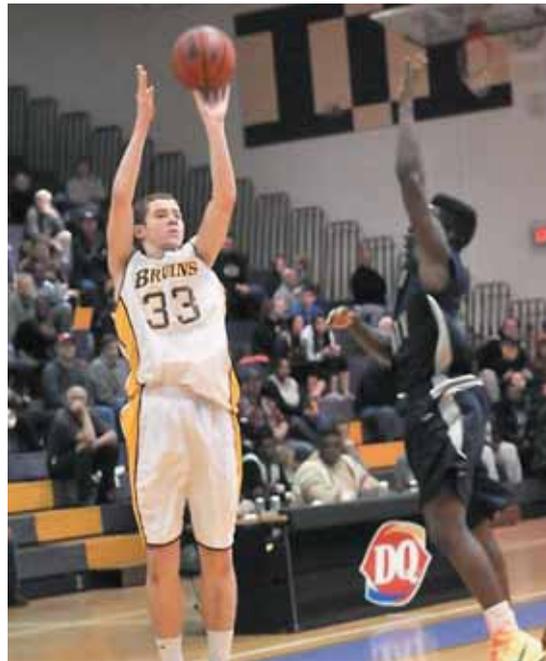
Regional Basketball Matchups Set

The Northern Region basketball tournament semifinals will take place Thursday and Friday at Robinson Secondary School.

The girls' semifinals will take place on Thursday. Edison, the No. 2 seed from the National District, will face Centreville, the Concorde District champion, at 6 p.m. The second game of the doubleheader will match Oakton, the Concorde District runner-up, against South Lakes, the No. 2 seed from the Liberty District.

The boys' semifinals will take place Friday. The 6 p.m. matchup will be a Patriot District showdown between Woodson, the district's No. 2 seed, and South County, the No. 3 seed. Woodson won both regular season matchups with the Stallions.

Woodson defeated Yorktown (N3) in the opening round of regionals and beat Herndon (C1) in the quarterfinals. The Cavaliers went 13-1 in the Patriot District during the regular season and entered the



Lake Braddock junior Will Gregorits scored 21 points against South County in the Patriot District championship game.

Alexander was named to the all-tournament team, along with Woodson's Eric Bowles, T.C. Williams' Landon Moss and South County's Williams and Justin Hampton.

Williams led the Stallions with 16 points in the district final. Hampton, a first-team all-district selection, went scoreless in the first half, but finished with 10 points, including a trio of 3-pointers. The senior converted a four-point play in the third quarter, cutting South County's deficit to 26-17.

The Stallions finished district runner-up for the second straight season.

Lake Braddock followed its district championship with a 60-43 victory against Stuart, the No. 4 seed from the National District, in the opening round of the Northern Region tournament on Feb. 18. The following night, Lake Braddock's season came to an end with a 46-43 loss to Robinson, the Concorde District's No. 2 seed, in the region quarterfinals.

district tournament as the No. 1 seed, but lost to No. 4 Lake Braddock in the semifinals.

South County lost its final six regular-season district games and finished 3-11. The Stallions entered the district tournament as the No. 7 seed and upset No. 2 West Potomac and No. 3 T.C. Williams to reach the championship game, where South County lost to No. 4 Lake Braddock. In the regional tournament, the Stallions defeated Mount Vernon (N2) in the opening round and beat Chantilly (C4) in the quarterfinals.

The 8 p.m. matchup will be between Robinson, the Concorde runner-up, and Wakefield, the National District champion. Robinson defeated Wakefield 57-41 during the regular season on Dec. 1.

Robinson lost to Herndon in the Concorde District championship game, but bounced back with regional wins against McLean (L3) and Lake Braddock (P1).



Woodson's Keara Finnerty, center, and Madeline Nguyen, right, were named to the All-Patriot District Tournament team.

Woodson Girls Finish Runner-Up

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Woodson girls' basketball team overcame a 0-6 start to the season, qualified for the Northern Region tournament for the first time since 2010 and, thanks to a 40-point outburst from Keara Finnerty, played in a district championship game for the first time since 2004.

The Cavaliers accomplished plenty during the 2012-13 campaign, but T.C. Williams assured "district championship" would not be on Woodson's list of accolades.

T.C. Williams defeated Woodson 58-35 in the Patriot District tournament final on Feb. 15 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Two nights earlier, Woodson defeated three-time defending district champion and No. 1 seed West Springfield 61-43 in the semifinals. Finnerty, a senior guard, scored 40 points, made 8 of 11 3-point attempts and shot 73 percent from the field.

"From an offensive standpoint, I've never seen anything like it at Woodson," said Neri, who has been on the Cavaliers coaching staff for 13 seasons,

including eight as head coach. "Even the years when I was an assistant and we went to the state semis, we didn't have anybody put up those kinds of numbers."

Against TC, Finnerty and Anna Walker each scored 10 points for the Cavaliers. Madeline Nguyen finished with nine points.

The Titans took control in the second quarter, outscoring Woodson 19-2 in the period en route to a 34-12 half time advantage. The Cavaliers cut the Titans' lead to 12 when a three-point play by Walker made the score 41-29 at the end of the third, but Woodson would get no closer.

TC's Rejoice Spivey led all scorers with 29 points. Angie Schedler finished with 14.

Finnerty and Nguyen were named to the all-tournament team, along with TC's Christian Roberts and Baylee Simpson, West Springfield's Amy Berglund and Lake Braddock's Natalie Butler. TC's Spivey was named MVP.

Woodson's season ended with a 56-29 loss to Edison, the No. 2 seed from the National District, in the opening round of the Northern Region tournament on Feb. 18.



Second on Beam

Woodson senior Simone Freidman tied for second on beam at the VHSL state gymnastics meet on Feb. 16.

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State Senate Passes 'Digital Assets' Bill

FROM PAGE 3

In their search for clues about their son's death, Ricky and his wife, Diane, tried to access their son's Facebook page. They thought Eric may have posted something on Facebook that could shed light on their son's state of mind. Citing state and federal privacy laws, Facebook denied them access.

Rash said he and his wife were stunned to learn that they had no legal control over their minor son's digital legacy.

They wrangled with Facebook for

living, but it is generally interpreted by social media giants as forbidding them to give parents access to their deceased child's online accounts.

Ironically, it was the "terms of service" agreement that allowed lawmakers Bulova and Wright to craft a bill that many say is solid enough to withstand a future legal challenge.

"We decided to plant the law on social media's 'terms of service' agreements, because it's contract law, which makes it under the purview of the state," Bulova said.

While five states have passed laws addressing "digital assets," the legislation varies widely and is largely untested. As a result, the Uniform Law Commission—a national group of lawyers that researches and drafts uniform state laws that can be adopted by state legislatures—formed a committee last year to study hot-button issues such as the right to "digital assets."

But a uniform law could take years, Bulova said, and he did

not want parents to be in the same position as the Rash's—locked out of their deceased child's online life.

State Senator Chap Petersen (D-34), who spoke in favor of the bill on Monday, agreed:

"If the feds pass a law in the meantime, great. But we're not going to sit around and wait if we can do something now," Petersen said. "As a parent of teenagers, it seems that parents ought to have access to what their child posts online, especially when the child dies."

Rash predicts Virginia's law—and other states tackling similar issues—will force social media companies to "take notice."

"They don't want to become experts in a patchwork of laws from 50 different states, so this effort in Virginia may push the Uniform Law Commission to come up with something regarding digital legacies sooner rather than later," Rash said Tuesday evening, after learning that the bill had passed both chambers of the legislature.

Passage of the bill has given the Rash family some measure of comfort.

If the bill becomes law, they know other parents won't have to go through the same struggle to see their child's online life.

Rash said the past 24 months have been a journey his family never wanted to embark upon, but the support from Eric's friends, family members and other parents has helped the family remain strong.

"I think Eric would be proud ... parents are making progress for once," Ricky Rash said Tuesday evening.

"The support has been overwhelming. There were times we wanted to withdraw, but hearing stories about Eric, knowing that we could help other parents, we were able to push this thing to the bitter end."

"Most other bills with these kinds of implications would probably have been looked upon sympathetically, but tabled."

— Del. David Bulova (D-37), who co-sponsored Virginia's "digital assets" bill

nearly a year to divulge their son's password, but were repeatedly locked out. If Eric had left any clues on his Facebook page, that information would be forever out of reach to his distraught parents.

That's when they began to lobby state lawmakers to tackle the issue.

"If Eric had left a journal, or anything tangible, we would have had access to it as his parents. Parents should have the same rights and access with anything online," Rash said.

"We never dreamed we would have to get into these issues," Rash continued. "But it's imperative that parents understand that the Internet and social media have overreached in their privacy laws, and that we wanted to change that."

Social Media and Privacy Laws

Rash learned that social media has evolved faster than the federal law, and the question of who controls or stewards online legacies lacks legal clarity and consistency.

In fact, the last federal law dealing with digital privacy was enacted by Congress in 1986, nearly 20 years before Facebook was created.

The Electronic Communications Privacy Act allows children to enter into "terms of service" agreements, a contract all users must agree to when they sign up with social-media sites, such as Facebook and Twitter.

Legal experts say the law was intended to protect the privacy of the

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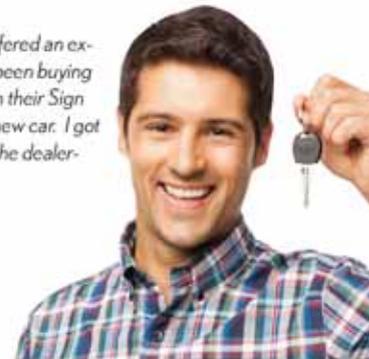
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4 DR. SEDAN, 4-SPD. AUTO

0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS²
TAX, TAGS, FEES, - THEY'RE ALL INCLUDED



WELCOME TO THE FAMILY
BRINGING THE SPORT BACK TO THE CAR

BRAND NEW 2013
SCION iQ
\$124 PER MO.
FOR 36 MONTHS¹
¹\$1,999 due at signing



The Best New Cars Make The Best Used Cars

- 7YR/100K MILE ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE PLAN¹
- 160 POINT QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTION^{1††}
- CARFAX VEHICLE HISTORY REPORT
- 1.9% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE^{1†††}
- 12 MO./12K MI COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY
- 7 YR./100K MI LIMITED POWERTRAIN WARRANTY

BRAND NEW 2012 TOYOTA CAMRY LE

\$0 DUE AT SIGNING

\$9 PER DAY¹
4 DR. SEDAN, 6-SPD. AUTO

0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS²
TAX, TAGS, FEES, - THEY'RE ALL INCLUDED



0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE²



PRIUS FAMILY IN-STOCK NOW

\$1,000 CASH BACK ON NEW 2012 PRIUS^{††††}

prius goes plural

\$1,000

REBATE FOR RECENT COLLEGE GRADS⁵

BRAND NEW 2012 TOYOTA RAV4 4X4

\$0 DUE AT SIGNING

\$10 PER DAY¹
4 DR. SUV, ELECT. 4-SPD AUTO

0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS²
TAX, TAGS, FEES, - THEY'RE ALL INCLUDED



ToyotaCare

Complimentary maintenance plan with roadside assistance.
• Covers 2 years or 25k miles, Oil and Filter - Tire Rotation - Multi-Point Inspection[†]

\$500

MILITARY REBATE INCENTIVE FOR ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONEL⁶

(1) OFFERS INCLUDE VA TAX, FREIGHT, \$399 PROCESSING FEE, ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. 36-MONTH LEASE WITH 12K MILES PER YEAR. TOTAL DOWN PAYMENT PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$399 PROCESSING FEE DUE AT SIGNING. DOLLAR PER DAY AMOUNT BASED ON 30-DAY MONTH. MONTHLY PAYMENTS EQUAL TO: (COROLLA: \$239/MONTH, CAMRY: \$279/MONTH, RAV4: \$289/MONTH). (2) 0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS ON SELECT MODELS. OFFERS FOR WELL-QUALIFIED BUYERS WITH APPROVED TIER1+ CREDIT THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$16.67 PER \$1,000 BORROWED. \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. (3) BASED ON BLACK BOOK TRADE VALUE MINUS EXCESS MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. (4) COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET. SEE PARTICIPATING DEALER FOR COMPLETE PLAN DETAILS. VALID ONLY IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND ALASKA. (5) TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICE COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH A PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER AND TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. NOT ALL APPLICANTS WILL QUALIFY. REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD THE AMOUNTS DUE AT LEASE SIGNING OR DELIVERY WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER LEASE OR FINANCE TRANSACTION. (6) REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD DUE AT SIGNING OR DELIVERY, WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION, OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER LEASE OR LEASE TRANSACTION. NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE TOYOTA COLLEGE GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS MUST BE IN CURRENT ACTIVE DUTY STATUS IN THE U.S. MILITARY. (†) WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (††) FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (†††) 1.9% APR FINANCING ON ALL CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THROUGH TFS. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$17.05 PER \$1,000 BORROWED. \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. (††††) *PURCHASERS CAN RECEIVE \$1,000 CASH BACK FROM TOYOTA OR CAN APPLY CASH BACK TO DOWN PAYMENT. TAX, REGISTRATION, INSURANCE, AND DEALER FEES ARE EXTRA. NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY. CASH BACK OFFER NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER APR OR LEASE OFFER. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 02/28/13.

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA
TOYOTA / SCION

ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA/SCION

3750 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY. | ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305

1-866-616-8420 | ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM



LONG & FOSTER® # 1 in Virginia

703-425-8000



Burke Centre **\$519,900**
Granite and stainless kitchen for inspired cooking with adjacent family room for casual entertaining. Four bedrooms, full finished basement, screened porch and lovely landscaped yard. Walk to bus stop, minutes to VRE station. Robinson Secondary School area!
Ellie Wester 703-503-1880



Lake Anna **\$695,000**
3 BR, 3 BA with excellent water views. Nice wooded lot with slope to water. Almost new rambler with walk-out unfinished lower level. Great floor plan with open Living, Dining, Kitchen and Breakfast Room. Lots of windows.
David Lewis 703-980-3090



King George **\$299,997**
Large Home. Great 4BR, 2.5BA, 3 level colonial. Large family room/kitchen/breakfast room area. Den, large master bedroom/bath. 3 additional bedrooms upstairs. Large lot backing to trees. Close to Dahlgren Naval Base/Colonial Beach. Easy access to Rt. 301 Bridge to Maryland.
Buzz Jordan 703-503-1866



Clifton **\$899,900**
Your Private Retreat! Stunning 4 BR/4.5 BA custom home tucked away on 5 private acres in Clifton! Hardwood floors, chef's kitchen, 3 gas fireplaces, 2 story family room, huge walkout rec room, beautifully maintained.
Nancy Basham 703-772-2066



Lake Anna **\$550,000**
Second Home or Rental. 4 BR, 3 1/2 BA Waterfront home with large rooms, second kitchen, lots of glass and soaring ceilings, large 2 car garage, and 2 sheds. Good water with pier, ramp, and gazebo.
Toni McQuair 703-795-2697



Fairfax Station **\$664,900**
Lovely 4 BR, 2 1/2 Bath Colonial in Beautiful Crosspointe. Huge eat in kitchen, Family Room with floor to ceiling Brick Fireplace, French doors lead to lovely deck and fenced in yard, Finished lower level with new carpeting, Office, and Exercise Room.
Sheila Adams 703-503-1895
Ann Witherspoon 703-503-1836



Alexandria **\$497,500**
Classic colonial in Mt. Vernon Hills. 3 finished levels, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Wood floors. Fireplace in family room. Large deck overlooking fenced back yard. Easy access to GW Pkwy, Old Town, Airport, DC, scenic hike/bike path along the Potomac River.
Judy Semler 703-503-1885



Manassas **\$269,900**
Adorable ... charming Turnkey! What word best describes this updated and move in ready 3 BR Cape style home on 0.6+ acres? From the renovated granite kitchen w/upgraded stainless appliances, to the main level master BR with cathedral ceilings - this home is move in ready! Renovated bath features double sinks, slate tub surround, bead board & corian. Loft, scr porch, friendly front porch, fenced yard, even a garden area! Country ambience, just minutes to commuter routes & shops.
Marsha Wolber 703-618-4397



Clifton **\$945,000**
Meticulously maintained and updated! Sited on 5 gorgeous acres with in-ground pool and walk-out LL with complete guest suite. Detached 3rd car garage. Quiet, private neighborhood.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Alexandria **\$619,900**
Kingstowne Area! Close to Metro & Ft. Belvoir! 4BR Colonial with den. Quiet cul-de-sac! Updated kitchen & baths, HVAC system & windows. Family room with fireplace walks out to deck & fenced back yard.
David Billups 703-690-1795



Clifton **\$1,750,000**
Incredible one of a kind estate! Surrounded by trees & rolling hills, this custom home unites the luxuries of inside & out. Three finished levels, screened porch, balconies front and back, wonderful pool! Perfect symmetry! You'll fall in love the minute you pull into the driveway! Work from home in your own oval office, entertain year round for generations.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Gainesville **\$530,000**
Heritage Hunt Golf & Country Club 50+. Spacious Beauty - 3 fin lvls, 3BR, 3.5BA, Living room, Dining room, Family room, Kitchen: 42" cabs, island & corian. Loft, scr porch. Walk/out Lower Lvl: Rec room, Bonus room & BA (possible in-law suite), storage, 2 car garage.
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Fairfax Station **\$710,000**
5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths. Prime cul de sac location overlooking beautiful wooded parkland. Hardwood floors just refinished, fresh paint, new carpeting. Windows replaced. Beautiful granite. Extensive 2 tiered decking. Immaculate move in condition!
Betty Barthle 703-425-4466



Fairfax Station **\$760,000**
Traditional Center-Hall colonial in South Run sited on .67 acre lot nestled amidst the trees on quiet cul-de-sac. Flowing floor plan w/spacious rooms. Gleaming hwdws in LR, DR & Fam Rm. Expansive eat-in kit w/walk-in pantry. Mn lvl BR & BA. Lower lvl boasts den, walkout rec rm, storage galore & amazing workshop. Deck & gazebo. Fresh paint & brand new carpet thruout. 1 yr warranty. Pool, tennis. Mins to shopping.
Jim Fox 703-503-1800



Clifton **\$1,749,000**
Stunning Antebellum estate sited on gorgeous park-like 5 acres. Offers 6 BRs, 6.5 BAs, 4 fireplaces, and a luxurious main level MBR and MBA. Features also a private guest suite complete with Kit, BA and Laundry on the walk-out lower level. A sparkling pool surrounded by lush landscaping complete this home.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Annandale **\$132,850**
Great location just inside the beltway. Spacious one bedroom/one bath upper level condo in great condition. Vaulted ceilings and much more!
Claudia Callis 703-620-2790



Fairfax **\$285,000**
Fabulous updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Fairmont, behind Fairfax Town Centre! This one-level unit has great natural light, plus updated kitchen with granite, new carpeting, updated bathrooms, new fixtures, balcony, and gas fireplace. The location couldn't be better, with movie theater, restaurants, and grocers right next door. Commuter's dream and move-in ready!
Mary Hovland 703-946-1775
Cathy DeLoach 571-276-9421



Fairfax **\$262,500**
Light-filled 2nd floor unit backs to trees, 2MBRs, Liv, Gas Fpl, Din, Sunroom, Deck, Kitchen with new SS Gas stove & DW. Close to Fairfax Town Cntr & 166/50/286.
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Fairfax **\$500,000**
Stylish Rambler in sought after Kings Park West has it all - updated eat-in kitchen with granite, updated baths, freshly painted throughout, and finished walkout LL with fireplace. Plus, new roof & vinyl siding. Perfect for children of all ages - family-friendly neighborhood, nationally ranked schools, & few blocks from Royal Lake/Lakeside Park w/amazing playground & sports fields. Close to VRE, Metrobus & shopping.
Mary Hovland 703-946-1775
Cathy DeLoach 571-276-9421



Fairfax **\$585,000**
Stately center-hall Colonial is beautifully updated and offers both space and convenience. Great floor plan features 3 finished levels to include 5BR/3.5BA, hardwoods, freshly painted, and eat-in kitchen, adjacent to family room w/french door walkout to spacious deck & flat, tree lined backyard. Nationally ranked schools, VRE, & Metrobus just steps away!
Mary Hovland 703-946-1775
Cathy DeLoach 571-276-9421

Access the Realtors' Multiple Listing Service: www.searchvirginia.listingbook.com

Local REAL ESTATE

December 2012 Sales \$700,000~\$749,999



5 6317 Still Spring Place, Alexandria — \$718,000



6 8311 Periwinkle Place, Fairfax Station — \$710,000



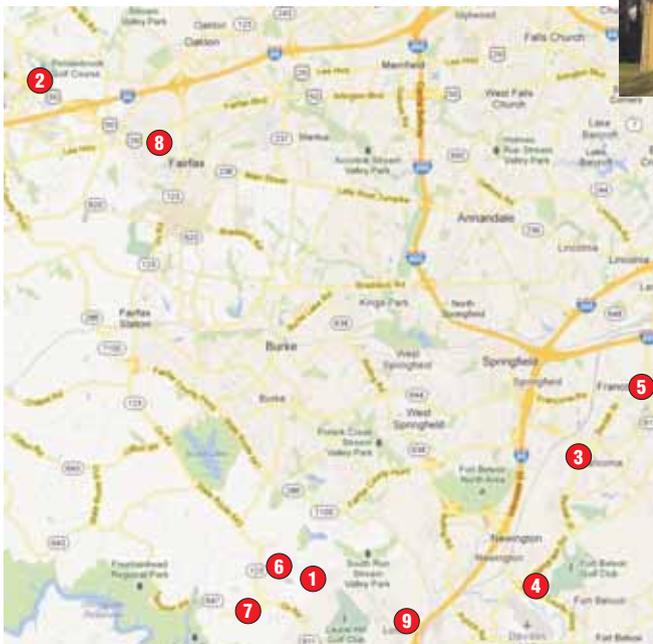
7 9830 Hampton Road, Fairfax Station — \$710,000



8 10806 Second Street West, Fairfax — \$707,550



9 8092 Paper Birch Drive, Lorton — \$700,000



© Google Map data

Address BR FB HB Postal City Sold Price .. Type Lot AC .. PostalCode Subdivision Date Sold

1	9117 OAK CHASE CT	5	..	3	..	1	.....	FAIRFAX STATION	..	\$745,000	...	Detached	...	0.40	.....	22039	.....	CROSSPOINTE	.....	12/05/12
2	3835 PARKLAND DR	4	..	4	..	1	.....	FAIRFAX	.....	\$740,000	...	Detached	...	0.18	.....	22033	.....	PENDERBROOK	.....	12/13/12
3	7230 RITA GRAY LOOP	4	..	3	..	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$725,000	...	Detached	...	0.16	.....	22315	.....	WINDSOR KNOLL	.....	12/20/12
4	6810 CORDER LN	4	..	3	..	1	.....	LORTON	.....	\$720,000	...	Detached	...	0.53	.....	22079	.....	MOUNT AIR	.....	12/27/12
5	6317 STILL SPRING PL	4	..	4	..	1	.....	ALEXANDRIA	.....	\$718,000	...	Patio Home	...	0.09	.....	22315	.....	KINGSTOWNE/NORTHAMPTON	.....	12/28/12
6	8311 PERIWINKLE PL	5	..	3	..	1	.....	FAIRFAX STATION	..	\$710,000	...	Detached	...	0.22	.....	22039	.....	CROSSPOINTE	.....	12/20/12
7	9830 HAMPTON RD	5	..	3	..	1	.....	FAIRFAX STATION	..	\$710,000	...	Detached	...	2.00	.....	22039	.....	HAMPTON HILLS	.....	12/21/12
8	10806 SECOND ST W	5	..	4	..	1	.....	FAIRFAX	.....	\$707,550	...	Detached	...	0.17	.....	22030	.....	FAIRFAX HEIGHTS	.....	12/06/12
9	8092 PAPER BIRCH DR	5	..	4	..	1	LORTON	\$700,000	...	Detached	...	0.18	22079	LAUREL HILL/LANDBAY	...	12/02/12

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