

Fairfax Station ❖ Clifton ❖ Lorton

# CONNECTION

## Local Leaders Praise Transportation Funding Bill

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PET CONNECTION

Marin Ward gets some attention from Tangle before the pair goes for a short walk in Fairfax Station.

# Rescued Cats and Dogs Bring Loyalty to Families

'Free Money' for  
Schools at Fairview  
Elementary

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FEBRUARY 28—MARCH 6, 2013

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PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

# VEHICLE exchange PROGRAM

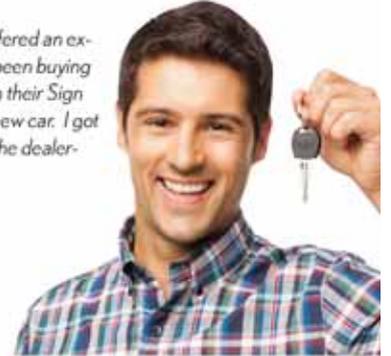
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## Local Leaders Praise Transportation Funding Bill

State Senator Chap Petersen wants you to curb your enthusiasm.

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

Politics makes strange bedfellows, and sometimes estranged ones as well. On Saturday, the last day of the Virginia General Assembly, state legislators struck a bipartisan 11th hour deal to pass a comprehensive transportation funding plan—the first long-term plan in 27 years.

Republican Governor Robert McDonnell, who received credit for hammering out the “compromise” legislation, declared passage of the bill “a historic day in Virginia.”

“There is a ‘Virginia Way’ of cooperation and problem solving, and we saw it work again today in Richmond,” McDonnell said in a statement Saturday.

The proposal, financed largely by higher sales and car taxes, is projected to raise more than \$3.5 billion for roads and rails over five years and nearly \$900 million annually after 2018. Northern Virginia would get hundreds of millions from the state, including \$300 million committed to complete Metro’s Silver Line extension to Dulles International Airport.

Many local leaders—Republicans and Democrats alike—applauded the package as a “win” for Northern Virginia.

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) said he was “thrilled” at the additional funding for Northern Virginia.

“Money in this bill will also help finish the Dulles Rail project, alleviate congested roads and ensure existing infrastructure is properly maintained,” Cook said. He added that he’s spoken with numerous voters in town halls and neighborhood meetings, and one of the top concerns has been the deteriorating condition of Fairfax County’s roads and increased congestion.

“With this bill, we’re one step closer to significant improvement in these areas,” he said.

**SHARON BULOVA**, the Democratic chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, said the bill was a “great step toward addressing the transportation challenges we face in Fairfax County and the Northern Virginia region.”

Bulova was instrumental in creating the Urban Crescent Coalition—a group of 54 mayors and county chairs of the state’s 46 most populous regions stretching from Northern Virginia to Richmond and Hampton Roads. For months, the coalition has been lobbying top commonwealth leaders to adequately fund Virginia’s “crumbling” transportation system.

Bulova said she was “especially pleased with the commitment of \$300 million for the Silver Line “which will help to keep tolls in the Dulles Toll Road affordable for Northern Virginia motorists.”

Both Cook and Bulova applauded the bipartisan efforts of Governor McDonnell, Sen. Janet Howell (D-32), Del. David Albo



**Sen. Chap Petersen confers on the Senate floor with a colleague in Richmond on Monday, Feb. 18. Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37) is sitting to Petersen’s right.**

(R-42) and Del. Vivian Watts (D-39) for reaching agreement on a funding strategy that “moves us in the right direction,” Bulova said.

But State Senator Chap Petersen (D-34) put the brakes on the cross-party celebrating. In a series of scathing comments and posts on his blog OxRoadSouth, Petersen called the bill “the train wreck that was the final compromise on HB 2313,” and said it may be unconstitutional as well.

“If you like discriminatory taxes against Northern Virginia, then you might like this bill. I think it’s a terrible policy,” Petersen said in an email on Tuesday.

The bill provides new revenues for transportation through increased taxes and user fees that, in many cases, are higher for taxpayers in Northern Virginia than other parts of the state. For example, under the new bill, the sales tax rises from 5 to 6 percent only in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads, and to 5.5 percent everywhere else in the state.

❖ There’s also a new 0.25 percent sales tax on homes in Northern Virginia. That means an additional transfer tax of \$1,250 on the sale of a \$500,000 home, on top of capital gains tax.

❖ Virginia’s car tax rises from 3 percent to 4.3 percent, meaning a new \$30,000 car or truck will come with a \$1,290 tax bill.

❖ The 17.5-cents-per-gallon tax on gasoline, which has remained unchanged since 1986, has been replaced by a wholesale tax on gasoline at 3.5 percent. For consumers of diesel fuel, the tax rises to 6 percent. The tax will not show up at the pump when consumers pay for gasoline, but will likely be incorporated into the price by distributors.

❖ State road funds are linked to Internet tax legislation currently pending (languishing) in Congress. For Northern Virginians,



**Del. Tim Hugo (R-40) discusses an upcoming bill on the House floor of the Capitol in Richmond on Monday, Feb. 18.**

the wholesale gas tax and diesel tax contain “triggers” that will cause them to rise if Congress does not authorize the state to collect sales tax on Internet purchases, which analysts say is unlikely to happen before the Jan. 1, 2015 “trigger date.” If Congress does not act on the legislation by that date, the tax will jump from 3.5 percent to 5.1 percent, increasing the gas tax to 17.85-cents-per-gallon.

❖ For Northern Virginia taxpayers, that means they are likely to be paying more in gas taxes after Jan. 1, 2015, than they are now.

❖ The local hotel tax increases 3 percent. Revenue from the Northern Virginia-specific taxes will be locally controlled, through the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.

Petersen said that’s not enough to turn a bad bill into a better deal.

He described the final deal as “a grotesque combination of tax cuts, tax rebates, tax increases, new taxes, old taxes which are phased out (and then reappear elsewhere), regional alliances ... special projects, and exceptions to all of the above.”

He asked his Republican colleagues: “Did you have to rewrite the entire code book, so you could use the fake ‘but we’re cutting taxes too!’ line on gullible voters?”

He conceded the bill will raise millions for transit, including new support for Rail to Dulles, which is “critical” for the region.

And for many commuters in Northern Virginia, that may be enough reason to embrace a long-awaited transportation-funding package.

“This bi-partisan compromise is far from perfect, but it was supported overwhelmingly by the business community and weary commuters,” said former state delegate Margaret Vanderhye, a Democrat from the

34th district who was narrowly defeated in her 2009 reelection bid by Republican Barbara Comstock. “It contains \$300 million for Dulles Rail and a funding mechanism to allow our region to raise funds that stay here for our transportation priorities—something we tried and failed to accomplish with the 2002 referendum.”

Vanderhye said she was “outraged” that some Northern Virginia legislators would vote “no” solely based on their pledge to Americans for Tax Reform, the organization created by anti-tax crusader Grover Norquist. In the Taxpayer Protection Pledge, candidates and incumbents solemnly bind themselves to oppose any and all tax increases, and the ATR has the role of promoting and monitoring the pledge.

Since its rollout with the endorsement of President Reagan in 1986, the pledge has become de rigeur for Republicans seeking office.

Like most Democrats, Petersen staunchly opposes the ATR and its pledge. “The only pledge I will take is to my wife,” Petersen has said.

But his “no” vote on the transportation package puts him the same camp as Republican Del. Tim Hugo (R-40), who did not vote in favor of the governor’s bill “as I do not believe that it is the right vehicle to address Virginia’s transportation needs. Now is not the time to increase taxes on Virginia’s hard-working families. While I disagree with the bill’s approach, I appreciate my colleagues’ efforts to solve our transportation needs,” Hugo said.

**AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM** applauded Hugo and 18 other Virginia lawmakers—including Comstock, Scott Lingamfelter (R-31), Robert G. Marshall (R-13) and David Ramadan (R-87) for “standing firm” against “a \$6.1 billion tax increase. ... These lawmakers serve as an example of what legislative leadership looks like,” the ATR said in a statement released Saturday.

Petersen said he’s unfazed by any false comparisons to those in the ATR camp, and stands by his opposition to the bill based on what he calls the bill’s “lack of vision,” the inequities to Northern Virginians and what he believes is the bill’s ultimate failure to solve the state’s transportation problems. Del. Scott Surovell and Sen. Adam Ebbins were the only other Northern Virginia Democrats to vote against the bill.

“The method for raising these funds is complicated, contradictory and will eventually create ‘two Virginias’—with differing tax rates and, ultimately, differing levels of support from Richmond,” Petersen said.

Petersen contends that any sustainable transportation funding solution should be “simple, uniform and equitable. It should stick to the historic premise that ‘the user pays’ for our highways. It should treat all taxpayers equally.”

“I’ve been told that my opposition to this plan may result in the demise of my political career. If so, I can only state, at least there’s some benefit,” Petersen quipped.

PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

# \$7 Billion Budget Proposal Unveiled

Typical county household would see real estate tax bill increase by \$260 annually.

By VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

A slow economic recovery marked by the unknown impact of federal sequestration cuts were dominant factors in the restrained first draft of Fairfax County's \$7 billion budget for fiscal year 2014.

Fairfax County Executive Edward L. Long Jr. unveiled his \$7 billion budget proposal Tuesday, Feb. 26, calling for a two-cent increase in the real estate tax rate, which would raise taxes by \$260 for the typical household. Each one-cent increase in the real estate tax rate equals \$20.65 million in county revenue.

For Fairfax County Public Schools—which receive nearly 75 percent of its funding from the county—Long recommended a total transfer, which includes school debt service, of \$1.89 billion, an increase of \$33.7 million or 2 percent over this year.

**THE PROPOSED COUNTY BUDGET** also includes \$67.9 million in additional support to FCPS for services including Head Start, school resource officers, crossing guards and recreational programs, among others.

"We have heard from residents that we should continue with current service levels and program delivery, which we maintained through the last few years of the recession by downsizing effectively and responsibly," Long said during a news conference Tuesday.

"Moving forward, we must put in place a longer-term focus on investment in the county's future, which requires constrained spending and strategic funding priorities. We are also forced to recognize the significant yet unknown impact that is expected from federal sequestration and the continuing challenges of a slowly recovering economy," Long added.

Long noted that the residential equalization—or change in assessments of existing residential property—increased 3.5 percent from last year. Residential real estate revenue accounts for approximately 74.4 percent of the county's tax base. Nonresidential values remained flat, increasing only 0.14 percent in FY 2013.

"Despite growth in residential real estate revenue, funding decisions made last year make it critical for us to be constrained in our spending," Long said.

Long's budget also included proposed county agency reductions of \$20.52 million, including the elimination of 91 merit positions, as well as no increases in employee compensation for FY 2014. Funding for major human services and public safety would remain steady.

Long said his plan includes targeted "surgical" reductions rather than radical cuts that would eliminate programs and close facilities.

"We spent a lot of time going through each and



Fairfax County Executive Edward L. Long Jr. answered questions during a news briefing following the presentation of the proposed FY 2014 \$7 billion budget.

PHOTO BY FAIRFAX COUNTY

## Budget Public Hearings—When and Where

Public hearings on the proposed FY 2014 budget are scheduled:

- ❖ Tuesday, April 9, at 6 p.m.
- ❖ Wednesday, April 10, at 3 p.m.
- ❖ Thursday, April 11, at 3 p.m.

Those wishing to speak at a public hearing can sign up online to place their name on the speakers list, or contact the Office of the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903. The public hearings will be held in the Board Auditorium, Fairfax County Government Center and will be televised live on Fairfax County Government Channel 16. The Board of Supervisors will adopt the county's FY 2014 budget on April 30. For the schedule of the Board of Supervisors town hall meetings on the budget, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2014/advertised/fy2014-town-hall-meetings](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2014/advertised/fy2014-town-hall-meetings).

every agency," he said Tuesday. "If you look at the 500 positions we've eliminated over the past five years, I think the heavy lifting on cuts has been done."

"We are not yet out of the woods as we recover more slowly than we would like from the great recession," Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-at-large) said in a statement. "County revenue projections are essentially flat and contributing to our challenge is the effect that sequestration will have on our economy. Already our commercial tax base is negatively affected by inaction on the part of Congress."

**THE PROPOSED BUDGET** includes a \$2.4 million balance for the board's consideration to address "high priority" requirements in FY 2014 or to be held in reserve for FY 2015. The county executive's budget also includes a multi-year budget framework for FY 2015, which currently has a projected budget shortfall of \$39.7 million. The multi-year budget approach, according to Long, allows the county to address challenges on a longer-term basis, even though the Board of Supervisors is still required to make budget and appropriation decisions on an annual basis.

"There's some optimism out there, we just need a little more clarity from federal government," Long said.



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Cedric Smith, 40, has been homeless and living in a tent for the past five years. On Monday, Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) talked with Smith about resources available to help him find a permanent home.

## Putting a Name and Face On Chronically Homeless

At 4 a.m., under a full moon, more than 200 volunteers fanned out across Fairfax County on Monday, Feb. 25, to identify the more than 300 people who are literally homeless, living in cars, on the street or in the woods around the county. Coordinated by the Fairfax-Falls Church Partnership to End Homelessness, the weeklong effort is part of the 100,000 Homes campaign, an intensive approach to identify and find homes for the chronically homeless. The information

gathered during Registry Week—the multi-day event where volunteers go out on the streets and create a name and photographic "registry"—will be used to help Fairfax County prioritize housing and support resources for the chronically homeless. The county's goal is to get half of them in housing within three years. Read more about the 100,000 Homes campaign in next week's Connection Newspapers.

—VICTORIA ROSS

## Burke Surgeon Gains National Recognition

Richard Derner, DPM, FACFAS, of Burke, is the new secretary and treasurer of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS), a national association of over 6,800 foot and ankle surgeons. Dr. Derner was installed to his position at the ACFAS



Richard Derner

71st Annual Scientific Conference in Las Vegas.

The ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference, the largest educational meeting for foot and ankle surgeons in the U.S., draws attendees from around the world to discuss the most current techniques and technology for treatment of deformities, diseases and injuries of the foot and ankle.

"I am honored to serve the college and its members as the secretary and treasurer of this preeminent organization and look forward to working diligently with my fellow colleagues to further advance the high standards of

ACFAS for the profession and the patients we serve," said Derner.

Dr. Derner practices with Associated Foot & Ankle Centers of Northern Virginia and is board certified in both foot surgery and reconstructive rearfoot and ankle surgery by the American Board of Podiatric Sur-

gery. He is a member of the residency training committee with the Inova Fairfax podiatric residency program. Dr. Derner is also the chief of podiatric surgery at Stafford Hospital, in Stafford, Va., and is past president of the Virginia Podiatric Medical Association.

Dr. Derner earned his podiatric medical degree from the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, which is now called Kent State. He completed his podiatric surgical residency at the Doctors Hospital in Denver, Colo., and fellowship in traumatology in Ravensburg, Germany.

## Felony Hit-Run Charged

Fairfax County police charged a Centreville man with several offenses—including felony hit-and-run—after he allegedly tailgated and struck another vehicle driven by a Lorton man and then fled. He is 25-year-old Juan Carlos Gudiel.

The incident occurred early Sunday, Feb. 24, just after midnight, on the Fairfax County Parkway. According to police, Gudiel reportedly rear-ended a 2003 Honda in his 2000 Ford Explorer. They say he allegedly pulled alongside the car and then turned into the vehicle, side-swiping it.

Then, say police, Gudiel reportedly drove away “at a high rate of speed.” However, the victim, a 24-year-old Lorton man, was able to copy the license plate of the suspect vehicle and called 911.

Police say Gudiel continued onto I-66 west, where Virginia State Police became involved. They say the Centreville man exited onto Lee Highway, where he reportedly ran a red light and turned onto Stone Road where troopers were able to stop his vehicle.

Fairfax County police charged Gudiel with attempted malicious wounding, felony hit-and-run, and driving on a suspended license. Virginia State Police charged him with reckless driving, speeding to elude, disregarding a red light, resisting arrest and driving under the influence. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

## Clifton Town Council Meeting

The Clifton Town Council will meet Tuesday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m., in the Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, in Clifton.

## Donate Old Cars to Police

The Fairfax County Police Department is looking for vehicles in working condition that people no longer want or need and would be willing to donate. They could help their public safety community and receive a tax deduction at the same time.

Every year, the department uses about 20 cars to help train and prepare officers for the rigors of police work. Donated cars could be used as a faux suspect’s get-away car, helping officers with their precision pursuit driving techniques. Later, when the car is

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FAIRFAX STATION/CLIFTON/LORTON CONNECTION ♦ FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 6, 2013 ♦ 5



Fairview Elementary P.E. Teachers Fred Pechin and Kendra Roland dress up after students collect 5,671 Box Tops during contest.

## 'Free Money' for Schools

### Fairview Elementary School No. 1 in area in collecting Box Tops.

BY ERIN HERBIG  
FAIRVIEW ELEMENTARY

Since the beginning of the school year, Fairview Elementary School students have collected more than 25,000 Box Tops, which equates to \$2,500 cash for the school and school programs. As of their recent contest, which ended Jan. 31, Fairview moved into first place out of 1,069 schools in a 25 mile radius and into eighth place out of 2,197 schools in a 50 mile radius, according to the Box Tops for Education website ([www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com)). The school is 13th in Virginia, and 778th out of 89,127 schools enrolled in the program across the nation. Clipping Box Tops costs nothing, but it yields a great deal for schools and non-profits who participate in the Box Tops for Education program. It is easy to do for the children and parents, and does not require students to ask friends or family to buy or donate anything. Box Tops can be found on over 100 products, including popular brands that many families purchase. Each is worth 10 cents—so clipping just ten is worth \$1. Tens of millions of dollars are handed out to participating schools each year by Box Tops for Education, but even more are thrown in the trash that could be helping schools with buying supplies and funding programs or capital projects. The money is paid directly to the school twice a year, in December and April.

In its most recent Box Tops contest, for every 10 Box Tops turned



Principal Easter Lancaster stops to visit Ryan Croson, winner of Box Tops Reward Luncheon, and friend Matthew Wilson, as they enjoy lunch at a special table in the cafeteria with instructional assistant Marsha Smith (right).



Daria EHommedieu selects guidance counselor Corri Shusterman and friend Rachel Thompson to have lunch with after her name is drawn as the winner in Box Tops contest.

in students received one vote to cast for one of two teachers who would dress up for a day. If students collectively clipped 4,000, then both teachers would dress up. Fairview students collected 5,671 Box Tops resulting in P.E. teachers, Fred Pechin—a diehard Eagles fan, dressing up in all Redskins attire and, Kendra Roland, a ballerina cat. In addition, two students received movie tickets to the University Mall Theater and won lunch with a teacher or staff member of their choice, as well as the opportunity to bring a friend.

Prior contests have earned the students extended recess and dress up days of their own, along with random drawings for movie tick-

ets. An end of the year party is earned by the classroom with the most Box Tops collected throughout the year, while one student from each grade level with the most individual Box Tops collected during the school year will receive a \$25 gift certificate from either Doodlehopper for Kids, Game Stop or Walmart.

If you would like to donate Box Tops to Fairview Elementary, collect them in sealable plastic bags and drop them off or mail them to the school office at any time throughout the year. The address is: 5815 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039. If you have questions, c o n t a c t BoxTops@FairviewPTA.org.

## Four Plead Guilty: Real Estate Fraud

### Lorton woman faces five years in prison.

Four people pleaded guilty Tuesday, Feb. 19, in federal court in Alexandria to conspiring to fraudulently take over the titles of homes in Washington, D.C., without the real property owners' knowledge, selling those homes and keeping the profit. Among those entering a plea was Patricia Mantilla, 35, of Lorton.

According to court records, Jamaul Roberts, 25, College Park, Md., conspired with others to visit the D.C. tax courts to identify properties with overdue property tax bills. They used sources such as Ancestry.com and the D.C. property tax database to locate vulnerable properties where they could take over the home's title without the real owners' knowledge.

These homes included those left vacant, passed on to heirs after the owner's death, or owned by elderly, nursing-home residents who didn't understand the transactions taking place.

The fraudulent sales were facilitated by two settlement agents, Melissa McWilliams, 35, of Chantilly, and Mantilla. Both worked at Ace Title & Escrow in Annandale.

The agents knew the home sales were fraudulent and that the owners appearing at settlement were not the rightful owners. They also assisted the con-

spirators in hiding profits on the property sales from other parties involved in the sale through fictitious invoices to be paid at closing.

The conspirators, including Michael Brown, 41, Hyattsville, Md., recruited straw sellers to sign documents and falsely represent themselves as the property owners. Brown, for example, appointed himself the personal representative of the rightful owner of a property and prepared a fake death certificate for the owner, even though the owner was still living. He then tried selling that property to another member of the conspiracy for \$350,000.

During the course of the scheme, numerous properties were fraudulently sold, resulting in more than \$1 million in actual and intended losses.

On Tuesday, in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, before Judge Gerald Bruce Lee, Mantilla and McWilliams both pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit wire fraud. They each face a possible maximum penalty of five years in prison when they're sentenced on April 26 and June 7, respectively.

Roberts and Brown both pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit wire fraud. They each face a possible maximum penalty of 20 years in prison when Lee sentences them on May 10 and May 3, respectively.

The ongoing investigation is being conducted by the FBI's Washington Field Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Chad Golder of the office's Financial Fraud and Public Corruption Unit is prosecuting the case.

## Suspect Charged in Incendiary Event

Police and Fire department personnel responded to the report of an apparent explosion and fire at 9504 Richmond Highway in Lorton on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at about 10:30 a.m. The fire was extinguished quickly and one adult male victim was ground transported to a local hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

The preliminary investigation indicates that some sort of incendiary event occurred inside the business and that one black male was observed running from the scene. It is possible that this subject sustained injuries from the fire.

Police helicopter and K9 units

responded to check the area. Crime Scene Technicians and Homicide Detectives also responded and are conducting the follow up investigation in conjunction with the Fire Marshall's Office. That office will ultimately determine the origin and cause of the fire.

An arrest has been made after a joint investigation by Fairfax County homicide detectives and the Fairfax County Office of the Fire Marshal. Horace Thompson, 25, of no fixed address, was arrested by Washington Metropolitan Police on a fugitive from justice warrant after he was released from the Washington Burn Center on Thursday, Feb. 14.

## AREA ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 5

no longer in driving condition, it will be cut up (for training on how to cut into crashed cars), blown up (providing training for Explosive Ordinance officers) or shot (used as a prop in an active-shooter scenario).

Nothing will go to waste and the valuable contribution will serve many constructive purposes. For more information on how to donate vehicles or to ask questions, contact MPO Tom Beckman at the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, 703-818-1924.

### Fairfax County License Plate

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved Supervisor Pat Herry's (R-Springfield) plan and design for a Fairfax County license plate. Besides allowing residents to show pride in their community, proceeds from the license plates' sales will go to the World Police and Fire Games, which the county is hosting in 2015.

Afterward, from 2016 on, continued proceeds will go to Visit Fairfax to bolster its advertising and help increase tourism to bring valuable, out-of-state dollars into the local economy. Visit Fairfax has been aggressively signing up customers for the new plates, including private citizens and shuttle buses, plus hotel and hospitality fleets. Visit Fairfax is currently on its way toward meeting the 350 pre-signed applications threshold to make this Fairfax County plate a reality. The plates may be pre-ordered now at <http://www.fxva.com/plates/>.

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# OPINION

## All's Well That Ends Well

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM  
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



**N**ot only did the 2013 session of the General Assembly end on time last Saturday, but it also ended on a high note. Having sat through a couple of decades of failed efforts to pass meaningful legislation addressing our transportation needs, I was not optimistic that we would be successful this year. The governor's proposal to fix a billion dollar problem with a revenue-neutral solution did not give me much hope.

**GUEST EDITORIAL** I was both amazed and delighted when the House passed a transportation funding bill by a vote of 60 to 40 that provides new revenue to meet road and transit needs. In addition to providing new money, the bill also addresses other problems by switching the gas tax from a per gallon amount to a percentage to help it keep up with future needs. The bill also provides for additional monies to be raised in Northern Virginia and spent in our region. While the bill will not

totally resolve our transportation congestion, it does provide money for mass transit and \$300 million towards the cost of the Silver Line that will help to keep the tolls down. There are aspects of the omnibus transportation compromise that I do not like. The charging of a \$100 per year fee for hybrid vehicles—because their fuel efficiency reduces the gas tax collected on them—is in conflict with policies we should be adopting to encourage the use of such cars. The planned reliance on the tax on internet sales that has yet to be passed by the U.S. Congress is open to question although there is a mechanism for making up for lost funds if the tax is not enacted.

Equaling the transportation bill in importance was a compromise approved in the clos-

ing hours of the session that opens the way for the expansion of the Medicaid program in Virginia to provide insurance for about 400,000 individuals. Governor McDonnell had opposed passage of the Affordable Care Act and had refused to go along with accepting an expanded Medicaid program until reforms were put into place. The compromise bill establishes a joint committee of legislators who will approve Virginia's entry into the program as soon as certain reforms are made. It is expected that the state could enter the program as soon as the summer. Thanks to the many persons who called and wrote to the conferees and the governor; your voice did make a difference.

As is the case with most legislation, the final results are compromises. What was reassuring about this session that I had not seen in recent years was a willingness on the part of the majority to compromise with those of us in the minority. That made for an outcome that was better for everyone. I will be writing about other outcomes of the session in future columns and will be holding public meetings to report back to you.

## Creating Safer Environment, Preventing Another Tragedy

BY TIMOTHY D. HUGO  
STATE DELEGATE (R-40)

**A**fter the Virginia Tech shooting in 2007, I became committed to addressing mental health issues so that many of our young people could receive the help they need in the hopes of preventing another tragedy. Working with my colleagues in 2008, the Virginia General Assembly enacted comprehensive mental health legislation including several pieces of legislation that I co-sponsored. Last year, the governor signed my legislation, HB 1075, which requires community service boards to provide hospitals with informational materials on substance and alcohol abuse services to minors.

During this year's General Assembly session, I introduced HB 1609, which strives to improve the coordination between public four-year higher education institutions, mental health facilities, and local hospitals. I introduced this legislation at the request of



Centreville residents, Angel Fund President Lu Ann McNabb and Board Member Greg Richter. Angel Fund ([www.angelfundva.org](http://www.angelfundva.org)) was established in honor of one of the Virginia Tech victims, Westfield High School graduate Reema Samaha. The fund seeks to create an atmosphere of acceptance

where schools and communities have a caring, supportive, and inclusive environment to help young people.

HB 1609 ensures that all four-year public colleges and universities have mechanisms in place in order to expand services available to students seeking treatment. Specifically, it allows universities and community services boards to work together so that there is notification when a student is involuntarily committed, or when a student is discharged from a facility and he consents to such notification.

During the bill's hearings,

Virginia's universities unanimously testified in support for HB 1609. As this article goes to print, my legislation, along with Senator Chap Petersen's identical legislation, is before the governor for his signature.

I believe that ensuring the mental health of our children is of the utmost importance. This year's legislation is important as it will strengthen the connection between higher education institutions and mental health facilities. It will also create a safer and more supportive environment for students and may help to prevent future tragedies.

If you would like additional information on this issue, please contact me at 703-815-1201 or [delthugo@house.virginia.gov](mailto:delthugo@house.virginia.gov).

## How I Got My Dog

BY ELLEN FOX

**W**e had been looking for a new dog for close to 10 years—I would occasionally stop at the animal shelter or at a rescue group set-up—but I really didn't know how to pick out a dog, so I just didn't. Our previous dogs had basically just fallen into our laps by differing circumstances.

When I heard that my waiter

where I frequently eat lunch had dropped dead of a heart attack while out running with his dogs, I immediately said that I would take both dogs, sight unseen. I knew that the pets of deceased owners were frequently just taken to the shelter. However, I was told that his ex-roommate had taken both dogs, was keeping one, and that he had given the other one to a girl who would be attending college in Richmond in the fall.

A year later, at the beginning of May 2012, I heard that the girl in Richmond had loaded up the dog and all her belongings (bed, leash, dish, etc.) and taken her to the Richmond Animal Shelter at the

beginning of February, three months before. I thought, oh no, the dog wouldn't still be alive at a shelter after three months if no one had adopted her. I got back to my office as soon as possible and saw there was more than one animal shelter in Richmond. I didn't even know what she looked like, but the first one I pulled up had a dog by her name. I called the adoption coordinator, and it was her! That was a Tuesday, and I filled out the adoption application and provided references. I went to Richmond on that Saturday and we brought home our new dog, who had also fallen into our laps!

She keeps my parents, who are in their late 80's, company during the day. My mother wanted me to write this because she can't stop marveling that Luna had sat in the shelter for three months and no one had taken her since she is extremely smart, well behaved, and practically perfect in every way. I think she was waiting on us (and our thanks to the Richmond Animal Shelter and its wonderful coordinator who gave her the chance to find a new home).

—Ellen Fox has been a Burke resident since 1980, and is a Springfield native who works in McLean.

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# Capital Area Food Bank Receives \$99,245 From Giant

**A**s a result of the 25th annual Good Neighbor Food and Funds Drive, Giant Food of Landover, Md., presented a check in the amount of \$99,245.70 to the Capital Area Food Bank in Lorton. Through the Good Neighbor Food and Funds Drive, Giant customers donated more than \$168,000 to support hunger relief efforts of five Feeding America food banks.

**Anthony Hucker, president, Giant Food of Landover, Md.; Nancy Roman, president and CEO, Capital Area Food Bank; Brian Shelton, Giant Food of Landover, Md. vice president of finance and member of Capital Area Food Bank's Board of Directors.**



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# PET CONNECTION



Amy Lubinski of Springfield and her rescued dog Daphne frequent the South Run Dog Park.



The Ward family's whippet-beagle mix Tangle, of Fairfax Station, was adopted just before a shelter-scheduled euthanization.



From left, Maddie, Sassy and Molly take a break from playing inside the Waickwicz house. Cats Lynxie, Fatty and Asa are understandably absent.



Emily Waickwicz of Fairfax Station sits with feline household matriarch Asa, a unique mixed breed from Iceland.

## Rescued Cats and Dogs Bring Loyalty to Families

### Families grow with adopted pets.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

The ASPCA estimates that nationwide, somewhere between 5 and 7 million "companion animals" wind up in shelters each year. Of that number, 60 percent of dogs and 70 percent of cats are euthanized ... each year. The prominent humane organization also figures only about 20 to 30 percent of cat and dog pets were acquired from rescues and shelters.

Unfortunately not every animal can find a home before it's too late, but for the lucky ones who do get adopted, many end up becoming indispensable members of their foster families. Each of these women brought at least one shelter-rescue animal into their lives. And each animal has carved a special place in its adopted family.

**SPRINGFIELD RESIDENT** Amy Lubinski adopted Daphne, a mix of Labrador, pit bull and boxer, two years ago from Dog World Rescue in Alexandria (dogworldrescue.com). The pair makes weekly visits to the South Run Dog Park, where Daphne displays

the more outgoing side of what Lubinski described as a "split personality."

"At home, she's sweet and cuddly," Lubinski said, "but she can be very protective. She thinks the UPS man is coming to kill me."

The defensive instinct is part of a strong maternal inclination in Daphne, according to Lubinski. In addition to a suspected abusive past, Daphne was reportedly picked up as a stray, scavenging through trash to provide for her own litter of pups. "Wherever we go, she attracts puppies," said Lubinski. "They'll just come up and try to nurse off of her, and she will stand there in all her motherly glory."

**A WHIPPET-BEAGLE MIX** named Tangle was adopted by Laurel Ward and her family over four years ago on the very day the animal was scheduled to be put down in a Greenville, S.C., high-kill shelter. The Fairfax Station resident found Tangle through an online agency called K-9 Lifesavers (k-9lifesavers.org).

The non-profit organization seeks to remove animals from "high risk" scenarios and set them up with foster homes and ultimately long-term adoptions.

Looking through the listings for small to medium-sized animals, Ward said, "I saw that there were 500 dogs 30 pounds and smaller up for adoption, and it broke my heart. I'm surprised I stopped at one."

The Ward family was replacing a crossbred

Labradoodle that looked like the perfect fit, on paper. "She was supposed to be a wonderful combination of loving personality, trainability, modest size," said Ward, but by the time the puppy had become a 75-pound adolescent, she was "none of the above."

Finally, an incident involving an attack on another dog forced Ward to look for another home for the dog, which she was fortunately able to accomplish. Tangle, despite an initial anxiousness in most social situations, warms up quickly to an attentive, cherubic disposition.

Ward previously owned a rescued animal, whose loving and loyal personality was sorely missed in the Labradoodle. Tangle has picked up the torch for the family. "We're adoption people," said Ward. "I would do it again in a heartbeat."

**THE WAICKWICZ BACK YARD** in Fairfax Station is a bit worse for wear, thanks to the playful interactions of two golden retrievers—7-year-old sisters Molly and Maddie—and a 14-month-old bull mastiff named Sassy.

Fortunately, the family's additional three cats and horse all play elsewhere. Growing up on a farm north of Baltimore with "the whole menagerie of cats and chickens," Eleanor Waickwicz admits it's only natural that her home is packed with pets. (To be fair, the retired thoroughbred "JP" is boarded in Richmond and

receives weekly visits from Waickwicz's daughter Emily.) "The lows are the vet visits," she said, "and the amount of fur I vacuum every day. But everyone who has pets can relate. I wouldn't give it up."

Waickwicz and her family spent three years living in Iceland and five in San Diego, adding strays and adoptions to their own menagerie along the way. That includes 12-year-old alpha feline Asa who hails from Iceland. The 7-pound blend of European Burmese and Icelandic Siamese is "very different, all the way around," according to Waickwicz, and "controls everything around the house."

Seeking a replacement for a second cat from Iceland that didn't survive the move, the family found Lynxie at a Petco adoption day in San Diego (petco.com). The tabby was soon joined by another stray, that "appeared on our doorstep—pathetic little thing," said Waickwicz.

The house was at cat capacity, so she attempted to find a no-killing shelter in the area. "They laughed at me," Waickwicz said. It appeared the second tabby was staying put. "My husband said, 'What's one more?'" Now Fatty, as she's called, "is just the sweetest cat, sweetest personality and disposition—what a doll, everyone loves her."

"They're all part of the family," concluded Waickwicz. Which is a more desirable fate for any animal than becoming another grim statistic.



Amy Lubinski's "split-personality" Labrador-pit bull-boxer mix Daphne has a protective, motherly instinct. Lubinski and Daphne frequent the South Run Dog Park in Springfield.

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Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**, 5800 Backlick Road, Springfield, holds a prayer service followed by a fellowship reception on World Day of Prayer, Friday, March 1, at 7 p.m. 703-764-0872.

**Knollwood Community Church Fellowship Center**, 10000 Coffey Woods Road, Burke, holds a 12-week Stretch Your Faith-themed yoga class series from Tuesday, Feb. 19, to Saturday, May 16, on both Tuesday evenings from 6:15-7:30 p.m. and Thursday afternoons from 1:30-2:45 p.m. All levels are welcome; bring a yoga mat, towel and optional yoga strap and blocks. The first class is free. \$72 (one day per week) or \$8 drop-in rate. 571-239-3416, sandyro@holyyoga.net or www.facebook.com/holyyoganova.

**St. Leo the Great Church** in Fairfax offers a program for Catholics who are away from the church, struggling with church teachings

or who would like to more fully practice their faith by returning to the Sacraments; the program, Welcome Home, is offered on Sundays, Feb. 24 and March 3 and 10 at 7 p.m. in the St. John Room, 3770 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. csmith@stleofairfax.com.

**Life Water Ministries** in Fairfax offers a retreat, Single But Not Alone: Christian Women's Retreat 2013 in Chesapeake Beach, Md., with two days of sessions and activities, a concert featuring Troy Sneed, discussions, a zumba class and fashion show, food, and encouragement for women 18 years and older never married or who are divorced or widowed. \$175. 703-425-4321 or www.lwministries.org.

**Fairfax Baptist Temple**, at the corner of Fairfax County Parkway and Burke Lake Roads, holds a Bible Study Fellowship at 9 a.m. Sundays followed by a 10 a.m. worship service. Nursery care and Children's Church also provided. 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station, 703-323-8100, www.fbtministries.org.

**Lord of Life Lutheran** offers

services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:15, 9:45 and 11:15 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

**First Baptist Church of Springfield** offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., followed by a 10:30 a.m. worship service. 7300 Gary Street, Springfield. 703-451-1500 www.fbcspringfield.org.

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

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

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Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

**WEDNESDAY/MARCH 13**

**NARFE Meeting.** 1 p.m., at American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield. A presentation on the local Inova Hospital, its services and daily emergency care; guests welcome. 703-569-9684 or harahan@verizon.net.

**SATURDAY/MARCH 16**

**Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon.** Donate to the Josh Anderson Foundation for preventing teenage suicide by giving to their largest fundraising event and/or running in the marathon. www.active.com/donate/joshafoundation2013.

**CASA Volunteer Info Session.**

11 a.m.-noon, at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Drive, Alexandria. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) hosts an info session for volunteers to learn more about advocating for abused or neglected children. 703-273-3526 ext. 22 or ekosarin@casafairfax.org.

**ONGOING**

**Thank veterans for their service** via the post: draw or write a note of thanks and encouragement—no need to seal in envelopes, Adopt a Soldier will do that—and send to Americas Adopt A Soldier, P.O. Box 1049, Springfield, VA 22151. www.americasadoptasoldier.org.

**COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP**



5690 Oak Leather Drive  
 Burke, VA 22015  
 703-764-0456  
 www.BurkePresChurch.org

**Sunday Worship:** 8:30 & 11:00 am  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
**Saturday Worship:** 5:30 pm CoffeeHouse  
 casual, guest musicians

First Monday of the month: Labyrinth Prayer Walk  
 Great offerings for children, youth and adults throughout the week.  
 Wonderful opportunities in music and mission.

**Baha'i Faith**

Baha'is of Fairfax County Southwest...703-912-1719

**Baptist**

- Antioch Baptist Church... 703-425-0940
- Clifton Baptist Church... 703-263-1161
- Community Baptist Church... 703-250-9060
- Fairfax Baptist Temple... 703-323-8100
- Harvest Assembly Baptist Church... 703-799-7868
- Hope Baptist Church... 703-799-5155
- Jerusalem Baptist Church... 703-278-8166
- Shiloh Baptist Church... 703-550-8557
- Virginia Korean Baptist Church... 703-425-1972



9800 Old Keene Mill Rd.  
 703-455-7041

Sunday School  
 9:15 AM

Worship Service  
 10:30 AM

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

www.calvaryfamily.com

"Continuing the ministry of Christ on earth"

**Buddhist**

Ekochi Buddhist Temple... 703-239-1200

**Catholic**

St. Clare of Assisi... 703-266-1310  
 St. Raymond Penafort... 703-440-0535

**Church of God**

Church of the Living God of No. Va... 703-250-7980  
 Congregación La Cena Del Señor...703-550-1204

**Episcopal**

St. Peter's in the Woods... 703-503-9210

Pohick Church... 703-339-6579

**Jewish**

Temple B'nai Shalom... 703-764-2901

**Lutheran**

Living Savior Lutheran Church...703-352-1421

A CHURCH WITH A MESSAGE I CAN UNDERSTAND AND PEOPLE I CAN RELATE TO

SATURDAYS 5:30PM  
 SUNDAYS 9:30 & 11AM

**CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG**

**CHRIST CHURCH**  
 8285 GLEN EAGLES LANE  
 FAIRFAX STATION, VA 22039



**Methodist**

Christ Church of Fairfax Station... 703-690-3401

Cranford United Methodist Church...703-339-5382

**Non-Denominational**

- Grace Bible Church... 703-339-7292
- Gunston Bible Church... 703-339-5395
- Iglesia La Gran Comision Asambleas De Dios... 703-541-0816
- New Hope Church...703-971-4673
- New Jerusalem Temple of Worship...703-593-6153
- The Spirit of The Living Christ Ministry...703-568-5647

**Pentecostal**

Christ Pentecostal International Church...703-339-2119  
 First United Pentecostal Church... 703-339-2402

**Presbyterian**

Clifton Presbyterian Church... 703-830-3175  
 Seoul Presbyterian Church... 703-764-1310

**Sikh**

Sikh Foundation of Virginia...703-323-8849

**To Advertise Your Community of Worship, Call 703-778-9418**

ZONE 2: • BURKE  
• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD

# EMPLOYMENT

703-917-6464  
ZONE 2 Ad DEADLINE:  
WEDNESDAY 11 A.M.

ZONE 2: • BURKE  
• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD

# HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM CONTRACTORS.com

703-917-6400  
ZONE 2 Ad DEADLINE:  
TUESDAY NOON

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A great opportunity to  
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NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER  
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!  
**301-333-1900**  
Weekdays 9-4

### BUSINESS OPP

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No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!  
**301-333-1900**  
Weekdays 9-4

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Call or email Sharon: 703-799-5233  
sezzeldin@mountvernon.org EOE

George Washington's  
**MOUNT VERNON**

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Fairfax Connection, 22032 area, 447  
deliveries, no collections, papers &  
supplies brought to carrier's home: 703-  
917-6481, leave name & phone number

### CARRIER JOB OPENING

The Oaks, Burke, 255 Connection newspa-  
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leave name & phone number.

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Busy internal medicine office in  
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Experience preferred.  
Call Pat 703-764-4850

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#### JOB OPPORTUNITY

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to service plants in Northern, VA & sur-  
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tropical plants, and pay attention to detail.  
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sume to: [cmiller@interiorplantscapes.com](mailto:cmiller@interiorplantscapes.com)

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Great opportunity for outside sales  
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### GUTTERS

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### IMPROVEMENTS

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**21 Announcements**

**ABC LICENSE**  
E&J Express Food, Inc trading as Express 1 Food Mart, 4713 Backlick Rd, Annandale, VA 22003. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Hey Jung Chin, President  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

**21 Announcements**

**ABC LICENSE**  
Ming Ou Yang trading as Beijing Tokyo Asian Bistro, 9544 Old Keene Mill Rd, Burke, VA 22015. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Ming ou Yang, president.  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

**21 Announcements**

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ALL 2012 STOCK MUST GO!  
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Be a demo homesite for our maintenance-free Kayak Pool. Save thousands with this unique opportunity. Call now for a free backyard survey!  
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**21 Announcements**

**21 Announcements**

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**21 Announcements**

**21 Announcements**

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**21 Announcements**

**21 Announcements**

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We're interested in talking with teens about their experiences on Facebook.  
Requirements: Must be between the ages of 14-17, Must have a Facebook profile and must be willing to talk about experiences on Facebook. If interested please call: Ashley Wise, Investigator, Master's candidate at Virginia Tech 703-220-9472  
Interested participants must contact researcher while with a parent. Participants will receive a gift card to a restaurant of their choice!

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**LANDSCAPING**

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Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured  
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Zone 4.....Wed @ 1:00  
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**ZONES**

<b>Zone 1:</b> The Reston Connection The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection	<b>Zone 4:</b> Centre View North Centre View South
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<b>Zone 3:</b> The Alexandria Gazette Packet The Mount Vernon Gazette	

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Find out if the new implantable miniature telescope can help you see better.  
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# HOME SALES

In January 2013, 45 homes sold between \$1,275,000-\$150,000 in the Clifton, Fairfax Station and Lorton area.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode
10817 WINDERMERE LN	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,275,000	Detached	11.01	22039	
12606 CLIFTON HUNT LN	5	4	1	CLIFTON	\$920,000	Detached	5.31	20124	
9712 ROLLING RIDGE DR	6	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$881,000	Detached	0.75	22039	
6901 WOLF RUN SHOALS RD	3	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$868,000	Detached	5.09	22039	
7507 SOUTH REACH DR	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$850,000	Detached	0.69	22039	
8086 PAPER BIRCH DR	5	4	1	LORTON	\$790,000	Detached	0.21	22079	
8703 FLOWERING DOGWOOD LN	5	4	1	LORTON	\$730,000	Detached	0.15	22079	
10801 JENNIFER MARIE PL	5	4	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$728,000	Detached	2.12	22039	
8515 HERON POND LN	6	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$720,922	Detached	0.30	22039	
8905 RHODODENDRON CIR	5	4	1	LORTON	\$690,000	Detached	0.24	22079	
13310 CLIFTON PARK CIR	4	3	1	CLIFTON	\$688,264	Detached	0.20	20124	
13826 FOGGY HILLS CT	5	4	1	CLIFTON	\$678,000	Detached	0.28	20124	
5522 WILLOW VALLEY RD N	5	5	1	CLIFTON	\$640,000	Detached	0.37	20124	
5710 RIVER DR	4	3	1	LORTON	\$636,000	Detached	1.04	22079	
6834 COMPTON HEIGHTS CIR	5	3	1	CLIFTON	\$615,000	Detached	0.28	20124	
8208 PAPER BIRCH DR	4	2	1	LORTON	\$590,000	Detached	0.15	22079	
14014 MARBLESTONE DR	6	3	1	CLIFTON	\$579,900	Detached	0.22	20124	
5941 KENTIA TRL	4	3	1	LORTON	\$565,000	Detached	0.41	22079	
8971 BIRCH BAY CIR	4	2	1	LORTON	\$565,000	Detached	0.15	22079	
10812 ANITA DR	4	3	1	LORTON	\$539,000	Detached	0.95	22079	
8417 STARGAZER LILY CT	4	4	0	LORTON	\$523,000	Detached	0.10	22079	
9768 LORRAINE CAROL WAY	4	3	1	LORTON	\$505,000	Detached	0.11	22079	
6018 UNION SPRINGS CT	4	2	1	CLIFTON	\$500,000	Detached	0.28	20124	
8210 HIGHAM RD	4	3	0	LORTON	\$470,000	Detached	0.58	22079	
9137 FUREY RD	3	3	1	LORTON	\$460,000	Townhouse	0.06	22079	
8068 HORSESHOE COTTAGE CIR	3	2	1	LORTON	\$429,000	Townhouse	0.04	22079	
8980 YELLOW DAISY PL	3	3	0	LORTON	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.09	22079	
8365 DERWENT VALLEY CT	3	3	1	LORTON	\$412,500	Townhouse	0.04	22079	
7617 FALLSWOOD WAY	3	2	1	LORTON	\$398,000	Detached	0.15	22079	
8806 SYLVANIA ST	6	5	2	LORTON	\$385,000	Detached	0.28	22079	
13528 GRAY BILL CT	3	2	1	CLIFTON	\$360,000	Townhouse	0.04	20124	
7319 ARDGLASS DR	4	3	1	LORTON	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.04	22079	
8435 PEACE LILY CT #310/01	2	2	0	LORTON	\$314,345	Garden 1-4 Floors		22079	
7638 WHITLY WAY	3	2	1	LORTON	\$299,900	Townhouse	0.04	22079	
7510 DEVRIES DR	4	2	0	LORTON	\$295,000	Detached	0.24	22079	
8933 MILFORD HAVEN CT #33A	3	2	1	LORTON	\$280,000	Townhouse		22079	
8559 BLACKFOOT CT	2	2	0	LORTON	\$267,900	Townhouse	0.02	22079	
8724 PINNACLE ROCK CT	2	1	1	LORTON	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.03	22079	
8220 CATBIRD CIR #101	2	2	0	LORTON	\$224,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		22079	
8304 BLUEBIRD WAY #6	3	2	1	LORTON	\$216,000	Townhouse		22079	
9262 CARDINAL FOREST LN #101	2	2	0	LORTON	\$212,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		22079	
7184 CLIFTON RD	2	1	0	CLIFTON	\$185,000	Detached	1.33	20124	
10418 MADISON DR	2	1	0	LORTON	\$174,000	Detached	0.66	22079	
9795 HAGEL CIR	3	2	0	LORTON	\$158,000	Townhouse	0.02	22079	
13611 ORCHARD DR #3611	1	1	0	CLIFTON	\$150,000	Other		20124	

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9347 Peter Roy Ct.....\$439,900....Sun 1-4.....Pam Cornelio.....McEneaney..703-549-9292  
10807 Oak Wilds Ct.....\$439,000....Sun 12-3.....Yong Lee.....Classic..703-791-9893  
5936 Burke Cove Rd #102..\$249,950....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

### Centreville

6487 Trillium House Ln.....\$964,900..Sun 10-4.....Jean Marotta.....Birch Haven...703 402-9471

### Clifton

8215 Cub Den Ct.....\$699,999....Sun 1-3.....Lisa Clayborne...Long & Foster..703-502-8145

### Fairfax Station

7102 Laketree Ct.....\$914,950....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808  
8610 Running Fox Ct.....\$899,999....Sun 1-4.....Billy Thompson...Samson Props..703 409-0340  
11681 Yates Ford Rd.....\$859,000....Sat 1-4.....Judyane Pfarrer..Samson Props..703-989-8767

### Fort Belvoir

9169 Prices Cove Ln.....\$599,999....Sun 1-4..Tom & Cindy & Assoc...Long & Foster..703-822-0207

### Kingstowne/Alexandria

3409 Sharon Chapel Rd.....\$598,000....Sun 1-4.....Kyle Graumann..Keller Williams..703-562-1800  
6104 Mulberry Ct.....\$569,500....Sun 1-4.....Brian Mahoney.....EXIT..703-766-4600  
6022 Cromwell Pl.....\$499,950....Sun 1-4..Tom & Cindy & Assoc...Long & Foster..703-822-0207  
6649 High Valley Ln.....\$347,000....Sat 1-4.....Man Ngo.....Westgate..703-208-9999  
7513 Ashby Ln #K.....\$294,900....Sun 1-4.....Cristina Sison..Keller Williams..703-224-6120

### Lorton

9269 Blu Steel Way.....\$992,500....Sun 1-4.....Bob Lovett.....RE/MAX..703-690-0037  
6830 Tiddle Way.....\$699,000....Sun 1-4.....Beckie Owen...Long & Foster..703-328-4129

### Springfield

6421 Wainfleet Ct.....\$529,000....Sun 1-4.....Joe Frangipane...Long & Foster..703-628-4430

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF KOLLEEN RAITZ

**Lorton resident Kolleen Raitz pictured with Lanny (left) and family dog Reagan (right).**



PHOTO BY LINDA HARMON

**Heidi settles down for a nap at the Harmon residence in Lorton.**

# A Lesson of Love

BY ANNA BLORE  
THE CONNECTION

**F**or Kolleen Raitz of Lorton, twelve-and-a-half-year-old springer spaniel Lanny acts as more than just a lifelong friend, but as the reason she decided to pursue a career as a dog trainer. “She’s special for so many reasons, but mostly because of the profound effect she has had on my life and the lessons she has taught me over the years. She is, without a doubt, the single most important thing that has ever happened to me. She has taught me everything, from patience and forgiveness to self-control and being able to believe in myself. She taught me that the ribbons, titles, and awards matter little in comparison to the journey itself. But by far, the most important lesson she has taught me is that of love. She has loved me, unconditionally, through many of my worst moments. She suffered through a lifetime of mistakes while I was figuring out how to be a dog trainer. And somehow, even after doing so many things wrong and making so many mistakes, she remains hopelessly devoted to me. I have often wondered how I could possibly be deserving of such love. No dog will ever compare to her ... no matter how many dogs come after her, she will always be my first and greatest love. A lot of dog owners talk about that “once in a lifetime dog”—the one dog who is unlike any other, the one who you will never be able to replace, and the bond that you share which can never be replicated ... Lanny is that dog for me.” When the Harmon family

**PEOPLE & PETS**

originally decided it was time to add a new member to their home in Lorton, they expected to be picking up a male shepherd puppy mix from the local pound in Brandon, Fla. “You can imagine how surprised we were when we picked Heidi up and he was a she,” said Linda Harmon. With no apparent shepherd traits, Heidi is six-and-a-half and companionable as ever. “She’s really a big sweetheart,” said Harmon. “She’s very mellow and loves to be where the people are.” When things get hectic in the Harmon household, Heidi is able to balance out the chaos with her mellow and friendly disposition. In return for her services she enjoys lamb treats and lots of attention. At age 7, Fritz is a Jack Russell/Chihuahua mix. After being picked up as a rescue dog at a Petsmart in Oklahoma, Anne Wood drove 700 miles to bring Fritz back home to Burke with her. “She stayed on my lap the entire time and did not move a muscle,” said Wood. “I think on some level she realizes that we saved her.” Wood had lived in the Burke area for a year at the time, and Fritz quickly adapted to the “homebody” lifestyle. “Although she can get a little hyper, she’s very well-mannered,” said Wood. “She enjoys moving my shoes around the house.” Unlike most dogs, Fritz prefers to reorganize her owner’s closet as opposed to chewing down on Wood’s leather. “It’s so funny because she won’t chew on the shoes at all,” said Wood. “She just has a habit of cleaning up after me!”

A rare addition to the Lorton Community, Kim Leavenworth’s dog is a golden-doodle. Half golden

SEE A LESSON, PAGE 17



**Don and Anne Wood pictured with Fritz outside their Burke home.**



PHOTO BY ANNA BLORE/THE CONNECTION

**Kim Leavenworth and Brody out for a stroll by the Lorton trails.**



**“Treatise,” by Lynn Goldstein, who turns a new page on artwork to remember the Holocaust. European books are used in an interactive art installation to draw viewer’s attention to the reality of the devastation.**

## Fairfax Station Artist in JCCNV Exhibit, Resistance Through Art

Lynn Goldstein’s work is part of the JCCNV exhibit Resistance Through Art, on view from now through April 15 at the Bodzin Art Gallery, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, with a reception on Sunday, April 7, from 5-8:30 p.m. The exhibit is sponsored by the JCCNV and the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington. Goldstein’s work is symbolic of the “everyday that was taken away from 6,000,000 people” in the Holocaust. [www.lynngoldstein.com](http://www.lynngoldstein.com).

### CALENDAR

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

#### SATURDAY/MARCH 2

**The Broken Spell.** 1 p.m., at the Workhouse in the W-3 Theatre, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A children’s theatre performance that tells the story of the princess that keeps falling asleep until her parents try to fix it by spell. However, it doesn’t work and true love must be found. \$12 for adults; \$8 for children. [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).

#### Springfield Art Guild Opening Reception.

7-9 p.m., at Northern Virginia Community College, Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center—Building CE 2, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. A month long exhibit and sale in the Ernst Auditorium lobbies.

#### FRIDAY/MARCH 8

**Josh DeWeese Ceramics.** 7-9 p.m., at the Workhouse, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Josh DeWeese, assistant professor of art at Montana State University, Bozeman, and former resident director of the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts in Helena, Mont., exhibits ceramic pieces that have been thrown then altered, using pottery as an expressive art form in a contemporary context.

[www.WorkhouseArts.org](http://www.WorkhouseArts.org).  
**Saawariya: Dinner and a Movie Night.** 8 p.m., at the W-3 Theatre in the Workhouse, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Film, dinner and soft drinks make it an arts experience to savor; the Bollywood masterpiece directed by Sanjay Leela, inspired by Dostoyevsky’s White Nights, shows. Reservations (indicate dietary needs). \$39 per person. [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).

#### SATURDAY/MARCH 9

**2nd Saturday Art Walk.** 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Meet each building’s featured artist, a reception in W-16 from 6-7 p.m. and more. [www.WorkhouseArts.org](http://www.WorkhouseArts.org).

**City Works Opening Reception and Book Signing.** 6-9 p.m., in Studio 4, the Workhouse, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The paintings of John Gascot and Mary Gallagher-Stout, or “The Art Monkeys” explore urban life, culture and architecture—their collaboration, or “ongoing conversations,” began with their first children’s book, USA to Z: Artful ABC’s for Kids of All Ages. [www.TheArtMonkeys.com](http://www.TheArtMonkeys.com).

**Northern Virginia Chorale.** 7:30 p.m., at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, 5800 Backlick Road, Springfield. The chorale, accompanied by a jazz ensemble, presents “American Journeys,” a sentimental musical journey that recalls sights and sounds across the nation from Route 66 to New York, New York and the like.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 16

\$20 at the door; \$15 in advance.  
www.northernvirginiachorale.org.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 16

**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

**Display and N Gauge Trains.** 1-4 p.m., at the Fairfax Station Road Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. A display with trains runs all afternoon; museum open with shows. \$3 for adults; \$1 for children. 703-425-9225 or www.fairfax-station.org.

## TUESDAY/MARCH 20

**West Springfield Pyramid Art Show.** 6-7:30 p.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. A showcase of art from the entire pyramid school system of West Springfield High School, kindergarten through 12th grade. www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs.

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 21

**West Springfield Pyramid Art**

**Show.** 7 a.m.-1 p.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. A showcase of art from the entire pyramid school system of West Springfield High School, kindergarten through 12th grade. www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 18

**2013 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards.** 8 a.m.-10 p.m., at Waterford, 6715 Commerce St., Springfield. The Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards serve as a community-wide celebration of volunteerism and the awards honor individuals, groups and organizations that have given outstanding volunteer service. Nominations/online application are due: Feb. 4 by 4 p.m. 703-246-3825 or www.volunteerfairfax.org.

## SATURDAY/MAY 11

**Fairfax Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks VI.** 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Conductor Christopher Zimmerman, tenor Brennen Guillory and soprano Joni Henson perform Wagner's "Prelude and Liebestod," Tristan und Isolde and Prelude to Act 3, Lohengrin; Verdi's Overture to La Forza del Destino, Overture to I vespri siciliani, Love Duet Finale Act I Otello, "Dio ti giocondi, O Sposo" Otello, "Dio mi potevi, scagliar" Otello, Willow Song Otello and "Libiamo," La Traviata. \$25-\$55. 703-563-1990 or www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

# A Lesson of Love

FROM PAGE 16

retriever and half poodle, Brody towers over the Leavenworth household. "He loves to play with other dogs," said Leavenworth. "But I'm not sure he realizes quite how big he is." At a whopping 85 pounds, Brody is an extremely sweet and friendly dog. "He loves everyone," said Leavenworth. "He's also incredibly intelligent. He can understand simple words like 'dinner' and 'walk' and has begun to learn the family members names." Still recovering from the loss of one of their former pets, the Leavenworth household was a little hesitant to get another dog. "My daughters found a woman in West Virginia who was selling him," said Leavenworth. "We picked him up on Dec. 26, 2011, and he turned out to be one of the best Christmas presents we could have ever asked for."



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## Woodson Wins Region Title With Epic Comeback

**Cavaliers erase 19-point fourth-quarter deficit against Wakefield.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**W**oodson boys' basketball coach Doug Craig, wearing a white shirt and a red, white and blue tie, climbed a ladder placed underneath one of the goals at Robinson Secondary School.

His black hair soaked with sweat, Craig ascended until he reached the net and made the final celebratory snip, separating twine from iron. With the net in his grasp, Craig pumped his fist in the air before descending to the court and placing the net around the neck of senior Peter Murray.

"That was fantastic," Murray said.

After three quarters of Saturday's Northern Region championship game were in the books, the likelihood of a Woodson postgame celebration appeared slim as the Cavaliers trailed Wakefield by 19 points. Woodson's shots weren't falling and the Cavaliers had been limited to a combined 16 points in the second and third quarters. With a state tournament berth already secured, Woodson wasn't faced with a win-or-go-home scenario. But as it turned out, the Cavaliers didn't need the fear of their season ending to pull off a miraculous comeback.

Woodson defeated Wakefield 75-70 in overtime during the Northern Region tournament final on Feb. 23 at Robinson. Woodson secured its first outright region championship in the school's 50-year history and provided those in attendance with a memorable performance.

**THE CAVALIERS** were down by as many as 22 points in the second half and trailed 52-33 entering the fourth quarter. Over the next 12 minutes, Woodson outscored Wakefield 42-18, including 26-7 in the fourth quarter to force overtime.

"To be honest, I think we were a bit worried, but we knew we could do it," Woodson senior Alex Boock said about the team's mindset entering the final quarter. "We knew it would be tough, but we knew we could do it."

Woodson opened the fourth quarter on an 11-0 run, cutting the Wakefield lead to eight on a Tommy Stepka bucket with 6:08 remaining. Murray's 3-pointer with 3:49 left pulled the Cavaliers within five and Boock's 3-ball 40 seconds later cut the Warriors' lead to 55-52. Each was part of a 22-3 run.

Murray made another 3-pointer with 1:20 remaining, tying the score at 59-all. Neither team would score during the remainder of regulation, sending the game to overtime.

"We just told them ... to just keep playing because we knew we could do it," Craig said. "We knew we could score a lot of points, we knew we could get hot and make some shots. We just went cold for about two quarters — we just couldn't throw it in the ocean. ...

"There's no magic potion or anything. We just kept playing hard."

Wakefield struck first in overtime on a bucket by



**Woodson senior Tommy Stepka shoots while Wakefield's Ermias Nega defends during the Northern Region tournament final on Feb. 23 at Robinson Secondary School.**

senior Khory Moore, but Woodson responded with a 3-pointer by senior guard Damian Bell, giving the Cavaliers a 62-61 advantage — their first lead since the 5:33 mark of the second quarter.

"I think they got the first basket (of overtime) and [Bell's 3-pointer] was the dagger," Murray said. "At that point, once we took the lead ... I think Wakefield just kind of crumpled up and backed down."

A free throw by Moore tied the score at 62-all, but Woodson's Stepka answered with a 3-pointer with 2:10 remaining and the Cavaliers led for the remainder of the contest.

"The bottom line is," Boock said, "we started playing the right way at the right time."

Murray and Boock each finished with 19 points for Woodson. Stepka had 12 points, and Eric Bowles had 11 and Bell each had 11.

Murray was named tournament MVP. Stepka and Boock made the all-tournament team.

Moore scored 37 points in defeat for Wakefield. Dominique Tham scored 12 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. Each was named to the all-tournament team.

Despite Wakefield leading by 19 entering the fourth quarter, it was Woodson leaving with the "big prize." The Cavaliers lost to Lake Braddock in the Patriot District tournament semifinals, but were able to rebound with Northern Region tournament victories against Yorktown, Herndon, South County and Wakefield.

"Woodson has had a great tradition — 19 district titles in [50 seasons]," Craig said. "There's been something missing there in that region banner [but] we finally got it now."

Wakefield will travel to Richmond to face Northwest Region champion Mountain View in the VHSL AAA state quarterfinals at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28 at VCU's Siegel Center.

**WOODSON WILL FACE** Northwest Region runner-up Battlefield at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, March 1 at Robinson.

Craig said he enjoyed cutting down the net after winning a region championship. Now the Cavaliers have a shot at a state title.

"That felt pretty good," Craig said. "Hopefully we can do that again in a couple weeks."



**South County senior Oren Burks dunks against Woodson in the Northern Region tournament semifinals on Feb. 22 at Robinson Secondary School.**

## South County Falls In Region Semifinals

**Stallions lose to Woodson 67-49.**

**T**he South County boys' basketball team went 3-11 during Patriot District competition and entered the district tournament as the No. 7 seed.

That's when the Stallions started to play their best basketball.

According to head coach Wendell Johnson, South County started sharing the ball on offense and improved its half-court defense. The result was a postseason run that fell one victory short of a state tournament berth.

South County lost to Woodson 67-49 in the Northern Region tournament semifinals on Feb. 22 at Robinson Secondary School. A jumper by Nathan Williams gave the Stallions an 11-10 lead in the first quarter, but Woodson pulled away from that point, closing the opening period on a 12-2 run. A 3-

pointer by Tommy Stepka gave the Cavaliers a 25-13 advantage early in the second quarter and Woodson led by double digits for the remainder of the contest.

Senior guard Justin Hampton led South County with 15 points and senior forward Oren Burks had 14.

The Stallions closed the regular season with a 7-15 record. South County then defeated No. 2 West Potomac and No. 4 T.C. Williams to reach the Patriot District tournament championship game, where the Stallions lost to Lake Braddock. South County bounced back with regional tournament victories against Mount Vernon and Chantilly before losing to Woodson and finishing 11-17.

"Everybody on this team, when it comes down to it," Hampton said, "was 100 percent committed to each other and to winning."

— JON ROETMAN

**"Everybody on this team, when it comes down to it, was 100 percent committed to each other and to winning."**

**— South County's Senior guard Justin Hampton**



**Giancarlo Bulfon (second from right) of Skanska USA joined by members of the INOVA Lorton Healthplex team on Jan. 18 to accept the 2012 Land Conservation Award for Small Commercial Project.**

## Skanska Honored for INOVA Lorton Healthplex

On Jan. 18, the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District and the Fairfax Tree Commission honored Skanska USA's Washington, D.C., office with the 2012 Land Conservation Award for Small Commercial Project in a ceremony held at the Fairfax County Government Center. The awards honor developers, designers, site superintendents and contractors whose projects best demonstrate excellence in erosion and sediment control design and implementation; or a

commitment to tree preservation and replacement in Fairfax County. Skanska was recognized for its work and the measures it took to prevent excessive erosion and environmental damage during the construction of Phase 1 of the INOVA Healthplex in Lorton.

Skanska worked with Fairfax County and INOVA Health Care Services to ensure the worksite met all of the standards to reduce erosion as well as provided training to the local sectors contributing to the construction of Healthplex to continue the environmental safety and preservation of the area.

## SCHOOL NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

**Meredith Rigby**, of Clifton, was named to Susquehanna University's dean's list for the fall 2012 semester.

Eleven residents of Fairfax Station have been named to the fall semester Dean's List at Radford University.

They are **Lisa Michelle Diana**, junior accounting major; **Kyle Patrick Fairbanks**, freshman pre-business major; **Elizabeth Ann Haase**, junior interdisciplinary studies major; **Eileen K. McCoy**, freshman interdisciplinary studies major; **Ben Fernando Pasquel**, junior communications major; **Julia Loryn Ports**, senior communication science and disorders major; **Kayla Beth Reisinger**, senior interdisciplinary studies major; **Preston Charles Sellers**, freshman marketing major; **Aaron Thomas Sronce**, junior criminal justice major; **Sarah Ashleigh Elizabeth Stroop**, freshman interdisciplinary studies major; and **Kelli Taranto**, freshman interdisciplinary studies major.

The harder I practice, the luckier I get.

—Gary Player

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