

Helping Students Fully Recover

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Children of
Eden at the
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'Unsung Heroes of the School'

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Robinson Yearbook editor Sarah Gaulke, a senior who has been on the staff of Above and Beyond since freshman year, looks at pages for this year's year-book layout.

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FAITH

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.

Mothers and daughters, come together to enjoy Bingo, crafts, games, refreshments and more. Bring your favorite teacup and wear your best tea party hat for special contest categories. The cost is \$25/couple with an extra \$5 for each additional sibling.

The Tea is Saturday, April 5, from 2-4 p.m. at Burke United Methodist Church. There will also be a silent auction with a portion of the proceeds to benefit SHARE - Share Her Annual Real Expenses - a Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital program that provides funding for Girl Scout campsites, leader training and financial aid. For reservations contact Sandy Latta at 703-495-0063 or slatta@fourthwave.com. Reservations close March 29.

The Cancer Treatment Centers of America, sponsored by the Cancer Support Team, Ministry of Greater Little Baptist Church, Fairfax, will present "Restore: The Journey Toward Self Forgiveness & Physical Health" on Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Greater Little Zion Baptist Church, 10185 Zion Drive, Fairfax. This is a free event. To RSVP, call the church at 703-764-9111 or email Cancer Support Team Ministry at cstm@glzbc.org

The speaker will be Rev. Dr. Michael Barry author of the Forgiveness Project and Director of Pastoral Care at Cancer Treatment Centers of America in Philadelphia, Pa.

The Effects of Mass Incarceration: A Public Forum on Criminal Justice Sentencing Reform will be held on Sunday, April 6, 2 - 4 p.m. at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Drive, Burke. The panelists include state Sen. Dave Marsden, the Sentencing Project's Nazgol Ghandnoosh, Fairfax's Deputy County Executive David Rohrer. They will engage these concerns: the

United States has more people in jail than any nation in the history of the world. Unintended consequences of this Mass Incarceration are especially devastating to poor communities of color. Young African-American Men are more likely to go to jail than to college. Many drug offenders are discriminated against in housing, voting and education after they have served their sentences. How do we minimize the human costs of the Drug War and Mass Incarceration and fix this crisis? For more info got to www.accotinkuuc.org - or call 703-503-4579 and ask for Reverend Scott Sammler-Michael

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 or www.fbtministries.org.

The Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center, 10875 Main St., Fairfax City provides free classes to both newcomers and advanced practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism. The center emphasizes working with the mind and learning how to understand the workings of the mind, overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit http://www.guhyasamaja.org for more information.

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 8:30 and 10 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 at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspringfield.org.

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Matthew Poggi, MD, Medical Director

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Robinson Secondary School graduate Tom Bozetirnik and yearbook advisor Pat Hinman work together during class. The 2013 additions of Robinson's high school yearbook, *Above and Beyond*, and its middle school yearbook, *Sentry*, were recently named finalists for the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Yearbook Pacemaker awards.



Anna Rozelsky, a co-editor at *Above and Beyond*, looks at last year's Robinson yearbook, which has been named a finalist for the National Scholastic Press Association Yearbook Pacemaker awards.

'Unsung Heroes of the School'

Robinson students create yearbooks year after year.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE CONNECTION

Although they've faced multiple snow days this year, staff members of *Above and Beyond*, Robinson Secondary School's high school yearbook, are well on their way to completing the 2014 edition.

"Snow has definitely been a huge challenge this year," said Sarah Gaulke, an editor of the high school yearbook.

The staff's dedication and hard work are evident through their production schedule, which includes a great deal of class time and Saturday work sessions.

This year, the publications were recognized for their work. *Above and Beyond*, along with Robinson's middle school yearbook, *Sentry*, were named finalists for the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Yearbook Pacemaker awards at the end of February for their 2012-2013 yearbooks.

The contest, which received 368 entries, is judged by journalism educators and professionals.

Camille Sides, Gwendolyn Apgar, and Annie Goetz were editors of the 2012-2013 edition of Robinson's high school yearbook recognized for the award. Mary Kate Foley and Sara Goetzinger were editors of *Sentry*, Robinson's middle school yearbook.

"I was a little surprised, but we worked really hard. I'm glad we were recognized," said Anna Rozelsky, an editor for the high school publication.

Camille Sides, a senior who was editor of the yearbook last year as well as this year, said she was also somewhat surprised when she heard the news.

"One of the judges called our book 'a feast for the eyes.' The award has always been a goal," Sides said.

Yearbook is a popular elective at Robinson, with two classes set aside just for the high school publication. *Above and Beyond* has four editors, with two in each class.

"I've come out of my shell as editor. I didn't see myself as a leader before," said Sides.

Pat Hinman, who serves as advisor for the middle and high school yearbooks, calls her staff the "unsung heroes" of the school.

"This is really a behind-the-scenes job," Hinman

PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION



Camille Sides, a co-editor of *Above and Beyond*, works on yearbook layout during class. Sides was editor of last year's yearbook, along with Gwendolyn Apgar, and Annie Goetz, which was just named a finalist for the National Scholastic Press Association Yearbook Pacemaker awards.

said. "Most students don't really think about how the yearbook is made. They just expect one at the end of the year. Nobody realizes how much work it is."

The class is more demanding than the typical elective, Hinman said.

"At the beginning of the year, I always tell the kids: 'We have 124 blank pages-it's your job to fill them,'" she said.

Students in the class must be responsible and committed, as deadlines are important to ensuring the yearbook is published.

In addition to yearbook, many of the students, including the editors, are in advanced classes and participate in sports.

"Yearbook is my main focus," Sides said.

Several editors, including Sides, said that having Hinman as the advisor has made the class enjoyable.

"She is just so passionate about what she does," Sides said. "I've gone on a lot of yearbook-related trips with her, and am going to California with her this year for a convention. I wouldn't do that with just anybody."

Hinman says her job is really to be a facilitator between the students and the rest of the school.

"The most enjoyable part is working with the students," she said.

Despite all the days off from school due to snow making the process a little hectic, the yearbook will be coming out at the end of May.

"The pages still have to be completed, no matter what," Hinman said.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) speaks before a House Committee on the importance of new concussion legislation.

Helping Students Fully Recover

New concussion legislation goes before the governor for signature.

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn's bill, HB 1096, which places language for "Return to Learn" protocol into the Virginia Board of Education's concussion guidelines passed the House of Delegates and Senate unanimously this General Assembly Session. It will now go before the Governor for signature. Current guidelines spell out protocol for student athletes returning to the playing field, but do not include information for the students returning to the classroom.

A recent study from Children's Hospital Boston looked at more than 300 student athletes who suffered concussions. They found those who did not take a break from school work took, on average, 100 days to recover. Those who cut back on homework and online activity recovered in 20 to 50 days. The researchers say this study adds to the evidence that concussion patients benefit from cognitive rest just as much as physical rest.

Del. Filler-Corn said, "Plain and simple, students who suffer a concussion need the proper time away from sports and the classroom in order to fully recover."

"This idea can be extremely beneficial to ensure our students receive the proper care to return to class. It can also expedite the return to the classroom by noticing symptoms early and providing the necessary recovery time," Filler-Corn said.

The new legislation will require school personnel to accommodate the gradual return to the classroom of a student suffering a concussion. The appropriate time away will be based on a recommendation of the student's doctor, in consultation with school administrators.

Del. Filler-Corn worked with the Brain Injury Association of Virginia and the Virginia Association of Athletic Trainers on this bill and its passage saw wide bipartisan support.

"Plain and simple, students who suffer a concussion need the proper time away from sports and the classroom in order to fully recover."

— Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41)

Community Welcomes Homeless Into New Homes

FACETS TRIUMPH II Housing is part of the 100,000 homes campaign.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE CONNECTION

As part of the 100,000 Homes Campaign, FACETS welcomed 18 previously chronically homeless individuals into housing on March 18 at a housewarming celebration.

"These are the days that I love, love, love my job because we get to celebrate welcoming home 18 people who have been homeless for many years and finally have housing. We are so excited about that," said Amanda Andere, the executive director of FACETS.

100,000 Homes is a national movement to house 100,000 chronically homeless individuals. Last year during the 100,000 Homes Fairfax Registry Week, FACETS joined several other organizations in going out into the community and interviewing homeless people.

"I'm so proud today to say a year later, we didn't just go out and talk to people and create a registry list,



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION

FACETS executive director Amanda Andere stands with Sandra Perry in Perry's new apartment.

we created a plan, we took action. We had a goal of housing 50 of our most vulnerable in our community. With our partners in the room today, we housed 45 people," Andere said.

The 18 previously homeless individuals moved into housing this

month by FACETS are now part of TRIUMPH II Housing, funded by a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant.

Organizations such as Gracing Spaces have helped to furnish apartments that are part of TRIUMPH II Housing.

"It just helps them get a first leg-up and a fresh start," said Kathie Baumgart, director of Gracing Spaces.

Andere said that while programs like shelters are important, the community needs to focus on providing permanent housing for those who are homeless.

"If we want to make change in our community, we have to figure out how we are going to end homelessness and that is through moving people into housing," she said.

Sandra Perry, 29, a FACETS client who just moved into TRIUMPH II housing, shared her story at the housewarming event.

Perry, who grew up in the Mount Vernon area, says her family had alcohol addictions, which led to Perry entering the foster care system.

"I pretty much had to find my own way. I am a product of an addict," Perry said.

Although she has faced homelessness and used to sleep in the woods, Perry said she is mak-

ing the best of her situation.

"Without the people in FACETS and the other organizations that are helping these people, honestly I wouldn't be standing here right now," she said. "People do appreciate everything you guys are doing. I'm very grateful."

Perry welcomed attendees of the housewarming event into her apartment, which was decorated and put together thanks to Gracing Spaces.

David Vernon also opened his new apartment up to visitors.

"I really like it here," Vernon said.

Andere said FACETS is growing and moving in the right direction.

"Five years ago when I started at FACETS, we had just spent a year moving nine people into housing. And then we moved in 10. Just this last month, we moved in 18," she said.

Of the almost 2,900 homeless people in Fairfax County, 14 percent are chronically homeless. As the 100,000 Homes Campaign moves forward, organizations like FACETS are working to house these chronically homeless individuals.

Paul H. Weisshaar, M.D.
will close his GYN practice on 4/30/2014

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NEWS

Connolly Kicks Off His 2014 Campaign

Don Beyer top vote getter at event's eighth District Straw Poll.

Pledging to continue to fight on Capitol Hill for the values and rights of Northern Virginians, Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) kicked off his campaign for a fourth term in the U.S. House of Representatives Monday night before a packed house of supporters at his 20th annual St. Patrick's Day Fete.

More than 1,000 supporters from Fairfax, Prince William, and across Northern Virginia defied the aftermath of the region's latest snowfall, which dropped between 5 and 10 inches across Fairfax, to attend Northern Virginia's largest annual Democratic gathering.

Introduced by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, Connolly praised the assembled Democrats, elected officials, and candidates for "transforming the political landscape of Virginia." Connolly reaffirmed his commitment to a woman's right to choose, access to health care, and equal protection under the law for all Americans. He also reiterated his support for federal workers and "ensuring that the right to vote is universal, early, easy, and for everyone."

Many attendees cast their votes in a straw poll measuring support among the 11 Democrats seeking the Democratic nomination to succeed retiring Rep. Jim Moran as Virginia's 8th District congressman. Don Beyer topped the field, followed by Charniele Herring, Lavern Chatman, and Adam Ebbin.

Beyer, the former lieutenant governor and Ambassador to Switzerland, garnered 34 percent of the vote from the assembled Democrats for the 8th Congressional District nomination followed by Herring, a Virginia delegate and former state Democratic Party chair with 13 percent, Chatman, the former NoVA Urban League president with 12 percent, and Ebbin, a state senator, with 11 percent.

Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille and Virginia Delegates Patrick Hope and Alfonso Lopez each received 7 percent of the votes cast, while talk show host and lawyer Mark Levine got 6 percent. Candidates Satish Korpe, Bruce Shuttleworth, Nancy Najarian, and Derek Hyra each received 1 percent or less.

Connolly was joined on stage by Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring, Fairfax County supervisors, state senators and delegates, and many other elected officials and candidates from across Northern Virginia.

Attendees at the annual event dined on a full spread of traditional Irish fare and enjoyed Irish music at the annual event which began two decades ago as a small gathering in Connolly's backyard

when he first ran for a seat on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The event has grown to be the largest annual political event in Northern Virginia. An army of dedicated community activists, assisted by the Fairfax County Fire Fighters and others, come together year after year to help plan and stage the event on what Connolly calls his "holiest day of the year."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Rep. Gerry Connolly speaks at his 20th annual St. Patrick's Day Fete.

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Income Gap Alive and Well

Statistics make life in the area sound idyllic, but many families are left out in the land of plenty.

Northern Virginia is a place of wonder and plenty. So says the New York Times this past week in, "Income Gap Meet the Longevity Gap," (March 15, 2014).

Fairfax County is cited as place whose residents "are among the longest-lived in the country," and compared to McDowell County, W.Va., where residents have one of the shortest life expectancies. In Fairfax, "men have an average life expectancy of 82 years and women, 85, about the same as in Sweden. In McDowell, the averages are 64 and 73, about the same as in Iraq."

If you are reading this, chances are that the Connection was delivered to your single family home in an affluent neighborhood. In fact, many of us do live in the Northern Virginia described in the New York Times. All it takes is money.

"In Fairfax, there are ample doctors, hospi-

itals, recreation centers, shops, restaurants, grocery stores, nursing homes and day care centers, with public and private entities providing cradle-to-grave services to prosperous communities."

But here is where the crack in the wall appears: "The jobs tend to be good jobs, providing health insurance and pensions, even if there is a growing low-wage work force of health aides, janitors, fast-food workers and the like."

In Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 49,000 of the 185,000 students are poor enough to qualify for subsidized or free meals. In Fairfax County, more than 100,000 people lack health insurance, including 35,000 who could be covered now at no cost to themselves or the state if they lived in West Virginia because West Virginia has embraced the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, so its poorest residents do have access to health care. Not so in Virginia.

In Northern Virginia, we have our own income gap, and likely our own longevity gap. In Northern Virginia, we have a health care crisis. In Northern Virginia, we do have an affordable housing crisis.

Tens of thousands of working poor people in Northern Virginia, families with at least one full time job, cannot afford to rent an apartment. Earnings of at least \$1,100 a week would be required to afford market rate rent in Fairfax County according to the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance. But the county's 50,000 retail workers, for example, average about \$635 a week according to the Virginia Employment Commission. The county's 40,000-plus food service workers average \$415 a week. Even the county's 38,000 local government employees average \$950 weekly, a stretch in this area.

To read the story in the New York Times, go to www.NYTimes.com and search "income gap."

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Celebrating Inclusion Board of Supervisors Names March Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Inclusion Month.

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN C. COOK
(R-BRADDOCK DISTRICT)



The Board of Supervisors has designated March "Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Inclusion Month" in Fairfax County. Both those with disabilities and those without have their lives enriched when people with disabilities are fully included in the community. This special month seeks to help those with disabilities find ways to be involved in the community, and bring awareness to others of these engaged neighbors.

On March 29, a special movement of inclusion will take place. In Fairfax County and in communities across the country, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities will spend time doing things they love out in the community. The ARC, an organization that advocates for and serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in our

area, explains that this "simple day out and about is designed to help raise awareness and generate some conversation about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This one-day move-

ment will serve to harness our collective power to gain allies, foster understanding, dispel myths and encourage a greater understanding among people without a disability." The ARC of Northern Virginia provides many resources to people with disabilities in our area including support for families, employment programs, and leisure and recreational programs.

An organization here in Braddock that also offers services for adults with life-long disabilities is SPARC (Specially Adapted Resource Club). By providing a different solution for long-term care, SPARC helps parents answer the difficult question "What will my adult child with disabilities do

after high school graduation? The club focuses on offering life-skill and vocation skill development as the club members learn to become self-advocates. Demand for these services is so high that the club has a waiting list of individuals that would like to join.

In addition to the great resources available through the ARC of Northern Virginia and SPARC, Fairfax County offers opportunities for community involvement for individuals with disabilities. The County assists these community members through increased transportation, training, community advocacy, and more. The John Hudson Internship Program is a great example. This paid internship program in Fairfax County Government is for college students and recent graduates with disabilities, and is accepting applications through April 13.

All of these organizations seek to empower individuals as they

move toward a more independent life. Whether or not intellectual or developmental disabilities directly affect your family, this is a community issue that affects all of us. I am confident through these initiatives and more we can develop strong partnerships to improve lives, so let's continue the discussion here in Fairfax County about steps we can take to make our area more inclusive. We should use this celebration as an opportunity to strive for an inviting and engaging community.

For more information on The ARC of Northern Virginia please visit www.thearcfnova.org. For more information on SPARC please visit www.sparcsolutions.org. For information about resources available for those with disabilities in our area, please visit the Fairfax County Long Term Care Coordinating Council website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/lccc/.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Commending Election Officials During Sunshine Week

To the Editor:

During this year's Sunshine Week, the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area salutes the Fairfax County Electoral Board, General Registrar and employees of the Fairfax County Office of

Elections for their transparency and willingness to share information with the public in the follow-up to the 2013 general election.

Their handling of the election reporting, canvass, provisional ballot determinations and re-

counts in the races for Virginia Attorney General and 33rd District Senate seats exemplified the best principles of open government. The Office of Elections frequently published updates on election reporting problems and the ex-

tended provisional ballot determination process, later on providing details about the progress of the recounts, all the while describing the safeguards in place to protect the integrity of the ballot.

That integrity is essential for our

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns,
Call: 703-778-9410
e-mail:
burke@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Amna Rehmattulla
Editorial Assistant
703-778-9410 ext.427
arehmattulla@connectionnewspapers.com

Victoria Ross
County Reporter
301-502-6027
vross@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor
703-778-9410
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
e-mail:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com

Steve Hogan
Display Advertising, 703-778-9418
shogan@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Deb Cobb, Louise Krafft,
Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Poong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

system of government to work.

This is why during Sunshine Week we commend the Fairfax County Office of Elections for sharing important voting results and information with the residents of Fairfax County, detailing exactly how their votes in these important elections were counted and protected.

Jones and Helen Kelly,
Co-Presidents
League of Women Voters of the
Fairfax Area

Not Cute at All

To the Editor:

There you go again, Mary, spotting that “free” federal money [“Voting against Virginia?” – Connection, March 12-18, 2014]. Don’t you realize that many, if not most, of your readers see through your flowery attempts to sell an imaginary utopia? I mean, it used to be cute to read your “pie in the sky” collectivist fantasies when one could assume that your “intentions were good.” But that same old intellectually deficient, emotional appeal doesn’t manage to pass the sniff test anymore. It

isn’t cute at all, but rather sad; for those that unknowingly read your predictable, shortsighted and poorly vetted “opinion” with the hope that there is a feasible, sustainable solution to be found in there somewhere. But also rather insulting; that you do not realize that most of your readers are not so gullible. At least the Connection is “free;” even if federal money isn’t.

Brent Emory
Vienna

Saying ‘No’ With No Alternative

To the Editor:

Thank you for your considerate opinion that a vote against Medicaid expansion is a vote against Virginia. This opinion unfortunately gets little attention in the debate.

Those opposed to health care for the working poor in Virginia also opposed an increase in the minimum wage, which has not been increased at the Federal level since 2009.

And there is no logic to their reasoning why they oppose an expansion in health care coverage for

as many as 400,000 Virginians. Nor do they offer an acceptable alternative.

Bruce Neilson
Fairfax

Expand Medicaid in Virginia

To the Editor:

Do you know someone who works but cannot afford health insurance? I do. My hairdresser supports an adult son who cannot work because of a physical condition, and her four-year-old granddaughter. She simply does not have the money to buy insurance even under the Affordable Care Act. And she is not alone. In Virginia, 70 percent of the uninsured come from families where at least one person is employed.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the uninsured are more likely to use the Emergency Room because they do not have a family doctor. Hoping their symptoms will go away, they often delay getting medical help until their

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10



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“I'm Isabel and I like to dance.”

Isabel Doran
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A student at The Madeira School in McLean enjoys art in the school's art room. Stacie Steinke, chair of the Arts Department, says the school's approach to art draws on a student's natural curiosity, ability to perceive art in different forms and ability to think spatially.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MADEIRA SCHOOL



Visitors look at art created by students from Fairfax County Public Schools in the McLean area as part of the McLean Project for the Arts' youth art show.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE McLEAN PROJECT FOR THE ARTS



The McLean Project for the Arts' youth art show features the work of students from Fairfax County Public Schools in the McLean area.

Art Educators, Galleries Celebrate Youth Art Month

Experts say art can teach valuable life skills.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Brightly colored self-portraits, landscapes dotted with spring flowers and hand-carved sculptures fill a gallery at the McLean Project for the Arts in McLean. All of the art was created by local school children. Meanwhile, in Alexandria, parents and tots dip their fingers in glue, clay and paint to create collages, sculptures and paintings.

“It is a true delight to see parents and children making things together in the studio. Joy is found in the stuff they make — the collages, paintings, drawings and sculptures — as well as the more intangible things we build: relationships, confidence, creativity, persistence and the many ways we make meaning through art,” said Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center in Mount Vernon.

These are just some of the local art activities for children. In fact, Youth Art Month is an annual observance held each March to emphasize the value of art and art education. This year's theme is “Start With Art, Learn for Life,” which was chosen by the Council for Art Education, a sponsor of Youth Art Month.

Local art educators are using the month as an opportunity to emphasize the impor-

ance of art education and raise awareness about the important life skills it can build.

“We believe art is important to study for its inherent value, but art also promotes life skills, including creativity, problem solving, determination, concentration, collaboration and confidence,” said Samantha Marques-Mordkofsky, education and outreach manager for the Arlington Arts Center in Arlington. “Regardless of what field a child pursues later in life, these skills will translate and he or she will be better rounded because of ... art. We also offer multidisciplinary classes like Book Illustration, Amazing Architects & Engineers, and Murals: Big Art, Big Ideas where students have the opportunity to master technical skills in art while simultaneously learning about other subjects.”

“What our art educators have known for many years research is now confirming,” said Benita Cathey, director of admissions at Grace Episcopal School in Alexandria. “Art helps develop critical thinking and reading skills. Art education is vital because it builds concentration, motivation and confidence.”

Jorge Luis Somarriba, art teacher and artist-in-residence at Norwood School in Bethesda, Md., says the school is a community of artists. “We believe in a process-oriented and child-centered philosophy,” he said. “Art nurtures self-confidence through self-discovery and personal visual expres-

sion. Art education is instrumental in the holistic development of a human being: spiritual, mental, emotional and physical. Art making develops the right brain, empowering individuals to become creative, problem-solvers who may think ‘outside the box.’”

Experts said art education also develops self-expression and an appreciation for the work of others. “Elementary school students create art with such unbridled enthusiasm for painting, drawing and creating things,” said Dabney Cortina, communications director for the McLean Project for the Arts. “I think it's because they haven't been told that there is anything wrong with how they create art. Currently going on is our youth art show featuring Fairfax County Public Schools in the McLean area. It is incredible to look at. You see the talent they have. It is totally amazing.”

Eileen Lyons, chair of the Fine Arts Department at Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, Md., said that the arts are a vital part of the school's curriculum. “Arts education helps students learn how to solve problems in unique ways and it deepens their overall learning experience,” she said. “Through collaboration and cross-curricular projects, teachers at Holy Child work closely together to engage students in the arts on many different levels. Art teachers collaborate with language, social studies, English and geometry teachers to bring deeper

“Elementary school students create art with such unbridled enthusiasm for painting, drawing and creating things. I think it's because they haven't been told that there is anything wrong with how they create art.”

— Dabney Cortina, McLean Project for the Arts

meaning to learning.”

For example, said Lyons, on a recent trip to the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., art and French teachers worked together to bring the Van Gogh Exhibition to life in both English and French.

Stacie Steinke, chair of the Arts Department at The Madeira School in McLean suggests art education might not be taken as seriously as other disciplines. “Schools in general have been responding to trends that you need more science and math education and have been teaching to tests. Not at Madeira, but at some other schools, art education has diminished,” she said. “We look at arts as a process. Our students learn to work effectively with others. Our approach draws on a student's natural curiosity, ability to perceive art in different forms and ability to think spatially. They develop cognitive growth, so they learn to see how parts relate to a whole.”

Georgetown MBA Evening Program Expands to Tysons Corner

Those looking to earn an MBA outside the Beltway now have another option: Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business will offer its MBA Evening Program in Tysons Corner beginning this fall. School officials say one of the goals of the expansion is to make the Georgetown MBA accessible to a new population of working professionals in the Washington, D.C., region.

“As business continues to grow in Virginia and Maryland, employers are seeking a highly skilled workforce,” said David A. Thomas, dean of Georgetown's McDonough School of Business. “By expanding our geographic reach, we extend access to our MBA curriculum, which prepares principled, globally-minded leaders to serve business and society.”

Georgetown's MBA Evening Program

was ranked number 11 by U.S. News & World Report in 2013 and is the region's highest ranked part-time MBA program.

Students who attend the Tysons-based cohort will have some of the same technological amenities as their main campus counterparts.

Officials at Georgetown said they selected Tysons Corner for its MBA Evening Program expansion because of its proximity to the region's strong business

community, which includes local, regional and national headquarters for many major employers. Additionally, the arrival of Metro's Silver Line later this year is also accelerating job and population growth in the region and will make commuting to the Georgetown program easier for students arriving from full-time jobs.

— MARILYN CAMPBELL



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CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

THURSDAY/MARCH 20

"Death at The Devereux." Doors open at 7 p.m. with hors d'oeuvre, show starts at 8. Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Tickets include dinner and the show and are \$35. The Clifton Dinner Theater spring performance is a musical murder mystery comedy set in the 1920's.

Annie Jr.! The Musical. 7 p.m. Kings Glen Elementary, 5401 Danbury Forest Drive, Springfield. Tickets cost \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door. Call 703-239-4000 today to purchase tickets in advance.

FRIDAY/MARCH 21- SUNDAY/MARCH 23

"The Sound of Music." Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. The Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Join in and watch the all time classic musical with family and friends. Tickets are available at the door or at [HTTP://GSPSOUNDOFMUSIC.BPT.ME](http://GSPSOUNDOFMUSIC.BPT.ME)

FRIDAY/MARCH 21

"Death at The Devereux." Doors open at 7 p.m. with hors d'oeuvre, show starts at 8. Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Tickets include dinner and the show and are \$40. The Clifton Dinner Theater spring performance is a musical murder mystery comedy set in the 1920's.

SATURDAY/MARCH 22

The Annual Antiques & Trinkets Appraisal Show. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway,



Come out to the Northern Virginia's Premier Party-Planning Expo on March 23 for all of your party needs at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia.

Fairfax. Verbal appraisals given by six appraisers. \$5.00 admission (1 item included), \$3.00 each additional item (limit 2).

Shining Night: A Portrait of Composer Morten Lauridsen. 2:15 p.m. The Angelika Film Center in the Mosaic District, 2911 District Avenue, Fairfax. Screening of this award-winning documentary film, including a post-film discussion with Mr. Lauridsen. Tickets \$20 at the door or \$18 in advance on www.fairfaxchoralsociety.org

"Death at The Devereux." Doors open at 7 p.m. with hors d'oeuvre, show starts at 8. Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Tickets include dinner and the show and are \$40. The Clifton Dinner Theater spring performance is a musical murder mystery comedy set in the 1920's.

The Fairfax Symphony Up Close and Personal. 8 p.m. GMU Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Celebrating the 100th

Anniversary of English composer Benjamin Britten, set in a framework of works traditional and modern.

Gershwin, By George! 8 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. In 1914 a sixteen year old named George Gershwin quit high school to become a "Tin Pan Alley song plugger." One hundred years later, we celebrate this American icon's contribution to the world of music, in an all-Gershwin program featuring his many songs and symphonic work, produced during his tragically short but prolific career.

SUNDAY/MARCH 23

Northern Virginia's Premier Party-Planning Expo. 12-4 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. If you're planning a milestone celebration, the NoVA Simcha Expo is your all-in-one shopping experience. Free admission

and free parking. Everyone welcome. Vendors include: DJs, photographers, photo booth, entertainment, venues, invitations and decorations, caterers, make-up artists, event planners and more! 703-323-0880.

The Fairfax Symphony Up Close and Personal. 2 p.m. GMU Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of English composer Benjamin Britten, set in a framework of works traditional and modern.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 26- SUNDAY/MARCH 30

6th Annual Used Book Sale. Hours March 26 8 a.m. - 4p.m.; March 27. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.; March 28 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and March 30 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Geshel Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Over 10,000 neatly sorted gently read books will be offered for sale at prices from \$0.50 to \$2.50. On March 30, all books are \$5 a bag.

FAITH 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.

Mothers and daughters, come together to enjoy Bingo, crafts, games, refreshments and more. Bring your favorite teacup and wear your best tea party hat for special contest categories. The cost is \$25/couple with an extra \$5 for each additional sibling.

The Tea is Saturday, April 5, from 2-4 p.m. at Burke United Methodist Church. There will also be a silent auction with a portion of the proceeds to benefit SHARE - Share Her Annual Real Expenses - a Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital program that provides funding for Girl Scout campsites, leader training and financial aid.

For reservations contact Sandy Latta at 703-495-0063 or slatta@fourthwave.com. Reservations close March 29.

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

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 7

condition is serious and more expensive to treat.

Those of us who can afford insurance bear the cost of the uninsured (working folks, pregnant women and children) in several ways. The General Assembly usually appropriates \$100M from the General Fund (our tax revenues) for indigent care at state teaching hospitals. Hundreds of millions more are lost by private hospitals when they don't get paid by the uninsured. Those of us who do have insurance pick up these costs in higher premiums.

Virginia is the eighth wealthiest state, yet it is 46th in Medicaid expenditure.

If Virginia accepts Washington's help to make more people eligible for Medicaid, the federal government will pay 100 percent of the cost through 2016 and 90 percent thereafter. And if sometime in the future, the federal government reduces its contribution to Medicaid expansion, Virginia can modify its program. The state budget already includes language that compels the Department of Medical Assistance Services to disenroll the expansion population if the federal match rate falls below current legal requirements.

I'd like to see my federal tax dollars used to insure my hairdresser and other hard-working people right here in Virginia so they can address health problems before they become health emergencies. It's a more common-sense approach and a better use of our tax dollars.

Helen Kelly
Herndon

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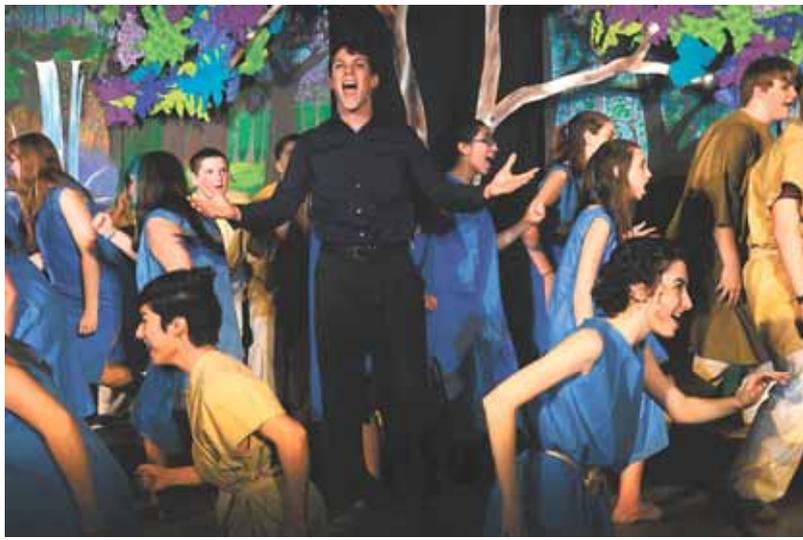
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NEWS

From left - Katie Tisler, Katie Klemmer, Nyc Nguyen, Will Peters, Stephen Diggs, Meagan Espinoza, Jordan Koontz, Jenna Gilbert, Catherine Ariale and Josh Lee.



PHOTOS BY JOHN ARIALE

Children of Eden at the Burke Stage

Burke youth wow community audiences at the Burke Presbyterian Church.

Senior and junior high school youth from Burke Presbyterian Church presented the musical Children of Eden in four performances on March 13-16. The free events were open to the community. The Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark, and other stories of the Old Testament were brought to life on the stage.



From left — Nick Yoon, Catherine Ariale, Garrett Niles, Hunter Thomas, Michelle Ross and Abbey Brewer.

The cast and crew comprised students from Robinson and Lake Braddock Secondary Schools, West Springfield High School, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Immanuel Christian School, Irving Middle School, Herndon Middle School, Canterbury Woods Elementary School and Keene Mill Elementary School. Director was Charlie Brady of Burke, who himself is an alumnus of musical productions at BPC.

"It was a great joy to watch our incredibly talented youth bring this show to life," said Linda Kurtz of Burke, stage manager for the production. "Each performance seemed better than the one before it, and I was proud of the cast and crew for giving these important Biblical stories their all."

The show features music and lyrics by Broadway award winning composer Stephen Schwartz. The story is based on the story of Genesis and is a heartfelt and often humorous examination of the age-old conflict between parents and children. Adam, Eve, Noah and the "Father" who created them deal with the headstrong, cataclysmic actions of their respective children. The show ultimately delivers a bittersweet but inspiring message: "the hardest part of love... is letting go."

This is the 18th musical presented by the church for the local community. For a look back at the history of the program at Burke Presbyterian Church, visit <http://www.burkepreschurch.org/musical>



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SPORTS

Lake Braddock Baseball Looking for Missing Pieces

Bruins graduated five Division I players from last season.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Lake Braddock baseball team entered the 2013 season in a cloud of uncertainty, with several key athletes battling injuries. The Bruins managed to right the ship, however, winning the Northern Region championship and reaching the state semifinals.

One year later, the Bruins again face a sense of uncertainty. This time, graduation, not injury, is the culprit.

Lake Braddock, a perennial Northern Virginia power two years removed from winning its first state championship, enters the 2014 campaign having graduated five Division I players from last year's team. Gone are pitcher Thomas Rogers (North Carolina), outfielder Alex Gransback (VCU), catcher Garrett Driscoll (George Mason), and infielders Alex Lewis (Longwood) and Mitch Spille (Radford). Pitcher Nick McIntyre went to Division III Mary Washington.

The Bruins return a solid group of talented athletes, but the team has more holes to fill than usual.

"We've got a talented core back, it's just at the level we're used to playing, it's going to take nine guys and we're trying to figure out who our best nine are right now and where they fit in and where they're going to play," head coach Jody Rutherford said. "In the past three or four years, we needed to find one, two, three pieces. This year, we're looking at five pieces that we need to find."

SENIOR SHORTSTOP Jack Owens, who will play collegiately at East Carolina, is Lake Braddock's top returning player. Owens is working his way back from an injury to his right wrist, but said he should be fine.

"What we lost were good, all-around baseball players — hitters and pitchers," Owens said. "Trying to fill their positions is something we can't do, but we can find other ways to win. ... We'll always find ways to win. If it's not hitting home runs and hitting doubles, it will be bunting and dribbling balls between infielders."

Junior infielders Nick Neville and Evan Eschenburg, and seniors Ryan Henderson (outfield) and Joe Darcy (pitcher/outfield) will provide Lake Braddock with strength at the top and in the middle of the batting order.

"Our top of the order is pretty good," Rutherford said. "It's just as good as it has been the past couple years. [It's all about] finding who is going to produce at the bottom of the order. That's what separates your offense from other [teams]."

Rutherford said senior Ian Reilly and junior Matt Supko have a chance to be contributors in the Bruin lineup.

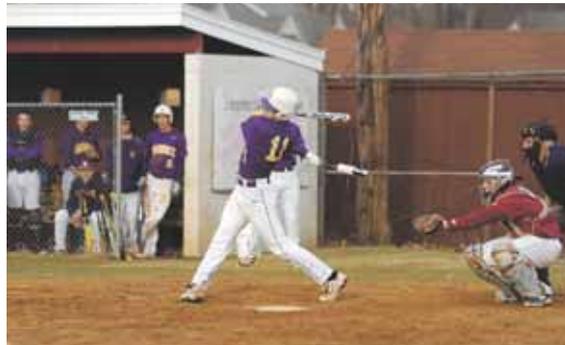
"In the past three or four years, we needed to find one, two, three pieces. This year, we're looking at five pieces that we need to find."

— Lake Braddock baseball coach Jody Rutherford



Senior right-hander Joe Darcy enters the 2014 season as the ace of the Lake Braddock pitching staff.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Lake Braddock junior Nick Neville will move up in the batting order this season and pitch for the first time in years.

On the mound, Darcy, a 6-foot-2, 200-pound right-hander, transitions into the role of staff ace. Darcy gained experience as a starting pitcher last season and has "established himself as the go-to guy right now," Rutherford said.

"Offensively, we're just as good as any other year," Darcy said. "The only area that we lack, really, is pitching, which, we're all trying to step up and be better pitchers and help our team win."

Rutherford said injuries will keep Supko (elbow/Tommy John surgery) and junior Colby Wallmow (torn labrum) off the mound this season. In need of depth, Neville will pitch for the first time in several years.

Neville, a 6-foot-1, 185-pound right-hander, throws a fastball, curve ball and change-up.

"I came up to [Rutherford] this winter and told him that I wanted to pitch," Neville said. "It was just something that I wanted to do to help the team out."

Kevin Haswell, a 6-foot-2, 200-pound junior right-hander, will also pitch for Lake Braddock.

LAKE BRADDOCK will open the season at home against Flint Hill at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 20. The Bruins will host Oakton in a rematch of last season's Northern Region championship game at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 22.

"We'll find a way to get it done; we'll have to do a better job of coaching," Rutherford said. "It's easy when you have good players to sit back and take all the credit as a coach. I guess I've got to really actually do some work this year."



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

West Springfield senior Amy Berglund will compete in the 10th Suburban Classic girls' basketball all-star game on Sunday, March 23 at Oakton High School.

Going to Oakton For All-Star Game

Edison head coach Dianne Lewis to lead the East team, including Amy Berglund (West Springfield), Amber Bryson (Lee) and Tatiana Torres (Edison).

The 10th Suburban Classic girls' basketball all-star game will be held on Sunday, March 23 at Oakton High School.

The game features some of the top seniors from the 6A North and 5A North regions. There is a 3-point shootout at 2 p.m., followed by the main event at 3 p.m.

The East team, led by Edison head coach Dianne Lewis, includes West Springfield standout Amy Berglund, who led the Spartans to a 25-3 record, a Conference 7 championship and a trip to the state tournament.

The rest of the East roster includes Amber Bryson (Lee), Tatiana Torres (Edison), Michele Noel (Wakefield), Cami Prock (McLean), Tykera Carter (T.C. Williams), Angie

Schedler (T.C. Williams), Samantha Porter (Mount Vernon) and DJ Jean Pierre (Mount Vernon).

The West team is led by Madison head coach Kirsten Stone. The roster includes: Abby Rendle (South Lakes), Caitlin Jensen (South Lakes), Jenna Green (Centreville), Katie Blumer (Centreville), Bailey Dufrene (Osborn), Arnelle Collins (Freedom-South Riding), Katie Kerrigan (Madison), Kayla Hix (Stonewall Jackson), Nicole Zubovich (Freedom-South Riding) and Alexia Johnson (Broad Run).

Admission is \$5, with senior citizens and children younger than 5 admitted for free. Proceeds help to fund the Northern Virginia Women's Basketball Coaches Association scholarship program.

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-William Van Horne

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21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION
713± Acres (7 Tracts) Frederick County
Shockeysville Rd • Winchester, VA
This land is ideal for hunting, hiking, and other recreational activities.
Creeks, ponds, an extensive trail system, managed timberlands, and managed
deer & turkey resources, ¼ mile from Sleepy Creek Wildlife
Management Area, breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains
Property Previews: March 8th & 15th (10am-12pm), March 9th & 16th (12pm-2pm)
Saturday, March 29th at 10am On-Site
Terms: 10% buyers premium. Closing to occur in 30 days. Full terms online. VAAF93
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21 Announcements

**Total Business Liquidation
Virginia Refrigeration Inc.**
Saturday March 29, 2014 @ 9AM
1191 Hopson Road
(Hanover Industrial Air Park)
Ashland, Va. 23005
After 40+ years Owners has decided to retire and sell at public
auction entire contents of warehouse: Equipment - Air compressor,
Reclaim/Recovery units, Machinery-JLG Scissor lifts, Mitsubishi
Fork Lift, Hand and Power Tools, 130Lbs. of Silver 15 brazing rods,
Industrial shelving, Fleet of Vehicles-Ford Vans, Chevrolet Pickups,
Chevrolet Malibu, Box Truck, Trailer, and more.
Terms: 10% Buyers Premium for cash or approved check, 13% Buyers Premium for
Credit Cards. **Preview & Early Registration Wed. March 26, 2014 4pm-6pm** and also
morning of auction. Complete terms and details online **www.GrindstaffAuctions.com**
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FCPS Students Earn 27 National Scholastic Awards

Fairfax County Public Schools students earned 27 national awards in the National Scholastic Art Awards program sponsored by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers. Nima Jeizan of Marshall High School earned an American Visions Medal—equivalent to a best in show for the nation—and Elisabeth Hughes of Oakton High School earned a Gold Medal and Best in Grade Award.

Gold Key award-winning entries from the Fairfax region were judged at the national level against winning artwork from across the country where they earned Gold Medals, Silver Medals, American Visions Medals, and Best in Grade Awards. National medalists will be celebrated at an award ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City in May. Select national award winning work will be included in an exhibition in New York, and a traveling exhibition over the coming year.

FCPS winners from our area include:

♦ Ha Nuel Lee of South County High School, Gold Medal for Digital Art, "She Is Ready."

♦ Ji Whae Choi of Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology (TJHSST), Silver Medal for Art Portfolio, "Diversity."

♦ Soyoung Ha of Fairfax High School, Silver Medal for Painting, "Child's Nightmare."

♦ Junyoung Hwang of TJHSST, Silver Medal for Painting, "Reflection."

♦ Jean Kim of South County High School, Silver Medal for Drawing, "Blue Horse."

♦ Jessica Kim of Westfield High School, Silver Medal for Digital Art, "Bat Girl."

♦ Ha Nuel Lee of South County High School, Silver Medal for Art Portfolio, "When He Gives Her The Flower Shoes."

♦ Emely Pascual of Lake Braddock Secondary School, Silver Medal for Drawing, "Grown Up Too Fast."

♦ William Sullivan of South County High School, Silver Medal for Art Portfolio, "Sexualization Of The Virgin."

♦ Jahyun Yang of Woodson High School, Silver Medal for Art Portfolio, "Front Door Neighbors."

BULLETIN BOARD

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

FRIDAY/MARCH 21-SUNDAY, MARCH 23

City Regional Library Book Sale. 10 a.m. -5 p.m. 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Thousands of gently-read books in all categories including art, history, cooking, gardening, foreign language, travel, spirituality, reference, classic and popular fiction. Plenty of free parking.

SATURDAY/MARCH 22

Dog Adoption. 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. hart90.org

SATURDAY/MARCH 29

Dog Adoption. 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Mem. Highway, Fairfax. 703-817-9444 or for more info. visit hart90.org

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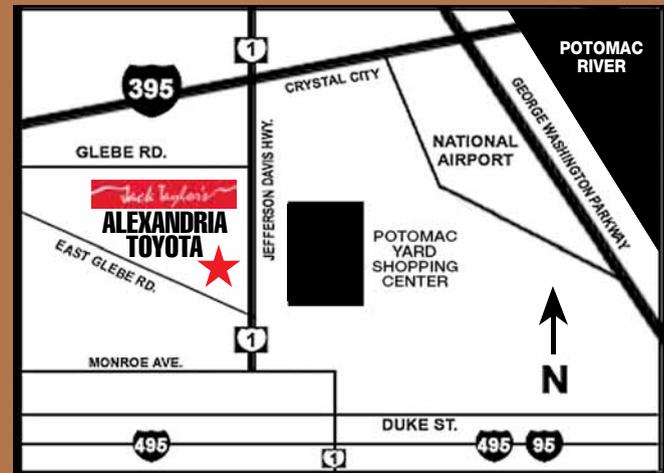
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