

Looking for Missing Pieces

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

Drummond Is 'Hitting the Pause Button'

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Community Welcomes Homeless Into New Homes

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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

Connolly Kicks Off His 2014 Campaign

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."

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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, 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



Sandra Perry poses in her new bedroom at the FACETS TRIUMPH II Housing program. Perry shared her story of homelessness at a housewarming celebration on March 18.



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

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 making 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.



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)



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Riding in Fairfax's Fourth of July parade last year are (back row, from left) family friend Cecelia Szkutak with Liam, Patrick, Dan and Sadie Drummond; front passenger is Kerry Drummond.

Drummond Is 'Hitting the Pause Button'

Fairfax Councilman not running for re-election.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

It wasn't a conclusion he reached easily. But after much consideration, Dan Drummond's decided not to run for re-election to the Fairfax City Council.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed being on the Council and serving the community," he said. "But with a growing career and family responsibilities, it's time for me to move on."

He and his wife Kerry, a special-ed teacher, have three children, 7, 8 and 12, and Drummond is public relations director for a financial-services nonprofit in Washington, D.C. But, he said, "I'm not retiring [from public service], just hitting the pause button. I'm always going to be involved with the community in some way."

He's been on the Council since 2008 and, said Drummond, "I've always been passionate about my community. I'd been on the school bond task force in 2004, served on the Parks and Recreation board and also on the Economic Development Authority, so this let me serve in another capacity."

CALLING THE CITY "a special place," he said, "I'm proud of being able to help others through the actions the Council's taken. Work-



Dan Drummond

ing with my colleagues, fantastic staff and our residents – who are also involved in the community – has been a great honor and a privilege."

Drummond's had several highlights during his tenure. Most recently, he led an effort for the City to create an affordable-housing policy for multifamily housing. "I brought it to the Council's attention, but we all worked on it as a team," he said. "And now we're asking developers to include it as part of their applications."

He's also pleased about the sale of the City water system to Fairfax County. "I credit Mayor Scott Silverthorne for giving us a new way of thinking about this as a way of benefiting the City years from now," said Drummond. "The cost of the infrastructure upkeep would have cost the customers millions of dollars a year. The greatest satisfaction I had during the last budget cycle was setting the water rate

at zero."

Individually, he said, "I'm proud of introducing Fairfax to the National League of Cities. It represents cities on national issues and offers residents prescription-drug savings cards at no cost. It helps reduce the price of medications not covered by insurance."

Drummond and Councilman Steve Stombres made a resident's idea a reality so that Veterans Day is now observed as a City holiday. And in the last 18 months, they together spearheaded an effort to bring an energy-efficiency program to city buildings to lessen their environmental impact.

Noting that the City was ranked by Forbes magazine as the third best place to live in the U.S. and has received several awards for excellence, Drummond attributed it to the collective, collaborative actions of the mayor, community, Council and City staff. He said Fairfax is so special because of "the dedication the citizens have to make this a better place."

"One of the really neat things about serving on the Council is being able to see how all this happens and works," said Drummond. "It's been a great learning experience – and fun, too. We're focused on the issues important to the community. We have a AAA bond rating, increasing interest in economic redevelopment and we provide residents high-quality services at the lowest possible cost."

So, he said, "Scott's provided forward leadership in terms of what the City will look like in 30-40 years. Now that we're on a good path, it's time to get fresh

Our Daily Bread Receives Grant

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Our Daily Bread (ODB) is always helping people in need; now it's receiving a helping hand to continue carrying on its work. The Fairfax nonprofit has just been awarded a \$25,000 grant by the United Way of the National Capital Area (NCA).

The money will expand ODB's ability to provide grocery cards via its Food Bridge Program. These cards are given to Fairfax County residents participating in ODB's supplemental delivered-food program, as well as to people referred to the organization for emergency food assistance.

"We are grateful to the United Way of the National Capital Area for recognizing this very real need in the community and providing such a generous grant to address [it]," said ODB Executive Director, Lisa Whetzel. "Because of these funds, Our Daily Bread will be able to help 300 struggling families put food on the table."

"When parents have the security of food in the home, they can focus on overcoming the financial crisis that brought them to ODB," she explained. "By providing grocery cards to our families, we are empowering them to use the budgeting skills they learn through ODB to choose fresh foods that meet their families' dietary needs."

ODB provides emergency, safety-net services to working individuals and families throughout the Fairfax County who are having a tough time making ends meet. Besides its Financial Assistance and Financial Literacy programs, ODB's Food Bridge Program works to prevent homelessness by low-



Lisa Whetzel

ering families' food costs so they may use their limited funds to pay off other bills, in hopes of restoring financial self-sufficiency.

"It is shocking to think that, in wealthy Fairfax County, there are 76,000 people who do not know where their next meal will come from, and many of them are children," said Whetzel. "United Way NCA shares our belief that we can do so much more in our communities when we connect those who have something to give with those who have the greatest need, and we are grateful to have the United Way NCA's support to provide that connection in the Fairfax community." Our Daily Bread is celebrating 30 years of providing assistance and a way forward for struggling individuals and families throughout the county. But it can't do it alone.

It relies on funding and volunteer support from the community to provide supplemental food, financial assistance, financial mentoring and budget classes, an intensive Project BRIDGE program to foster long-term self-sufficiency, holiday assistance and back-to-school help. For more information, go to www.ODBFairfax.org.

ideas and leadership on the Council, and we've got some good candidates."

DRUMMOND'S ADVICE to them is to "listen first and talk later. The citizens are the ones you need to think about when making decisions."

Overall, he said, "I feel comfortable walking away knowing that we have a well-run, well-led city that doesn't miss a beat. But I couldn't have been on the Council this long without the support of my family, friends and the voters. It's been an amazing experience

and one I'll always remember and treasure." Silverthorne, though, is sad to see Drummond go. "This has been the finest Council I've had the honor of serving with and Dan has been a big part of our team," he said. "It's hard to lose someone I enjoy working with and consider to be a good friend."

Thanks to Dan's leadership and support, the Council addressed several issues that had been on the back burner a long while, including affordable housing and a complete rewrite of our outdated zoning ordinance. I hope Dan will return to public life in the future."

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

Promoting Financial Literacy

Student run credit unions at 26 high schools compete to recruit the most members.

As the National College Athletic Association launches its annual national basketball tournament, students at more than two dozen Northern Virginia high schools kick off a March Madness of their own. Instead of scoring baskets, they are scrambling to sign up the most new members this month to their school's student run federal credit union in a competition sponsored by Apple Federal Credit Union.

Students who work at an Apple-affiliated school credit union meet the relatively new Virginia financial literacy requirement passed in 2009. This year's high school juniors are the first class required by law to take at least one course in economics and personal finance in order to graduate. The competition adds even more incentive: the student run credit union that open the most new accounts will win a trophy and \$200 cash prize.

"The SRCU is run by advanced accounting students, who have been trained on handling the transactions so they run the show," says Monica Bentley, SRCU liaison and business teacher at Annandale High School. "The program teaches about saving and managing money. It's an in-school tool for deposits and withdrawals."

Dominic Maier, an Annandale High School senior who is the SRCU marketing manager, says his strategy is to secure discount fast-food cards from restaurants students like, such as Chipotle and Firehouse Subs and offer them as incentive for participation.

"Apple wants to make financial literacy not only valuable but fun for the kids," says Apple Vice President Robert Sowell. "So the March Madness competition is a way to do that. "It allows students to be creative and come up with marketing/advertising plans. Their role at the credit union teaches financial management, people skills which can translate into real-world jobs."



Annandale High School students who work at the student run credit union there, from left to right: Edwin Munoz, Doreen Tetteh, Tony Nguyen, Sergio Martinez, Dominic Maier, Monica Bentley (business teacher and faculty liaison), Issac Kebede

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Paul H. Weisshaar, M.D.
will close
his
GYN practice
on
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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 movement 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/ltccc/.

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

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

A City Flag for the Sheriff's Office

Mayor Scott Silverthorne presents a City of Fairfax flag to Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid at the March 11 City Council meeting. Thanking her for her leadership and the attention she's paying to the City, he told her, "We're delighted to have you as our sheriff." He gave Kincaid the City flag after discovering the sheriff's office didn't have a Fairfax flag to display there.

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



Cancer had act one. Isabel received the encore.

At 15 months old, Isabel was diagnosed with a tumor on her left kidney. It was growing rapidly and immediate action was required. Isabel's parents turned to the experts who specialize in pediatric cancer. Watch her journey at JustRightForChildren.com/Isabel.

“ I'm Isabel and I like to dance. ”

Isabel Doran
Promising ballerina



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 importance 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

"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

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 expression. 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



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MADEIRA SCHOOL

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.

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 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."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MCLEAN PROJECT FOR THE ARTS

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.



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

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

Paul VI Basketball Sweeps WCAC and State Championships

Both the Girls and Boys Basketball teams from Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax recently won two championships to complete historic seasons.

On Tuesday, Feb. 25, the Lady Panthers won their first WCAC Championship in school history, defeating St. John's 57-54. The game featured several lead changes and tied scores. Senior Jonquanae Cole scored 12 points for the Panthers before fouling out in the third quarter; Lindsey Oblitey (14 points), and Jasmine Whitney (10 points) also reached double digits.

Later that week, on Saturday March 1, the dream season continued as the Lady Panthers won their eighth consecutive Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Division 1 State Championship, defeating St. Anne's Belfield 62-32 in Charlottesville.

Several PVI players were named in the All-WCAC awards. Ariana Freeman and Lindsey Oblitey were named First Team



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The Paul VI Girls Varsity Basketball team celebrates their first ever WCAC championship victory with their trophy.

All-WCAC. Jasmine Whitney and Jonquanae Cole were named to the Second Team. Kayla Meador, Kendall Hunter, and Raven James received Honorable Mention. Freeman, who will play for Louisville next year, was also named WCAC Player of the Year.

Meanwhile, the Paul VI boys'

team went into the WCAC tournament as the 4th seed. The Panthers defeated Gonzaga and McNamara and faced no.2 seed DeMatha for the WCAC championship. With the final score of 56-37, the Panthers earned their second WCAC title in three years.

In the VISAA Division 1 state



The Paul VI Boys won the WCAC championships for the second time in three years.

tournament a few days later, PVI next played Potomac School at home as the no.2 seed in the state tournament. Paul VI won 62-44, placing them in the semifinals down in Petersburg, Va. to play conference rival Bishop O'Connell.

The Panthers held the Knights to 1 point in the 3rd quarter on their way to a 52-38 victory.

This win put the Panthers up against undefeated and nationally ranked Cape Henry in the championship game. The Panthers never trailed throughout the entire game, and came out with a 64-56 win, earning them the VISAA Division 1 state title.

Several PVI players were named in the All-WCAC awards. Marcus Derrickson, Josh Reaves, and Kevin Dorsey were named to the First Team; Evan Taylor to Third Team; and Tyler Scanlon and Curtis Jones were named Honorable Mention.

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Fairfax Man Is Arrested

City of Fairfax police arrested a Fairfax man following an incident last week at T.J. Maxx, 10300 Main St. Officers responded to the store last Tuesday, March 11, at 8:39 p.m. after a report about a man who'd allegedly displayed a knife to an employee.

Police say he was reportedly trying to get a refund for returned merchandise without presenting a receipt. He then left the store, triggering a security alarm. As the result of investigation by the Patrol Division, Christopher Scott Kohne, 33, of 9802 Richard Ave., was identified as the subject and apprehended near his home.

According to police, he was allegedly found with items from the store in his possession. Kohne was charged with assault with a knife, grand larceny and possession of burglary tools. He was held without bond in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

Weigh in on Zoning Regulations

The City of Fairfax will hold a public workshop on Thursday, March 20, at 7 p.m., at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, about possible zoning-regulation changes. It will let residents and business owners offer feedback on consultants' findings regarding the rewrite of the city's zoning regulations. People may review suggested changes before work begins on rewriting the ordinance. A copy of the report to be presented may be seen at www.zoningfairfax.com. For more information, call 703-385-7930.

'Do You See What I See?'

Fairfax-based charity Our Daily Bread is seeking submissions of artwork and performance proposals for its 30th anniversary celebration, "Do You See What I See?" Submissions are due by March 24. The event will be held May 2 in Fairfax in cooperation with Fairfax Spotlight for the Arts. Information and applications are at www.ODBFairfax.org. Contact 703-273-8829 or info@ODBFairfax.org.

Fairfax City Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Fairfax City Council is Tuesday, March 25, at 7 p.m., at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St.

Disaster Resiliency Summit

The Fairfax County Community Collaboration Summit for Disaster Resiliency is designed for organizations that provide day-to-day support to Fairfax County community members and will give them sustained support when a disaster strikes. The summit will be held Tuesday, March 25, from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at Mount Olive Baptist Church, 6600 Old Centreville Road in Centreville.

Entities such as faith- and community-based organizations, disaster volunteer groups, residential-management groups, civic associations and representatives from the private, public and nonprofit sectors involved in disaster recovery, should attend. Register at <https://2014summit.eventbrite.com>. This event is sponsored by Volunteer Fairfax, Fairfax County's Neighborhood and Community Services and Faith Communities in Action.

NEWS

Award-winning Composer Coming to Fairfax

The Fairfax Choral Society is sponsoring a Morten Lauridsen residency, March 20-23.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE CONNECTION

Morten Lauridsen, a renowned choral composer who is the subject of the 2012 award-winning documentary "Shining Night" and who was named an "American Choral Master" by the National Endowment for the Arts in 2006, is coming to Fairfax next week.

The Fairfax Choral Society is sponsoring a four-day residency for the 2007 National Medal of Arts recipient, which will include a variety of events, including a Morten Lauridsen Choral Festival at the Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas, a screening of "Shining Night" at the Angelika Film Center, and an Afternoon with Morten Lauridsen, which includes a pre-concert lecture by Lauridsen as well as a concert in which Lauridsen will accompany the Fairfax Choral Society Symphonic Chorus and Master Singers at the piano at National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. Lauridsen is a professor at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, where he has taught for over 40 years.

"What is most rewarding about teaching composition is to spark the student composers and to try to help them find their special gift as a composer, and to nurture that," Lauridsen said.

Lauridsen worked as a firefighter for the Forest Service when he was younger, and spent ten weeks isolated on a lookout tower near Mt. St. Helens.

At that point, Lauridsen had not taken any music classes in college, although he was a trained pianist and trumpet player.

"I realized on that lookout, after a long period of introspection, that music had to play a larger role in my life," Lauridsen said.

Lauridsen took as many music classes as possible at Whitman College, and then attended the Univer-



COURTESY OF FAIRFAX CHORAL SOCIETY

The Fairfax Choral Society is hosting a residency for the award-winning composer Morten Lauridsen from March 20-23.

sity of Southern California. When he was a junior, he met with the head of composition and asked to take a class.

"I was virtually 20 years old. I had not written a note as a composer. I simply wanted to take a class to see what it was like," Lauridsen said.

After that, Lauridsen said a brand new world had opened up before him.

Lauridsen's works have been recorded on over 200 CDs. Michael Stillwater's documentary "Shining Night," a portrait of Lauridsen, has drawn in not only those interested in choral music, but the general public as well.

"It's an insight into one man's life and his love of nature, his quest for solitude, his love of po-

etry," Lauridsen said.

Lauridsen seeks solitude for inspiration while composing. He spends his summers in a converted general store with no electricity or running water on Waldron Island in the San Juan Archipelago, located off the coast of Washington State.

"I do my best work as a creative artist when I am able to get to a very quiet place, where I am not distracted by unnecessary ambient sounds," Lauridsen said. Lauridsen has done over 100 residencies, and said they are one of his favorite things to do. "To interact with students, the general public, the choristers, it's a huge joy for me. It's one of the great things that I am involved with now in my life," Lauridsen said.

Several of Lauridsen's works, including the famous "O Magnum Mysterium" (1994) and Lux Aeterna (1997), will be performed at the concert with the Fairfax Choral Society on March 23.

The Los Angeles Master Chorale, where Lauridsen was composer-in-residence from 1994-2001, is hosting a tribute to Lauridsen on March 16.

For a full schedule of Fairfax Choral Society and Morten Lauridsen events, visit www.fairfaxchoralsociety.org.

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CALENDAR

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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

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, 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

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Baking a Difference for Children

Icing Smiles to be featured at cake show in Fairfax.

By BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION



An Elmo cake and cupcakes brighten a child's day.

Icing Smiles, an organization that provides custom cakes for critically ill children, will be highlighted at The National Capital Area Cake Show at Fairfax High School.

The event will be held Saturday, March 29, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, March 30, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The school is at 3501 Rebel Run in Fairfax; ticket information is at www.cakeshow.org/.

A national nonprofit, Icing Smiles has been selected as the show's featured charity. The organization brightens the birthdays of children fighting cancer and other critical illnesses by providing custom-made birthday cakes for them and their siblings.

During the two-day show, there'll be classes, demonstrations and contests open to the public. The competitions include an "On Broadway"-themed wedding cake contest and a "Head to Toe" category. And for its first time, Icing Smiles will work with the show's host, the Virginia Chapter of the International Cake Exploration Society (ICES), on the live cake challenge.

All four competition cakes will then be donated to local hospitals, and an Icing Smiles child will take part as a judge to select the winning cake.

Since delivering its first cake in 2010 to Violet, a 6-year-old girl battling brain cancer, Icing Smiles has provided cakes to more than 3,500 children throughout the U.S.

"We understand that the simple things, like a birthday

cake, are luxuries to a family battling illness," explained Tracy Quisenberry, founder and executive director of Icing Smiles. "What we provide is so much more than cake – we serve up a reason to smile."

Icing Smiles works with a national network of specialty cake bakers and matches them with eligible children in all 50 states, Canada and Holland. Its goal is to offer – through a cheerful cake, beautifully decorated with representations of what makes each, particular child happy – a temporary escape from the worry of illness.

Seeing, for example, their favorite playthings, sports heroes or cartoon characters on a cake, enables the recipients to just enjoy being children, instead of patients. The cakes also create a positive memory during a difficult time for a family.

Basically, said Quisenberry, "Memories have magical powers. Long after the cake is gone, the memories linger – memories of the kindness of a stranger, the art of the design, the sweet smells of a special treat, the smiles and laughs – a normal, childhood experience so often stolen from these children. [So] we are baking a difference."

For more information, go to www.icingsmiles.org.

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. – 4 p.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. Geshur 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.



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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.

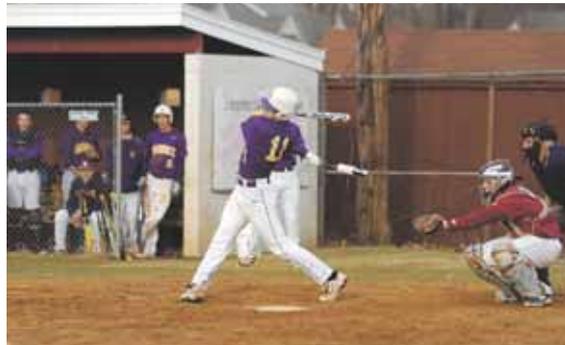
"In the past three or four years, we needed to find one, two, three pieces. This year, we're looking at five pieces that we need to find."

— 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

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.

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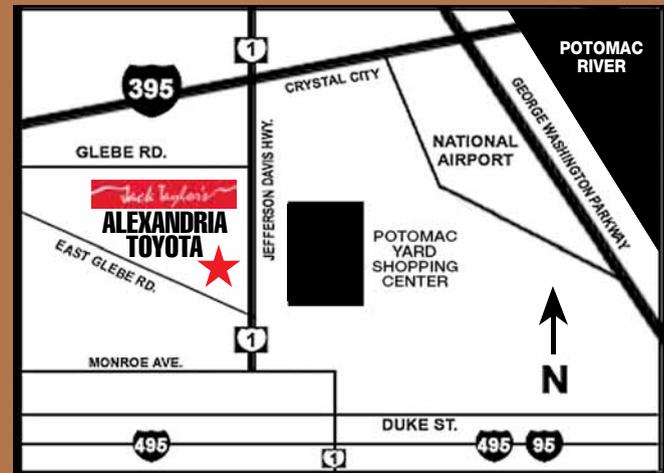
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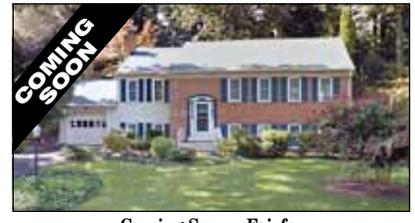
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- Year Round Sunroom
- New Windows
- New Garage Door
- Roof Replaced 2009
- Fenced Backyard

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Listed at **\$699,000**
Call Mickie Today & Move Right In!

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A floor plan to floor you! Fabulous Stafford Deluxe in Middlebridge awaits a new family to love. Freshly painted, new carpet, updated baths, 4/5 bedrooms, 3 full baths. Lovely landscaping. Coming Soon. Call Catie & See to be the first to see! 703-278-9313

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