

Springfield CONNECTION

Franconia ♦ Kingstowne
Newington



Conference Champions

SPORTS, PAGE 12

West Springfield sophomore Abbie Levine won the all-around title at the Conference 7 gymnastics meet on Feb. 4.

The Police-Changing Matrix

NEWS, PAGE 3

Proffers in Danger?

NEWS, PAGE 4

HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 8

Forget Someone? It's not too late,
We're open on Valentine's Day!

Open Sunday,
February 14
10 am – 4 pm



flowers 'n' ferns
www.flowersnferns.com

9562 Old Keene Mill Rd., Burke • 703-455-3100

VALENTINE'S DAY STORIES

Partners in Dime

Three couples making businesses and marriages run hand-in-hand.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Some find it harder than others to keep their work and personal lives separate. In the case of three Burke businesses, their owners have completely merged the two, and been living happily ever after.

Pat Richter of Fairfax Station obtained her license to sell real estate in the late 1970s. She started working for Long and Foster, and then Re/Max in Burke. In 1990, she broke off from the larger firm and opened her own Richter Group Residential Preferred Properties, located in the Burke Centre Professional Plaza. When her husband Don would get home from working for the National Archives on audio-visual records, he would help his wife with some of the running around — hanging lock-boxes, pounding in open house signs.

"We worked together very well," Don said, "we didn't argue."

"I'm the people-person," Pat said. "I love helping people, I'm a problem solver, and I'll become your friend."

When Don retired, he decided to join Pat's business full time, ready to pursue an activity where he didn't have to sit behind a desk. And though he put in more hours, their roles remained largely the same.

"We had an understanding and followed that," Don said.

"This was my business," said Pat. "He agreed with that."

KOSTAS AND MARIA DASKALAKAS of Fairfax, who own and run Hopsfrog Grille in Burke and Fireside Grill in Lorton, said having clearly defined spheres has also worked well for them: Kostas spends more time at Fireside while Maria puts in more hours at Hopsfrog, which has been located in the Burke Centre Shopping Center for 18 years. Working alternating day and night shifts has also been successful, they said, allowing enough absence to make their hearts grow fonder.

Kostas had been working for the government but decided he wanted to pursue his own business, building on his experience with catering and food service.



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Pat (center) and Don Richter (right) run The Richter Group Residential Preferred Properties in Burke with help from their grandson Michael Richter (left).



Kostas and Maria Daskalakis own and run Hopsfrog Grille in Burke and Fireside Grill in Lorton.



Helen and Toby Fitzkee have owned Five Star Jewelers together in Burke since 1987, and have been married 44 years.

"We planned to work together," he said, "with shared responsibilities. But I'm more technical, she's the people person." Maria had previously worked at

SEE PARTNERS, PAGE 5

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Build Your Community

Support Your Local
Businesses.

THE
CONNECTION
to your community

www.connectionnewspapers.com

Fireside Grill 



**Celebrate
Valentine's
Weekend
Feb. 12-14**

Reservations Recommended

Visit our Website to view
our specials

**Peak of
the Season
Oyster Bar**



Thursday-Saturday 4-9 p.m.
9000 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton, VA
703-372-1923 • firesidegrillva.com

NEWS

The Police-Changing Matrix

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Public Safety Committee meets to discuss Ad Hoc Police Review recommendations and the Diversion First initiative.

Just over a year since Natasha McKenna died following multiple shocks from a taser, while in custody at the Fairfax County Adult Detention center, her name was never raised during the Feb. 9 meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee meeting. Two audience members stood on one side of the Government Center conference room, holding posters bearing a picture of McKenna's face and text including "Black Lives Matter."

The Committee met to hear overviews of a matrix of recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission that met in 2015, as well as Diversion First, a collaborative initiative to help offenders with mental illness be directed to proper intake, evaluation and treatment services rather than simply be dumped at the jail or emergency room.

When the Ad Hoc Commission presented its 142 final recommendations to the Board of Supervisors last fall, county staff transformed the list into a robust spreadsheet organizing each recommendation beside its lead agency, other stakeholders, crossover with prior recommendations from the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), any required legal review and the ultimate authority that would give approval of the change.

In some cases, staff determined one recommendation contained sub-recommendations that ought to be considered independently from the parent. Including those, the matrix contains just over 200 items, according to Deputy County Executive Dave Rohrer.

THE MATRIX is intended to help with potentially implementing recommendations and eliminate redundancies with the PERF report assessing Fairfax County Police's use of force policy. "Many of the recommendations are solid," Rohrer said, and some are "already being used by the police department in making changes."

Rohrer said the force has, since the final recommendations of the commission, worked on its use of force policy and helped bring about Diversion First.

According to Rohrer, an implementation committee including members of the 2015 Ad Hoc Commission will meet to help the Board of Supervisors work through the recommendations.

Chief of Police Edwin C. Roessler followed Rohrer with a brief presentation on updating the department's use of force policy.

Focusing on the three areas of the force's mission to protect and serve, developing a culture of safety and keeping pace with urbanization, "law enforcement profession needs to re-engineer itself," Roessler said.

"Things are changing. In the last two years, there were gaps in policing."

Of changes already in the works, Roessler pointed to his call for an on-site national



The Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee met on Feb. 9 to go over a basic plan "matrix" for implementing recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission of 2015.

accreditation assessment of the department spanning 400 standards, as well as new guidelines for hostage barricade situations.

Roessler's department will also be rolling out a new Critical Decision-Making model for officers, he said, that will become part of all training and will be continually reinforced through training year after year, as well as introduced at the academy.

"The first six months of academy will be successful building blocks to making decisions out in the community," Rossler said. "This all lives and breathes the recommendations from our community."

Members from five police organizations sat around the table. Det. Sean Corcoran, president of the Fairfax Coalition of Police Local 5000 and a member of the Ad Hoc Commission, offered a defensive perspective on the recommendations matrix. He said it has raised a level of anxiety among officers on the streets.

"Why does it feel on some level like we're doing something wrong?" he asked. He wanted to remind the committee "We're making a good organization better."

Chairman Sharon Bulova thanked the different police organizations for being involved with the Ad Hoc Commission process.

"It's important you continue to be at the table with us," she said. "We are the safest jurisdiction of our size in the nation. I hear what you're saying, that you're doing some-

thing wrong. You're not. But policing is changing."

Bulova continued, saying she remembered when Neighborhood Watch was first implemented and that now it's an integral part of community law enforcement.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) asked the committee to remember to keep the matrix of recommendations "in context" in terms of other public safety issues.

"Some things I think are important aren't on this list," he said. "Heroin and opioid addiction, elder abuse, Internet crime — I hope we're not pulling resources off those other things."

Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason) went back to Corcoran's comments, responding against the construct of right versus wrong versus grey. "It's a matter of doing things differently," she said.

"Technology has changed things. That's the troubling part. You can't just flip a switch. It takes much longer."

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) added that "every good organization needs to re-look at itself, otherwise you won't remain good."

Brad Carruthers, president of the Fairfax Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 77, didn't speak initially, but responded when newly elected Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) asked for additional viewpoints to be shared from other police organizations.

Carruthers said he thinks "great things came out" of the Ad Hoc Commission, of

which he was also a member. But "as we go through this," he said of the matrix of recommendations, "we need to be cautious and do this right."

THOUGH A LARGER, more detailed event focused on Diversion First is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 11 at the Merrifield Crisis Response Center of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, representatives from the participating agencies gave a brief overview of the program.

One area of focus is the Sequential Intercept Model, explained Strategic Projects coordinator in the County Executive's Office Laura Yager. The model breaks down the common places people first come in contact with police — from out in the public, court hearings and magistrate's office, jails and courts, and people re-entering society — and how those with mental health challenges might be diverted in each setting.

Implementation of the program includes a three-year funding plan of \$13.77 million, which Chairman Bulova said could be funded at least in part through grants rather than entirely on the County's dime.

Fire and Rescue Chief Richard R. Bowers said the program is about making sure people who might otherwise go straight to the emergency room "get the right help they need."

"They get caught in that spin cycle," he continued, of being picked up during a mental health crisis, being taken to the hospital, being discharged, picked up again, etc. "We call them our most loyal customers. This program is going to break that cycle."

More information about the Public Safety Committee meeting and links to the Ad Hoc recommendations matrix and presentation documents are available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/board-committees/meetings.

PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Proffers in Danger?

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Richmond caught the attention of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors this week specifically with House Bill 770 (Gilbert) and Senate B 549 (Obenshain), bills Sharon Bulova says will place “significant restrictions” on development, specifically citing “unreasonable proffers.”

The Board of Supervisors drafted an emergency letter during its board meeting Feb. 2 to the Fairfax County delegation to the General Assembly opposing the two bills.

“Please oppose HB 770/SB 549, or seek amendments to safeguard Fairfax County’s proffer authority,” according to the letter.

“Virtually all development in the county is infill development. In these types of cases, proffers are critical in meeting infrastructure and compatibility needs of surrounding areas. If enacted, these bills may require us to rewrite entire sections of our Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance,” wrote Sharon Bulova, chairman of the board.

The board detailed the way the County works with developers to balance the impact of new development with “added demand for county services and public facilities that result from that development.”

“We do that through the proffer system, which provides an opportunity for developers to work with the county to address community concerns related to the increased density of such development,” according to the Board of Supervisors. “In Fairfax County, our collaboration with our partners in the development community has led to successful, innovative plans such as the redesign of Tysons, construction of the Mosaic District, and the revitalization of Springfield.”

The board approved drafting the letter during its regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 2.

THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES passed the bill later that day, 68-27. Local delegates

voting in favor of the bill restricting local proffer authority included Dave Albo (R-42), Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), Charniele Herring (D-46), Patrick Hope (D-47), Tim Hugo (R-40), Paul Krizek (D-44), Mark Levine (D-45), Ken Plum (D-36) and Vivian Watts (D-39).

Local delegates who voted against the bill included Jennifer Boysko (D-86), David Bulova (D-37), Mark Keam (D-35), Kaye Kory (D-38), Jim LeMunyon (R-67), Alfonso Lopez (D-49), Kathleen Murphy (D-34), Mark Sickles (D-43), and Marcus Simon (D-53).

Lobbying continued on the Senate version of the bill, and it passed in the Senate on Tuesday, Feb. 9 by 29 to 8. The Senate version would exempt development around current or planned Metro stations.

Simon said he voted against the bill because it wasn’t ready. “Fairfax uses proffer system as it currently exists to be creative in developing areas like Tysons and the Mosaic District,” he said.

“We have to communicate how bad this bill is,” said Dranesville Supervisor John Foust. “It flies in the face of everything we are trying to do for the economic success of Fairfax County.”

“The more I thought about this bill, the worse it seems to get,” said Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth, warning of profound effects on in-fill development. “We will no longer get proffer features on design issues.” Later version of the bill in the Senate appear to allow architectural and design proffers.

“If enacted it may require us to rewrite our entire Comprehensive Plan. We will have to rewrite our entire ordinance,” said Lee Supervisor Jeff McKay.

“This is major in terms of the repercussions we will face here in Fairfax County,” said Smyth. “This will be huge, it will be time consuming, and it will be expensive to us.”

Smyth and other supervisors discussed the ability of developers to work with the community during the proffer process.

“There may be a unique opportunity, a community that may need a stream re-

State seeks to rein in county’s power.

stored, and all that will be gone, and we will have to rewrite our residential zoning,” said Smyth.

“Our development community does not support this. What they are seeing is something set up in other parts of the state that will undermine what we are doing here,” she said. “We have a very responsible development community.”

Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity voted against the letter.

“I think we have gone too far with proffers,” he said. “This will lower the cost of housing in Fairfax County.”

“I agree with Supervisor Herrity that we have to be careful about the requirements we put on builders. It is expensive to build in this county,” said Braddock Supervisor John Cook.

“The answer to this problem is not asking Richmond to fix this problem for us,” Cook said. “Going to Richmond for the answer is a bad, bad, bad idea.”

But legislators in Richmond who support the bill said localities have gone too far with proffers, using them in ways that were never intended.

“What businesses have repeatedly told me about being able to work with the government, whether it’s zoning, procurement, public-private partnerships, etc., is that they need to have fairness, predictability and systems that work,” said state Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36). “Otherwise, they don’t want to put the time into trying to get to the end zone. Right now the litigation check on [proffers] is totally tilted towards the localities. That can’t continue.”

STATE SEN. DAVE MARSDEN (D-37) admitted that one reason localities turned to proffers was because of severely limited tax authority. But he supports the bill, with amendments, in part because the costs of proffers add to the cost of housing, making houses less affordable. Proffers should also serve the area around the new development, not the other side of the county, he said.

“I did feel like something needed to be done on behalf of the builders,” Marsden

said. “It’s a depressed industry.”

Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) voted against the House bill, but added it is a work in progress. “The abuses that have driven this bill are not centered on NOVA,” she said. “We are working with supervisors and the business community to make sure this is done right because it is so important to economic development.”

Reporting contributed by Mary Kimm

Tying County Hands in Development?

HB 770 Conditional zoning; provisions applicable to all proffers.

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Conditional zoning. Provides that no locality shall (i) request or accept any unreasonable proffer in connection with a rezoning or a proffer condition amendment as a condition of approval of a new residential development or new residential use or (ii) deny any rezoning application, including an application for amendment to an existing proffer, for a new residential development or new residential use where such denial is based on an applicant’s failure or refusal to submit, or remain subject to, an unreasonable proffer. A proffer shall be deemed unreasonable unless it addresses an impact that is specifically and uniquely attributable to a proposed new residential development or other new residential use applied for. An off-site proffer shall be deemed unreasonable pursuant to the above unless it addresses an impact to an off-site public facility, such that, (a) the new residential development or new residential use creates a need, or an identifiable portion of a need, for one or more public facility improvements in excess of existing public facility capacity at the time of the rezoning or proffer condition amendment, and (b) each such new residential development or new residential use applied for receives a direct and material benefit from a proffer made with respect to any such public facility improvements. In any action in which a locality has denied a rezoning or an amendment to an existing proffer and the aggrieved applicant proves by a preponderance of the evidence that it refused or failed to submit, or remain subject to, an unreasonable proffer that it has proven was suggested, requested, or required, formally or informally, by the locality, the court shall presume, absent clear and convincing evidence to the contrary, that such refusal or failure was the controlling basis for the denial. The bill also provides that certain conditional rezoning proffers related to building materials, finishes, methods of construction, or design features on a new residential development are prohibited.

Training Center Residents Relocated

They’re all gone. As of August 2015, there were still 55 residents with mental or physical disabilities receiving services at the state-owned and operated Northern Virginia Training Center on Braddock Road.

That number was about a third of the facility’s population in 2012, when a settlement between the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Department of Justice resulted in the state making moves to close several of its five regional training centers in favor of more community-based services for individuals.

The Braddock Road facility has been scheduled to close by March of this year, and according to Maria Reppas of the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health

and Developmental Services, which is responsible for the center, all residents have already been relocated and all staff are on track to have the property vacated by the end of March.

As for the nearly 80-acre property, the Commonwealth of Virginia is preparing to sell it. As of Jan. 7, the Virginia Department of General Services had received 15 offers, Dena Potter with DGS said. The offers are currently being evaluated.

Money from the sale of the property is meant to ensure residents discharged from the NVTC are receiving equivalent services elsewhere in the community.

—TIM PETERSON



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

The Northern Virginia Training Center on Braddock Road is scheduled to close in March 2016.

PEOPLE

Giving Back to Community

In 2011, Molly Everett graduated from West Springfield High School and was awarded a scholarship from Greenspring retirement community toward her studies in higher education. Molly and her twin sister, Amy, were among 21 local students who received scholarships from Greenspring's Scholars' Fund that year. The scholarships helped Molly and Amy with student expenses at the University of Mary Washington (UMW). Now, Molly has returned to Greenspring as the community's new philanthropy coordinator, helping future student scholars realize their potential.

"I'm coming full circle to give back to something that gave so much to me," said Molly, who had previously worked for five years as a dining associate at Greenspring.

Molly is one of over 200 students who have received scholarships from Greenspring since 1999, when the Scholars' Fund was established. The fund provides scholarships to local high school students who have worked in various dining services capacities at Greenspring; in addition to receiving a wage, students can apply for scholarships paid directly to the college or professional school of each student's choice. The scholarships are presented in an effort to reward exemplary students who have shown a commitment to serving the Greenspring community. To date, more than \$2 million in scholarships have been awarded thanks to the residents, staff, and community part-



COURTESY PHOTO

Molly Everett

ners who have donated funds over the years.

Molly started working at Greenspring when she was 15 years old; she provided service during the dinner hours after school four days per week. While in college, she also returned to work at Greenspring during the summers.

"I've always loved feeling apart of the community," said Molly. "I enjoy having conversations with the residents and seeing their smiling faces or bringing a smile to them."

During her time at UMW, Molly studied anthropology and social justice, and even completed a study abroad program in Guyana, where she lived in an Amazonian village conducting field research for her senior thesis. She has always been interested in philanthropy and fostering relationships, which is what interested her in her new position at Greenspring.

"I love the idea of distributing gifts," said Molly. "There's so much attached to the source and the cause of those gifts. I am excited to play a part in making everyone feel appreciated."

This May, Molly will play an integral role in helping to distribute Greenspring scholarships to the class of 2016.

Partners in Dime

FROM PAGE 2

a car dealership in Alexandria.

Both say that working together over the years has been great, but, "when conversations about the business come up in the house," Maria said, "we try to avoid it."

The Daskalakas' two children essentially grew up with the restaurants. Both have helped in the family business, though one has gone off to work for Lockheed Martin as a networking engineer and the other is studying computer science at the University of Maryland.

After 24 years of marriage, Maria's advice for couples contemplating marriage and business-ownership: "Not to do it," she said with a smile. "At least the business part," Kostas added.

HELEN AND TOBY FITZKEE, Fairfax Station residents and owners of Five Star Jewelry, a few doors down from Hopsfrog, have the Daskalakases

beat by a few anniversaries. They opened their doors in Burke in 1987 after both working for Helen's brother in a store by the same name in Fairfax.

Toby had a master's degree in fine arts, but had wanted to go into business for himself. With him handling repairs and Helen managing sales and the business front, the couple decided "just to do it" and open their own store.

"We're very open partners and friends," Toby said. "We have our differences but we work them out."

The couple has three more years on their lease but is hopeful about renewing for at least another five.

"We still enjoy it," Helen said. "The Burke area has been good to us, they're good customers."

So the jewelry business, and model of successfully blended professional and personal life, will continue.

Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee

TWO POOR TEACHERS Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



**Free Estimates
703-999-2928**



Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

10% down nothing until the job is complete for the past 17 years

THE REGIONAL VETERINARY REFERRAL CENTER



CARDIOLOGY

CATSCAN/MRI

DERMATOLOGY

EMERGENCY/
CRITICAL CARE

INTERNAL MEDICINE

NEUROLOGY

ONCOLOGY

PATHOLOGY

PHYSICAL THERAPY

RADIATION
ONCOLOGY

RADIOCAT

SURGERY

WE LOVE THEM LIKE YOU DO

703.451.8900

703.451.3343 FAX

6651 BACKLICK ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, VA 22150

VETREFERRALCENTER.COM

RVRC@EROLS.COM

OPEN 24 HOURS 365 DAYS A YEAR

DR. GENE SWEETNAM DR. GRACE CHANG

O P T O M E T R I S T S



**TWO
CONVENIENT
LOCATIONS**

- Family & Pediatric Vision Care
- Comprehensive Eye Exams • Treatment of Eye Diseases
- 21 years Naval Service, 6 years Active Duty
- Laser Vision Consultants • Over a thousand frames in stock
- We carry all major brands of contact lenses • In-house lab

Most Insurances Accepted:

Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Care First, Medicare, Tricare In-network
Doctor, Vision One Discount, Avesis, Aetna HMO/PPO/POS, PHCS,
VSP® Network Doctor, EyeMed Vision Care, United Healthcare, VA Medicaid

WE WELCOME YOUR DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION

5204A Rolling Rd.
Burke Professional Center
Burke, VA 22015

703-425-2000

8951 Ox Rd., Suite 100
Shoppes at Lorton Valley
Lorton, VA 22079

703-493-9910

www.drsweetnam.com • www.sightforvision.com

Limiting Local Authority

Assembly rushes bill limiting proffers without addressing who will pay for infrastructure.

In Virginia, a Dillon Rule state, local governments have only the powers explicitly granted by the General Assembly. And what the assembly gives, the assembly can take away.

It's the reason, for example, that localities have limited means of raising revenue and limited taxing authority. And those limited means are one reason localities have turned to proffers, payments and improvements to infrastructure agreed to by builders as part of approval and zoning changes for new development.

Members of the General Assembly, including many who represent only Fairfax County districts, agree with builders that in many places, the way local governments are using proffers is unfair, even out of control.

Many point to Loudoun County, where builders pay substantial cash proffers, as an example. And to other counties where large, off site intersection improvements were required.

Everyone seems to agree that the "abuses" are not taking place in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria. But the restrictions apply to these areas as well.

How are local governments supposed to pay for the costs of growth? Should the lion's share be paid by existing residents through increase

property taxes?

This is a complex question, not one that should be rushed.

But right now, the General Assembly is rushing to restrict proffers and to give developers and builders substantial clout in legal challenges to local government action. And they are doing this without any consideration to how localities will replace the resources they will lose.

EDITORIAL

It's time to slow this process down, and for a reasoned consideration. What exactly are the abuses that require action? Look at specific examples and address the specifics.

Local delegates voting in favor of the bill restricting local proffer authority included Dave Albo (R-42), Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), Charniele Herring (D-46), Patrick Hope (D-47), Tim Hugo (R-40), Paul Krizek (D-44), Mark Levine (D-45), Ken Plum (D-36) and Vivian Watts (D-39).

Local delegates who voted against the bill included Jennifer Boysko (D-86), David Bulova (D-37), Mark Keam (D-35), Kaye Kory (D-38), Jim LeMunyon (R-67), Alfonso Lopez (D-49), Kathleen Murphy (D-34), Mark Sickles (D-43), and Marcus Simon (D-53).

The Virginia Senate was expected to vote for

an amended version of the bill on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

Reasonable action will fall to the conferees in reconciling the House and Senate versions, and to the governor, who would be able to amend the bill before signing or veto.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Pet Photos for the Pet Connection

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on Feb. 24, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by Feb. 17.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and/or your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your home or yard with you.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

Email to south@connectionnewspapers.com or online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

For advertising information, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

Perform

To the Editor:

I am a student at Lake Braddock Secondary School and was displeased by homeowners in my community who failed to remove their cars from the streets knowing that plows would be coming through or shovel their sidewalks. Streets were not able to be fully plowed due to residents leaving their cars in the streets. Additionally, some residents did not shovel their sidewalks even as late as today (Feb. 4). The failure of these residents to perform resulted in school closure for over a week.

James Heger
Burke

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lodge a Protest or Pick a President

To the Editor:

On March 1 Virginia voters in the Democratic Presidential primary will choose between Senator Sanders and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Voters wanting a Democratic President should ask three questions:

1. Does the candidate have a vision and policies that reflect the direction I want to see our country go?

2. Can the candidate win, not just the Presidency, but help Democrats pick up 4 seats needed to take back the Senate, narrow the 59 seat GOP majority in the House, and help Democrats at the state and local level?

3. Can he/she do the full spectrum of the job: oversee and lead domestic and foreign policy, make progress with a divided government and serve as Commander-in-Chief?

Both candidates agree on the need to reverse the concentration of power and income inequality, infrastructure investment, cam-

paign finance reform, climate change, universal healthcare coverage, and support of women's, voting, and gay rights; collectively a sharp contrast to Republican positions. Differences emerge on approach.

Two examples: financial regulation and healthcare. Senator Sanders's proposal to "break up the big banks," while emotionally satisfying, doesn't go far enough. Unlike Secretary Clinton, he ignores that Dodd Frank contains tools to do just that, and is silent on corralling risk across all types of financial companies. His "Medicare for All" outline not only leaves serious questions unanswered, but is based on wildly optimistic assumptions of "savings" and taxes needed, not to mention the "gridlock" producing effect of a contentious debate about restructuring one seventh of the US economy. At the policy level, Sec Clinton is thorough, comprehensive, fiscally responsible, realistic and relentless. In terms of electability and ability to do the full job, those who have served with Senator Sanders over his 25 year congressional career, and know the challenge of governing, including the last three Demo-

cratic Governors of Vermont, his Vermont Senate colleague and the seven Senate

Democratic incumbents up for reelection want her on the top of the ticket, as do 39 of the Senate's Democrats. None have endorsed Sanders.

The selection of a President is far more than strong protest against economic injustice and a "rigged system", but the selection of a leader who has been tested and can effectively defend and build on the progress we have made. Senator Sanders deserves our respect. Secretary Clinton has earned our vote.

Rob Romasco
Burke

Failure to 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.

THURSDAYS/ THROUGH MARCH 3

Job Seekers Seminar. 7-8:30 p.m. Immanuel Bible Church, 6991 Braddock Road, Springfield. Looking for a job? Are you confident on how to search for one? IBC's Job Seeker Seminar will equip attendees with the knowledge necessary. \$15. 703-220-5165. http://immanuelbible.net/

stewardship/job-seekers.

THURSDAY/FEB. 11

Path of Progression in Alzheimer's. 3 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Discussion on what to expect as Alzheimer's disease progresses. RSVP 703-204-4664, InsightMCC.org.



School Board Approves \$2.67 Billion 'No Cuts' Budget

Calls for general salary raises and additional \$40 million for teachers, lowering elementary class sizes.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Members of the Fairfax County School Board have taken the next step in realizing Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza's vision of no additional cuts in the Fiscal Year 2017 school system operating budget. The \$2.67 billion budget, a \$121 million or 4.8 percent increase over the FY 2016 approved budget was supported unanimously at the board's Feb. 4 regular business meeting.

Highlights of the new budget include a step and one percent market scale adjustment salary increase for all FCPS employees, as well as another \$40 million earmarked for making teacher salaries more competitive and reducing class sizes in elementary schools.

"The Superintendent's Budget Task Force spent many hours over several weeks last summer and fall developing a list of potential program cuts and new fees," Board Chairman Pat Hynes said in a statement. "Those cuts and fees are not in the Advertised Budget because they would fundamentally change the quality and character of FCPS. I did not leave the classroom to serve on the School Board so that I could preside over the dismantling of this world class school system. Potential cuts will, sadly, have to be considered should we not receive the revenue our schools need."

BUDGET COMMITTEE chair and School Board member Janie Strauss introduced the motion to approve the budget.

"This budget reflects the basic needs of our schools and is critical to maintaining an essential quality education for our children," she said in a statement. "Community support for this budget is critical to the future of our schools, our children, and the overall strength and reputation of Fairfax County."

At-large member Jeanette Hough, a new addition to the board, presented a lone amendment to the advertised budget. She proposed reducing the transfer request from Fairfax County by \$4.3 million, in part through recognizing additional funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia and also absorbing some employee living wage



Jeanette Hough, a newly elected at-large school board member, introduced an unsuccessful amendment that would have reduced the proposed Fairfax County transfer to the school system by \$4.3 million.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



The School Board approved the \$2.67 billion advertised budget it will present to the Board of Supervisors April 5.

expenditures into the Food and Nutrition Services fund.

Increased funding from the state, a potential \$3.2 million, is part of Gov. Terry McAuliffe's proposed budget, which the

General Assembly has yet to approve. This uncertainty caused most other board members to vote against the motion.

"It's still a proposal of the Governor's, not in hand by any means," said Vice Chairman

and Mason District representative Sandy Evans. "It's also a best case scenario. These chickens are far from hatching."

There was also concern over the effect Hough's proposal would have on developing a higher quality food program.

"As we try to improve nutrition for our young people, I don't want to put more pressure on that fund right now," said Strauss.

Though each member congratulated Hough on her effort to dig into the budget and make an attempt to improve it despite her short time on the board, Springfield representative Elizabeth Schultz and the new Sully member Tom Wilson were the only other members to vote in the amendment's favor.

"In the Virginia state code, there's a requirement for board members to run school systems with 'the utmost efficiency,'" said Schultz, who went on to address the Food and Nutrition Services aspect of the amendment: "This is an incredibly modest way to recognize a self-sustaining fund that numbers bear out over time is already provided for in the budget."

"The best face we can put forward is that we have done all the appropriate things to recognize savings when we can," Schultz added.

Hough defended her work, explaining with regards to the change in revenue from the Commonwealth, that based on comparing projected and actual funding, it wasn't unreasonable to reflect the Governor's proposal in the budget.

"The whole budget process is based on assumptions that may not come to fruition," she said. "I do think that when we look at what this \$3.2 million is, it's just another assumption we're basing our budget on."

In discounting the amendment, other board members explained that this preliminary approval vote is just the first part in a multi-step process. The board will present the budget to the Board of Supervisors on April 5. Once it's clear what will be revenue and transfer from the county and the state, the board will have another opportunity to make changes and cuts, Hynes said.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS has scheduled public hearings on the budget on April 5-7. More information about participating and the complete budget calendar is available online at www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/budgetcalendar.shtml. Additional info on the FY 2017 budget can be found online at www.fcps.edu/news/fy2017.shtml.

AREA ROUNDUPS

Volunteers Needed to Drive Cancer Patients

Volunteers are needed to drive cancer patients to treatment for The American Cancer Society's Road to Recovery program in Northern Virginia.

For many cancer patients, getting to

and from treatment is one of their toughest challenges. The American Cancer Society needs volunteer drivers in Northern Virginia to help provide transportation for people in your community.

Through the simple gift of a lift in your car, you can help carry patients one step further on the road to recovery. Schedules are flexible. Get in the driver's seat in the fight against cancer.

To volunteer contact Leah.seldinsommer@cancer.org or 804-527-3719; or to learn more visit www.cancer.org/involved/volunteer/road-to-recovery-volunteers.

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.

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.

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

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

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or www.poplc.org.

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway in Springfield, supports a Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) program on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Meetings are 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the church. All mothers and children are welcome. The program provides mothers an opportunity to get to know other mothers through discussions and craft activities. Register. 703-451-5320.

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/growth-learning.

HomeLifeStyle



While red is often the go-to floral color for Valentine's Day, shades of pink, peach and purple can offer elegance and romance.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MERRIFIELD GARDEN CENTER

"As you're planning a romantic dinner at home, think about incorporating china, vases, candle votives, trays and glassware with a gold trim for a stunning table."

— Angela Phelps of Le Village Marche

Stylish Valentine's Day Table Settings

Flowers and candles create romantic designs.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Fresh flowers and candles are an easy way to add elegance and romance to a Valentine's Day table. From dramatic to understated, local tastemakers offer suggestions for setting the mood for a memorable dinner.

"Candles are key to set a romantic atmosphere," said Marika Meyer of Marika Meyer Interiors in Bethesda, Md. "Soft lighting is flattering to all of us and creates a sense of intimacy for conversations."

The ambience is enhanced, says Meyer, when the candlelight glints off of metallic accessories like candlestick holders. "You can use silver, mercury, glass or even gold or brass to help move the light," she said.

In fact, gold accents are a current trend, says Angela Phelps of Le Village Marche in Arlington. "They pair well with pinks, reds, and fuchsias," she said. "So, as you're planning a romantic dinner at home, think about incorporating china, vases, candle votives, trays, and glassware with a gold trim for a stunning table."

Metals combined with a few pops of a soft color help create an elegant setting. "White and silver tables can be very romantic — for example, a white tablecloth, mirrored or silver placemats, silver flatware and crystal stemware," said Fay Johnson, an interior designer with J.T. Interiors in Potomac, Md. "The centerpiece [could be] a silver ice bucket with white and blush colored roses and a



PHOTO COURTESY OF IVY LANE
A table setting by Alexandria-based Ivy Lane's Alexandra Deringer and Courtney Cox incorporates fresh flowers.

array of assorted size candles and votives."

For a more traditional table, Johnson stated that "a black, white and red table can be very dramatically romantic. A black and white tablecloth [such as] a houndstooth or herringbone ... pattern with red, glass stemware, white dinner plate, a ruby-red glass salad plate and silver flatware."

Johnson suggests completing the look with a crystal or silver vase filled with red roses and accented with few red glass votive candles.

Johnson believes that not all centerpieces need to be flowers. She suggests filling three compote dishes, graduating in size, with chocolates and red and pink rose petals for table design with a touch of whimsy.

A vase can add a powerful style impact. "A vase is like a frame for



Kelley Proxmire created an intimate table setting with a variety of glasses, candles and fresh flowers.

PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

a picture," said Linda Wilson-Vertin, floral designer with Merrifield Garden Center in Fair Oaks. "A clear vase is like not having a frame on the picture."

Instead, choose a vase that has visual interest or one that is meaningful on a personal level. "I like using things that are special to the individual," said Wilson-Vertin. "I ask clients to bring in a container that they like so that I can create an arrangement that works with it."

While red is often the go-to floral color for Valentine's Day, Wilson-Vertin says that shades of pink, peach and purple can offer elegance and romance. "Go with what works for you and what works in your home," she said. "For example, red doesn't work in my home, so I use watermelon and apricot."

Consistency adds an unexpected touch of enchantment. A monochromatic palette conveys more ro-

mance than contrasting colors," said Wilson-Vertin. She recommends using "red roses with deep burgundy mini carnations to vary the size of the flower head and texture. Mini carnations have ruffled texture."

For the ultimate in texture and color variety, "think English garden, like roses, hydrangeas, lisianthus and snapdragons," said Wilson-Vertin. "Add berries and eucalyptus" to complete this elegant floral arrangement."

Linen napkins offer a finishing touch to an elegant table setting, says Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Interior Design in Bethesda, Md.

"Use pretty salt and pepper shakers, festive napkin rings, and if you have fancy water or wine glasses, now is the time to use them," she said. "And don't forget the champagne bucket nearby for cooling white wine or champagne."

For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnews-papers.com/subscribe

Be the first to know – get your paper before it hits the press.

Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.

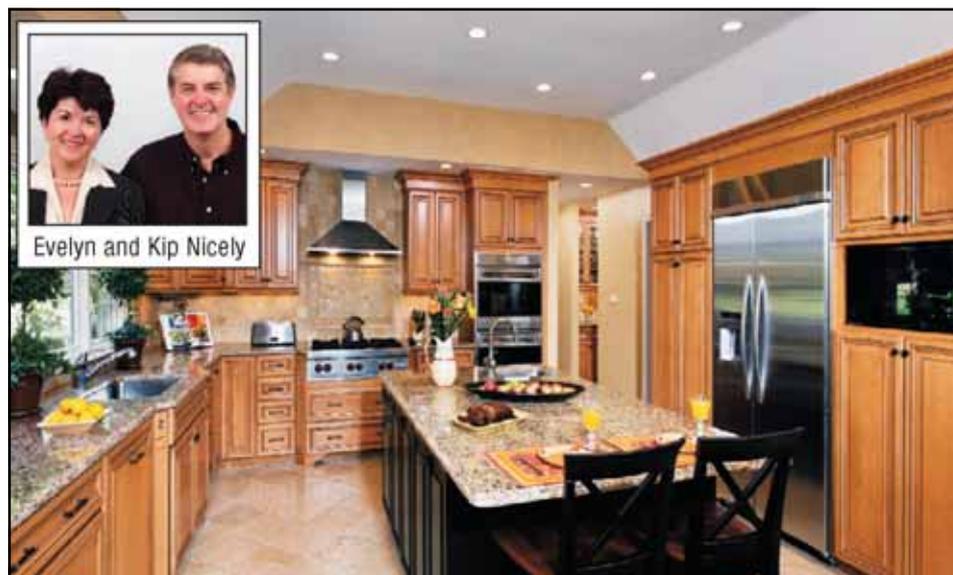
Questions? E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com



THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Your “Nicely Done” Kitchen or Bath is Right Around the Corner!

A “One-Stop Shop” That Goes Above and Beyond Your Imagination



Are you living with an out-of-date kitchen? Not enough space for your dishes...much less to entertain guests the way you would like? For most people, the main purposes of a kitchen are to cook, eat and socialize. Why not own a kitchen that allows all of that to happen with ease?

Family owned and operated by Evelyn and Kip Nicely, Nicely Done Kitchens is dedicated to making sure each and every client is amazed with

their new kitchen.

Evelyn and her highly professional team of designers strive to make every one of your ideas come true, while offering valuable recommendations from their years of experience. They will also take care of all the measuring, construction logistics and tedious details.

Feel free to stop by their newly-remodeled showroom to browse the gorgeous displays and get ideas for your new kitchen.

Custom Kitchen and Bath Design, Remodeling and Project Management

– Also, KitchenLite –

Ask about our KitchenLite program for a cost-effective smaller remodel.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

The National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA)
The American Institute of Architects (AIA)
The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)
The SEN Design Group (SEN), Nationally Ranked #5
The National Association of Remodeling Industry (NARI)
The Better Business Bureau of Washington, D.C. (BBB)



Come Visit Our Showroom

8934 Burke Lake Road

Kings Park Shopping Center—At the intersection of Burke Lake, Rolling and Braddock Roads.

Hours 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. M-F; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat.

703-764-3748

Watch our informative video at www.NicelyDoneKitchens.com

TW PERRY SPRINGFIELD

NOW OPEN ON SATURDAYS!

Saturday Hours 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Visit our Springfield location and newly remodeled and expanded hardware store, plus a brand new 3800 sq. ft. showroom! Our hardware store has a full paint line with color matching and Stihl power tools! The showroom is filled with beautiful windows, doors, and custom millwork for discerning clientele.

- Valspar Paint
- Paint Matching
- Over 400 Moulding Profiles in Stock!
- Power Tools
- Hardware
- Re-Key Locksets
- Architectural Millwork
- Custom Cabinetry
- Stihl Products
- Doors & Windows
- Lumber
- Stairs & Railing



Open Monday - Friday 6:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. & Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

TW Perry Springfield: 7740 Southern Drive, Springfield, VA 22150 703-451-6500 - www.twperry.com



From left, volunteers Daniel Eckhardt, of Fairfax Station, 17, and Andrew Whelan, 18, of Lorton, set up the table for the Monopoly tournament benefiting the Lorton Community Action Center on Saturday, Feb. 6.



PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO/THE CONNECTION

From left, Valmik Rai, 13, of Fairfax Station, Cody Wakenight, 13, and Max Bragg, 13, of Lorton, hope to win the \$500 grand prize at the ninth Monopoly tournament in Lorton on Saturday, Feb. 6.

More than a Game

In Lorton, Monopoly tournament tests skills against chance.

BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO
THE CONNECTION

Almost 100 players gathered at the Woodbridge Moose Lodge 583 in Lorton on Saturday, Feb. 6 for the ninth year to play a friendly but serious game of Monopoly.

Volunteers set up each table with the board game. In the middle of the room, under a disco ball, is a special edition Monopoly set with gold-plated hotels. This is the set on which the final round will be played.

The room was decorated with all things Monopoly—a property square, a cut-out of the racecar token and Rich Uncle Pennybags, also known as Mr. Monopoly.

THE PRIZE is \$500 in real, not Monopoly, money.

Max Bragg, 13, of Lorton, came to have fun and to have a shot of the \$500 grand prize. If he wins, he said he will probably save it.

Seth Williams, 16, of Lorton, made it to the second round. This is his fourth year attending.

Participants got breakfast prepared by the South County Cares Church, lunch from Glory Days Grill in Lorton, a chance at several Monopoly-themed door prizes, a shot at the jackpot, and more importantly, the opportunity to help neighbors in need, all for the \$25 entry fee.

Organizer Ron Kowalski wanted something fun to do for the community and to make money for Lorton Community Action Center, of which he is the president of the board of directors. He owns Ron Kowalski Real Estate Group. He also used to work



The players at this table during second round of the ninth Monopoly tournament wheel and deal to buy and sell property.

for Hasbro, which produces Monopoly. This tournament was practically fated.

This is the fourth year that proceeds from the tournament will go to LCAC, a nonprofit providing help to low-income individuals and families in Fort Belvoir, Lorton, Newington and areas in southeast Fairfax County. The connection between the tournament and LCAC, for Kowalski, is the money raised that would be used to serve between 200 to 275 families a week.

“We need funding for food, housing services, income tax preparations, cooking

classes” that LCAC provides, he said.

LCAC executive director Linda Patterson said that the money raised will be used to purchase meat for the food pantry, pay for seniors prescriptions and help pay for emergency rent and utilities for local families to prevent homelessness.

With the roll of the dice, players can win big or lose big in the game. The Chance cards can unravel a player’s carefully planned nest egg, causing him to become penniless and indebted to the bank.

Similarly, those who use the services of

“It warms my heart to see people come out to raise money for a charity.”

—Monopoly tournament organizer Ron Kowalski

giving organizations, such as LCAC, may have experienced unexpected circumstances that put them at risk of losing their incomes or their homes. It could be an injury, job loss or an illness—something unplanned and unexpected.

“Monopoly transcends itself over time,” said Kowalski. “An eight-year-old can play with older people and still win. It’s a perfect blend of skill and luck.”

FOR PEOPLE who may have had a downturn in their fortunes, giving organizations can give a hand up. “It warms my heart to see people come out to raise money for a charity,” said Kowalski. “Nice to see them doing this than being home playing video games or out on the street.”

“LCAC is grateful for the community support of such a fun, family-oriented event which nets real impact on local families in need,” said Patterson in an email.

The first place winner of the tournament was Alison Gibbons. Second place and \$250 went to Dave Reading. Cody Williams won \$100 in third place. The event took in \$7,000 from entry fees and corporate sponsorships.

For more information about the Lorton Community Action Center, go to <http://www.lortonaction.org/>.

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.

FRIDAY/FEB. 12

Celebration of Jazz Featuring Aaron Myers. 7 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Presented by the Minority Parents for Excellence in Education. Silent auction, raffle and door prizes, CD sales. \$5, \$10. www.mpee-lb.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 13

Annual Valentine's Day Banquet. 6:30-11 p.m. Waterford Receptions, 6715 Commerce St., Springfield. The Family Ministry of the Greater Little Zion Baptist Church in Fairfax is sponsoring their Annual Valentine's Day Banquet. All couples and singles are invited to fellowship with us and enjoy an evening of fine dining, music, dancing and featured entertainment. \$60 by Feb. 7. 703-763-9111.

Author Appearance. 1-3 p.m. Felix and Oscar. 6671 Backlick Road, Springfield. Ingrid King will be signing copies of her book "Tortitude: the Big Book About Cats with a Big Attitude" and will be answering questions. Light refreshments will be provided. 703-866-0222.

Square Dance. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Bring your folks, your kids, your friends, and your neighbors too! Never done it before? No worries. The caller and demonstration team from The Boomerangs Square Dance



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The 2016 Mason Gala Dance will be at GMU's Center for the Arts on March 18 and 19.

Teaching Council will show you how. Chili dinner included (vegetarian options available). \$31/\$35 adults. \$11/\$15 children 12-17. <https://squareup.com/store/accotinkuuc/>. 703-503-4579.

MONDAY/FEB. 15

George Washington Birthday Service and Breakfast. 8 a.m. Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Following the service there will be a breakfast hosted by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew with a guest speaker. The Docent Guild will be conducting tours of Historic Pohick Church following the breakfast. \$10, \$25. Children under 12 free. 703-339-

6572.

SUNDAY/FEB. 21

Night Hike. 6:30 p.m. 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Take a nighttime walk with a naturalist to search for wildlife. S'mores ingredients provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult registered in the program. \$8. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burkelakepark/rides.htm>.

TUESDAY/MARCH 1

BHS Presents. 7-8 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. The Burke Historical Society is pleased to be partnering with Burke

Centre Library to offer a program on historical inquiry into Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights. Free. slawski_brian@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/MARCH 5

Grow Your Health. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run Fairfax. Celebrate home gardening, sourcing organic and local food, and nutrition and wellness. Includes education and entertainment for children of all ages. <http://www.growyourhealthnova.com/>.

Campfire Saturday: Stargazing. 6:30 p.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Enjoy a stroll along the shores of the lake and learn about the constellations, their stories and other features of the night sky. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burkelakepark/rides.htm.

SUNDAY/MARCH 6

Capitol Steps. 7 p.m. Russell Theatre, Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. The Rambunctious Theatre Company — in affiliation with Robinson Drama — is hosting the Capital Steps for a one night only political comedy fundraiser. \$35. www.robinsondrama.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 11

Woodbridge Flute Choir "A Touch of Irish." 8 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Twenty-five members who play flute, piccolo, alto flute, bass flute and contrabass flute. Part of Bonita Lestina Performance Series. www.fairfaxva.gov.

Ongoing

FUN-Exercise. Thursdays, noon-12:50 p.m. Grace Presbyterian Church Family Room, 7434 Bath St., Springfield. Inova certified exercise instructor leads a moderate level exercise class with music and current events conversation. Muscle, Balance, Strength Training using stretch bands and weights both standing and seated exercises. Instructor donation is \$5. Contact Chris Moore at moorefitt@yahoo.com or 703-499-6133.

Al-Mutanabbi Streets Starts Here DC 2016. Through Feb. 28. George Mason University Art Lab, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. A book arts and cultural festival throughout the Washington, DC, area. Major exhibitions, programs, and events will commemorate the 2007 bombing of Baghdad's historic book-selling street. www.workhousearts.org. 703-584-2908.

Art Classes. Tuesdays. Jan. 30-April 2 and Feb. 2-March 15. Woods Community Centre, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. Winter art classes. Art lesson for youth 8 and up. Drawing plus color 5-8 years. Art workshop/Chinese brush painting for teens and adults. Ongoing enrollment. \$11/\$15 per class. Carol Zeitlin, www.czartlessons.com. 703-250-6930.

"Memories and Myth." Through Feb. 29. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. An all-media art exhibit by its Associate Artists in Gallery 902. www.workhousearts.org.

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

**Looking for a New Place of Worship?
Visit Antioch Baptist Church!
All Are Welcome!**

Sunday Worship 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Sunday School for Children & Adults 9:30 a.m.
Married Couples Sunday School 11:30 a.m.

703-425-0710 • www.antioch-church.org
6531 Little Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039



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

You Can Make a Difference



Cats benefit from being in a foster home. We need long- and short-term fosters for cats of all ages, mothers with litters and kittens on their own.



Consider Fostering

visit our website,
click on Participate

Adopt/Donate/Volunteer at www.lostdogrescue.org



GEORGE MASON BASKETBALL

HOMECOMING GEORGE MASON VS DAVIDSON

Saturday, Feb. 13 at 4 P.M. | EagleBank Arena

**GREAT FUN FOR YOUR GROUP!
GROUP TICKETS (15 OR MORE) - ONLY \$13**



703-993-3270
WeAreMason.com

SPORTS

WS Gymnastics Wins Conference 7 Championship

Levine, Dotson finish 1-2 in all-around.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

West Springfield sophomore gymnast Abbie Levine described her average vault performance as “kind of iffy sometimes.” Freshman teammate Hannah Dotson was nervous about throwing a new vault during competition.

The Spartans’ top two gymnasts entered the Conference 7 championship meet with uncertainties regarding vault. By the end of the night, however, Levine and Dotson each medaled in the event and helped West Springfield end an eight-year title drought.

Levine placed first on vault, Dotson took third and the West Springfield gymnastics team won the program’s first conference/district championship since 2007 on Feb. 4 at West Potomac High School.

The Spartans produced a first-place score of 143.2 and qualified for regionals. Lake Braddock earned the conference’s other regional berth, finishing runner-up with a score of 141.95.

“I knew day one when I saw this team that we could do it,” West Springfield head coach Diana Edgell said, “and that has been the goal all year long, so I am thrilled.”

LEVINE, a former Level 9 club gymnast at Capital Gymnastics, received a score of 9.5 on vault while throwing a Tsukahara pike. She said she was surprised by her performance, which turned out to be part of a stellar overall effort.

Levine won the conference all-around title, finishing with a score of 37.525.

“I had a really great meet, personally,” Levine said. “I was surprised by it.”

Along with her first-place finish on vault, Levine won the conference beam championship (9.2), placed second on bars (9.4) and tied for second on floor (9.425).

“Abbie is fearless,” Edgell said. “She will go for it and the pressure just makes her better. She has risen to the occasion time and time again.”

Dotson, also a former Level 9 club gymnast at Capital Gymnastics, placed second in the all-



The West Springfield gymnastics team won the Conference 7 championship on Feb. 4 at West Potomac High School.



West Springfield sophomore Abbie Levine won the all-around title at the Conference 7 gymnastics meet on Feb. 4.

around with a score of 36.725. She finished third on vault, scoring 9.3 with a tucked Tsukahara despite throwing it for the first time in competition this season.

Dotson said she was “a little bit” nervous.

“I wanted to land on my feet,” she said.

Dotson won the conference bars championship with a score of 9.55. She tied for second on floor (9.425) and tied for ninth on beam (8.45).

“Hannah is young and excited and driven,” Edgell said, “and really has a confidence about her that is impressive for someone that’s only a freshman.”

West Springfield junior Abby Stout placed second on beam (9.175) and sixth on bars (8.4), tied for 15th on floor (8.425) and tied for 20th on vault (8.4).

“Abby Stout has been a leader of our team all year long and she really pulled through for us on beam when we really needed her to,” Edgell said, “and that was an outstanding performance — her best of the season.”

Spartans freshman Alex Marsden took fourth on vault



West Springfield freshman Hannah Dotson tied for second on floor during the Conference 7 gymnastics meet on Feb. 4.

(9.25), eighth on beam (8.65), tied for ninth on bars (7.7) and finished 10th on floor (8.85).

T.C. Williams’ Cailyn Lager placed third in the all-around (36.275), followed by the Lake Braddock trio of Jordan Clark (36.075), Hannah Johnson (35.85) and Jordan Tautges (35.375). The top four in all-around qualify for regionals, along with anyone who scores 35 or better.

Lake Braddock’s Clark won the conference floor championship with a score of 9.525.

Woodson (126.525) finished third in the team competition, followed by South County (118.925), Mount Vernon (116.125), T.C. Williams (108.95) West Potomac (79.425) and Annandale (64.25).

THE 6A NORTH REGION championship meet is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 13 at Patriot High School.

“I think we can do really well,” Edgell said. “I know we have a lot of girls that qualify individually for state and I hope that we can come together as a team and do it again.”



The Robinson girls’ swim and dive team won the 6A North region title on Feb. 6 at Oak Marr Recreation Center.

Robinson Girls’ Swim and Dive Wins Regionals Boys’ team finishes fourth.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

3:29.77.

Zangla placed fourth in the 200 IM (2:05.93).

The Robinson girls’ swim and dive team captured the 6A North region championship on Feb. 6 at Oak Marr Recreation Center, holding off Langley and Oakton, who combined to win the last five state titles.

Robinson won the event with a score of 222. Langley finished runner-up (194), followed by Oakton (183), McLean (178), West Potomac (163) and Yorktown (141.5).

“They were phenomenal,” first-year Robinson head coach Michael Fones said. “Not only our superstars, but we had every single person giving everything.”

Senior Hannah Baker was a primary point-scorer for the Rams, winning the 100 free and placing second in the 50 free.

Baker, the two-time defending state champion in the 100 free, turned in an All-American time of 50.58 seconds, edging West Potomac sophomore Cassidy Bayer by one-one hundredth of a second. In the 50 free, Baker recorded a time of 23.38 (All-American consideration), finishing behind Yorktown senior and defending state champion Suzanne Dolan (23.19).

Baker also helped the 200 free and 400 free relays finish first.

“Hannah Baker,” Fones said, “is phenomenal.”

The Robinson 200 free relay (Lisa Zangla, Grace Gartman, Livi Schmid, Baker) turned in an All-American time of 1:35.83. The 400 free relay (Zangla, Gartman, Schmid, Baker) earned All-American consideration with a time of

The Robinson boys’ team placed fourth with a score of 184. Langley won the title with a total of 229.5, followed by Patriot (215) and McLean (187).

Seniors James Murphy and James Jones led the way for Robinson.

Murphy, the two-time defending state champion in the 200 free and 500 free, finished first and second in the events, respectively, on Saturday. Murphy won the 200 free with an All-American time of 1:35.76, besting his own meet record by two seconds. In the 500 free, Murphy finished runner-up to West Springfield junior Lane Stone, turning in an All-American time of 4:26.17.

Stone broke Murphy’s meet record by nearly two seconds with an All-American time of 4:23.73.

Jones, the two-time defending state champ in the 50 free and 100 free, also turned in a first- and second-place finishes. Jones won the 50 free with an All-American time of 20.56, and finished runner-up to Annandale senior Aaron Boyd in the 100 free. Jones beat his previous meet record with an All-American time of 45.25, but finished five-one hundredths of a second behind Boyd.

The Robinson 400 free relay (Murphy, Peter Brukx, Luke Jones, James Jones) finished first with meet-record and All-American time of 3:04.68.

The 6A state diving championship meet is scheduled for Feb. 19 at Oak Marr. The 6A state championship swim meet is scheduled for Feb. 20 at George Mason University.

PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

PHOTOS BY RICHARD MAPLE

BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Alexandria, VA 22305
703-684-0710
www.alexandriatoyota.com



NEW! Extended Service Department Hours:
Monday – Friday, 7 am to 9 pm
Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm
Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm
Sunday by appointment only.

Make your next service appointment at:
alexandriatoyota.com

You Have Saturdays Off
That's Exactly Why We Don't!



TOYOTA LIFETIME GUARANTEE

Mufflers • Exhaust Pipes • Shocks • Struts
Toyota mufflers, exhaust pipes, shocks, struts and strut cartridges are guaranteed to the original purchaser for the life of the vehicle when installed by an authorized Toyota dealer. See us for full details.



TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR \$1

Got Tires? **NO CHARGE** road hazard protection, tire warranty, and free courtesy **MULTI-POINT** Inspection. Price match guarantee. See service advisor for details.

BONUS: ADD A 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT FOR \$39.95

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
WINTER MAINTENANCE SPECIAL \$59.95

INCLUDES: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil*, inspect windshield wipers, tire rotation, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air Alexandria Toyota's 27 pt. inspection & cabin air filters

SYNTHETIC OIL \$59.99 MORE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
BRAKE SPECIAL \$99.95

INCLUDES: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.
MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.

COUPON NOT APPLY TO ALL VEHICLES PLEASE SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
Purchase Site Line Wiper Blades and Receive 1 year RAINEX OPTIMAL PERFORMANCE APPLICATION

Includes **FREE** touch ups.
Dramatically improve wet weather driving visibility.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

WINTER SAVINGS



New RAV4s, Priuses Scion IMs and IAs ALL ON SALE LIKE NEVER BEFORE
Winter is here and so are the SAVINGS!
Ask one of our sales managers, George, Mike, Yared or Rocky
703-684-0700
WE ARE HERE TO MAKE DEALS!

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
LUBE, OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL

\$5 OFF \$10 OFF

NON-SYNTHETIC SYNTHETIC

INCLUDES: Change oil (up to 5 qts.), install Genuine Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL \$139.95

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month **FREE** replacement, 24 month **FREE** roadside assistance, 60 month probation, **PLUS** we'll check all battery cables & connections.

Does not apply to hybrid batteries.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
PREMIUM DETAIL SPECIAL
Regularly \$259.95
\$249.95

Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior.
Van & SUV's add \$20.00
By Appointment Only

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
ROTATE & BALANCE SPECIAL \$59.95

INCLUDES: Rotate and balance all 4 wheels and inspect brakes and tires.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

WEDNESDAY IS LADIES' DAY 15% OFF ANY REPAIR
Not to exceed \$100

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
15% OFF ANY ACCESSORIES

- Apparel • Window visors
- I-pad adaptors • All weather floor mats
- Toyota bedliners

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
VARIABLE DISCOUNT

- \$5.00 OFF with purchase of \$35.00 - \$49.99
- \$10.00 OFF with purchase of \$50.00 - \$99.99
- \$15.00 OFF with purchase of \$100.00 - \$199.99
- \$20.00 OFF with purchase of \$200.00 - \$499.99
- \$50.00 OFF with purchase of \$500.00 Or more

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
NITRO-FILL \$39.95

Includes one year FREE nitro gas top off.
We will purge the tires of air and refill them with nitrogen.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR VEHICLE!
BG FLUID EXCHANGE SPECIAL

- TRANSMISSION FLUSH \$189.95
- POWER STEERING FLUSH \$139.95
- BRAKE FLUSH \$139.95
- FUEL INDUCTION FLUSH \$139.95

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
30000 MILES FACTORY RECOMMENDED SERVICE \$159.95

Synthetic \$10 More
INCLUDES: Change engine oil & filter (up to 5 qts), rotate tires, inspect wear and adjust pressure, measure brake pad thickness & rotor runout, replace cabin air filter (if equipped), replace engine air filter, reset maintenance reminder light (if applicable) and multi-point vehicle inspection.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT \$79.95

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.

INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. AX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.



ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA/SCION
3750 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY. | ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305
703-684-0700 | ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM
JUST MINUTES FROM REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT!



ZONE 2: • BURKE
• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD
• FAIRFAX STATION/CLIFTON/LORTON

HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM CONTRACTORS.COM

703-778-9411
ZONE 2 AD DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

ZONE 2: • BURKE
• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD
• FAIRFAX STATION/CLIFTON/LORTON

EMPLOYMENT

703-778-9411
ZONE 2 AD DEADLINE:
WEDNESDAY 11 A.M.

ELECTRICAL

K & D ELECTRIC
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...

Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Office 703-335-0654
Mobile 703-499-0522
lektrkman28@gmail.com

GUTTER

GUTTER CLEANING
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

PINNACLE SERVICES
lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.
email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com
web: lawnsandgutters.com
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!

HANDYMAN

RCL HOME REPAIRS
Handyman Services
Springfld • Burke • Kingstowne
Light Electrical • Plumbing •
Bathroom Renovation • Ceramic Tile •
Drywall Repair

703-922-4190
LIC. www.rclhomerepairs.com INS.

IMPROVEMENTS

Picture Perfect
Home Improvements
(703) 590-3187

Remodeling Bathrooms, Kitchens & Basements

Exterior & Interior Repair, Painting, Carpentry,
Wood Rot, Drywall, All Flooring, Decks

- FREE Estimates
- EASY To schedule
- FAST & Reliable Service
- NO \$\$\$ DOWN!

Handyman Services Available
<http://www.pphionline.com/>
"If it can be done, we can do it" **BBB**
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

Do not wish to be anything
but what you are, and try
to be that perfectly.
-St. Francis de Sales

HANDYMAN

HAND & HAND HANDYMAN LLC
General Remodeling • Residential & Commercial

DESIGN AND BUILD • COMPLETE HOME RENOVATION

- Kitchen, Bath, Basement Remodeling
- Electricity, Plumbing
- Doors, Windows, Crown Molding, Hand Rails, Chair Rails, Interior, Exterior, Finish Carpentry
- Interior, Exterior Painting, Pressure Washing
- Ceramic, Hardwood Flooring, Refinish Floors, Deck Reflooring
- Build Deck, Fence, Patios, Retaining Walls
- Concrete Driveway, Brick or Stone Sidewalk
- Building Maintenance
- Residential, Commercial
- Foreclosures, Realtors Welcome

Serving Northern Virginia, D.C., Maryland • Licensed and Insured
703-296-6409

IMPROVEMENTS

RN. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring,
Kitchen & Bath, Windows,
Siding, Roofing, Additions &
Patios, Custom Deck, Painting

We Accept All Major Credit Cards
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic

Phone: 703-887-3827
E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com
www.rncontractors.com

LAWN SERVICE

J.E.S. Services
Your neighborhood company since 1987
703-912-6886



Landscaping & Construction

- Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured
- Planting & Landscaping Design
 - Drainage & Water Problems
 - Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
 - Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid
 - Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose
 - Retaining walls of all types

All work Guaranteed

MASONRY

BRICK AND STONE
Custom Masonry
703-768-3900
www.custommasonry.info

Patios, Walkways, Stoops, Steps, Driveways
Repairs & New Installs • All Work Guaranteed

PAVING

GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION
Walkways, Patios, Driveways,
Flagstone, Concrete
FREE ESTIMATES
Licensed, Insured, Bonded
703-250-6231

HANDYMAN

Dental Front Desk/Scheduler

Position in quality general & cosmetic practice in Burke, VA.
Great team, salary & benefits
Computer and dental experience preferred
E-mail: BurkeDentist@comcast.net

PEDIATRIC RN/LPN

Our busy happy stimulating pediatric practice in Alexandria and Fairfax has an opening for a PT position with some travel between offices. Ideal for nurses returning to the workforce. Competitive salary with benefits. Orientation provided. Fax resume to 703-914-5494 or email to cmaschedule@aol.com.

Educational Internships

Unusual opportunity to learn many aspects of the newspaper business. Internships available in reporting, photography, research, graphics. Opportunities for students, and for adults considering change of career. Unpaid. E-mail internship@connectionnewspapers.com



ZONE 2: • BURKE
• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD
• FAIRFAX STATION/CLIFTON/LORTON

HOME & GARDEN
CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM CONTRACTORS.COM

TREE SERVICE

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

Summer Cleanup...
Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience - Free estimates
703-868-5358

24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

WINDOWS & GLASS

CHESAPEAKE/POTOMAC WINDOW CLEANING

Residential Specialist/Family owned/operated
Working Owners Assures Quality
No Hidden Fees/No Broken Window Springs
30 yrs Experience in local area

Licensed 703-356-4459 Insured

PT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NEEDED

Nearby NOVA Parks Headquarters (Rt. 123 and Popes Head Rd.) seeking PT employee in its Planning and Development Dept. to work 4 hrs/day with flexible schedule. See www.NVRPA.org <http://www.NVRPA.org> for details.

FLOOR CARE TECH

Burke Health and Rehabilitation Center has an opening for an experienced Floor Care Technician. The Floor Care Technician maintains a clean, sanitary environment. The Floor Care Technician strips, scrubs, sweeps, refinishes, and buffs all tiled floor areas of the center, utilizing the proper equipment and procedures. They vacuum and spot clean all carpets throughout the center, and work effectively among patients, family members, and external and internal customers in a team environment. This is full-time opening on evening shift. We offer a competitive rate of pay and a comprehensive benefits package for full time associates, that includes affordable health and dental insurance within 30-60 days of hire, free life insurance, paid time off, extra pay for holidays, 401k with 50% company match, scholarship opportunities, and continuing education.

Please apply at
www.burkehealthrehab.com
EHO/EOE

Engineering

CHIEF ENGINEER/ Operations Manager

A large, multi-location, listed and reputed industrial firm is looking for an individual for this key leadership role. Will review & delegate daily work activities, manage shift supervisors, and track production and maintenance activities. Broad background in plant operations with a minimum of 5 years hands-on experience and/or supervision of Power Plant machinery required. A general supervisory background in an electrical generating facility is most preferred. General knowledge and/or experience in industry safety are required or equivalent combination of education and experience. Experience in a Solid Fuel facility is highly desirable. Associate's Degree, ASME QRO CFO License required.

Please apply with resume and salary requirements to
chiefengineer1234@yahoo.com

21 Announcements

NOTICE OF SALE OF PODIATRY PRACTICE

Due to his anticipated retirement, as of February 1, 2016 the podiatry practice of Dr. Stuart L. Kramer has been sold to Nova Foot and Ankle PLLC under the direction of podiatrists Dr. Stanley Idiculla and Dr. Ami Parikh. Patient care will continue uninterrupted at the same office location (7007 Backlick Court, Springfield VA 22151) and with the same telephone number (703-642-5340). Dr. Kramer continues to work at the office seeing patients on a part time basis. Upon receipt of a written request signed by the patient or the authorized representative of a patient, Nova Foot and Ankle will forward a copy of the patient's record to the patient or to another health care provider designated by the patient. Written requests for records should be directed to Nova Foot and Ankle at the above address. A copying fee and an administrative fee as well as a charge for postage will be applied to cover the costs of reproducing and mailing each record

21 Announcements

HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS
JENNIFER SMITH ♦ Serving the Area Since 1995

- ▶ Speed Up Slow Computers
- ▶ Virus Removal
- ▶ Computer Setup
- ▶ Help with Windows 8

571-265-2038
Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY, FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.
Schefer Antiques
703-241-0790
theschefers@cox.net

26 Antiques

21 Announcements

CATCH A LIFT THIS WINTER.

Unwind in our 2,000 acre playground, well-maintained slopes, world class spa and savory dining options.

SKI PACKAGE FROM \$219 PER NIGHT WITH LIFT TICKETS

OMNI RESORTS the homestead
OMNIRESORTS.COM/THEHOMESTEAD

Resort fees apply. Offer valid through March 13, 2016. Call 540-859-1700 or see website for additional details.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

According to the Lease by and between Barbara Franceschi (of unit 1069) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: bed, totes, furniture, bags, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday February 19, 2016 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as 12905 Starter Lane, Fairfax, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Lise K. Outzen, dated March 11, 2005, and recorded March 22, 2005, in Deed Book 17097 at page 665 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax <#0.1_county> County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lot 76, Section 4, Highland Oaks as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 11296 at page 14, among the Land Records of Fairfax <#0.1_county> County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 12905 Starter Lane <#0.1_propstraddr>, Fairfax <#0.1_propcity>, Virginia 22033.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$6,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 2.75 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

Sale is subject to post-sale confirmation that the borrower did not file for protection under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code prior to the sale, as well as to post-sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, the sale shall be null and void, and the Purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of his deposit without interest. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
David N. Prenskey, Esquire
5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #500
Washington, D.C. 20015
(202) 244-4000

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Salia, LLC trading as Holiday Inn Express, 6401 Brandon Ave, Springfield, VA 22150. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) FOR a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Anisur Khan, member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date to the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Casa Tequila Bar and Grill Lorton, LLC trading as Casa Tequila Bar and Grill, 9020 Lorton Station Blvd. Ste E, Lorton, VA 22079. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on premises and Mixed Beverage on premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Julio Melediez, Owner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

OBITUARY



Helen C. (Gomulka) Longworth, 83, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 2 in Fairfax, VA.
Born in Glen Lyon on Apr. 21, 1932, she was the daughter of the late John & Angela (Chlepal) Gomulka.

Helen was a graduate of Newport Twp. High School. She was employed as a nurse by the Retreat State Hospital, Hunlock Creek, and as a LPN at Sacred Heart Hospital, Chester. She served many with a smile at Yom's Deli, Swarthmore and Burger King, Springfield.

She was a member of Holy Spirit Parish/St. Adalbert's Church, Glen Lyon.

Helen performed with the Notre Dame de Lourdes Players Club & the Bell Choir, Swarthmore. In Virginia, she helped outreach to active military via the Little River Glen Senior Center. Helen sang to staff and other participants of the PACE Inova Cares for Seniors program. She enjoyed bingo at Sunrise George Mason, Fairfax.

She was preceded in death by her husband; George A. Longworth; her step-brother, Joseph Korshalla and his wife Lillian.

Surviving is her loving family, daughter, Roberta A. Longworth, granddaughter, Michelle L. Opdahl (Thomas R. Bowser), great-grandchildren, Elise O. Bowser and Thomas G. Bowser and brother, Edward J. Gomulka.

Family and friends are invited to attend a Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday at 10 am in Holy Spirit Parish/St. Adalbert's Church, with Rev. Louis Kaminski officiating. Interment will follow in St. Adalbert's Cemetery, Glen Lyon. There are no public calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Helen to Little River Glen Senior Ctr. Advisory Council (4001 Barker Ct., Fairfax, VA 22032) or Family Services Assn. of NE PA, (31 West Market St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18706). Arrangements are by the George A. Strish, Inc. Funeral Home.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Mungkor Thong, Inc trading as Sisters Thai, 4004 University Dr, Fairfax, VA 22030. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL(ABC) for a Wine and Beer On & Off Premises, license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jaturn Srirote, owner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date to the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Food3group LLC trading as The Spice Route, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Unit J-141, Fairfax, VA 22033. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Gopal Kapoor, member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
DL United, LLC trading as Jacalito Grill, 8081 Alban Rd, Suite A, Springfield, VA 22150. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer and Wine on and off premises on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Dioniris De Leon
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

If tomorrow were never to come, it would not be worth living today.
-Dagobert Runes

21 Announcements

Outer Banks, NC - Vacation Rentals

- Over 600 vacation homes in all price ranges!
- Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills, Nags Head, & Southern Shores to Corolla's 4x4 area
- 2 to 18 bedrooms, most with a private pool/ hot tub
- Linens and towels are provided (call for exception)

Reserve your family vacation today!

777-642-3224 . www.brindleybeach.com

ABSOLUTE AUCTION
TRUSTEE ORDERED SOLD
1101 Armory Drive, Franklin, VA 23851
March 11th @ 12:30pm Onsite
16 Acre Parcel M1-Zoning
- Enterprise Zoned **BROKERS**
- Main Commerce Area **PROTECTED**
Terms & Due Diligence at:
atlanticREmarketing.com

ATLANTIC William J. Summs, Sr.
ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC. Cell: 757-286-6460
Auctions | Real Estate | Appraisals | Marketing Office: 757-461-6867

Low Vision Patients with MACULAR DEGENERATION

DMV offers a special permit allowing low vision patients to drive with bioptic telescopic glasses.

Call for a FREE phone consultation with Dr. Armstrong, Optometrist

Offices in: Roanoke, Harrisonburg, Wytheville, Virginia

Learn more at: www.VirginiaLowVision.com
Dr. David L. Armstrong (866) 321-2030



LONG & FOSTER® # 1 in Virginia

703-425-8000



Carol Hermandorfer
703-216-4949

Expect Personal Service & Experienced Negotiation

C.A.R.O.L.
Hermandorfer Associates



Clifton Estate - \$2,495,000

Custom 6 BR estate on 5 acres w/ gorgeous views pastures, lake & pool. Expert craftsmanship and attention detail throughout! So many amenities including 7 garage bays, and separate in-law suite!

View more photos at www.hermandorfer.com



Fairfax - \$409,900

Don't miss this opportunity! Terrific brick 3 BR, 3.5 BA townhome in excellent location! Features spacious kitchen, finished lower level, fireplace, 2 reserved parking spaces, lots of storage and much more!



KIM MCCLARY
703-929-8425

kimm@lnf.com

Life Member NVAR Top Producers



BURKE EDGEWATER \$885,000

Extraordinary Stanley Martin beauty in the highly sought-after Community of Edgewater! Featuring updates/upgrades galore, this sensational home enjoys a side sunroom, huge kitchen/breakfast room, 2-level family room, custom hardscape/landscape that will take your breath away & more! Truly a commuter's dream location—1 light to the Fairfax County Pkwy, quick hop to the VRE, Franconia/Springfield Metro, Ft. Belvoir—it's everywhere you want to be! Call today for a "Private Tour" of this incredible offering.



JUDY SEMLER

703-503-1885

judys@LNF.com

www.JudysHomeTeam.com



FAIRFAX \$399,000

Townhome in Woodlynne Community with 3 finished levels, sunny eat-in kitchen, separate dining and living rooms, walkout recreation room and so much more. Great location near schools, VRE Station, public transportation, shopping and commuter routes. Call Judy for more information at 703-927-7127.



DIANE SUNDT

703-615-4626

Military Relocation Specialist



BEAUTIFUL BURKE HOME

Are you thinking about selling your home? If you want results, let's talk. Even if you are a few years away from your move, I can help advise you on renovation options to get you the most value. Call me today, 703-615-4626.



John & Jennifer Boyce

703-425-JOHN (5646)

jennifer.boyce@longandfooster.com

www.425JOHN.com



Warrenton \$415,000

OPEN HOUSES 2/13 & 2/14 • 1-4 PM
Gorgeous Home w/ custom Great Room & Master Bedroom Addition* Beautifully updated eat-in Kitchen * Updated Bathrooms * Fresh Paint * Large Yard in Serene Neighborhood * 2 Blocks to Commuter Bus Service, 2 Blocks to Route 29/15 * D.C. side of Warrenton * Free Home Warranty



DAVID & VIRGINIA

Associate Brokers

703-967-8700

www.BillupsTeam.com



N. Arlington Clarendon \$965,000

Walk to Clarendon Metro! Spacious 6 BR, 4 Bath colonial w/ 2 car garage! Minutes to DC! Main floor master BR, 2nd MBR on upper level. Sun room. Updated Kitchen & baths! www.1700KirkwoodRoad.info



Fairfax Station Crosspointe \$724,900

New Listing! Exquisite Pulte Hawthorne model located on a premium wooded lot! Spectacular kitchen renovation! Inviting screened porch! Library with gas flpl & view of nature! www.8396CrosslakeDrive.info



BUZZ & COURTNEY JORDAN

Your Local Father/Daughter Team!

703-503-1866 or 703-503-1835

TheJordanTeam@longandfooster.com

www.TheJordanTeam.com



Bull Run Mountain \$339,900

2.07 acres. Well-built 3 bedroom/2.5 bath brick rambler*full walkout basement*2 flpl*fresh paint/new appliances*large decks*2 large skylights*large rec room and den/study/bedroom on lower level*area for garage/patio. **Buzz Jordan 703-850-4501**



Sheila Adams

703-503-1895

Life Member, NVAR Multi-Million

Dollar Sales Club

Life Member, NVAR TOP PRODUCERS



Burke Must See Property!! \$799,900

Fabulous Contemporary - Open, Bright Floor Plan
Huge 4 Bedrooms - 3 1/2 Baths Beauty - Hdwd Flrs Main Level
Elevator from garage to Main Level - Deck - 2 Fireplaces
Gourmet Kitchen with all the Bells & Whistles
Lower Level apartment with own entrance
Call Sheila Adams for private tour 703-503-1895.



Carol L. Manning, Associate Broker

NVAR Multi-Million Dollar Club | NVAR Top Producer
703.517.1828 | Email: ContactCarol@LNF.com

Exceeding Your Expectations is my #1 Priority

The Fast-Paced Spring Market is Almost Here!
BEAT the COMPETITION
With Inventory LOW, it's a great time to SELL!

BONUS
Mention this ad for a **FREE Home Warranty** when you list with me before Feb. 29th!

Call 703.517.1828 today for a consultation on how to prepare your home to **SELL QUICKLY for TOP DOLLAR!!**



Kathy O'Donnell

703-338-7696

Kathy.odonnell@LNF.com



Clifton \$1,125,000
This fantastic home is situated on 5 acres near historic Clifton. Custom details throughout include hardwood floors, decorative molding, window-filled rooms and 3 fireplaces. The professionally landscaped yard surrounds several outdoor living areas and the pool, great for entertaining.



Catie, Steve & Associates

Direct: 703-278-9313

Cell: 703-362-2591

Life Members, NVAR Top Producers
Multi-Million Dollar Sales Club



Fairfax \$509,000
Cupcake of a Cape Cod! This beautiful sun filled home has a fantastic addition! Features beautiful hardwoods, 2 main level bedrooms and full bath, plus 3 more bedrooms & full bath upstairs. A wonderful updated kitchen and breakfast room, and terrific first floor sun room. Finished lower level could be used as an in-law/au pair suite. Lots of room and charm!

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