

Janice Miller, chair of the Fairfax City School Board, and Fairfax City Councilman David Meyer presented Dr. Scott Brabrand with a declaration proclaiming Feb. 28 "Dr. Scott Brabrand Day."

Fairfax Celebrates Dr. Brabrand Day

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Former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine, who is campaigning for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Democrat Jim Webb, visited Multivision in Fairfax on Thursday, Feb. 23. He spoke with students and staff, and said he was motivated to visit the workforce development company after meeting founder and president Srikanth Ramachandran (right) last fall.



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/ THE CONNECTION

Kaine Touts 'Talent Economy'

In bid for U.S. Senate seat, Kaine holds economic roundtables.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

During a campaign stop at a Fairfax workforce development company on Thursday, former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine (D) emphasized the need to foster a "talent economy" that will reboot America's drive to the top of the economic ladder.

Kaine spoke to about 50 staff and students at Multivision, Inc., an information technology (IT) consulting company, about giving American workers opportunities to acquire 21st century technical skills to keep pace with the evolving demands of global employers.

"I really believe - big-picture, national-policy now - that America will be stronger if we win the talent war, and we will have problems if we lose the talent war, to put it bluntly," Kaine said.

THE VISIT was one of several economic roundtables Kaine has been holding across the state in his bid to fill the seat vacated by Democratic U.S. Sen. Jim Webb. Kaine is being challenged by former Republican Governor George Allen.

Kaine said his focus on "talent issues," means three things: ensuring that education systems are world class from pre-K to higher-education; providing opportunities for retraining and workforce development; and an immigration system that allows the best and brightest to come to America to create jobs and contribute to the economy.

"For many years our country was number one in the world in percentage of our adult population getting some kind of degree after high school, but today we're 16th and we're slipping," he said.

Kaine told the group that Multivision caught his attention last fall when he met founder and president Srikanth Ramachandran, who came to America 14 years ago from India to pursue the "American Dream." Kaine said he was impressed that, since 2009, Multivision has provided training and job coaching that resulted in jobs for more than 45 unemployed Americans.

"What you're doing here at Multivision is a wonderful bridge for people who have the talent and desire, but not always the sufficient skills to be successful," Kaine said, adding that bridging the gap requires a scaled-up partnership between business, government and educational institutions.



Former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine, who is campaigning for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Democrat Jim Webb, visited Multivision, Inc. in Fairfax on Thursday, Feb. 23. He spoke with student Charles Snow about the need to build a "talent economy."

Now a U.S. citizen, Ramachandran said he started the Fairfax-based Multivision in 2002; by 2007, the company employed 200 people and netted \$32 million a year. But when the economy started to sputter in late 2008, Multivision struggled to find veteran talent in the rapidly evolving IT industry.

"We were astounded to find out how many unemployed did not have skills in the latest technologies. There was a huge gap between their skills and the required skills," Ramachandran said. "There was clearly a need to retrain workers in the latest technologies."

The company tackles unemployment by providing free, full-time IT programming to unemployed and underemployed during an intense 8-week, 40-hour program that Ramachandran described as "much like a boot camp."

"We provide training across different age-groups and ethnicity. About 40 percent of our students are above 50...The success of our training model depends on constant retraining," he said.

Ramachandran said it was "a pleasant surprise to talk to politician who is totally in touch with reality. I was impressed by his humility, intellect and clear understanding of the unemployed."

Kaine said one of the most common stories he hears in his travels across the Commonwealth is from unemployed workers who have a degree but not the advanced technology skills to find a job.

KAINE DESCRIBED a recent visit to a Kraft Foods plant in Winchester, where he talked to a manager who said he had five jobs available but could not find someone with the right skills to hire.

SEE KAINE, PAGE 4



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Michael Artson, chief planner with the County's Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) Department, shows his appreciation for the record amount of donations when the bus was parked at the McLean Giant.

The Bus Was Stuffed

Local food pantries receive record donations from 2nd annual Stuff the Bus campaign.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County's second annual Stuff the Bus campaign roared to the finish line last week, collecting more than 25,604 pounds of food and \$3,483 - a 26 percent increase in food, and a 236 percent increase in cash over 2011 totals.

All donations went directly to local nonprofit organizations that help feed needy families and individuals in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community.

"The residents of Fairfax and our partners, like MV Transportation and Frank & Co., have really come out in support of the food pantries this year," said Michael Artson, chief planner

SEE DONATIONS, PAGE 4

FOOD TOTALS FOR STUFF THE BUS CAMPAIGN

JANUARY 16

Mount Vernon Plaza Shoppers Food Warehouse
7660 Richmond Highway, Alexandria
1,320 pounds of food was collected and donated to United Community Ministries.

JANUARY 21

Vienna Giant
359 Maple Avenue East, Vienna
1,198 pounds of food was collected and donated to Committee for Helping Others.

Village Center at Dulles Shoppers Food Warehouse
2425 Centreville Road, Herndon
1,907 pounds of food was collected and donated to Reston Interfaith.

JANUARY 28

Fox Mill Giant
2551 John Milton Drive, Herndon
1,746 pounds of food was collected and donated to Helping Hungry Kids.

Lorton Giant
8941 Ox Road, Lorton
2,158 pounds of food was collected and donated to Lorton Community Action Center.

FEBRUARY 4

McLean Giant
1454 Chain Bridge Road, McLean
6,221 pounds of food was collected and donated to Share, Inc.

Clifton Giant
5740 Union Mill Road, Clifton
3,487 pounds of food was collected and donated to Western Fairfax Christian Ministries.

FEBRUARY 11

Fair City Mall Shoppers Food Warehouse
9622 Main Street, Fairfax
2,708 pounds of food was collected and donated to Food for Others.

Kingstowne Giant
5870 Kingstowne Blvd., Alexandria
1,574 pounds of food was collected and donated to Koinonia Foundation.

FEBRUARY 18

Fair City Mall Shoppers Food Warehouse
9622 Main Street, Fairfax
2,009 pounds of food was collected and donated to Our Daily Bread.

Seven Corners Center Shoppers Food Warehouse
6360 Seven Corners Center, Falls Church
1,274 pounds of food was collected and donated to Falls Church Community Service Council.



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Friends Carol Valentine and Tori Beuzese of Lorton, Alicia Preto and and Chris Cohen of Fairfax show off the bowls they selected at the Empty Bowls fundraiser.

Nourishing Body and Soul

Fourth annual fundraiser draws 300 attendees.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Professional and student artists have been busy shaping and decorating nearly 500 bowls for the fourth annual Empty Bowls event, hosted by Our Daily Bread, a non-profit that works to eliminate hunger, homelessness and poverty in Fairfax County.

More than 300 community residents turned out for the annual fundraiser at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax on Thursday, Feb. 23. By purchasing a \$25 ticket, guests could choose one of the hand-crafted bowls, take part in a silent auction and enjoy a simple meal of soup, bread and dessert donated by local restaurants.

"I love how they do this event," said Barb Brehm of Fairfax. "Everyone gets a great bowl, and the next time they eat soup at home, they are grateful that their bowl isn't an empty one."

"I think the quote 'Let this bowl be a reminder that on this night you helped fill empty bowls,' says it all," said the Rev. Karen Rasmussen of Fairfax.

With more than 60 families on its food program waiting list, and overwhelming requests for financial aid, the fundraiser generates thousands of dollars each year for ODB, said executive director Lisa Whetzel.

"It takes an income of about \$60,000 for a family of four to thrive in the Fairfax County area," said Whetzel. "Most of the clients we help only make about \$20,000 a year. Here in one of the wealthiest areas in the nation, it is shocking that tens of thousands of people struggle with hunger and hardship on a daily basis...When the community supports our Empty Bowls event, they help us make a real differ-

ence for our neighbors in need."

THE EVENING INCLUDED live music by the Fairfax Saxophone Quartet, children's activities, and a silent auction that included a chance to ride with Sharon Bulova (D-at-large), chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, during the County's annual Fourth of July Parade; an Outer Banks beach house rental, a Wintergreen Resort vacation rental, and a variety of gifts baskets and gift cards from area restaurants and businesses.

"This is a wonderful way to celebrate and raise awareness for a great cause," said Patty L. Friedman of Fairfax Station, who coaches the regional Shark Tank Racing Squad. "Each child on our team has a tremendous gift in their ability to swim, but I feel that we should all use our gifts to help others and give back." Friedman said swimmers created bowls and, throughout the year, raised \$7,700 for ODB's programs.

"It was a lot of fun making the bowls, and it feels good to be able to make a difference," said swimmer Rachel Stewart, 14, of Springfield, a member of the Shark Tank Racing Squad. "It's hard to believe there are children who don't have enough to eat here."

According to recent statistics from Fairfax County's Neighborhood and Community Services, more than 62,000 residents live below the federal poverty line in the county. During the 2010-2011 school year, Fairfax County Public Schools reported that more than 44,000 children, or 25 percent of the student population, qualified to receive free or

reduced-price meals.

EMPTY BOWLS is a nationally-recognized grassroots program designed to help local organizations fight hunger and raise awareness of hunger, homelessness and poverty in the community.

For more information on Our Daily Bread, visit www.ODBFairfax.org.



Ann McMahon, an Our Daily Bread volunteer, displays some of the student artwork available during the silent auction at the Empty Bowls fundraiser.

Fairfax Celebrates Dr. Brabrand Day

Former Fairfax High principal Scott Brabrand to become Lynchburg Superintendent of Schools.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Scott Brabrand, the former principal of Fairfax High School, did not need the official proclamation declaring it's "Scott Brabrand Day."

The group of citizens, parents, educators and civic leaders who gathered at Blenheim House on Feb. 26, made it clear that Sunday was Brabrand's day with a series of touching stories, amusing anecdotes and congratulations to the longtime Fairfax educator.

IN 2005, Brabrand was named principal of Fairfax High School; in 2009, he was named assistant superintendent of Cluster IV for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS).

"Scott's trademark mantra at Fairfax High School was 'The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing,'" said Fairfax City Councilman David Meyer, who organized the reception. Meyer told the crowd that his son came home from school one day wearing a t-shirt with Brabrand's picture on it, and his trademark quote on the back.

"We have this shirt to give you, and have ordered a special display case for you to keep it in," he told Brabrand, to laughter and applause.

Meyer also told the story of seeing hundreds of Fairfax High School students cheering for Brabrand when he was announced at the Science Fair his second year as principal.

"The spontaneous cheering amazed me," Meyer said. "When I was in high school, cheering for your principal was not something adolescents did. It was at that moment I understood that there was a special bond between Scott and his students."

Brabrand said he was humbled by the accolades, and grateful to his wife, Debbie, and their twin boys, Bennett and William for being supportive. "I really believe strongly in public education, that we can produce the best and brightest, and I will take what I learned here in the city and county with me," Brabrand said.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

Dr. Scott Brabrand celebrated with his wife, Debbie Brabrand (left) and Ann Monday, City of Fairfax Schools Superintendent, who is retiring June 30.

Brabrand's rise through the ranks of the city and county schools was swift, and he was known as a creative leader. As FHS principal, Brabrand was responsible for increasing enrollment in Advanced Placement (AP) classes by 54 percent over a three-year period and increasing enrollment in pre-AP honors courses by 42 percent. Under his leadership, according to FCPS, the achievement gap for Hispanic students on English and math Standards of Learning (SOL) tests was eliminated at FHS. For African-American students, economically disadvantaged students, and students with disabilities, the achievement gap shrunk to 11 percent. Brabrand also championed a "Rewards and Remediation" program that decreased failing grades in SOL classes by 57 percent in two years.

Brabrand also designed and implemented a leadership curriculum for 16 aspiring principals, for whom he helped develop individual development plans and served as a mentor.

PRIOR TO BECOMING PRINCIPAL at Fairfax, Brabrand served as an associate principal at Lake Braddock Secondary School; an assistant

SEE BRABRAND, PAGE 11

Former Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine, who is campaigning for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Democrat Jim Webb, visited Multivision in Fairfax on Thursday, Feb. 23. Kaine addressed students and staff at the IT workforce development company.



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Kaine Comes to Area

FROM PAGE 2

“There are a lot of companies that have manufacturing jobs and want to hire. I hear from people who say they know how to work the machines, but companies want to hire people to program the machines, so the old skills are not sufficient. This is what made me want to come to MultiVision,” Kaine told the group.

Kaine said he was particularly moved by the story of a 55-year-old man he met that afternoon who is completing Multivision’s training program.

“That was a poignant story. This man is unemployed and his son is going to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. That is the kind of talent story we should be telling,” Kaine said.

Instead, he said the Virginia talent story is getting obscured by the GOP’s focus on social issues.

“I am worried...Are we really talking about the legality of birth control,” Kaine said after his visit to Multivision.

“This is no time to be complacent about the economy. When I said to the group that Virginia went from 38th in the nation (in per capita income) to being 7th, it’s clear we didn’t excel by getting bogged down in divisive social issues.”

Kaine noted that when he was governor from 2006 to 2010, companies such as Northrop Grumman and Volkswagen of North America, decided to headquarter in Virginia, mainly because of people and talent.

“What I hear from our business leaders and owners is that they are tired of partisan games and distractions causing uncertainty and making it hard to be successful,” Kaine said in a recent conference call with reporters.

Record Donations

FROM PAGE 2

with the County’s Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) Department, one of the food drive’s organizers.

The annual campaign is a partnership between NCS, Fairfax County’s Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3) and MV Transportation Inc., which operates the FASTRAN buses and provides volunteers, as well as local grocery store chains Giant and Shoppers Food Warehouse.

“In our first year, 2011, we collected more than 20,000 pounds of food valued at more than \$34,000; the total value of the food, goods and services donated by all the public and private partners was valued at more than \$56,000,” said Patricia Stevens, executive director of OP3.

She said the “Stuff the Bus” campaign is intentionally scheduled between Martin Luther King Day

in January and Presidents Day in February, because donations typically decrease during the first few months of the new year, after the seasonal dose of good will.

Many Fairfax County pantries, including Our Daily Bread, FACETS, the Lorton Action Community Center and Food for Others, report that during the fall and holiday season, food pantries are stocked and brimming with donations from the community.

“But by February, our supplies are often running low even though the need for food is greater than ever,” said Lisa Whetzel, executive director of Our Daily Bread in Fairfax.

She said ODB collected 2,000 pounds of food and more than \$500 in cash and grocery cards when Stuff the Bus was parked at Shoppers Food Warehouse at Fair City Mall on Feb. 18, and much of the food went directly to clients the next day.

Griffin’s Final Budget

Outgoing county executive proposes 6.1 percent budget increase compared to last year.

How to Participate

The county will seek feedback and comments on the budget for county decision-makers to consider before adopting the FY 2013 Budget on May 1, 2012.

Comments may be provided online and will be accepted through mid-April. Given the volume of comments expected, individual responses will not be possible. Comments will be updated and available for viewing every few weeks.

Board of Supervisors Budget Committee meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, March 13 and 27, at 10 a.m. The board’s budget pre-markup session has been scheduled for Friday, April 20, at 1 p.m. and the markup session for Tuesday, April 24, at 10 a.m.

The formal adoption of the budget is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, May 1, at 10:30 a.m. during the regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Appearing before members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for the last time, outgoing county executive Anthony Griffin had the luxury of taking the long view. When considering the challenges that currently confront the county, Griffin reminded the elected officials that it wasn’t all that long ago that Fairfax County has essentially a rural backwater of the capital.

“If you take a look at where we were at the end of World War II, when we were the second largest dairy producing county in the state of Virginia and we had 50,000 people and then you look at where we are today with 1.1 million people,” said Griffin, “we had huge challenges.”

Since that time, Fairfax County has emerged as the powerhouse of Northern Virginia with a \$6.7 billion budget — larger than many countries across the globe. Griffin’s budget for fiscal year 2013 keeps the current tax rate at \$1.07 for every \$100 of assessed value. Because of rising property values, that means the average homeowner will pay \$4,801, which is \$34 more than last year. County leaders say the rising property values have eased some of the tension created by the recession, although they were quick to point out that the county has yet to return to the boom times of the last decade.

“This proposed budget reflects the difficult economic situation as we recover from the Great Recession,” said Fairfax County Board Chairwoman Sharon Bulova. “We are not yet out of the woods, but we are seeing some modest growth.”

THAT GROWTH has funded several new spending initiatives at the Fairfax County Government Center. The largest new spending measures in Griffin’s proposed budget is a 2.18 percent market-rate adjustment for county employees. That will cost more than \$22 million and will become effective this summer if supervisors approve the proposal. Griffin added that this is the fourth year that public safety employees will not get a step increase and county employees will not get a pay-for-performance bonus.

“I have to tell you that employees are getting anxious,” said Griffin. “They’re concerned about their ability as individuals to continue to maintain their lifestyle and their requirements in the absence of any change in pay.”

In addition to raising property taxes, Griffin’s budget also imposes a host of new fees. The stormwater fee would increase from 1.5 cents for every \$100 of assessed value to 2.5 cents for every \$100 of assessed value. The solid waste fee would increase from \$15.50 for each ton to \$17.50 for each ton. The sewer service charge would increase from \$6.01 for every 1,000 gallons to \$6.55 for every 1,000 gallons.

“There really is a crisis in this country right now because the infrastructure that is below ground, which people do not see is in serious shape,” said Griffin. “We are better off because our community developed since World War II primarily.”

GRIFFIN’S PROPOSED BUDGET maintains the current funding for the school system at 52.5 percent. That’s \$1.68 billion, a 4.5 percent increase over last year. Yet it’s also \$70 million less than the request from the school system, which was \$1.75 billion. As a result, Griffin suggested supervisors advertise a tax rate of \$1.09 to give supervisors some flexibility. The county executive also presented a PowerPoint slide to supervisors that showed the average residential property taxpayer’s bill had declined \$45 since fiscal year 2007. But Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield) pointed out that didn’t include the stormwater fee, which is part of the annual property tax bill. Although Griffin said the average tax bill is \$4,801, Herry pointed out that when the stormwater fee is added the average bill is \$4,913.

“So instead of decreasing by \$45, the check the average homeowner writes actually went up \$80,” said Herry.

“I’m not intending to try to confuse people,” said Griffin. “But the stormwater is a separate account and a separate fee.”

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Robbery Suspect Is Charged

City of Fairfax police have identified and charged a 46-year-old Maryland man in connection with the robbery of a Fairfax restaurant on New Year’s Day. Around 6:30 a.m. on Jan. 1, a man entered the Denny’s Restaurant at 10473 Fairfax Blvd., initially claiming to be a law-enforcement officer.

Police say he then allegedly produced a handgun and ordered the 25-year-old male manager

into the office, where he demanded money from the safe. After the manager complied, the suspect fled through the back door of the restaurant with an undisclosed amount of cash. No one was injured. However, as the result of investigation by the Chevy Chase, Md. Man: Police charged him with robbery, abduction, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony and impersonating a police officer.

He was arrested Feb. 17 by Takoma Park police and charged as a fugitive from justice from Virginia; he’s currently being held in Montgomery County, Md.

Former Band Director Pleads Guilty to Soliciting

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

A Centreville man who used to be the band director at Robinson Secondary School was convicted in court Tuesday of computer solicitation of a child under age 15. He is Michael Keith Cook, 43 of 14313 Climbing Rose Way.

He entered an Alford plea, not admitting guilt, but acknowledging the existence of enough evidence to convict him of the crime.

"Are you entering this plea freely and voluntarily?" asked Circuit Court Judge David Schell. "Yes," replied Cook.

In an Aug. 25, 2010 affidavit, county police Det. Nickolas Boffi wrote that, while he was working

undercover online, posing as a 14-year-old boy, Cook contacted the "teen" and offered to perform oral sex on him. Boffi is actually with the Criminal Investigation Bureau, Child Exploitation Unit, and on Aug. 31, Cook was arrested and charged.

The Fairfax County school system immediately placed him on unpaid leave. Cook had been an

FCPS employee since August 1999 and the band director at Robinson since 2006. Prior to that time, he taught music at Stone, Carson and Robinson middle schools.

IN COURT TUESDAY MORNING, Feb. 28, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Mark Sullivan said the online conversations between Boffi – in the per-

sona of a teen named Cameron – and Cook happened between July 19 and 27, 2011. Said Sullivan:

"Cameron told him he was 14 and could only stay out until 9 p.m. because his mother wanted him home then."

Using a particular screen name, said the prosecutor, Cook "brought

SEE SENTENCING, PAGE 7

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State Shirks Transportation Responsibility

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
AND JEFF MCKAY

LEE DISTRICT SUPERVISOR AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

COMMENTARY

The current debate over transportation responsibilities is instructive. The Commonwealth of Virginia has primary transportation responsibilities that go back to the years of the Great Depression when the state took on all public road maintenance and construction for all counties except for Arlington and Henrico. In recent years, we've seen the fraying of this traditional responsibility and core function of state government as the state's failure to act has left many of our most well-traveled roads in deplorable condition. Saying, "Can't afford it anymore, it's your problem" seems to be the General Assembly's solution. That's not reasonable and it's certainly not responsible governance.

The current proposals in the General Assembly are either devolution-lite or the camel's nose under the tent. Either way, they amount to an abdication of the state's moral and legal responsibility to maintain our roads. Any effort by the state that does not result in a long-term dedicated revenue stream is a decision

to sidestep our transportation challenges. Fairfax County should not be forced to choose between its citizens' important needs simply because the state government is looking to take the easy way out. And keep in mind — as Fairfax County's fortunes go, so goes the Commonwealth. Our economic vitality supports and funds the rest of the state. A crumbling transportation infrastructure here will ultimately show up on the wrong side of the ledger downstate.

As elected leaders, we have the responsibility to listen and respond to the needs of our constituents. Time after time we hear that transportation is one of our residents' top concerns and key to our economic fortunes. Fairfax County has a creative and solutions-oriented local government. We believe that our transportation problems can be solved. Identifying a dedicated transportation revenue stream is the first and most important step in finding that solution and we ask that the Governor and the General Assembly meet their responsibility and identify that stream.

Maybe we should rename our County The Bank of Last Resort. At our Board of Supervisors retreat in early February, board members and staff discussed the tools available to local government to narrow the chasm between growing needs and shrinking resources. As the state and federal governments continue to slash programs and funds to localities, the needs in areas like human services, education, public safety, and transportation continue to grow.

Fairfax County is at ground zero in all these areas. We're home to a growing population of seniors in need of basic services; our top notch schools are growing fast; and our first responders keep our community safe despite being asked to do more with less.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Recognizing 'Young Heroes'

To the Editor:

Inarguably, enlisting in the military is one of the most honorable things one can do after graduating high school. While most are planning vacations to the beach or buying decorations for their dorm rooms, the select few who have enlisted are at basic combat training. A full day there lasts from 16 to 18 hours, with few breaks. They sacrificed the vacations and hanging out with friends for a higher purpose: the defense of our nation. Despite the sacrifice these young men and women are making, the local schools have failed to recognize the responsibilities they have just taken on. Every year Fairfax County Public Schools recognize students for athletic and academic accomplishments, yet they fail to give that same recognition to those who have answered our country's call to duty in a time when our nation's security is threatened.

Braddock Supervisor John Cook is a supporter of recognizing our young men and women who chose to enlist and serve our country rather than enjoy the normal post-high school graduation summer. Supervisor Cook partnered along with Christine Zinser and an organization called Our Community Salutes to hold an event that recognized the brave young people graduating from Robinson who chose to enlist immediately after high school. The event was such a success that there was only standing room! I believe that it is time

to recognize our young men and women the same way we recognize other graduates' achievements. This can be done by announcing their names at graduation to everyone in attendance and presenting to them a special chord to symbolize their dedication and sacrifice. Supervisor Cook showed great support for our armed forces and great leadership in our community by helping to pave the way for recognizing those young heroes who chose to enlist.

Taylor Black
GMU Campus Dorms

Supervising 'Little Things'

Letter to the Editor:

As I struggled through traffic, yet again, I was pressed to keep my sanity as I sat thinking about all the productive things I could be doing if I could just get home! Being a commuter to George Mason is far from the carefree lifestyle alluded to by the smiling faces on our University website, especially when you are as hyper involved as I am. My schedule is packed with classes, intramural sports, internships, Greek life, and Student Government. So no need to describe the stress induced by my time wasted in traffic, trying to travel only 5 miles to campus.

Luckily, my involvement paid off and relieved my stress at our last executive meeting of the fall semester for Student Government. When our chairwoman of University Services announced that they

where nearing the final stages of development for the "West Campus Connector" or western bypass funded as a part of the Governor's six year transportation plan.

I was told of how our Braddock Supervisor John Cook worked personally with the Transportation Secretary to fund this \$15 million dollar project to reduce congestion surrounding George Mason University at Braddock and Route 123. The proposed solutions take into account everything from how construction will affect the community to its impact on the trees and environment. Cook even established a West Campus Connector Advisory Group (WCCAG) to make sure the people were involved in the decision making process, hosting open forums and accepting public input. I am thankful that John Cook and Governor McDonnell are working hard to help the 19,700 students attending my university and all of those affected by the traffic we create. The care that was taken in developing this plan, projected to be finished in 2014, has reassured me that Supervisor Cook is aware of the little things that affect us.

Gabrielle Webster
Fairfax

Keeping the Potomac River Clean

To the Editor:

As a proud member of the

Northern Virginia community who spent my high school years rowing on the Potomac River, I am very concerned about the condition of this beloved waterway. The state legislature's decision to maintain Virginia's membership in the Interstate Commission for the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) is a huge victory for both the health of the Potomac and Virginia's drinking water supply. The Potomac provides clean drinking water for at least 3 million Virginians and it is crucial for Virginia to continue paying its dues to the commission; every dollar helps support the commission's vital water research and cleaning efforts. Without Virginia's dues the commission may not be able to properly fulfill its purpose and then we'll put the Potomac River, as well as Virginia's drinking water, at risk. Just as the Governor's own commission appointee, Rob Hartwell, said, Virginia is more than adequately rewarded for the money it pays to the commission through returns.

As both a member of Environment Virginia and an active Northern Virginian citizen, I would like to encourage members of the Virginia State Senate to vote to pay the full membership dues to the Interstate Commission for the Potomac River Basin so that the Potomac River will remain a clean source of drinking water for Virginians.

Emily Jorgensen
Environment Virginia
Springfield

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Sentencing Set for May 4

FROM PAGE 5

up the topic of oral sex and asked the boy for a picture of his penis. [Cook] sent him a photo of his face." Sullivan said Cook suggested that he and Cameron meet "somewhere outside" and he'd perform an oral sex act on the teen.

Via Cook's Internet-service provider, Cox Communications, said Sullivan, authorities were able to identify the screen name as belonging to Cook. "On Aug. 25, the detective met with the defendant at Robinson Secondary School and [Cook] admitted he was [the screen name]," said Sullivan. "Mr. Cook said he didn't recall talking to Cameron, but said he had talked with an underage child."

Defense attorney Tom Walsh said that, on July 19, 2011, "Boffi posted an ad on craigslist - which is for people 18 and above - and that's what drew my client." Walsh said Boffi "initiated contact" with Cook on July 21 and sent him a photo of a 23-year-old male police officer who looked like an older teenager.

"My client indicated he was 32,

not 42, just as Boffi lied about his age," said Walsh. "Boffi tried to set up meetings with my client, and my client refused. He never met with the detective and, on July 27, the chats stopped."

Judge Schell then asked Cook, "Are you pleading guilty by Alford because the commonwealth's evidence is such that you don't wish to take the risk that, after a trial, you'll be found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt?" Cook answered, "Yes, sir."

Schell then ruled that there's "substantial evidence" against Cook and he accepted his Alford plea. "Do you understand that, because of your plea, you're not entitled to a trial by jury, and you give up your right to defend yourself?" he asked Cook. Again, the defendant answered affirmatively.

The judge also made sure Cook knew that the maximum sentence he could receive is 10 years in prison, a \$2,500 fine and court costs. Schell also told him that, by pleading guilty, he may waive his right to appeal any sentence of the court.

THE JUDGE noted, as well, that

there's no agreement between the attorneys regarding the sentence Cook will receive, except that the mandatory minimum of five years in prison that goes with his charge will not be applied to his case. (Afterward, outside the courtroom, Walsh said the prosecution only agreed to this stipulation, provided Cook pleaded guilty).

Schell then officially found Cook guilty as charged, ordered a presentencing report be made and set his sentencing for May 4. Sullivan requested Cook's bond be revoked and he be remanded to jail to await sentencing. "He was a teacher, so there's a concern for the safety of the kids," said Sullivan. But stressing that "no attempts were made by Mr. Cook to meet with [the teen]," Walsh said his client should be allowed to remain free on bond.

In the end, the judge agreed, so Cook will stay out on bond until his sentencing date. While at Robinson, he directed the high-school bands, including the Symphonic Band, Advanced Band Concert 4 and the Percussion Ensemble. He also taught the Robinson Marching Rams.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY/MARCH 1

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." 7 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Family musical. Donations accepted. Free, reservations required at Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org.

Company of Thieves. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Peter Yarrow with Mustard's Retreat. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk music. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 2

Anais Mitchell CD Release and Rachel Ries. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." 7 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Family musical. Donations accepted. Free, reservations required at Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 3

Ballet Folklorico De Antioquia, Colombia. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Sharing the richness and diversity of Colombian culture through authentic music, ritualistic dance, and physical theater accentuated with brilliantly-colored costumes. \$23-\$46. www.gmu.edu.

Fairfax Chocolate Lovers Festival.

Various locations in Old Town Fairfax. The Taste of Chocolate, featuring chocolate vendors selling their wares; the Chocolate Challenge, an arts extravaganza where the medium is chocolate; the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast featuring chocolate

To have community events listed, send to south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

chip pancakes, historic re-enactments, children's activities, open houses at historic buildings and more.

Buskin & Batteau. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk duo. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

Celtic Woman. 8 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Celtic music. Tickets \$43-\$73, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating available for patrons with disabilities at 703-993-3035.

26th Annual Fairfax Jazz & Tap Dance Festival. 8 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus Theatre, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. With performances by the Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Company, Encore Performers, Center Stage Dance, Capitol Movement, Impulse and MYTE. Supported and funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County. \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door. www.dujdc.org.

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." 7 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5960 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Family musical. Donations accepted. Free, reservations required at Tickets@BurkePresChurch.org.

St. Patrick's Day. Auld Shebeen Restaurant and Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Join Michael Waugh and Trish Jenkins of Wild West Irish Tours, together with Genealogy expert Michael Healy of Irish Ancestry Research Consulting, for an interactive audio/video presentation at 12 p.m. Irish music, heritage, food and fun with a live music session beginning at 11 a.m., music by The Flying Cows of Ventry at 10 a.m., Irish dancers at 3 p.m., music by The Third Herd Boys at 4 p.m. 571-236-9650 or

info@wildwestirishours.com
www.theauldshebeenva.com.

SUNDAY/MARCH 4

Fairfax Chocolate Lovers Festival. Various locations in Old Town Fairfax. The Taste of Chocolate, featuring chocolate vendors selling their wares; the Chocolate Challenge, an arts extravaganza where the medium is chocolate; the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast featuring chocolate chip pancakes, historic re-enactments, children's activities, open houses at historic buildings and more.

Glen Phillips. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Formerly of Toad the Wet Sprocket. \$20. www.wolftrap.org.

26th Annual Fairfax Jazz & Tap Dance Festival. 4 p.m. Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus Theatre, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. With performances by the Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Company, Encore Performers, Center Stage Dance, Capitol Movement, Impulse and MYTE. Supported and funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County. \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door. www.dujdc.org.

Music Night at the Movies. 5:30 p.m. Abiding Presence Lutheran Church Sanctuary, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke. Celebrating the magic of movie music. With a free youth orchestra concert. Donations will be accepted to support the Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus (THEARC), enabling children and adults east of the Anacostia River in Washington, DC to participate in dance, music, fine arts, academics, recreation and medical care at reduced or no cost. 703-678-6336.

Bat White-nose Syndrome: There is a New Fungus Among Us. 7 p.m. USGS Headquarters, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Dr. David Blehert will discuss the profound impacts white-nose syndrome may have in the 21st century. Since first discovered in 2007 in New York, white-nose syndrome has spread to 16 states and four Canadian provinces. The disease is estimated to have killed over five million hibernating bats. Federal facility, photo ID required. Free and open to the public. Follow this event live @USGSLive. 703-648-7770.

"You're a Good Man, Charlie

'Proof' of Success

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Making it in the competitive world of professional theater is no easy feat. Many have dreams but a precious few have the spotlight shine on them. Alex Keiper, Fairfax native and 2002 Chantilly High School graduate is one of those few. She will return to the area in a starring role in the upcoming, professional theater production of "Proof" at George Mason University.

Keiper will appear in the Walnut Street Theatre's production of David Auburn's Pulitzer Prize-Winning and Tony Award winning play. Directed by Kate Galvin, "Proof" is a play about family, genius, mental illness and love. She has the lead role of Catherine, a young woman who leaves college to care for her father, a mathematical genius struggling with mental illness. A startling mathematical proof is discovered after her father dies. The discovery along with an unexpected romance with a former student of her father's leads Catherine to un-



Alex Keiper.

Where and When

Walnut Street Theatre's production of "Proof," George Mason University, Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA. 22030. Performance 8 p.m., Friday, March 2, 2012. Tickets: \$20-\$40. Call 888-945-2468 or visit cfa.gmu.edu. Note: Pre-performance discussion by Ken Adelson, Chair, Theater Department, George Mason University.

Keiper spoke of "the value of hard work and making sure that directors and other actors learned to trust her." She mentioned she likes to "dig deeply into her roles and especially enjoys edgy characters and developing new characters, ones that have not been done before and can involve big risks."

For the Love of Chocolate

Fairfax Chocolate Lovers Festival features new cupcake contest.

For all things chocolate, plan to attend the Chocolate Lovers Festival, a two-day event that takes place each year in Old Town Fairfax. This year's event is Saturday, March 3 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, March 4, from 12-4 p.m.

A family-friendly favorite, popular events include the Taste of Chocolate, featuring chocolate vendors selling anything and everything chocolate; the Chocolate Challenge, an arts extravaganza where pros and amateurs compete for prizes; the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast featuring chocolate chip pancakes; historic re-enactments; children's activities; open houses at historic buildings and much more.

This year's Valentine will feature a picture of the Fairfax Theater and five "tasting pogs," for chocolate tastings at Old Town Hall during the Festival.

For more information, go to www.chocolatefestival.net.



Dipping marshmallows into chocolate at the Fairfax Chocolate Lovers Festival.



Lara Huzzard, a cake decorator, and Michael Hensley, owner of Victoria's Bakery in Old Town Fairfax, display a 20-pound cake, one of the largest cakes at the shop.

Festival Events

TASTE OF CHOCOLATE

March 3 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
March 4 - noon to 4 p.m. (admission stops a half-hour before the event ends)
Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive. Surround yourself with hundreds of the finest chocolate sensations area confectioners have to offer. Items to purchase include cakes, candies, brownies, fudge, ice cream and other delicious concoctions.

The annual collectible Chocolate Lovers valentine includes a matted sketch of the Fairfax Theater drawn by Jackie Liedl of Local Color and a coupon redeemable for five taste pogs. The limited edition valentine costs \$5 through March 2. If supplies last, valentines will be sold during the festival at the Taste of Chocolate in Old Town Hall.

CHOCOLATE CHALLENGE AND SILENT AUCTION

March 3 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
March 4 - noon to 4 p.m.
Nutrition Kitchen, 3950 University Drive. Chocolate Challenge entry \$1. See displays of chocolate cakes, cupcakes and sculpture by professionals and amateurs alike, then join the area's most talented chefs and chocolatiers in judging the winners. "Best judged" entries receive a cash prize. Donated cakes and other items will be open for silent auction bidding through 3 p.m. Sunday.

Those who attend the Chocolate Challenge also will be able to use their admission ticket to vote for people's choice award as well as participate in the silent auction with a myriad of prizes. For more detailed event schedule visit www.chocolatefestival.net

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Fairfax Boys Show Flare for Drama in Postseason

Rebels' season ends with overtime loss to Edison in region semifinals.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax High's basketball postseason of 2012 will long be remembered because of the team's success as well as the grit and determination the Rebels showcased as three of their playoff contests were decided in overtime.

Fairfax's highly successful first season under head coach Mike Barbee ended last Saturday night when, in its third overtime playoff affair over nine days of postseason play, the Rebels lost to Edison, 69-65, in the Northern Region tournament semifinals game played at Robinson Secondary.

With the defeat, Fairfax's season ended with a 16-12 record. Edison (19-9), with the win over the Rebels, advanced to the region title game and also qualified for this week's state AAA tournament. The Eagles, in Monday's region finals at Robinson, lost to Westfield, which captured its' first-ever region crown. Edison is scheduled to play a state quarterfinals round playoff game this Friday night (March 2) in Richmond against Petersburg High.

Fairfax, following an 11-10 regular season, was not considered one of the region's elite teams going into the postseason. But at the Liberty District Tournament, the Rebels, as the No. 4-seed, won their quarterfinals round game over No. 5 Stone Bridge, 61-54, to advance to the semifinals and also earn an automatic seeding for the next week's 16-team regionals. In the district semifinals, Fairfax stunned top seed Langley, the three-time defending district champions, by a 56-49 score. That advanced the Rebels to the district title game on Feb. 17 at South Lakes High School. There, against No. 2-seed McLean, Fairfax fell behind 11-0 at the start but rallied and ultimately took the contest to double overtime



Fairfax's Zack Burnett goes up for a score during the Rebels' region semifinals game against Edison last Saturday night at Robinson Secondary.

before falling 60-57.

McLean senior guard Gordon Rogo scored 21 points and earned tournament MVP honors. Fairfax junior shooting guard Zack Burnett scored 24 points in the finals loss to the Highlanders and was named to the All-Tournament Team, along with teammate John Robic.

FAIRFAX OPENED regionals with another overtime game - defeating cross-town opponent and host team W.T. Woodson by a

54-51 score on Feb. 20. Burnett, who was having a sensational postseason, led the Rebels with 20 points in the victory and teammate Robic added 11. Woodson, a member of the Patriot District, was led by Alfred Carr's 14 points. The Cavaliers, with the loss, finished the season 20-5.

Fairfax, in its second round (quarterfinals) game on Feb. 22, soundly defeated visiting Yorktown (National District), 58-38. The Rebels, playing in front of their home crowd, jumped out to a 19-5

lead and never looked back. Burnett tallied 15 points and Fairfax's balanced attack included solid scoring efforts from Robic (11 points), Kris Kostadinov (10), Salim Collins (9), and Daniel Frank (7).

The win moved Fairfax on to the prestigious region Final Four and a meeting versus Edison. Simply getting to the region semifinals was a huge accomplishment for the Rebels.

Fairfax gave Edison all it could handle in the four-point, season-ending overtime loss. After falling behind 19-12 after one quarter, the Rebels came back and had tied the game at the half at 30. Edison appeared to be taking control again in the second half in building a 49-42 lead after three quarters but Fairfax, once again charged back and the game ultimately went into overtime after being tied at 61 following regulation. The Eagles outscored Fairfax 8-4 in the extra session to win and move on to the title game.

Burnett poured in 25 points in the loss to Edison. Kostadinov (11), Robic (11), and Daniel Frank (10) each contributed to the team point total. Burnett was ultimately named to the seven-member All-Region Tournament Team. "I cannot say enough about Zack Burnett," said Barbee. "He can just flat out score. Even in a game like the [district] championship where Zack was off the first half, we knew that it was a matter of time before his shots would start falling. And in the second half he came up big over and over again. And even when he is not scoring, he draws so much attention that it creates opportunities for our other players."

Throughout the regular season and on into the postseason, Fairfax displayed a will to fight back after falling behind in games. It seemed the Rebels always came up with big runs after falling behind.

"One thing that we really developed as the year went on is a belief that we are never out of game," said Barbee. "We have had a number of second half comebacks this season so we truly believe we are never out of a game. And we have played in so many close games this season that late game situations don't seem to faze us as much anymore."

Woodson's Reaves Signs with Shepherd

Woodson senior Mike Reaves signed a letter of intent and received a scholarship to play football at Shepherd University in West Virginia. Reaves was a standout at linebacker for the Cavaliers, who also made an impact when moved to defensive end during the 2011 season. Reaves wrote in an email that he will likely play defensive end/linebacker and tight end at Shepherd.

"I chose Shepherd because I felt that it was the best place for me not only to get a good education, but to develop as a football player and compete with some

great competition," Reaves wrote. "The location and homey feel was also a big factor in choosing Shepherd."

After Woodson started the 2011 season with five consecutive losses, Cavalier coaches moved Reaves from linebacker to defensive end for a game against T.C. Williams on Oct. 6. Reaves helped the defense hold the Titans to 211 total yards and he blocked a potential go-ahead field goal, helping Woodson to its first victory.

"Just want to thank everyone who has helped me get to where I am now," Reaves wrote. "I want to thank Coach Taylor and

his coaching staff for shaping me and building me into the player that I am now. I want to thank my family for always supporting me in my decisions and always being there to cheer me on. I want to thank God for giving me the opportunity to chase my dreams and allowing me to play to the best of my ability. Last but not least I want to thank my father. Even though he isn't here anymore (he passed away when I was nine), I know he is looking down on me and is very proud of me. He is the main reason I do what I do. He is my role model, hero, and source of inspiration. I did it pops."



Woodson senior Mike Reaves signed a letter of intent to play football at Shepherd University in West Virginia.

NEWS

Honoring Brabrand

FROM PAGE 3

principal and social studies teacher at Herndon High School; and as administrator of the Early Start and Jump Start summer programs.

FCPS Superintendent Jack D. Dale could not attend the event, but sent a letter saying that Brabrand was not only an "exceptional principal but a phenomenal cluster assistant superintendent."

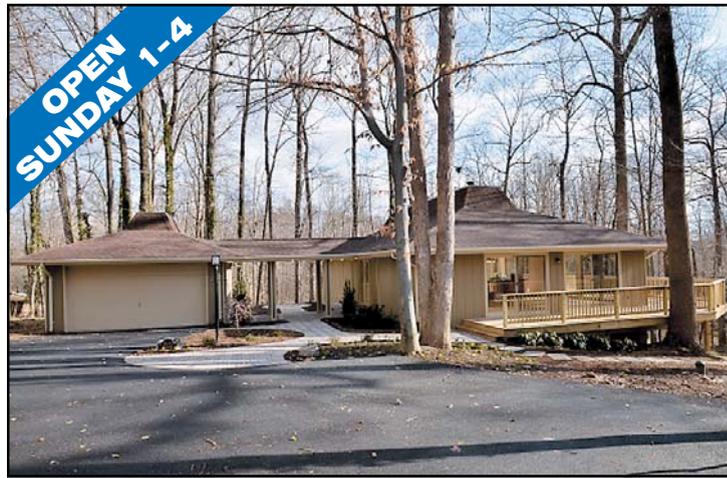
"Good leadership is hard to hide from superintendent search firms, and hard to hide from school boards looking for a great leader," Dale said in the statement. "We will miss Scott, but we benefited tremendously from his talent," Dale said.

Janice Miller, Chair of the City of Fairfax School Board, presented Brabrand with a proclamation signed by City of Fairfax Mayor Robert Lederer declaring Feb. 28 "Dr. Scott Brabrand Day."

"He has shown unequalled commitment to the creation of a better future for the children of our schools, and he will be greatly missed," Miller said.

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6327 Shirey Ln.....\$334,500.....Sun 1-4.....Deb Gorham.....Long & Foster..703-581-9005

Clifton

13903 Springhouse Ct.....\$634,500.....Sun 1-4.....Russ Day.....Century 21..703-818-0111

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12954 Grays Pointe Rd #A.....\$224,700.....Sat 12-3/Sun 1-4.....Betty Peerenboom.....Long & Foster..703-573-2600

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Delight in our HomeLifeStyle sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

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Fairfax County Public Schools: Food and Nutrition News

Coming in March: Go Inside the Classroom with Teachers

Recognized for Food Safety

Food safety and sanitation are critical processes that require strict procedures and training. All FCPS food service managers have successfully completed the Fairfax County Sanitation Certification requirements and a manager training course. As a second safety measure, all FCPS schools have implemented a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) program, which requires managers to follow a purchased food product from the moment the food is received to the time it is served to ensure proper handling and temperature control. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recognized the Office of Food and Nutrition Services for maintaining the highest levels of food safety and cleanliness in its food preparation areas.

Healthy School Environment Starts with Nutritious Meals and Exercise

What are your memories of school lunches? Today's students look forward to lunch not just because they're hungry, but because of the variety of foods offered: baked chicken, fish tacos, pork egg rolls, spaghetti, hummus, whole wheat pretzels and yogurt, chef's salad with tuna, assorted fruits and vegetables, and much more.

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is recognized as a leader in creating a healthy school environment by teaching children about the importance of eating a variety of healthy foods and getting regular exercise.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture established the HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) award to recognize schools that have created healthier school environments through promotion of nutrition and physical activity. This year 160, or more than 80 percent, of FCPS schools will receive the HUSSC award for enhancing the quality of school meals, increasing physical activity, and providing nutrition education to students.

said Penny McConnell, RD, Director of Food and Nutrition Services.

"We value the important role we play in our students' nutritional well-being and contribution to the reduction of childhood obesity," she said.

FCPS' Food and Nutrition Services program also places special emphasis on purchasing locally grown seasonal produce and supporting school learning gardens.

"We've talked to different groups within our community and share their desire to offer a wide variety of locally grown foods on our menu," said McConnell.

More than 30 FCPS schools have planted learning gardens that provide spring and fall produce for school lunches as well as a great learning experience for students.

A wellness policy guides FCPS Food and Nutrition staff as they develop programs in nutrition education and physical education, determine nutrition guidelines for all foods served during the school day, and create activities that promote student wellness.

In addition, staff from FCPS' Food and Nutrition Services visit classrooms and work with teachers to educate students about the benefits of good nutrition, kids' cooking activities and healthy snacks. FCPS hosts health fairs to show students and parents how to make healthy food choices and how to increase physical activity.



Getting To Know Us

FCPS Operations Coordinator, Food and Nutrition Services
Amy Hubal

Seeing the smiling faces of students as they go through the lunch line is one of the perks of the job for Amy Hubal, Operations Coordinator in Food and Nutrition Services.

Hubal supervises the eight central distribution centers, or central kitchens, for the school district. The distribution centers prepare and deliver food to more than 200 schools and community organizations on a daily basis.

Her passion for food began at an early age, working in the restaurant business when she was 16.

"I enjoy feeding my family and friends and I am fortunate to be able to work with food for my job as well," she said. "Everyone loves to eat and preparing healthy food is so rewarding."

Hubal is interested in the process of garden-to-table and educating others about how to have a healthy relationship with food.

"Learning to grow and prepare food is a life-long skill that promotes health and wellness," she said.

Hubal serves on the district's menu committee helping to develop new recipes for Food and Nutrition Services.

The one aspect of Hubal's job she enjoys most? Her team of 180 staff, 24 managers, and 32 van drivers.

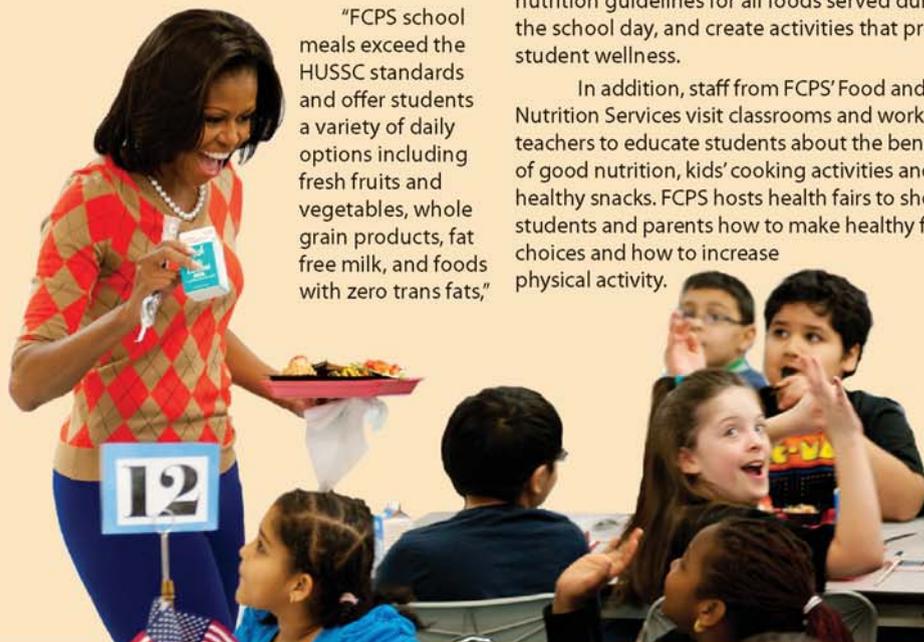
"I work with a dedicated, hard-working team of nutritional professionals that really care about what they do and the impact they make on a student's school day."

Want to learn more about FCPS school nutrition? Visit www.fcps.edu and click on the A-Z index for Food at School.

Learn the 9-5-2-1-0 Zip Code for Your Health

- 9 Get 9 hours of sleep each night
- 5 Eat 5 servings of fruits and vegetables each day
- 2 Limit screen time to no more than 2 hours each day
- 1 Get at least 1 hour of exercise each day
- 0 No sugary drinks

Right: First Lady Michelle Obama visited Parklawn Elementary School in Alexandria recently to unveil new federal standards for school meals which will require reducing sodium and fat levels, and increasing fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and legumes in school lunches and breakfasts.



"FCPS school meals exceed the HUSSC standards and offer students a variety of daily options including fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grain products, fat free milk, and foods with zero trans fats,"

Providing Nutritious Meals to Students, Community

Food and Nutrition Services employees take pride in preparing and serving more than 140,000 meals each day. Eight distribution centers (central kitchens), two secondary school production kitchens, a vending center, a central warehouse, and elementary, middle, and high school finishing kitchens, under the direction of highly trained managers, provide nutritious meals in all public schools and centers. Free and reduced-price meals are provided to needy students. In addition, food is catered to day care locations, senior citizen programs, Alzheimer centers and Meals on Wheels.

"Meals are planned by registered dietitians to reflect the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans," said McConnell. "But we also make sure that the menus reflect student cultural and personal preferences by conducting monthly student taste parties. Our goal is to plan menus that are affordable and provide students with several nutritious choices that they will select and eat."

Food and Nutrition Services Revenue Sources



This year's State of Schools Report courtesy of Apple Federal Credit Union



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needed for Pyramid Systems, Inc., Fairfax VA, to design, construct, deploy, and maintain general computer applications software or specialized utility programs; supervise the work of assigned professional staff. Master's degree in Computer science or related field is required. Special requirements: C#, C++, Java, Python, PHP; Oracle, MSSQL, MySQL, IBM DB2. Email resume at HR@psi-it.com with subject line Senior Software Engineer.

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CLASSIFIED

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

AT&T intends to file an application to replace an existing telecommunications tower structure at 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, Virginia 22031. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Lawyers" will require the installation of a new 125 foot tall treepole. Antennas are proposed at a RAD center of 120 feet above ground level. A 10-foot tall brick wall will be constructed around the compound and will match the existing wall. A four-foot paved walkway will extend from the existing parking lot to the proposed compound. An 11-foot- 5 inch by 20-foot equipment shelter will be constructed on a concrete pad within the 1562 square foot lease area. A utility frame will be mounted to the existing garage wall. A MESA Span XL Telco cabinet will be installed within the northwestern corner of the lease area. A coax bridge will be installed from the shelter to the treepole. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carolyn Mitchell, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o/theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com.

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OBITUARY
MORAN, C.M.F., REV. THOMAS

Rev. Thomas D. Moran, died on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at Resurrection Medical Center in Chicago, IL, after complications from pneumonia. Father Moran was born on January 27, 1928, in Chicago, Illinois. The son of Thomas and Mary (nee Roach) Moran, he grew up in a family of four children on the south side of Chicago. Fr. Moran is survived by his two remaining living sisters, Joan McGoldrick and Marie Tarpey; beloved uncle of many. The fourth sibling, his brother Roger is also deceased. Father made his first profession as a Cletarian Missionary in 1947, perpetual profession in 1950 and was ordained a priest on June 9, 1955.

After his ordination, Fr. Moran served as a teacher and Principal at the Saint Jude High School Seminary in Momec, Illinois from 1955-1967. At the suggestion of his then Superior, Fr. Moran was assigned to mission in Guatemala, where he spent approximately 25 years of his religious life as a missionary. During his time in Central America, he constantly championed for the rights of the indigenous and working people of the towns of El Estor and Livingston. Fr. Moran says his ministry on behalf of the impoverished Indian families encompassed "the happiest and some of the saddest years of my life as a priest." He was instrumental in helping to establish and promote an elementary school for children who could not write or speak in Spanish, the country's native language. His work in advancing the cause of education resulted in a new Indian school being named in his honor in Livingston.

After returning from Guatemala in 1982, and taking a 2 year sabbatical, Fr. Moran was then assigned to St. Mary of Sorrows Church in Fairfax, Virginia as parish priest from 1984-1990. In 1990, he returned to Guatemala for a second tour of duty for nine years. In 1999 when he returned to the United States, he was assigned as an associate pastor at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church on the south side of Chicago, where he served until December of 2011. Visitation on Tuesday, February 27 from 2-9pm at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church 3200 E. 91st Street, Chicago, IL 60617 with a prayer service at 8pm. On Wednesday, February 28 viewing at 9:00 a.m. until time of Mass of the Resurrection at 9:30 a.m. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Hillside, IL. Elmwood Chapel Chicago, IL in charge of arrangement. 773-731-2749. www.elmwoodchapel.com

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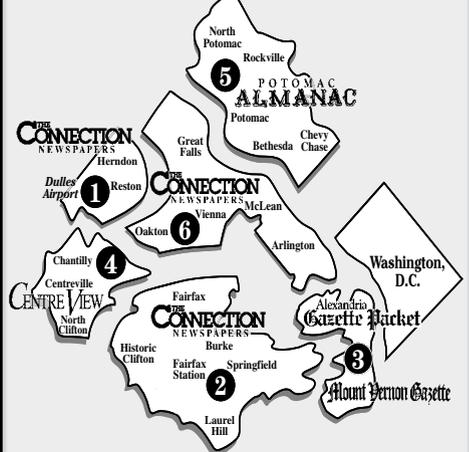
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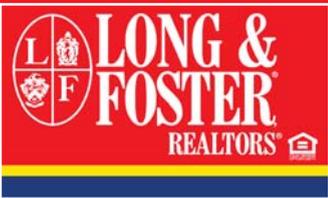


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Burke \$524,900
This updated Colonial in nationally recognized Burke Centre is move-in ready! Features updated Kit & BAs, fin LL, hardwoods in Foyer & Fam Rm, new carpets & paint throughout. Close to Terra Centre Elem, Metro bus, jog/bike paths, pools, ponds, tennis courts, shopping centers - something for everyone!
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Fairfax Station \$995,000
OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 3/3 and 3/4, 1-4 PM
This stunning Colonial has over 5,000 sq. ft. on 3 levels. It has 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, and sits on 5 wooded acres. The spacious rooms are highlighted by the breathtaking views. One that must be seen!
Richard Esposito 703-503-4035



Gainesville \$524,900
Heritage Hunt 55+ Golf & Country Club (age 50+ OK). Shows like a Model! 4 BR, 3.5 BA, Hdwd flrs on m/l, Gourmet Kit w/granite, 42" map cabs, SS apps, m/l MBR, California WIC, Din rm, Great rm w/gas f/p, Sun rm, Study, Loft & Guest suite, cust drapes, blinds, ceilg fns, built-ins, fin LL w/wet bar, huge Deck, Indsep yd, Irrig syst. Many upgrades!
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Fairfax Station \$789,000
This terrific 3 BR, 2.5 BA brick Colonial has loads of features including updated gourmet Kit, remodeled MBA, & sparkling in-ground pool! A private oasis surrounded by beautiful landscaping just minutes from schools, shopping, dining, commuter routes, and recreation.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Springfield \$530,000
Great house! Great location! Check out this lovely 3-level colonial with 2-car garage situated on treed cul-de-sac. Brand new carpet, granite counters, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, plus family with fireplace opening onto patio/wooded lot! Conveniently located to schools, shopping, and transportation.
Pam Boe 703-503-1888



Fairfax \$559,900
This lovely home welcomes you to beautiful Fairfax Club Estates, where quiet neighborhood charm meets tree-lined streets and this lovely home awaits you. Stunning Colonial featuring 4 nice size Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, Hardwood Floors on main level, Updated Kitchen and Baths, New windows and much more.
Sheila Adams 703-503-1895



Fairfax City \$899,000
Stunning 5 BR/4.5 BA home in Farrcroft. Main level master bedroom, 2 story foyer, hardwoods, gourmet kitchen, 2 story family room, gas fireplace, private yard, gated community with pool. Perfection!
Nancy Basham 703-772-2066



Gainesville \$435,000
Heritage Hunt 55+ 3 lv beauty - Main Level Master! 3 BR, 3 BA, Grmt Kit w/42" maple cabs & island, Corian cntrs & SS appls, Brkfst rm, Liv rm w/gas fpl & vault ceilg, Din rm, M/L MBR suite w/2 walk-in closets, Sun rm, Loft & Guest suite, Hdwd, Neutral crpt, unfin W/O LL w/rough in BA, Huge deck. (50+ OK)
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Burke Centre \$522,500
Open Sunday 1-4. Just Listed! Be the first to tour this incredible 3 level colonial with 2-car garage on a gorgeous lot in the heart of Burke Centre! So many updates: new windows, granite, baths, decking, custom built-ins, custom hardscape/landscape - the list is endless!
Kim McClary 703-929-8425



Clifton \$1,325,000
Sited on 5 beautiful acres, this custom cape's renovation offers the highest attention to detail and quality. Elegance greets you at the grand brick stairs with porch and proceeds throughout the lovely appointed rooms. Features an expansive kitchen, a luxurious main-level master suite, and a family room with a dramatic stone fireplace and stunning views.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



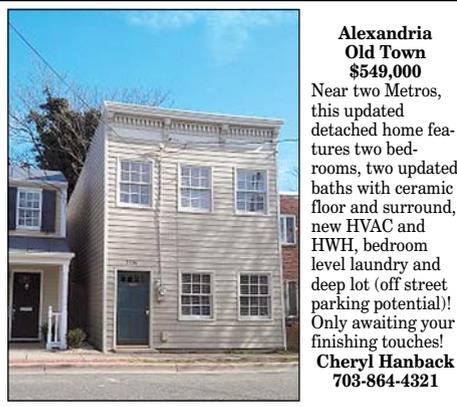
Clifton Hunt \$899,000
Striking Center Hall Colonial in idyllic setting on 5+ acres of wooded privacy, yet minutes to all amenities. 10' ceilings, upgraded Kitchen, Library, Bonus Room, Screened Porch, 4 BR, 3 1/2 BA. Light and Bright.
Ann Grainger 703-503-1870



Lorton/Mason Neck \$565,000
One block from Potomac River! Newly constructed Cape Cod with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms in boating community. Hardwood floors, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, vaulted ceilings. Main level master bedroom and master bath with jetted tub.
Lucia Ferguson 703-407-8737



Oakton \$1,150,000
Elegance abounds in this spacious 3-level home set on premium lot in the heart of Oakton. Upgraded throughout, this 4 bedroom 4.5 bath home with brick on 3 sides, beautiful hardwood floors, 3 fireplaces, screen porch, 2-car garage makes the perfect home for everyday living or gracious entertaining. Absolutely move-in condition - everything has been done and more!
Pam Boe 703-503-1888



Alexandria Old Town \$549,000
Near two Metros, this updated detached home features two bedrooms, two updated baths with ceramic floor and surround, new HVAC and HWH, bedroom level laundry and deep lot (off street parking potential)! Only awaiting your finishing touches!
Cheryl Hanback 703-864-4321



Gainesville \$549,900
Heritage Hunt 55+. 3-level Beauty backs to trees! 4 BR, 4 BA, Gourmet Kit, Liv rm w/gas fpl, Din rm, Sun rm, Den, Main Level MBR, Loft, Rec rm, Games rm, Walkout LL, Irrigation system. Gated comm age 50+ OK.
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Woodbridge \$249,900
New Listing! Amazing potential with this all Brick Rambler on 3/4 acre lot. 4 BRs, 3 BAs. Hardwood floors on main level. Relax in backyard with an in-ground swimming pool.
Judy Semler, Richard Esposito 703-503-1862



Gainesville \$214,900
Heritage Hunt 55+. Stunning Condo backs to trees! 2 MBR, Gourmet Kitchen with stainless steel appliances, Living room with fireplace, Den, laundry, store room, garage parking. Gated comm age 50+ OK.
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Arlington \$257,500
New Listing! 2-level condo with 2 BRs, 1 BA. Located in the heart of Arlington. New carpet and paint throughout. Full-size Washer/Dryer.
Judy Semler, Richard Esposito 703-503-1862



Herndon \$323,000
Impeccable home in a great neighborhood that includes Pool, Tennis, Tot Lots, and Paved Trails. Main Level Living, Wood Flooring and open Living/Dining Rooms with Cathedral Ceiling and Wood-burning Fireplace. Master Bedroom also has Vaulted Ceiling. Fully Fenced rear yard.
Vince Rodgers 703-470-6987



West Springfield \$450,000
Many updates - backs to trees! 4 BR, 2.5 BA, Kitchen with granite, hdwds, neutral carpet, Living room w/fireplace, Dining room, MBR with walk-in closet, Rec room, walkout LL, deck, car port, cul-de-sac lot! W. Springfield HS.
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190

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