

THE COUNTY LINE

What Recession?

Bucking national trend, Northern Virginia governments have record employment and record spending.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE The Connection

s local governments across America are laying off firefighters and teachers, governments in Northern Virginia are experiencing record levels of spending and an all-time-high number of employees. Budgets now under consideration in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria are higher than they've ever been. Experts say the trend is driven by the region's ties to the federal government, which have traditionally insulated the region from downturns in the market. It's also a reflection of a growing population and an increasing number of students in public school.

"When you have the best economy in the country, people move here," said Stephen Fuller, director of the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis. "Northern Virginia has been pretty hot —onot like it used to be but compared to the rest of the country, it's doing just fine."

A look at the past decade shows that spending levels rose dramatically along with the real-estate market. When that bubble burst, local governments across America fell on hard times. Even now, years after the recession technically came to an end, statistics from the Commerce Department show local governments have become a drag on growth. But Northern Virginia belies this trend, in some ways acting as a counterbalance to it.

At least for now.

Because the economic health of the region is so closely tied to the fate of the federal government, any changes to federal spending could have dramatic consequences in Northern Virginia. One scenario that has many local governments worried involves the Government Control Act. That was the legislation that ended the debt-ceiling crisis last year by creating a super-committee that failed to reach an agreement in November. That could mean dramatic reductions in discretionary spending early

"You're not going to gain the savings you need by cutting an aircraft carrier, so you're going to have to cut employees and salaries — the things you need to gain the savings next year, which is required by the law," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Government Leadership. "For federal agencies, that means disproportionate elimination of positions."

OVER THE LAST two years, local governments across America have cut about half a million jobs. Since the federal government started recording local government jobs in 1955, the statistic declined in only six of those years. The first three were the beginning of the Ronald Reagan administration. And the second three are the beginning of the Barack Obama administration. In the last three years, government employment is down 2.6 percent. In the last 12 months alone, the government sector lost 276,000

Contrast those numbers with Northern Virginia. In the last three years, Fairfax County has added about 1,400 jobs. Arlington and Alexandria have added more than 200 jobs. Budget officials say that growth has been built on the strength of the realestate market.

"We only had one negative year," said Richard Stephenson, budget director in Arlington County. "Because our tax base remains stable, we were able to continue the funding of programs that our population wanted. So we didn't go in and make dramatic cuts to services.'

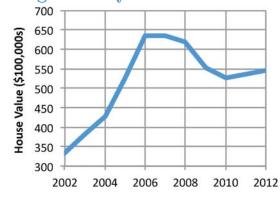
And yet the budgets in local jurisdictions don't always reflect that growth. Libraries and parks, in particular have seen major cuts in all the municipalities. In Fairfax County alone, for example, almost \$5 million has been slashed from the library budget over the last four years. And even now that revenues are growing again, County Executive Anthony Griffin's proposed budget for fiscal year 2013 suggests cutting another \$860,000 from the library system.

"We've had to make some pretty draconian cuts to the library system, and it's one of our most used facilities," said Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth. "A lot of constituents really use the library and they're feeling that pinch."

PART OF THE STORY of growth in Northern Virginia in recent years has been tied to the growth in the federal government, especially the growth in defense spending as a result of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Government contracts to Northern Virginia businesses such as Northrop Grumman have been a cash cow for years, pumping money and jobs into the region. Census records indicate the Fairfax County population grew 12 percent in the last decade. Arlington grew 10 percent, and Alexandria grew 9 percent. Nowhere has that growth been more challenging than in the pubic school systems, which are pushing the limits of enrollment to the point that school administrators are closely monitoring the fire

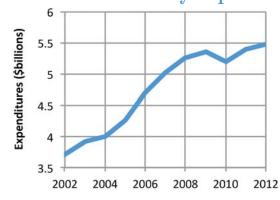
In the last five years, Fairfax County Public Schools has added 15,000 new students late 2008, local governments in Northern and currently has the largest Kindergarten class ever. And more students are expected next year. Much of that growth is from students who live in poverty and speak English as a second language. Because those students cost more to educate, school administrators are seeing budget demands in-

Single Family Detached Home Values



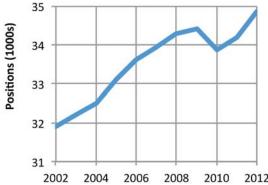
The value of singe family detached homes in Fairfax County has not fully recovered since the recession. The peak value in 2007 was \$635,566; dropping to \$525,068 in 2010. The average value of a single family detached home in Fairfax County for 2012 is \$545,279.

Total Fairfax County Expenditures over Ten Years



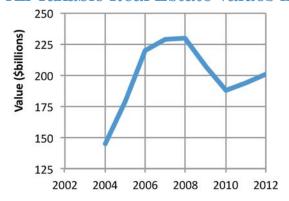
Total expenditures for Fairfax County grew from \$3.71 billion in 2002 to \$5.36 billion in 2009, dropped briefly in 2010 to \$5.19 billion and now are at a record high \$5.47 billion for 2012. Projected expenditures for FY2013 are \$6.73 billion.

Total Positions, Fairfax County Government and **Public Schools**



Fairfax County Government and Fairfax County Public Schools now have a record number of 34,849 employees in 2012 for ten years.

All Taxable Real Estate Values in Fairfax County



This graph show the value of all taxable real estate, both residential and commercial in Fairfax County. That value peaked in 2008 at \$229.7 billion, dropped to \$187.8 billion in 2010 and has rebounded to \$200.3 billion, still well short of its peak.

GRAPHICS BY COLIN DIXON

crease at a time when the rest of the country is cutting back.

"We see a lot of immigrant families arriving to Fairfax County in search of a better life, and we see the economy continue to have an impact on our families," said Barbara Hunter, spokeswoman for the county school system. "Thus, we see more kids who are falling below the poverty line."

WHEN THE GREAT RECESSION hit in Virginia responded by imposing hiring freezes and scaling back services. That may seem like an obvious response, but the federal government offered a 7 percent costof-living increases at a time when none of the jurisdictions in Northern Virginia were making any cost-of-living adjustments.

"They tightened up early," said Fuller. "They were cutting stuff in 2009 that a lot of people were still waiting and talking about, Maryland particularly was still giving salary raises where they stopped doing that in Virginia."

The story behind the growing expenditures and government employees couldn't have happened anywhere else. Unlike jurisdictions across America, local governments in Northern Virginia have benefited from a growing tax base and an increasing population. That means more money for services at a time when other municipalities are laying off employees and cutting back on programs. But it also means that other sources of revenue have become increasingly reliant on an economy that's still considered by many to be a cash cow.

News



Reyes Gerardo of Burke gets his mouth numbed before an extraction by Dr. Tanuj



Dr. Robert Levine of Fairfax and Dr. Michael Hurley of the Alexandria Health Department wrap up after seeing dozens of patients during the Mission of Mercy's 9th annual Dental Health Fair.

A Mission of Mercy

More than 800 residents receive free dental services during two-day event.

> By Victoria Ross The Connection

he triage center at Saturday's Mission of Mercy Dental health clinic resembled a modern-day MASH unit. Dentists and volunteers in color-coded t-shirts dodged carts filled with sterilized instruments, greeted hundreds of patients and funneled them through initial screenings to determine what services they needed.

"Do you speak English?" asked one of the volunteers when she spotted an older woman wearing a faded black burqa, the traditional Muslim veil. The woman, whose native language was Farsi, spoke English haltingly.

"She's in luck. We have a volunteer who speaks Farsi," said Dr. Peter Cocolis, a Springfield dentist. "In fact, we have volunteers who speak French, Spanish, Korean, Urdu, you name it...'

Cocolis served as chair of this year's ninth annual Mission of Mercy (MOM) Dental Health Fair held Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, at the Northern Virginia Community College Medical Campus in

"We are providing basically any procedure that patients need, from cleanings to extractions and restorative work," Cocolis said.

HE ESTIMATED that this year's clinic delivered www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

What is the Mission of Mercy?

In 2000, the Virginia Employment Commission Population Projects estimated that one-in-five Virginians live in an "underserved area." Typically these are rural communities with a significant impoverished population. Individuals in these areas, primarily the working poor, the elderly, the disabled, or the uninsured, are often left without any dental care to face extreme pain, discomfort, and embarrassment. In response to the lack of access to care and the resulting poor oral health of thousands of indigent Virginians, the Virginia Dental Health Foundation (VDHF) launched the Mission of Mercy (MOM) and began to "make caring visible." According to the VDHF, individuals who suffer from medical complications such as cancer and AIDS are at an increased risk for developing oral disease

about \$250,000 worth of dental services to nearly 900 patients from five counties who qualify as living below the poverty line. The clinic has limited spots for walk-in patients. "I bet if we could add another day to this, we could see another 300 or 400 patients. Sometimes, this is the only time they receive dental services."

U.S. Representative Gerry Connolly (D-11) attended Saturday's clinic, chatting with patients and touring the extensive, state-of-the-art facilities. Connolly, who collaborated with MOM when he was chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, said one of the aspects of the clinic is the partnership with public sector and non-profit community to help those

"As chairman of Fairfax County, it was our priority to build partnerships like this," Connolly said. "This is really an amazing operation. Hundreds of local SEE DENTAL SERVICES, PAGE G



Capt. Willie Bailey, fifth from left, is honored March 6 by Sharon Bulova and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for his more than 1,000 hours of volunteer service to the community.

Captain Honored for Community Service

Fire and Rescue's Willie Bailey recognized for 1,000 volunteer hours.

By Jeanne Theismann The Connection

t was supposed to be a onetime event, a toy drive to help 50 struggling families in the Gum Springs community along the Route 1 corridor. But that was 15 years ago. Today, Capt. Willie Bailey's Firefighters and Friends annual toy drive serves more than 4,000 children in need throughout Northern Virginia.

"I never expected it would grow like this," said Bailey, founder of the toy drive. "But businesses and people in the community have really stepped up to help fill what is a growing need in this area."

Bailey's efforts to help serve the com-

munity have grown to include a back-to-school backpack drive and fall coat drive and are supported by the entire Fairfax County Fire and Rescue department, the Fairfax County Firefighters and Paramedics union and numerous corporate

that Bailey was recognized by turn to give back in whatever the Fairfax County Board of small way I can." Supervisors March 6 as a nominee for the 2012 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards Benchmark 1,000 award. The award recognizes individuals who volunteer 1,000 hours or visit www.volunteerfairfax.org.

more each year toward community service and humanitarian efforts.

"This took me by surprise," Bailey said. "It is a huge honor for me to be recognized by Chairman [Sharon] Bulova and the entire Board of Supervisors. They have been encouraging of my efforts over the years and none of these programs would be successful without their support."

Sponsored by Volunteer Fairfax, the Fairfax County Vol-

"It is a huge honor for me to be recognized by Chairman Bulova and the entire Board of Supervisors."

— Capt. Willie Bailey

unteer Service Awards honor individuals, groups and organizations that have given outstanding volunteer service through a broad range of activities and programs. During the past 19 years, more than 2,500 residents and businesses have been recognized for

their contributions to the community.

"When we [fire and rescue personnel] are not running 911 emergencies, we're trying to find other ways to give back to the community," Bailey said. "I didn't have much growing up in Del Ray but have been very It is because of these efforts blessed in my life. Now it's my

Bailey will be recognized at the 2012 Volunteer Service Awards ceremony on April 27 at the Waterford in Springfield. For more information on the awards,

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Bulletin Board

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.

THURSDAY/MARCH 15

Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke: Lunch N' Life. 12 p.m.
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114
Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. For age 50
and up. "Sharks!" with Juliet
Eilperin, Washington Post reporter
and author of Demon Fish- Travels
through the Hidden World of Sharks.
\$8. Reserve at 703-323-4788 or
www.fairfax-burkesc.org.

www.fairfax-burkesc.org. **Lunch Bunch.** 12 p.m. Café Ima,
10645-B Braddock Road, Fairfax.
Italian Heritage Lodge (OSIA)
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monthly for informal social event, no
lodge business conducted. Reserve at
703-354-2454 or
www.italianheritagelodge.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 17

CASA Information Session. 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Rd., Burke. Learn more about advocating for abused or neglected children. 703-273-3526, x22 or ekosarin@casafairfax.org.

Fostercare Training Session. 9
a.m.-5 p.m. Special Foster Care
Program of Northern Virginia Family
Service, 10455 White Granite Drive,
Oakton. First of three training
sessions for individuals and couples
willing to provide nurture and a
loving home for children and youth
in need of respite or foster care.
Register at 571-478-2557 or
www.nvfs.org/fostercare.

Valón Salon stylists rock the runway in their second season at New York's Fashion Week!

ValónSalon



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Going to Fashion Week is a bit like being able to see the future – the looks coming down the runway are guaranteed to shape trends and styles for the rest of the year. For Valary Brown, owner of Centreville's awardwinning Valón Salon, being invited to style hair for the Venexiana runway show was more like getting to create the future.

This February's Fashion Week, held to showcase designs for Fall 2012, marks the second season in a row that stylists from Valón Salon have worked on the Venexiana show. This year's theme was "Irreverent Renaissance". The show's signature hair style, the Venetian Knot, was designed specifically for the Venexiana show by Philip Pelusi's Artistic Director, Jeffery Reitz.

He worked with designer Kati Stern to create a style that echoed the "everything old is new again" aesthetic of the fall line. Valary Brown, along with Valón Salon stylists Raquel Lamay and Tina Wu, spent two days learning to perfect the show's signature hairstyle. Described by Pelusi as "fountains of crimped waves cascading into structured disobedience", the elegant take on a top knot was a gorgeous counter-piece to Stern's designs.

Backstage, the pre-show environment was one of controlled chaos as teams of stylists worked to style 21 models in just two hours. The best part of working Fashion Week, according to Valón Salon owner Valary Brown, is watching everything come together – even



when the stylists had to rush to complete the last models with just seven minutes remaining to show time, everyone worked together and made it happen, flawlessly. Seeing it all for the second time around made it slightly less nervewracking for Brown and Lamay, but no less fast-paced, challenging, and fun.

The team of stylists from Valón Salon was personally invited to work the Venexiana show by Philip Pelusi, owner of Manhattan's Tela Design Studio and creator of the luxurious P2 line of hair styling products. Pelusi chose stylists to be a part of his Fashion Week Hair Couturier Group as a way to reward the top

stylists from among his Philip Pelusi Concept and Partner Salons. Valón Salon's love of and support for the P2 line, which Brown calls "the best product line I've ever worked with", has made them a shoo-in for the honor for two Fashion Week seasons in a row.

As they prepare for the upcoming prom and wedding season, Valón Salon's stylists are excited about getting to use what they've seen come down the runway at Fashion Week. The hottest looks for summer and fall are going back to the classics – lots of smoother lines with some added texture to keep the style fresh and modern. If you're looking to get runway-ready hair for a special event, call today to schedule your appointment.

PEOPLE



(From left) are Kevin Dykstra and Jim Breen with their WATCH awards.

Fairfax's Kevin Dykstra Wins WATCH Award

airfax resident Kevin Dykstra is an award-winning actor. He just won a WATCH (Washington Area Theatre Community Honors) award for Best Actor in a Play. He shares the trophy with his co-star, Jim Breen, of Rockville, Md. The two of them played all 13 roles in the Montgomery Playhouse's

production of "Stones in his Pocket."

Their director also won a WATCH award, as did the show, itself, for Best Play. WATCH recognizes excellence in community theater in the Washington Metropolitan area. The ceremony was held Sunday evening, March 11, at the Birchmere in Alexandria.

SCHOOL NOTES

Randy and Maria Marris' daughter, C3C Stephanie Ann Marris, is a 2009 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School for Math, Science and Technology. She is currently a junior at the United States Air Force Academy. Her major is Environmental Engineer with a Minor in Spanish. Stephanie is currently on the Dean's List and the Commandant's List.



Stephanie Ann Marris



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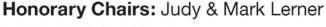
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News



U.S. Representative Gerry Connolly (D-11) greeted patients Gloria Rodriguez of Woodbridge and Lucinda Wuton-Alva of Reston during the Mission of Mercy's 9th annual Dental Health Fair held Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, at the Northern Virginia Community College Medical Campus in Springfield.



Volunteers Marcus Emad and Mahdi Majarrad served as triage runners during the Mission of Mercy's 9th annual Dental Health Fair held Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, at the Northern Virginia Community College Medical Campus in Springfield. Majarrad, a student at George Mason University, wears a blue T-shirt, indicating his proficiency in another language (Farsi).

Hundreds Receive Free Dental Services

From Page 3

dentists and students volunteer their time, providing these critical services to the underserved in our community."

Cocolis said in addition to providing a wide range of dental services, oral hygiene education was a top priority.

"In our county, only half of the population has dental insurance, and of those people, only half actually see a dentist," Cocolis said, noting that every patient received an education packet that included information in English and Spanish on local services and the link between poor oral hygiene and serious medical conditions, such as heart disease, cancer and pneumonic

Dr. Thomas Wilson, executive director of the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic in Falls Church and one of the event's organizers, said that Virginia was one of a handful of states in which oral health care is not a mandated service under Medicare.

"Education is key. Many times, patients don't see

the link, but, put it this way, the mouth is the portal to the body. If the mouth isn't well, neither is the body," Wilson said.

"This event is so important, because we are serving an underserved population," said Dr. Howard Kelley of Vienna, chief dentist of NoVa's Medical Education Campus. "It can be overwhelming to realize how great the need for dental treatment is, not only abroad but right here. Dental problems are not self-healing. Here, we have an opportunity once a year to reach out to people."

IN ADDITION to the Saturday's event, MOM projects have been held in Wise, Va., two projects on the Eastern Shore and one in Annandale. For each MOM project, there are hundreds of volunteers who participate. To date, 5,365 patients have been provided with over \$1.8 million worth of free dental care. Virginia's MOM projects have broken records for the largest two and three day dental outreach clinics ever conducted in the United States.

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Advertised RE Tax Rate 1 Cent Higher

Each 1-cent increase raises taxpayer bill by \$45.

Board of Supervisors voted 6-3 Tuesday, March 6, to advertise the real estate tax rate for FY 2013 as \$1.08 per \$100 of assessed value. The current FY 2012 rate is

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) was not present for the vote, and Republican Supervisors Pat Herrity (Springfield), Michael Frey (Sully) and John Cook (Braddock) voted against it.

Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-Atlarge) noted that advertising an increase in the rate does not prevent the board from lowering any advertised tax rate, but a higher tax rate cannot be imposed without advertising the higher rate.

"This gives us the flexibility we need, depending what happens with the General Assembly," said

Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) called the one penny increase "insurance" that could mitigate potential shortfalls from the state or federal government.

But Frey said the additional stormwater management fee increase already hikes the tax rate by two cents to \$1.10 per \$100 of assessed value. "I cannot support this. I don't want to get people's hopes up that they will see more money because of uptick in property assessments."

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This \$1.08 rate will provide flexibility of 1 cent or \$19.95 million above the county executive's FY 2013 proposed budget. Each 1 cent increase in the real estate tax rate impacts the average residential taxpayer's annual bill by approximately \$45.

In addition, the board authorized the advertisement of a Stormwater Management Service fee of \$0.025 per \$100 of assessed value to support stormwater management programs and services and capital project requirements. The FY 2012 rate is \$0.015. This rate increase is required to meet the increasing federal and state regulatory requirements pertaining to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit requirements, and state and federal mandates associated with the Chesapeake Bay, according to Bulova.

A separate public hearing on the effective tax rate will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 3:30 p.m., Fairfax County Government Center Board Auditorium, as required by Virginia Code. In addition, public hearings on the FY 2013 bud-

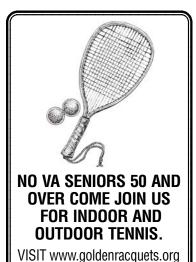
he Fairfax County get, the advertised capital improvement plan (CIP) and proposed tax rates for tax year 2012 have been set for Tuesday, April 10, at 6 p.m., and Wednesday and Thursday, April 11-12, at 3 p.m. also at the Fairfax County Government Center Board Auditorium.

Those wishing to speak at any of the public hearings should contact the Office of the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903, to place their name on the speakers list or sign up online. The Board of Supervisors will adopt the budget on

May 1. Key budget dates are available online.

Town hall meetings are being held throughout the county to give residents the opportunity to ask questions and discuss specific concerns. The complete schedule is available online.

Victoria Ross



or call Joan at 703-327-1576.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY FOR APPROVAL TO RECOVER HEXANE COSTS CASE NO. PUE-2012-00014

On February 3, 2012, Washington Gas Light Company ("WGL" or "Company") filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") requesting approval to recover \$1,252,580 of costs relating to the non-Btu component of hexane injections for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2010, and \$12,908 of costs related to the actual under-collection of non-Btu related hexane costs incurred during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009 ("Application"). In its Application, WGL explains that it has been injecting hexane into its system since February 2006 to replace heavy hydrocarbons in liquefied natural gas that enters the Company's distribution system. WGL's Application advises that pursuant to a Stipulation accepted by the Commission in Case No. PUE-2006-00059, the Company's performance-based rate regulation ("PBR") plan docket, the Company may request approval to recover the non-Btu portion of hexane costs in excess of \$400,000 if the Company's return on equity is less than 10% in any PBR annual period. Under the terms of the Stipulation accepted in Case No. PUE-2006-00059, the cost recovery of the non-Btu component of hexane will be limited to that amount in excess of \$400,000 required for the Company to achieve an earned return on equity of 10.0% for that PBR period under WGL's PBR Plan. The Company's Application advises that for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2010, the Company earned less than a 10% return on equity. WGL therefore proposes to collect its actual Virginia-jurisdictional non-Btu hexane costs in excess of \$400,000, or \$1,252,580, as well as an additional \$12,908 of non-Btu hexane costs under-collected for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009.

WGL proposes to collect the non-Btu hexane costs from its customers receiving service under Rate Schedule Nos. 1-Residential Service, 1A-Residential Delivery Service, 2-Commercial and Industrial Service, 2A-Commercial and Industrial Delivery Service, 3-Group Metered Apartment Service, 3A-Group Metered Apartment Delivery Service, 4-Interruptible Service, and 7-Interruptible Delivery Service, 8-Developmental Natural Gas Vehicle Service, and 10-Large Volume Delivery Service. The Company's Application further notes that it proposed new Rate Schedule Nos. 5-Large Commercial and Industrial Service, 5A-Large Commercial and Industrial Delivery Service, 6-Large Group Metered Apartment Service, and 6A-Large Group Metered Apartment Delivery Service in its currently pending general rate case, Case No. PUE-2010-00139. If the Commission approves the Company's proposed rate schedules in its general rate case, the Company will also recover the non-Btu hexane costs from customers receiving

WGL proposes to collect its non-Btu hexane costs through an adjustment to the distribution charge for these rate schedules. WGL's Application advises that the hexane charge will be computed on a cents-per-therm basis comprising a current and a reconciling factor. According to the Company's Application, the current factor, if applicable, will be calculated annually by dividing the non-Btu portion of hexane costs approved by the Commission by the total weather normalized throughput for the year. The reconciling factor proposed by WGL will be the difference between the actual amount to be charged and the actual amount collected during the twelve-month period. WGL proposes to implement the current factor as an adjustment to the distribution charge in the first billing cycle month following the Commission's approval of the Company's Application to recover the non-Btu portion of the costs of its hexane injections. The Company's Application also includes testimony and exhibits showing the computation of a proposed charge of \$0.0020 per therm, which will allow the Company to collect the proposed \$1,252,580 of non-Btu hexane costs expensed in fiscal year 2010 and the \$12,908 of non-Btu hexane costs under-recovered in fiscal year 2009.

The details of WGL's proposals are set out in the Company's Application. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and other materials filed with the Application for the details of these proposals. Interested persons should also be advised that after considering the record in this case, the Commission may change the tariff revisions proposed by the Company or take other actions with respect to the recovery of the non-Btu component of hexane costs that differ from the proposals set out in the Company's Application.

The Commission has entered an Order for Notice and Comment that, among other things, docketed the Application as Case No. PUE-2012-00014 and established a procedural schedule for the filing of comments, requests for hearing, and the filing of testimony or a Report by the Commission Staff. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment for details on how to participate in this

Interested persons may also review a copy of the Application, the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment, as well as other documents now or hereinafter filed in this matter, in the Commission's Document Control Center located on the First Floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. A copy of the Application may also be obtained at no cost to interested persons by making a written request to the Company's counsel at the following address: Meera Ahamed, Esquire, Washington Gas Light Company, 101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20080. If acceptable to the requesting party, the Company may provide the Application, with or without attachments, by electronic means. In addition, the Company's Application, the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment, other orders entered in this docket, the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, and other information concerning the Commission and the statutes it administers, may be viewed on the Commission's website at: http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case.

Pursuant to the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment, interested persons may file written comments or requests for hearing with the Clerk of the Commission on the proposals set out in the Company's Application on or before April 27, 2012. An original and fifteen (15) copies of all written comments and requests for hearing must be filed with Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. Any request for hearing must state with specificity why the issues raised in the request for hearing cannot be adequately addressed in written comments. If no sufficient request for hearing is received, the Commission may consider the Application based on the papers filed without convening a hearing at which oral testimony is received.

Persons filing a request for hearing and expecting to participate as a respondent in any hearing that may be scheduled in this case shall also file, on or before April 27, 2012, an original and fifteen (15) copies of a notice of participation as required by 5 VAC 5-20-80 B of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 5 VAC 5-20-10 et seq., with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth above. Any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Interested persons should refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment for more information on how to participate as a respondent.

Interested persons desiring to submit comments electronically may do so on or before April 27, 2012, by following the instructions available at the Commission's website: http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case and referring to Case No. PUE-2012-00014. Interested persons shall refer in their comments, requests for hearing, and notices of participation to Case No. PUE-2012-00014, and shall serve a copy of any such document filed with the Commission upon counsel for the Company at the address set forth above.

WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY

OPINION So Hard to Imagine?

Poor families face challenges that officials and many of the rest of us have trouble envisioning.

even Northern Virginia includes many poor families and individuals. But officials seem to have trouble wrapping their brains Editorial around some of the difficulties this can cause.

In Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria, some analysis of the effect of budget cuts and service cuts on families in the bottom 20 percent of income would be appropriate and reveal-

Cutting library hours and service again? Consider that for many, the public libraries are their only source of computer and internet access. This has a significant impact on school performance, the ability to hunt for a job, the ability to access services and more.

It's hard for many of us to imagine, check-

he Commonwealth of Virginia and ing email at stop lights on our smart phones, that there are families who need to go the library to check theirs. If anything, in the cur-

rent environment, the libraries should be open more hours, not fewer.

When Fairfax County Public Schools eliminated the year-round school calendar, followed by some of the county's poorest schools, and summer school, poor students were most affected, losing access to meals in the summer as well as a needed boost in in-

Similarly, some schools systems eliminated the telephone hotline to find out if schools are closed in inclement weather. Everyone checks that online, right? Or gets their daily email

Requirements to present a variety of identification to do a variety of things also present bigger challenges to poorer residents.

Veto Voter ID Bill

Gov. Bob McDonnell should read the handwriting on the wall from the U.S. Justice Department about making it harder to vote.

More than 600,000 registered voters in Texas do not have the identification that the voter identification law would require, according to Tom Perez of the Justice Department, including a disproportionate number of minority voters, and more than 10 percent of Latino registered voters.

The analysis will reveal similar disparities in Virginia. The Governor can save Virginia money, time and trouble by vetoing the bill

MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS COM

Correction: Last week's editorial failed to correctly identify Del. Charniele Herring (D-46). The full editorial has been corrected online.

LETTERS

Representing Constituents

To the Editor:

Senate Democrats in Virginia have decided that they will not vote for the budget. The Senators' decision spurred from their distaste with their committee assignments and has thus jeopardized some of the Commonwealth's biggest issues. Their irresponsible actions are putting our children's education at risk by cutting off funds for our schools and teachers, threatening the pay for our brave and selfless law enforcement officers, and jeopardizing the programs our senior citizens depend upon most. Important safety nets like Medicaid will go without state funding unless the Senate Democrats start doing their job. Their job is to represent the best interests of their constituents—not to further their own personal ambitions of power and glory.

Kayla Andriate

2012 Session Adjourns, Special Session to Follow

BY CHAP PETERSEN STATE SENATOR (D-34)

he General Assembly adjourned its Regular Session sine die late Saturday night.

The members are back home briefly, then will return to Richmond on March 21 for a Special Session, which will be limited to electing new state judges and finally passing the biennial Budget

There has been a lot of ink spilled this session over high-profile social issues, such as the notorious "ultrasound" bill. There is no doubt that the Opening Day coup by the Senate Republicans – which put all levers of power in the hands of one party — caused the legislature to have an "unbalanced" tilt this year. That was unfortunate.

However, there were areas of bipartisan agreement and progress. For me personally, it was my most productive session since I joined the Assembly in 2001.

I had six bills pass the Assembly which are now before the Governor. They included the following:

SB 160, "the Cost-Effective Public Buildings Act," which requires new state buildings to use energy efficiency standards, such as LEED, in order to conserve natural resources and save taxpayer groups and matched a policy previously adopted by the McDonnell adminis-

* SB 164, which toughens penalties against persons who conspire with judgment debtors to fraudulently transfer assets so as to thwart lawful collections. This bill was supported by the Virginia Creditors Bar and Virginia Bankers Association.

❖ SB 171, which allows Fairfax City and 64 other cities and towns to tailor their VRS pension benefits for first responders (police, firefighters, and EMS personnel) to better reflect the unique stresses of that service. This bill was requested by the City and its professional firefighters.

SB 627, the "Solar Freedom Bill," which allows homeowners to install solar panels on their residences in planned communities, as long as the installations conform to HOA regulations on placement and design. This bill was requested by the solar industry and the environmental community.

In addition, I sponsored SB 622, which made it a crime for responsible adults to fail to report egregious events of child sexual abuse. Previously, "mandatory reporters" only faced a \$500 fine for failing to notify authorities when they money. This bill was supported by had actual knowledge of overt

various environmental sexual abuse. That is too weak. My bill was eventually "rolled into" SB 239, sponsored by Senator Stuart (R-Stafford), and passed the As-

> As we approach the special session, I am focused on two Budget items of particular interest to northern Virginia. The first is the restoration of the "cost of compete" supplemental funding for our public schools, which was withheld by the Governor's original budget. That money (\$64 million) allows our schools to compete in the D.C. area labor market, which is distinctly more expensive than downstate equiva-

> The second item is the revitalization of our Housing Trust Fund, a revolving loan fund designed to help Virginians achieve home ownership, with money from the national banks' settlement on the foreclosure fraud cases.

> Virginia is due for nearly \$70 million this year from the settlement proceeds. Rather than see that money spent on ongoing state programs, it should be used as it was intended - to help "underwater" Virginia homeowners refinance their above-market mortgages through the Trust Fund.

> Hopefully, those solutions will be part of our final State Budget. If so, it will be worth the extra couple weeks of waiting.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

Letters to the Editor The Connection 1606 King St. Alexandria VA 22314 Call: 703-917-6444. By e-mail: fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com

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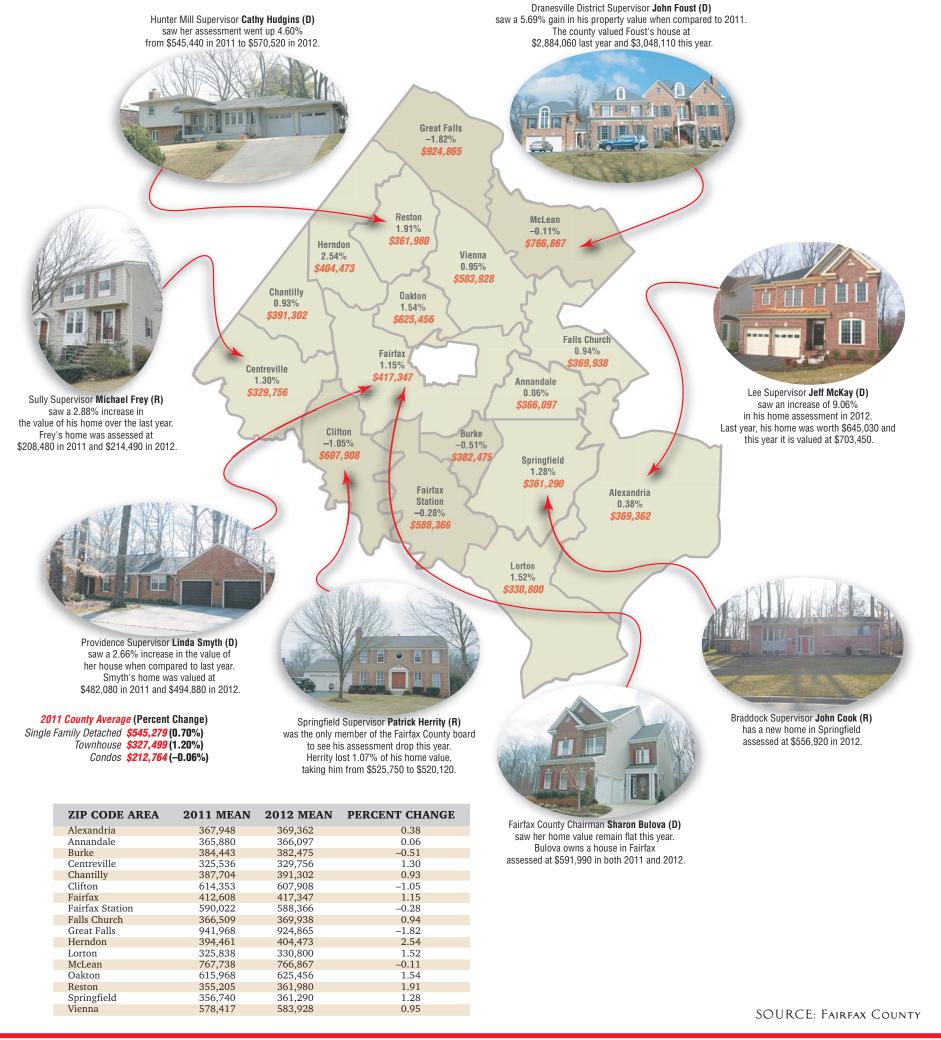
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Fairfax County REAL ESTATE

2012 Assessments by Zip Code Areas





Matthew Moore, of John Matthew Moore Fine Art, in McLean was selected to design the foyer and staircase the D.C. Design House.



with design student Jacob Oxford), will design a girl's bedroom.



Great Falls-based designer Susan Nelson, of Susan Interiors (pictured Annette Hannon, of Annette Hannon Interior Design in Burke, was

Local Designers Selected to Make Over D.C. Design House

Annual event raises money for Children's National Medical Center.

THE CONNECTION Design Home.

2012 Washington, D.C. Design the space, and then [submitted] up House announced the designers to three proposals for rooms, with

"The selection [was] open to all ome of the Washington area designers who wanted to aparea's top interior design- ply," said Susan Hayes Long, chairers are unleashing their person of D.C. Design House. creative talent all in the "They started by coming to a de-

The board [included] their floor "Being selected to design for the Alexandria, who was one of the The D.C. Design House serves as designers selected. "It is the most

prestigious invitation. .. For a com- I've had the opportunity to engage mittee of veteran designers and in, I've gotten to conjure up an is opened to the public for tours. industry leaders to select a de- imaginary 'perfect' client and designer is truly one of the highlights sign according to their needs and of one's career.'

houses for the freedom it allows House, a nonprofit entity, began in

charity. After completion, the home Now in its fifth year, the D.C. Design House has attracted more than desires. It's a bit like celebrating 30,000 visitors and raised nearly \$600,000 for Children's National Medical Center (CNMC). Proceeds

> Built in 1956, the 2012 D.C. Design House is located in Washington, D.C.'s Spring Valley neighborhood. It is currently on the market

Local **Designers**

Some of the local design ers who were selected to make over the home offer a preview of their plans.

Great Falls-based designer Susan Nelson of Susan Nelson Interiors designed a teenage girl's bedroom. "I

combined a variety of block and geometric prints in greens, yellows, pinks, brown and cream to create a cozy haven. By using a mix of new and repurposed furniture, the room has the quality of changing along with the girl," she said. "For instance, the coverlet fabric is a sophisticated fabric ter deck. with a water color quality to the flowers on it, but the

Shazalynn Cavin-**Winfrey of SCW Interiors** in Alexandria is charged with transforming the **dining room**. "I anticipate wonderful parties and celebra-

club chair is slip covered in a

purples that she might have

had as a child."

fun confetti print in pinks and

Shanon Munn, of Ambi Design Studio in McLean. was one of 23 designers selected to make over the 2012 D.C. Design House. She will decorate the mas-

Elizabeth Krial, of Elizabeth Krial Design in Reston, was one of 23 designers selected to make over the 2012 D.C. Design House. Krial will design a modern nursery.

Where & When

The DC Design House opens to the public on Saturday, April 14 and remains open until Sunday, May 13. Times are: Saturday and Sunday noon to $5\ p.m.$ and Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and can

tions in the dining room I will be design that might fit their creating this year and my use of color and pattern is a play on this celebratory mode. I am thrilled to help people who see the space take away some element in the

Almost Done -vs-

home or their lifestyle," she

SEE LOCAL DESIGNERS, Page 12



plan, color selections, and finishes show house is a bit like being they would use. Our design team crowned homecoming queen then selected the final 23 designers. We having to run a marathon in your had more than 80 proposals this ball gown while collecting items for year, and so many fantastic presen- a scavenger hunt," said Shazalynn name of charity. Organizers of the sign walk-through to get a feel for tation boards. The competition was Cavin-Winfrey of SCW Interiors in really tough."

With no paying clients to please, one's birthday and getting to crethe designers unleash their creative ate your perfect party." talent. "I love participating in show me," said Annette Hannon of 2008 as a design event in which Annette Hannon Interior Design in some of the region's most sought-Burke, who was also one of the after designers decorate a luxury designers selected. "For each house home to raise funds for a local

The Washington, D.C. Design

will go to CNMC again this year.



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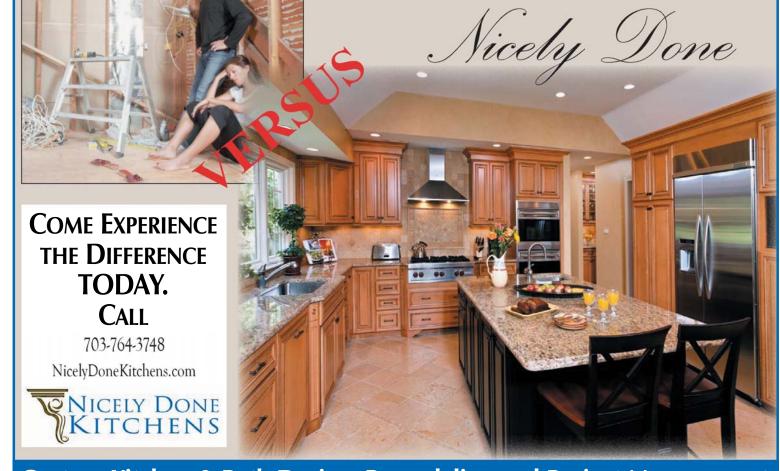




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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times

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	12-4Katherine KsenCentury 21703-946-6261					
4512 Hillbrook Dr\$525,000Sun	12-5Dan HillCentury 21571-278-7251					
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Centreville						
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5608 Willoughby Newton Dr. #23\$219,900Su	n 1-4Diana MillerCentury 21571-218-9095					
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6701 Rock Fall Ct	\$749,000S	un 1-4	4	.Debbie Kent	Cottage Street	.703-740-765	į
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		Fair	fax
10454 Malone Ct	\$380,000	Sun 1-4	Susan MekenneyRE/MAX 703-283-6881
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4124 Fairfax Center Creek Dr	\$405,000	Sat 1-3	Nathan JohnsonKeller Williams703-725-2929
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4874 Wheatstone Dr	\$499,000	Sun 1-4	Mary HovlandLong & Foster703-946-1775
4013 Quiet Creek Dr	\$529,900	Sun 1-4	
4165 Legato Rd	\$585,000	Sun 1-4	Dee MurphyColdwell Banker703-938-5600

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6910 Heathstone Ct	.\$585.000	Sun 1-4	Marv Wharton	Long & Foster703-452-3945
8108 Vista Point Ln	\$775,000	Sun 1-4	Marv Wharton	Long & Foster 703-452-3945
8303 Pinvon Pine Ct				
8618 Woodwren Ln				

Kingstowne/Alexandria

5789 Valley View Dr	\$719,950	Sun 1-4To	m & Cindy & Assoc	Long & Foster703-822-0207
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6111 Wigmore Ln. #B	\$304.900	Sun 1-4	Ceari Buehler	Active703-864-1268
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8425 Peace Lily Ct. #131/02	\$179,990 Sat 12	-4Shawn EvansLong & Foster 703-795-397	73
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6100 Dana Ave	\$374,900	Sun 1-4	Brian Mahoney	EXIT703-766-4600
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8455 Rushing Creek Ct				
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To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Karen Washburn at 703-778-9422 or E-Mail the info to: kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.

Home Life Style

Local Designers

From Page 10

Victoria Sanchez of Victoria Sanchez Interiors in Alexandria is creating a teenager's retreat. "I have chosen a very lively, colorful design scheme from Missoni and will be using Mid-Century modern furniture," said Sanchez. "This room is designed to be a perfect hangout for teenagers and will reflect the energy teenagers create."

Nancy Twomey of Finnian's Moon Interiors in Alexandria will design a boy's bedroom. "I love good design, but I also know children. Children's rooms are messy places, so it is best if there is an inherent order in the design elements, starting with the palette," said Twomey. "My 2012 D.C. Design House room has a serene quietude in its bones, but it isn't sleepy. It has timeless, classic ingredients such as menswear fabrics, juxtaposed with modern, playful ones."

Elizabeth Krial of Elizabeth Krial Design in Reston will create a modern nursery. "The most afforded luxury in my space is the natural sunlight that washes the room," she said. "As a designer, I have added luxurious layers of softness and comfort through textiles. The modern nursery has a lightness that will remind you of the hope and joy that a new baby brings."

Matthew Moore of John Matthew Moore Fine Art in McLean will decorate the foyer and staircase. "My design philosophy is clean, classic spaces. My favorite period in design is the late fifties and sixties," he said. "I feel that that is the time when American design came into its own. I've chosen this style for the entrance and reception hall [because] the home was built in that period. It's a sophisticated design that would be as much at home in the fifties as it is now in the

Shanon Munn of Ambi
Design Studio in McLean
will decorate the master
deck. "My concept for the space
is to have an outdoor retreat,"
said Munn. "I chose pieces that
are scaled similarly to indoor
pieces and provide a great
lounging spot. We chose patterns
that are interesting and bold. We

present."



The Chateau in Oak Hollow is one of four residential properties for sale for more than \$10 million, was designed by architect, Ron Hubbard, who blends green technologies with the use of space and proportion.

The Chateau in Oak Hollow

ne of just four properties in Fairfax County listed at HomesDatabase.com for sale for more than \$10 million, this home sits on five acres in Clifton, and is for sale for \$12.5 million. The other three properties are in McLean.

The Chateau was designed by architect, Ron Hubbard, who uses innovative green technologies such as three geothermal fields and 14 radiant zones using more than 10,000 feet of buried line to heat and cool the home.

This home has more than

27,000 square feet of living space inside (13,500 finished), plus more than 3,000 square feet of exterior living space comprised of balconies and patios. Many of the outdoor living areas are constructed with stamped concrete and provide ample space for large parties, and some for more intimate gatherings.

The property also includes a 3-bedroom guest suite in one wing of the home, and an indoor pool and fitness center in the other. The Chateau has an eight-car garage.

The house is listed by Meghan Wasinger of Jobin Realty.



The parlor is located next to the formal dining room. There are five fireplaces throughout the Chateau (with a potential for 13), set on five-acre estate in Clifton.

plan to take the existing railing, currently an eyesore, and make it a highlight of the deck with a long row of custom benches and pedestals strategically placed to create focal points and to hide the dated metalwork."

Annette Hannon of Annette Hannon Interior Design in Burke designed the parlor. "The [parlor] is the first living area a visitor will enter," said Hannon. "My goal was to create a comfortable, luxurious space someone would want to linger in long after the party's over. I felt it was essential to add layers of interest in the room."

News

Run a Race, Help Save Lives

5K in honor of two local women.

By Bonnie Hobbs THE CONNECTION

fter surviving breast cancer, chemotherapy and radiation, Centreville's Vanessa Spiller is doing well and hopes to soon receive a clean bill of health from her doctor. Fair Lakes resident BethAnn Telford was diagnosed with a Stage III brain tumor in 2005, and is still fighting for her life.

And on Saturday, March 24, at the Fairfax Corner Shopping Center, the Rev3 Run Rogue 5K will be run in their honor. All proceeds will be split evenly between Life with Cancer www.http://lifewithcancer.org/ and the National Brain Tumor Society http:// www.braintumor.org/.

But the two local women won't be sitting on the sidelines. Both are athletes and, on race day, they'll be running in the 5K. "Vanessa and I will be at the starting line clad in superhero capes, appropriately marked with the words, 'Beat Cancer," said

The pair will start the race 30 seconds before anyone else, and then – for every 5K participant who passes them - one of the event's sponsors will donate \$1/participant in support of the two charities.

Rogue Racers and Rev3 Adventures are putting on this fund-raiser. Rogue Racers is a Fairfax-based, running/triathlon club. Rev3 Adventures puts on adventure races in, for example, mountain biking, running and canoeing.

THE MARCH 24 EVENT promises to be fun and family-oriented. Participants may walk or run a USATF-certified 5K course at 8:30 a.m., or participate in a 1K kids' fun run at 8 a.m., before the main event. Both courses start and end in front of Coastal Flats restaurant. Strollers are allowed in the 1K, but no dogs in either race.

Cash prizes will be given to the top three male and female finishers, and the firstplace winners will also receive coupons for a free pair of Brooks shoes. There'll be agegroup awards, too, plus over-40 cash prizes. Sign up at http://www.runrogue5k.com/ Run_Rogue_5K/Race_Info.html. Donations

Week in Fairfax

New Center Helps **Cancer Patients** Preserve Fertility

"Now cancer patients do not have to sacrifice their fertility to save their lives," says Dr. Steve Lincoln a reproductive endocrinologist and director of the new Fertility Preservation Center for Cancer Patients at the Genetics & IVF Institute (GIVF), Fairfax. Chemotherapy and radiation can have devastat-



BethAnn Telford, in yellow T-shirt and knee socks, in May 2011 at the Race for Hope in Washington, D.C.

may also be made there. Registration is \$30, 5K; and \$15, 1K, ages 8 and under.

The fun includes Starbucks pastries and coffee, face-painting and music. Every finisher will receive a Ben & Jerry's ice-cream cone, and every child in the 1K will get a

Both Spiller, 46, and Telford, 42, have been good friends for several years. They run and train with Rogue Racers for various competitions, including the upcoming Boston Marathon in April.

In September 2011, Rogue Racers decided to create a 5K for two of its members - Spiller and Telford - and give 100 percent of the proceeds to charity. Spiller's half will go to Life with Cancer because it helped her so much while she battled breast cancer. Telford's nonprofit fund-raising organization, Team BT, which raises money for the National Brain Tumor Society (NBTS), will receive the other half.

Since her diagnosis, Telford's undergone two surgical resections - plus countless

hours of rehabilitation to regain her speech and physical function after each one. But she still works full time for the U.S. Government Printing Office, has run the Marine Corps Marathon and participated in endurance races including two Ironman She recently qualified for the Boston

ing effects on fertility for the 140,000 American men and women under age 45 who are diagnosed with cancer each year, but thanks to advances in cryopreservation (freezing) techniques newly diagnosed cancer patients can preserve sperm, eggs or embryos prior to having chemotherapy or radiation that will impair their subsequent fertility. Consulting with a fertility preservation expert soon after diagnosis is critical.

For more information about preserving fertility, visit http://www.givf.com/ fertilitypreservationcenter/

Marathon for the second time since being diagnosed. Telford also actively campaigns for the NBTS and has raised more than \$300,000 for it. But her health problems are far from over. She has trouble sleeping, gets bad pains after eating and, she said, "My brain isn't telling other parts of my body what to do."

Her doctor at Johns Hopkins Medical Center plans to tackle these issues; but first, said Telford, she's running the Boston Marathon, April 10, for her third time. "I was on a walker, the first part of January, after surgery for a pacemaker to regulate my bladder," she said. "So my doctor knows how much it means to me."

She's also looking forward to the Rev3 Run Rogue 5K. "Holly Jahshan, race director of Rogue Racers, is one of my dear friends, and she surprised me with this race," said Telford. "She said it would raise money for Team BT for research to save my life and others'. Vanessa, also a dear friend, has been there for me at my worst, and still is, so the race is for both of us."

Telford's also a fan of Life with Cancer. "It's a great organization and I still go there for counseling," she said. "There's a braintumor support group that meets once a month. And I run the Virginia Run Turkey Trot – which also benefits Life with Cancer – every year in a ballerina tutu."

Adoption Event Coming March 31-April 1

March madness will officially arrive at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter during a special Mega Match-a-thon. On Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1, Fairfax County shelter dogs and cats will be available for adoption during a two-day adopta-thon spotlighting pet adoptions at the

She raises money for NBTS from December through May. "I'm tired, but I can't give up," she said. "For example, the other day, I met a little girl, Gracie, who's 6 and struggling with brain cancer - so that's why I have to keep fighting. Everything I do goes right to the charity, and my friends help keep me going. They send me e-mails and inspirational notes every day."

"My motto is 'Never, never give up," said Telford. "And when I get down, I look at those words, posted all over my house. My favorite word is 'hope' so, if I get down, I just look at the inner side of my left wrist where it's tattooed."

She's also thankful for her friends. "Holly is amazing - she went to chemo with me," said Telford. "And when I was so sick, Vanessa brushed my hair, told me it was going to be OK and helped me run again. I couldn't pick a better person to fight cancer with than her."

Telford said each event she participates in helps raise awareness. "Team BT has so many people who've either lost someone to a brain tumor or are struggling with it, themselves," she said. "I raised \$72,000 for

Because of her efforts, NBTS has already made two, brain-tumor research grants in Telford's name. One went to the Cleveland Clinic in 2009; the other, to the University of Florida in 2011.

TO PREPARE for the Fairfax Corner event, she ran a four-mile race last Saturday in Clarendon and will run a half-marathon this week in Virginia Beach. And she's delighted that more than 700 people have already registered for the Run Rogue 5K.

"When Holly first told me about this race, I thought about how all the people who are suffering - especially the little kids - are going to be excited about it," said Telford. "And what better way to support people with cancer, help both NBTS and Life with Cancer and get in shape for spring, all at the same time?"

Since cancer touches so many lives, Rogue Racers is asking people to share their stories of inspiration and perseverance at the race's Web site, http://www.runrogue5k.com/Run_Rogue_ 5K/Our_Heroes.html "A woman wrote about how her young son has a brain tumor and is going to run in the 1K," said Telford. "She was so pleased that there was something for him. That makes me feel so good."

West Ox Road facility. The Fairfax shelter will be open on Saturday from 10 a.m. -5 p.m. The organization will also host a special Sunday opening for adoptions only at its West Ox Road facility from 11 a.m. 5 a.m.

Available animals will be on view at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030 and at 71 Oglethorpe St., NW, Washington, D.C.

For more information, please contact the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at (703) 830-1100.

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 Immanuel Bible Church **MOPS** group meets on Mondays at 7 p.m. at Immanuel Bible Church, 6911 Braddock Road, Springfield. MOPS is for pregnant or parenting mothers of children from infancy to kindergarten. 703-922-4295 or www.MOPS.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield, 7300 Gary St., Springfield, has Sunday services at 10:30 a.m., Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., Hispanic worship service at 9 a.m., and an Ethiopian service at 12:15 p.m. The pastor is Jim Weaver. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspringfield.org.

The following is a list of events at Mount Calvary Baptist Church, 4325 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax:

- ❖ Bible study and Prayer Service every Tuesday starting at 7 p.m.
- Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., except for the fourth Sunday of the month, when Sunday School is at 9
- ❖ Sunday morning service at 11

* Commonwealth Care Center ministry every first and third Thursday night. 703-273-1455.

Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria, has services on Fridays, 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. Religious school is on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Adult learning opportunities take place throughout the year. Tot Shabbat is on the first and third Saturdays. Kolot Shabbat, a musical service, is the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. 703-370-9400 or www.bethelhebrew.org.

Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, offers traditional Sunday church services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. plus Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Childcare is available 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. The church is handicapped accessible and assisted listening devices are avail-703 971-5151, admin@franconiaumc.org

www.franconiaumc.org. **Lenten Quiet Times.** 12-1 p.m. on March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4. Spend time in our sanctuary and reflect on Jesus Christ, His suffering and His sacrifice, His life, death, burial and resurrection.

ENTERTAINMENT

Hot Music, Cool Vibe

Local students performing in Chantilly Invitational Jazz Festival.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

he sounds of smooth, cool jazz will fill the air during the 32nd annual Chantilly High Invitational Jazz Festival. It's slated for Friday-Saturday, March 16-17, in the school auditorium, 4201 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly.

"Almost 40 bands are coming from Virginia and Maryland, and even one from Connecticut," said Chantilly's Band Director, Drew Ross. "We're fortunate to have a large number of fantastic jazz programs in our area, so we invite as many bands as we can."

The event is free to the public and runs March 16, from 4-10:30 p.m., and March 17, from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. So audience members may come and go as they please to listen to whichever bands they want to hear (see schedule).

"March is also 'Music in Our Schools' month, so it's a great way for people to come here and see these groups," said Ross. "The audience will be blown away by group after group and seeing how talented these musicians are. It's overwhelmingly exciting to watch."

Middle-school bands, as well as high-school jazz combos and big bands, will be performing. They include the Flint Hill School's jazz band; two big bands from Robinson Secondary School; one from Lake Braddock Secondary School; big bands from Woodson, Fairfax and South County high schools; and two guitar combos and a Gypsy Jazz group from West Springfield High.

"Each combo and band has different styles, and sometimes they play pieces never heard before, on top of the standard repertoire," said Ross. "I'm as old as this jazz festival, so it's a daunting task to run something that's been around as long as I have."

He said the event provides an opportunity for middle- and highschool students to "share a stage and play music for an appreciative audience. They also play for three, professional adjudicators and six to eight clinicians who provide feedback on their performances."

In addition, each middle-school band and high-school band and combo will vie for first-, secondand third-place awards in their divisions. "The top three, highschool bands compete at the end of the day on Saturday in a battle of the bands to determine the jazzfestival champion," said Ross. "Each of the three bands gets a trophy."

Awards are also presented to outstanding soloists and rhythmsection players, and GMU gives scholarships to participate in its Summer Jazz Workshop. Chantilly High also awards three, \$500 scholarships to outstanding senior musicians who plan on majoring in music in college.

Besides the school bands, three feature acts will also perform:

- Prelude, led by Dave Detwiler, a former Army Blues trumpeter who teaches music and still plays professionally;
- ❖ The Alan Baylock Jazz Orchestra. Baylock is the arranger for the Air Force's Airmen of Note and the artist in residence at Shenandoah University.
- ❖ The National Jazz Workshop Invitational Big Band, directed by Matt Niess and including current, local high-school musicians.

All in all, Ross said, the jazz festival is "cool because it's unique.

Performance Schedule

FRIDAY 3/16

4 p.m. - Workshop Jazz 4:20 p.m. - Eagle Ridge MS 4:40 p.m. - JL Simpson MS 5 p.m. - George Washington MS 5:20 p.m. - Stone MS 5:40 p.m. - Rachel Carson MS 6 p.m. - MS Awards/Dinner 6:25 p.m. - West Springfield Guitar 2 6:50 p.m. - Westfield HS Guitar 7:15 p.m. - Colonial Forge 2 7:40 p.m. - West Springfield Guitar 1 8:05 p.m. - George Mason HS 8:30 p.m. - Walter Johnson High School Combo 8:55 p.m. - Break 9:10 p.m. - West Springfield Gypsy Jazz 9:35 p.m. - Colonial Forge 1 10 p.m. - Albemarle HS 10:25 p.m. - Combo Awards

SATURDAY 3/17 8 a.m. - Robinson SS 2 8:25 a.m. - Fairfax HS 8:50 a.m. - Stonewall Jackson HS 9:15 a.m. - Sherando HS 9:40 a.m. - WT Woodson 10:05 a.m. - Prelude 11:05 a.m. - Robinson SS 1 11:30 a.m. - Manassas Park HS 11:55 a.m. - Oakton HS 2 12:20 p.m. - Flint Hill HS 12:45 p.m. - Alan Baylock Jazz Orchestra 1:55 p.m. - Yorktown HS 2:20 p.m. - Westbrook HS 2:45 p.m. - Washington-Lee HS 3:10 p.m. - National Jazz Workshop Band 3:50 p.m. - Westfield HS 4:15 p.m. - South County 4:40 p.m. - Oakton HS 1 5:05 p.m. - McLean HS 5:30 p.m. - Walter Johnson High School 5:55 p.m. - Colonial Forge HS

There are very few jazz festivals in the United States that feature such a wide variety of musicians and music. Aside from the middleand high-school bands, we showcase professional bands and local talent that the audience might not otherwise get to hear and see."

6:20 p.m. - Lake Braddock HS

6:45 p.m. - Albemarle HS

7:10 p.m. - Chantilly Jazz

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703-591-1974 Truro Episcopal...703-273-1300

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Take Advantage of SoberRide

ity of Fairfax police caution all drivers to take special precautions regarding St. Patrick's Day celebration events on Saturday, March 17. They urge people to plan in advance to designate a nondrinking driver, call a taxi or spend the night at the home or hotel where they're celebrating. Police are working with businesses and the community to prevent tragedies from

occurring due to impaired driving.

They also strongly encourage St. Patrick's Day celebrants to use WRAP's SoberRide, which provides free taxi rides (up to a \$30 fare). It will be offered starting Saturday, March 17, at 6 p.m., and continuing until Sunday, March 18, at 6:30 a.m. Call 1-800-200-8294 (TAXI) or #8294 for customers of AT&T wireless telephones. People must be 21 or older to use SoberRide.

Calendar

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.

THURSDAY/MARCH 15

Friday Morning Music Club. 11 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Free admission. 703-352-2787 or www.fairfaxarts.org.

Darrell Scott and Grace Pettis. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple

Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com. **50th Anniversary of the Vietnam** War Commemoration. 7:30 p.m. Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna. Richard Williams of the USA Vietnam War Commemoration Commission will discuss the nation's program to honor all who served in the Vietnam War at the meeting of Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. The general public and all veterans are invited. Free admission. 703-255-0353 or

www.vva227.org. **The Dirty Pints.** 6 p.m. The Auld Shebeen Restaurant and Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Live Irish music. www.theauldshebeenva.com.

National Trumpet Competition.

1:30 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Featuring The U.S. Army Band & Herald Trumpets with guest soloists. Free and open to the public.

www.nationaltrumpetcomp.org. **Afternoon Reading Group.** 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. The Black Swan by Nassim Taleb. Adults. 703-293-6227.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English and improve your skills. Adults. 703-

Tales for Twos and Threes: Spring Pops. 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories, songs and activities about spring. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-644-7333.

Computer Basics Training. 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. One-hour session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills and navigating the Internet. Adults. 703-644-7333.

Bob Gibson Big Band. 8 p.m. Old Country Buffet 9650 Main St., Fairfax. Music by Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Harry James, Stan Kenton and more. 703-764-0708.

FRIDAY/MARCH 16

Rosie Thomas and Bhi Bhiman at 7 p.m.; Bluefiveone and Blue County and Lowercaseletters at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

GrooveLily. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. "Sleeping Beauty Wakes: In Concert," a contemporary take on a classic fairytale. \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

The Choir of the College of William and Mary. 8 p.m. Church of the Nativity, 6398 Nativity Lane, Burke. Under the direction of James Armstrong, and featuring works by Mahler and Liszt (Missa Choralis) and including American and Haitian songs in the folk tradition. Free admission. 703-932-7792.

Spring Book Sale. 10 a.m. Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227.

The Flying Cows of Ventry. 7 p.m. The Auld Shebeen Restaurant and Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Live Irish music. www.theauldshebeenva.com.

John Eaton: A Juke Joint Jam



The Choir of the College of William and Mary will perform on Friday, March 16 at 8 p.m. at the Church of the Nativity, 6398 Nativity Lane in Burke. Under the direction of James Armstrong, their performance will feature works by Mahler and Liszt (Missa Choralis), American and Haitian songs in the folk tradition and more. Free admission. 703-932-7792.

Session. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The Great American Song Book. \$25.

www.wolftrap.org.

National Trumpet Competition. 2
p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Featuring Doc Severinsen and The Army Blues. Free and open to the public.

www.nationaltrumpetcomp.org. Open Mic Night. 7 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Poetry, music, story telling and more. Refreshments served. Free, donations accepted in support of the Wounded Warrior Emergency Support Fund. Hosted by the BPC TreeHouse ministry. 703 764-0456 or

www.BurkePresChurch.org. Just Ducky. 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories and activities about ducks. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-249-1520.

English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice your English conversation skills. Adults. 703-978-5600.

SATURDAY/MARCH 17

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8

p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With pianist Rick Rowley. Stravinsky's Firebird Suite (1919 version), Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Sibelius' Symphony No. 7, and Sibelius' Finlandia. Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. info@fairfaxsymphony.org

The Rhodes Tavern Troubadours, Scott Ramminger & the **Crawstickers and Carter** Louthian & Curtis Barnes at 12 p.m.; Better Said Than Done -The Luck of the Irish at 7 p.m.; Danny Rouhier's CD Recording & St. Patrick's Day Drinking **Experience** at 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Consignment Sale. 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Fairfax United Methodist Church, 10900 Stratford Ave., Fairfax. Children's clothing, baby equip toys, shoes, books, DVDs, videos, games and more. 703-591-3120.

Spring Book Sale. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227. **National Trumpet Competition.** 2

p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive,

Fairfax. Free and open to the public. www.nationaltrumpetcomp.org. Amelia Earhart: Dreams Take

Flight. 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Experience the career of an American aviation pioneer through character actor Mary Ann Jung's dramatization. Age 8-14. 703-249-1520.

One-on-One Internet/Computer Training. 11 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn to use the library's ebook collection and compatible ebook readers with a one-on-one technology volunteer. Registration required. Adults. 703-978-5600.

SUNDAY/MARCH 18

Accidents, Derek Evry, Madrone and Today's Tomorrow at 1 p.m.; **Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer** Rockin' the Uke CD Release Concert at 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Spring Book Sale. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. 703-293-6227. **Northern Virginia Simcha Expo.** 11

a.m.-3 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Vendors include DJs, photographers, florists, entertainment, venues, invitations and decorations, caterers, make-up, Judaica and more. www.shalomnova.org/simchaexpo or www.jccnv.org.

"Iron Jawed Angels." 3 p.m. City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Celebrating Women's History Month. Suffragists put their lives at risk to help American women win the vote, staffing Hillary Swank. Free. www.fairfaxva.gov

MONDAY/MARCH 19

Children's Music Performance

Series. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. First and third Mondays of each month. Free admission. 703-352-2787 or www.fairfaxarts.org.

Book Buddies. 4 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Beginning readers practice with a young adult volunteer. Age 5-9 with adult. 703-293-6227.

Chess Club. 3:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn the rules and strategy by playing the game. Age 8-16. 703-

The McEuen Brothers. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E... Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.



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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE

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er; Kuang Li, owner. 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.

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Sports



The Panther girls, shown here following their state championship game win over Liberty Christian Academy, have now won a record six consecutive state crowns.



The Paul VI High boys' basketball team celebrates following its state finals win over Episcopal High.

Paul VI Boys, Girls Win Basketball State Championship

Panther boys and girls basketball teams win respective VIS State titles.

oth the girls' and boys' basketball teams from Paul VI Catholic High School won their respective Virginia Independent Schools Div. 1 Championships on Saturday, March 3.

The Paul VI Lady Panthers defeated Liberty Christian Academy from Lynchburg to capture the team's sixth consecutive state crown. The Panthers overcame a slow start offensively but clung to a narrow lead midway through the second quarter. Paul VI then took control of the contest when junior guard Marlena Tremba scored four 3-pointers within a four minute span to spark the

Panthers. A team effort led to a final score of 67-45.

The Lady Panthers placed two players on the All-Tournament Team - Marlena Tremba and Lauren Cox. Taking the tournament's Most Valuable Player honors was sophomore Ariana Freeman, who led Paul VI in scoring (25.6 points per game) and was a dominant force on defense.

No other basketball team in the history of the VISAA has won six consecutive state championships. The Lady Panthers also tied their own school record for most wins in a season with 23 and finished fourth in the WCAC for the year.

ON THE BOYS' SIDE, the Panthers' championship game promised to be a battle from the jump as Paul VI squared off against a tough Episcopal team from Alexandria. Paul VI had played Episcopal earlier in the year - a non-conference game in which the Panthers overcame a 14-point deficit late in the third quarter in a stirring comeback win.

Paul VI players were determined to make sure that, in Saturday night's state tournament finals versus the Maroon, there would be no need for a similar comeback. The Panthers, in the finals, controlled play over the final three quarters. They held a 10-point lead with just over a minute to play and held off Episcopal for a 62-61 state championship game win. (A 3-pointer at the buzzer by Episcopal provided the one point final margin).

Paul VI's Patrick Holloway provided the second half spark for his team, scoring all 16 of his points after intermission, and Tilman Dunbar posted 12 points, 11 assists, and four rebounds. Marcus Derrickson recorded a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

The All-Tournament Team included Coleman Johnson, Patrick Holloway and Marcus Derrickson. Derrickson was also named Tournament MVP.

The Paul VI boys were scheduled to compete in the prestigious Alhambra Catholic Invitational Tournament, held at Frostburg State University. Additionally, the Panthers' recent win in the WCAC tournament earned them the right to play in the Abe Pollin City Title Game. That game is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20 at the Verizon Center against Coolidge.

Emerson Set for One Final Season as Paul VI Baseball Coach

Panthers have enjoyed incredible success under longtime skipper.

n an emotional address to players and families last Thursday night, March 8 at the Paul VI High baseball team's annual 'First Pitch Dinner,' Billy Emerson announced he will step down as the Panthers' head baseball coach at the end of this upcoming spring season.

Emerson, beginning his 10th season as the Panthers' baseball coach, is the longest tenured baseball coach in the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC). He will continue his duties as the Paul VI High Athletic Director.

Jeff Nolan, Emerson's longtime assistant and current associate head coach, will be the Panthers' next head coach following the 2012 season.

Emerson, who also serves as an associate scout for the Detroit Tigers, indicated he may return to coaching at some point.

"I've dedicated a good part of my life to coaching," said Emerson. "I have new



Billy Emerson

challenges as the A.D., I'm working on a Master's degree and most importantly I will get to spend more quality time with my family. It's time to step away, but I wouldn't say I'm out of coaching forever."

Emerson has coached at the high school and collegiate levels for nearly 20 years. As a high school head coach he holds a career record of 217-114 (196-75 in 9 seasons at PVI). He has been named Coach of the Year

on eight occasions, including honors from the WCAC and the Virginia independent Schools Athletic Association (VISAA). He was also a finalist for Baseball America' National High School Coach of the Year in 2008.

Paul VI has won two WCAC Championships and three VISAA State Championships under Emerson's direction, along with multiple regular season titles, invitational tournament crowns and national rankings. The Paul VI baseball program has sent more than 50 players to college baseball over the last nine years, a mark rarely matched in the Mid Atlantic Region.

While doubling as a manager in the Clark C. Griffith Collegiate Summer Baseball League from 2006-2009, Emerson has coached a total of 315 games (high school and collegiate combined) with a record of 226-89. He was the only baseball coach in America to guide a nationally ranked high school team and a nationally ranked collegiate team in the same years (2008, 2009).

"I will miss the camaraderie, competition and the opportunity to coach so many great players," said Emerson, who during his earlier days as a high school baseball coach once led T.C. Williams to the Northern Region semifinals - the furthest the Titans have ever gone. "As the Athletic Director I will still have a hand in supporting Paul VI student athletes in advancing to college baseball. I will continue to work tirelessly behind the scenes to support all of our coaches and student athletes."

Nolan has coached both high school and college players for the last 25 years. He has coached at Paul VI during Emerson's entire tenure at the school and has helped Emerson establish the program as a perennial local and national power. Nolan was named Mid Atlantic Assistant Coach of the Year in 2009 by the National High School Baseball Coaches Association.

"The program won't miss a beat with Jeff in charge," said Emerson. "It can only get better. Jeff Nolan is the kind of coach who gets the most out of his players and the kind of man you want your child to learn from. As our pitching coach, he made more of our guys into All-Conference and college pitchers than anyone. Jeff has been essential to building this program."

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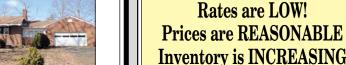
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