

## Honored at The Pentagon

NEWS, PAGE 3

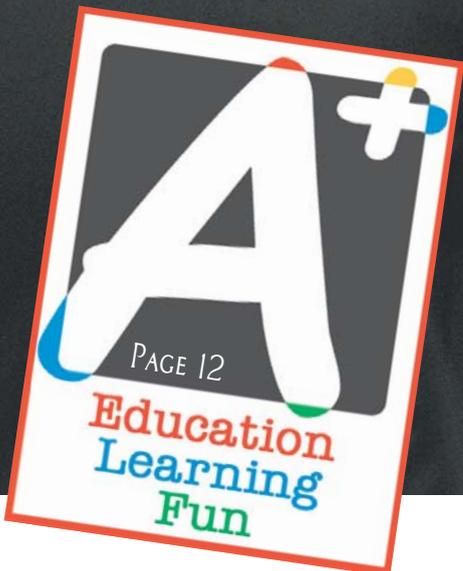
## Remembering Ryan Dillon

NEWS, PAGE 3

# Celebration Of Song

NEWS, PAGE 2

The Robinson Select Women's Ensemble performs during the annual Robinson Secondary Choral Department Performance Assessment Concert on Tuesday night. The Robinson Select Women's Ensemble is one of two Robinson choral groups that will perform at the World Choir Games this summer in Cincinnati with 350 other choirs from across the globe.





The Robinson Singers perform during the annual Robinson Secondary Choral Department Performance Assessment Concert on Tuesday night. The Robinson Singers are one of the two Robinson choral groups that will perform at the World Choir Games this summer in Cincinnati with 350 other choirs from across the globe.

# Celebration of Song

## Robinson choral groups selected to compete during 2012 World Choir Games.

Thousands of the world's best singers will arrive in Cincinnati for the 2012 World Choir Games this July, a competition that kicks off with Olympic-style fanfare. The 11-day event includes hundreds of choirs from Africa, Asia, Europe, Australia, North America and South America, who will compete in 23 categories from July 4-14.

Two choral ensembles from Robinson Secondary School - the Select Women's Ensemble and the Robinson Singers - have been accepted by audition to perform at this prestigious choral competition. From July 4-8, the Robinson Choirs will be evaluated by an international panel of choral conductors. The students will also have the opportunity to share "friendship concerts" with other choirs from around the world and attend clinics and performances.

The World Choir Games begin with an Olympic-style opening ceremony complete with a parade of nations. Robinson's choirs have two of the four groups representing the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"The students have been working hard over the course of many years to reach the level of artistry required to participate in such an enriching endeavor," said Michael Horanski, the school's Director of Choral Activities.

The school has launched a fundraising effort to

allow the 63 students to compete in the games. Horanski said they hope to raise \$50,000.

"Of course, there is an expense involved with putting a trip like this together," Horanski said. "The students in the choirs very much would like to experience this once-in-a-lifetime event."

"This is such an exciting experience," said Mary Davis, president of the Robinson Choral Parents Association. "Our students will have the opportunity to experience an incredible musical and cultural exchange, and be evaluated by an international jury of choral directors. It's quite an honor."

To help fund the trip, sponsors can mail a tax-deductible donation to: Robinson Choral Parents Association. In the memo line, indicate: "choir games donation." Sponsors may also donate online.

To learn more about the Choir Games, and ways to donate, go to [www.robinsonsings.org/home/world-choir-games](http://www.robinsonsings.org/home/world-choir-games).

Davis said those who make donation will be recognized at the farewell concert at the beginning of July and throughout the year in the school's concert programs.

"We want to help our wonderful student musicians 'Go for the Gold,' and join a world-wide community of musicians," Davis said.

— VICTORIA ROSS



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Members of the Robinson Secondary School Man's Choir perform Praise His Holy Name as one of their three pieces during the Robinson Secondary Choral Department Performance Assessment Concert.



The Robinson Area Elementary School Honors Choir performs during the annual Robinson Secondary Choral Department Performance Assessment Concert on Tuesday night.



Some members of the Robinson Secondary School choirs perform with the Robinson Area Elementary School Honors Choir Tuesday evening at Robinson.



The Robinson Select Women's Ensemble performs during the annual Robinson Secondary Choral Department Performance Assessment Concert on Tuesday night.

**Travis Catina with his family: mother, Cate, who is a lieutenant colonel currently serving at Ft. Belvoir; sister, Rebecca, a sixth grader at Lorton Station; and father, Rich, who retired this year after 20 years of service in the Army as a member of the Special Forces.**



PHOTOS BY  
AMIEE FREEMAN/  
THE CONNECTION

## Honored at the Pentagon

**A private tour for seventh-grader who wants to become a U.S. Army Ranger.**

BY AMIEE FREEMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**“W**hat do you want to do when you grow up?”

This question, posed so often to young adults, typically results in ambiguous, pie-in-the-sky answers. Lake Braddock seventh grader and Springfield resident Travis Catina had a very specific response to that question, one that when published in the Dec. 30 Children’s Issue of The Connection caught the attention of U.S. Army officers at the Pentagon and earned him and his family a private tour.

In the brief essay which Catina wrote for an extra credit assignment in his English class and was submitted by his teacher, Jeanne Okano, to The Connection for inclusion in its annual Children’s Connection issue, he stated that when he grows up he wants to follow in his father’s footsteps and become an Army Ranger. Catina’s family has a long and illustrious history in the Army. Catina’s father, Rich, retired from the Army this year after serving for 20 years with the Special Forces. Catina’s mother, Cate, is also in the Army, currently serving as a lieutenant colonel at Ft. Belvoir. Catina’s great-uncle founded Delta Force, the U.S. Army’s tier one counter-terrorism unit.

“I’ve been interested in the military my whole life, and I wanted to express my interest by responding to the extra credit question,” said Catina. “Travis is very balanced,” said his mother, Cate. “At 13, I didn’t know I would enter the army. When I did enter, I thought it would be only for four years. Travis has a goal and is very driven toward it. I have no doubt that he will achieve his goal.”

**FIVE SPECIAL FORCES MEMBERS** were on hand to greet Catina and his family and to express their gratitude for his interest in Special Forces. Catina and his family were given an overview of Special



**Seventh grade Lake Braddock student, Travis Catina, received a certificate of appreciation during a tour of the Pentagon.**

Forces. Members of Special Forces are highly skilled soldiers with specialized training. Of specific interest to Catina were the character traits looked for in Special Forces candidates: integrity, courage, perseverance, personal responsibility, professionalism, adaptability, and team player.

“This is a big stress off my shoulders,” said Catina of the briefing. Catina said that for the past two years he has been wondering how to achieve his goal of joining Special Forces. The officers on hand that day, gave him some very specific instructions.

“Stay right where you are at: physically fit and serious about your education. It is very hard to find individuals motivated about education and physically fit with a strong moral compass. Take what mom and dad have taught you to heart and keep your nose clean,” was the advice given by Sgt. Maj. Scott

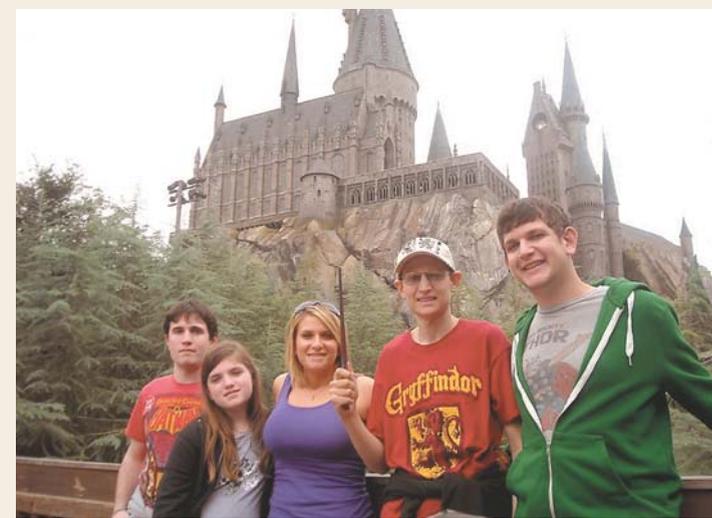
Parker.

“Just as colleges look for balanced individuals, so does Special Forces. It is good to have balance in life and spread out your interests,” said LTC Terence McGuire.

“You are on the right path. As you get older, know what right looks like. When you get in difficult situations, ask yourself: ‘What would mom and dad say?’ Stay on the right path,” advised MSgt. Calvin Sowell.

**FOLLOWING THE BRIEFING**, Catina and his family visited the offices of Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond Chandler and Chief of Staff of the Army Raymond Odierno, both of whom were away from the Pentagon at the time. Then, Catina and his family visited the 9-11 Memorial.

McGuire hopes that Catina’s visit to the Pentagon will be as motivational to him as his essay was to the members of Special Forces. “His letter was inspirational to us. He’s motivational for all of us,” said McGuire.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY HALLIE DILLON

**(From left) are Mac, Shea, Sam, Ryan and Liam Dillon, in November 2011, when their family visited The Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal Studios in Orlando.**

## Remembering Ryan Dillon

**Burke resident dies at age 22.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**L**ife stacked the deck against Ryan Dillon. He was autistic and had bone cancer and just lived to age 22.

Yet because of his family and friends, he had a full and happy life. And he, in turn, enriched theirs with his presence. So when he died March 8, it wasn’t the end, because he will always live on in their hearts.

“There were over 500 people at his service – which wasn’t a funeral, but a celebration of his life,” said his father, Don Dillon. And, added Ryan’s mother, Hallie Dillon, “That’s a true testament to Ryan and the special person he was.”

Ryan was one of five children – three boys and two girls – of this Burke Centre family. Robinson grad Mac now attends the Pulley Career Center, for special-needs children, at West Potomac High; Liam is a Robinson senior; Samantha is grown and works for a government contractor; and Shea is a sixth-grader at Fairview Elementary.

Mom Hallie is an assistant principal at Poplar Tree Elementary. Dad Don formerly taught PE. at both Fairview and Clifton elementaries and is now an adapted-PE. teacher for special-ed students in FCPS’s Cluster VIII.

Although autistic, Ryan was



**A happy Ryan Dillon enjoys Butterbeer at The Wizarding World of Harry Potter, just like the Harry Potter characters did.**

high-functioning, expressed himself well and loved people. He was first diagnosed with osteosarcoma in 2003 at age 13. He had chemotherapy for a year and several surgeries to repair his left leg – the tibia was removed and replaced with a titanium rod. But Ryan dealt with it well and understood treatment was necessary.

He continued being treated and undergoing surgeries through 2006. He started healing and, in 2008, graduated from Robinson. He then took job-training classes there, learned office procedures at Westfield High and played baseball and basketball on Special Olympics teams.

“The oncologists told us he pretty much had this beat,” said

SEE RYAN, PAGE 15



Gold President's Award recipients.

## Greenspring Residents Receive Service Awards

Last week, Greenspring retirement community hosted its 7th President's Service Awards reception for volunteers who live at the community. Many of the residents volunteer by running one of 200+ clubs at the community, delivering and/or sorting mail at the community, participating in the Resident Council, or by sharing their time and talent in some other way. The residents who volunteered more than 100 hours in 2011 were honored last Tuesday with a President's Service Award in ei-

ther Bronze (100-249 hrs), Silver (250-499 hrs) or Gold (500+hrs). One lifetime award was also given out at the community to Evelyn Jackson, who manages the Treasure Chest (she has volunteered more than 4,000 hours at Greenspring).

More than 140 guests were in attendance including Executive Director, Robin Gliboff. There were a total of 204 awards given out. The website for history of the award is <http://www.presidentserviceawards.gov>.



Evelyn Jackson receiving her Lifetime award from Robin Gliboff.

PHOTOS BY JEAN MARTELLI

## Cook Presents Transportation Plan

Supervisor's plan would generate more than \$40 million per year without raising taxes.

As the Board of Supervisors moves through its discussions on the FY2013 budget, Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) introduced a plan that begins to address the lack of funding for transportation in Fairfax County.

The plan comes on the heels of the Board's retreat in early February, where staff provided a sobering analysis of the County's transportation needs over the next ten years - highlighting a need for \$3 billion in funding over and above that which can currently be accounted for by federal, State and County funds. This amounts to \$300 million a year, nearly equivalent to ten percent of the County's general fund.

"It has become clear that the State has no plan to fund the transportation challenges we face," said Supervisor Cook, "so it becomes critical for the County to act."

Supervisor Cook's twofold plan, if implemented fully, would generate more than \$40 million per year in new transportation dollars. First, the proposal would dedicate, for transportation, funds gener-

ated by the Vehicle License Fee. Since its implementation, the Vehicle Fee has generated approximately \$27 million a year, but has been placed in the County's General Fund. Under Supervisor Cook's proposal, over a three year period, this fee would be moved out of the General Fund and instead committed solely to transportation. With implementation spread over three years, the impact on the General Fund would be relatively small and quite manageable.

Second, under the proposal the Board would designate one-half of each year's unencumbered carry-over funds to transportation - except in the event of an emergency situation. This idea was one of the proposals set forth by County staff at the recent Board of Supervisors retreat. Based on an average from the last five years, this action would result in approximately \$23 million per year in new funding.

Neither of these proposals is funded by new taxes, but by placing first priority on new funds generated by economic growth toward meeting our most daunting public challenge.

## Dance Team Recognized as Grand National Champions

Fans of "So You Think You Can Dance" and "Dance Moms" will be surprised to learn that there's a world class competitive dance company right here in Burke. On Feb. 25, the Senior Dance Company from Buffa's Dance Studio, competed at the Contest of Champions held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in

Orlando, where they were crowned Grand National Champions.

They competed against teams from New Hampshire, West Virginia, Illinois and Florida and captured first place awards in the Lyrical, Modern, Jazz and Pom categories. The Grand National Champions award included a \$3,000 prize and an invitation to perform in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Also, Emma Bradley, a junior at West Springfield High School, was awarded first place for Senior Solo and Emma Presing, an 8th grade student at Alexandria Country Day School, captured first place in the Junior Solo category.

This year, Buffa's Dance Company has also competed at the George Mason Invitational, Hollywood Vibe, NYCDA, East Coast Dance Explosion, West



Back row left to right - Elise Achiu, Rebecca Hughes, Melissa Matthews, Taylor Young, Melissa Lester, Holly Kania, Allison Eichelberger, Hannah Green, Lindsay Snider, Melissa Hargett, Laura Steen. Front row left to right: Emma Presing, MacKenzie Williams, Mallory Niehoff, Jordan Shortnacy, Rebecca Siira, Hannah Wojszynski, Megan Kania, Emma Bradley.

Coast Dance Explosion, and NUVO, where they have won numerous awards and scholarships. They will be competing at Dance Maker's Inc. (DMI) in Tysons Corner on March 23-25, at Showstoppers in Woodbridge on May 18-20 and at The Dance

Awards in New York City on July 4-11.

Buffa's Senior Dance Company is coached by Melissa Hargett, Lindsay Snider, Laura Steen and Tom Alexander. Buffa's Dance Studio is located at 9570-H Burke Road in Burke.

# Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



## Sales in \$500s, January 2012

**4** 4438 Woods Edge Court,  
Clifton — \$555,750



**8** 8534 Etta Drive, Springfield — \$525,000



**6** 15337 Jordans  
Journey Drive,  
Centreville —  
\$545,000



**11** 13331 Jasper Court, Fairfax — \$515,000



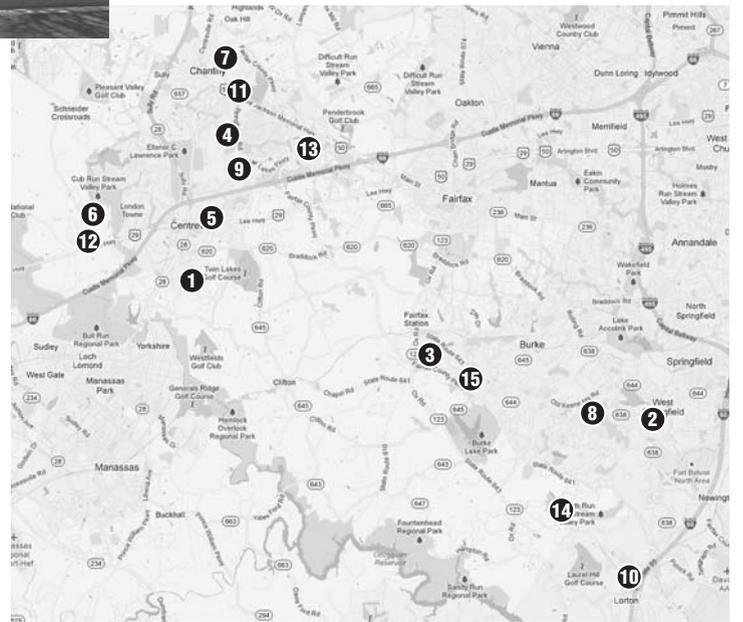
**12** 15411 Eagle Tavern Lane,  
Centreville — \$515,000



**14** 9014 Triple Ridge Road,  
Fairfax Station — \$505,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
13935 SOUTH SPRINGS DR	4	3	1		CLIFTON	\$584,500	Detached	0.20	20124	LITTLE ROCKY RUN	01/31/12
6838 SPRING BEAUTY CT	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$575,000	Detached	0.32	22152	HUNTER VILLAGE	01/03/12
5830 OAKLAND PARK DR	4	2	1		BURKE	\$570,000	Detached	0.17	22015	BURKE CENTRE	01/11/12
4438 WOODS EDGE CT	5	3	1		CHANTILLY	\$555,750	Detached	0.20	20151	POPLAR TREE ESTATES	01/30/12
5643 POWERS LN	5	4	1		CENTREVILLE	\$545,000	Detached	0.10	20120	SULLY MANOR	01/05/12
15337 JORDANS JOURNEY DR	4	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$545,000	Detached	0.30	20120	VA RUN	01/31/12
3516 HONEY LOCUST CT	5	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$530,000	Detached	0.25	22033	FRANKLIN GLEN	01/30/12
8534 ETTA DR	4	3	1		SPRINGFIELD	\$525,000	Detached	0.24	22152	KEENE MILL STATION	01/13/12
13593 MELVILLE LN	5	3	1		CHANTILLY	\$520,000	Detached	0.34	20151	POPLAR TREE ESTATES	01/10/12
9107 PURVIS DR	5	3	1		LORTON	\$519,000	Detached	0.10	22079	LAUREL HIGHLANDS	01/18/12
13331 JASPER CT	4	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$515,000	Detached	0.22	22033	FOXFIELD	01/26/12
15411 EAGLE TAVERN LN	5	3	1		CENTREVILLE	\$515,000	Detached	0.30	20120	WESTPORT	01/10/12
4220 TRUMBO CT	3	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$508,000	Townhouse	0.05	22033	FAIR LAKES COURT	01/18/12
9014 TRIPLE RIDGE RD	4	2	1		FAIRFAX STATION	\$505,000	Detached	0.30	22039	TRIPLE RIDGE	01/05/12
10205 MARSHALL POND RD	4	3	1		BURKE	\$500,000	Detached	0.17	22015	BURKE CENTRE	01/31/12

SOURCE: MRIS, INC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MRIS, VISIT WWW.MRIS.COM



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# OPINION

## 'Practices That Undermine Trust'

### Virginia gets a failing grade on ethics rules.

The State Integrity Investigation is “designed to expose practices that undermine trust in state capitols — and spotlight the states that are doing things right.”

Virginia got a failing grade, ranking 47 out of 50 states for vulnerability to corruption. Corruption in the Commonwealth is probably not any more rampant than voter fraud. But in terms of practices that could undermine trust, Virginia has vast room for improvement.

Here are a few comments about Virginia from the investigation (can't call them highlights):

“The Old Dominion is one of nine states with no statewide ethics commission, one of four states with no campaign finance limits and one of only two states (South Carolina is the other) where the part-time legislators handpick the

judges before whom many of them practice law.

“With 8.1 million residents, Virginia is the 12th most populous state in the union. But its part-time lawmakers have one of the shortest meeting schedules in the country — 30 days in odd-numbered years and 60 days in even-numbered years. At that speed, lobbyists of necessity have been elevated from influence peddlers to trusted advisers and authors of laws.”

Virginia has admirable disclosure of campaign contributions, earning a near perfect grade on citizen access to campaign finance records. The credit on the transparency of actual contributions to candidates belongs to the Virginia Public Access Project, vpap.org, more than the Commonwealth.

But the benefit of access to information on campaign finance is overshadowed by “lax oversight rules, weak consumer representation protections, dwindling capitol press corps and coziness between political and economic elites. ... Meanwhile, the few ethics and disclosure requirements that do exist tend to be flawed,

limited or fraught with exemptions and qualifications,” according to the report.

A couple of examples of laws and practices that could undermine trust:

❖ Virginia has no limits on financial contributions to political candidates. Literally. Companies and individuals can give unlimited amounts to any and all state and local elected officials, with some very limited restriction on timing.

❖ The licensing of car title loan companies, and allowing those companies in Virginia to lend to out-of-state car owners is clearly not in the interests of consumers or the communities where these storefronts are located.

❖ Despite a groundswell of indignation about a state law that sets the start date for public schools rather than allowing local school districts to set their own calendar, the entertainment industry prevailed this year again.

❖ Votes in subcommittees, where many important reforms go to die, are not recorded and not available to the public.

See Virginia's report card (overall grade: F) <http://www.stateintegrity.org/virginia>

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Protecting Integrity Of the Voting Process

To the Editor:

Your last week's editorial, “Veto Voter ID Bill,” perpetuates the canard that requiring voters to have proper ID to vote somehow disenfranchises voters and effects a disproportionate number of low income and minority voters. Just as we do here in Fairfax County, requiring that a voter present proper ID to match them in the voter rolls at the precinct is not a burden to anyone. Proper identification is also a reasonable protection to the integrity of the voting process for all voters. Fairfax County will send you your Voter ID card for free—mind you, it doesn't even have a photo—so you can identify yourself at your precinct and the precinct worker can match you to your address. One vote, one voter, one address.

There are also two very tangible ways you can know that requiring voter IDs is truly a reasonable and common sense safeguard to the electoral process. Have you ever seen a potential voter interviewed by the media who was denied their right to vote because they didn't have an ID card? Like Diogenes wandering the streets of ancient Athens looking for the honest man, I've looked for that interview or voter and I've yet to see it. Secondly, if the requirement to have voter ID cards were such a burden for less fortunate or minority vot-

ers, and with nearly six months yet to go before elections, why aren't we seeing Democrats organizing and conducting massive campaigns to get voters their ID cards so everyone who wants to be can be in compliance? I've yet to see an initiative to actually get those supposedly disenfranchised voters their ID cards. Maybe some of the donations from those big money political fund raising dinners could be used to pay for such a campaign to get everyone their voter IDs. Then there would be no issue—right?

Governor McDonnell should fully back reasonable and common sense legislation on Voter IDs for the integrity of the voting process in Virginia for all voters.

**Chris J. Krisinger**  
Colonel, USAF (Ret)  
Burke

### Partisan Politics Not the Answer

To the Editor:

Partisan politics at the risk of shutting down Virginia's government is not the answer for the citizens of our great Commonwealth. We elect our leaders to represent us in hopes that they are focused on doing what is in the best interest of the constituents they serve. Senate Democrats voted along strict party lines to block the bi-annual budget; putting education, public safety, transportation, and services for the elderly at risk. Why? Because they feel as though Committee Assignments are un-

fair. These are the people elected to represent us in Richmond and they are letting us down by ignoring our teachers, our policemen, and our government workers. It's unfortunate that Senate Democrats are more concerned with their own image politically than the people they represent.

**Devin Limo**  
Fairfax

### Election Officer Experience

To the Editor:

On March 6, I volunteered as an election officer at the polls for the Presidential Primary election. It was a great experience serving my community, and I enjoyed learning more about the election process and how it works.

From 5 a.m. until approximately 10 p.m., your duties as an election officer will be to register voters, set up voting equipment, set up the voting machines for each voter, put up signs and direct voters, as well as tally and seal the boxes with voter ballots when we closed the polls. Although it was a long process, which required you to stay at the polls from sunrise to sunset, the experience was well worth it. I did not realize that the voting process would start so early and even after all of the voters have voted, there was still much more work to be done. The chief officers and election officers are the people who uphold and maintain the entire voting process with the utmost care

and precision. Learning the behind-the-scenes duties at the polls made me realize how much work and dedication is put into every election. Every vote does matter, especially in a low-turn out race, and both of the chief officers carried out their duties efficiently and effectively. They were patient and understanding, and they shared their own stories about their experience working at the polls.

I would encourage George Mason University students, regardless of their affiliation, to sign up to be an election officer. In most cases, performing a civic duty, such as working as an election officer, would excuse a student from class, so they will not fall behind on their schoolwork if a student wanted to volunteer at the polls. They are also looking for students or volunteers who speak different languages in order to assist non-English speaking voters. As a Chinese-American student, I was able to translate some of the instructions for the voters if they were new to the voting procedures.

If you would like to sign up as an election officer, you can go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) and fill out an application at this link: <http://www.fairfaxgop.com/uploads/File/electionofficerapply.pdf>. The next volunteer opportunity will be in June for the Congress and Senatorial primary election. This will be a great run-through for the biggest election event in November, the presidential election.

**Gilda Yang**  
George Mason University  
Fairfax

## Burke CONNECTION

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
To discuss ideas and concerns,  
Call: 703-778-9410  
e-mail:  
[burke@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:burke@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ❖ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Amna Rehmatulla**  
Editorial Assistant  
703-778-9410 ext.427  
[arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Victoria Ross**  
Community Reporter  
703-752-4014  
[vross@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vross@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@ConnectVictoria

**Jon Roetman**  
Sports Editor  
703-778-9410  
[jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@jonroetman

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
e-mail:  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Steve Hogan**  
Display Advertising, 703-778-9418  
[shogan@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:shogan@connectionnewspapers.com)

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[classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Debbie Funk**  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

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

**Special Assistant to the Publisher**  
Jeanne Theismann  
703-778-9436  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@TheismannMedia

**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427**  
**Circulation Manager:**  
Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

# BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 24

### Empowering Young Men of Color to Prepare For A Successful Future.

8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Flint Hill School, 10409 Academic Drive, Oakton. A symposium for minority males of middle and high school age sponsored by the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., in support of EMBODI (Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence), designed to address challenges that African-American males regularly encounter. Topics include money management, peer pressure, domestic violence, importance of education, conflict resolution and anger management, college preparation and more. Free. [www.fcacdst.org/applications.htm](http://www.fcacdst.org/applications.htm).

**SAT Practice Test and One-on-One Analysis.** 1-5 p.m. T&B Education, 9687 Main St, #C, Fairfax. Free. 703-425-9687 or [tandbeducation@gmail.com](mailto:tandbeducation@gmail.com).

**Franconia United Methodist Men Ministry.** 8 a.m. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. All men are invited to join. Participate in service projects such as Heart Havens, group homes for the mentally handicapped; the Job Jar, Adopt a Highway and supporting Camp Rainbow, a summer camp for the handicapped. Meetings are on the fourth Saturday of each month. 703-971-5151 or [www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org).

**Springfield-Annandale Branch of the American Association of University Women.** 11 a.m. Country Club of Fairfax 5110 Ox Road Fairfax. Silent auction,

luncheon and Trinity University President Patricia McGuire on "Illusions and Realities: Why the Women's Revolution Is Not Over". Tickets \$38, must be purchased by Monday, March 19. Reserve at 703-256-6246 or [springfling@rclark.net](mailto:springfling@rclark.net).

## SUNDAY/MARCH 25

**Burke Historical Society General Meeting.** 4 p.m. Lutheran Church of the Abiding Presence, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke. Irma Clifton will speak about the local history of the women's suffrage movement. [slawski\\_brian@yahoo.com](mailto:slawski_brian@yahoo.com).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 21

**Liberty Republican Women's Club Meeting.** 6:30 p.m. Piero's Corner, 9959 Main St., Fairfax. With a Financial Crimes Detective on crimes by scammers, who oftentimes prey on senior citizens with requests for money for emergencies for medical expenses, or bail money for relatives. 703-378-4190.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 28

**Franconia United Methodist Men Ministry.** 8 a.m. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. All men are invited to join. Participate in service projects such as Heart Havens, group homes for the mentally handicapped; the Job Jar, Adopt a Highway and supporting Camp Rainbow, a summer camp for the handicapped. Meetings are on the fourth Saturday of each month. 703-971-5151 or [www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org).

## FAITH NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

**St. George's United Methodist Church,** 4910 Ox Road in Fairfax, will hold an Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 8 at 6:30 a.m. Weather permitting, it will be held outside behind the church in the outdoor worship area. Afterwards there will be breakfast provided. [www.stgumc.org](http://www.stgumc.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. There will be a Terry Hall Concert on Saturday, April 14 at 4 p.m. with old spirituals, classic hymns, southern gospel favorites and more. 703-971-5151 or [admin@franconiaumc.org](mailto:admin@franconiaumc.org) or [www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org).

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

SEE FAITH NOTES, PAGE 8

## SUN DESIGN INVITES YOU TO OUR LAKEFRONT REMODELED TOUR!

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# OPEN HOUSES

## SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 24 & 25



**10605 Fournier Drive, Fairfax Station • \$995,000 • Open Sunday 1-4 p.m. • Helen Grozbean, Keller Williams, 571-233-4287**

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper For more real estate listings and open houses, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) and click the Real Estate links on the right side. Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times

### Annandale

4036 Justine Dr.....\$474,900.....Sun 1-4.....Marge Lee.....Long & Foster..703-452-3921

### Bristow

12336 Indigo Springs Ct.....\$495,000.....Sun 1-4.....Connie Forbes.....Long & Foster..703-963-2193

### Burke

6603 Saddlehorn Ct.....\$569,900.....Sun 1-4.....Chris Carlson.....Century 21..703-822-2399  
9219 Byron Terr.....\$568,777.....Sun 1-4.....Bev Tull.....RE/MAX..703-963-0163  
9500 Waterline Dr.....\$569,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808  
9712 Church Way.....\$565,000.....Sun 1-4.....Gary Eales.....Long & Foster..703-609-4331

### Centreville

6600 Oak Rock Ct.....\$615,000.....Sun 1-4.....Teri Keith.....Long & Foster..703-220-9369  
15430 Meherrin Ct.....\$574,999.....Sun 1-4.....Donny Samson.....Samson Proprs..703-864-4894  
6336 Gun Mount Ct.....\$319,000.....Sun 1-4.....Marguerite Roland.....RE/MAX..703-577-4538

### Chantilly

43885 Sherando Ct.....\$749,999.....Sun 1-4.....Donny Samson.....Samson Proprs..703-864-4894  
25913 Kimberly Rose Dr.....\$420,000.....Sun 1-4.....Maureen Sheridan.....Century 21..571-259-3033

### Clifton

12522 Knollbrook Dr.....\$1,175,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermandorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812  
7004 Balmoral Forest Rd..\$1,125,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermandorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812  
7412 Union Ridge Road...\$1,124,900.....Sun 12-3.....Lisa Clayborne.....Long & Foster..703-502-8145

### Fairfax Station

10605 Fournier Dr.....\$995,000.....Sun 1-4.....Helen Grozbean.....Keller Williams..571-233-4287  
8303 Pinyon Pine Ct.....\$769,900.....Sun 1-4.....Christine Shevock.....RE/MAX..703-475-3986  
9743 Rolling Ridge Dr.....\$849,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808  
10609 Canterbury Rd.....\$779,000.....Sat 1-4.....Charlie Rose.....Long & Foster..703-452-3929

### Fairfax

12560 Royal Wolf Pl.....\$549,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermandorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812  
3013 James St.....\$529,900.....Sat 12-3.....Frank Freeman.....Avery-Hess..703-451-3007  
3818 Skyview Ln.....\$629,900.....Sun 1-4.....Lisa Schlichtig.....Weichert..609-495-5923  
10026 Eastlake Dr.....\$525,000.....Sun 1-4.....Mary & Cathy.....Long & Foster..703-946-1775  
4098 Orchard Dr.....\$924,900.....Sun 1-4.....Bob Dooley.....Samson Proprs..703-625-9159  
4874 Wheatstone Dr.....\$499,000.....Sun 1-4.....Mary & Cathy.....Long & Foster..703-946-1775  
5016 Wheatstone Dr.....\$499,000.....Sun 1-4.....Mary & Cathy.....Long & Foster..703-946-1775  
12210 Grassy Hill Ct.....\$419,900.....Sun 1-4.....Faye Fava.....Samson Proprs..703-608-7897  
4127 Point Hollow Ln.....\$450,000.....Sun 1-4.....Athena Keifer.....Weichert..866-374-5110

### Falls Church

6343 Crosswoods Dr.....\$975,000.....Sun 1-4.....Dallison Veach.....RE/MAX..703-477-7920

### Kingstowne/Alexandria

4515 Tipton Ln.....\$419,900.....Sat 1-4.....Lori Conerly.....Weichert..703-909-4276  
4700 Care Dr.....\$449,990.....Sat 1-4.....Brittany Camacho.....Century 21..703-599-2748  
6444 Gildar St.....\$364,900.....Sun 1-4.....Anita Vida-D'Antonio.....Long & Foster..703-683-0400  
6517 Carriage Dr.....\$385,000.....Sun 1-4.....Meredith McCullough.....Coldwell Banker..703-780-8843  
5974 Manorview Way.....\$679,999.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207  
6549 Grange Ln. #401...\$319,950.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207  
7708L Haynes Pt. Way #9...\$283,972.....Sun 1-3.....Linda Haer.....Coldwell Banker..703-340-2936

### Manassas

10210 Leatherleaf Ct.....\$639,990.....Sun 1-4.....Marguerite Roland.....RE/MAX..703-577-4538

### Springfield

6711 Victoria Rd.....\$399,000.....Sun 12-4.....Melody Browne.....Keller Williams..202-681-4101  
8433 Thames St.....\$469,000.....Sun 1-4.....Susan Metcalf.....Avery-Hess..703-472-6512  
8801 Cromwell Dr.....\$459,000.....Sun 1-4.....Susan Metcalf.....Avery-Hess..703-472-6512  
8504 Grigsby.....\$560,000.....Sun 1-4.....Charlie Rose.....Long & Foster..703-452-3929  
7751 Middle Valley Dr.....\$550,000.....Sun 1-4.....Mary Jane Wernitznig.....Long & Foster..703-599-1070  
8301 Covington Woods Ct...\$819,900.....Sat 12-4.....Charter Wells.....Keller Williams..703-475-4704  
8305 Covington Woods Ct...\$819,900.....Sun 1-4.....Patrick Kessler.....Keller Williams..703-405-6540

### Vienna

2534 Babcock Rd.....\$939,900.....Sun 1-4.....Dan Mleziva.....RE/MAX..703-380-9915

### Woodbridge

15260 Chincoteague Ct.....\$399,900.....Sun 1:30-4.....Theodosia Dampier.....Weichert..703-919-2212

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Steve Hogan at 703-778-9418 or e-mail the info to [shogan@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:shogan@connectionnewspapers.com) All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.

# HOME SALES

In February 2012, 33 Burke homes sold between \$545,000-\$115,000.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
6614 SADDLEHORN CT	5	3	1	BURKE	\$545,000	Detached	0.30	22015	ORANGE HUNT WEST	
5973 BURNSIDE LANDING DR	4	3	1	BURKE	\$537,500	Detached	0.28	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
7121 STANCHION LN	4	2	1	BURKE	\$530,000	Detached	0.19	22015	LONGWOOD KNOLLS	
9327 RAIN TREE RD	4	3	0	BURKE	\$469,500	Detached	0.26	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK	
10183 MARSHALL POND RD	4	2	1	BURKE	\$465,000	Detached	0.15	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
9040 BROOK FORD RD	3	2	1	BURKE	\$440,000	Detached	0.25	22015	BURKE STATION SQUARE	
6360 TISBURY DR	3	2	2	BURKE	\$387,500	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BRITFORD	
5505 BEACONSFIELD CT	4	3	1	BURKE	\$379,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK	
6107 COVERED BRIDGE RD	5	2	0	BURKE	\$376,000	Detached	0.29	22015	CARDINAL GLEN	
5981 CLERKENWELL CT	3	2	2	BURKE	\$360,000	Townhouse	0.06	22015	CARDINAL GLEN	
6016 HEATHWICK CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	CARDINAL GLEN	
10214 ROBERTS COMMON LN	3	3	1	BURKE	\$334,900	Townhouse	0.05	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
6306 BUFFIE CT	3	3	1	BURKE	\$334,900	Townhouse	0.04	22015	OLD MILL COMMUNITY	
5503 SWIFT CURRENT CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$332,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	LAKEPOINTE	
10013 BEACON POND LN	3	3	1	BURKE	\$330,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
5642 SUTHERLAND CT	3	3	1	BURKE	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	CROWNLEIGH	
5603 STILLWATER CT	3	3	1	BURKE	\$321,900	Townhouse	0.03	22015	LAKEPOINTE	
9896 BURKE POND CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
5639 RAPID RUN CT	3	2	2	BURKE	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	LAKEPOINTE	
5800 APPLE WOOD LN	3	2	1	BURKE	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.05	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
10807 OAK WILDS CT	3	2	0	BURKE	\$300,000	Detached	0.15	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
9432 CLOVERDALE CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	OLD MILL COMMUNITY	
5840 WOOD POPPY CT	3	3	1	BURKE	\$289,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
10001 DOWNEYS WOOD CT	3	3	0	BURKE	\$287,000	Townhouse	0.09	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
6024 MEYERS LANDING CT	3	2	1	BURKE	\$281,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
6206 MOCKINGBIRD POND TER	3	2	1	BURKE	\$280,600	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
5017 HARFORD LN	3	2	1	BURKE	\$269,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK	
10388 BRIDGETOWN PL #127	4	3	0	BURKE	\$268,000	Townhouse	22015	OAKWOOD COMMONS BURKE		
10218 QUIET POND TER	3	2	1	BURKE	\$238,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	BURKE CENTRE	
5541 PEPPERCORN DR	3	1	1	BURKE	\$234,500	Townhouse	0.03	22015	GREENFIELD FARM	
9173 BROKEN OAK PL	3	2	1	BURKE	\$215,000	Townhouse	22015	KEENE MILL WOODS		
10320 LURIA COMMONS CT #2F	2	1	0	BURKE	\$119,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	22015	BURKE CENTRE STATION COMMONS		
10300 LURIA COMMONS CT #3H	2	1	0	BURKE	\$115,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	22015	BURKE CENTRE STATION		

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## FAITH NOTES

FROM PAGE 7

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

**Messiah United Methodist Church**, 6215 Rolling Road, Springfield, has Sunday Worship at 8:15 a.m., with Holy Communion every Sunday; and 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month. 703-569-9862 or [www.messiahumc.org](http://www.messiahumc.org).

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

## #1 Weichert Agent in Burke/Fairfax Station



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**Burke \$489,950**  
**Dramatic Sunroom**  
Lovely home w/ remodeled kit w/ island w/ gas cooktop, dramatic sunrm w/ vaulted clngs, patio, fenced yard, 4BR, 3 full BA, hrdwd flrs, oversized 2 car gar, MBA w/ new porcelain tile & granite cntrs, walkout bsmt w/ frplc, new carpet, fresh paint & walk to school.



**Fairfax Sta/South Run \$849,950**  
**Open Sunday 3/25 1-4**  
Premium .6 acres on cul-de-sac w/ screen porch, deck, lovely gardens & stone walls, 3 fin lvls w/ in-law suite w/ full kitchen, dual zone HVAC, updated eat-in kit w/ granite & SS appl, spacious fmlyrm w/ gas frplc & custom blt-ins, hrdwd flrs, 5BR, 3.5BA, walk to pool & more.



**Fairfax Sta/South Run \$874,950**  
**Backs to Parkland**  
Fabulous lot backing to parkland, dramatic Sunrm w/ Mexican tile & skylts, library w/ French drs, eat-in kit w/ granite, 5BR, 3.5BA, fin walkout bsmt w/ plenty of storage, elegant DR w/ bay window, hrdwd flrs, new quality windows, master suite w/ sitting rm & large walk-in closet & more.



**Burke/Longwood Knolls \$569,950**  
**Open Sunday 3/25 1-4**  
Immac home w/ 3000+ sq ft w/ large kit w/ island w/ granite cntrs, dramatic familyrm w/ vaulted clngs & skylts, recently fin bsmt, MBA w/ double sinks & sep tub & shower, deck, fenced yard, replaced roof, siding, a/c, some windows, garage drs & much more.



**Fairfax Sta/South Run \$784,950**  
**Gorgeous Remodeled Kitchen**  
Lovely home on premium flat 1/2 acre w/ fence, deck & patio, remod kit w/ Silestone, SS appl, glazed cabinets w/ slide out shelving, fabulous remod MBA w/ jetted tub & sep shower + granite cntrs, fmlyrm w/ gas frplc & custom blt-in, hrdwd flrs, replaced furnace, roof, siding, garage dr & more.

**Kathleen Quintarelli**  
**703-862-8808**



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# Serving Community

## National Women's History Month: Spotlight on Dr. Marcia Dake.



**Dr. Marcia Dake**

**L**ong-time Greenspring resident, Dr. Marcia Dake, is not only a woman significant to Greenspring's history, but also a significant contributor to the fields of nursing and education.

After completing nursing school, Dake spent 14 months as a U.S. Army nurse with a six-month tour of duty in Hawaii and Japan; she was stationed on a ship in Okinawa Harbor during the official V-J Day signing. After serving as an Army nurse, she spent several years as a public school nurse and as a college nurse. With the help of scholarships and the GI Bill, she completed her doctorate in education at Teachers College, Columbia University, and shortly thereafter became the very first Dean of the University of Kentucky's College of Nursing.

As Dean at the University of Kentucky from 1958-1971, Dake recruited faculty and performed public relation's duties for the College of Nursing, which opened in the fall of 1960. During National Nurses Week in 2011, she traveled to Kentucky and gave remarks at the College's 50th anniversary gala held in May. As part of the 50th Anniversary Scholarship Campaign, Dake made a gift to the College which became the Marcia A. Dake Undergraduate Nursing Scholarship, in honor of her niece who had recently received a master's degree in nursing.

After leaving the University of Kentucky, Dake worked for both the American Nurses Association and the American Red Cross. In 1978, Dake became the first Dean of the Department of Nursing at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va. Two years later, the Department admitted its very first Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) class and in 1991, established the Marcia Dake Nursing Scholarship. Dake remained at James Madison University until her retirement in 1988.

Ten years later, Dake moved into Greenspring retirement community from Sun City Center, Fla. in December of 1998, making her a pioneer of the community which opened that same year. Dake is a very active member of the Greenspring community; in 2008, she received the President's Lifetime Service Award for giving more than 4000 hours of volunteer service throughout her time at Greenspring. Many of those hours of service were spent as Vice President on the very first Resident Advisory Council at the community. Dake also was integral in the development of Channel 6, a closed-circuit television station located on campus which broadcasts throughout Greenspring. She helped to activate the first choral group at the community, now the Greenspring Chorister's, as well as the first resident newsletter, and the first resident photo directory. Additionally, Dake interviews and videotapes veterans living at the community for the Library of Congress' Veteran's History Project.

In observance of National Women's History Month, Greenspring will be celebrating Dr. Dake's many accomplishments on March 28 on Channel 6's "Village in Motion" daily live show.

### WEEK IN BURKE

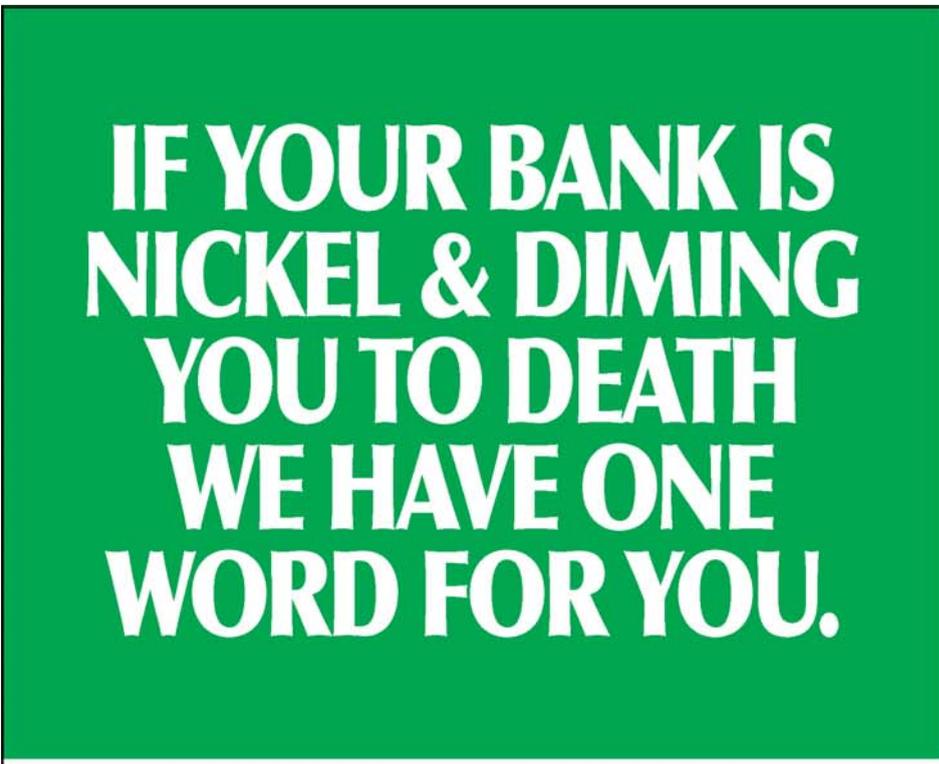
## Sex Assault in Burke

On Wednesday, March 14, around 10 p.m., a 24-year-old woman was sexually assaulted in a wooded area in the 9700 block of Commonwealth Boulevard.

The woman was walking in the area when she was grabbed from behind and dragged into a wooded area. The man threatened the victim with a knife or edged weapon and sexually assaulted her. The suspect was startled by a noise and fled the scene. The victim was then able to summon help.

The suspect was described as white, about 5 feet 7 inches and wearing a sweatshirt. His face was partially concealed.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, email at [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.



## WELCOME

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Minimum balance to waive monthly fees	\$0	\$1500 average daily balance or qualifying direct deposit of \$250+ per month	\$1500 average daily balance or qualifying direct deposit of \$250+ per month	\$500 minimum daily collected balance or \$100+ per month payroll direct deposit	\$1500 average per month or \$6,000 in various combined balance options or \$100+ in direct deposit per month or a mortgage
Monthly Fee	\$0	\$12	\$5 waived for first 60 days	\$7	\$10

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# A Wrong Way to Feel Cool

Area high school students discuss risky behaviors.

## Viewpoints

The Connection high school interns – **Nikki Cheshire** (Langley High), **Monika Bapna** (Marshall High) and **Mary Grace Oakes** (Madeira) – asked area high school students:

- ♦ What type of risky behaviors do you think pose the greatest risk?
- ♦ Are there certain activities that can lend themselves more to risky behavior because of the nature of the group?

Here are their responses.



**Sherwin Zahirieh, Grade: 12, Langley High School**

"People drive recklessly, risking their life, which can obviously result in disaster. People do all sorts of drugs and drink alcohol every weekend. Drunk driving definitely poses the greatest risk, since people think they're invincible."



**Meigan McManus, Grade: 12, Langley High School**

"I think something like drunk driving is especially risky. If a person is using drugs, it only really affects them, but drunk driving poses a highly dangerous situation toward other people."



**Adrienne Schmidt, Grade: 11, Langley High School**

"When parents aren't close with their child, they have the tendency to rebel. It depends on the person, but if you have a better relationship with your parents then risky behavior is less likely."



**Magne Bugten, Grade: 12, Langley High School**

"Parties outside of school-related activities, definitely cause risky behavior. I feel like people who don't do extracurriculars are more likely to party."

—NIKKI CHESHIRE



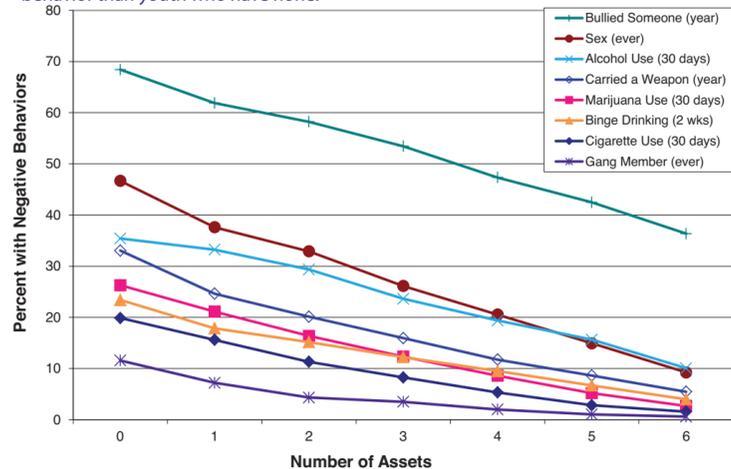
**Sam Kyung, Grade: 11, Marshall High School**

"The most risky behaviors in my opinion are drinking, and drinking and driving. Drinking and driving, though, poses the greater risk because it affects everybody."

SEE VIEWPOINT, PAGE 11

## Asset Graph for Fairfax County (Grades 8, 10, 12)

Three to Succeed: Youth who have three assets are less likely to engage in risky behavior than youth who have none.



High Personal Integrity  
Perform Community Service  
Teachers Recognize Good Work

Have Community Adults to Talk to  
Participate in Extracurricular Activities  
Parents are Available for Help

The 2010 Fairfax County Youth Survey shows how the presence of at least three "assets" can dramatically reduce the odds of students engaging in risky behaviors such as sex, drug abuse and violent behaviors. Six assets are: high personal integrity, performing community service, being recognized by teachers for good work, having adults in the community to talk to, participating in extracurricular activities and having parents available to help.

# Risky Behavior by the Numbers

Youth Survey highlights risks, assets for students.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

FIRST IN A THREE PART SERIES.

Periodically, Fairfax County conducts a youth survey which polls thousands of students to get a glimpse into issues of substance abuse, antisocial behaviors as well as factors such as mental health and civic engagements. This is the sixth year the survey has been conducted (the first was in 2001), and in the 2010 Fairfax County Youth Survey was completed by 32,953 students in eighth, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, representing 85.6 percent of enrolled students in those grades.

The survey was previously conducted in 2001, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Over time, more specific questions regarding risk factors and general health questions have been included. In 2008, the survey was administered in random English classrooms in every school, but in 2009 the county adopted a census-like approach, where all students in the targeted grades were encouraged to participate.

"For the last few years, we've conducted the survey every year, because it helps us learn about certain behaviors our youth are doing, and that's information we can use to plan our prevention efforts," said Marcus Allen of the county's Department of Neighborhood and Community Services. "The data shows us the way behaviors are trending and we use that for short and long-term planning."

Of the completed surveys, 2,554 were rejected due to fewer than eight questions answered, information

was missing, the student reported a use of a fictitious drug called BTM that was mentioned or a student answered "I was not honest at all" on the final question.

The survey itself consisted of 203 questions, which were derived from such sources as the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's Communities That Care Youth survey, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Survey and others.

A PRIMARY FOCUS of the 2010 survey was on "assets" by students, which, according to the survey are "strengths in young people, their families, schools and communities that help them thrive in health, in school and daily life and in a safe environment."

The county polled students on six of these: personal integrity, regular community service, recognition by teachers for good work, having adults to talk to, extracurricular activity participation and having parents available for help.

"We've found that the presence of three of these assets dramatically reduces the risk of these students engaging in risky behavior. It's simple really: the more assets they have, the less likely it is they're going to engage in these behaviors," Allen said. "It's not all negative, we want to make sure we're reinforcing how important these assets are, because it directly affects the likelihood of success."

For example, students with at least three assets are almost half as likely to have had sex, used marijuana in the last 30 days, binged on alcohol in the past two weeks, smoked a cigarette within the last 30 days or

joined a gang.

Other risky behaviors such as bullying someone, carrying a weapon and using alcohol within the last 30 days were also reduced by having at least three assets.

Extracurricular activities and civic involvement are two of the assets that students can control. According to the survey, 55.8 percent of students reported being involved in some sort of extracurricular activity once a week, while only 9.2 percent reported never having been involved in an extracurricular activity.

The survey also found that as grade level increases, so does the likelihood of a student getting involved in activities.

Many community groups use the survey to shape their programming and outreach efforts from year to year. Debbie Withey of the Safe Community Coalition, which hosts programs designed to raise awareness of issues mostly in the Langley and McLean high school pyramids, says it's a very useful tool to have.

"We look at trends to see what areas of risk are increasing, particularly in areas where the numbers are higher than the rest of the local community or the national average," she said. "We decided a few years ago that the survey was going to be our primary resource when it comes to programming. We feel like it's quantifiable, empirical data that is very helpful when trying to compare statistics with the rest of the county."

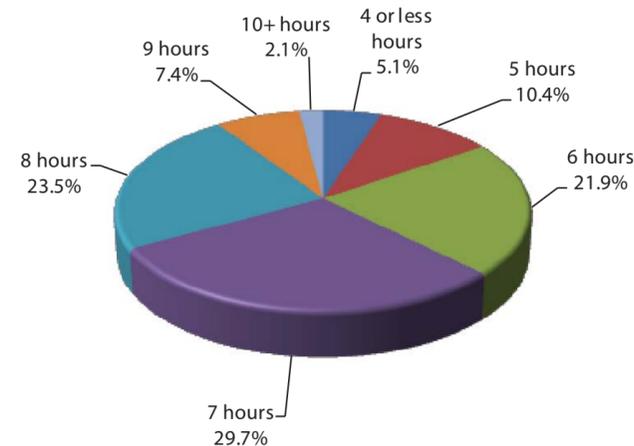
Withey also said that they make sure to keep the data in context.

"The survey isn't the be-all, end-all in terms of what we do, we also do exit surveys at all of our programs and make sure we're keeping in touch with teachers and administrators," she said.

The SCC recently hosted a forum covering all as-

## Hours of Sleep per School Night (Grades 8, 10, 12)

### Fairfax County



CONTRIBUTED

## Viewpoints



**Nick Nelson, Grade: 11, Marshall High School**

"Fatigue, I think, is the biggest problem with teens these days. When students drive to school, for example, it can lead to so many accidents in the morning if they are tired."

"Procrastination, extracurricular activities, and all the things that teenagers have to do these days causes fatigue."



**Joey Phoon, Grade: 11, Marshall High School**

"Teenage parties are where most kids get access to these things, so any events that have a lot of teenagers together and no parent supervision lend themselves to alcohol and drug use."

—MONIKA BAPNA



**Annie Wattenmaker, Grade: 12, The Madeira School**

"The most common risky behavior is drinking and driving. So many kids in this area drink and drive all the time without thinking of the risks."



**Kristen Bilowus, Grade: 12, The Madeira School**

"I think DUIs pose the greatest risk to kids because so many deaths are caused by this every year, and the legal repercussions are so severe."



**Makenzie Parent, Grade: 12, The Madeira School**

"Binge drinking is probably the most dangerous behavior because it can easily and rapidly get out of hand, causing hospitalizations."

"I think when there is a big group involved, that group mentality creates more peer pressure, so kids might feel forced to do something they would not if they were just with a small group of friends."



**Jennifer Oler, Grade: 12, McLean High School**

"I think drunk driving definitely poses the greatest risk because you're not only putting yourself in danger but everyone else driving then too."

"When there is a larger group of people, teenagers tend to do stupid things that they most likely wouldn't do if they were by themselves or just with a couple of people."

—MARY GRACE OAKES

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Students from Westgate Elementary School in Falls Church joined members of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra for the “Overture to Orchestra” program. The program introduces elementary school students to the instruments and sounds of a symphony orchestra. Students (from left): Aidan Ordovery, Agnes Holmberg, Adam Haizoun, Matteo Betancourt, Katrina Maranon, Tharini Vayuvegula and Yusra Adan. FSO members (from left): Ashley Batten, narrator; Eric Moore, horn; Paul Johnson, trumpet; Mike Bunn, tuba; Andrew Skaggs, trombone; Chris Ferrari, trumpet.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MCLEAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Oboist Elise Favia plays a solo during a McLean Youth Orchestra concert. Experts say playing music can develop analytical thinking and boost reading and math skills.

# Does Music Make Children Smarter?

**During Music In Our Schools Month, musicians raise awareness of the impact of music education on the lives of students.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Can playing the piano strengthen a child’s reading and math skills? Can joining a school band be a catalyst for building self-confidence? Does one develop strong analytical abilities by taking violin lessons? Some music experts say yes.

“Every minute that you’re engaged in music, you’re applying more than one concept or one knowledge,” said Dr. Kevin Strogher, Head of Music at The Heights School in Potomac. “Music develops analytical thinking because it requires students to be creative. They don’t just regurgitate memorized facts. They have to apply those facts.”

March is Music in Our Schools Month and some music aficionados are trying to raise awareness about impact of music education on the lives of students. The National Association of Music Education in Reston cites a strong body of evidence which shows that participation in musical activities can enhance a student’s education. “For today’s



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Helen Fall of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra mentors students from the Sandburg Area Orchestra. Experts say students can benefit from exposure to professional musicians through educational programs sponsored by local symphony orchestras.

## Considering Private Music Lessons?

### When should students start taking music lessons?

Between the ages of 5 and 6 for piano. Between the ages of nine and ten for wind instruments or band instruments because students have to have the lung capacity and the finger stretch to perform on the instrument.

### What is a good first step?

The piano is a great instrument to start on because it plays in every key and gives students a deep understanding of musical harmony and how music works in terms of cords, melody and harmony.

— HOLLY VESILIND,

MUSIC INSTRUCTOR AT WESTGATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## McLean Youth Orchestra

The McLean Youth Orchestra presents MYO Rocks! Sunday, March 25 at 3 p.m. at Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road in McLean. Admission is \$10 (free admission for children under 13). Visit <http://mcleanyouthorchestra.org>.

students to succeed tomorrow, they need a comprehensive education that includes music taught by exemplary music educators,” said Elizabeth Lasko, Assistant Executive Director, NAME. “Music In Our Schools Month gives music teachers the chance to...let everyone know how learning music benefits kids, and how it contributes to their growth and development both as students and as future adult citizens.”

Instructors say playing music can boost brain power. “Music helps build and develop cognitive skills because you have to do three or four things at the same time to perform music,” said Holly Vesilind, music instructor at Westgate Elementary School in Falls Church and a private flute instructor in Fairfax. “It builds math skills because it involves counting and fractions.

Experts say music activities can affect social development. “Music ensembles work much like team sports, students learn the necessity of teamwork and collaboration,” said Dr. James Criswell, director of the Middle School advanced band and Upper School wind ensemble and orchestra at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School in Alexandria.

Strogher dispels the notion that the discipline attracts social misfits. “It is not just the choir geeks or the band nerds,” he said. “When [The Heights Men’s Chorus] was

SEE MUSIC, PAGE 13

# Music in Our Schools Enhances Education

FROM PAGE 12

performing in Austria recently, we had the [school's] best lacrosse player with us, we had baseball players, basketball players. In fact, most of our top athletes are also in the music program. It is actually a cool thing to be in music."

So, what do students think? "Music allows people from different social groups to bond and come together over a common interest," said Connor Ortman, a sophomore at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes.

"Regardless of a student's level, participation in music education teaches the importance of teamwork and collaboration as a group as well as individual discipline and preparation, much like athletics," added St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School sophomore Kathryn Cavallo.

**EXPERTS SAY** early musical experiences benefit even the youngest musicians. "We focus on experiences, the process and overall music making through movement, singing and instrument playing," said Julie Mueller, a music teacher at Arlington's Jamestown Elementary School.

Earlier this month, the Jamestown Elementary School chorus joined other student choral groups from around the world

for the "Concert for Music in Our School's Month," an annual musical experience sponsored by The National Association of Music Education. "Events like these are wonderful opportunities to encourage the students to develop their musical abilities and to be part of activities with musicians from all over," said Dr. Maritza Sadowsky, a music teacher at Jamestown.

Music educators want musical interest to extend beyond a month-long effort. "We hope that because of advocacy efforts such as [Music in Our School's Month]...that parents will encourage their children to get and stay involved in music," said Lasko.

One means of involvement say educators is exposure to professional musicians through educational programs sponsored by local symphony orchestras. "Having been a school strings and band teacher, myself, I understand how the voices of professional musicians who come into the classroom can reinforce the instruction the teachers give," said Helen Fall, a Fairfax Symphony Orchestra Violist.

Hall and other FSO members mentor students as part of programs like Symphony Creating Outreach Resources for Educators (SCORE) and Overture to Orchestra. Overture to Orchestra is designed to introduce elementary school students to the instru-

ments and sounds of a symphony orchestra through in-school concerts performed by chamber ensembles from the FSO. The SCORE program offers extensive master classes, individual sectional instruction, and "side-by-side" rehearsals to middle and high school bands and orchestras.

"The students are always excited to have us come. They feel they are getting extra special attention, and having a pro on every instrument makes them all feel important," said Fall who teaches violin and viola in her home studio in Fairfax.

The FSO allows students ages 6-18 to join the Student Passport Club where members get \$5 tickets to symphony performances. Young music enthusiasts also have an opportunity to play symphonic instruments and meet members of the orchestra.

"The FSO concentrates on providing its programs to areas where students have limited access to private music instruction or consistent support for their music studies in the home," said Elizabeth Murphy, FSO President and CEO. "These are the students who will benefit most from one-on-one exposure to the instruments and professional musicians."

**OFFICIALS FROM THE MCLEAN ORCHESTRA** created the McLean Youth Or-

chestra (MYO) to cultivate the talent of musically advanced middle and high school students. "MYO students not only learn to read and play music better, but working with our conductors and section coaches, they also learn the discipline, team work, self-reliance and confidence required to be an effective ensemble member," said Aileen Pisciotta, President-Elect of the McLean Orchestra.

On Sunday, March 25, MYO musicians will present MYO Rocks! "This is [the orchestra's] first-ever 'fusion' concert," said Pisciotta. "The students will perform a couple of classical selections as well as accompany accomplished rock musicians on some current as well as classic rock favorites. This is an MYO outreach effort intended to be a really fun exposure to symphony music for teens who don't normally go to classical concerts."

MYO oboist and Vienna resident Elise Favia, believes the concert will be a hit with her peers. "I am really big on modern songs," said Favia, who is a 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Student at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria. "I actually don't like classical music as much as I do the others, but classical music on the oboe is fun because the oboe is used a lot."

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.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

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## CALENDAR

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

### FRIDAY/MARCH 23

**Virginia Opera: The Mikado.** 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Gilbert and Sullivan's masterpiece, set in the fictional Japanese town of Tiputu. Sung in English with English supertitles. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu).

**Bonita Lestina Performance Series: Southern Maryland Chamber Music Society.** 8 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Classic to Celtic, with flute, piano and violin. Free admission. 703-352-2787 or [www.fairfaxarts.org](http://www.fairfaxarts.org).

**Used Book Sale.** 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Geshher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. 703-978-9789.

**The Second City: Laugh Out Loud.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Comedy. \$24. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Kite Flying.** 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories, songs and activities about kites. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

**Friday Friend's Book Club.** 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Read and discuss The Omnivore's Dilemma: the secrets behind what you eat (Young Readers Edition) by Michael Pollan. Age 8-12. 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.

**Derek Webb and Sandra McCracken.** 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Piano Duo Teresa Tedder and Joanna Ximenes.** 7:30 p.m. Fairfax Presbyterian Church, 10723 Main St., Fairfax. "Piano Four Hands," including music by European masters as well as American, Brazilian and women composers. Reception to follow. Free, donations accepted. 703-273-5300 or [music@fairfaxpresby.com](mailto:music@fairfaxpresby.com).

### SATURDAY/MARCH 24

**Fairfax County Mega Job Fair.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. This year's event includes a training vouchers program for veterans to enhance their job skills, a section for youth employment services plus recruiters from a wide variety of employers and government agencies. Co-hosted by Congressman Gerry Connolly, the Fairfax County SkillSource Centers and Business Development Assistance Group. Participating employers, business resources partners, and program agenda at [fairfaxmegajobfair.com](http://fairfaxmegajobfair.com).

**Cutest Dog Contest.** 12-3 p.m. Whole Foods Market, 8402 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. \$10 entry fee includes dog photographs and doggie bags. 703-644-2500 or [Janelle.Cesari@wholefoods.com](mailto:Janelle.Cesari@wholefoods.com).

**The Union Army Comes to Fairfax Court House.** 12-4 p.m. Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Reenactor Patrick Dunigan will deliver McClellan's March 14, 1862 address after Union troops took control of the county. With historian Burrus Carnahan on McClellan's military skills, and historian Rodney Leith on Private Warren Lee Goss, one of the soldiers who left his signature on the walls of Blenheim

House. Free. 703-591-0560.

**Microsoft PowerPoint.** 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. How to put together a presentation using Microsoft PowerPoint. Adults. 703-293-6227.

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

**Meet Fantasy Author Michael Sullivan.** 2 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Fantasy writer Michael Sullivan will discuss his books, the creative process and how technology is changing publishing and reading. Q&A session and book signing. Teens and adults. 703-978-5600.

**Dancing with Dominic.** 4-9 p.m. Kena Temple, Anek Building, 9001 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. A family-friendly dinner/dance fundraiser to raise awareness of Hunter Syndrome, an incurable rare genetic disorder. Proceeds benefit the National MPS Society for medical research and awareness programs. Door prizes, children's activities and more. Adults \$35, children free. [www.dancingwithdominic.webs.com](http://www.dancingwithdominic.webs.com), [jenelia88@hotmail.com](mailto:jenelia88@hotmail.com) or 240-375-9629.

**Animal Lovers Event.** 1-4 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Brochures, books, magazines and more about animals, pets and wildlife. 703-631-2929 or 571-356-1967.

**Northern Virginia Housing Expo.** 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Washington-Lee High School, 1301 North Stafford St., Arlington. Showcasing homeownership and rental opportunities and resources throughout Northern Virginia. Free. [www.NoVaHousingExpo.org](http://www.NoVaHousingExpo.org).

**Children's Shows: Ralph's World.** 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Chris Ayer, Matt Simons and Adam Barnes** at 7 p.m.; **Adrenaline Dance Music Party** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Harlem Globetrotters.** 7:30 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets available at [www.harlemglobetrotters.com](http://www.harlemglobetrotters.com) or 1-800-745-3000.

**DC/VA 2012 MDA Muscle Walk.** 8 a.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Help raise funds to fight muscular dystrophy, ALS and related muscle diseases. Register at 703-476-5780 or [musclewalkmda.org/DCVirginia](http://musclewalkmda.org/DCVirginia).

### SUNDAY/MARCH 25

**Virginia Opera: The Mikado.** 2 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Gilbert and Sullivan's masterpiece, set in the fictional Japanese town of Tiputu. Sung in English with English supertitles. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu).

**Car Care Clinic for Teen Drivers.** 1 p.m. Main Street Shell, 9956 Main St., Fairfax. Topics include: How and when to check fluids, how to check air pressure and tread on tires, how to change a flat tire, jump-start a battery and more. Free. 703-391-8155 or [www.vatire.com/teenclinic](http://www.vatire.com/teenclinic).

**Used Book Sale.** 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Geshher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. All books \$5 per bag. 703-978-9789.

**Merrifield Lions Club Snow Crab Legs and Shrimp Feast.** 1-4 p.m. Dunn Loring Fire Department, 2148 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. All you

can eat crab, shrimp, hot dogs, baked beans, cole slaw and more. Beer available. Adults \$35-\$37, ages 5-11 \$13. 703-573-2733 or [www.merrifieldlions.com](http://www.merrifieldlions.com).

**Arlington Rose Foundation Pruning Lecture and Demonstration.** 2 p.m. In the Von Herbulis gardens, 10510 Oak Place, Fairfax, VA. Bring clippers for cleaning and sharpening. Bill Blevins, Consulting Rosarian, will demonstrate pruning techniques. Free. 703-371-9351.

**Oberlin College Conservatory of Music Concert.** 7:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Violinist Zou Yu and pianist Shuyi Guan perform Sonata in D minor by Debussy and Valse Scherzo, Op. 34 by Tchaikovsky. Violinists Dorothea Chatzigeorgiou and Yuri Popowycz, violists Batmyagmar Erdenebat and Aaron Mossburg, and cellist Zizai Ning perform String Quintet No.2 G Major, Op.111 by Brahms. Free. 703-842-3156.

**This Century, The Getaways and Foreverisforever** at 2 p.m.; **A Tribute to the Rolling Stones on their 50th Anniversary with Anthony Fiacco, Luke Brindley, Todd Wright and Michael Pearsall** at 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Harlem Globetrotters.** 2 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets available at [harlemglobetrotters.com](http://harlemglobetrotters.com) or 1-800-745-3000.

**International Good Deeds Day.** 1-4 p.m. Geshher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Participate in projects to benefit animal shelters, nature centers, Koshers Troops, hospitalized children and more. Bring a non-perishable Passover food item. The Mama Doni Band performs at 2 p.m. 703-962-9216 or [dmendelson@gesher-jds.org](mailto:dmendelson@gesher-jds.org).

**Everyday Life Behind the Lines in 1860-61: Baltimore, Washington, Fairfax.** 2 p.m. Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Featuring Lloyce Ann West. [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov).

**"Bunny Paws" Pet Photography.** 9-10 a.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Pet photos with the Easter Bunny. Owners with pets will be able to access the mall only from the lower level south east entrance. All pets must be on a leash or in a pet carrier with a harness. Dogs and cats' shots must be up-to-date and owners will be responsible for their pets at all times. 703-359-8300 or [www.ShopFairOaksMall.com](http://www.ShopFairOaksMall.com).

### MONDAY/MARCH 26

**Tales to Tails.** 4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Read aloud to Beamer, a trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. 703-293-6227.

**Paws to Read.** 4 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice reading with Grace, a trained therapy dog. Register for a 15-minute session. Age 6-12 with adult. 703-978-5600.

**Inova Blood Drive.** 2-7 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Photo ID required. Appointments preferred, call 1-866-256-6372. Adults. 703-644-7333.

**No Blitz, Aside Oceans, The Red Letter and Me and This Army.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### TUESDAY/MARCH 27

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227.

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# Ryan Remembered

FROM PAGE 3

Don Dillon. "Ryan was doing great and was only going back once a year for follow-ups."

Then in March 2009, doctors discovered the cancer had spread to both lungs. More chemo and surgery followed, preventing Ryan from further participation in contact sports. In January 2010, he was in remission – until June 2011, when doctors noticed a tumor had returned to his right lung.

"Surgery was scheduled for July, but the doctors could only remove 50 percent of it because part was too close to the esophagus and diaphragm and they didn't want to risk any damage," said Hallie Dillon. "Radiation wasn't an option because of its location, and the chemo dosage he'd need would have been too strong for his body to tolerate."

**DOCTORS DETERMINED** a lower dosage Ryan could take but, said his father, "At that point, the clock was ticking. We started doing all we could to prolong his life and keep him comfortable. He couldn't go to school, but could go to movies with friends and dinners out with the family."

Ryan could also travel, so he and his family visited relatives at the beach in New Jersey. And because he was such a big Harry Potter fan, in November 2011, his parents took him to Universal Studios in Florida to see the Wizarding World of Harry Potter.

Still, said Don Dillon, "His body was starting to shut down and we knew it was time. In September, they'd only given him two months to live; and in October, we told his brothers and sisters that eventually the cancer would take his life. But Ryan didn't give up; he kept fighting 'til the end."

"You don't ever come to grips with it," said his mother. "You just hold onto your faith and continue to have hope. It was important for us to keep positive for Ryan's benefit and peace of mind. I didn't want it to be frightening for him. My father passed away, as did my grandparents and uncles, so Ryan always knew there were angels looking out for him and for all of us."

Describing Ryan as kind, gentle and happy, his father said, "He was always smiling and always had a little joke or story to share about his family. Ryan didn't have a want or need that wasn't met by the community; people visited him, gave him hockey, baseball and football tickets and brought meals to the house."

Dillon said his son's death still hasn't sunken in. "It doesn't feel final, yet, that he's not home with us," he said. "But we have no regrets. We know we tried everything we could, and we know he had a happy life. We feel fortunate to have had the time we did with him. There are so many things he taught us, especially the importance of family. You have to love and take care of each other because, one day, you may not be here."

**RYAN'S MOTHER** said he taught her to never lose hope. "You live life to its fullest and find the positive in everything," she said. "Even though Ryan's gone, we know he's cancer-free and no longer in pain. So that's got to be better for him – although it's not better for us. And he'll always live on in our hearts and in our thoughts."

"When we look around, we see things that remind us of him, and that's OK," she continued. "The kids need to see us grieve because that gives them permission to grieve, too, show their feelings and feel good about talking about Ryan. And if it makes us cry or smile, that's OK."

# Eleven Students Receive Peace Awards

Eleven recipients of a Student Peace Award of Fairfax County were selected by their schools to be recognized for their contributions to peace or conflict resolution, whether in their schools, their communities, or the greater world.

The awardees were honored at a reception at the Pennino Building on March 4. The guest speaker was Michael Beer, Executive Director of Nonviolence International since 1998.

Recipients from our area include:

❖ Yon (Daniel) Jang, senior at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. Daniel, born in Korea, was one of the authors of the book *Lost Family* which describes the experiences of families torn apart by the Korean War. Through Voice of Divided Korean Families (VODKF), which he co-founded, Daniel has led numerous awareness campaigns to promote the reunion of Korean-Americans with their families in North Korea.

❖ Mary Frances, senior at Paul VI Catholic High School, is a member of the Student Government Executive Board. She works for peace and unity by encouraging students to become involved, and she promoted teamwork as captain of the Junior Varsity Lacrosse team. Through her church's Sunday School program, she introduces four year olds to conflict resolution.

❖ Abrar Omeish, of the Robinson Secondary, is a supporter of "Arab Spring" and traveled to Tunisia to aid Libyan refugees. She is active in the Interfaith Youth Action Group, and she gave a Unity Speech at the 2010 9/11 Unity Walk. She



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Front row: Sarah Haug, David Tannenbaum, Daniel Jang; Back row: Mariam Ebadi, Chris McDuffie, Sarah Michelle Khaliq, Franck Simo, Mary Frances Roll, Abrar Omeish.**

is a member of the Fairfax County Human Rights Commission, and she founded MSA at her school — an interfaith group that works to bridge religious and cultural differences. She was invited to the White House and given an opportunity to speak on a panel at a Congressional Summit. She has published several works and was featured in *The Washington Post*, *LIFE Magazine*, and *Bisnow Media*.

❖ David Tannenbaum, of W.T. Woodson High School, used his own money and effort to assist the people of Darfur by serving as an intern with the Save Darfur Coalition, writing a blog to help illuminate the Darfurese plight, and forming Woodson4Darfur — a club dedicated to raising funds for the people of Darfur and promoting awareness in the school community.

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Community Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 A.M.  
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**28 Yard Sales**

**Yard Sale** - 8:00 am to 2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 24, Atherstone Court in Burke.  
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**21 Announcements**

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\* The deadline to register to vote in the City of Fairfax May 1st General Election is Monday, April 9, 2012. You may register at the Sisson House, 10455 Armstrong Street during normal business hours of 8:30am - 5pm.

**21 Announcements**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Notice to creditors and debtors of Julius Rodriguez. Durwin Rodriguez as executor of estate of Julius Rodriguez. Late of 8201 Crossbrook Ct. Lorton VA 22079.  
The undersigned does hereby notify all person firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased. To exhibit them to the undersigned at 5012 PO box Galt CA 95624.

**21 Announcements**

**21 Announcements**

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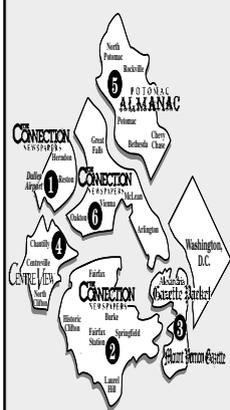
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**21 Announcements**

**Public Notice – Environmental Permit**

Purpose of notice: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the filling of wetlands and streams for the improvement and realignment of Lorton Road (Route 642) and Furnace Road (Route 611) in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Public comment period: For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper: MONTH DAY, YEAR to MONTH DAY, YEAR

Permit name: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

applicant Name, address and permit number: Fairfax County Department of Transportation, 4050 Legato Road, Suite 400, Fairfax, Virginia 22032; VWPP No. 11-1460

Project description: Fairfax County Department of Transportation has applied for a new permit for the Lorton Road widening project which consists of improvements and widening to 2.8 miles of Furnace Road and Lorton Road. The project site is located along both sides of Lorton Road (Route 642) from its intersection with Ox Road (Route 123) to Silverbrook Road (Route 600), and along Furnace Road (Route 611) from its intersection with Lorton Road to Ox Road in Fairfax County. The permit would affect approximately 1.34 acres (2,927 linear feet) of surface waters, consisting of permanent impacts to 0.92 acre of palustrine forested wetland and 0.30 acre (2,313 linear feet) of stream channel, and temporary impacts to 0.12 acre (614 linear feet) of stream channel. The activity proposed in the permit will affect Giles Run and unnamed tributaries to Giles Run in the Potomac River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. To compensate for the affected area, the applicant will purchase 1.84 wetland credits from the Loudoun County Wetlands and Stream Restoration Bank and 5,304 stream condition units from the Northern Virginia Stream Restoration Bank. DEQ's preliminary decision is to approve the permit.

**HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING:** DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

Contact for public comments, document requests and additional information: Margaret Quigley; Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, Virginia 22193; Phone: (703) 583-3892; E-mail: [Margaret.Quigley@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Margaret.Quigley@deq.virginia.gov); Fax: (703) 583-3821. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed below.

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# Exciting All-Star Afternoon

Concorde/Patriot All-Stars beat the Liberty/National team 109-108 in overtime.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**B**ryant Fultz wasn't among the top performers in the dunk contest during NVABBC all-star festivities on March 17, but the West Potomac senior made his mark during the main event.

Fultz threw down a fourth-quarter alley-oop dunk from fellow Wolverine Randall Brobbey, scored a team-high 15 points and earned game MVP honors as the Concorde/Patriot All-Stars defeated the Liberty/National team 109-108 in overtime at Wakefield High School. The all-star game featured some of the top players from the Northern Region, and matched a team composed of athletes from the Concorde and Patriot districts against players from the Liberty and National districts.

"With the dunk contest, it was really hard because I'm not really a trick dunker," Fultz said. "I'm more of a go-up-and-do-it kind of guy."

Fultz made up for any lack of flair in his dunk-contest performance. With the Concorde/Patriot squad leading by four late in regulation, Brobbey threw an alley-oop pass off the backboard, which Fultz slammed home for a 99-93 advantage.

"In practice," Fultz said, "we do it all the time for fun."

After the 3-point shootout, South County's Oren Burks held off Lake Braddock's Tyler Snow to win the dunk contest. Jumping over a human prop became the unofficial theme of the event. T.C. Williams' T.J. Huggins was one of the first to attempt the maneuver, leaping over fellow Titan Jordan Byrd, who stands 6 feet.

"It was his idea at the last minute," Byrd said. "I was just supposed to throw the [alley-oop]. He missed it a couple times and then at that time he just changed it and said, 'Can I dunk over you?' I said, 'Go ahead, I'll give it a try, but you better not hurt me.'"

**THE ALL-STAR GAME** provided an exciting end to the afternoon. The Liberty/National team overcame an 11-point second-half deficit to force overtime and held a one-point lead late in the extra period. But after allowing the go-ahead bucket to Hayfield's Nate McShay of the Liberty/National team, Huggins, the region Player of the Year, drove to the rim and scored the game-winner for the Concorde/Patriot team.

The Concorde/Patriot All-Stars, led by Woodson head coach Doug Craig, featured a balanced scoring attack. South County's Marquice Johnson and Westfield's Quentin Basil each scored 11 points, and Lake Braddock's Snow had 10. Centerville's Evan Fuller and Robinson's Robert Pillow each tallied nine points, while Huggins added eight.

Johnson, a rebounding force for the Stallions, said it took some time to settle into a rhythm while playing with athletes from other schools, but the teams



**Robinson's Robert Pillow scored nine points for the Concorde/Patriot All-Stars during the NVABBC all-star game on March 17 at Wakefield High School.**



**Hayfield's Nate McShay led the Liberty/National All-Stars with 20 points at the NVABBC all-star game on March 17 at Wakefield High School.**

eventually found a groove. He also said there was a relaxed approach in terms of competition, but that didn't stop hip from hustling.

Chantilly's Brady Caslavka (7 points), Robinson's Tristian Crenshaw (7), T.C. Williams' Byrd (6), Centerville's Robert Coker (5) and Lake Braddock's Brendan McHale (2) also competed for the Concorde/Patriot team.

Edison head coach Terry Henderson led the Liberty/National All-Stars. Henderson received a good-natured ribbing for calling a timeout in the closing seconds of the first half to design a play for Langley's Daniel Dixon. The play worked, as Dixon buried a 25-foot 3-pointer at the buzzer to give his team a 49-48 halftime lead.

"It's fun. You get some talent you don't normally have," Henderson said. "It's kind of like coaching at a private school or something. You've got your shooters, you've got big men [and] you've got ball handlers. I was like a kid in a candy store; I didn't know what to do and what to call."

Dixon, who also had the ball in his hands near the end of regulation and overtime, said he enjoyed having opportunities during crunch time.

The play prior to halftime "was drawn up to get me the ball, but probably in a different spot than near half-court," Dixon said. "But I just pulled it from there."

Hayfield's McShay led the Liberty/National team with 20 points. Dixon scored 17 points, South Lakes' J.D. Wallace finished with 15 and McLean's Gordon Rogo added 11.

Edison's Tyrone Mackall (9), Wakefield's Justin Glenn (8) and Corey Aldrich (5), McLean's Sango Amolo (7) and Thomas Van Wazer (6), South Lakes' Jordan Francis (4), Langley's Joey Robinson (4) and Marshall's Latrell Watkins (2) also competed.

Wakefield head coach Tony Bentley hosted the festivities for the third consecutive year. He said the all-star game was the best it has been and he enjoyed watching his players — Glenn and Aldrich — participate.

## Game Reports Wanted

Coaches, team managers/parents - Please send high school team game results to sports editor Rich Sanders at richsand8@aol.com, or contact him on twitter at richsand8. In game reports, please include date and place of game, game highlights, team win-loss record, and any other newsworthy items. Photos are also accepted.



PHOTO/COURTESY OF SYC STORM WHITE

**The SYC Storm White U-12 girls' soccer team captured first place in the Premier Division at the Arlington Invitational Spring Soccer Tournament March 10-11.**

## SPORTS ROUNDUPS

**The Springfield Youth Club (SYC) Storm White girls' soccer team** kicked off their spring season with a resounding win at the highly competitive Arlington Invitational Spring Soccer Tournament, held March 10-11 in Arlington. Competing in the 11 versus 11 Premier Division, Storm White reached the 12-under finals where it defeated Arlington Chaos Red, 4-0, in the title game.

"We are very proud of the Storm players in their first 11 versus 11 tournament," said head coach Mark Heilbrun. "They showed great athleticism, skill and hard work, and brought a great deal of joy to these games. This provides a great foundation for the future for Storm White."

Storm White, under the guidance of coach Heilbrun, receives additional training from Gayle Smith Wilson.

The SYC Storm White also won an even bigger tournament this past weekend (March 16-17) - The Jefferson Cup in Richmond.

Storm White is generously sponsored by local businesses Kay Jennings Springfield Toyota; Mannix Heating and Cooling; Peter K. Cocolis, Jr., DMD, Family and Cosmetic Dentistry; Elhady Orthodontics; and Glory Days Grill. The team is part of the Springfield/South County Youth Club in the Washington Area Girls Soccer (WAGS) League. Team members come from throughout Northern Virginia, including Fairfax Station, Lorton, Alexandria, Burke and Centerville.

**The Reston Raiders PeeWee AA Blue** youth ice hockey team has had a season of exceeding expectations.

Coached by Dave Regan, the locals amassed 24 points and put together an 11-7-2 record in the competitive CBHL. The Raiders' season will continue on as they were honored by a selection to represent Virginia at the 12-under U.S. National Championships, set to take place here at home (Ashburn and Reston) from March 28 through April 1.

The tournament will consist of 38 of the best Tier II teams in the U.S., including state champions from Florida to Connecticut and Vermont, as well as Alaska, California, and Arizona and others. All of the Reston Blue players are from Northern Virginia, including Vienna, Fairfax, Reston, McLean, Great Falls, and Prince William County. Local fans are encouraged to come out and support these local athletes as they play for a National title.

One member of the Reston Raiders team is Chris Weiss, son of nationally renowned figure skating star and former Olympian Michael Weiss. Michael grew up and trained in Fairfax and later trained in Reston. He, Chris and the rest of the Weiss family currently reside in McLean. Michael runs a foundation to support Olympic hopefuls.

**NoVa West Lacrosse** is now accepting registrations to try out for its 2012 Summer Select Teams. Tryouts will be held April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20 and 27, with teams being announced on May 28. NoVa West Lacrosse plays in the most competitive recruiting tournaments during the summer. It also has assembled an outstanding coaching staff. Register today for a tryout at [www.novawestlax.com](http://www.novawestlax.com)

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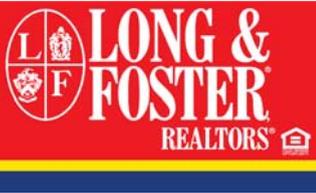


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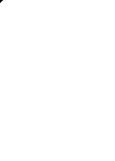


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