

Female Korean Veterans Honored At Greenspring News, Page 3

Home Life Style PAGE 10

Braddock Wins State Championship

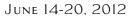
B

Sports, Page 17

Lake

Lake Braddock junior Thomas Rogers struck out 10 Kellam batters during a four-hit shutout in the Virginia AAA baseball state final on May 9 at Westfield High School.





A Father's

Factor

News, Page 2

THE COUNTY LINE



Social worker Calvin Robertson, with Fairfax County's Department of Family Services, teaches the Fathers in Touch class at South Gate Community Center in Reston. The 12-week program, a partnership with Fairfax County and the Capital Youth Empowerment Program (CYEP) in Alexandria, helps men become more engaged and loving fathers.

The Father Factor

Fairfax County's "Fathers In Touch" program teaches men how to be fathers.

By Victoria Ross The Connection

alvin Robertson slams his fist down on the table and barks instructions to the 11 fathers seated around the table at the South Gate Community Center in Reston.

A large black man with a booming voice, Robertson wants them get a sheet of paper and start writing. Now.

"Did you hear what I said? I'm not telling you twice. Let's go! I just told you what to

do," he yells, sounding like a drill sergeant. The men, ranging in age from 20 to 46, look startled.

Robertson takes a deep breath, pauses, and then asks in a quiet voice.

"Okay, so how did all that anger and rage make you feel?"

"It stresses us out, man," said one young father.

"It gets us in trouble," ventured another. "You say things you don't mean...," one man said quietly. "You hurt people you care for."

"Is it productive? I mean, imagine how a child feels when you talk like that," Robertson said.

THE MEN, who call Robertson "Mr. Calvin," are part of the Fairfax County's Fathers in Touch (FIT) program, a 12-week parenting class designed to develop committed, responsible fathers – men who are learning they can just as easily give their children a hug instead of a slap

In addition to the weekly two-hour sessions, the program includes three supervised visitation activities with children designed to promote strong relationships between fathers and their children.

"I know I'm successful when I see them 2 & Burke Connection & June 14-20, 2012

interacting with their children in positive way," Robertson said. "That's really the heart of this program. Watching these men show love and attention to their children."

Launched in 2010 through the Fairfax County's Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3) in partnership with the Department of Family Services, the FIT program was created by the Capital Youth Empowerment Program (CYEP) to address the "fatherless home epidemic prevalent in our society," according to CYEP literature.

Held three times a year throughout Fairfax County, the FIT program draws men from various walks of life, for many different reasons. Some men participate because they have to; a family court judge has mandated the program before they can visit their children again.

Some fathers are involved in vicious custody battles and want the FIT certificate to expand their custody and visitation rights. Some volunteer for the program because they want to be better fathers.

"I want my family back," said Joe Apkarian of Springfield, a 42-year-old father of three who, after serving a jail term, is fighting to regain custody of his young children from foster care. Apkarian has a 3-year-old biological daughter and two stepchildren. His goal is to show a judge that he is responsible and caring enough to raise all three together.

"This is for me to say I've done everything possible to get my kids back," Apkarian said. "My word is my promise, and I told my children I'd never let them be separated, but I had to hand my son over to a social worker when he was 9-months-old. You know how a lot of people say they wish they could win the lottery, win a million bucks? I don't care. I just want my kids back."

Marc Dixon of Reston, who has a 5-year-

<image>

Calvin Robertson (center), a social worker with Fairfax County's Department of Family Services, teaches the Fathers in Touch class at South Gate Community Center in Reston. He is standing with participants, from left, Marc Dixon of Reston, Jim Henson of Springfield, Joe Apkarian of Springfield and Mohamed Osman of Annandale.

About Fathers in Touch (FIT) Fatherhood Classes

From January 2010 to April 2012, 59 fathers with 120 children graduated from Fairfax County's FIT program.

Results of pre and post inventories completed by 2010 FIT graduates revealed:

94 percent of the fathers reported significant increases in positive involvement with their

old son, said he wanted to be a better father, and to show his son the love he rarely got from his own father. "My son means the world to me. I want him to know that I'm here for him," Dixon said.

Robertson, who was a probation officer before becoming a social worker, is also a single father of three daughters. "I can relate to these guys. I know how stressful it gets, but I try to teach them how to calm down, and to listen and to see things from a child's perspective," Robertson said. "With three daughters, you can bet I'm a good listener."

BEFORE EACH SESSION, Robertson calls the fathers several times to establish a rapport with them, and to make sure they are committed to the program.

He said each session addresses a theme, such as male stereotypes, self-esteem or anger management. But the first session always tackles the biggest elephant in the room: the men's relationship – or lack of relationship – with their own fathers.

"Sometimes there are tears, and a lot of pain, when we explore that relationship," Robertson said. "Many of the men have to overcome what they've been taught, 'don't show emotion,' 'only girls cry,' 'a man can't show weakness.""

Robertson said some of the men come from abusive homes or homes where the father was absent, so they have no role models.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 24

children over a 12-week period.
100 percent reported significant improvements in their perception of their role as fathers (i.e., improvement in at least two of four areas: investment, integration, competence, satisfaction).

For more information on FIT, go to www.cyep.org

million children in America, about one in three, lived apart from their biological fathers in 2009, up from 11 percent in 1967. For African-American children, the figure was 64 percent in 2009.

Research from the National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) has demonstrated father absence has a negative impact on many areas of a child's life, including crime, teen pregnancy, child abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, education, and childhood obesity.

The NFI also reported that adolescents who have lived apart from one of their parents at some point in their childhood are twice as likely to drop out of high school, twice as likely to have a child before age 20 and 1.5 times as likely to be out of school or work by their late teens or early 20s.

Acknowledging the critical role fathers' play in a child's life, President Barack Obama asked U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder to create a "Fathering Re-Entry Court" that would help fathers leaving prison get jobs and services they need to start making child support payments and reconnecting with families.

"Our children don't need us to be superheroes," Obama said, when he announced the program in 2011. "They don't need us to be perfect. They do need us to be present. They need us to show up and give it our best shot, no matter what else is going on in our lives. They need us to show them not just with words, but with deeds — that they, those kids, are always our first priority," he said.

NEWS



Elizabeth "Libby" Haynes in uniform in the 1950s during her service in the Korean War.



Elizabeth "Libby" Haynes, a Korean War veteran, displays the Certificate of Appreciation she received for her service.



Dureta Wiecjorek, who served as a nurse during The Korean War, displays a photo of herself and her husband, Albert, shortly after they were married on Valentine's Day in 1953.

Female Korean Veterans Honored at Greenspring Seven Springfield women recognized for service in "Forgotten War."

By Victoria Ross The Connection

ibby Haynes was in the middle of her freshman year of high school at George Washington in Alexandria when the Japanese Navy bombed the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Nearly 2,500 Americans were killed in the surprise attack. The following day, the United States de-

clared war on Japan. "One thing that young people don't seem to grasp is how thoroughly every American supported the government during World War II. We were all united in the cause against Hitler," Haynes said.

Now 83 and living in Greenspring Retirement Village in Springfield, Haynes recalled her path to a military career, and her service during the Korean War.

Often referred to as "the Forgotten War," the Korean War (1950-1953) was bracketed by two bigger wars - both politically and in the number of casualties. In WWII, there were approximately 420,000 war causalities. In Vietnam, a conflict that spanned 10 years, approximately 47,424 were killed in combat. In Korea, more than 36,000 lives were lost. (Information provided by the Department of Defense.)

Like many women in the 1940s, Haynes's path to a military career began with the Cadet Nurse Corps (CNC), a program sponsored by the United States Public Health Service to train nurses for service in World War II, a time when the demand for nurses outstripped the supply.

In 1944, she graduated from high school two days after her 17th birthday, and

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promptly signed up for the Cadet Nurse Corps. "They said you had to be a high school graduate, in good health and mentally alert. I qualified," Haynes said.

The "war job with a future" offered free training with pay, room and board, and uniforms. In ads for the CNC, applicants were assured they could wear "something frilly and feminine" for dances, and they would have time for dating.

"You have to remember that no one in 1944 knew how long the war would last. It could have gone on for another 10 years for all we knew. We were in the midst of it, and it was a terrible time," Haynes said.

WHEN THE WAR ENDED in 1945, so did the government's support of the Cadet Nurse Corps. Haynes could have continued, but it would be at her own expense. She decided to pursue a degree in math at George Washington University, and eventually went through the U.S. Air Force's Officer Candidate School, graduating second in her class. She served her time during Korean War in the Air Weather Service at Pepperell Air Force Base in Newfoundland.

Like Haynes, Dureta Wiecjorek also served as a nurse in the CNC. During a commission in New York, she met her future husband, Albert, who was one of her patients.

the patients, but we did start dating and that got us into some trouble with the military," Wiecjorek said. In 1951, she applied for and received a commission at St. Albans Naval Hospital in San Diego. Albert followed her to San Diego and they married

on Valentine's Day in 1953. They have two sons. Wiecjorek, now 86, also worked as a civilian nurse for the Fairfax County Health Department as well as volunteering at the Pentagon.

According to the Department of Defense, nearly 120,000 women served in Korea during the conflict. Many, like Haynes and Wiecjorek joined through the nurse corps or Mobile Army Surgical (MASH) units.

Female veterans during the Korean War were recently honored by the Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee. Seven women from Greenspring Retirement Community in Springfield received Certificates of Appreciation for their service from U.S. Army Col. David J. Clark, chairman of the anniversary committee during a visit to Greenspring's American Legion Post 123 in April. Recipients were: Wanda Driver, Elizabeth "Libby" Haynes, Dureta Wiecjorek, Mary Cormier, Jane Ford, Gail Reals and Margaret Brewer.

"During the Korean War, women in the Armed Services went from being a footnote in history to a source of labor and skills for the nation's military," Clark said. "These women volunteered to serve their country at a difficult time. They should be remembered for their patriotism and personal sacrifices."

After the armistice was signed on July 27, "We weren't supposed to fraternize with 1953, South Korea was set on its path to become a democracy and a staunch ally of the United States.

> "Korea was a victory for the United States," Haynes said. "It is a shame that the Korean War has become known as 'the forgotten war,' Because of our intervention, the

The 60th Anniversary of the Korean War

The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee is dedicated to thanking and honoring all the veterans of the Korean War, their families and those who lost loved ones in the war. During the next three years, the Committee will honor the service and sacrifice of Korean War Veterans, commemorate the key events of the war, and educate Americans of all ages about the historical significance of the Korean War. To find out more about events, contact the Department of Defense Korean War 60th Anniversary Commemoration Committee at 703-545-0522, or visit the website at: http:// www.koreanwar.defense.gov.

communists were prevented from overrunning Southeast Asia."

HAYNES, NOW 83, said she also thinks that people today have "a much healthier attitude" when acknowledging the sacrifice of veterans.

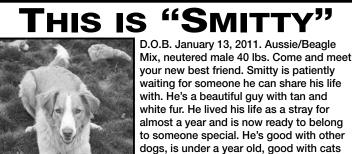
"I think we are learning to separate respect for the troops from how people might feel politically about a war. You know that saying, 'Love the Army, and Hate the War.' That's what I think is important."

"People would ask me if it was exciting. I liked to say 'not if I did my job right."

Haynes did meet her husband, William, a transport pilot, at the RCAF Station in Newfoundland.

"I briefed him on the weather like I did many times every day. She married William Haynes in 1954, and they had a son and three daughters. William died in 1991. "I didn't know when I met him that he was special. He was a good guy."

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During a news conference in Lynchburg on June 7, Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), who chaired the Governor's Task Force for Local Government Mandate Review, joined Governor Robert McDonnell in the ceremonial signing of nine bills to eliminate 'burdensome state mandates" on localities.

McDonnell Signs Bills to Eliminate Mandates on Localities Supervisor Pat Herrity, chair of Governor's task force, said legislation will streamline local government.

hile visiting Central Virginia Community College in Lynchburg last week, Governor Robert McDonnell ceremonially signed nine bills that streamline or eliminate burdensome state mandates on local governments.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), who chairs the Governor's Task Force for Local Government Mandate Review, said the signing marked a milestone in the work of the task force.

"With the full support of Governor McDonnell, we accomplished a great deal in a very short period of time. The success in this session is only the beginning as...the task force begins to address the fundamental challenges of the funding and service delivery relationship between the Commonwealth and localities," Herrity said. "I was also especially pleased to have delivered on mandate relief for the vast majority of mandates identified by Fairfax County on this history-making day."

IN SEPTEMBER 2011, Governor McDonnell announced the creation of the task force. The mission of the five-member task force was to review state mandates imposed on localities and to recommend temporary suspension or permanent repeal of those mandates. In January 2012, the task force completed its work and made recommendations to the General Assembly about mandate changes that could be enacted. The bills signed June 7 are a result of that work.

"I understand the challenge local governments face when trying to balance their budgets and conduct the people's business during complex financial times and with limited resources. This difficulty is exacerbated when the state places burdensome mandates on localities," McDonnell said during the news conference last week. "I am pleased to ceremonially sign these bills into law to help ease the burden on localities and to streamline mandates so local governments can focus on their core services."

A third of the recommendations dealt with education, including removing the requirement that schools must offer online Standards of Learning (SOL) testing in middle schools.

"In Fairfax County alone this program costs over \$4 million to set up, then an additional \$4 million plus per year to run," Herrity said. "While online testing is a worthwhile objective, an additional \$4 million a year would enable FCPS to hire nearly 60 new teachers."

The task force also set a goal for the Department of Education to reduce "unnecessary" state and federal reporting requirements for Schools by 15 percent, such as abolishing the mandate for annual reports on remediation programs.

OTHER LEGISLATION proposed by the task force includes:

Removing the mandate for state inspections of erosion and sediment control programs where localities have inspections.

*Eliminating the mandate that requires VDOT approval of the location of locally-placed red light cameras.

Eliminating the mandate for localities to give first priority for vending contracts to the Department of Blind and Visually Impaired.

Herrity said that by streamlining or eliminating these requirements wherever possible, "we are able to make local governments more efficient and responsive to their citizens.

"The elimination of these 20 mandates is truly historic in that never in the Commonwealth's history has anywhere near this many mandates been repealed in a single session," Herrity said. "These Bills represent common sense-solutions that will provide fiscal relief to localities and the Commonwealth and will enable both to more efficiently serve Virginia's residents.

The laws ceremonially signed by Governor McDonnell will go into effect July 1, 2012. The full report from the Task Force for Local Mandate Review is available at: www.governor.virginia.gov/utility/docs/Interim Report 1 16 12.pdf

– Victoria Ross

Col. Perkins Comes to Greenspring

GOP nominee for Congress addresses residents' healthcare concerns.

s Col. Chris Perkins spoke to an enthusiastic group of seniors at Greenspring in Springfield about his plans for Virginia's 11th District, there were quite a few retired soldiers in the audience gathered to hear him.

Perkins made it clear that he had a serious difference of opinion with his - now former - opponent, Ken Vaughn, on military funding.

With regard to the U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's bid to retain his seat in November, Perkins believes that "the deficit in leadership of the country must be addressed as the focal point of attention." Perkins showed his listeners how every cent of every dollar is currently allocated for

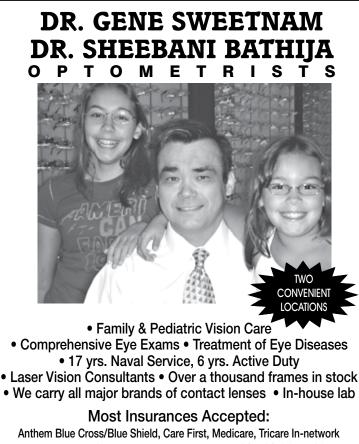


Tom Harrison, leader of the Republican Group at Greenspring, is seen here with Chris Perkins.

the country's expenditures. He then went on to explain how the Fairfax County budget is presently structured, illustrating the high level of difficulty for County residents and especially for people entering the job market.

Quite a few residents had concerns about healthcare, and Perkins assured them that he would be actively involved in efforts to turn around any legislation that would further damage Medicare. For many people, Obamacare is a "great cloud hanging overhead," and while Connolly was quick to support this legislation, Col. Perkins gave assurances that he will be working to reverse it.

> - Christine CAVALERI



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OPINION Partnerships That Make a Difference

Strategic partnerships with businesses, community organizations, benefit public good and fill gaps since government cannot do it all.

lucky enough to be included in a group of Fairfax County organizations honored for their efforts in giving back to the community.

Fairfax County and the Fairfax County Public Schools recognized their business and community partners for their continued contributions to the community at the Celebrate Partnerships awards ceremonies on May 21 at the Mason Inn. More than 55 businesses and community groups were nominated for these annual awards which focus on individuals and groups who partner with the County and FCPS to give back to the community.

The mission: "The Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3) develops partnerships between the business community and local community organizations that address critical

Partnering with **Communities**

The Connection was nominated by Dean Klein, Executive Director of the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, and the award springs from the Nov. 13 special edition coverage about the complex challenges of the homeless in Fairfax. Coverage of the issues included a "moving array of impactful photos and informative articles" that conveyed the scope of the challenges faced by those who are homeless in our community and the collaborative work of Partnership to End Homelessness. The award also cited other examples of the Connection's community partnership including "weekly highlights of neighborhood school activities and events, Thanksgiving story called 'Season of Giving' that featured 12 gifts that give back to the community, and extensive coverage of the Stuff the Bus Food campaign.'

Media/Communications Partner, **Connection Newspapers** In photo, Sharon Bulova, Victoria Ross, Mary Kimm, Deb Cobb, Ed Long.

few weeks ago, the Connection was needs in Fairfax County. ... to stimulate positive change in the community and encourage civic involvement and responsibility. One of the goals of OP3 is to bring together resources between the public and private sectors to effectively transform the quality of life in the community."

> Those efforts in the county and in the schools were on display at the awards. It was remarkable to hear about how partnerships between organizations, schools, businesses led to thousands of hours of volunteer work and millions of dollars raised. The benefits are tangible, significant and a part of what makes Fairfax County a leader in many areas.

> The Connection award was based significantly on our special edition on homelessness in Fairfax County, but also cited the Connection's dedication to covering the com

munities we serve.

This year Anthony Griffin was given a special award for his work with partnerships. Other business honorees include MV Transportation, Helios HR. Nadar por Vida, Great Falls Friends and Neighbors, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce and Doug Brammer of Verizon.

The event was attended by more than 380 people who heard from Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova; Fairfax County Schools Chair Janie Strauss; Jorge Haddock, Dean of the School of Management, George Mason University; Fairfax County Executive Ed Long, and Superintendent of Schools Jack D. Dale. To find out more, visit http://

www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org

— Mary Kimm, MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM





Leadership Award Winner

Bruce Oliver Leadership Award winner Faithleen Henderson, **Installation Army Volunteer Corps** Manager.

"Faitheleen Henderson supports Lee High School's Work Awareness and Transition program which helps students with disabilities autism, intellectual disabilities, and learning disabilities learn to work and succeed in a real job setting."



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NEWS DEPARTMENT: To discuss ideas and concerns, Call: 703-778-9410 e-mail: burke@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic Editor ***** 703-778-9414 kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Amna Rehmatulla Editorial Assistant 703-778-9410 ext.427 arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com

> Victoria Ross Community Reporter 301-502-6027 rosspinning@yahoo.com

Jon Roetman Sports Editor 703-778-9410 jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com @jonroetman

ADVERTISING: For advertising information e-mail:

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Steve Hogan Display Advertising, 703-778-9418 shog an @connection new spapers.com

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Debbie Funk National Sales 703-778-9444 debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher Mary Kimm 703-778-9433 mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com @MaryKimm

Executive Vice President Jerry Vernon 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 itheismann@connectionnewspapers.com @TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427 Circulation Manager: Ann Oliver circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

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CALENDAR

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

FRIDAY/JUNE 15

- A Night for Americans: The **Pietasters and Sunny Ledford.** 8:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com
- "Seussical The Musical." 8 p.m. Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Based on classic works by Dr. Seuss. \$15 adult, \$10 student, age 4 and under free 703-323-5400 or www.goodshepherdplayers.com.
- Riverdance. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Final performances. www.riverdance.com
- or www.wolftrap.org. "Romero." 7 p.m. Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Discussion
- follows film. www.accotinkuuc.org. Picnic Time! 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with
- adult, 703-249-1520. **English Conversation Group.** 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice your English conversation skills. Adults. 703-978-5600.

SATURDAY/JUNE 16

- Sunset Cruise. 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Cruiser the shores of Lake Accotink. Beverages served. \$6. Register at 703-569-0285
- For Mercy Reunion: Benefit Concert for One Voice at 7 p.m.: Defakto, Actual Proof and DJ Mercury at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.janmminjava.com.
- Riverdance. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Final performances. www.riverdance.com or www.wolftrap.org. "Seussical The Musical." 7 p.m.
- Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Based on classic works by Dr. Seuss. \$15 adult, \$10 student, age 4 and under free. 703-323-5400 or www.goodshepherdplayers.com.
- CSS Virginia: Before, During and After the Battle of Hampton Roads. 7 p.m. Old Firestation #3 Restaurant, 3988 University Drive, Fairfax. Hosted by Frank Stringfellow Camp #822 Sons of Confederate Veterans. Open to the public. Free. 703-250-8705 or
- stringfellowbuva@att.net. Master Gardeners. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice for home gardeners. Adults. 703-293-6227
- Master Gardeners. 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Plant clinics to answer your gardening questions. Adults. 703-978-5600
- eBook clinic. 11 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road. Burke. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible ebook readers with a one-on-one technology volunteer. Registration required. Adults. 703-978-5600.
- Inova Blood Drive. 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 cker Road, Burke required. Appointments preferred, call 1-866-256-6372.
- Father-Daughter Dance. 6-9 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Fairy tale guests, dancing, prizes, food, games and more. \$25 per person. Registration required at



Playing a group of jungle animals, the younger members of the cast gather on stage around Horton the Elephant played by Samuel Conner Sr. (Fairfax) and his infamous clover. They will present "Seussical The Musical" Saturday and Sunday, June 16-17, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road in Burke.

703-385-7858 or www.fairfax.gov/ parksrec.

SUNDAY/JUNE 17

- Father's Day Cruises. 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Lake Accotink Park. 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Cruiser the shores of Lake Accotink. \$5
- Dads, \$6 other adults, \$5 children age 3 and up. Register at 703-569-0285. Canine Cruises. 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Cruiser the shores of Lake Accotink with your dog. Limit one dog per person. \$6. Register at 703-569-0285
- Eric Lindell (at The Hamilton). 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.ianmminiava.com. Riverdance. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap
- National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Final performances. www.riverdance.com or www.wolftrap.org. "Seussical The Musical." 3 p.m.
- Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Based on classic works by Dr. Seuss. \$15 adult, \$10 student, age 4 and under free. 703-323-5400 or www.goodshepherdplayers.com.
- Antique Car Show. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. More than 400 antique and classic cars, automotive flea market, live music, food available for purchase and more. \$7 \$10.703-437-1794.
- Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 1-4 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 703-644-7333.

MONDAY/JUNE 18

- **Children's Music Performance** Series. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. First and third Mondays of each month. Free admission. 703-352-2787 or www.fairfaxarts.org
- Jon McLaughlin CD Release Show. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.janmminjava.com.

Chess Club. 3:30-5 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn the rules and any time. Age 8-16. 703-644-7333.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Author Edward L. Cox. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. The author of Grey Eminence: Fox Conner and the Art of

- Mentorship will discuss Major General Fox Conner and his impact on the careers of Generals Eisenhower, Marshall and Patton. Adults. 703-249-1520.
- Balloon Fun. 5 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Join us to celebrate the beginning of the Summer Reading Program. Balloons by Mike will be twisting balloons into fun shapes. Children and teens. 703-293-6227. English Conversation Group. 7 p.m.

City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227. Evening Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, Dorothy Savers. Adults. 703-293-

- Book Discussion Group. 1:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson. Adults. 703-978-5600.
- Book Discussion Group. 6:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Cloud Atlas by David Mitchell. Adults. 703-978-5600.
- Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. Adults. 703-644-7333.
- Evening Book Discussion Group. 7 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learning to Swim by Sarah Henry. Adults. 703-644-7333.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20

- Counting Crows. 7 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$48 in-house, \$30 lawn.
- www.wolftrap.com. Spin, Pop, Boom. 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Mad Science presents genies in a bottle, boom box in a tube and more. Age 6-12. 703-293-6227
- Student Volunteer Training Session. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St. Fairfax. Students receive training from library staff and sign up for volunteer hours. Bring completed application.
- Hula with Mokihana. 7 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Experience traditional Hawaiian music. All ages. Sign up each child and adult separately. 703-644-7333.



Preschoolers Brendan Neumann, Declan Brown, Brooke McDonald, Joseph Little sing the Star Spangled Banner during Cherry Run Elementary School's Family Baseball Day on May 25.

Play Ball! Cherry Run ES hits home run for special preschoolers.

he games were scheduled and called off three times because of rain, but on a sunny Friday, May 25, preschool students, teachers and family members got to "play ball" at Cherry Run Elementary School in Burke.

"Each spring, we hold a baseball game for our older preschoolers," said Cathy Brown, an early childhood special education teacher at the school. "The children in our

program have a variety of disabilities, and this game is a wonderful experience for them."

Brown said the children dress in uniforms and move through stations - batting, fielding, pitching, sliding, base running and cheering.

"We end the day with a hotdog picnic with the parents. It's a great event, and everyone has a lot of fun," Brown said.

— Victoria Ross



From left, preschoolers Joshua Tolboe, Hiba Hanabal, Kaylynn Hardman get help from their parents and teachers during batting practice at Cherry Run Elementary School's Family Baseball Day on May 25.



Preschool students Blake Cochran, Darrius Ross, Ethan Brewer, Ben Dang-Pham cheer for their teammates during Cherry Run Elementary School's Family Baseball Game on May 25.

10360 North St., Fairfax. Any title by



Ensemble in a Play, The Mechanicals, (front row) Molly Johnson, Mary Turgeon; (back row): Brandy Skaddan, Carys Meyer, Sarah Marksteiner and Jamie Green, Robinson Secondary School, Ken Ludwig's "Midsummer/Jersey."

Robinson Wins Cappie for Best Ensemble

obinson Secondary School won a Cappie trophy at Sunday night's 13th annual Cappie Awards at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Robinson's honor was for Ensemble in a Play for the Mechanicals in its production of Ken Ludwig's "Midsummer/Jersey." Comprising the ensemble were Jamie Green, Molly Johnson, Brandy Skaddan, Carys Meyer, Sarah Marksteiner and Mary Turgeon.

"It's very exciting," said Johnson. "We never expected to win, but hoped to. We're all so close with each other so we could play off each other's energy." And, said Meyer, "Our characters were so big and

obinson Secondary School won a Cappie trophy at Sunday night's 13th annual Cappie the audience did, too."

> Green said what made their roles so great was that "since we weren't part of the main story, we got to play around with our characters." Added Johnson: "[Playwright] Ken Ludwig gave us a lot of freedom to change things in the show."

> Overall, Westfield High won the most Cappies, garnering 10, including Best Musical, for "Crazy for You." The Best Play winner, McLean High, took home five awards, including Lead Actor and Lead Actress in a Play for its production of "A View from the Bridge." — BONNIE HOBBS

Robinson Student Receives Pamplin Leader Award

nna Moh is the recipient of the 2012 Pamplin Leader Award at James W. Robinson Secondary School. The Pamplin Leader is a one-year, \$1,000 tuition scholarship to Virginia Tech. It is presented annually to a top student from each public high school in Virginia. It was established by Robert B. Pamplin, Sr. (VT Class of '33) and Robert B. Pamplin, Jr., to acknowledge students with a record of outstanding academic achievement that is balanced with a commitment to community service and leadership experience.



Anna Moh

Anna will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall and plans on majoring in Biological Systems Engineering.

School Notes

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

Michael McVay of Burke has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at the University of Northwestern Ohio in the College of Applied Technologies. He is a 2009 graduate of Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Monica Zinn of Burke has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Ga. **Natchanon Ketram** of Burke is among the Marymount University undergraduate students who have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders and are included in the 2012 edition of Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Ketram is majoring in Biology.

Kelsey Zinck of Burke has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at The College of New Jersey of Ewing, N.J.

Franklin Shakespeare of Burke was named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Bryant University of Smithfield, R.I. He is a senior accounting major.





Home Life Style Trends in Landscape Design

Local tastemakers offer suggestions for making the most of backyard space.

> By MARILYN CAMPBELL The Connection

hether creating a tapestry of bold colors, a sanctuary to escape stress or simply a low maintenance landscape, local designers say taking a backyard from dull to dazzling is easier than one might think, and offer insight into hottest landscape elements as well as trends in sustainable design.

"The biggest overall trend is that people are cocooning — that is, people are staying at home and creating multiuse spaces," said landscape architect Mark White, owner of Garden Wise in Arlington. "They want to be able to cook outdoors and have a dining area. They might want a water feature. They are creating a place for a mini-vacation in their backyard."



Landscape designers say yards that incorporate both edible and decorative plants are popular. Herbs and

"Given the state of the economy and the fact that people are leading hectic lives, many are wanting calm spaces in their backyards."

– Mark White

WATER, WATER EVERY-WHERE. From custom waterfalls to simple, self-contained systems in an urn, fountains and ornamental water features are surging in popularity as homeowners strive to create a tranquil oasis in their backyards.

"Given the state of the economy and the fact that people are leading hectic lives, many are wanting calm spaces in their backyards," said White. "They are using water elements to create soothing sounds."

space in the backyard of this Arlington home.

patio vegetables are ideal for small outdoor areas.

Landscape architect Mark White uses ornamental water features to create a soothing See Backyard Tips, Page 11

LET IT RAIN. Rain gardens are popular as eco-minded homeowners look for ways to decrease water pollution. Rain gardens allow rainwater runoff from surfaces like roofs, driveways and walkways to be absorbed into the ground instead of storm drains.

Landscapers at George Mason University in Fairfax, created rain gardens across campus using water-loving, native plants. The gardens help alleviate storm-water runoff and pollution.

"Also, rain gardens help to eliminate standing pools of water that might otherwise have been the perfect breeding ground for mosquitoes," said Archie Nesbitt, landscape supervisor at George Mason.

HARVESTING RAINWATER.

"Many people are now collecting rainwater in rain barrels and using it to water their plants," White said. "You can connect a hose to the barrel and use it to water your garden."

Home Life Style

Backyard Tips from Local Tastemakers

From Page 10

HOW DOES ONE'S GARDEN GROW? Landscapes that incorporate both edible and decorative plants are popular now and serve dual purposes: providing both food and beauty. "There has been a huge interest in vegetable gardens, container gardens and fruit gardens, especially dwarf fruit trees, tomatoes, peppers and herbs," said Sherrye Schenk of Potomac Garden Center in North Potomac.

MAKING ROOM. Designers can make accommodations when space is scarce.

"Because many of the yards in this area are small, people don't have the space to dedicate to a larger garden, so we're putting plants in containers and growing what is known as 'patio vegetables,' which don't get as large," said White. "For example, there are certain varieties of tomatoes and eggplants that are suitable for a smaller space."

KEEPING BAMBI AT BAY. Homeowners who live in areas where deer abound also search for plants that don't attract these fourlegged friends.

"Anything that is deer resistant is popular now," said Alex Dencker of Behnke Nurseries in Potomac. "Nandina and cherry laurel are deer resistant. 'Green giant arborvitae' works if you're looking for screen plants to create privacy. They grow tall very quickly."

LIVING IN FAIRFAX

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20

- **Evolution of Fairfax Series.** 7:30 p.m. The Mason Inn and Conference Center, George Mason University, Fairfax. Second of a three part series on where we were, where we are, and where we want to be, to be continued on June 20 and June 27. Presented by Chairman Sharon Bulova in partnership with the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce and Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. Free and open to the public. Reserve at 703-324-2321 or
- chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov. Ladies Night Mixer: Beauty With a Cause. 6-9 p.m. First Impressions Salon, 10955 Fairfax Blvd., Suite 104, Fairfax Join the ladies of the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce for a night of beauty and relaxation: 10 percent of the proceeds will be donated to a local women's shelter. Register at www.cfcc.org.

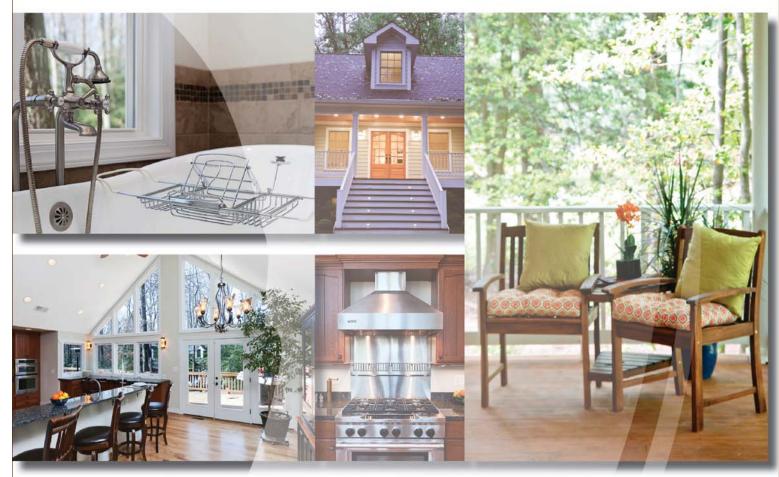
GOING NATIVE. Designers say indigenous plants often grow beautifully with little maintenance and no fertilizer. "Whenever possible, allow things to be what they want to be ... the more a planted area

can be self-sustaining [and] not require upkeep, the better," said Nesbitt.

Drought tolerance is another bonus that makes native plants favorites among homeowners and landscape designers. "Purple cone flower are popular, as are creeping phlox which blooms early, provides great ground cover and requires little maintenance," said Dencker. "Black-eyed Susans and redbud trees are also native plants that have colorful buds. There are so many birds and other critters that need our native plants to survive. That is another reason why our native plants are so important."



This whole house renovation transformed a dark and constrained floorplan to an open, functional, and luxurious space.



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SUN DESIGN

Photos by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

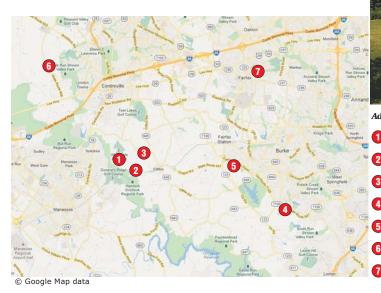
Local REAL ESTATE

Top Sales in April 2012

13717 Balmoral Greens Avenue, Clifton — \$1,187,500



4 7510 Red Hill Drive, Springfield — \$925,000





6303
Barsky Court,
Fairfax Station
— \$918,000

6 5884 Iron Stone Court, Centreville — \$908,000

and	
	Address BR FB HB Postal City Sold Price Type Lot AC . PostalCode Subdivision
1	1 13717 BALMORAL GREENS AVE 6 5 . 1 CLIFTON \$1,187,500 Detached 1.53 20124 BALMORAL GREENS
5p	2 7079 BALMORAL FOREST RD 5 4 . 1 CLIFTON \$1,032,500 Detached 3.04 20124 BALMORAL GREENS
6	3 13155 COMPTON RD
	4 7510 RED HILL DR
N	5
	6 5884 IRON STONE CT
1	7 10094 DANIELS RUN WAY 5 4 . 1 FAIRFAX \$898,500 Detached 0.16
	Source: MRIS, Inc. For more information on MRIS, visit www.mris.com

12 Burke Connection June 14-20, 2012

Home Life Style Nate and Michele Ament, who live on Young Dairy Court, will be one of the stops on this year's Herndon Garden Tour, which will take place Sunday, June 24.

Photo by Alex McVeigh/ The Connection

Herndon's Gardens on Display

Annual garden tour highlights creativity of local gardeners.

he Town of Herndon's Cultivating Communities initiative will host their annual Garden Tour Sunday, June 24 from noon to 4 p.m. The tour will feature five different stops within the town borders, all representing a variety of approaches to suburban residential gardening.

"There will be a variety of looks at gardens, and they're all ones that don't require huge yards," said Diane D'Amico, committee chair for the tour. "People tend to enjoy seeing how realistic it is to put a beautiful garden in a regular neighborhood, you don't need a sprawling property in Middleburg."

Tickets are \$10 in advance and can be purchased at the Herndon Community Center (814 Ferndale Avenue), the Herndon Florist (716 Lynn Street) and ArtSpace Herndon (750 Center Street). They can also be purchased for \$15 on the day of the tour from the community center and ArtSpace.



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How to Get Your Organization's Special Events in The Connection

Calendar Listings

The Connection Newspapers contain a Calendar of Upcoming Events every week. While we cannot guarantee that every event we receive information about will be listed, here is the information we need for your upcoming event to be considered for the Calendar. We welcome photographs of similar events held previously, which sometimes appear with Calendar items.

Name of Event:

Day of the Week, Date and Time: Name of the Place Event will Be Held: Address of the Place Event Will Be Held: Name and Phone Number for More Information: Three Sentences Describing the Event:

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome. All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. E-mail listings to:

burke@connectionnewspapers.com or mail to:

Calendar, Connection Newspapers 1606 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314.

For more information, call 703-778-9410.



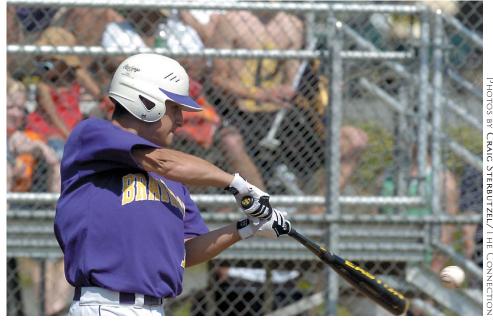






16 Burke Connection June 14-20, 2012

Sports



Lake Braddock junior Thomas Rogers hit a solo home run and drove in a run with a sacrifice fly during the Virginia AAA baseball state final on May 9 at Westfield High School.



Lake Braddock senior Dylan O'Connor slides safely into home plate during the seventh inning of the Virginia AAA baseball state final against Kellam on May 9 at Westfield High School.

Rogers Leads Lake Braddock to State Baseball Title

Junior left-hander throws four-hit shutout, hits home run.

> By Jon Roetman The Connection

ake Braddock junior Thomas Rogers is committed to the University of Georgia as a pitcher, but with the Bruins playing for a state championship on May 9, No. 1 showed he can swing the bat, as well.

Rogers smashed a solo home run to rightcenter field in the top of the third inning, giving Lake Braddock a 1-0 lead against Kellam in the Virginia AAA state baseball final. Rogers spent the rest of the afternoon using his prized left arm to ensure his long ball was the only run the Bruins would need. Rogers tossed a four-hit shutout as Lake Braddock captured the first baseball state championship in school history with a 4-0 victory at Westfield High School. The Bruins had also reached the state final in 1997, 1993 and 1988, but the 2012 team was the first to walk away a winner.

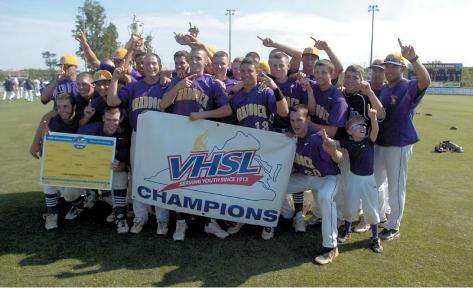
"It puts another banner in our gymnasium," Rogers said, "up there with [the school's other] state champions."

ROGERS STRUCK OUT 10, including seven called third strikes. He said the Bruins' scouting report on Kellam said to attack the Knights with inside fastballs. The plan worked as Rogers did not allow a Kellam runner to reach third base.

While Lake Braddock head coach Jody Rutherford credited Kellam southpaw Mitch Moynihan with pitching a good game, Lake Braddock's lefty was better.

"[Moynihan] did a hell of a job. Thomas just stepped it up after that ... first inning and said, listen, I'm a pretty good pitcher,

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



The Lake Braddock baseball team captured the first state championship in program history with a 4-0 victory against Kellam on May 9 at Westfield High School.

too," Rutherford said. "[He] pounded them inside with the fastball a couple times, got some strikeouts looking and once we see Thomas throw like that, everybody knows we're good to go."

Junior catcher Garett Driscoll said Rogers was at his best toward the end of the season.

"He was on today," Driscoll said. "In his past two or three starts, including this one — I've been playing with him since Little League — that's the best I've ever seen him pitch."

Driscoll extended Lake Braddock's lead to 2-0 in the third inning when he smacked a run-scoring double off the fence in leftcenter field. Senior left fielder Dylan O'Connor delivered an RBI double in the seventh. Senior second baseman Matt Spruill (double) and junior third baseman Alex Lewis (single) also had hits for the Bruins. "He was on today. In his past two or three starts, including this one — I've been playing with him since Little League — that's the best I've ever seen him pitch."

— Lake Braddock catcher Garett Driscoll about Thomas Rogers

The previous day, Northern Region Pitcher of the Year Michael Church started his final game for Lake Braddock and earned a win, throwing a complete game during a 7-4 victory against C.D. Hylton in the semifinals at Westfield. Lake Braddock's run through the state tournament, which included a 9-0 victory at Cosby during the quarterfinals on June 5, came after the Bruins were upset by West Springfield, 3-2, in nine innings in the Northern Region championship game.

"To be honest, I think it was a good time to lose," Church said after the Bruins' state semifinal victory. "We were still in the [state] tournament, and in the past we've lost and then [responded by winning] a good amount of games. It was probably the perfect time to lose."

LAKE BRADDOCK will graduate seniors Church, O'Connor, Spruill and outfielders Chris Granito, Chuck Feola and Nathan Parker, but will return the majority its players in 2013, including all-region junior center fielder Alex Gransback, sophomore shortstop Jack Owens and freshman pitcher Matt Supko.

Lake Braddock posted a 26-3 record and won the Patriot District championship in 2012. The Bruins started 9-0 before losing to McLean on April 3. Lake Braddock finished the season ranked No. 42 nationally in the ESPN.com FAB 50 and was the only team from the Washington, D.C.-metro area to be ranked.

Driscoll credited Rutherford with getting the most out of the Bruins' talented roster.

"He's probably one of the best coaches I've ever had if not the [best]," Driscoll said. "He pushed us to our max."

For Rutherford, who took over as head coach in 2002 and has been with the program since 1998, winning the state championship helped solidify an already successful career.

"I would be a liar if I said, no, I didn't need [a state title]," Rutherford said. "... This is what I've worked for. In my coaching career, as good as we've been and as successful as we've [been], not to be able to accomplish this, [would have been] kind of the open puzzle; it's like the quarterback without the Super Bowl."

News

Greenspring Honors Student Scholars

Local students who worked at Greenspring are candidates for \$6,000 in scholarships toward higher education.

ince 1999, Greenspring Retirement Community has awarded scholarships to local high school students who have worked in various dining services capacities at the retirement community. In addition to receiving a wage, students may be eligible for scholarships paid directly to the college or professional school of each student's choice. Three years ago, the scholarship amount was increased from \$4,000 to \$6,000 per student (\$750 per semester).

The community is currently in the process of creating a Scholars Fund Endowment in order to establish larger scholarships for the future, according to Jessica McKay, Greenspring's public affairs manager.

"The funds for the scholarships are raised from voluntary donations made by residents, resident clubs, and staff members at Greenspring. Throughout the past 13 years, Greenspring has raised \$1 million for the Scholar's Fund," McKay said.

Criteria for student eligibility includes working 1,000 hours or more at the community during their junior and senior years of high school; achieving satisfactory grades and interviewing with the Greenspring Resident Philanthropy Committee.

On Wednesday, May 23, Greenspring held an awards ceremony to recognize the scholarship candidates. This year's ceremony featured Roy O'Connor

(current resident and President of the Greenspring Resident Council), Deena Beshir (former scholarship recipient), Rendha Maharosa (2012 scholarship candidate from South County High School), Jim Upp (Greenspring Resident Philanthropy Committee Chairman), and Abe Jeffers (Principal of Robert E. Lee High School).

The 2012 scholars include:

- Hiba Ahmed-Hayfield Secondary School
- Michal Ande-Hayfield Secondary School
- Daniel Bangura-Robert E. Lee High School
- Rohina Bayat-Robert E. Lee High School
- Jonathan Cooke-Robert E. Lee High School
- Karen Dang-Thomas Jefferson High School
- Vania Espichan-Robert E. Lee High School
- Kenneth Green- West Springfield High School
- Martha Haile-West Springfield High School
- Paul Handy-Hayfield Secondary School
- Leilani Jackson-Thomas A. Edison High School
- Austin Kaminski-West Springfield High School
- ♦ Jusu Koroma-Robert E. Lee High School
- Rendha Maharosa-South County High School
- Mariam Nabizad-Robert E. Lee High School
- Cindy Nguyen-Robert E. Lee High School

OMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

- Nadia Ramos-West Springfield High School
- Chanel Thompson-Robert E. Lee High School Jessica Watts-West Springfield High School



Rendha Maharosa speaks to her fellow Greenspring Scholars at a May 23 ceremony at the Springfield retirement community. The 19 scholarship candidates for 2012 were dressed in cap and gown and recognized for their commitment and service to the Greenspring community.



Robert E. Lee High School Principal Abe E. Jeffers spoke to the **2012 Scholars** at a May 24 ceremony at the Springfield retirement community.

Bulletin Board

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

FRIDAY/JUNE 15

Dog Adoptions. 6:30-8:30 p.m. PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Every Friday. Sponsored by Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation. www.lostdogrescue.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 16

Homeless Animals Rescue Team Dog Adoptions. 12-3 p.m. Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Every Saturday. 703-817-9444 or www.hart90.org.

MONDAY/JUNE 18

Financial Planning During Separation and Divorce. 6:30 p.m. Investment & Resource Planning Associates, Inc., 4400 Fair Lakes Court, # 70, Fairfax. Practical information to make educated financial decisions. \$40-\$50. komeara@thewomenscenter.org.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Mental Health First Aid. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Fairfax Government Center, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 836, Fairfax. Two-day 12-hour certification course for general public, continued on June 20. Taught by staff of Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board. Learn risk factors and warning signs of mental illness as well as information and resources to help someone experiencing a mental health crisis. \$25. 703-383-8430, TTY 711 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb.

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