

'Forgotten War' Remembered

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Dureta Wiecjorek, who served as a nurse during the Korean War, with her husband, Albert, at Greenspring Retirement Village in Springfield. The couple was married on Valentine's Day in 1953.

A Father's Factor

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Father's Day Photo Gallery

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PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

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

Calvin 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

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-



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

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

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

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 "Fatherhood 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.



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 Wicjorek, 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.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Female Korean Veterans Honored at Greenspring

Seven Springfield women recognized for service in "Forgotten War."

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Libby 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 declared 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 casualties. 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

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 Wicjorek 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.

"We weren't supposed to fraternize with the patients, but we did start dating and that got us into some trouble with the military," Wicjorek 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. Wicjorek, 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 Wicjorek 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 Wicjorek, 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, 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."



Cook

Community Engagement Includes Philanthropy

BY JOHN COOK
FAIRFAX COUNTY SUPERVISOR
(R-BRADDOCK)

Corporate and individual philanthropy are critical elements of engaged communities. Carnegie, Mellon, Vanderbilt, Rockefeller, and more recently, Gates, are names not only reflecting the achievement of the American dream, they are permanently ensconced in history through universities, entertainment centers, art museums, concert halls, and programs for the less fortunate which bear their names. Many other charities and initiatives that help solve problems such as workforce development, environmental sustainability, education and human services are sustained by businesses small and large, as well as our citizens.

Here in Fairfax, great examples of philanthropy abound. The Peterson Family founded Life with Cancer at Inova Health System to support families of those stricken with cancer. Interstate Relocation Services was recently recognized by the Salvation Army for its help with the "Angel Giving Tree" program. Northrop Grumman recently gave \$1 million to George Mason University for its VISTA (Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and Achievement) program. ExxonMobil generously supports the Library Foundation, and Sotera Defense Solutions has made key contributions to our parks. These examples are powerful, but our work is far from over.

I know in my district, our summer concert series, Braddock Nights, is two weeks shorter this year due to a drop in corporate sponsorships. The Lorton Arts Center, like many arts venues across the country, is teetering on bankruptcy, in part due to lower than expected philanthropic support. And the list goes on.

Recently, the Fairfax Chamber hosted the first in a series of seminars on Corporate Social Responsibility to help businesses align their giving with

BRADDOCK REPORT

key community priorities. As we emerge from the recession and begin the journey to a "new normal," we must work to bring philanthropic giving back to – and above – pre-Recession levels. Government programs should not be seen as a replacement for the obligation individuals and businesses have to support those in need and the opportunity we each have to support community needs. Government cannot do it alone. A strong, caring society needs an appropriate level of governmental support, supplemented with vibrant private philanthropy.

There are resources to help. Look to the Office of Public Private Partnerships in our Government Center, the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia or the Fairfax Chamber to understand better how you can get involved by understanding key community needs and priorities. Let's take philanthropy to a new level in the County and stop the loss, or potential loss, of key community opportunities.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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.

While 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

NEWS

Col. Perkins Comes to Greenspring

GOP nominee for Congress addresses residents' healthcare concerns.

As 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

The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.

—William James

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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.

A few weeks ago, the Connection was 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

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,

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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."

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In photo, Sharon Bulova, Victoria
Ross, Mary Kimm, Deb Cobb, Ed Long.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS



Leadership Award Winner

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

"Faithleen 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."

Springfield CONNECTION

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NEWS

Greenspring Honors Student Scholars

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

Since 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



PHOTOS BY JESSICA MCKAY

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.



SEE STUDENTS PAGE 9

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Tom Ghobashi catching air off the half-pipe.

Skateboarding For a Cause

SkateFest 2012 to raise money for Children's National Medical Center.

Skaters from all over Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., and beyond will travel to Wakefield Skate Park in Annandale, on June 22 and 23 to participate in the 6th annual SkateFest. The festival celebrates National Go Skateboarding Day and raises money for Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Since 2007 SkateFest events have featured hundreds of participants ranging in ages from 5-50. Nearly \$25,000 has been raised for Children's National through the festival's philosophy of kids raising money for kids. The sixth annual festival will be packed with music, food, family-friendly activities, vendors and over \$20,000 in prizes and giveaways, including a scholarship to the renowned Camp Woodward. The festival also gives skaters a chance to showcase themselves and even try out for the Fairfax Surf Shop skate team.

SkateFest 2012's main events will take place Friday, June 22

and Saturday, June 23 with skateboarders participating to raise money for Children's National. The festival kicks off Friday from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Wakefield Skate Park with the preliminary rounds of the skateboard competition. The festivities continue all day Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. with Sk8 for a Cause. This "fun run on wheels" is open to participants of all ages and skill levels and will consist of a check-pointed route around the park where skaters are handed tons of giveaways along the way.

The final four-event skateboard competition, along with the festival, will follow Sk8 for a Cause on Saturday. The competition rewards winners within their age bracket with various prizes worth thousands of dollars ranging from skateboard equipment to trophies.

For more information and to sign up for Sk8 for a Cause and the skateboarding competition, visit www.skatefestfairfax.com or call 703-425-5400.

CALENDAR

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

Memphis 59. 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Roots-rock, alt-country. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

U.S. Army Band "Blues Jazz Ensemble." 7:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. American roots music. Free. 703-324-7469.

Café Cattail. 7 p.m. Huntley Meadows Park, Harrison Lane and Lockheed Blvd. in Alexandria. Local musicians, dancers and poets are encouraged to share their arts with a nature theme. 703-768-2525.

Picnic Time! 11 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-249-1520.

SATURDAY/JUNE 16

"Rapunzel." 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Studio 3 Theatre for Young Audiences, Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A lost prince, a two-headed monster, an unscrupulous baker, a lonely witch and a flaxen-tressed maiden. \$8-\$12. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

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.

Sir Alan and the Calypso Ponzi Schemers. 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Calypso. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Northern Virginia NTRAK Display with Running N Gauge Trains. 12-5 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Two-day Father's Day weekend show. \$3 adults, \$1 children. www.fairfaxstation.org or 703-425-9225.

DinoRock Puppets. 10 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax. "Dinosaur Babies" puppet show. Free. 703-324-7469.

Park Manager Walk and Talk. 5:30 p.m. Huntley Meadows Park, Harrison Lane and Lockheed Blvd. in Alexandria. Learn about wildlife and the wetland restoration project. 703-768-2525.

Explore John Marshall's Gardens. 10 a.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Master Gardener volunteer Carol Dickerson will host a scavenger hunt and talk to children about how to plant and take care of a garden. Ages 6-10. 703-971-0010.

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.

Northern Virginia NTRAK Display with Running N Gauge Trains. 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Two-day Father's Day weekend show. \$3 adults, \$1 children. www.fairfaxstation.org or 703-425-9225.

Children's Musical Adventure: Who's on First Bass? 1 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Like athletes, musicians use specialized equipment and train every day to work as a team. Interactive program featuring music by Mozart, Rossini and the "Concerto for Basketball." \$2. Register at www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173.

MONDAY/JUNE 18

Summer Reading Open House. 2 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Sign up for the Summer Reading Program and check out some books. All Ages. 703-339-4610.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Rangers, Raiders and Spies, Oh My. 7 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Stories of Civil War spycraft and the men and women who served as agents for the Blue and the Gray. Light refreshments. \$12. Register at www.greenspring.org or at 703-941-7987.

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.

Classics Book Club. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. The Orestia by Aeschylus. Adults. 703-451-8055.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Practice and improve your English. Adults. 703-451-8055.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20

The Pietasters. 7:30 p.m. Lee District

Park Amphitheater, 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia. Rock. Free. 703-324-7469.

Learning English. 10:15 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.

Storytime and Rhyme. 2:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Storytelling, music and movement with Wolf Trap Teaching Artist Kofi Dennis. All ages. Sign up each child and adult separately. 703-339-4610.

THURSDAY/JUNE 21

Garden Stroll and Tea. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Age 13 and up. \$27. 703-642-5173.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English with other adults and improve your skills. 703-249-1520.

Creature Teacher. 2:30 p.m. John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Meet and learn about all kinds of animals. Presented by Bar C Ranch. All ages. Sign up each child and adult separately. 703-971-0010.

Learning English. 7 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-339-4610.

Lorton Library Book Club. 7 p.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand. Adults. 703-339-7385.

Springfield Writers' Group. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Share your work, give and receive feedback in a supportive setting. Adults. 703-451-8055.

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

Nothin' Fancy. 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Bluegrass. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Folsom Prisoners. 7:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Classic country. Free. 703-324-7469.

Friday Friends Book Group. 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Scat by Carl Hiaasen. Age 8-12. 703-249-1520.

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

"Rapunzel." 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Studio 3 Theatre for Young Audiences, Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. A lost prince, a two-headed monster, an unscrupulous baker, a lonely witch and a flaxen-tressed maiden. \$8-\$12. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

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Students Honored

FROM PAGE 7

\$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

❖Nadia Ramos-West Springfield High School

❖Chanel Thompson-Robert E. Lee High School

❖Jessica Watts-West Springfield High School

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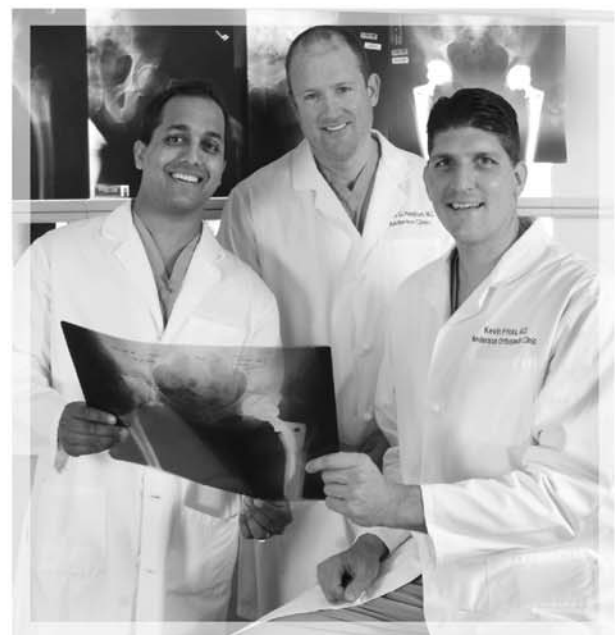
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Trends in Landscape Design

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

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Whether 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 multi-use 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.”



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION

Landscape designers say yards that incorporate both edible and decorative plants are popular. Herbs and patio vegetables are ideal for small outdoor areas.

“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 EVERYWHERE. 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.”



Landscape architect Mark White uses ornamental water features to create a soothing space in the backyard of this Arlington home.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GARDEN WISE

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.”

SEE BACKYARD TIPS, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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 Sherry 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 four-legged 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.

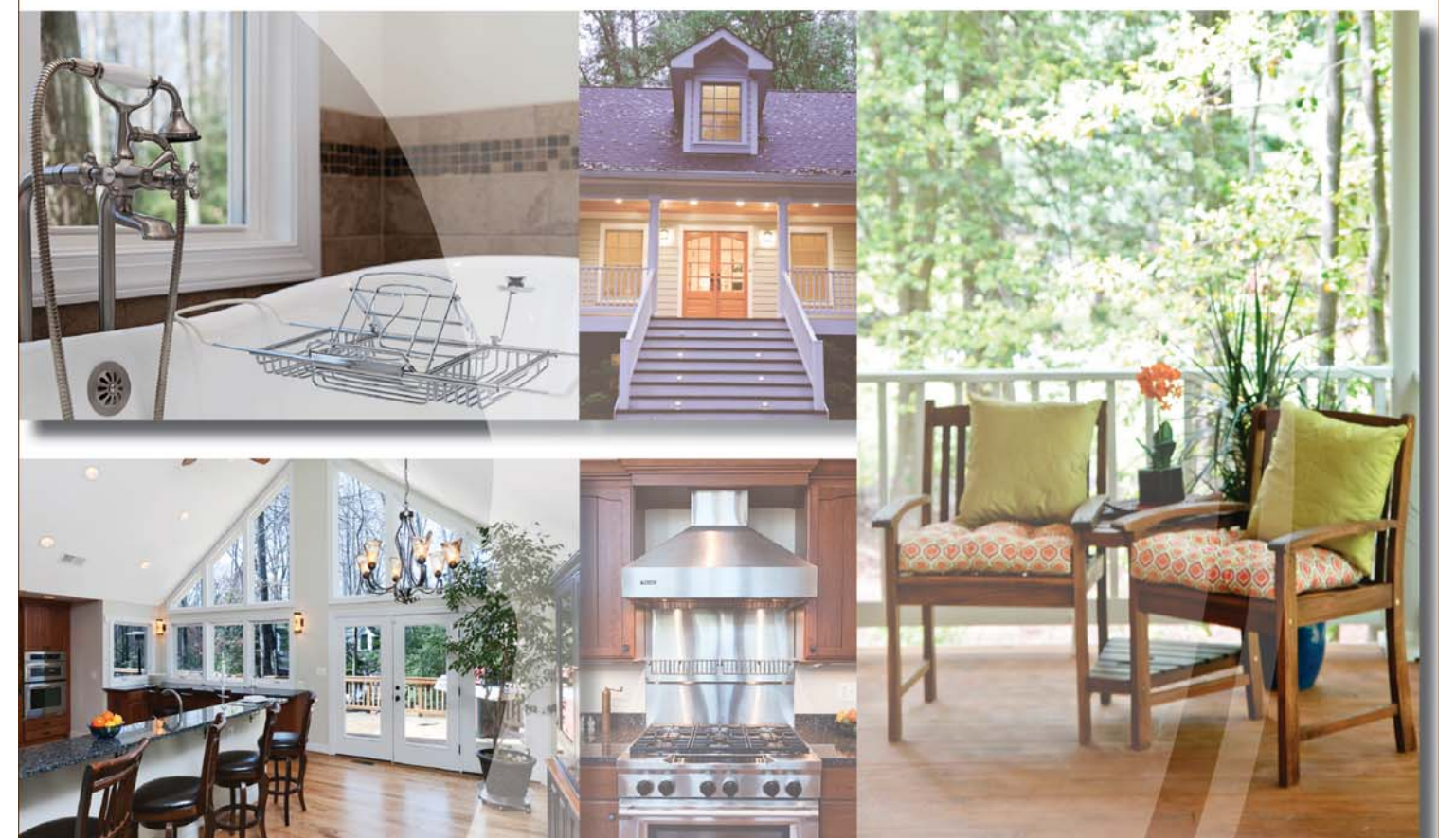
Drought tolerance is another bonus that makes native plants favorites among homeowners and

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.”



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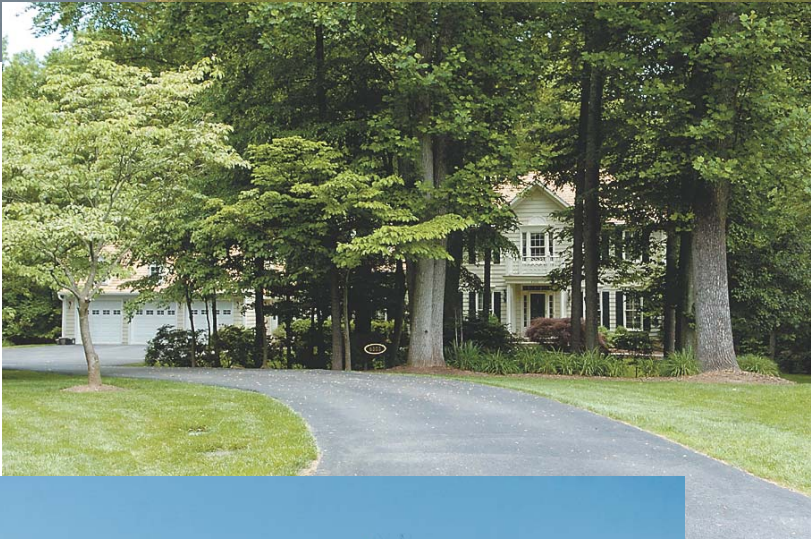
1 13717 Balmoral Greens Avenue, Clifton — \$1,187,500



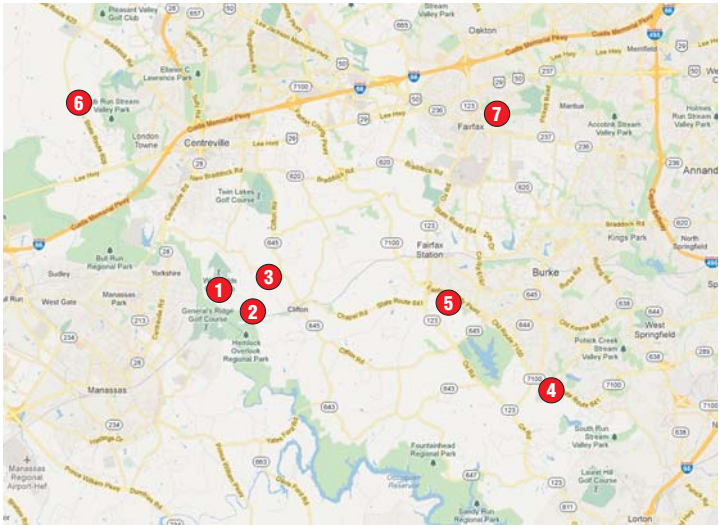
5 6303 Barsky Court, Fairfax Station — \$918,000



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

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.

The 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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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 and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

Annandale

8622 Hepplewhite Ct.....\$619,000.....Sun 1-4.....Jorge Martinez.....Long & Foster..571-505-4768

Burke

6208 Ormandy Dr.....\$549,900.....Sat 12-3.....Wendy Smith.....Coldwell Banker..703-608-1725
6358 Draco St.....\$319,999.....Sun 1-4.....Joe Lydon.....McEneaney..571-216-8713
9303 Poplar Spring Ct.....\$629,000.....Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX..703-503-4365

Centreville

7104 Ordway Rd.....\$899,999.....Sun 1-4.....Lisa Clayborne.....Long & Foster..703-502-8145

Chantilly

41994 Kudu Ct.....\$737,000.....Sat 1-4.....Rich Triplett.....Samson Props..703-217-1348

Clifton

13206 Kilby Landing Ct.....\$795,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ed Duggan.....Century 21..703-989-7735
6609 Rock Lawn Dr.....\$669,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ed Duggan.....Century 21..703-989-7735

Fairfax

3950 Collis Oak Ct.....\$384,900.....Sat 11-3.....Myra Hiser.....Long & Foster..571-426-4391

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11107 Hampton Rd.....\$1,695,000.....Sat 1-4.....Dana LaFever.....Weichert..703-609-3479
8288 Tabor Ln.....\$759,900.....Sun 1-4.....David Billups.....Long & Foster..703-967-8700
8303 Pinyon Pine Ct.....\$749,500.....Sat 1-4.....Christine Shevock.....RE/MAX..703-475-3986

Kingstowne/Alexandria

6254 Harbin Dr.....\$519,950.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207
6402 Gum St.....\$499,900.....Sat 12-3.....Beth Kinsella.....Avery-Hess..571-228-3434
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FATHER'S DAY PHOTO GALLERY



Gary Kenealy and his grandparents, Greenspring residents Bill and Betty Kenealy, at his graduation from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., on May 5.



Grandad Richard Lane with grandson Adam Lane, 5, in Springfield April 2012.



True patriots Keifer and Dusty Michael of Springfield, Va., celebrating Memorial Day 2012. Proud to be an American.



Lane Family Reunion April 2012 in Springfield, Va. Back row left to right: Adam, 5, Richard Lane, Mike Lane and Lukas, 2. Front row left to right: Marus Lane and Dean, 4, father and son visiting from Alabama.



Mike Lane and Lukas, 2, April 2012 in Springfield, Va.



The Soschin Family. From left to right top row are: Dan, Alan and CJ; bottom is David, Leonard and Harper. The occasion was Leonard's 90th birthday in June 2011. Alan and wife Nancy have lived in Springfield for 38 years. Their sons are Dan and CJ & Harper T. Pup. Next to Leonard is Alan's younger brother, David.



Greenspring resident Michel Margosis (center) with his children and granddogs, Leah and Reilly (left) and Aaron and Daisy (right); photo taken in December 2011.



Greenspring resident Fred Griffin (right) with his granddaughter (left), Allyson Griffin (shown at age 4) in St. Augustine, Fla.; photo taken in 2005.



Dad, Erick Lermo, with daughter, Leslie, 12, and son, Peter, 10, on May 13 in front of the White House during the annual Bike DC Family Ride.



Enjoying being the life of the party: Nathan, Wayne and Bobby Pereyra of Springfield Va., don't waste time posing for the camera.



"On May 28, Cydney Storer, 9, jumping into the arms of dad Shane Storer, with tears of joy, after winning the Silver Division championship game in the annual SYC sponsored Virginian soccer tournament," writes Shane Storer of Springfield.



"Danny Dodson and his 5-year-old son, Cody, from Springfield. They are enjoying a day of fishing on the Occoquan River. Happy Father's Day, Daddy! I love you, Cody," writes Sheri Dodson.

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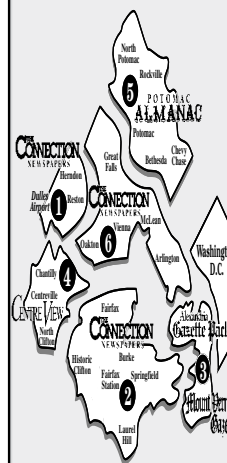
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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

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

Lake 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.

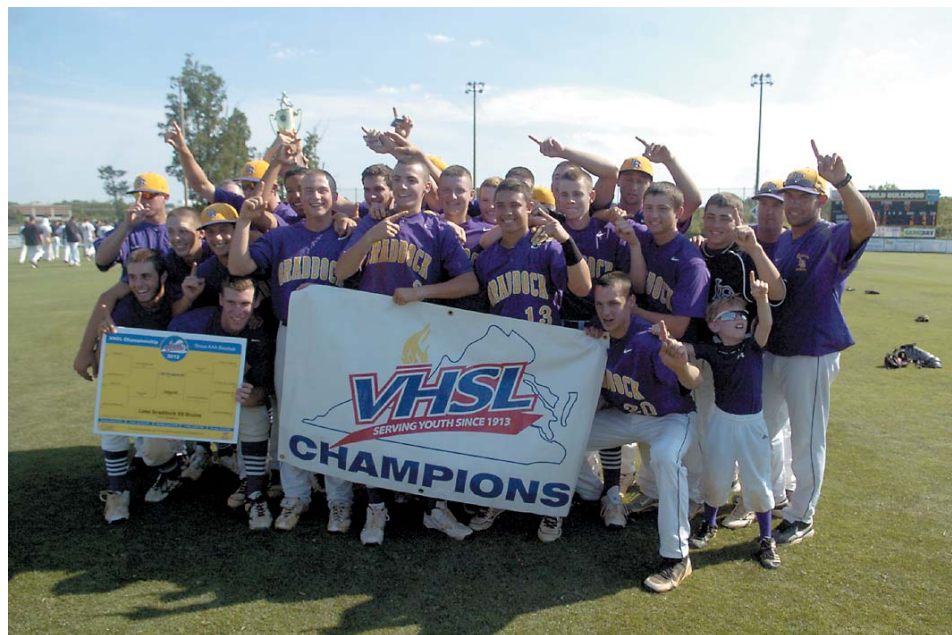
Rogers smashed a solo home run to right-center field in the top of the third inning, giving Lake Braddock a 1-0 lead against Kellam in the Virginia AAA state baseball final. Rogers spent the rest of the afternoon using his prized left arm to ensure his long ball was the only run the Bruins would need. 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,



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 Garrett 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 left-center 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 Garrett 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."

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