

Seniors say farewell to
each other at Robinson's
Commencement
Ceremony on June 14.

Farewell To High School Days

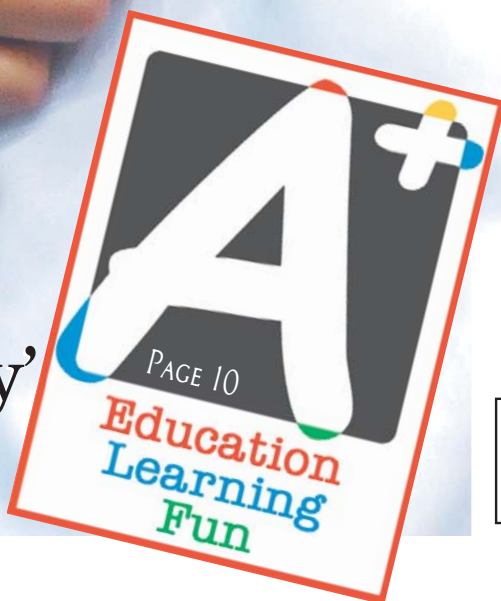
NEWS, PAGE 3

Burke Mom
Inspired By
'Sweet and Funny'

NEWS, PAGE 2

Shelter Becoming
'Residences at Mondloch'

NEWS, PAGE 13



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Burke Mom Inspired by 'Sweet and Funny'

Ann Bonwill writes books about themes important to children.

BY JENNIFER FEDOR
THE CONNECTION

For local children's book writer Ann Bonwill, the passion for reading and writing began as a child growing up in Maryland. Her mother, a children's librarian, let Bonwill read books in the corner of her library while she prepared her lessons in the evenings and on weekends.

"She had a strong love of children's literature and exposed me early to all kinds of books," Bonwill recalls. "Some of my fondest memories were going with her to the Cheshire Cat which was an independent bookstore in D.C. at the time." Picking books out with her mother, now retired, "was like candy for me", Bonwill describes.

On her website at www.annbonwill.com, she reveals: "I started writing stories as soon as I could hold a crayon. When I was in kindergarten I was sent to the principal's office. I thought I was in trouble, but she just wanted me to read her one of my stories."

Bonwill continued to enjoy writing sto-

ries, often adventures featuring "a dog and a girl in the wilderness." She imitated the writing styles or plot lines of books she was reading at the time. For example, after reading Laura Ingalls Wilder books, Bonwill's childhood writing might include characters mashing up their own food, living the pioneer life. Other favorite childhood books included "The Little Brute Family," the Frog and Toad series, "Anne of Green Gables," and stories about the Moomintroll family.

SHE OBSERVES, "I think that was really good practice for me to try to find my own voice...copying what I was reading. That was a good exercise in its own way. [It was a] neat way to start learning about different voices and eventually find my own."

As much as she enjoyed and excelled in storytelling, it wasn't until much later that she even considered writing as a career. After receiving her degree in Psychology at the College of William and Mary, where she met her husband, she worked as a social worker and then as a Montessori teacher.

As she read aloud old and new favorites with her students, she noted which storylines were so classic they continued to appeal to students over the years. Also, she was inspired by the funny and sweet things her students did in class and knew some of them would make great characters. This



Burke resident Anne Bonwill balances life as a children's book writer and a mom.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Anne Bonwill stands next to an enlarged image of the cover of her book "Bug and Bear."

exposure to children's literature in her adult life became the impetus to her own writing career.

Bonwill's most recently published book, "I Don't Want to be a Pea," details a dilemma between two best friends, a hippo and a bird. The main characters Hugo and Bella must choose costumes for a special party and can't agree on the best ones. Readers learn the importance of compromise through Hugo and Bella's affectionate interactions.

Friendships are a recurring theme in Bonwill's stories, she says. "In that preschool age they're really figuring out what friendships are about. They're moving from that parallel play to playing together and how to be friends with someone who's not exactly like you." Another Hugo and Bella book, called "I Am Not a Copycat," is scheduled for debut in 2013.

Another popular Bonwill book, "Naughty Toes," incorporates her own experiences in ballet class as a child. The character Belinda is a much better dancer than Trixie, who has "naughty toes" that won't behave in class. "I took ballet and I never quite felt like I fit in the ballet class," Bonwill says.

THE STORY illustrates how to find one's own special talents. While she states that whatever book she's working on at the time is typically her favorite, "Naughty Toes" holds a special place in her heart because of its connection to her childhood.

Bonwill, who currently lives in Burke, works part-time in admissions at a Montessori school and is mother to 4-year-old Sam. Bonwill enjoys taking walks and

going to parks with her family. She's also a trained pastry chef who at one time created wedding cakes. These days she focuses on healthier cooking for her family.

Both Sam and her husband Matt, who grew up in Fairfax, are very supportive. It can be a challenge to find the time to write and attend events like conferences and book signings, but Bonwill says her family en-

courages her to do what is needed.

"[Sam] came to a book signing I did locally and it seemed to make a big impression on him," Bonwill notes. "And he seems to really like Hugo and Bella which is really fun."

Bonwill says she draws her ideas from everywhere: "Nature, watching my son, watching his friendships and the things he's interested in. I've always been an observer. I think even in childhood I was, where I watched people and just listened."

Bonwill has two other books coming out next year; one is a bedtime story and one is about a forgetful family. She's also working on a third Hugo and Bella story as well as writing some middle grade fiction.

She continues to enjoy the sweet letters and pictures she receives from her young readers. "It's different than getting reviews from professional people or adults. When a child actually takes the time to say 'Oh, I really liked Bella' or 'I think I'm like the girl in Naughty Toes', it's neat to hear that. It's neat to get those to know that you touched a child."

For more information about Ann Bonwill, visit her website at www.annbonwill.com. Her books can be found at Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com.

"When a child actually takes the time to say 'Oh, I really liked Bella' or 'I think I'm like the girl in Naughty Toes', it's neat to hear that."

— Ann Bonwill

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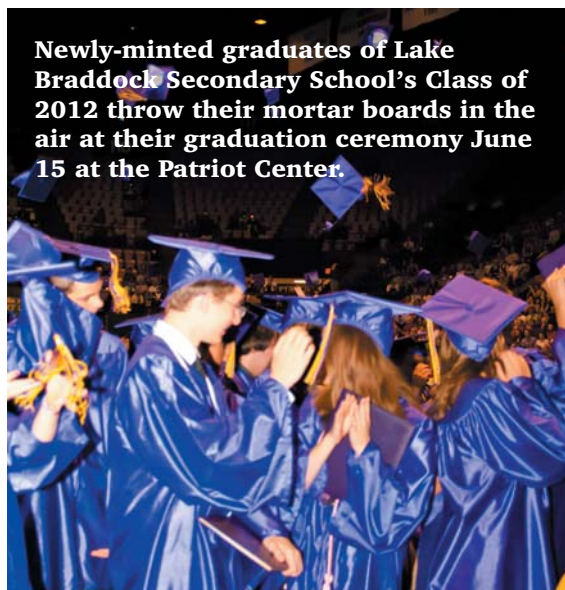
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Newly-minted graduates of Lake Braddock Secondary School's Class of 2012 throw their mortar boards in the air at their graduation ceremony June 15 at the Patriot Center.



PHOTOS BY BEN BURGESS/THE CONNECTION

Guest Speaker Senator Jim Webb (D-Virginia) gives his granddaughter Brianna Hogan a big hug after she introduces the decorated combat veteran



'Rocking It Out' at Lake Braddock

Sen. Webb delivers an inspirational speech to his granddaughter's graduating class.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Being a vice president of the Student Government Association has its perks. Brianna Hogan, a Lake Braddock Secondary School senior, had the honor of introducing the guest speaker at the school's graduation ceremony on Friday, June 15 at the Patriot Center.

"Our guest speaker is the former Secretary of the Navy, and a highly-decorated Vietnam War combat veteran. You all know him as your senior United States Senator from Virginia, Jim Webb. I know him as my pop-pop, my grandfather," Hogan said, giving her grandfather a big hug as Webb took the podium to give the Bruins' Class of 2012 commencement address.

"I'll begin by saying I was coming anyway, whether I was the guest speaker or not," Webb quipped.

He pointed out members of his blended family sitting in the audience - which includes four grown children, as well as a young child with his current wife Hong Le, and stepfather to Le's daughter Emily - as "kind of like that show 'Modern Family'... We're all here for Brianna, because we love each other."

The author of several novels, Webb, a Democratic power-player whose first legislative act in 2006 was to introduce expanded benefits for military families, announced this February that he will not seek reelection in 2012.

THE PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT captivated the audience with a rousing patriotic speech, telling the 800-plus graduation candidates to find something in life they care about and "make it possible." He asked veterans in the audience to stand up, and told the audience of a t-shirt that struck him during a Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery: "It said 'If you can read this, thank a teacher. If you can read this in English, thank a veteran.'"

He related one of the most "inspirational" moments of his life, saying, "When I was a senior in high school, my dad graduated from college at the University of

Omaha. My dad was a military pilot, and when he got his diploma, he broke out of line and strode to where I was sitting, and stuck the diploma in my face. I'll never forget that," Webb said.

"My dad said 'Son, you can get anything you want in this country, and don't forget it... This is the American Way,'" Webb said, as the audience gave him a round of thunderous applause. "You have been blessed to live, work and play in the United States of America."

Webb's speech was one of the highlights of the ceremony, which included the Presentation of the Colors by the LBSS Junior ROTC, and special guests Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41); Ilryong Moon, Vice Chairman of the Fairfax County School Board; Megan McLaughlin (Braddock) and Elizabeth Schultz (Springfield), members of the school board; and FCPS superintendent Jack Dale.

After the Pomp and Circumstance processional, Principal David F. Thomas opened the ceremony with some statistics about the graduating class. He noted that the Class of 2012 will be known for its commitment to community service.

"You have donated more than 6,000 hours of service this year. You have fully embraced President Kennedy's declaration to 'ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.'"

THE SCHOOL, with more than 4,000 students, is known for its rigorous academic program and winning athletic teams. Nearly 90 percent of the Class of 2012 is headed to a two or four-year college, and 105 students are honor graduates.

Emily Petruzzelli Schell received the Faculty Award for her launching "Promise for Preschool," a program for at-risk children.

Senior Kelsey Carpenter gave an original, sometimes sardonic, amusing Honor Graduate address to her classmates, telling them "our sass sets up apart."

"It so nice to see all of you here again, since I haven't seen you since May." She frequently compared the Bruins to the Honey Badger, known as the most fearless creature in the animal kingdom, and a recent YouTube phenomenon that spawned the popular "Honey Badger Don't Care" book.

"We have a record-breaking number of Honey Badgers here. We know we're the best and we rock it out... What you call insanity, I call inspiration," Carpenter said, eliciting cheers and laughter from her classmates.

VIEWPOINTS

Lake Braddock Graduates Respond to the Question: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

— VICTORIA ROSS



Left to right: sister Isabella Rios; graduate Sarah Rios; cousin Gaby Rios.

"I'd like to be in New York City in fashion design, something in the business end or styling. I think that would be cool."

— SARAH REBECCA RIOS



Left to right: friends Loraine Margesson and Isabella Margesson, 8; mom Sue Engelhardt; graduate James Engelhardt; dad Dean Engelhardt.

"I'm going to the Coast Guard Academy, so I expect to still be serving in the Coast Guard in 10 years."

— JAMES DEAN ENGELHARDT



Left to right: mom Lailoma Rakin; graduate Nadia Rakin; dad Abdul Hadi Rakin.

"In 10 years, I hope to be making a difference for women in Afghanistan, giving women's rights a voice in some way."

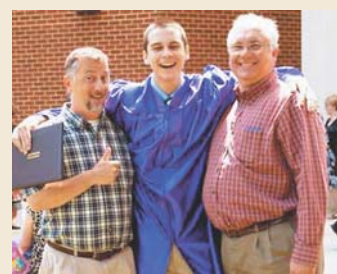
— NADIA RAKIN, A SENIOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE



Left to right: dad Seungcho Choi; graduate Hye Min Choi; mom Jeong Min Choi and sister Young Min Choi.

"In 10 years, I'm think I'd like to be working at a hospital, helping sick children."

— HYE MIN CHOI



Left to right: uncle John Vaught; graduate Josh Bosley; and dad Brian Bosley.

"In 10 years, I'm going to be very rich and successful... in business."

— JOSHUA KEITH BOSLEY

People, Places and Programs

This week in Fairfax County.

Virginia Transit Association Names Bulova 'Public Official of the Year'

The Virginia Transit Association (VTA) awarded Sharon Bulova, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, "Public Official of the Year" at its annual awards ceremony in Fairfax on June 13. The VTA recognized Bulova's "extensive and dedicated service to advance and develop public transportation in Fairfax County and throughout the region, and in particular, her role in making the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) the success that it is today," according to the news release. Bulova is one of the founders of the VRE commuter rail system, and currently serves as Chairman of the VRE Operations Board. She was also recognized for her leadership in promoting public transportation service in Fairfax County and the region, including extending the new Metrorail Silver Line through Tysons to Reston; guiding the transformation of Tysons Corner into a success-



Bulova

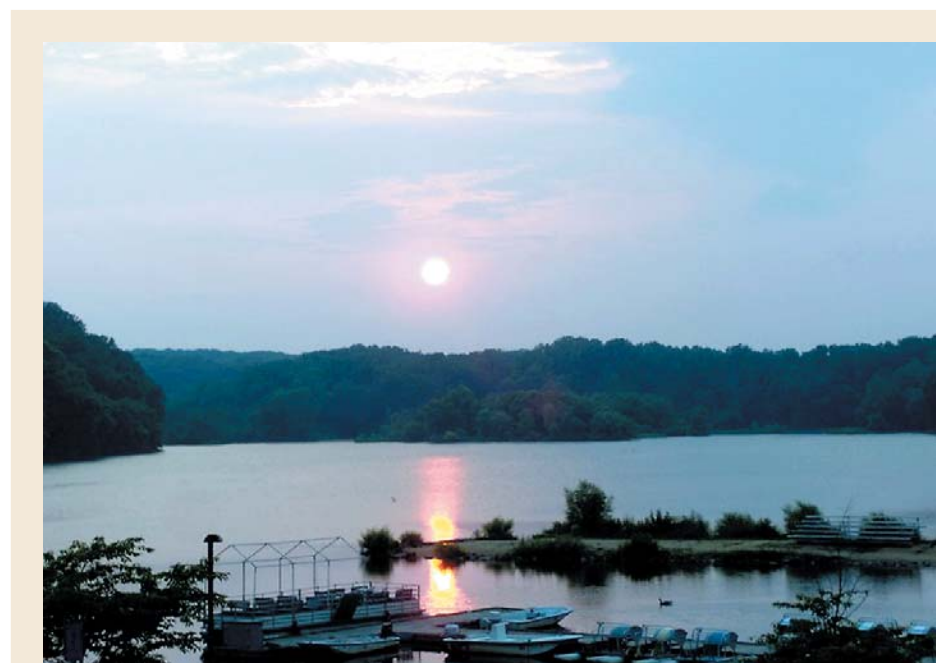
ful mixed-use, transit-oriented livable community; providing express bus service on the new Beltway HOT/Express lanes; and expanding the availability and efficiency of service on the Fairfax Connector, Metro bus routes and the I-66 corridor.

Free Home Repair for Seniors

Fairfax County provides minor home repairs to eligible low and moderate income elderly homeowners as well as accessibility modifications for homeowners with disabilities. The benefit includes labor and up to \$500 in materials to complete necessary repairs or maintenance. Eligible residents must be homeowners 62 or older or have a disability, or have a family member with a disability. Eligibility is also based on income requirements. Repairs generally fall in the following categories:

- ❖ Interior and exterior painting
- ❖ Minor electrical repair and replacement
- ❖ Window and door repair
- ❖ Minor plumbing repair and replacement
- ❖ Screen replacement for windows/doors
- ❖ Gutter
- ❖ Installation of grab bars, railings and other accessibility devices to assist the elderly and disabled.

To find out more about this program,



Lake Accotink in Springfield.

Summer Boat Cruises at Lake Accotink

Cruise the scenic shoreline of Lake Accotink during a summer boat cruise. The cruises are offered every day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sit back and listen while your tour guide shares interesting facts about local wildlife and some of the fascinating history of the park. Keep an eye out for the park's resident eagles. Beverages are served on board. The cost is \$6 per person. Participants must be at least age 13. To make a reservation, call 703-569-0285.

visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rha/seniorhousing/hrep.htm

tween 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

- ❖ Session 1 July 2 - 6 (closed July 4)
- ❖ Session 2 July 9 - 13
- ❖ Session 3 July 16 - 20
- ❖ Session 4 July 23 - 27
- ❖ Session 5 July 30 - August 3
- ❖ Session 6 August 6 - 10
- ❖ Session 7 August 13 - 17

The ReBuild Warehouse Rebuilds in New Location

Springfield's ReBuild Warehouse – where discarded building materials are recycled rather than trashed – is back. The warehouse lost its lease last November, but found a new site in the Fullerton Road Industrial Park near the mixing bowl. ReBuild takes in materials from house deconstruction projects and offers them for sale to the public at prices below what customers would pay for new products. In addition to keeping usable materials out of the landfill, ReBuild also trains workers for green collar jobs and presents workshops on sustainability to the general public. The new space opened by appointment starting June 1. To make an appointment, call 703-280-1719. Volunteers are also sought to staff the warehouse, extending the warehouse. For more information on ReBuild, visit www.rebuildwarehouse.org.

Summer Camps for Kids

Need a fun camp for your child during the summer? Fairfax County's School-Age Child Care (SACC) program offers options that appeal to the artist, performer and athlete in every child through 24 Variety Camps, two Focus Camps and Camp Discovery. SACC's experienced teachers guide children through adventures designed to develop their talents, enhance their skills, and nurture their creativity. Outdoor play, special events, swimming and field trips will make this a summer to remember. SACC programs are from 7:15 a.m. until 6:15 p.m. and are for children in kindergarten to sixth grade. To enroll your child, call SACC Registration at 703-449-8989, TTY 711 be-

Braddock Nights Concert Series

Jazz, pop, country, classic- and everything in between. The free Braddock Night Concert Series features musical performances for every taste Friday nights throughout the summer. The atmosphere is informal and guests are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner, blankets and lawn chairs and relax with friends and family to celebrate the end of the work-week. Volunteers are always welcome. If you would like to help volunteer at Braddock Nights please call Braddock Supervisor John Cook's office at 703-425-9300. Concerts are held at Lake Accotink Park in Springfield and Royal Lake Park in Fairfax from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For a complete schedule and more information, go to fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.



Braddock District Supervisor John Cook (right) and friend Lindsey Smith enjoy Braddock Summer Concerts.

— VICTORIA ROSS

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NEWS

County Board Objects to 'Transit Funding Game'

Local leaders say policy shift disruptive, costly.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors strongly criticized a McDonnell administration plan to overhaul the way it handles transportation funding, calling the move politically-motivated "funding games."

At its board meeting on Tuesday, June 19, supervisors joined other Northern Virginia localities in signing a regional letter condemning the state's Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) policy shift that abruptly changes the way the Commonwealth directs distribution of its financial assistance for transit to Northern Virginia localities.

The signers of the letter include Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large); Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) Chairman Jay Fissette; Arlington Board Chairman Mary Hynes; Falls Church Mayor Nader Baroukh; Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille; and City of Fairfax Mayor Robert Lederer.

According to the letter, the DRPT - which forwarded \$117 million in transit funding to Northern Virginia in fiscal year 2012 - threatened to cut off all of the state funding for the coming year unless the jurisdic-

tions immediately agreed to the change.

In a statement released Tuesday, county supervisors said the McDonnell administration is attempting "to circumvent Northern Virginia's efficient transit funding system."

Currently, the state's Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) forwards money to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), which allocates it based on the decades-old Subsidy Allocation Model (SAM).

According to the letter, failure to allocate state assistance to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) using the subsidy allocation model - as DRPT is attempting to do - would violate state law. SAM has been used by NVTC since 1974, and no state representative has ever voted against it.

"This move is being done in the name of transparency but, as the authors of the letter lay out, it only complicates the process that Northern Virginia uses to fund transit and could undermine vital services like Metro and the Connector," Bulova said in the statement released Tuesday. "Unfortunately, this unexpected (DRPT) action oc-

SEE BOARD, PAGE 7

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OPINION

Summer Projects

Reader input needed for community guides, Pet Connection.

The summer is in full swing at the Connection, with many interns and staff members focused on some light and some more serious summer projects.

At the end of July, we'll print our summer "Pet Connection," and we invite readers to send in stories and photos of your pets, and any story ideas you might have. We love to have photos of you or other family members with your pets. Please include your name, pet's name, town name and contact phone number, and identify the people in any photos.

You can see some of the photos we've received for past Pet Connections at Vienna <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2012/feb/23/pet-connection/>.

Email editors@connectionnewspapers.com.

Through July we will be working on our annual Insider's Edition: Newcomers and Community Guide, which will publish Aug. 22. We need input from our readers on many aspects of this guide.

Through narrative, tips from readers, listings, viewpoints and photographs, we endeavor to capture what it means to live here. We'll compile highlights of places to visit and things to do, a snapshot of local history, help finding community resources and tips on lesser known wonders in our communities.

EDITORIAL

As a local, weekly newspaper, the Connection's mission is to bring the news you need about your community, to give you the information you need to enjoy the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to

celebrate and record milestones and events in community and people's lives.

We invite newcomers to the area and long-time residents alike to be a part of providing more reader input.

We appreciate readers' ideas. If you see something that you think might be a story, or something you have a question about, give us a call, or drop us a line. If you know of a person or an organization doing important work, something that might make a good feature story, let us know.

For our Insider's Guide, we are looking for your tips. What is one place you think is a "must see" for newcomers? What's your suggestion for ways to get involved in the community?

What are you most concerned about in your community? What do you think the top news stories will be in the coming months?

We also need input from community organizations to update listings and upcoming events.

Send information by Aug. 1 to editors@connectionnewspapers.com.

Minds Wide Open for Arts

Arts play a vital role in educating children and preparing them for the future.

BY ELIZABETH MURPHY
PRESIDENT/CEO, FAIRFAX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

As we all know, reading, writing and arithmetic are building blocks of childhood education. However, what is less widely acknowledged is the role that the arts play in educating children and preparing them for the future.

Knowledge of the arts benefits every child, whether the child grows up to be a scientist, artist or baseball player. Youngsters' exposure to the arts supports the work of classroom educators by enhancing academic performance, nurturing a passion for learning, and providing an outlet for expression and creativity. A report from the National Governors' Association states that children who study the arts are four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement and three times more likely to win an award for school attendance. The findings also note that the benefits of a solid arts education are even more dramatic for at-risk youngsters. In recognition of how children and communities positively benefit, more than 200 not-for-profit arts organizations and hundreds of individual artists across Virginia, including the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, provide arts education activities for children in school, after school, and during the summer.

Virginia is fortunate that Minds Wide Open, a public/private partnership, was developed to recognize and celebrate the positive impact of artists, arts organizations and cultural institutions across the commonwealth. All ten living First Ladies of Virginia serve as Honorary Chairs, and the high-profile initiative involves state government, business corporations, individuals and not-for-profit cultural organizations who understand the value of the arts in relation to our children's education, as well as the community and economic welfare. In 2010, Minds Wide Open: Women in the Arts presented an unparalleled succession of plays, dances, musical programs, exhibitions, films and literature focusing on women in the arts. This year's collaboration, Minds Wide Open: Children and the Arts, showcases impressive statewide events and cultural activities spotlighting programs on, by, and about children.

Here in Fairfax, the Fairfax Symphony's May 12 concert fell under the Minds Wide Open umbrella. Prior to the concert, the orchestra held a family reception and instrument petting zoo for the members of its Student Pass-

port Club, students ages 6-18 who receive \$5 tickets to every concert. Over 200 people attended, while in the lobby of George Mason University's Center for the Arts, the FSO displayed artwork created by fourth grade students at Woodburn Elementary School in Falls Church. The artwork was created as a collaborative project — students listened to recordings of the music on the program during class time in school, and made art that reflected their feelings about the music. They were invited to attend the concert, not only to be recognized for their hard work, but so they could hear the pieces played live.

In McLean, the McLean Project for the Arts held several celebrations around Minds Wide Open, for Youth Art Month in March. The first featured the colorful and exuberant artwork of students from nine McLean-area elementary schools: Chesterbrook, Churchill Road, Franklin Sherman, Haycock, Kent Gardens, Lemon Road, Spring Hill, Timber Lane and Westgate. The second displayed art from McLean middle and high school art students. The opening night reception attracted over 500 people.

Minds Wide Open (www.ArtsVA.com) clearly demonstrates Virginia's commitment to the arts for the wellbeing of our children, citizens and communities. I join my colleagues in recognizing and thanking all who contributed to another Minds Wide Open success.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Right-to-Work Violated

To the Editor:

Let me get this straight. Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell and the Loudoun County Board

of Supervisors will pony up \$4 million and \$2 million, respectively, to keep Washington Redskins training facilities in Virginia. But wait, these same public officials balked at funding the Silver Line extension of Metro Rail because a project labor agreement included in the plan

supposedly violated Virginia's right-to-work laws. Last time I checked, pro football's agreement with the NFL Players Association requires that all players be members of the players' union, a clear violation of right-to-work requirements. I guess collective bargaining with \$12 an

hour laborers is a greater threat to the Commonwealth than a union where beginning salaries are denominated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Rob Abbot
Arlington

Burke
CONNECTION

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 21

Fairfax City GOP Committee Meeting. 7:30 p.m. Fairfax City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. www.NorthernVirginiaGOP.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 2 p.m. The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Classes designed to work on balance and core muscles to prevent injuries and falls; Instructor certified in back and hip rehab. Every Monday and Friday in a heated indoor pool. \$10. Registration required at 703-667-9800.

"Art Camp in Burke" for 5-8 years and 8 years & up. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Dr. and Woods Community Centre, 10100 Wards Grove Circle. 703-250-6930. Register online: <http://www.czartlessons.com/>

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

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

Fairfax County Republican Precinct Captains' Summit. 12:30 p.m. Fairfax City Fire Station #3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-817-0271.

Board Objects

FROM PAGE 5

curred without any consultation, which would have quickly identified some serious concerns."

The letter's authors say that the current funding model helps "cushion the impact" of unexpected changes in state transit aid, especially for smaller jurisdictions. The mayors and chairs also decry the short notice for this change.

"It is not reasonable to change NVTC's successful and long-standing process with only 10 days' notice after FY2013 local budgets have been adopted and after NVTC had complete applications for the state aid [at issue]," they write.

"The new policy will create local winners and losers with no time to identify other workable solutions to achieve DRPT's objectives. NVTC is not aware of any factor that necessitates a rush to action."

The letter and background information can be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/bdagenda/2012/draft-agenda-june19.pdf>

— VICTORIA ROSS



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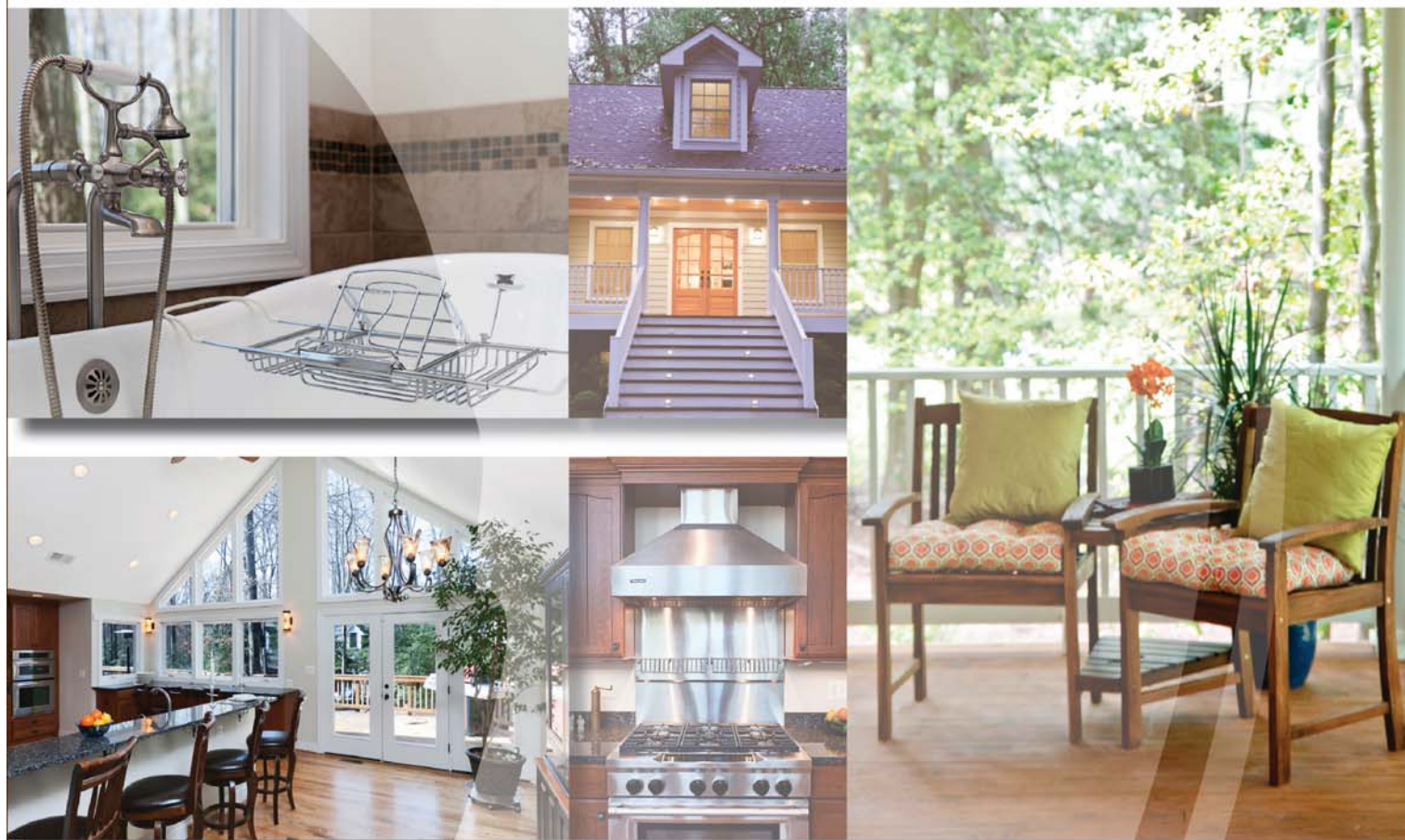
All Seats \$2.00, 10 for \$15 or Season pass (11 wks for \$11)

JUNE 25—JUNE 29MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS (PG)
JULY 2—JULY 6CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G)
JULY 9—JULY 13MONSTERS VS. ALIENS (PG)
JULY 16—JULY 20ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (G)
JULY 23—JULY 27MEGAMIND (PG)

Attendees will receive a coupon for a dollar (\$1.00) Off a cup of frozen yogurt from JOSIE'S SELF-SERVE YOGURT



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NOVA SCOTIA & BAY OF FUNDY BY MOTORCOACH, Aug. 12-18,.....\$1399
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ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA, Oct. 5-10,.....\$1874
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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

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NEWS



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



Local Fairfax skaters posing with the Children's National Medical Center's Dr. Bear.

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.



Diocese of Arlington
Victim Assistance Coordinators
For Sexually Abused Minors
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The Diocese of Arlington provides comprehensive assistance to anyone who as a minor was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, teacher, employee or representative of the diocese. Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinators, experienced social workers, who will provide a confidential consultation.

THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON IS COMMITTED TO ASSISTING VICTIMS/SURVIVORS THROUGHOUT THE HEALING PROCESS.

For further information, see www.arlingtondiocese.org

HOME SALES

In May 2012, 78 Burke homes sold between \$685,000-\$212,000.
This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$685,000-\$359,900 range.
For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City	...	Sold Price	Type	...	Lot AC	Postal Code	...	Subdivision
5967 BURNSIDE LANDING DR	5	3	2		BURKE			\$685,000	Detached		0.34	22015		BURKE CENTRE
6317 FALLING BROOK DR	4	2	1		BURKE			\$650,000	Detached		0.42	22015		SUMMERDAY
6931 SPANKER DR	4	3	1		BURKE			\$640,000	Detached		0.21	22015		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
9216 CORK PL	5	3	1		BURKE			\$629,900	Detached		0.25	22015		SOUTHPORT
10071 MARSHALL POND RD	5	3	2		BURKE			\$629,000	Detached		0.27	22015		BURKE CENTRE
9154 BLOOM CT	4	3	1		BURKE			\$629,000	Detached		0.22	22015		DUNLEIGH
9758 REHANEK CT	4	2	1		BURKE			\$605,000	Detached		0.31	22015		CHERRY RUN
5705 WOODEN HAWK LN	4	2	2		BURKE			\$600,000	Detached		0.24	22015		BURKE CENTRE
10838 BURR OAK WAY	4	3	1		BURKE			\$599,888	Detached		0.13	22015		BURKE CENTRE
5414 MOUNT GREENWICH CT	4	2	1		BURKE			\$595,000	Detached		0.24	22015		SIGNAL HILL
6309 SKINNER DR	4	3	1		BURKE			\$595,000	Detached		0.21	22015		BURKE CENTRE
6907 SPANKER DR	3	3	1		BURKE			\$590,000	Detached		0.20	22015		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
9514 YARDARM LN	4	3	1		BURKE			\$587,000	Detached		0.20	22015		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
10724 BURR OAK WAY	5	3	1		BURKE			\$585,000	Detached		0.23	22015		BURKE CENTRE
9507 PROTEST CT	4	3	1		BURKE			\$571,500	Detached		0.23	22015		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
9200 BYRON TER	4	2	1		BURKE			\$569,000	Detached		0.20	22015		SOUTHPORT
9712 CHURCH WAY	4	3	1		BURKE			\$565,500	Detached		0.24	22015		BURKE RIDGE CLUSTER
9219 BYRON TER	4	2	1		BURKE			\$565,000	Detached		0.22	22015		SOUTHPORT
6896 VIEW PARK DR	4	2	1		BURKE			\$565,000	Detached		0.91	22015		LAKE VIEW PARK
5201 DUNLEIGH DR	4	2	1		BURKE			\$561,000	Detached		0.24	22015		DUNLEIGH
9700 HARR CT	4	2	2		BURKE			\$559,900	Detached		0.21	22015		CHERRY RUN
9210 WYETH LN	4	2	1		BURKE			\$550,000	Detached		0.20	22015		SOUTHPORT
6574 STONEWAY CT	4	3	1		BURKE			\$546,000	Detached		0.46	22015		CHERRY RUN
9713 IRONMASTER DR	4	2	1		BURKE			\$545,000	Detached		0.21	22015		CHERRY RUN
9913 COFFER WOODS RD	4	3	1		BURKE			\$537,500	Detached		0.28	22015		BURKE CENTRE
9441 ONION PATCH DR	4	2	1		BURKE			\$537,500	Detached		0.21	22015		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
9403 WALLINGFORD DR	5	3	1		BURKE			\$525,000	Detached		0.21	22015		LAKE BRADDOCK
9016 LAKE BRADDOCK DR	5	3	1		BURKE			\$510,000	Detached		0.21	22015		SIGNAL HILL
6240 WILMETTE DR	4	3	1		BURKE			\$485,000	Detached		0.23	22015		BURKE CENTRE
10152 MARSHALL POND RD	3	3	1		BURKE			\$484,500	Detached		0.16	22015		BURKE CENTRE
5825 NEW ENGLAND WOODS DR	5	2	1		BURKE			\$483,000	Detached		0.13	22015		BURKE CENTRE
9523 BURNING BRANCH RD	4	3	0		BURKE			\$480,000	Detached		0.26	22015		CARDINAL GLEN
9601 CHAPEL HILL DR	4	3	1		BURKE			\$475,000	Detached		0.18	22015		LEE CHAPEL WOODS
8929 LAKE BRADDOCK DR	4	3	0		BURKE			\$464,888	Detached		0.20	22015		SIGNAL HILL
9514 SOUTHERN CROSS LN	3	3	0		BURKE			\$460,000	Detached		0.20	22015		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
10306 STEAMBOAT LANDING LN	4	2	1		BURKE			\$450,000	Detached		0.21	22015		BURKE CENTRE
9514 WALLINGFORD DR	4	3	1		BURKE			\$445,000	Detached		0.30	22015		LAKE BRADDOCK
6108 COVERED BRIDGE RD	4	2	1		BURKE			\$440,000	Detached		0.21	22015		CARDINAL GLEN
9025 FOX LAIR DR	3	2	1		BURKE			\$435,000	Detached		0.21	22015		FOX LAIR
10009 PARK WOODS LN	4	2	2		BURKE			\$430,000	Detached		0.08	22015		BURKE CENTRE
9635 HILLOCK CT	4	3	1		BURKE			\$425,000	Townhouse		0.08	22015		BURKE VILLAGE
6367 TISBURY DR	4	3	1		BURKE			\$417,000	Townhouse		0.06	22015		BRITFORD
5406 MIDSHIP CT	4	2	1		BURKE			\$400,000	Townhouse		0.04	22015		LAKE BRADDOCK
9366 MCCARTHY WOODS CT	3	2	1		BURKE			\$397,000	Townhouse		0.07	22015		WOODED GLEN
5515 WESTCLIFF CT	4	3	0		BURKE			\$389,000	Detached		0.31	22015		LAKE BRADDOCK
10021 BEACON POND LN	3	3	1		BURKE			\$370,000	Townhouse		0.04	22015		BURKE CENTRE
6212 CENTAURUS CT	3	2	0		BURKE			\$360,000	Detached		0.25	22015		ROLLING VALLEY WEST
5708 MASON BLUFF DR	4	2	1		BURKE			\$359,900	Townhouse		0.04	22015		BURKE VILLAGE

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Be Part of The Pet Connection in July

Send Your Photos & Stories Now to
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or complete our online form at burkeconnection.com

Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, and identify all people and pets in photos. Submission deadline is July 20.

OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 23 & 24



**5599 Smoke Rise Lane, Fairfax Station • \$1,425,000 • Open
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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

7811 Ridgewood Dr.....\$699,900.....Sun 1-4.....Jim Souvagis.....Long & Foster..703-919-9191

Burke

6002 Liberty Bell Ct.....\$329,999.....Sun 1-3.....Deliaa Roebuck.....Prudential..703-550-4663
6224 Mockingbird Pond Terr.....\$340,000.....Sun 1-4.....Sue Spence.....Weichert..571-214-9686
7006 Veering Ln.....\$589,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

Centreville

5212 Elkheart Ct.....\$497,000.....Sun 1-4.....John Baird.....Samson Props..703.609.1501
6455 La Petite Pl.....\$609,000.....Sat 1-4.....Barbara Blumer.....Coldwell Banker..703-405-5993

Chantilly

41994 Kudu Ct.....\$738,000.....Sun 1-4.....Rich Triplett.....Samson Props..703-217-1348
42344 Astors Beachwood.....\$899,900.....Sun 1-4.....Vera Buonafede.....Weichert..703-501-5015

Clifton

12129 Beaver Creek Rd.....\$950,000.....Sat 1-4.....Diane Lenahan.....Wolf Run..703-283-7328
12406 Shari Hunt Grove.....\$1,050,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermendorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812
13300 Compton Rd.....\$559,000.....Sun 2-4.....Marsha Wolber.....Long & Foster..703-618-4397
13919 South Springs Dr.....N/A.....Sun 1-4.....Ann York.....Samson Props..571-237-7985
6609 Rock Lawn Dr.....\$649,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ed Duggan.....Century 21..703-989-7735
7529 Evans Ford Rd.....\$749,900.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermendorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812
7700 Kincheloe Rd.....\$1,395,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermendorfer.....Long & Foster..703-503-1812

Fairfax

10849 Santa Clara Dr.....\$434,900.....Sat 1-4.....Christine Shevock.....RE/MAX..703-475-3986
5535 Wilford Ct.....\$349,900.....Sun 1-4.....Cyndee Julian.....Long & Foster..703-201-5834
12418 Ox Hill Rd.....\$475,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ritu Desai.....Samson Props..703-625-4949
3950 Collis Oak Ct.....\$384,900.....Sat 12-4.....Myra Hiser.....Long & Foster..571-426-4391
4202 Pinefield Ct.....\$489,900.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Miller.....Samson Props..703-409-7637
4335 Stevens Battle Ln.....\$429,000.....Sun 1-4.....Donny Samson.....Samson Props..703-864-4894

Fairfax Station

5599 Smoke Rise Ln.....\$1,425,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ann Grainger.....Long & Foster..703-503-1870
6304 Youngs Branch Dr.....\$694,900.....Sun 1-4.....Christine Shevock.....RE/MAX..703-475-3986
8513 Chase Glen Cir.....\$719,900.....Sun 1-4.....David Billups.....Long & Foster..703-967-8700

Falls Church

7581 Chrisland Cove.....\$510,000.....Sun 12-3.....Barbara Blumer.....Coldwell Banker..703-405-5993

Kingstowne/Alexandria

6887 Rolling Creek Way.....\$579,950.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207

Lorton

8703 Flowering Dogwood Ln..\$763,500.....Sun 1-4.....Gloria Price.....Century 21..703-491-9570

Manassas

7629 Holbrook Ct.....\$495,000.....Sun 1-4.....Cassandra Lutjen.....Weichert..484-330-6551

Springfield

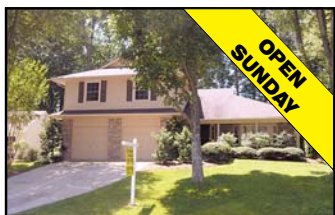
7209 Bonniemill Pl.....\$624,900.....Sun 1-4.....Crystal Sarno.....Long & Foster..703-927-6264
6024 Sherborn Ln.....\$564,752.....Sat/Sun 1-4.....Karen Brown.....Weichert..703-644-1364
7402 Scarborough St.....\$539,999.....Sun 1-5.....Stephen Donohoe.....Premier..703-455-0200

**To add your Realtor represented Open House
to these weekly listings, please call Steve Hogan
at 703-778-9418 or e-mail the info to
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All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.**

#1 Weichert Agent in Burke & Fairfax Station



**Call Kathleen
today and
ask for a
copy of her
"Satisfied
Client List"**



**Burke/Longwood Knolls \$589,950
Open Sunday 6/24 1-4**

Lovely home on cul-de-sac w/4BR, 3.5BA, remodeled eat-in kit w/maple cabs, Silsestone cntrs & SS appliances, deck, fenced yard, open staircase leads to fin bsmt, remod MBA w/jetted tub, sep shower, granite cntrs & slate flrs, many new windows & more.



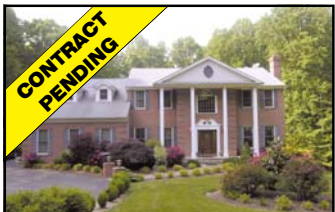
**Burke/Longwood Knolls \$599,950
Dramatic 2 Story Familyroom**

Amazing kit remodel w/ cherry cabs, island, glass drs, blt-in wine rack, gas cooktop & granite cntrs, skylts in fmlyrm, fabulous MBR w/ cathedral clngs, MBA w/ double sinks & jetted tub, deck, fenced yard, fin bsmt w/ full BA, recrm & den & more.



**Fairfax Sta/South Run \$914,950
Multiple Offers Received**

Premium fenced lot w/ sreened porch & multi-lvl deck w/ hot tub, SUNROOM, 5BR, 4.5BA, spectacular kit w/ Wood-Mode Cabinets & Sub-zero & Thermador appliances, walkout bsmt w/ custom bar & office w/ blt-in desk, gorgeous remod MBA, Hardi-plank siding, new dual zone HVAC, walk to lake & more.



**Fairfax Station \$874,950
Sold in 1 Week**

Quality custom colonial w/ 5BR & 4.5BA, 10 FT ceilings, grand 2 story foyer, eat-in kit w/ granite & SS appliances, library, loaded w/ moldings & hrdwd floors, 2 frples, fin walkout bsmt, deck overlooks flat yard, 2 acre lot, MBA w/ jetted tub & skylts, Sangster & Lake Braddock districts.



**Springfield West \$399,950
Multiple Offers Received**

All brk beauty backing to woods w/ remod eat-in kit w/ Corian cntrs & 42" cabs w/ blt-in desk & slide out shelving, hrdwd flrs 2 lvls, fin walk-out bsmt w/ den/4BR & full BA, 2300 sqft, gorgeous MBA remodel w/ glass mosaic tile, walk to lake & more.

**Kathleen Quintarelli
703-862-8808**

**See Interior Photos at:
www.kathleenhomes.com • kathquintarelli@erols.com**

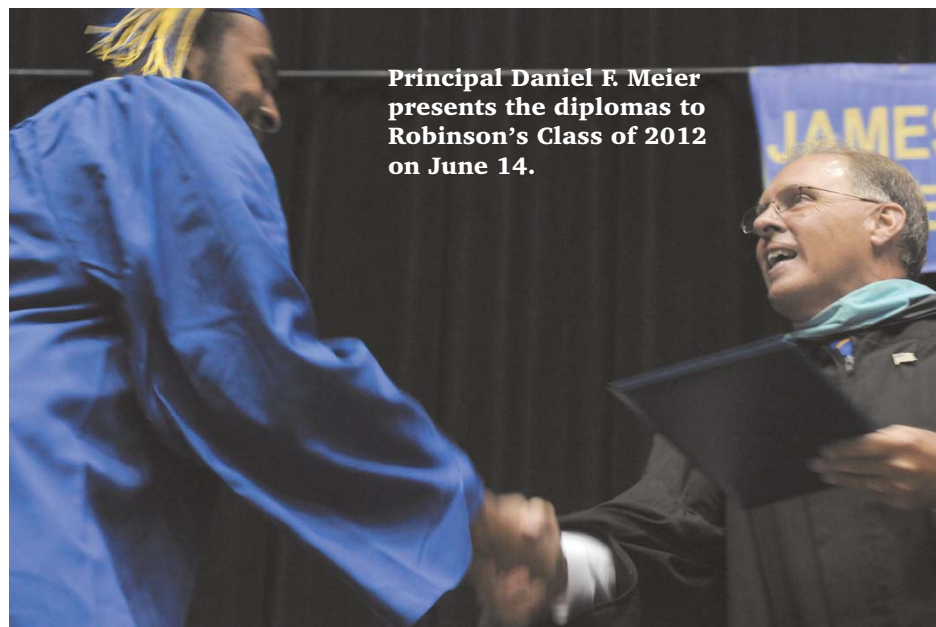


**#1 Weichert Realtor
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Choral director Michael Horanski leads the Robinson Singers and Select Women's Ensemble in "Bridge Over Troubled Water," at Robinson's Commencement Ceremony on June 14.



Principal Daniel F. Meier presents the diplomas to Robinson's Class of 2012 on June 14.

Strong Leaders and Great Followers

Robinson's Class of 2012 graduates.

BY ANNELISE JENSEN
THE CONNECTION

The seniors enjoyed their last few hours as Robinson students at their graduation ceremony reminiscing about old memories and new beginnings. On May 14, in the Patriot Center at George Mason University, Robinson Secondary School's class of 2012, their teachers and parents said good-bye.

Robinson Principal Dan Meier said, "It's the charity and spirit that the students have that makes them great." He gave recognition to the 149 students with a 4.0 cumulative GPA, 113 with an International Baccalaureate Diploma and 25 students that received National Merit Scholarships. Robinson is among the top 100 schools in the nation and Virginia's 5th best school.

"We take great pride in our academic success and are flattered by the ranking," Principal Dan Meier said in his opening remarks.

Chosen Class Speaker Camron Plunkett joked about the creator of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg's "greatest procrastinations tool" and the memories that students will carry on into the future. He remarked that students are never given "instruction guides" to life

after high school.

Commencement Speaker Assistant Principal Terrence Yarborough felt like a "proud father" to each Robinson graduate. His advice was if they lived at home they must pay rent. Among the jokes told, Yarborough said that Robinson produced "strong leaders and great followers."

One by one, students received their diplomas. The traditional air horns from the audience and the occasional beach balls bouncing among the graduates couldn't mask the overwhelming emotion that came after the ceremony. Outside students and parents alike were clashed between excitement and sadness.

Graduate Andrew Steger presented the 2012 class gift during the ceremony. "There are too many great memories from high school, but graduation has to be one," said Carly Buckholz, who will be starting school in the fall at the University of Virginia. Both students were a part of Robinson's Student Government Council and given special recognition during the ceremony.

Robinson Secondary School comprises both middle and high school, many of the graduates have been Robinson students for the last seven years. Principal Meier mentioned that 16 graduates will be joining the U.S. military. Distinguished guests included Congressman Gerry Connolly (D-11) and State Sen. Chap Peterson (D-35).

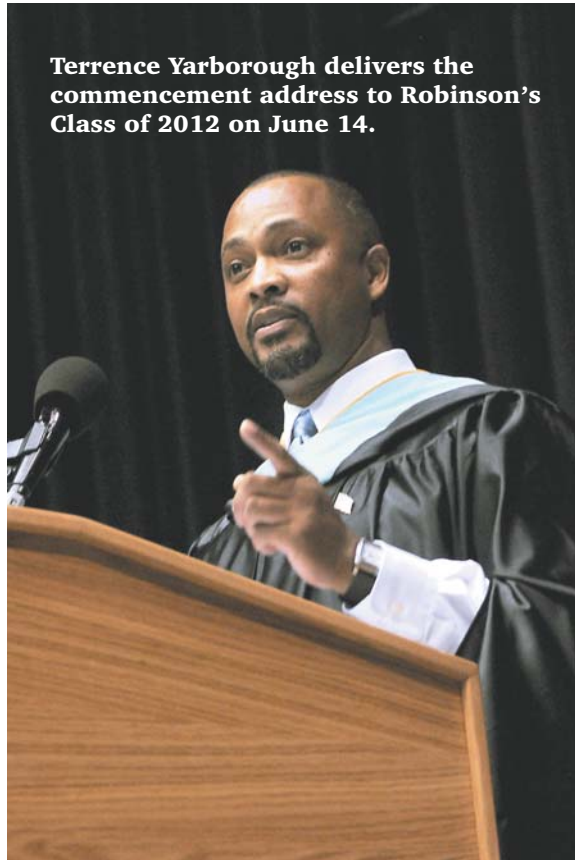


Choral director Michael Horanski receives multiple hugs from graduating seniors at the conclusion of a musical selection.



The stadium seats at the Patriot Center were nearly full as the Robinson Class of 2012 took their seats for the Commencement Ceremony on Thursday, June 14.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION



Terrence Yarborough delivers the commencement address to Robinson's Class of 2012 on June 14.



Carly Buckholz, left; Paul Costantini, middle; Andrew Buckholz, right will be splitting up to go to different schools in the fall.

Where are you going after high school?

Carly Buckholz: "University of Virginia."

Paul Costantini: "Northern Virginia Community College."

Andrew Steger: "Virginia Tech."

Mariam Eackloff: "Virginia Tech."

Drew Witter: "Virginia Tech."

What was your best memory for high school?

Buckholz: "There are too many great memories for high school, but graduation has to be one."

Costantini: "Running indoor/outdoor track."

Steger: "Graduation."

Eackloff: "Playing on the tennis team."

Witter: "Marching Band performances."

What was the most inspiring message from today's ceremony?

Buckholz: "It's nice to hear Mr. Yardorough call us his children."

Costantini: "Congratulations Graduates (the end)."

Steger: "Hearing Principle Meier call Robinson our home and that we are always welcome back."

Eackloff: "I like how Camron's speech was about moving forward, not all puffed up."

Witter: "Mr. Yarborough expectations for the students after high school."

What will you miss at Robinson?

Buckholz: My peers.

Costantini: "Being odd."

Steger: "The relationship from high school."

Eackloff: "Friday night football."

Witter: "I'll miss the people I've been with for six years."

— ANNELISE JENSEN



Miriam Eackloff stands with her IB diploma.



Drew Witter received a medal for his 4.0 cumulative GPA average.

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Instructor Linda Feldman leads a group of yoga campers in a downward dog tunnel at Budding Yogis. Specialty camps could be an option for parents still searching for summer activities for their children.

PHOTO BY
MARILYN CAMPBELL/
THE CONNECTION



Making the Most of Summer

Advice for planning warm weather activities for children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

"I'm bored, there's nothing to do," is a phrase often uttered by children during the summer. The end of the school year leaves many parents scrambling for activities to keep their young ones active and stimulated. Experts say it is important to plan activities to keep children safe and out of trouble.

"Adult supervision is important, especially for the younger age groups. Make sure there is a good balance between fun and learning in the activities chosen," said Chantilly resident Maria Londono, a mental health therapist for Fairfax County Community Health Care Network and Molina Health Care in Falls Church, Alexandria and Reston. "Children should also have some down time, so don't kill yourself trying to fill every minute of the day with activities."

WHEN IT COMES TO CAMPS, think outside the box. While traditional day camps often fill as soon as registration opens, specialty camps such as cooking camps, yoga camps, sports camps and art camps frequently offer more availability.

"With specialty camps you can have a clear idea of what your child will be doing and your child will know what to expect," said Linda Feldman, director of Budding Yogis camp. "Like traditional camps, specialty camps usually include crafts and outdoor activities." "Specialty camps provide an opportunity for campers to explore particular areas of interest and foster discovery, adventure and learning," said Jim Supple, director of summer programs at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria.

George Mason University's Summer Camps and Youth Programs 2012 offers a variety of activities ranging from sports to academics.

"Each of [our] camps is run individually and all of the camps are listed on our website," said Angelique LeBlanc, an event coordinator at the school's office of University Information. "One of the most popular of our camps is the George Mason University Forensics Camp. Also popular are all of the camps that are held at the aquatics center, and our performing arts and music camps."

KEEP LEARNING IN THE MIX. The National Summer Learning Association reports that most students fall more than two months behind in math skills during the summer. Ron Fairchild, the association's chief executive officer, encourages parents to "make sure kids have access to high-quality programs that help them keep learning during the summer."

Susan Goldberg, principal of Potomac Elementary School in Potomac, says that educational tools are all around. "Make math a part of everyday experiences. There are interesting and fun websites, games and problem solving activities that can insure that your child continues their love of learning," she said.

Don't forget literature. Experts say that children should read every day. "If you take time to read alongside or to your children, they will make it a life-long habit, and they'll enrich their lives at the same time," said Goldberg.

Take advantage of summer programs at local libraries. "Check your local libraries for story times and arts-and-crafts-related activities. Most libraries and community recreational centers have programs full of stimulating and age-appropriate activities for children and their families during the summer," said Londono.

LEAVE TIME FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES. "Keep in mind that summer is a time for fun and a break from the routine," said Susan DeLaurentis, director of counseling at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes

School. "Whatever activities parents plan for their children, they should be enjoyable and stress-free. When it's too hot outside, or on a rainy day, pitch a tent in the living room and go 'camping' indoors. Have a bag ready, filled with new board games and books."

Summer fun doesn't have to be expensive. "There are always low cost or free activities for children during the summer," said Londono. "[Many] area museums are free of cost. [Planning] a picnic at a park and having children involved in the preparation of the picnic basket can be fun. A family bike ride, fishing, camping can be all fun family-oriented activities that don't necessarily involve a lot of spending. Including children in the preparation of meals can be a fun and helpful activity year-round because it gets them interested in food and keeps them involved in helping around the house."

"Keep in mind that summer is a time for fun and a break from the routine. Whatever activities parents plan for their children, they should be enjoyable and stress-free."

— Susan DeLaurentis

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with our
times is
that the
future is not
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—Paul Valéry

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THE COUNTY LINE



The Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is developing the “Residences at Mondloch” in partnership with the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, New Hope Housing, and other community partners.



The original four-bedroom farmhouse that became Mondloch House was dedicated in December 1978 as the first shelter in Fairfax County. In 1979, the shelter was named in honor of Bob Mondloch, a founding member of the Route One Task Force for Human Services, who died shortly after the shelter opened.

Shelter Becoming ‘Residences at Mondloch’

Mondloch House undergoes renovation, will include 20 affordable housing units.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County’s focus on ending homelessness took a step forward this month when the county began renovating its first ever homeless shelter - Mondloch House - to increase housing opportunities for single adults.

“This is a huge opportunity to house formerly homeless singles in our community,” said Dean Klein, director of the county’s Office to Prevent and End Homelessness (OPEH).

When the renovation is complete in June 2013, the Residences at Mondloch will include the creation of 20 affordable efficiency units for formerly homeless adults. The project, estimated to cost \$3,353,204, will expand the 8,463 square foot building and add 2,953 square feet of new floor space.

The housing will provide homeless singles with the rare opportunity to be safely housed while receiving services – substance abuse, medical services, and education - necessary to remain independent in the community. According to Klein, residents will be required to pay 30 percent of their income in rent. The units have been designed for persons with disability or employment income that will not support market rents.

“By renovating Mondloch House, we are moving the community another step towards reaching the goal of preventing and ending homelessness by dedicating critical housing and service resources,” Klein said.

Mondloch is currently operated by New Hope Housing under contract with OPEH. Klein said Fairfax County’s Housing and Community Development (HCD), New Hope Housing and OPEH expressed an interest in upgrading the building to provide the fully-furnished efficiency units after officials determined Mondloch lacked access-

sibility and needed substantial rehabilitation.

As Fairfax County enters its fifth year of the 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, local homeless advocates are sharpening the focus on Housing First and various proven housing strategies to get the homeless housed as quickly as possible. Housing First is a nationwide approach that provides people who are homeless permanent housing first, along with supportive services, instead of placing them into shelters. This means housing becomes the first step in moving out of homelessness, not the last.

Through this exciting effort we are able to provide housing opportunities for singles through this new facility. We are also able to implement an innovative approach to serving homeless families who would have been referred to the shelter,” said Klein.

Next Steps, a new program operated by New Hope Housing in partnership with OPEH and others, has been launched this year in serving homeless families and families who have experienced domestic violence in 18 scattered site apartments. This program focuses on rapidly moving these families to permanent housing.

“The most pressing issue we have is safe, affordable and accessible housing,” said Michael O’Reilly, Governing Board Chairman of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness. “We’ve been working towards a goal of 2,650 housing units to be made available over the 10-year period in order to end homelessness in our community.”

During O’Reilly’s annual presentation to the Board of Supervisors in May, he noted that there has been a decrease in the number of people in Fairfax County experiencing homelessness for the first time, down from 1,639 in fiscal year 2010 to 1,376 in fiscal year 2011.

Mondloch House – Then & Now

Before there was a Mondloch House, there was - and still is - a Route One Task Force for Human Services. In the mid-1970s, housing was the task force’s top priority, and sheltering those who were homeless and living in run-down motels along the Route One corridor was the most critical need.

In the early 1970s, Eleanor Kennedy, a task force chair, went before the Fairfax County Redevelop-

ment and Housing Authority and asked for \$10,000 for a shelter. “Naturally, the commissioners wanted to know if I had a plan. The answer was ‘no,’ but I assumed by the time they gave the money we would have a plan,” Kennedy said. I guess they believed me because they gave us \$9,000. In October 1977, we incorporated a new nonprofit agency, Route One Corridor Housing, Inc.”

Mondloch House - Then

Route One Corridor Housing’s first priority was to locate a shelter facility. Fortunately, a farmhouse was located for \$8,000 down with an option to purchase in 18 months for an additional \$65,000. This was just the opportunity that the new nonprofit needed. In December 1978 the four-bedroom house was dedicated as the first shelter in Fairfax County, and it opened for use in January 1979. Later that year, the shelter was named in honor of Bob Mondloch, a founding task force member and its first treasurer, who died shortly after the shelter opened.

In 1983, Fairfax County built a second facility on the same site, which was named Mondloch II Shelter, in response to the growing need for family shelter. Eight years later a large addition was built using state and county funds. The expanded facility could serve 45 people plus infants, an average of 17 families every night.

In 1999 the original farmhouse was replaced with a handicapped- accessible, more functional facility to serve a changing population of vulnerable single homeless adults. This state-of-the-art facility, still called Mondloch House I, opened in April 2000.

Information provided by Fairfax County’s Office to Prevent and End Homelessness

“This is the first time the partnership has had a baseline to compare against,” O’Reilly said.

He also noted that during the same period, more homeless were able to move into permanent housing, up from 482 in fiscal year 2010 to 714 in fiscal year 2011.

He cited affordable housing as one of the partnership’s biggest challenges. “Creating affordable, appropriate and safe housing options for those at the lowest income levels has to be a top priority. For many of our elderly, disabled and low-income neighbors, long-term affordability is one of the most critical concerns,” O’Reilly said.

Nan Roman, president of the National Alliance to End homelessness, said housing-centered solutions are key in order to pre-

Mondloch House - Now

Under the leadership of Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and other community partners, Mondloch II is being rehabilitated into The Residences at Mondloch, a building of 20 fully-furnished efficiency units.

New Hope Housing, based in Alexandria, has designed and begun implementation of the Next Steps Family Program. The program is an innovative new model for serving families who experience homelessness by utilizing apartments rather than a congregate living facility. The apartment model allows families greater autonomy and provides staff an opportunity to assess daily living skills such as cooking, budgeting, basic home maintenance and parenting. The Next Steps Family Program (which maintains existing shelter capacity) will enable families experiencing homelessness to move more rapidly into permanent housing. The pioneering strategy behind the development of the Next Steps Family Program is its use of tiered service levels that quickly identify and address barriers to housing, enabling the movement of families more rapidly into safe, appropriate and affordable permanent housing.

vent a rise in homelessness in the future.

In the NAEH’s second annual State of the Homelessness report, released in 2012, Roman noted that funds from a \$1.5 billion federal stimulus initiative focused on preventing a recession-related increase in homelessness are nearly gone. Roman said a combination of factors, including persistent unemployment, rising housing cost burden, and an increase in doubled up households, suggest heightened risk of homelessness for more and more Americans.

“In order to prevent a rise in homelessness in the future, we need to prioritize a safety net for the most vulnerable, and to ramp up investment in proven, housing-centered solutions,” Roman said.

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 21

Empires. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
The Bob Gibson Big Band with vocalist Ginny Carr plays vintage to modern jazz. 7:45 p.m. Old Country Buffet 9650 Main St. (Rte. 236) Fairfax, Fair City Mall (next to Cinema Arts). Free. 703-764-0708

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

Joan Sebastian and Pepe Aguilar. 9 p.m. Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Latin music equestrian show. \$64-\$144, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 1-800-745-3000.
Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
Esencia Tropical. 7:30 p.m. Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Salsa. Free. 703-324-7469.
New York Philharmonic Cellist Wei Yu. 7:30 p.m. Truro Anglican Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Cellist Wei Yu and pianist Keuna Lee, performing a variety of works for cello and piano. Free, donations accepted to benefit Sudan Sunrise, www.sudansunrise.org. 703-273-1300.
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.
English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice your



The L.L.Bean Bootmobile, 13' high, which will set foot in Occoquan Regional Park on Saturday, June 23, in honor of L.L.Bean's Outdoor Discovery Day where visitors will learn and try new outdoor activities.

English conversation skills. Adults. 703-978-5600.
Brooklyn-based Artist, Matt Cranstoun's Musical Performance. 7 p.m. Epicure Cafe, 11213-A Lee Highway, Fairfax.

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

L.L.Bean's Outdoor Discovery Day. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Occoquan Regional Park, 9751 Ox Road, Lorton. Visitors

will learn about and try new outdoor activities.
Germans in the Civil War. 2 p.m. Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Ruediger Lentz of the German-American Heritage Foundation presents "Seen through the Eyes of German-American Caricaturists: The American Civil War." Free. 703-591-0560.
Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers.

8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
Fairfax Symphony Orchestra OTO String Quartet. 10 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax. Showcasing the techniques and qualities of string instruments. Free. 703-324-7469.
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.

SUNDAY/JUNE 24

Demi Lovato and Hot Chelle Rae. 7 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$42 in-house, \$30 lawn. www.wolftrap.com.
Wolf Trap Opera Company: Backstage Buzz Artist Panels. 3 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Bringing the opera to life. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

MONDAY/JUNE 25

An Evening with Iona. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
Upcycle Your Clothes. 2:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Bring jeans, t-shirt, high tops or similar clothing and embellish. Bring two items of clothing per teen. Presented by Shannyn Snyder of Whispering Eden. Age 13-18. 703-249-1520.
Meet Martha Washington, Dolley

Madison and Patsy Jefferson. 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Margie Schoenberg uses colonial garb, dolls and other items as she describes the lives of these three Virginia women. Children. 703-293-6227.

TUESDAY/JUNE 26

Hot Peas 'N Butter. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. English and Spanish lyrics in a mix of jazz, rock, and pop. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TTTW.
Tuesday Night Book Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. The Academie by Amy Joy. Goodreads reviewers give it four stars. Ages 15-18. 703-249-1520.
Tales to Tails. 4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Read aloud to Chelsea, a trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. 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.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 27

Hot Peas 'N Butter. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. English and Spanish lyrics in a mix of jazz, rock, and pop. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TTTW.
Create a Comic Book. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Hands-on workshop with graphic artist Matt Dembicki. Age 12-18. 703-293-6227.

THURSDAY/JUNE 28

Culkin School of Traditional Irish Dance. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Young dancers accompanied by Celtic music.
The Skatalites and Murphy's Kids. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
Wolf Trap Opera Company: Vocal Colors. 6:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Filene Young Artists perform. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.
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.

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

Marah. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
Eric Brace and Peter Cooper. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Country melodies and lyrics. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TTTW.
Wolf Trap Opera Company: Don Giovanni. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.
Cheryl Wheeler. 7:30 p.m. Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Folk music singer/songwriter. Free. 703-324-7469.

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Children's Shows: The Smithsonian and Jammin Java present Billy Jonas. 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
John Wesley Harding. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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FAITH

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

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

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

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carleigh Parkway in Springfield, supports a Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) program on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Meetings are 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the church. All mothers and children are welcome. The program provides mothers an opportunity to get to know other mothers through discussions and craft activities. Register at 703-451-5320.

JCCNV Mother's Circle program, for women who are not Jewish but are raising Jewish children. Free education in Jewish rituals, practices and values, while respecting the participant's choice to retain her own religious identity. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. Contact Laurie Albert, 703-537-3064 or LaurieA@jccnv.org.

Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, offers traditional Sunday church services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. plus Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Childcare is available 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. There will be a Terry Hall Concert on Saturday, April 14 at 4 p.m. with old spirituals, classic hymns, southern gospel favorites and more. 703-971-5151 or admin@franconiaumc.org or www.franconiaumc.org.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is for people interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic Church. A group meets at 7:30 p.m. on July 6 and 20 at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. A group will begin meeting every Wednesday starting September. Sessions are in the Old Parish Hall. All are welcome. Contact Carolyn Smith at 703-273-5369 or carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com.

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/growth-learning.

Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia, 10383 Democracy Lane in Fairfax, presents worship services on Sundays at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. and choir practice (open to all) on Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m. www.mccnova.com or 703-691-0930.

Church of the Nativity offers a free general bereavement support group open to all adults on the first and third Thursday of each month 7:30-9 p.m. The church is located at 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke. Call 703-455-2400, ext. 17.

Arabic Bible Baptist Church is located at 6428 Ox Road in Fairfax Station. Services are on Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m. Pastor: Wissam Jamil. Call 703-273-5599.

A casual worship service with a praise band is at 9:45 a.m. at **Sydenstricker United Methodist Church**, 8508 Hoopes Road in Springfield. www.sumcdisciples.org or 703-451-8223.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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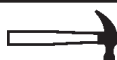
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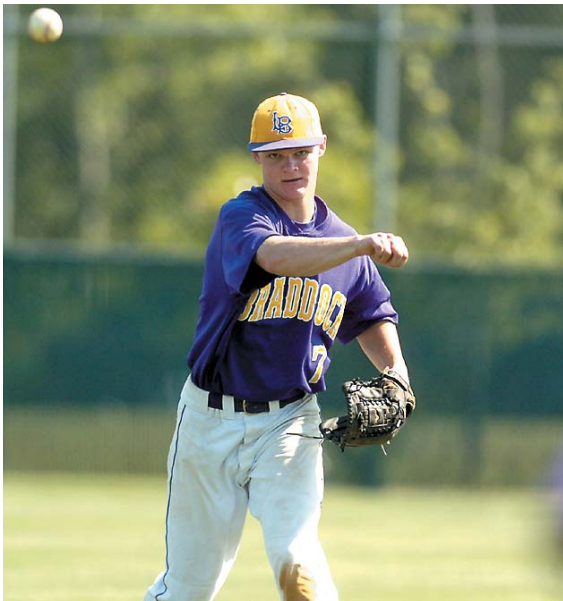
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Lake Braddock's Matt Spruill earned Second Team All-Northern Region honors as a second baseman this season.



West Springfield's Taylor Boyd earned All-Patriot District accolades at shortstop.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

All-District, All-Region Athletes

The following local high school athletes were among those to earn special postseason All-District or All-Region accolades this past spring season.

In girls' lacrosse, several Robinson Rams made All-Concorde District. Those players are: Katie McHugh (First Team Attack); Campbell Collier (First Team Midfield); Megan Barlow (First Team Midfield); Maggie Hyland (Second Team Attack); Kate Moody (Second Team Midfield); Devon Schricliffe (Second Team Midfield); Shannon Picard (Honorable Mention Attack); Lauren Rauch (Honorable Mention Goalie).

In boys' lacrosse, Robinson players named to the All-Concorde District team were: Alex Barber (First Team Attack); Clarke Pietruszka (First Team Midfield); Brady George (First Team Defense); Hunter Jasien (Second Team Midfield); Sean McShea (Second Team Midfield); Jack Rowlett (Second Team Defense); Brandon Natsuhara (Second Team long/short stick); Cullen Kevan (Honorable Mention Attack); Sam Shaw (Honorable Mention Attack); Chapman Jasien (Honorable Mention Attack); Drew Carinci (Honorable Mention Attack); Jack Hamrick (Honorable Mention Attack); Pat Goulding (Honorable Mention Attack); Connor Lloyd (Honorable Mention Midfield); Jude Buckholtz (Honorable Mention Defense); Edriss Sayed (Honorable Mention long/short stick); Taylor Jones (Honorable Mention long/short stick); Nick Kondracki (Honorable Mention Goalie); Louis Lucaczyk (Honorable Mention Goalie).

Brady George of Robinson was the Concorde District Defensive Player of the Year. The District's Assistant Coach of the Year was Robinson's Eric Ruffer.

In boys' soccer, the following local players earned All-Northern Region accolades: Robinson's Ryan Harmouche (First Team Forward); Woodson's Michael Cherry (First Team Forward); West Springfield's Patrick Burns (First Team Midfield); West Springfield's Jannick Eckenrode (Second Team Forward); Robinson's Sam Yardley (Second Team Forward); Hayfield's Kevin Jimenez (Second Team Midfield); Robinson's Evan Christian (Second Team Defense); Lake Braddock's Tyler Durbin (Second Team Defense); West Springfield's Braden Horton (Second Team Goalkeeper); Woodson's Carlos Canas (Second Team Goalkeeper); Robinson's Mickey Be-

lay (Honorable Mention Forward); Robinson's Ben Ferrell (Honorable Mention Midfield); Woodson's Scotty Patterson (Honorable Mention Midfield); Lake Braddock's Reynaldo Pastor (Honorable Mention Midfield); Fairfax High's Peter Lam (Honorable Mention Defense); Robinson's Josh Penn (Honorable Mention Goalkeeper); Fairfax's Joe Rice (Honorable Mention Goalkeeper).

In baseball, local players to earn All-Northern Region recognition were: South County's Kyle Fairbanks (First Team First Baseman); Lake Braddock's Alex Gransback (First Team Outfield); Robinson's Chase Bailey (First Team Designated Hitter); Robinson's Denis Mikush (First Team Utility); Lake Braddock's Matt Spruill (Second Team Second Base); Edison's Nick Ameen (Second Team Second Base); Fairfax's Sean Ranson (Second Team Third Base); South County's Blake Thompson (Second Team Outfield).

Lake Braddock's Michael Church was named the Northern Region Pitcher of the Year. Bruins' head coach Jody Rutherford, who led Lake Braddock to the state AAA crown, was named the Region Coach of the Year.

In Concorde District baseball, three Robinson Rams earned First Team honors: Patrick Baker (second base); Chase Bailey (Designated hitter); Denis Mikush (both pitcher and utility).

— RICH SANDERS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Kelli Stockton and Cory Bowersox - Olympic Trials Divers.

Olympic Hopefuls

Two Area Divers Qualify for 2012 USA Diving Olympic Trials

Dominion Dive Club, a top six nationally ranked USA Diving club, announced that two of its divers – current and former – have qualified for the 2012 USA Diving Olympic Trials.

Cory Bowersox, of Burke, and Kelli Stockton, of Fairfax, plan to compete in the USA Diving Olympic Trials June 19-24 in Federal Way, Wash. at the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center, located just outside of Seattle. Bowersox will be participating in the Men's 3-meter springboard event and Stockton will be participating in the Women's 10-meter platform event.

Bowersox is a graduating senior from James W. Robinson Secondary School and will be attending the University of Texas in Austin in the fall as a member of their dive team. Bowersox is a multiple Virginia State High School Champion, USA Diving Junior National Champion, and USA Diving Senior National Finalist.

Stockton just finished her freshman year at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) under Ron Piemonte. At Olympic Trials, she is representing Dominion Dive Club and head coach John Appleman due to the fact that she qualified for the event while still a member of the team in 2011. Stockton won a Virginia State Championship during her time at Fairfax High School and was also a finalist at multiple USA Diving Junior and Senior National Championships.

Dominion Dive Club was founded in 2007 under Head Coach John Appleman. The team consists of over 140 local area divers ranging from ages 5-18. Since 2007, Dominion Dive Club has produced 12 National Champions, two Olympic Trials Qualifiers, two medalists in International Competition and 23 National Finalists. Dominion Dive Club is currently ranked as a top six USA Diving Club in the entire United States.

Waters Named New Paul VI Lax Coach

Served as assistant at powerhouse Chantilly program.

Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax has announced that Bob Waters is the new boys' lacrosse head coach. Waters has been coaching in Northern Virginia since 1990 and most recently served as the assistant varsity head coach at Chantilly High School where, over the last six years, he helped lead the Chargers to four VHSL state finals appearances, a state championship in 2008, and an overall record of 86-14. Coach Waters played collegiately at the University of Delaware, where he was named All-Con-



Bob Waters.

ference on three occasions and served as the team captain for the Blue Hens. Waters recently took early retirement from Northrop Grumman, where he was employed in a variety of management and leadership roles. He is also the Executive Director of the FuZe Lacrosse Club and has

successfully helped numerous student-athletes with the college recruiting process for over seven years.

"We are extremely excited about having Coach Waters lead our program to the next level," remarked Paul VI Athletic Director Billy Emerson. "We were looking for someone with a strong background in lacrosse, leadership and management. He has all three. Coach Waters' belief in multisport athletes, his knowledge of the game and his track record of success made him the perfect fit for our program."



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/CONNECTION

Associate director of bands, Kurt R. Holscher, directs his students to conclude the performance of "Pomp and Circumstance," after the graduating class has been seated.

Spartans Reach for the Stars

West Springfield High's alumnus Patrick Forrester, NASA astronaut, delivers a keynote speech.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

West Springfield High School Principal Mark Greenfelder launched the school's 45th commencement ceremony at the Patriot Center with an inspiring message: "Spartans should always reach for the stars."

Greenfelder said fellow Spartan, retired Army Colonel Patrick G. Forrester, was a perfect example of someone who "reached for the stars." A 1975 graduate of WSHS and a NASA astronaut, Forrester "shows that anything is possible," Greenfelder said.



Class president Chung Sham welcomes all to the commencement exercises and introduces the WSHS Madrigals who sing "The Star Spangled Banner."

HONOR GRADUATE Jacob Martin introduced Forrester, a fellow Eagle Scout, citing his many accomplishments as an astronaut and pilot who "logged more than 950 hours in space."

Forrester graduated from West Point in June 1979 and entered the U.S. Army Aviation School the same year. After completing a Master of Science degree at the University of Virginia in 1989, he was assigned as a flight test engineer at Edwards Air Force Base in California. In 1992, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and was designated an experimental test pilot.

"This is joyous reunion for me. It brings back great memories," Forrester told the class of seniors who filled the Patriot Center on Tuesday, June 19.

Forrester delivered a thoughtful message about character, emphasizing that "habit is the daily battleground of character." Instead of sharing flight stories, he shared philosophy, and challenged the graduating seniors to learn to embrace the uncomfortable "wilderness" in life.

"Take a deep breath and lean into it," Forrester said. "The wilderness comes when we leave something familiar and haven't grasped what's new. It's Linus when his blanket is in the dryer. Living in the place between the trapezes is where you will learn the most about yourself."

The two-hour ceremony began with a moving rendition of "I Believe I Can Fly" performed by the

award-winning WSHS Madrigals.

Greenfelder, who took over as principal earlier this year after Paul Wardinski retired, said this year's graduates have been recognized at the state and national level for successes in academics, fine arts and athletics.

He noted that West Springfield High School's Class of 2012 includes 180 Spartan Scholars, and 96 honor graduates; 94 percent of the class plans to attend a two or four-year college, and graduates accepted more than \$5 million in scholarship offers.

"But what impresses me the most is not numbers, but the way you conduct yourself with pride and dignity," Greenfelder said. "You've done an impressive job representing West Springfield High School."

Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity, who gave the keynote address last year, said "it was my pleasure an honor to be there to recognize the many accomplishments of the Class of 2012."

MARTIN INJECTED HUMOR into his address, ending his remarks with a quote from comedian Ellen DeGeneres: "Follow your passion. Stay true to yourself. Never follow someone else's path unless you're in the woods and you're lost and you see a path. By all means, you should follow that."

The ceremony ended when the Class of 2012 Senior Class Officers – Cham Sham, Edward Bae, Isabelle White and Nathaniel Kelley - took the podium and together told the graduates to "turn your tassels!"

VIEWPOINTS

West Springfield Graduates Respond to the Question: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

— VICTORIA ROSS



Manuel Zaragoza and Anthony Velasquez

"I'm going in the Marine Corps... I'd like to be an air traffic controller in 10 years."

— MANUEL ZARAGOZA



From left, Lloyd Stephenson, Colin Lloyd Stephenson and Craig Stephenson

"Hopefully, with a job. I'm going to Virginia Tech, and I'd like to be an engineer."

— COLIN LLOYD STEPHENSON, AN HONOR GRADUATE



From left, Chad Hargrove, Sara Sylvia and Zack Cordova

"I'll be studying psychology at Northern Virginia Community College, so I'd like to be doing something in that field in 10 years."

— SARA NICOLE SYLVIA



From left, Paige Lemons, Ally Lother, Maddie Lother and Victoria Kennedy

"I'd like to be a speech pathologist."

— MADDIE LOTHER

PHOTOS BY BEN BURGESS/THE CONNECTION

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The Best New Cars Make The Best Used Cars

- 7YR/100K MILE ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE PLAN[†]
- 160 POINT QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTION^{††}
- CARFAX VEHICLE HISTORY REPORT
- 2.9% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE⁴
- 12 MO./12K MI COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY
- 7 YR./100K MI LIMITED POWERTRAIN WARRANTY



ToyotaCare

**2 YEAR COMPLIMENTARY
MAINTENANCE PLAN**

WITH ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE⁵
ON EVERY NEW VEHICLE

COVERS 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, OIL & FILTER,
TIRE ROTATION, MULTIPOINT INSPECTION

**\$1,000 REBATE FOR
RECENT COLLEGE GRADS⁶**

**\$500 MILITARY REBATE INCENTIVE
FOR ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL.⁷**

¹INCLUDES TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT, \$399 PROCESSING FEE, ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. 36-MONTH LEASE W/12K MILES PER YEAR. EXAMPLE CAMRY L. ²BASED ON KELLEY BLUE BOOK FAIR TRADE VALUE MINUS EXCESS MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. ³0% APR FOR A LIMITED TIME ON SELECT NEW TOYOTAS WITH APPROVED TIER1+ CREDIT THROUGH TFS. EXCLUDES \$379 DEALER DOC FEE. ⁴WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. ⁵FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. ⁶WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THRU TFS. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. ⁷WITH PURCHASE OF A NEW VEHICLE. COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICE. PLAN IS FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET, OR A DELIVERY OR TAXI VEHICLE. SEE PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER FOR DETAILS. ⁸TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH A PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER AND TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. NOT ALL APPLICANTS WILL QUALIFY. REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD THE AMOUNTS DUE AT LEASE SIGNING OR DELIVERY, WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER LEASE OR FINANCE TRANSACTION. ⁹REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD DUE AT SIGNING OR DELIVERY, WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION, OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER FINANCE OR LEASE TRANSACTION. NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE TOYOTA COLLEGE GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. ¹⁰BONUS CASH FROM TOYOTA MOTOR SALES USA, INC ON QUALIFIED TFS LEASE CONTRACTS ONLY. MUST BE APPLIED TO THE TRANSACTION. NO CASH PAYMENT WILL BE MADE TO CONSUMER. ¹¹ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS MUST BE IN CURRENT ACTIVE DUTY STATUS IN THE U.S. MILITARY. VERIFIABLE PROOF OF MILITARY STATUS OR PROOF OF ACTIVE SERVICE IS REQUIRED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER REBATES. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 7/2/12.

ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM



LONG & FOSTER® # 1 in Virginia

703-425-8000



Reston **\$389,900**
End unit townhome with amazing space. Fully renovated kitchen will dazzle you: new stove & refrigerator plus 42 inch cabinets & granite countertops. Four bedrooms upper level. Renovated baths. Gas heat/cooking. All brick exterior. So close to new Metro.
Beth Jones 703-503-1869



Springfield **\$268,000**
Remodeled 3 finished level, 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, updated kitchen with stainless and granite, nice deck overlooking common area, finished rec room, walkout to fenced backyard, close to Fort Belvoir/transportation/shopping.
Buzz Jordan 703-503-1866



Fairfax Station **\$639,900**
New Listing in Crosspointe. Bright, Cheerful, Immaculate located on a cul-de-sac. Side loading garage, newer windows, deck opens to community woods. Hardwoods on main level & ceramic in kitchen. 4 BR, 2.5 BA. Very pretty landscaping. Call today for your private showing.
Ann Witherspoon 703-503-1836



Clifton **\$1,928,000**
Stunning Antebellum estate sited on park-like 5 acres offers 6 BRs, 6.5 BAs, 4 fireplaces, and a luxurious main level MBR and MBA. A private guest suite complete with Kit, BA and laundry on the walk-out lower level and a sparkling pool complete this home.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-503-1812



Fairfax Station **\$785,000**
Beautifully landscaped 1.32-acre wooded lot offers utmost privacy! Finished walkout lower level to deck w/hot tub. Huge 2-level deck. Refinished hardwood floors. Freshly painted interior. Brand new carpeting. King-size master suite with sitting room & luxury bath. Fantastic neighborhood. Robinson schools.
Mickie Shea 703-503-1817



Alexandria **\$479,999**
Newly renovated three bedroom, two bath Rambler, featuring hardwood floors, granite counters, crown molding throughout and custom designed tile work. Master suite has French doors leading deck and screened-in porch. Walk to parkland and shopping.
Lucia Ferguson 703-407-8737



Lake Anna **\$859,000**
All-stone waterfront home. 4 bedroom 3 bath home in Overton Fork. 2 finished levels, main level master, in-law suite, 3 separate garages. New boathouse, private beach, ramp, covered pavilion with fireplace. Bulkheaded waterfront.
Douglas Hough 540-846-5844



Centreville **\$350,000**
Gorgeous! 4 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath end unit townhouse in sought after Singletons Community in Centreville.
Judy McGuire 703-581-7679



Lake Anna **\$759,000**
Waterfront Home! 5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths. LOTS of upgrades. 3 master suites, gourmet kitchen, media room, garage. Boathouse with oversized sauna, outside shower and commercial misting system. Too many to list!
Angel Hough 540-207-9963



Fairfax **\$245,000**
Adorable 2nd floor, 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit with fireplace, stainless steel appliances, granite, and 9' ceilings. Large wrap around balcony, great community amenities and super convenient to transportation, shopping and schools.
Pam Boe 703-503-1888



Gainesville **\$298,000**
Enjoy 55+ lifestyle in Heritage Hunt with activities, fitness & trails. 2000+SF townhouse with wooded & mtn. views. Hardwoods, 2BR, 3BA with loft, den & 2 car garage. See PW7848386 & more 55+ homes at www.marylroche.com.
Mary LaRoche 703-919-0747



Burke **\$479,000**
Lake Braddock schools, great lot .33 of an acre; 4 BR, 2 Bath, custom kitchen cabinets, kitchen skylight, wood floors on main, fireplace in LL family room; large deck, neutral color palette. Shown by appointment only.
Diane Neustrand 703-346-1177



Gainesville **\$509,000**
Enjoy 55+ lifestyle in Heritage Hunt with activities, fitness & trails. 3800+SF home on .3 acre lot on golf course. Hardwoods, skylights, gourmet kitchen, sunroom, private deck, fin.LL w/multipurpose rooms & walkout. See PW7846020 & more 55+ homes at www.marylroche.com.
Mary LaRoche 703-919-0747



Lake Anna **\$215,000**
Water access! 3 bedrooms, 2 bath home in gated community. Immaculate inside, large screened in porch, back deck, 1 car detached garage and fenced back yard. Close to common area.
Angel Hough 540-207-9963



Fairfax Station **\$1,295,000**
New Listing! Incredible, stunning custom home w/soaring ceilings & exciting roof lines. Private, over 5 acre grounds. Main level master suite with sitting room & luxury bath opening to deck w/hot tub. 3 gas fireplaces. Beautiful gourmet, granite kitchen w/large butler's pantry. Fam Rm w/wet bar. Study/Library. 3 car garage. Public water. Premier Community.
Ann Witherspoon 703-503-1836



Woodbridge **\$639,000**
This spectacular home located in the highly sought-after Old Hickory Golf Course community is sited on one of the very best cul-de-sac lots in River Falls and offers a fantastic back yard with plenty of usable outdoor space and privacy. This home offers a great floor plan w/three finished levels including a gourmet kitchen, a huge master bedroom and a beautiful patio.
Ngoc Do 703-798-2899



Lorton **\$359,000**
Beautiful Brick Front Townhome gleams w/ Pride of Ownership. H/W Floors on Main, Upper & Staircase. Breakfast Area adjacent to Upgraded Kitchen w/Granite Countertops, Tile Backsplash and S/S Apl. Master BR w/Walk-in Closet, Master Bath w/Tile floor, Dual Granite Vanity, Soaking Tub & Sep Shower. Fin w/o Basement w/Rec Rm, FP & Den leads to Fenced Yard w/Brick Patio. New HVAC System w/Air Purifier.
Ngoc Do 703-798-2899



Fair Ridge **\$425,000**
New on the Market! Stunning 3 level upscale townhouse. 3 bedrooms, 2 full & 2 half baths, rec room with fireplace. Upgraded master bath and kitchen - granite, lux appliances & cabinets.
John Momm 703-250-6511



Fairfax Station **\$1,425,000**
Exquisite Southern Colonial on 8.8 private acres with stream in close-in location! Grand staircase, soaring ceilings, 5 BRs, 4 Full, 2 Half Baths, Huge fin walk-out bsmt, sun rm, large library, 2 sided FP in Master bedroom. Double porches front and rear, gas utilities, 3 car garage. Architectural Delight!
Ann Granger 703-819-5300



Springfield **\$569,950**
Sensational 4 BR, 3.5 BA Colonial with 2-car garage tucked on a cul-de-sac bordering Hidden Pond Park with park/nature center! Sellers ready to go—can close quickly.
Kim McClary 703-929-8425

Access the Realtors' Multiple Listing Service: www.searchvirginia.listingbook.com

Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



1 5906 Hollow Oak Court, Burke — \$599,900

Sold \$575,000~\$599,999
in April 2012



2 4439 Woods Edge Court, Chantilly — \$597,000

3 5919 Oakland Park Drive, Burke — \$594,000



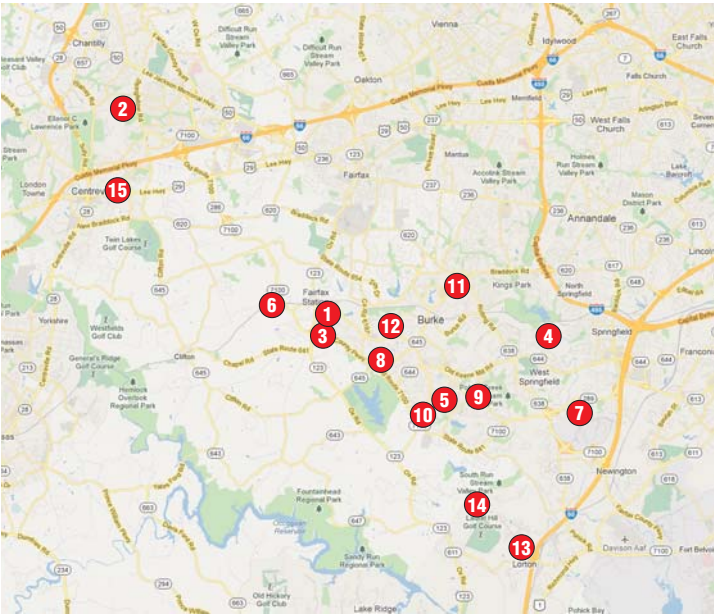
6 5939 One Penny Drive, Fairfax Station — \$590,000



14 8505 Silverview Drive, Lorton — \$575,000



15 5654 Lierman Circle, Centreville — \$575,000



Address	BR	FB	HB	..	Postal City	Sold Price ...	Type	Lot AC	..	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 5906 HOLLOW OAK CT	5	..	2	..	1 BURKE	\$599,900	Detached ..	0.19	.....	22015	BURKE CENTRE	04/11/12
2 4439 WOODS EDGE CT	5	..	3	..	1 CHANTILLY	\$597,000	Detached ..	0.26	.....	20151	POPLAR TREE ESTATES	04/20/12
3 5919 OAKLAND PARK DR	5	..	3	..	1 BURKE	\$594,000	Detached ..	0.22	.....	22015	BURKE CENTRE	04/10/12
4 7807 CARRLEIGH PKWY	5	..	2	..	1 SPRINGFIELD	\$592,000	Detached ..	0.28	.....	22152	CARDINAL FOREST	04/24/12
5 6915 COURAGEOUS CIR	5	..	3	..	1 BURKE	\$590,000	Detached ..	0.25	.....	22015	LONGWOOD KNOLLS	04/20/12
6 5939 ONE PENNY DR	4	..	3	..	0 FAIRFAX STATION ..	\$590,000	Detached ..	1.01	.....	22039	PICKWICK WOODS	04/06/12
7 7217 KYLES LNDG	4	..	2	..	1 SPRINGFIELD	\$588,000	Detached ..	0.36	.....	22150	MEYERS	04/16/12
8 6241 WILMETTE DR	4	..	2	..	2 BURKE	\$587,500	Detached ..	0.30	.....	22015	BURKE CENTRE	04/06/12
9 8803 SWEET GUM PL	6	..	3	..	1 SPRINGFIELD	\$585,000	Detached ..	0.48	.....	22153	LAKEWOOD HILLS	04/30/12
10 7100 STANCHION LN	4	..	3	..	1 BURKE	\$583,000	Detached ..	0.24	.....	22015	LONGWOOD KNOLLS	04/30/12
11 5310 DUNLEIGH DR	5	..	3	..	1 BURKE	\$580,000	Detached ..	0.25	.....	22015	DUNLEIGH	04/05/12
12 9912 WOOD ASTOR CT	4	..	4	..	0 BURKE	\$575,000	Detached ..	0.17	.....	22015	BURKE CENTRE	04/10/12
13 9084 FUREY RD	5	..	3	..	2 LORTON	\$575,000	Detached ..	0.13	.....	22079	LAUREL HIGHLANDS	04/04/12
14 8505 SILVERVIEW DR	3	..	3	..	0 LORTON	\$575,000	Detached ..	0.26	.....	22079	SILVERBROOK ESTATES	04/13/12
15 5654 LIERMAN CIR	5	..	4	..	1 CENTREVILLE	\$575,000	Detached ..	0.10	.....	20120	SULLY MANOR	04/23/12

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