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Greenspring resident Frank Adams walks down the 10th annual Halloween Pet Parade on Saturday, Oct. 20 with Midnight, his 16-year-old toy poodle.

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Photo by Victoria Ross/The Connection

## Springfield Vets Host Tennessee Vets

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October 25—31, 2012

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LINCOLN





Photos by Deb Cobb/The Connection

**President Barack Obama was relaxed and playful delivering his “Romnesia” quips before a crowd of 10,000 supporters during the rally at GMU on Friday, Oct. 19. Much of his short stump speech focused on issues affecting women and healthcare.**

## Obama Fires Up Fairfax Crowd With ‘Romnesia’ Quips

**President delivers second GMU gender-pitch aimed at women voters.**

By Victoria Ross  
The Connection

**L**illie Reynolds, a single mother from Herndon with four daughters, stood in line for nearly five hours to hear President Barack Obama speak for 25 minutes at a campaign rally at George Mason University on Friday, Oct. 19.

“He was funny, but we needed that,” said Reynolds after the president’s quip-filled speech, during which he debuted the catchphrase “Romnesia.”

According to Obama, his GOP rival Mitt Romney has come down with a bad case of “Romnesia” because Romney has “conveniently forgotten” his own positions on issues important to women and their families, like saying he’d be “delighted” to sign a law outlawing a woman’s right to choose in all cases.

“There’s a lot of truth in that humor,” Reynolds said. “No one here has forgotten one word of what Governor Romney said when it comes to our rights.”

Reynolds said she has a very personal reason for supporting Obama. “Two of my daughters are disabled, and I take care of them,” she said. “Obamacare is critical



**U.S. Rep. Gerry Connelly (D-11) brought his binder to the Oct. 19 Obama rally at George Mason University, referencing the “binders full of women” comment that Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney made during his second debate with President Obama.**

to me.”

“I don’t believe for a second that Governor Romney cares about folks like me. We’re the little people to him,” Reynolds continued. “He says what you want to hear to make you feel good. He has an entitled, arrogant attitude.”

Reynolds’ coworker, Rosemary Osei, who recently became an American citizen, said this is the first time she will be voting.

“This is exciting for me,” Osei said. “I’ve been paying attention to both candidates. President

Obama is the only candidate who seems to care about immigration issues or who appreciates diversity.”

Osei, who originally hails from Ghana, said she believes more Americans should take voting seriously. “It’s one of the best things about being an American.”

**FRIDAY’S EVENT** was the president’s second visit to Fairfax in as many weeks, and part of both major party candidates’ round-the-clock campaign blitz through key

### Viewpoints

## Why are you an Obama supporter?

“I’m a radiologist, so I know how important things like mammograms and ultrasounds are. You want people to have access to healthcare that’s affordable. You want women, not their employers, to be empowered to make their own healthcare decisions.”

—Bernice Griffith, Fairfax



Photo by Victoria Ross/The Connection

**Bernice Griffith of Fairfax**

“I’m still in school. I’m exactly the kind of person he appeals to...I’m still in college and education and how we’re going to be paying for it is important to me.”

—Erika Santoyo, 22, a GMU student

“I’m a recent college graduate, and I’m looking for a job. I think President Obama will help the economy. Thanks to President Obama, I can still be on my parent’s insurance plan, and that is so amazing and important to me and a lot of other people my age.

—Kelauni Cook, a Howard University graduate, of Springfield

“As a former government employee, I think most people understand the value of government’s role and that government employees work extremely hard performing an important public service.”

—Julie Paradis of Alexandria



Photo by Deb Cobb/The Connection

**(From left) Erika Santoyo and Emily Travis, GMU students, and Kelauni Cook, a recent Howard University graduate**



Photo by Victoria Ross/The Connection

**Julie Paradis and husband, Tom, of Alexandria**

battleground states, including Virginia, Ohio and Florida.

Although he is still facing a cliffhanger re-election attempt, the president joked with the crowd of 10,000 supporters. Hands in his pockets, he riffed several jokes when the crowd started chanting back the punch line.

“If you say you’ll protect a woman’s right to choose, but you stand up at a primary debate and said that you’d be delighted to sign a law outlawing that right to choose in all cases - man, you’ve definitely got Romnesia.”

“If you say that you’re a cham-

pion of the coal industry when, while you were governor, you stood in front of a coal plant and said, this plant will kill you—you might have...”

“Romnesia,” the crowd chanted back.

The stump speech was squarely aimed at women voters who, political analysts say, form a formidable voting block in northern Virginia.

“Virginia is a battleground state, and the president knows he needs to get the support of women here,”

See President, Page 5



## News

Members of the Springfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327, the Post's Ladies Auxiliary and other guests welcome the veterans from Tennessee Honor Flight to a dinner held at the Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department.



Post Ladies Auxiliary President Linda Bond and Post Commander Gary Kelch welcome the guests and make their "thank you" to all who helped produce the event to honor the veterans.

# Springfield Vets Host Tennessee Vets

**American heroes visit their memorial.**

**T**his is such a pleasure and a privilege." That was how Linda Bond, president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 7327, described the event taking place in the Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department's Bingo Hall on Saturday, Oct. 16. Bond made the comment as she stepped into the receiving line to greet two dozen veterans returning from a busy day touring the monuments and memorials of the district, courtesy of the Northeast Tennessee Chapter of Honor Flight Network. The national non-profit organization got its start in 2005 when retired Air Force Captain Earl Morse was looking for a way to honor the veterans he had cared for during his service and continued to attend as a physician's assistant at a Department of Veteran's Affairs clinic in Springfield, Ohio. The World War II memorial had recently opened in the nation's capital and conversation between Morse and his patients led him to realize how many of them really wanted to see "their" memorial, but feared they never would. Financial constraints and medical issues were the chief barriers to the achievement of the veterans' dreams.

**A LOT OF NETWORKING**, personal sacrifice, generous donations of time, money, and even airplanes and pilots saw the first Honor Flights take off for Washington, D.C. In their first year, 137 veterans made the trip. Today there are 117 Honor Flight hubs in 40 states making it possible for these American heroes to see their memorial, take in the sites, and be honored for their service—all at absolutely no cost to the ser-

vice person. World War II vets, and veterans of other conflicts who have terminal illnesses receive top priority, in the otherwise first-come-first-served application process. As those honorees are lost to us, the focus will shift to veterans of Korea and Vietnam.

Gary Kelch is the Commander of VFW Post 7327. Kelch answered the call to host this particular unit of honorees from Tennessee, marshalling his volunteer troops just as if he was back on the submarines he served on for 26 years. "Our job is simple compared to what the Honor Flight people do. Edie Lowry (president of the Northeast Tennessee Home Flight Network Hub) made the arrangements. Got everyone here, handled all their transportation, the tours, the accommodations, everything. All we have done is prepare a reception last night, and now tonight's dinner," said Kelch. "It's our first time to be involved in this incredible event. Hopefully not our last. We wanted to do our best and really say 'thank you' to these wonderful folks." The commander praised Linda Bond and the Post's Ladies Auxiliary, gesturing to the line of women manning the buffet tables and added a particular note of gratitude to JW & Friends Restaurant on Backlick Road in Springfield. "They don't cater," said Kelch, "but when we told them about this dinner for our veterans, they offered to do it, and do it at cost."

As the honored guests and their guardians enjoyed their dinner, some talked about the experiences of the day. "The last time I was in Washington, D.C. was in 1944. I was 17 years old, getting ready to do my duty and serve my country. Things have changed a bit around here since then. It was a great day, but I sure am glad to take a seat," said Marvin Conquest, a Navy veteran. Lonnie

See Heroes, Page 7

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Recently crowned Miss Greater Springfield 2013, Jennifer Gilbert was on hand to greet and honor the veterans.



# President Speaks at George Mason, Appeals to Women Voters

From Page 3

said Toni-Michelle Travis, a GMU associate professor of government and politics and editor of "The Almanac of Virginia Politics."

To that end, the pre-speech line-up included Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Action Fund and Nan Johnson, a retired teacher from Herndon, who both lauded Obama's support for issues affecting women.

"When Romney said he didn't know where to find qualified women during the second debate, that bothered me so much I almost stopped listening," Johnson said. "But then he said 'If you're going to have women in the workforce, you're going to have to be more flexible...' This is 2012, not 1912. Women having jobs is not a hypothetical."

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) also got the crowd fired up by referencing Romney's comments on women in the workplace during the second debate.

"You might remember I'm originally from the commonwealth of Massachusetts," Connolly said, holding up some blue binders. "And I found those binders full of women."

**ONE DAY LATER**, in a Springfield shopping center off Old Keene Mill Road, Romney supporters were handing out dozens of Romney signs to voters at. In a few hours, the group handed out nearly 50 Rom-

ney signs.

Darren Williams, who owns Hawkeye Productions, said he believes Romney is the candidate who will stabilize the economy and give Americans a sense of financial security.

"I'm a small-business owner, and my main issue is that nobody seems to be minding the checkbook," Williams said. "You can blame your predecessor all you want, but I blame [Obama] for his actions in office from day one until now. He's had four years to reverse the economic trend. His track record with me is poor."

Justice Johnson, an 18-year-old Lake Braddock senior, has been making calls for Romney. "I'm worried about the economy and get a job after college."

Johnson, who said he became more interested in politics this year after taking a government class and listening to the candidates, said he was impressed with Romney's personal business success. "I feel like Governor Romney's economic policies are the best for business."

Brandon Schall, 24, a recent graduate of Christopher Newport University who also campaigns for Romney, said he doesn't get caught up in the "partisan hype" of the elections.

"I feel we all have our part to do as Americans. In the end, it's not jokes and taking shots at each other. It's not about being a Republican or a Democrat. It's about doing your civic duty as Americans by voting."

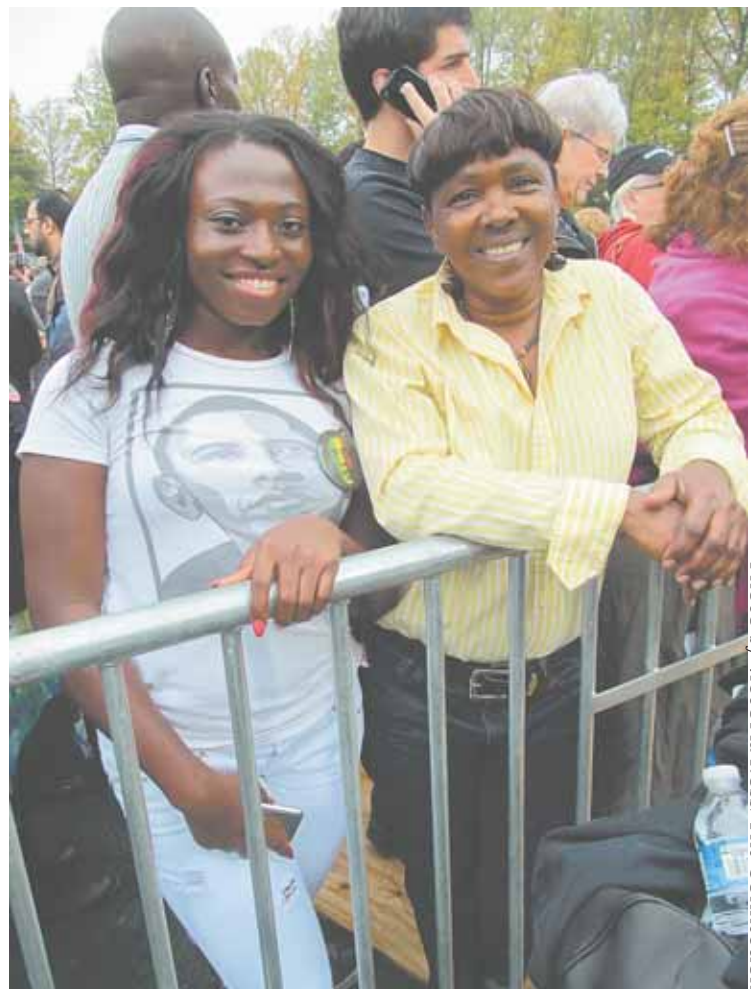





Photo by Victoria Ross/The Connection

**Coworkers Rosemary Osai and Lillie Reynolds of Herndon wait in line to see President Obama Friday, Oct. 19, at his second campaign rally at the school in two weeks.**

## A vote for the Library

is a vote for the people  
of Fairfax County

**VOTE YES** for the 2012 Library Bond Referendum to:

-  Make crucial renovations
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-  Help the Library better meet the needs of residents of all ages

For more information, please join us at **Bond Referendum & Reception**, 10/28/12, 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m., Pohick Regional Library

This ad paid for by the Fairfax Library Foundation.

Nov. 6th

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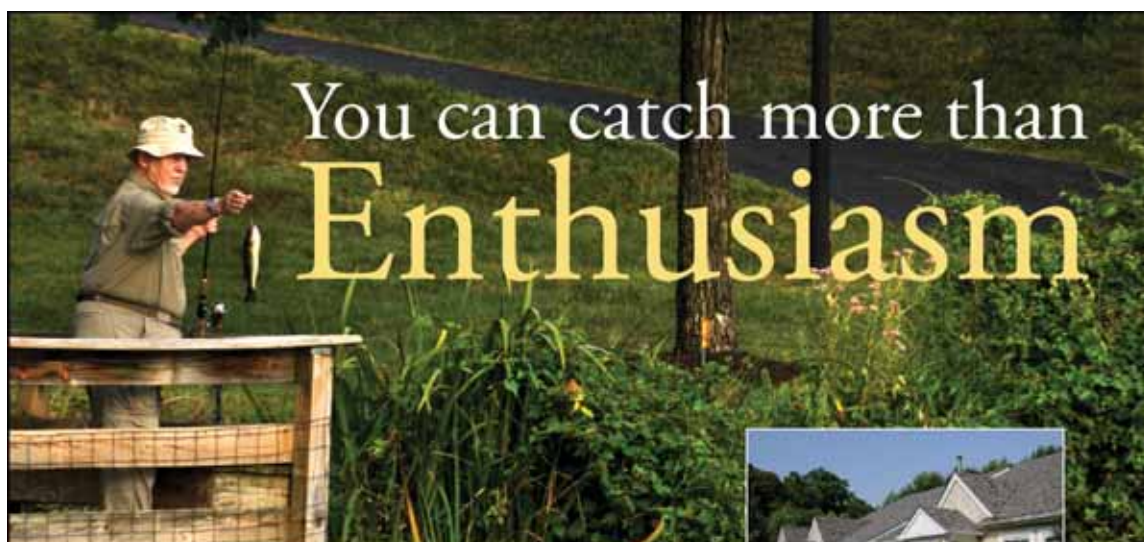
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# Opinion

## Be Part of the Children's Connection

### Call for student artwork and writing; deadline Dec. 3.

**D**uring the last week of each year, The Connection devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families.

The annual Children's Connection is a tradition of well over a decade, and we begin getting inquiries from teachers and parents about submitting artwork and writing almost as soon as summer is over.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

**Editorials** We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Please provide the submissions by Monday, Dec. 3.

Some suggestions:

- ❖ Drawings or paintings or photographs of your family, friends, pets or some favorite activity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format.

- ❖ Short answers (50 to 100 words) to some of the following questions: If you could give your parents any gift that didn't cost money what would that gift be? What are you most looking forward to in the upcoming year? What is one thing that you would change about school? What do you want to be when you grow up? What is your favorite animal? What is your favorite toy? What makes a good parent? What makes a good friend? What is the best or worst thing that ever happened to you? What is the best gift you've ever given? Ever received?

- ❖ Your opinion (50 to 100 words) about traffic, sports, restaurants, video games, toys, trends, etc.

- ❖ Poetry or other creative writing.

- ❖ Opinion pieces about family, friends, movies, traffic, sports, food, video games, toys, trends, etc.

- ❖ News stories from school newspapers.

We welcome contributions from families, public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers.

Email submissions for the Vienna/Oakton, McLean, Great Falls, Reston and Oak Hill/Herndon Children's Connections to kemal@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for Springfield, Burke, Fairfax, Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connections to South@Connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for the Arlington Children's Connection to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for the Children's Centre View to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for the Children's Gazette in the Alexandria Gazette Packet or Mount Vernon Gazette to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD to Children's Connection, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please send all submissions by Dec. 3. The Children's Connection will publish the week of Dec. 27, 2012.

### Halloween Parties, SoberRide

Halloween is now as much of an adult party as a children's festival. Along with the Fourth of July, the holiday period including New Year's

Eve and a few other dates, Halloween stands out as a holiday connected to an increase in drinking and driving.

If you will be out celebrating with alcohol, you can plan ahead. Assign a designated driver. Celebrate at home. Take public transportation. But if these plans fall through, the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) Halloween SoberRide program provides a safety net.

For six hours from 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 31 until 4 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 1, SoberRide serves as a way to keep impaired drivers off the road. During this six-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to a \$30 fare), safe way home.

Sponsors of this year's Halloween SoberRide offering include: Anheuser-Busch, AT&T, Diageo, Giant, MillerCoors, Red Top Cab of Arlington, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington, Volkswagen Group of America and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 55,694 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area. For more information visit [www.wrap.org](http://www.wrap.org).

### Last Call

Letters to the editor from local residents about the upcoming election should be received by Friday, Oct. 26 to be considered for publication. Letters on candidates, bond questions, election procedure or any other local, election related topics are welcome and encouraged. Ideal letters will be about 200 words and convey opinion with civility. Send letters to [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com).

— Mary Kimm,

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

### Letters to the Editor

### Supporting Bond Referenda

To the Editor:

On the Nov. 6 ballot, County residents will see four Bond Referenda. The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area urges voters to approve all four bonds. Here's why:

Issuing these bonds now is sound fiscal policy. All of these capital improvements are part of the County's five-year plan. Repayment will cost less because interest rates are low. And the County has common-sense borrowing policies that strictly limit the amount of outstanding debt to a small percentage of property values. These practices have allowed the Fairfax County to finance necessary capi-

tal improvements while maintaining its AAA bond rating—even in the recession.

These capital improvements are necessary to the health, welfare and safety of County residents.

- ❖ Parks and Parks Facilities Bonds: This bond issue supports the preservation of the County's historic areas, many of which bring tourists to Fairfax County. It also supports development of neighborhood parks, preservation of open space and stream valleys. County parks provide a place for family gatherings and increase outdoor recreational opportunities for everyone in our communities.

- ❖ Public Safety Bonds: This bond issue supports maintenance and upgrades to police, fire department and court facilities. Some of these funds will help com-

plete the renovation of the Jennings Courthouse and make the entire complex safe, efficient and appropriate for everyone from judges to defendants and for the public.

- ❖ Public Library Bonds: These bonds support tech smart library maintenance and upgrades. As more jobs and school assignments require access to a computer, these bonds are necessary for the participation of everyone in our community life.

- ❖ Storm Drainage Improvements Bonds: These bonds support soil and water conservation and flood-prevention efforts. As we experience more frequent violent storms and unpredictable weather, these bonds protect the health, safety and property of County residents. They will also

prevent the economic loss flooding inflicts on our communities.

Voters interested in more details should visit [fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/bond](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/bond).

These bonds will also improve the economic future of Fairfax County. All facilities need regular maintenance and upgrades. By following sound borrowing policies and maintaining facilities as needed, Fairfax County not only improves the quality of life for current residents, but also becomes more attractive to businesses looking for a place to relocate.

We urge voters to approve all four Bond Referenda.

**Julia Jones and Helen Kelly**  
Co-Presidents  
League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area

## Springfield CONNECTION

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# Home Sales

In September 2012, 135 Springfield homes sold between \$900,000-\$135,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$900,000-\$427,000 range. For the complete list, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

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7106 GRANBERRY WAY .....	4 ...	4 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$900,000 .....	Detached .....	0.40 ...	22151 .....	GRANBERRY ESTATES .....
5933 EMBRY SPRING LN .....	4 ...	4 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$800,000 .....	Detached .....	0.09 ...	22315 .....	NORTHAMPTON .....
5323 TRUMPINGTON CT .....	5 ...	4 ...	0 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$785,000 .....	Detached .....	0.16 ...	22315 .....	KINGSTOWNE .....
6834 CREEK CREST WAY .....	4 ...	3 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$749,000 .....	Detached .....	0.38 ...	22150 .....	WESTHAMPTON .....
6504 SUSAN BARKLEY CT .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$734,000 .....	Detached .....	0.32 ...	22315 .....	ISLAND CREEK .....
8960 SCOTT ST .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$672,000 .....	Detached .....	0.32 ...	22153 .....	SOUTH RUN FOREST .....
6357 ALDERMAN DR .....	4 ...	3 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$633,000 .....	Detached .....	0.10 ...	22315 .....	KINGSTOWNE .....
7631 SEABROOK LN .....	4 ...	2 ...	2 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$610,000 .....	Detached .....	0.31 ...	22153 .....	WHISPERWOOD .....
6494 WATERFIELD RD .....	4 ...	4 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$575,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 ...	22315 .....	KINGSTOWNE .....
9229 ROCKEFELLER LN .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$565,900 .....	Detached .....	0.28 ...	22153 .....	LAKEWOOD HILLS .....
6131 DEER RIDGE TRL .....	6 ...	3 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$555,000 .....	Detached .....	0.19 ...	22150 .....	HIGHGROVE ESTATES .....
7687 LAVENHAM LNDG .....	3 ...	3 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$553,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.07 ...	22315 .....	KINGSTOWNE .....
6912 SPELMAN DR .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$544,900 .....	Detached .....	0.38 ...	22153 .....	LAKEWOOD HILLS .....
7705 MARTIN ALLEN CT .....	3 ...	2 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$535,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 ...	22315 .....	ISLAND CREEK .....
7310 FLOYD AVE .....	5 ...	3 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$530,000 .....	Detached .....	0.28 ...	22150 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....
7119 GALGATE DR .....	3 ...	3 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$525,000 .....	Detached .....	0.38 ...	22152 .....	ROLLING VALLEY .....
7311 OLDHAM LEEDS WAY .....	4 ...	3 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$517,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.06 ...	22150 ...	TOWNES OF MANCHESTER WOODS .....
5808 HANOVER AVE .....	6 ...	4 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$510,000 .....	Detached .....	0.23 ...	22150 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....
7402 SCARBOROUGH ST .....	4 ...	3 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$500,000 .....	Detached .....	0.20 ...	22153 .....	SCARBOROUGH .....
6873 ROLLING CREEK WAY .....	3 ...	3 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$500,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 ...	22315 .....	HAWTHORNE .....
7787 TANGIER DR .....	4 ...	3 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$484,000 .....	Detached .....	0.20 ...	22153 .....	SARATOGA .....
5606 HELMSDALE LN .....	4 ...	3 ...	0 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$481,000 .....	Detached .....	0.25 ...	22315 .....	HAYFIELD FARM .....
7903 COLORADO SPRINGS DR .....	5 ...	3 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$480,000 .....	Detached .....	0.23 ...	22153 .....	SARATOGA .....
6205 LITTLETHORPE LN .....	3 ...	2 ...	2 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$479,950 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 ...	22315 .....	KINGSTOWNE .....
9023 DAUM CT .....	3 ...	3 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$477,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.06 ...	22153 .....	SOMERSET AT SOUTH RUN .....
6601 JENNY DEE PL .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$475,000 .....	Detached .....	0.32 ...	22152 .....	ORANGE HUNT ESTATES .....
5655 RAVENEL LN .....	5 ...	3 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$473,500 .....	Detached .....	0.29 ...	22151 .....	RAVENSWORTH .....
7509 BERWICK CT .....	5 ...	2 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$469,000 .....	Detached .....	0.25 ...	22315 .....	HAYFIELD FARM .....
7031 KINGS MANOR DR .....	3 ...	3 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$465,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 ...	22315 .....	MEWS THE .....
7582 WOODSTOWN DR .....	4 ...	3 ...	2 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$462,000 .....	Detached .....	0.22 ...	22153 .....	TERRA GRANDE .....
6201 ROUDSBY LN .....	4 ...	3 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$462,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.07 ...	22315 .....	KINGSTOWNE .....
6711 REYNARD DR .....	4 ...	3 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$455,000 .....	Detached .....	0.25 ...	22152 .....	ORANGE HUNT ESTATES .....
7739 BOYD CT .....	5 ...	3 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$453,000 .....	Detached .....	0.25 ...	22152 .....	WEST SPRINGFIELD .....
8634 LANGPORT DR .....	5 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$450,000 .....	Detached .....	0.29 ...	22152 .....	ROLLING VALLEY .....
8920 APPLECROSS LN .....	4 ...	2 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$449,900 .....	Detached .....	0.34 ...	22153 .....	LAKEWOOD HILLS .....
6607 HUNTER CREEK LN .....	4 ...	3 ...	0 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$447,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.06 ...	22315 .....	ISLAND CREEK .....
5507 ROLLING RD .....	5 ...	3 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$444,999 .....	Detached .....	0.24 ...	22151 .....	KINGS PARK .....
6005 BRANDON AVE .....	5 ...	3 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$440,000 .....	Detached .....	0.37 ...	22150 .....	YATES VILLAGE .....
6512 OSPREY POINT LN .....	3 ...	3 ...	1 .....	ALEXANDRIA .....	\$440,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 ...	22315 .....	ISLAND CREEK .....
7006 HADLOW DR .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$439,000 .....	Detached .....	0.24 ...	22152 .....	ROLLING VALLEY .....
8238 TAUNTON PL .....	4 ...	2 ...	2 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$438,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.09 ...	22152 .....	RHYGATE .....
6429 NORTHANNA DR .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$435,000 .....	Detached .....	0.25 ...	22150 .....	MONTICELLO WOODS .....
5770 HEMING AVE .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$435,000 .....	Detached .....	0.21 ...	22151 .....	NORTH SPRINGFIELD PARK .....
8606 CROMWELL DR .....	4 ...	2 ...	1 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$435,000 .....	Detached .....	0.24 ...	22151 .....	KINGS PARK .....
5529 YORKSHIRE ST .....	5 ...	3 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$429,000 .....	Detached .....	0.26 ...	22151 .....	KINGS PARK .....
6356 ENGLISH IVY WAY .....	3 ...	2 ...	2 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$429,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 ...	22152 .....	KENWOOD HILLS .....
5523 KEMPTON DR .....	4 ...	3 ...	0 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$428,000 .....	Detached .....	0.25 ...	22151 .....	KINGS PARK .....
7837 PAINTED DAISY DR .....	3 ...	2 ...	2 .....	SPRINGFIELD .....	\$427,000 .....	Townhouse .....	0.04 ...	22152 .....	HUNTER VILLAGE .....

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## Welcoming Heroes

From Page 4

Laws served in the Pacific from 1943-1946 aboard the USS West Virginia. The Lincoln Memorial was his favorite stop of the day.

**AS A MARINE** who fought at Iwo Jima, Leighton Andrews was particularly moved by the Marine Corps Memorial. A few of the veterans quietly admitted to being somewhat overcome by the emotions and memories that the memorials and the Arlington National Cemetery recalled. Terry Smith also served in the Pacific and was a bit hesitant about making the trip. "It did revive some of those memories," he said. "Yes, things we just don't much talk about," was how Al Horn, Jr., a World War II army veteran who served in Belgium and France described it.

Luckily, the warm welcome from their VFW hosts, good food, great company, and a rousing show by "Elvis" and "Marilyn," helped the veterans create new and happy memories to make those more painful remembrances a little easier to carry. Mission accomplished for this operation by Honor Flight Network and the Springfield VFW Post 7327.



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## OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 & 28

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link.

**Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

### Burke

5900 Oakland Park Dr.....\$659,000....Sun 1-4.....Yung Kim.....Jobin..703-272-1000  
6200 Fushsimi Ct.....\$495,500....Sun 1-4.....James Nellis.....RE/MAX..703-930-0655

### Centreville

6487 Trillium House Ln.....\$999,900....Sun 1-5.....Jean Marotta.....Birch Haven..703-402-9471

### Clifton

8209 Cub Den Ct.....\$1,125,000....Sun 1-4.....John Cooney.....Fairfax..703-989-9969  
6601 Newman Rd.....\$850,000....Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX..703-503-4365  
12387 Henderson Rd.....\$845,000....Sun 12-3.....Kim Kaufhold.....RE/MAX..703-850-4890  
5501 Quail Ct.....\$379,000....Sun 1-4.....Ed Duggan.....Century 21..703-989-7735

### Fairfax Station

11107 Hampton Rd.....\$1,295,000....Sun 1-4.....Dana LaFever.....Weichert..703-609-3479  
6901 Wolf Run Shoals Rd..\$899,900....Sun 1-4....Carol Hermendorfer..Long & Foster..703-503-1812  
7507 South Reach Dr.....\$869,950....Sun 1-4....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808  
11501 Lilting Ln.....\$825,000....Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX..703-503-4365  
8723 Cross Chase Cir.....\$749,900....Sun 1-4..Virginia Clark-Billups..Long & Foster..703-967-8700  
11215 September Ln.....\$642,500....Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX..703-503-4365

### Falls Church

3804 Munson Rd.....\$849,000..Sat/Sun 1-4.....Patrick Kessler..Keller Williams..703-405-6540

### Kingstowne/Alexandria

5730 Cassel Glen Ct.....\$899,900....Sun 1-4.....Suellen West.....McEneaney..703-549-9292  
6020 Woodlake Ln.....\$699,999....Sun 1-4.....Susan Day.....Century 21..703-922-4010  
5413 Hopark Dr.....\$529,000....Sat 1-4.....Jim Kanala.....Jobin..703-642-8500  
6101 Wigmore Ln #F.....\$289,900....Sun 1-4.....Helen Grozbean..Keller Williams..571-233-4287

### Springfield

7107 Ayers Meadow Ln.....\$814,900....Sun 1-4.....Rich Langguth.....Century 21..703-609-3079  
9238 Rockefeller Ln.....\$539,500....Sun 1-4.....Karen Brown.....Weichert..703-644-1364  
6650 Debra Lu Way.....\$439,900....Sun 1-4.....Debbie Mesen.....Weichert..703-201-7723

**To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Erin Peck at 703-778-9449 or E-mail the info to [epeck@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:epeck@connectionnewspapers.com) All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.**



# Burke Artist Launches ‘Barn Sale without the Barn’

Think “Upscale Tag Sale” of original art, vintage jewelry and everything in between.

## Q&A with Branches founder Marian Cutler

### What is Branches?

Our show is an annual week-end event where we invite local artists and artisans, both novice and professional, to sell their stuff along with a blend of vintage items that my business partner and I have gathered throughout the year. Our focus is to help develop new talent, people who are doing high-quality work, but don't have the time or ability to quit their day jobs, either as moms, students or professionals. We have a heavy focus on quality and originality. We want people to say, "I've never seen that before." We also encourage our artists to use old things in a new way, to "upcycle" if possible. My business partner Sharon Salazar, of Fairfax Station, and I both like to refinish old furniture in way that makes it more current and appealing, as well as finding new purposes for things like old frames or coaster boxes. These get turned into items like shadowboxes and bud vases.

### How did Branches start?

A year ago, I read an article about this new phenomenon called "Barn Sales." These various groups of women in the suburbs of Maryland and Virginia would put all this beautiful antique and vintage furniture for sale in differently-styled vignettes. The kicker was that these vignettes were set up in different stalls of a barn. Each had a different look: Victorian here, retro there, Hollywood regency there, farmhouse chic there, with antiques throughout. As I watched all these people waiting in line eagerly to buy all these vintage and antique and "freshened" goodies, two things occurred to me. 1. The art I was making at the time would look amazing in this venue. 2. Between me and Sharon, we knew where to find or how to make almost everything in the show. On the way home I looked at her



From left: Marian Cutler, mixed media collage; Sharon Salazar, furniture refinishing, painting, collage; Anne Brannam, jewelry; Kara Mann, handmade hair clips and wreaths; Lauren Williams, sewing-teddy bears and aprons, will participate in The Barn Sale without a Barn on Friday, Nov. 2 and Saturday, Nov. 3 in Springfield.

## Branches: The Barn Sale without a Barn

This year's "upscale tag sale," as barn sales are called, will be held Friday, Nov. 2 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 3, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 6209 Garden Road in Springfield.

For more information about artist Marian Cutler (who goes by the professional name of CM Shaw), check out her website at <http://www.cmshawstudios.blogspot.com/>, check Facebook for Branches or CM Shaw, or email her directly at [cmshawstudios@gmail.com](mailto:cmshawstudios@gmail.com).

and said, "Sharon, let's have a barn sale this fall," and she said, "Where are we going to find a barn in Burke?" And we just decided we didn't need a barn. Hence the tag "Branches: the Barn Sale Without a Barn".

### What do you enjoy most about the barn sales?

First of all, the show itself is a blast! Talking with people and ex-

plaining all the neat details of the cool stuff we are selling is a total rush. There is this happy escapist energy that comes with the environment. We try really hard to stage things in a way that will help people leave their troubles behind. So just for those minutes they are at the show, they are in a fantasy world. That's also why we have the event catered. We think everyone needs a little treat now and again.

It is so cool to look at my younger or less experienced artists' faces when they get their paycheck and they realize that people just paid for something they made.

### How is this different than a craft show?

First of all, all the artist products are mixed together, as opposed to being sold by a vendor. This helps us to create a more boutique-like environment. Plus we try really hard to find cool, unique ways to display things. Another difference is the variety of products. We offer vintage stuff, antiques, original art and hand-made items all under the same roof. There is one payment location for everything, so you can just do it all in one shot, rather than having to schlepp stuff from vendor to vendor. Plus it's in a house. And we give you cupcakes. Really good cupcakes.

### What can people expect to see in your show this year?

We have 21 different artists participating this time. There is an Annie Sloan Chalk Paint stockist and artist coming to sell paints and waxes and give advice on how to use them. There are several different jewelers, with stock at various price points, all of it handmade. There will be handmade wooden signs, original stained glass pieces, burlap wreaths, fabric teddy bears, painted furniture, vintage home decor, a few pieces of architectural salvage like old windows, fused glass paintings, Christmas ornaments and original water colors. One of our artists buys leather jackets at thrift shops and upcycles them into purses and wallets. Another does lace painting on serving pieces like cheese trays and goblets. We have artists ranging from nine years old to 70 years old, all of them different and excited about the show.

### What is the price range for the items?

The prices are all over the place. I think the cheapest thing is \$3. I think the most expensive will be around \$500. Lots and lots of variety.

—Victoria Ross



Shih Tzu Benji wore a pumpkin costume.

## Dog Day Afternoon

### Greenspring celebrates 10th annual Halloween Pet Parade.

By Victoria Ross  
The Connection

Parading, dancing and wagging their tails, Midnight, Ladybug, Itsy & Bitsy paraded across the stage in their Halloween finery as Greenspring celebrated its 10th annual Halloween Pet Parade on Saturday, Oct. 20.

"This is one of our favorite events, a real treat for residents and their pets," said Kay McCurdy, the founder of the DOG club (Dog Owners of Greenspring), and the parade chairman. "In all the years we've been doing this, we've never had any problems with the dogs fighting."

As pooches paraded down the stage, accompanied by staff, residents and family members, Master of Ceremonies Brad Hibbs told the audience the stories, something about each of the 25 pets, to the standing-room-only audience.

Midnight, a 16-year-old toy

poodle, was abandoned by his former owners, and just a day away from being put to sleep when owner Frank Adams rescued him.

"He's a great little thing," Adams said, comforting the dog before his stage debut in a purple tutu. "Lots of love in him."

Freda Bruner, mom of Itsy & Bitsy, twin Yorkshire Terriers, started the event with the "parade of children." "We have a lot of grandchildren and great-grandchildren of residents at this event, so we started a tradition of having them parade first." Each child received a goody bag, filled with candy and toys.

Bruner started Greenspring's dog therapy program at the retirement community's nursing home, where owners bring their pets to comfort other residents. "Itsy and Bitsy are both very good with people who are ill. They sense it, and they will nestle next to someone," Bruner said.

After the parade, a team from the Virginia Search and Rescue Dog Association (VSRDA) gave a presentation on the organization's volunteer canine search and rescue unit. The unit utilizes specially trained dogs to locate missing persons after disasters and other rescue and recovery mission.

Buddy, a Maltese, was one of the show's standouts. In a nod to the 2012 elections, owner Marilyn Marshall dressed him in red, white and blue and held a sign that read "A Vote for Buddy is a Vote for Every-Buddy."

Other local sponsors included Shampoooch Mobile Spa, Inc., Felix & Oscar, PetValu, and PetSmart.



Angel was decked out in a polka-dot poodle skirt and matching accessories. Her owner is Greenspring resident Margarete Morgan.



Greenspring staffers paraded their costumed pooches down the stage.

Photos by Victoria Ross/The Connection



Buddy, a Maltese, won the popular vote in his bid for president. Marilyn Marshall, whose mother is a Greenspring resident, paraded Buddy down the stage.

### SOUTH RUN RECENTER'S 5TH ANNUAL AUTUMN ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

**Saturday, October 27**  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
**Sunday, October 28**  
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Top-quality handmade arts and crafts will be offered by more than 50 artisans from the  
**Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild.**

- **Admission is \$3.00**  
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## Spook Season

Get all the treats and tricks, fright-in-the-night and boo!-filled fun to be had out of Halloween this fall with a little help from some Fairfax County seasonal events.

### SATURDAY/OCT. 27

**Halloween Costume Fun Run.** 9-11 a.m., at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Runners of all ages run laps around campus in costume; for every lap, runners receive a treat; fun run water bottle included. \$10 suggested donation. 703-356-3346.

**Pumpkin Carving Class.** 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., at The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Executive Chef Matthew and his culinary team guide little witches and vampires in honing their artistic skills via pumpkin lantern design; for children ages 6 and older (materials included). \$50. Reservations. 703-917-5498.

**Alastair Moock's Slightly Scary Spooktacular.** 10:30 a.m., at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. Boston roots musician/family entertainer plays slightly scary tunes. \$10; children under 1 year, free. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

**Fun, Festive, Fright-less Halloween Tea.** 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., at The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Come in Halloween costumes for tea, a magician act, a creepy-crawly photo booth and eats; children receive a special treat and complimentary photo as a memento. \$65. Reservations. 703-917-5498.

**Tricks & Treats.** 2-3 p.m., at Petco, 9230B Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Show your pet's perfect costume off and vie for prizes like Petco gift cards and treats galore. 703-455-2007.

**Halloween Movie Night.** 5:30 p.m., at ArtSpace Herndon in the Post Gallery, 750 Center Street, Herndon. A showing of The Wizard of Oz for a costumed-audience, the best of which will win the contest; pre-show games at 5:30 p.m. Register. 703-956-6590 or www.artspaceherndon.org.

**Halloween Carnival.** 6-8:30 p.m., at the City of Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church. Creepy Creature Show from Reptiles Alive!, carnival games, a moon bounce, face painting, crafts, movies and candy; infants through fifth grade. 703-248-5077 or www.fallschurchva.gov.

**The Bradley Farm Haunted House.** 6-10 p.m., at 13159 New Parkland Drive, Herndon. Exhibits

and well-hidden scares within "The Evil Around Us,"-themed house, deeply haunted with local spook and legend. \$5. www.bfhauntedhouse.com.

### SUNDAY/OCT. 28

**19th Annual Valvoline Instant Oil Change Goblin Gallop.** 8:30 a.m. 1K Fun Run, 9 a.m. 5K Run, 9:10 a.m. 5K Walk. Fairfax Corner Shopping Center, 4100 Monument Drive, Fairfax. From the competitive 5 K chip race over a USATF certified course to the fun run with 450-plus children, teenagers and toddlers, the Goblin Gallop heralds costumed fun to benefit the John Quadrino Foundation for children with cancer. www.goblingallop.org.

**Halloween Bingo.** 2-5 p.m., at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street S, Vienna. Dress up to win the costume contest and play bingo for up to a \$1,000 prize. \$20. 703-938-2678.

**Sunday Soirees: Happy Halloween.** 3-5 p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Come in costume or not and dance in a low-key environment or sit and listen to The Wayne Tympanick Trio play; refreshments provided. \$5. 703-790-0123 ext. 711 or www.mcleancenter.org/special-events/upcoming.

**Trunk or Treat.** 4-6 p.m., at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Decorate the trunk of your car and fill it with treats to join a parking lot-full of other festive, treat-filled trunks; dinner provided by the church. RSVP at info@elcvienna.org.

### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 31

**Halloween Pet Parade.** 4-4:45 p.m., at the parking lot by Grandmothers Back Room, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Come with a costumed, leashed pet in tow and parade. Judging is at 4:30 p.m.; pets must be cleared from area by 4:40 p.m. www.celebrategreatfalls.org/Spook.html.

**The Annual Spooktacular.** 5-7 p.m., at Great Falls Village Centre Green, 776 Walker Road, Great Falls. Trick-or-treat with area businesses in the heart of town. Children ages 12-and-under (6th grade) before going in the Great Falls Haunted House. www.celebrategreatfalls.org/Spook.html.

host a concert; reception and silent auction precede show. 703-855-7687 or www.c4performingarts.com.

**Surrounded by Monsters.** 7 p.m., at Empire, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Experimental noise band plays three days after their new album Novella is released. 703-569-5940.

### THURSDAY/NOV. 1

**100 Women Who Care.** 7-8 p.m., at the George Mason Regional Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. A new Northern Virginia women's giving circle aiming to make local impact with charitable dollars meets; at the meeting, the organization will make a collective donation of \$10,000 to a nonprofit organization serving the region. www.100wcnova.org.

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Thursday, December 6, 10 a.m.  
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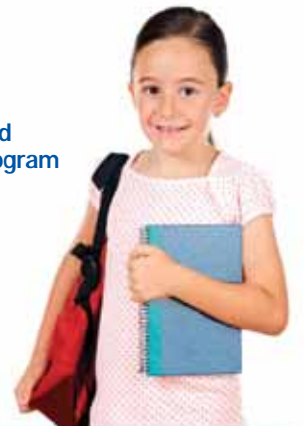
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The Gow School  
The Katherine Thomas School  
Kingsbury Day School  
The Lab School of Washington  
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MANSEF  
McLean School of Maryland  
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The Multiple Learning Needs Program  
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Oakland School  
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## Calendar

From Page 10

**Ghost Train.** 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. The haunted forest hosts ghosts, goblins and witches—dare you enter? A carousel and costumed creatures beckon. \$4. 703-323-6600.

**Frightful Bowling: Pumpkins, Goblins and Bowling!** 1-3 p.m., at AMF Annandale Lanes, 4245 Markham Street, Annandale. A special fundraising event for Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM) with frightening door prizes and a costume contest; RSVP by Oct. 22. www.novam.org.

**Dancing 4 Cures.** 6 p.m., at Ernst Community Cultural Theater, NVCC, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. C4 Performing Arts, LLC, in partnership with Greater Little Zion Baptist Church Cancer Support Ministry in Fairfax and the BREM Foundation to Defeat Breast Cancer,



# Sports



Fairfax sophomore Charlotte Duke (4) scored the only goal in a 1-0 victory against Lake Braddock in the first round of regionals on Oct. 23 at Fairfax High School.



Senior midfielder Sam Zelenack and the Fairfax field hockey team are two wins from a state tournament berth.



Lake Braddock's Jennifer Castillo defends Fairfax's Cori Black during the teams' Oct. 23 matchup.

Photos by Chris Buchen

## Fairfax Beats Lake Braddock in Regionals

### Sophomore Duke scores lone goal for Rebels.

By Jon Roetman  
The Connection

There was no celebratory pile-up from members of the Fairfax field hockey team. No one dumped the contents of a water cooler on Rebels head coach Amber Beaudoin and no players were lifted on top of shoulders and carried off the field.

When the final whistle sounded, signifying victory against Lake Braddock on Tuesday in the opening round of the Northern Region tournament, the Rebels were reserved in their celebration. After four consecutive Liberty District championships and four straight seasons with at least one win at regionals, head coach Amber Beaudoin said the team's elder athletes are in search of something greater than what beating the Bruins could provide.

Fairfax defeated Lake Braddock, 1-0, on Oct. 23 at Fairfax High School. Sophomore forward Charlotte Duke scored the game's lone goal with 2:25 remaining in the first half, helping the Rebels advance to the quarterfinals where they will face Herndon at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 25.

**BEATING THE BRUINS** was the Rebels' first step toward reaching their goal of a state tournament berth, which would likely involve defeating South County in the region semifinals. South County knocked Fairfax out of the regional tournament each of the last three years, ending the Rebels' 2009 and 2011 seasons in the semifinals and



Fairfax senior Shannon Cosgrove reaches for the ball against Lake Braddock on Oct. 23.

their 2010 campaign in the quarterfinals.

South County faces Oakton in this year's quarterfinal round.

"Particularly the seniors; they've won four district titles in a row. There's really not much else left for them [to accomplish], and the hurdle of their entire high school career in hockey is we want to beat South County," Beaudoin said. "Every game before [the potential South County matchup], it's exciting, it's challenging, it's where they want to be, but they have their eye on the prize."

Tuesday's first step wasn't an easy one for Fairfax, which faced a Lake Braddock team that entered regionals as the Patriot District's No. 4 seed despite excelling during the regular season. After starting 0-2, the Bruins won 13 of their final 14 regular season games.

"I definitely felt relieved [after beating the Bruins] because it was kind of a fluke that they were the fourth seed in the Patriot District," Fairfax senior Shannon Cosgrove said. "They're always a top-four team. We were really nervous about playing them in the first place. Pulling through in the end, we were really relieved."

Lake Braddock couldn't have been thrilled with the matchup, either. After entering the Patriot District tournament as the No. 2 seed, the Bruins lost to No. 3 South County in the semifinals and No. 4 T.C. Williams upset No. 1 West Springfield, meaning Lake Braddock finished fourth. The result was a matchup with a Fairfax team that had lost only one game all season.

"We all knew they were a really good team and we knew we had to come out strong," Lake Braddock senior and Patriot District Player of the Year Maria Jose Pastor said. "It wasn't going to be an easy first round, but we were just thinking that if we got through this, it couldn't get tougher than this until [the] semifinals."

Lake Braddock wasn't able to get past Fairfax due in part to missed opportunities. The Bruins had 15 penalty corners, compared to eight for the Rebels, but failed to score.

Lake Braddock head coach Amy Worrest said the Bruins relied too heavily on Pastor to create.

"It's unfortunate for [Pastor] that she didn't get to go on to show some other coaches in the region what she's capable of," Worrest



Lake Braddock junior Vanessa Girata was a first-team all-Patriot District selection this season.

said. "She's the best all-around hockey player that I've ever seen. One player can't do it all. Not to say that she's the whole team, it's just the other girls sometimes settle in a little bit once they get comfortable with her with the ball."

Along with Pastor, senior forward Taylor Livick and junior defender Vanessa Girata were named first team all-Patriot District. Senior forward Rachel Wimer was the team's leading goal scorer with 14.

"I'm just proud of my girls," Worrest said. "We had a good season, we had a successful season and we just couldn't get it together."

With Lake Braddock failing to capitalize on offense, Fairfax needed just one goal to earn the win. Duke scored late in the first half, moments after senior midfielder Sam Zelenack hit the left post with a shot.

"I think always after we score we get more confident," Duke said. "We start passing around [and] we realize that it's our game. We definitely started playing our game instead of their game after that."

Cosgrove, Zelenack, junior midfielder Sara Allen and sopho-

more defender Meg Robertson were selected to the all-Liberty District first team. Beaudoin was named Coach of the Year.

Before Fairfax can arrive at its goal of qualifying for states, the Rebels must defeat Herndon in the quarterfinals. The Rebels beat the Hornets, 4-0, on Sept. 15 in the championship game of the Herndon Invitational.

"It's really hard to beat a team twice," Zelenack said. "We know that."

**WITH THE WIN** against Lake Braddock, Fairfax improved to 18-1. The Rebels have outscored their opponents 55-5. Fairfax's lone defeat was a 3-0 loss to Westfield on Sept. 24. Westfield, the Concorde District champion, is 16-0 against Northern Region foes, outscoring those opponents 87-3. Fairfax would not have to face Westfield again until the region championship game. By that point, the Rebels would have already secured a state berth.

Is going to states a realistic goal for Fairfax?

"Yeah," Cosgrove said. "We just have to beat South County, who knocks us out every year..."



# News

Jeff Pregman, general manager of Two Poor Teachers, shows off just a few of the items on display in the company's mobile showroom.

Photo by  
Andrea Worker/  
The Connection



## Two Poor Teachers Expand in Area

**A kitchen and bath remodeling company brings a one-stop-shop right to customers' front doors.**

By Andrea Worker  
The Connection

**O**n a sunny afternoon in the parking lot of a Fairfax County shopping center, Jeff Pregman is giving a tour of his mobile showroom, a \$100,000 former bookmobile that now houses an impressive selection of tiles, counter tops, faucets, flooring, light fixtures and more. Pregman is the general manager of Two Poor Teachers, a Class A contracting company founded in 1999 that specializes in kitchen and bath remodeling. The tour is interrupted on several occasions over the course of an hour by folks peering in the windows or knocking on the door. "I love it," says Pregman. "People see this big vehicle that says it's a design center. They come up to see what's what and they are blown away by what's inside. We do get a bit of business this way." Judging by the way the curious visitors walked away with business cards and even a scheduled appointment, Pregman isn't kidding.

**THE COMPANY** is the vision of Ken Nies and Tom Pennell, both of whom were Fairfax County teachers when they collaborated to start what was originally a sideline business. As their vision grew, Nies retired from teaching to serve as the hands-on owner, while Pennell still teaches and works with the company part time. Pregman came into the company first as a satisfied customer. "I was a government contractor," he said. "Ken and his crew did my bathroom remodel. We got on, needless to say, and two years later Ken recruited me to run the operation. It was a bit of a leap, but basically a no-brainer to get in with a quality outfit like this."

So, how has business been going, especially in these tougher economic times? "Pretty good," Pregman happily declares. "2011 was our best revenue year." Pregman attributes the success of Two Poor Teachers to a number of factors, not the least of which is a fanatical commitment to start and stop dates. "People and Process," Pregman firmly states. "We have a loyal, well-trained crew. Most have been with us for years, some from the

beginning. They know what they are doing and we are all on the same page. No subcontractors. We can control the quality of our work. Add in the 'process' that the company has developed over the years, and we can schedule properly and start when we say we will and be finished when we said we would."

The addition of the mobile show room in 2011 has taken things to a new level for the Two Poor Teachers gang. "As you can see," says Pregman, "it's obviously great advertising, especially when strategically parked in places like this. But what really excites people is that for many of the jobs, we bring a one-stop-shop right to their front door." Perhaps the biggest benefit to the potential client is having this treasure chest of design possibilities right there to mix and match with what's already in place. And no running from store to store, choosing, rejecting, returning, picking something else and starting the process all over again.

Two Poor Teachers handles about 350 bathroom jobs, more than 20 kitchens, and 10-15 basements per year. Pregman says a kitchen can be designed and priced in about two hours. "Most kitchen jobs are completed in two weeks, bathrooms within one week," according to Pregman. "When the work gets started, I love when the client is home," he said. "A partnership between the customer and the company makes things go smoothly. It certainly helps avoid the dreaded 'change order' and the extra charges that come with them. I know companies that say that that is where they make their money. That is just not our philosophy. Do the best job. Keep to the budget. I'm pretty sure that's why we get about 60-70 percent of our business through referrals."

**TWO POOR TEACHERS' PLANS** for the future include another mobile showroom and a larger physical display place, as well. If you are looking for a free quote and design advice for a home improvement project, contact them at 703-969-1179, or at their website [twopoorteachers.com](http://twopoorteachers.com). And if you see the showroom on wheels, don't be shy. Pregman says you're welcome. "Come on in and have a look."

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