

A line of motorcycles stretched
at least a mile along Fairfax
Boulevard during the annual
Ride of the Patriots Sunday, May
29, 2011, in the City of Fairfax.



Day Prom Celebrated

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Two-wheeled Patriots

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Music, Food, Entertainment And Fun

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PHOTO BY AMBER HEALY/THE CONNECTION

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NEWS

From left, scholarship recipients Ana Gloribel Pereira Mejia, Nicolas Polo Sánchez, Juan Guevara and Melanie Aguilar Rojas have worked hard to achieve “firsts” for their families in America.



PHOTOS BY LAUREN YOUNG/THE CONNECTION

Area Students Receive Hispanic Leadership Alliance Scholarships

Recipients are first in their families to attend college.

BY LAUREN YOUNG
THE CONNECTION

Every year, The Hispanic Leadership Alliance (HLA), a non-profit organization based in Northern Virginia, gives out scholarships to Latino high school students for post-secondary education. The alliance identifies itself as “a group of area residents committed to helping its students achieve their highest academic potential.” This year, on Monday, May 13, at the eighth annual awards banquet, eight students received scholarships. The banquet was hosted at El Tío Tex-Mex Grill in Falls Church. Families, friends, teachers, counselors, administrators, school board members and the leadership team for HLA were in attendance to show their support for the recipients. The students have plans to further their education, and have thought about possible courses of study for college.

ONE STUDENT, Melanie Aguilar-Rojas from Oakton High School, will be attending William and Mary College in Williamsburg this fall. She plans to study international relations with a future goal of working for the state department. Rojas, like the rest of the award recipients, will represent the first generation of her family to attend college. When asked about this she said, “I’m very excited, and my family is counting on me.”

Nicolas Polo Sánchez of West Springfield High School, another recipient of the HLA scholarship, also plans on studying international relations. He will attend Northern Virginia Community College, with intentions of transferring to James Madison University in Harrisonburg. The first of his family to attend college, he stresses, “If you try hard and have the right people pushing you, you can do amazing things.” Sánchez mentioned how people like the Spanish parent liaison of West Springfield High School helped him. He has been an officer for the Spanish Honors Society, and a member of the Hispanic Heritage Club for four years. These students are all well rounded and have kept busy with obligations outside of academics.

Ana Gloribel Pereira Mejia of Lake Braddock Secondary School says she worked 30 hours a week at a local restaurant throughout high school, in addition to her course work. At age 12 she came to America and had to learn English. This was a challenge she faced, but with the help of teachers like Patricia Rice, her high school English teacher, she has been able to catch up to other students and achieve so much in her four years at Lake Braddock.

Juan Guevara of Herndon High School also had to learn English, and remembers at a young age how



Nicolas Polo Sánchez, West Springfield High School



Ana Gloribel Pereira Mejia, Lake Braddock Secondary School



Juan Guevara, Herndon High School



Melanie Aguilar-Rojas, Oakton High School

he learned by listening to other students in places like the playground. He will attend Longwood University and pursue a double major in art and education. He expressed appreciation for the support and inspiration he received from his teachers in high school. Guevara, just like the other recipients, has had to overcome challenges in his life, but these have not stopped him from being the first of his family to attend college.

THE RECIPIENTS have advice for Latino students who wish to attend college and possibly represent the first generation of their family. Nicolas Polo Sánchez tells children, “Keep working hard, and don’t let people tell you what you can and can’t do.” Ana Gloribel Pereira stressed that “If you keep your grades up and volunteer, these will open up opportunities for you.” Juan Guevara added his short and sweet advice by urging youth to “work hard and not slack.” These students have worked hard to achieve “firsts” for their families in America. Melanie Aguilar says, “I’m really thankful there are organizations like the HLA that support Latino high school students.”



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Four sheep found wandering in Virginia Run on April 13 are waiting at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter for their owners to step forward.

Lost Sheep, Looking For Bo Peep?

Fairfax County teachers are used to shepherding their students through many challenges during the school year, so perhaps it wasn’t too much of a stretch for Lees Corner fourth grade teacher Katie Talbot to come to the aid of some lost sheep in her Virginia Run neighborhood on April 13.

Having a regular Saturday morning, Talbot didn’t expect to get a knock on the door from a friend who said, “Um, you have sheep in your front yard.”

Talbot ran outside, “and I baa’d at them.”

The sheep “moseyed” around her cul-de-sac, and with the assistance of her mother, she herded them against a neighbor’s fence. At that point she called the Fairfax County non-emergency police line and awaited the arrival of police officers to herd the sheep into the neighbor’s fenced yard and await the arrival of animal control officers.

— DEB COBB



Four sheep found wandering in Virginia Run on April 13 are waiting at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter for their owners to step forward. Shelter employee Lea Ann Gross offers some feed to the sheep.

Two-wheeled Patriots

It's time for the annual Ride of the Patriots, a Memorial Day tradition in the City of Fairfax.

BY AMBER HEALY
THE CONNECTION

Odds are, residents of the City of Fairfax will hear them before they can see them.

Each year, more than 4,000 motorcyclists descend on the city, gathering at Patriot Harley Davidson from across the country, coming together to share stories, compare notes from the road and honor those who have served the country.

The Ride of the Patriots is celebrating its 15th year as the local contingent joining the half-million strong Rolling Thunder tribute to veterans. What started in honor of soldiers and other servicemen who had been taken prisoner of war during Vietnam or went missing in action has become a trip to recognize and say thanks to veterans of all conflicts and to remember those who have passed away.

"Every year it gets a little bigger," said Ken Lyons, a member of the Harley Owners Group who organizes and hosts the ride and who has been involved with the ride nearly since the beginning. "The City of Fairfax has taken to putting up bleachers" to accommodate the residents who come out and line Fairfax Boulevard from the dealership to Nutley Street, many waving flags or other patriotic items.

IT WASN'T LIKE THAT in 1998, the first year of the ride. At that time, the group was smaller, more like 50 or so motorcycles from across the region, recalled Larry Larson, another HOG member and one of the original riders from that time.

"In my mind, it's more and more important" for the bikers and the residents to get together each year for their Memorial Day tradition, Larson said.

"As we see WWII veterans fading from our midst, it seems like Memorial Day events are disappearing," he said. The Ride of the Patriots won't be part of that trend, however, and continues to grow both in popularity and participants.

Not all the riders are veterans—Lyons served a few years in the Army Corps of Engineers, Larson did not serve in the military—but each year the event, which begins with a ceremony in the Harley dealership parking lot, features a speaker, usually someone recently retired from service.

This year is no different. The guest speaker is Lt. General Duane Thiessen (Ret.), a former commander of the U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific, who will address the thousands gathered in the lot before leading the parade to I-66 to join the national Rolling Thunder rally at the Pentagon. The bikes gathered there usually number close to half a million, and the rally, celebrating its 26th year, will proceed from the Pentagon into Washington, D.C., starting at noon.

Other speakers will include City of Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne, Del. David Bulova (D-37), State Sen. Chap Peterson (D-34) and U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11). There will be musical performances



PHOTO BY AMBER HEALY/THE CONNECTION

The first few riders embark on the annual Ride of the Patriots trek to the Pentagon, where they meet the larger, national Rolling Thunder tribute to service men and women, past and present.

from Fairfax High School marching band and the Northern Virginia Firefighter's Emerald Society Pipe Band.

Of course, despite the patriotism that overwhelms the parking lot, despite the brightly decorated children, grown-ups, motorcycles and even dogs decked out in red, white and blue to honor veterans and those still serving, it's possible not everyone appreciates the roar of thousands of motorcycles, especially at 6 a.m. on a Sunday, which is when the first motorcycles arrive to line Fairfax Boulevard.

THAT'S FINE, Lyons said. It's not for everyone.

"If you want to protest, that's fine, but we're honoring the people who put their life on the line so you can gripe," he said.

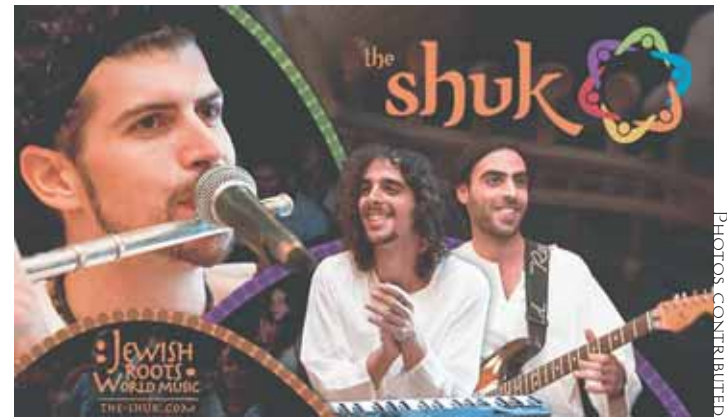
Larson agreed, adding that motorcyclists still have the outdated and, by and large, undeserved label of being outlaws, drifters and troublemakers.

"This is a patriotic event made up not of the 1 percent, but of the 100 percent, the bikers and the local community," he said.

"For all the people on Rifle Ridge who complained about the dealership when it was being built, who think we're just Hells' Angels, I don't think they've been to the event. They haven't seen what it's about."

It's a day to bring together the living to honor those who served and didn't make it home, and to thank those who did, they said.

The 15th annual Ride of the Patriots will take place beginning at 8 a.m. on Sunday, May 26, at Patriot Harley Davidson, 9739 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. Motorcycles will begin lining up on Fairfax Boulevard early in the morning and will depart Fairfax, via Nutley Street, to I-66 east to the Pentagon, starting at 9 a.m. For more information on the event, go to www.rideofthepatriots.com.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Headlining the festival's entertainment will be the international music group, The Shuk.

Music, Food, Entertainment and Fun

Israel Street Festival this Sunday at Fairfax Corner.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax Corner shopping center is the place to be this Sunday, May 19, from noon-5 p.m., when the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia holds its 2013 Israel Street Festival. Music, food, children's activities and a martial-arts demonstration are among the highlights.

Since 2007, the Israel Street Festival has drawn more than 3,000 participants to create together an exciting program celebrating Israel's culture and history. Headlining this year's entertainment will be The Shuk, led by Yoni Avital. It's one of the leading international music groups from Israel, having performed in more than 30 countries worldwide.

The Shuk connects people of all backgrounds to Israeli and Jewish culture via its diverse repertoire of traditional, contemporary, folk, sacred, Israeli, Jewish, Middle-Eastern and world music. Also performing will be Israeli-born R&B soul singer and songwriter, Hadar Binyamin, who draws her inspiration from singing greats Stevie Wonder, Etta James and Alicia Keys.

Besides the entertainers, this year's festival also features a demonstration of Krav Maga, the official self-defense system of the Israel Defense Forces.

Shop the *Shuk* (Israeli-style marketplace). There'll also be a petting zoo sponsored by Geshur Jewish Day School in Fairfax, arts-and-crafts activities for children, Israeli dancing, local choirs and a teen band.



R&B soul singer Hadar Binyamin will perform.

In addition, people will share stories of their favorite locations in Israel, and there'll be a display of Israeli T-shirts and the stories behind them. Kosher food will be sold by Max's Kosher Café. Both festival admission and parking are free.

"The Israel Street Festival offers the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia a tremendous opportunity to collaborate with area synagogues, agencies and organizations in bringing the flavors, sounds and culture of Israel to our region," said Laurie Albert, JCCNV community-engagement director. "It's important that we bring Israel's rich history, global contributions and significance front and center to build connections between Israel and our community."

A nonprofit social-service organization, the JCCNV offers programs, activities and services emphasizing Jewish culture, identity and values.

For more information about the festival, visit www.jccnv.org or call 703-323-0880.

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Man Assaulted And Robbed

Police responded to the McDonald's restaurant at 6302 Little River Turnpike on Wednesday, May 8, at around 7:40 p.m. for the report of a robbery. Officers met with the victim, a 53-year-old Alexandria man who said he walked out of the McDonald's and was attacked by two men. He was knocked to the ground and kicked

and an undisclosed amount of cash was removed from his pants pocket. The victim did not require medical attention. The two suspects, as well as a third man apparently with them, ran toward Landmark Shopping Center.

All three suspects were described as black and between 25 and 30 years old. One suspect was approximately 6 feet tall and was wearing a striped shirt. He was

SEE WEEK, PAGE 12

Be a part of our **Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

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News

Participants, including two-time Olympian Moise Joseph, in the 2012 fun run.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MEENA BHINGE

'It's All About Helping Other People'

May 19 fun run to raise money for Chessie's BIG Backyard.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Tall, short, stocky, thin, disabled or not, children love to play—and that's the premise behind Chessie's BIG Backyard in Lee District Park in Alexandria. It's a family recreation area that opened last summer and is fully accessible.

Although expansions are planned, money is tight, so two young brothers—Rohil and Samik Bhinge of Fairfax—are raising funds to move things along. Toward that end, they're holding their second annual BIG Fun Run, this Sunday, May 19, from 1:30-3 p.m., in their Forest Hills community. (Rain date, June 2).

It's on the trail around the community pond and the address is 11635 Forest Hill Court in Fairfax. Participants should arrive 15 min-



(From left) are brothers Rohil and Samik Bhinge.

utes earlier to find parking on that street or on Forest Hill Drive and walk up to the pond.

Each lap is one-fifth of a mile, so five laps equal one mile.

"People can do as many laps as they want, and they can run or walk," said the boys' mother, Meena Bhinge. "Last year, 35 children and 23 adults participated and we raised \$1,315. We hope to double that amount this year."

THOSE WANTING to join the fun run pledge whatever monetary amount they want to, per lap. Participants may sign up at www.fairfaxfunrun.com.

Chessie's currently contains a Tiki Village playground including a fully accessible, 2,000-square-foot tree house. But a fully accessible carousel and a picnic pavil-

SEE BIG, PAGE 7

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MEENA BHINGE

(From left) Courtney Cooper, Rohil Bhinge and Moise Joseph run around the pond during last year's event.

BIG Fun Ride

FROM PAGE 6

ion are also planned when there are enough funds.

Rohil, 9, and Samik, 8, in fourth and second grades, respectively, at Fairfax Villa Elementary were at Chessie's last summer when the first section of it opened. And that's when they knew they wanted to help.

“There were maps showing what would be in the next stages, and Rohil asked someone from the [Fairfax County] Park Authority when it would be finished,” said Bhinge. “They said they needed more money to do it, so he decided he wanted to do something.”

Initially, Rohil figured he'd donate the money in his piggy bank, but quickly realized a lot more funds would be needed. "He remembered his school had raised money for the PTA by having a fun run," said his mom. "So he explained the project to his classmates and Samik told his friends, too. They also sent handwritten letters to local officials. Their goal was to raise \$100."

"My sons enjoy running," she said. "And because they do, they want to eat healthy, so it changed their whole lifestyle and got them to have good nutrition and be active."

The first BIG fun run was in October 2012. "I got permission from our homeowners association to have it around the trail around our community's pond," said Bhinge. "We had a good turnout, but the highlight was [county] Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova coming to the event. This was special to Rohil."

Bulova, who's also a runner, walked the ceremonial first-lap with Bhinge and some of the homeowners' association board members. Then two-time Olympian Moise Joseph, who coaches Rohil's and Samik's track club, did

the fun run with the children.

Bulova will return this Sunday, along with Roberta Longworth, Fairfax County Park Foundation executive director. To learn about the additions planned for Chessie's BIG Backyard, go to <http://www.fairfaxparkfoundation.org>. Tax-deductible donations, payable to Fairfax County Park Foundation, may also be made there.

The family recreation area at Lee District Park is a countywide destination for children of all ages, and there's enormous potential for future development there," said Barbara Nugent, director of the Park Authority's Park Services division. "So any time we get the opportunity to partner with others—including a child who understands the value of play—is critical to our success in meeting the needs of the community."

Bhingse says the whole thing has been a “great learning experience” for her children. “The fun run required a lot of commitment, and Rohil and Samik were willing to help the community by raising money,” she said. “They learned about managing a project and networking, and Rohil built the Fairfaxfunrun website, himself.”

MOST OF ALL, though, said Bhinge, “They learned to be more giving. And now, they’re constantly looking for other ways to give. For example, if we’re in a restaurant that’s collecting for something, Rohil wants to donate. He’ll even do chores around the house to raise money to donate. He says, ‘Every little bit will count.’”

“My husband Deepak and I are very proud of both boys. For them, it’s all about helping other people. This project has totally changed the way they think; and when they grow up, it will always stay with them.”

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OPINION

Vote in Spite of Election Fatigue

Primary Voting, Absentee Voting, Republican Convention.

Absentee voting, including “in-person” absentee voting, is already underway for the June 11, 2013 primary, a statewide Democratic party primary for lieutenant governor and attorney general, plus one delegate race in Northern Virginia.

Voters in the Democratic primary will choose between Ralph S. Northam and Aneesh Chopra for lieutenant governor; and between Mark R. Herring and Justin E. Fairfax for attorney general.

Because voters do not register by party in Virginia, any voter can vote in the Democratic primary, but cannot vote in a Democratic and Republican primary on the same day.

The Republican party will nominate their candidates for statewide office in a convention to be held on May 17-18, 2013 in Richmond. Delegates to the convention were elected by locality in March and April.

Each locality is entitled to one Republican convention delegate vote per 250 Republican

votes for governor and president at their last election, so that Fairfax County is entitled to 1,392 delegate votes; Arlington County is entitled to 215 delegate votes; Alexandria City is entitled to 133 delegate votes; the City of Fairfax is entitled to 32 delegate votes; Falls Church City is entitled to 14 delegate votes. Localities choose up to five times the number of delegates as votes, plus an equal number of alternates.

In Fairfax County, there is also Democratic primary for District 86, between Jennifer Boysko <http://www.jenniferboysko.com/> and Herb Kemp <http://www.herbkempfordelegate.com/>, with the winner facing incumbent Tom Rust (R). Democratic voters in the 86th House of Delegates District will find this on their ballots along with lieutenant governor and attorney general. (Precincts: Floris, Fox Mill, Stuart, Herndon #1, Herndon #2, Clearview, Herndon #3, Hutchison, Sugarland, Coates, Kinross West, Lees Corner #1, Carson)

The polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on June 11, 2013.

Absentee voting allows qualified voters to participate in upcoming elections even though they may not be able to go to the polls on Election Day. Absentee voting in person began on April 26, 2013.

Most people in Northern Virginia qualify to vote absentee under this provision, although there are many others:

“Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for eleven or more hours of the thirteen that the polls are open (6 a.m. to 7 p.m.).”

In Fairfax County, in-person absentee voting is ongoing through June 8 at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax, VA 22035

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturdays (June 1st and June 8th): 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Monday, May 27, 2013 for Memorial Day.

Here are some good sources for information on upcoming elections:

Virginia State Board of Elections, <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/>,

Virginia Public Access Project, <http://www.vpap.org/candidates?display=state>,

Fairfax County Board of Elections, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/ecalendar.htm>.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Campaigning in Support of Homeless Solutions

BY SYLISA LAMBERT-
WOODARD
PRESIDENT AND CEO
PATHWAY HOMES, INC.

As Pathway Homes joined our nonprofit colleagues, local officials and Fairfax County partners in the 100,000 Homes Campaign to raise awareness and support for the homeless in our area, I felt renewed hope that we will eradicate homelessness in our community.

Since the 100,000 Homes Registry Week in February, the outpouring of support and interest from citizens and friends has been nothing less than inspiring. I witnessed the amazing surge of community support and show of corporate responsibility that is characterized by the Fairfax community. In preparation to meet the needs of those identified through this community-wide event, local non-profits partnered and purchased new housing stock in anticipation of using subsidized housing vouchers to assist those most vulnerable in our community to get housing and stay housed.

While energized by public awareness raised around the



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

raised the awareness of many to the plight of the homeless. Pledges of support and creative partnerships are emerging to house the 1,350 individuals who are homeless in Fairfax County on any given day.

In the midst of such progress towards ending homelessness, few could have predicted what has evolved into a quiet storm involving deep cuts from sequestration that impact the homeless; and impending Medicaid cuts to supportive services for those with mental illness and substance use that help these individuals remain in housing.

In our daily efforts we never take for granted how critical the collective voice is to galvanize needed change. It was just weeks ago that Congress decided to ease the burden of federal spending cuts on

needs of homeless individuals and families encountered during Registry Week, there is much left to do. The good news is that this campaign successfully educated many caring neighbors and

travelers inconvenienced and angry over airport delays. How impactful it would be to use our collective voice to show that this quiet storm of sequestration and Medicaid cuts will result in conditions that eclipse those caused by travel delays. These cuts will lead to increased homelessness, reduced and limited support services to the most vulnerable, and loss of new vouchers that were intended to support individuals in the homes recently acquired by non-profits and private landlords in their efforts to provide affordable and sustainable housing in our community.

While there is no doubt that our 10-year-plan to end homelessness will find a detour ahead, I maintain hope that it will not be a dead end that takes a severe toll on the resilience of our local community partners. Sequestration is having a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable in our community, and the “collective voice” creates change. While the Fairfax local housing authority and elected officials are actively identifying short term solutions to temporarily mitigate additional reductions, we are left with the uncertainty of the extent of the impact of additional cuts on the individuals we serve and our community as a whole.

With continued community advocacy directed towards local, state, and federal elected officials, I believe our voice can be as influential and successful as our “frequent flyers” in averting a most devastating impact to our community.

At Pathway Homes we remain committed to advocacy and education and are committed with other non-profits, to developing innovative partnerships that will create needed housing and support to those most vulnerable in our community. We remain inspired by those we serve.

At the same time, it will take a great deal of innovation, collaboration, and faith to continue to help the most vulnerable in our communities. Pathways’ forecast for our community remains bright and hopeful with a strong belief that eradicating homelessness in our community is possible. As a community, we must remember that collective advocacy can change the course of time and result in positive outcomes for the individuals we serve.

Pathway Homes Inc. provides non-time-limited housing and recovery-based supportive services to adults with serious mental illness and co-occurring disabilities in Northern Virginia.

Fairfax
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CALENDAR

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

FRIDAY/MAY 17

Book Fair at Barnes & Noble. 5-9 p.m., at Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Barnes & Nobles at Fair Lakes will host a bookfair to raise funds for the Mountain View High School Scholarship Foundation; families can enjoy face painting, storytelling, bookmark making, musical performances and an art display while purchasing books for graduations, birthdays or personal enjoyment. bn.com/bookfairs (enter Bookfair ID 11061660 at checkout).

Relay for Life of Springfield-Burke. 7 p.m.-7 a.m., at West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. The fourth annual family friendly event promoting an attitude of hope and honoring survivors benefits the American Cancer Society; a cancer survivors reception is at 5 p.m. \$10 registration.

www.springfieldburkerelay.org or springfieldburkerelay@gmail.com.
Alice in Wonderland Jr. 7:30 p.m., at Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Northern Virginia Players present Alice's madcap adventures with the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter and the Queen of Hearts. Performances are dedicated to Bobby Collar, a member of the players who died unexpectedly Feb. 14; part of ticket proceeds will go to the Bobby Collar Memorial Fund. NVPlayers.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 18

Herb Festival. Noon to 5 p.m. at Heather Hill Gardens, 8111 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Learn to grow and cook with fresh herbs, taste herbal delights and meet author Barbara Jacksier. Take home a free herb plant. 703-690-6060 or www.heatherhillgardens.com.
Alice in Wonderland Jr. 1:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., at Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Northern Virginia Players present Alice's madcap adventures with the White Rabbit, the Mad

Hatter and the Queen of Hearts. Performances are dedicated to Bobby Collar, a member of the players who died unexpectedly Feb. 14; part of ticket proceeds will go to the Bobby Collar Memorial Fund. NVPlayers.com.

SUNDAY/MAY 19

2013 Israel Street Festival. Noon-5 p.m., at Fairfax Corner, 4100 Monument Drive, Fairfax. Headliner: international music group The Shuk performs along with R&B artist Hadar Binyamin; performances, exhibits and activities including Krav Maga Israel Defense Force self defense demonstrations, a petting zoo, Israeli dancing, Israel-style shuck (marketplace) and food from Max's Kosher Cafe. 703-323-0880 or www.jccnv.org.

A girl enjoys herself at The Israel Street Festival, which has drawn more than 3,000 participants since 2007. The event brings together Jewish agencies and synagogues from the Washington, D.C., area to collaborate on a program that celebrates Israel's culture and history. The festival will be Sunday, May 19, at Fairfax Corner.

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/MAY 16

Lunch N' Life. Noon-2 p.m., at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Burke. The Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke (SCFB) is sponsoring an event where Col. Robert J. Darling will give a presentation entitled "In the Bunker with the Vice President on 9/11." Reservation required. \$10. Checks payable to SCFB. Transportation on request. 703-323-4788 or scfbva.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 19

General Meeting of Burke Historical Society. 4:30 p.m., at the Fellowship Hall of Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke. Paul Herbert speaks on his book, "God Knows All Your Names." slawski_brian@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY/MAY 26

The 15th Annual "Ride of the Patriots". 6:30 a.m. parade, 7:30 a.m. A send-off ceremony, 9 a.m. procession. Patriot Harley-Davidson, 9739 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. "Ride of the Patriot" is the Memorial Day weekend gathering of the motorcycle riding community to pay tribute to



Fairfax Academy Dance presents Paul Taylor's classic modern dance pieces "Aureole" and "3 Epitaphs" at their "Red, White and Dance" performance at 7:30 p.m. May 17 and 18 at The Fairfax High School Theater.

FRIDAY/MAY 31

Alice in Wonderland Jr. 7:30 p.m., at Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Northern Virginia Players present Alice's madcap adventures with the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter and the Queen of Hearts. Performances are dedicated to Bobby Collar, a member of the players who died unexpectedly Feb. 14; part of ticket proceeds will go to the Bobby Collar Memorial Fund. NVPlayers.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 1

Alice in Wonderland Jr. 1:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., at Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Northern Virginia Players present Alice's madcap adventures with the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter and the Queen of Hearts. Performances are dedicated to Bobby Collar, a member of the players who died unexpectedly Feb. 14; part of ticket proceeds will go to the Bobby Collar Memorial Fund. NVPlayers.com.

MONDAY/JUNE 3

2013 Charity Golf Tournament. 12:30 p.m. at the Westfields Gold Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA) of Northern Virginia is hosting the tournament for the benefit of The Shepherd's Centers of Northern Virginia. Reservation required. \$150. naifanova@gmail.com or www.scfbva.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 7

Summerland Tour. 7:15 p.m., at the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Centre, 12000 Government Centre Parkway, Fairfax. Come and enjoy the alternative music starring Everclear, Live and Filter &

Sponge; advance tickets go on sale on May 7 at Wegmans in Fairfax, Dulles, and Gainesville. \$4-\$12. www.celebratefairfax.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 8

Bingo Fundraiser for the Family. 1-3 p.m., at the Parish Center Gym, St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. All the proceeds from the bingo will go to the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke (SCFB) and its work for area seniors; refreshments provided. \$12 each, which includes two Bingo Cards for the entire event. Additional cards \$1 per card per game. 703-426-2828 or www.scfbva.org.

The B-52s Concert. 8 p.m., at the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Centre, 12000 Government Centre Parkway, Fairfax. Rock band The B-52s play, with 35 years of musical experience; advance tickets go on sale on May 7 at Wegmans in Fairfax, Dulles, and Gainesville. \$4-\$12. www.celebratefairfax.com.

SUNDAY/JUNE 9

Spin Doctors Concert. 4:30 p.m., at the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Centre, 12000 Government Centre Parkway, Fairfax. Spin Doctors, formed in 1988 in New York City, plays hits from "Full of Kryptonite," which sold over five million copies in the US. \$4-\$12. www.celebratefairfax.com.

MONDAY/JUNE 10

Intro to Riding in a Peloton. 6:30 p.m., at Fairfax Mosaic Freshbikes, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax. Learn the finer points of pacelines, echelons and drafting for those new to competitive riding and racing with the DESIGNS Cycling Team every second Monday of the month. www.freshbikescycling.com.

office@fairfaxadultsoftball.com.

ONGOING

Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 1:30-2:30 p.m., at the Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Dr., Fairfax. Tuesday and/or Thursday classes in a heated pool designed to work on balance and core muscles for injury prevention. \$10. 703-667-9800.
American Red Cross CPR, First Aid and AED. Various times, at 2720 State Route 699, Suite 200, Fairfax. One-year certification, digital or print materials and continued education on Mondays through Thursday and Saturday. \$70-110. www.redcrossnca.org.

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WEEK IN FAIRFAX

FROM PAGE 5

also carrying a backpack. The second suspect had dreadlocks and possibly a mustache. There was no further description of the third suspect.

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

Cycle Fest Ride On Sunday, May 19

The community is invited to join the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV) for its fourth annual Cycle Fest ride on Sunday, May 19. The ride benefits Wounded Warriors Project and Hazon, who creates healthier and more sustainable communities in the world and beyond. There are three ride distances from which to choose: 65 miles, 50 miles and 30 miles. All rides begin at the JCCNV, 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax, at 8 a.m. with registration

beginning at 7:30 a.m. Fees include a Cycle Fest T-shirt, rest stop with tasty treats, SAG vehicle support, mechanical support and light food. For registration information, visit www.active.com or e-mail Paula at PaulaC@jccnv.org. Riders should be experienced; suggested minimum age is 12. Call 703-537-3049 or visit www.jccnv.org for details.

New Balance to Open New Store In Mosaic

New Balance Fairfax will celebrate the Grand Opening of its new store in Mosaic district in Merrifield on Saturday and Sunday, May 18-19. John Strojny, whose management company NB Retail Management, Inc. helps prospective managers obtain shares of their local New Balance store and chance of ownership, said he was pleased the new Fairfax store opening in the area's new urban retail community. His company supported the New Balance store owner/manager Dan Guzman's move from managing the store in McLean to owning/managing New Balance Fairfax.

The Grand Opening Saturday and Sunday will be a "Fit for All" free for all, featuring freebies, discounts and raffles. Everyone that makes a footwear purchase this weekend will receive a drawstring bag with a free technical tee shirt (while supplies last). Each customer will also get a 10-50 percent discount depending on a random drawing at the register. Sign up for raffles for an Apple I-Pod 3 or an I-Pod Shuffle: the winners will be announced on Monday, May 20. There will be free foot screenings; for appointments call 703-382-3411.

The Mosaic New Balance store is located near the Dunn Loring/Merrifield Metro station. Store hours are Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tel: 703-382-3411; or visit www.nbretail.com.

County Animal Shelter Seeks Foster Parents

Kathleen Cornell, Foster Care coordinator, wants to expand the Fairfax County Animal Shelter's foster program with a foster information session slated for Tuesday, May 21, at 7 p.m., at the shelter, 4500 West Ox Road in Fairfax.

"Historically, [it's] focused on finding foster homes for kittens and puppies until they're old enough to be adopted," said Cornell. "We now want to find more homes where adult dogs and cats, as well as rabbits and other small animals, can benefit from a home environment."

The shelter's also recruiting potential foster parents for adult dogs with special medical needs, puppies and orphaned kittens, plus dogs and cats needing extra attention and socialization before being adopted.

"The shelter provides all the medical care, food and supplies for foster animals," added Kristen Auerbach, Community Outreach program manager. "As a foster parent, you provide a safe and nurturing place for an animal that needs extra TLC. Our foster parents save lives by the selfless act of opening their hearts and homes."

To attend the information session, RSVP to Kathleen.cornell@fairfaxcounty.gov. Those unable to attend, but still interested in fostering, may fill out an application at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal/foster.htm>.

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21 Announcements

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Gen-ed students, special-ed students, and teachers alike came together to break down Michael Jackson's "Thriller" dance.



PHOTO BY
TIM PETERSON/
THE CONNECTION

'Day Prom' Celebrated

Eight high schools participate in daytime prom for special needs students.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Prom is pretty intimidating as it is: date, hair, dress, food, limo, flowers, dancing... gasp. But the annual event is also a privilege, a rite of high school passage that bonds students through shared experience for the rest of their lives.

Unfortunately, many students with special needs will never share that experience with their peers. Their physical or intellectual disabilities can make participating in such a large and emotional gathering overwhelming, uncomfortable, and in some cases, simply impossible.

To make a difference for these students, then-special-ed department chair at Herndon High School Chris Pascarella began organizing a daytime prom 12 years ago. It was a chance for students who may not, or would not, otherwise attend their school's main prom to get a taste of the experience everyone else was having.

"We started very small," said Kathy Khair, special education teacher at Herndon, Leesburg resident, and organizer of this year's Day Prom. "All we had was pizza out of the trunk of a car, and bottled drinks. That was the beginning of it."

ONLY TWO SCHOOLS were involved the first year of the event, hosted by the Reston Hyatt. On



PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax High School students Sayed and Kendall dance with Lake Braddock senior Stephanie Masters at the May 9 "Day Prom" held at the Fair Oaks Waterford.

Thursday, May 9, at the elegant Waterford reception facility in Fair Oaks, students represented eight area high schools—including close to 20 students each from Oakton, Lake Braddock, Centreville, Fairfax, Westfield, Herndon, South Lakes and Woodson—as well as the Kilmer Center in Vienna.

"For our lower-functioning kids, I knew they would never go to the regular prom," said Vicki Hudson, lead autism teacher at Centreville and Clifton resident. "For the higher-functioning kids, it's a great stepping-stone, that they could go and get used to what prom is like, and then attend the regular school prom, which we found they were

doing. It's a great social skills tool."

Inside, it was easy to mistake the Thursday morning for a Friday or Saturday night. Heavy bass from Katy Perry and Macklemore permeated the building as swarms of festively adorned and done-up high school students scurried back and forth from dancehall to photo room.

"They dress up, we've got music, we've got food," said Hudson. "It's everything the regular school prom is, except it's free and it's during the day."

To bring the prom to students at no cost, every component was either donated or contributed by the participating schools. From the



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

The Waterford in Fair Oaks hosted the FCPS Day Prom last Thursday, May 9.

cakes provided by Target to the flowers by Herndon Flowers, to a "party bus" from Reston Limousine, it was a wholly generous team effort.

"The staff looks forward to it every year," said Consuelo Scott, the senior catering and sales manager for the Waterford. "It's great to see the looks on their faces and the schools coming together. You can't help but feel good about coming to work."

Scott's 10-person team helped contribute to the prom's formal authenticity. "It's our big outreach event," she continued. "And we have our own setup team, banquet staff and culinary team here—it's all hands on deck." SGA members and gen-ed students from all the schools' Best Buddies and Hornet Buddies (Herndon) were also on hand to interact with the students and assist with food service.

BUT AS WITH ANY PROM, the true action took place on the dance floor. "You see them out there, having fun," said Hudson. "They don't care who they're dancing with. They need that. These kids don't have very many social inclusionary activities in their lives."

"We don't get that as much at school," she continued. "School's

about learning, school's about making progress. This is a chance to demonstrate that social progress. I love the smiles."

Smiles were in no short supply, as the DJ played requests and led the energetic group in organized dances including Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and Cupid's "Cupid Shuffle."

"It's a blast, watching them let loose and be like everyone else," said Bob Brofft, an instructional assistant at Centreville and Falls Church resident. "It's phenomenal. Days like today really make this job worth it."

Preparation and participation are technically in the curriculum ("They automatically go, because it's part of the grade," said Khair) and students receive instruction on everything from attire and hygiene to asking someone to dance. But on the big day, books and pencils are down.

"It's one way to get out of school," said South Lakes senior Hani Baloch. "It's great to be here with all your friends. It's a totally different environment here."

But is it better than the "real" South Lakes prom? "It's basically the same thing," Baloch said, nonchalantly. For Friday night's event, though, she'll be wearing a different dress.

Teaching Healing Through Altruism

Marymount students learn counseling technique by helping U.S. troops.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

A group of counseling students got to experience a therapeutic technique while also helping service men and women serving in Afghanistan.

Graduate students in the pastoral counseling program at Marymount University in Arlington assembled care packages for U.S. troops as part of a community service requirement. One of the project's goals was to teach the future therapists how altruism can have long-term mental health benefits.

"The research has shown that if a person goes outside of themselves to help others it can be a therapeutic experience, especially for those who have depression or other mental health challenges," said Lisa Jackson-Cherry, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Counseling and founder of the Pastoral Counseling program. "We want students to experience what a client would experience."

Students are required to perform 30 hours of community service as part of their program. The class of 11 students formulated, planned and implemented the task. "I think everyone thought of the assignment as not just a project we had to complete, but a chance to actually, in some small way, let men and women in the military know that people here at home do appreciate their



Marymount University professor Lisa Jackson-Cherry, Ph.D., discusses an altruism project with her pastoral counseling class.

service and sacrifice," said Annandale resident Nina Angeles.

The students collected an array of items like games, magazines, books and DVDs. They gathered nearly enough items to fill their classroom and exceeded their professor's expectations. "I was expecting five or six boxes, but it became more than

what the entire university could have put together," said Jackson-Cherry. "We had almost a roomful of supplies. The students solicited from their churches and from family members across the country."

Pastoral counseling students learn to incorporate spirituality into their work with clients. They wrote personal letters to the

troops and included information on stress relief practices like meditation and breathing exercises. "We could not help but feel for the brave men and women who ... face stressful and sometimes traumatic situations away from home," said doctoral student Maya Georgieva of Alexandria. "... It was essential that we send notes of encouragement and support."

Jackson-Cherry said the most powerful learning experience came when she delivered the boxes to a VFW Post in Maryland: the feeling that comes from seeing the impact benevolence has on others. "The place was packed for lunch, and I was planning to slip in the back door and drop off the boxes," she said. "There were veterans there from World War II and Vietnam ... they became teary-eyed as they were telling me stories of how the acts of strangers had impacted them when they were serving overseas. It was quite touching. I wish the students could have been there to see how their acts of kindness touched so many more people than they would have thought of."

The students did get an opportunity to experience gratitude first-hand, however, when the military unit that received their supplies wrote a thank you note to the class. "The unit was overwhelmed by the generosity and the kindness of strangers, especially because they were away from their families," said Jackson-Cherry.

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Paul VI Ensembles Take Top Mark at Busch Gardens

Paul VI Catholic High School's Choral Ensemble, Concert Band and String Ensemble participated in the Fiesta-Val Adjudication at Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, on April 27. The Choral Ensemble, under the direction of R. Mae Trimble and accompanied on piano by Nicole Kirk, received a rating of Superior. The Concert Band and String Ensemble, under the direction of Jan Siegfried, received ratings of Excellent. Of special merit, Amanda Malloy received the outstanding soloist award for her saxophone solo in the piece "Exaltation."

PEOPLE

Telford Receives Weinberg Triumph of Spirit Award

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The annual Race for Hope in Washington, D.C., raises money for brain tumor research and, for 10 years now, the Rabbi Joseph P. Weinberg Triumph of Spirit Award has been given at that event to a deserving recipient.

This year, the award was presented May 5 at the race's starting line to Fair Lakes resident BethAnn Telford. Although battling brain cancer herself, she created her own fundraising organization, Team BT, which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the National Brain Tumor Society and Accelerate Brain Cancer Cure.

Telford was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor in 2005, but she didn't let that stop her from becoming a marathon runner, triathlete and Ironman competitor. She still races to raise awareness and funds brain-cancer research. Her participation in the 2012 Race for Hope-DC raised \$105,000.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

BethAnn Telford (on right) with her mother Susanne, at the Race for Hope.

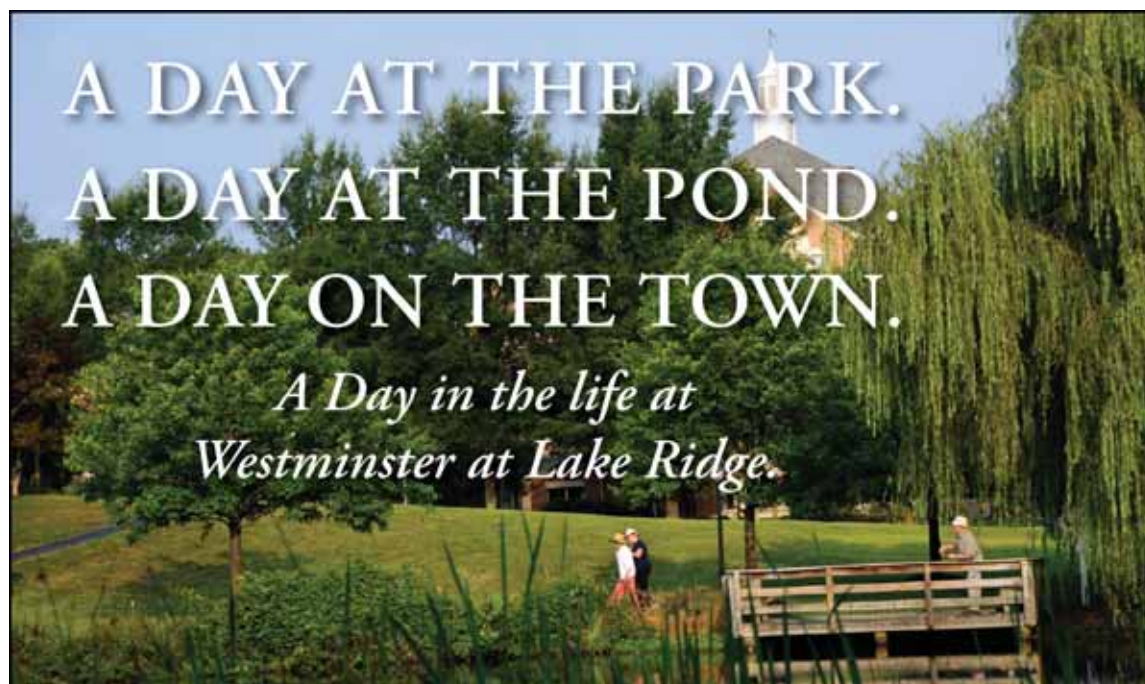
Weinberg was the senior rabbi at the Washington Hebrew Congregation, but died of a brain tumor in 1999. He often said, "In life, we cannot always control certain events that we are faced with. But

how we face such circumstances, how we choose to live our lives—that is in our control; that is the triumph of the spirit."

At the beginning of the May 5 event, Weinberg's wife Marcia and their grandchildren presented the award to Telford, saying, "Your actions, BethAnn, the way you are living your life despite a very rocky road, make you a hero in the eyes of so many admirers."

"Overcoming obstacles that many cannot even imagine makes you the perfect 'Triumph of the Spirit' recipient," she continued. "Thank you for allowing us to honor you, BethAnn. Although in reality, we are the ones who are honored by knowing you."

Accepting the award, Telford held it up high and waved it at the crowd. "This isn't about BethAnn Telford," she said. "This is for you—for those that are out there fighting. We appreciate everything you do throughout the year to raise money. And I share this award with each and every one of you."



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OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, MAY 18 & 19

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

Centreville

13617 Northbourne Dr.\$649,900.....Sun 1-4.....Julie Young.....Samson Props..703-380-2200
13965 Water Pond Ct.....\$359,900.....Sun 1-4.....Dan Mleziva.....RE/MAX..703-380-9915
14764 Green Park Way.....\$289,900.....Sat 1-4.....Cathy Lanni.....Long & Foster..703-615-4237

Chantilly

42344 Astors Beachwood.....\$790,000.....Sun 1-4.....Chris Pezzana.....Weichert..703-447-1662

Clifton

7500 Weymouth Hill Rd.....\$1,165,000.....Sun 12-3.....Sharon Mills.....RE/MAX..703-296-1676
7242 Archlaw Dr.....\$1,075,000.....Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX..703-503-4365
12395 Henderson Rd.....\$900,000.....Sun 2-4.....Monica Sims.....RE/MAX..703-642-3380
6922 Clifton Rd.....\$689,000.....Sun 2-5.....Nancy Basham.....Long & Foster..703-772-2066

Fairfax

6119 Queens Brigade Ct.....\$622,500.....Sun 2-4.....Carrie Shokraei.....RE/MAX..703-297-2109
3737 Mazewood Ln.....\$374,900.....Sun 1-4.....Debi Anderson.....Samson Props..703-585-6164
13233 Custom House Ct.....\$355,000.....Sun 1-4.....Bryan Henry.....Samson Props..703-786-2376

Fairfax Station

7904 Oakshire Ln.....\$1,795,000.....Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX..703-503-4365
5735 Daingerfield Way.....\$1,495,000.....Sun 1-4.....Jeffrey McGlothlin.....McEneaney..703-286-1289
6207 Halley Commons Ct.....\$1,199,000.....Sat 1-4.....Helen Grozbean.....Keller Williams..571-233-4287
10109 Homar Pond Dr.....\$925,000.....Sun 1-4.....Helen Grozbean.....Keller Williams..571-233-4287
11501 Litling Ln.....\$849,000.....Sun 2-4.....Pat Fales.....RE/MAX..703-503-4365
7612 Rustle Ridge Ct.....\$839,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808
10611 Daysailor Dr.....\$839,750.....Sun 1-4.....Patrick Saltz.....Saltz..703-569-1100
6328 Barsky Ct.....\$795,000.....Sun 1-4.....Nina Bonan.....Top Pro..301-762-4989

Franconia/Kingstowne

5577 La Vista Dr.....\$888,888.....Sun 1-4.....Michael Lee.....TTR Sothebys Int'l..703-319-3344
5706 Glenwood Ct.....\$824,900.....Sun 1-4.....Kathryn Graves.....Weichert..703-760-8880
5638 Tower Hill Cir.....\$817,500.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207
5990 Manorview Way.....\$724,900.....Sun 1-4.....Cindy Clemmer.....McEneaney..703-286-1180
5550 Dunsmore Rd.....\$579,950.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207
8011 Old Parsonage Ct.....\$539,950.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207
5961 Norham Dr.....\$529,950.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207
6153 Summer Park Ln.....\$519,950.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207
6546 Parish Glebe Ln.....\$495,000.....Sun 1-4.....Susan Maher.....Long & Foster..703-408-5158

Lorton

8755 Bitterroot Ct.....\$839,900.....Sun 1-4.....Jinny Kim.....Fairfax..703-766-2710
8978 Birch Bay Cir.....\$765,000.....Sun 1-4.....Pattie Mancini.....Avery-Hess..703-451-9797
6616 Winstead Manor Ct.....\$759,950.....Sun 1-4.....Tom & Cindy & Assoc.....Long & Foster..703-822-0207
8949 Cross Chase.....\$719,500.....Sun 1-4.....Mahala Hart.....Weichert..703-691-0555
9032 Harrover Pl.....\$659,900.....Sun 1-4.....Barb White Adkins.....RE/MAX..703-609-8950
8970 Fascination Ct #210.....\$347,905.....Sat 11:30-3:30.....Shawn Evans.....Long & Foster..703-790-1990
8960 Fascination Ct #316.....\$339,990.....Sun 12-3.....Shawn Evans.....Long & Foster..703-790-1990
8970 Fascination Ct #111.....\$283,115.....Sat 11-3.....Shawn Evans.....Long & Foster..703-790-1990

Springfield

8585 Beatrice Ct.....\$819,000.....Sun 1-5.....Ali Hasan.....United American..703-866-2424
6505 Lignum St.....\$575,000.....Sun 1-4.....Dallison Veach.....RE/MAX..703-477-7920
7507 Oriole Ave.....\$504,900.....Sun 1-4.....Beckie Owen.....Long & Foster..703-328-4129
6401 Racetec Ct.....\$455,900.....Sun 1-4.....Carla Moore.....EXIT..703-495-6200
7635 Chancellor Way.....\$445,000.....Sun 1-4.....Sherry Elphick-Schoske.....RE/MAX..703-971-5555
6808 Bellamy Ave.....\$429,500.....Sun 1-4.....Sherry Rahnama.....RE/MAX..703-449-7629

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All listings due by Tuesday at 3 P.M.

SPORTS

Senior captain Michael Buckley and the Robinson boys' lacrosse team finished Concorde District runners-up to Chantilly.

PHOTOS BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION



Robinson Boys' Lax Finishes Concorde Runner-up

Rams bounce back with regional win over Lake Braddock.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

After coming up one goal short against Chantilly for the second time in 16 days, Robinson head coach Matt Curran urged his players to push forward and move on to a bigger stage.

The Robinson boys' lacrosse team lost 6-5 in double overtime against the Chantilly Chargers in the Concorde District championship game on May 10-11 at Chantilly High School. The game started on May 10, but was suspended due to lightning with 14 seconds remaining in the second quarter and finished the following day.

Charlie Morrisette's goal with 5:17 remaining in regulation pulled the Rams even with the Chargers at 5-all, but Chantilly's Conrad Unterkofler scored the game-winner in the second overtime period.

"Don't let it fester," Curran said. "Just get over it because we have a game on Tuesday for the region. This is the district—this is a six-team field. Now we're going in to play the big one in a 16-team field, so just focus on that."

Three days later, on May 14, Robinson responded how Curran had hoped, beating Lake Braddock 8-1 in the opening round of the Northern Region tournament.

"I have no trouble motivating these guys," Curran said after the district championship game. "And we can use this game as [motivation]. Everybody's saying Chantilly



Robinson midfielder Taylor Jones is seen during a 6-5, double-overtime loss to Chantilly in the Concorde District championship game on May 10. The contest was suspended in the second quarter due to lightning and completed the following day.

is the best team in the area. We've played to them one-goal games twice, and one of them was a double-OT game. We can use that as, all right, if they're the best team in the area, then we've got to be up there with the tops, as well."

With the top seed in the district tournament on the line, Robinson closed the regular season with a 12-11 loss to Chantilly on April 26. During the May 10 rematch, the Rams held a 2-1 lead when play was suspended due to lighting with 14 seconds remaining in the second quarter. Play resumed at 9 a.m. the following day and Chantilly took a 5-4 lead on a goal by Curtis Christian with 6:47 remaining in the fourth quarter. Morrisette tied the score with 5:17 left in regulation, but the Rams failed to score another goal.

Morrisette and fellow senior captain Connor Lloyd each scored two goals for Robinson, and junior midfielder Matt Smith had one.

Unterkofler led Chantilly with four goals.

Robinson goalkeeper Nick Kondracki had a big game, helping keep the Rams alive with 23 saves.

"He had a great game," Curran said. "Nick wasn't a first-team all-district goalie, but he certainly looked like a first-team all-district goalie last night and this morning."

Robinson first-team all-Concorde District attackman Chapman Jasien suffered a knee injury during the contest and did not return.

Robinson will host McLean, the Liberty District's No. 4 seed, in the regional quarterfinals at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 16.

Robinson's Jasien, midfielders Sam Shaw and Michael Buckley, defenseman Jack Rowlett and long-stick midfielder Brandon Natsuhara were named to the all-district first team. Kondracki, Morrisette, defenseman Jude Buckholz and short-stick midfielder Taylor Jones were second-team selections.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

Dean Jester, left, and the Edison boys' lacrosse team beat Yorktown May 10-11 to win their second consecutive National District championship.

Edison Boys' Lax Wins National District

The Edison boys' lacrosse team won the National District championship with a 9-4 victory over Yorktown on May 10-11.

The game started on May 10 but was suspended due to lightning. Play resumed the following day.

It was the Eagles' second straight district title.

Edison ended its season with a 10-7 loss to McLean in the opening round of the Northern Region tournament on May 14. The Eagles finished with a 16-2 record, including 13 straight victories to start the season.

Robinson Tennis Advances in Regionals

For the second straight year, Robinson tennis opened the Northern Regional tournament with Woodson. On May 13, the Rams made short work of the Cavaliers, winning five of six singles matches to clinch the win.

Austin Mathews at No. 4 captured a 6-1, 6-4 win over Daniel Falcone. Falcone was a steady baseline, but Mathews was more patient with his game to overcome his opponent.

Next was No. 5 Sam Wagner with a 6-2, 6-2 win over the small but talented freshman, Saad Peshiman. Combined with the windy conditions, Wagner's depth was too much.

Dylan Martin, subbing for Aaron Christian, played a very tough match at No. 1, as he kept it close, losing 6-4, 6-3. Charlie Ferrell at No. 6 took his match in straight sets, 6-2, 6-4. At No. 2, Brian Bui won 6-3, 7-5, but struggled to close it out at the end.

That left it up to captain Jacob Schreiman to wrap up the match. Playing another very steady player, Alex Gelder, Schreiman struggled to be consistent but, after being broken and down 5-4 in the second set, he stepped it up a notch and ran off the last three to win, 6-3, 7-5.

Lee Baseball Beats West Springfield

The Lee baseball team defeated West Springfield 5-4 in eight innings during the opening round of the Patriot District tournament on Monday, May 13. The Lancers faced T.C. Williams in the quarterfinals on Wednesday, after the Connection's deadline.

Lee's Jack Milewski drove in the go-ahead run with a triple in the eighth inning.

Lake Braddock Girls' Edged in Regionals

The Lake Braddock girls' lacrosse team lost 13-12 to Centreville in the opening round of the Northern Region tournament on Tuesday, ending the Bruins' season.

Lake Braddock finished Patriot District runner-up to Woodson for the second consecutive season. The Bruins finished the year with a 9-9 record.

Quick Takes

Q&A with Pastor King Rhodes.

Pastor King Rhodes is founder and senior pastor of His Church International Christian Center (HCICC) in Springfield, and has been involved in Christian ministry and community outreach for more than 20 years. As a long-time advocate for foster youth, Rhodes and his ministry help support the mission of Fairfax Families4Kids, a foster-mentoring program for teens in Fairfax County.

On Saturday, May 18, Rhodes' church will sponsor the organization's 5K walk during Foster Care Appreciation Month. "Pastor Rhodes has helped us in so many ways," said Beverly Howard, director of Fairfax Families4Kids. "His church has provided individualized school backpacks for all of our kids for many years. His church also provides a family picnic after our 5K walks, and has team members walk along with the youth. He personally was at our first 5K walk in 2006 when we met Darryl 'D.M.C.' McDaniels."

Q: I understand that you have a special connection and perspective on foster care. Tell me about your experience:

A: When I was around 10 years old, along with my two younger brothers and a sister, we went from being homeless on the streets of Memphis to a 30-day emergency shelter to being placed into the foster care system. These were lonely and tough times, especially when they separated me from my siblings, sent me to Saint Peters Home for Children in Memphis where I lived until I was 12 years old. After being in Saint Peters Homes for Children I was sent to live with my grandmother along with my brothers and sister once again. My grandmother adopted us temporarily, and I stayed with her until I was 14, and then we were separated again, only this time it was for good and each of us went to live with different relatives.

The relative that I was sent to live with abandoned me when I was in the 10th grade so I lived on my own.

Q: How have your personal experiences shaped you and



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOAN BRADY

Pastor King Rhodes (left) has organized several 5K walks to benefit Fairfax Families4Kids, a mentoring program for foster youth. During the first fundraising walk in 2006, Rhodes enlisted the help of rapper Run DMC (right), who grew up in foster care.

the work you do now?

A: Not everyone in life will learn from the things they go through. It will either make them better or bitter. I chose to let it make me better. It has helped me to learn from other people's mistakes and their successes, which have contributed to the husband, the father

and leader that I am today.

Q: What motivates you to continue working with foster teens?

A: My motivation is love and compassion, not forgetting where I came from and what I went through. I do my best to do my part to be a breath of fresh air and

5K Walk Benefits Foster Youth

- ❖When: Saturday, May 18, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration begins at 8 a.m.
- ❖Where: Lake Accotink Park (rear entrance), 5660 Heming Ave.
- ❖Cost: \$30 registration fee; picnic lunch provided
- ❖For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs.fairfaxfamilies4kids.htm or contact Beverly Howard at 703-324-7518 or Beverly.Howard@fairfaxcounty.gov.

to inspire these children that there is always hope and someone who loves them with no strings attached.

Q: There is so much information about foster care out there, and not much of it is positive. What would you like prospective foster parents to know about the system? Any myth-busting?

A: Not all foster care systems are created equal. It depends on the quality of people involved, the support of the people in the community and its local government.

Many do not know that when a child reaches a certain age, he or she "ages out" of the system, and

are literally on their own in the world.

Some people invest in the stock market and some invest in mutual funds or 401ks, etc., but one of the greatest investments one can make is in the life of another person who needs love, care, hope and a home. The return is priceless. Being a foster parent can be exciting, challenging, yet rewarding, when entered into for the right reason. There may be some uncertainty at first, but once you get over the fear only growth and rewards come. Count the cost before building this bridge, and then build it and cross over with confidence successfully.

—VICTORIA ROSS

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The Greater Pentecostal Temple...703-385-9426

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Sheila Adams 703-503-1895



Fairfax Station \$722,900
Beautiful contemporary 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, with a gorgeous pool on 2 private acres with a park-like setting, located in the heart of Fairfax Station. Home has been updated throughout. Gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors & new carpeting.
Pep Bauman 703-314-7055



Reston \$225,000
Large 1BR, 1BA condo near shopping, commuter routes, and lakes of Reston. Stainless steel appliances, fresh paint, and hardwood floors. Private balcony
Courtney Jordan 703-786-5330



Lake Anna \$710,000
Quiet northend cove! 100 ft. of deep water with boat house. Lots of wild life, walk to common area beach. 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, lofts, screened porch, sitting areas, decks up & down with glass railing, front porch, 3 car garage, and a barn/workshop with 1/2 bath, all with high end materials.
Toni McQuair 703-795-2697



Alexandria \$384,500
This 9 year old home has 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 finished levels and 2 car garage. Hardwood floors on main level. Amazing deck just off kitchen and so much more.
Richard Esposito 703-503-4035



Haymarket-Regency \$494,900
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Mary LaRoche 703-919-0747



Fairfax \$569,000
The spotlight shines on this fabulous 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath Middleridge split level, sited on a "to-die-for" corner lot on a street that seldom sells! "House Beautiful" kitchen w/ granite counters, hardwood floors, & finished lower level with Buck-Stove and 5th bedroom. All updated baths, custom patio w/ awning, screened-in porch, replaced windows & huge 2-car carport come too! A true show stopper!
Catie Morales 703-278-9313



Lake Anna \$969,000
Water Front Home! Custom built colonial home built on premium deep water lot (2.3 acres). This is truly one of a kind and a must see. Enjoy your own launching ramp, beach, and 40x40 enclosed boat house. Lots of storage with a three car attached garage and a 30x36 metal building. Great view of the lake. Lawn and flower bed irrigation.
Buddy Poland 540-894-7821



Arlington \$1,495,000
Elegance galore! Built in 2006, over 6500 sq. ft. finished living space w/over 5 BRs, 5.5 BAs, 2 story living room, balcony on 2nd floor & array of custom upgrades throughout. Gourmet kit w/stainless steel appliances &

Breakfast room overlooking the fenced back yard. Finished basement. Nice sized deck stepping to paved patio. Yards from Arlington bus transportation, public metro bus, East Falls Church Metrorail, Route 7, I-66 and I-395. Enjoy the Bike trail and side walk for extra outdoor activities. Visit KinderSaund.com & www.extraordinaryproperties.com for more information.
Kinder Saund 703-503-1840



Gainesville \$525,000
Heritage Hunt 55+ (age 50+ ok). Beautiful 3 levels on exceptional lot—3 sides golf course! 3 BRs, 3BAs, Gourmet Kitchen with island, cktp & wall ovens, Living, Dining, Sunroom, Loft, unfinished Lower Level with rough-in, fresh paint in/out, screened porch, 2 car garage. VIEWS!
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Fairfax \$698,000
Fox Hunt beauty with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Gorgeous updated kitchen & baths. Open floor plan, lower level rec room & spacious deck perfect for entertaining!
Carol Hermendorfer 703-216-4949



Clifton \$939,000
Stately Colonial on gorgeous 5 acre lot. Elegant, grand main level with open floor plan. Upper level with 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths. Master sitting room could be 5th bedroom. Walk out lower level with full bath, guest suite, large game room and plenty of storage.
Carol Hermendorfer 703-216-4949



Clifton \$419,900
Heated tile floors in remodeled kitchen! You'll always want to be barefoot in THIS beautiful kitchen! High ceilings on main floor, and custom details throughout. Split level deck overlooks woods. MBR suite features soaking tub, double sinks, and sep. shower. 3 BR, 3.5BA, 3 fin. Levels, and a garage.
Mary Wharton 703-795-0587



Sterling \$564,900
Immaculate, light-filled "Potomac" model. Four spacious bedrooms, master suite with jetted soaking tub, gleaming hardwood floors on entire main level, and three finished levels. Spacious family room off gourmet kitchen. Large deck overlooking lush, professionally landscaped yard.
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Clifton \$1,375,000
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Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Chantilly \$210,000
Sensational 3 level TH, updated kitchen, baths, carpet, new roof, cozy lower level with fireplace opens up to private, fenced patio, garden, great laundry, storage room. You will fall in love with this exceptionally well cared for TH.
Mary FitzHenry 703-503-1825



Springfield \$385,000
Many updates in this large, 4 level 3 bedroom 3.5 Bath End Unit Townhouse in popular neighborhood. Updates include newer windows, new paint, roof, appliances, and more. Master Bedroom Has 4th level loft. Please call for more information.
David Levent 703-338-1388



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Beautiful updated 3 levels, 4BR, 3.5BA, Kitchen with SS appliances, Living, Dining, Family, fireplace, Screened Porch, MBR w/vaulted ceiling, skylights, walkout LL, Rec room, storage, 2 car Garage.
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Chantilly \$327,000
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