

Mike McCarty, the City of Fairfax Parks and Recreation director, discusses possible improvements to Van Dyck Park during a public workshop at the Sherwood Community Center on Sunday, June 23.

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PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax Man Charged With Molesting Child

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

A Fairfax man who worked as a local swimming coach and instructor has been arrested and charged with molesting a 7-year-old girl. He is Eduardo Requejo, 23, of Warwick Avenue. Fairfax County police say the alleged crimes did not happen at his worksite; the child is an acquaintance and was not one of his students.

Police received a complaint July 3 from the girl's mother, alleging that her daughter had been inappropriately touched by Requejo on several occasions. Detectives began an investigation and, on Monday, July 15, they charged him with two counts of aggravated sexual battery.

He turned himself in to police at the Adult Detention Center, where he's now being held without bond. Requejo worked as a

swimming instructor at the Oak Marr Recreation Center in Fairfax since 2005. He's also been employed as a swim coach throughout the Fairfax community.

On Tuesday, July 16, county Park Authority COO/Deputy Director Sara Baldwin sent out a letter to RECenter patrons saying that Requejo has been "a seasonal employee with the Fairfax County Park Authority since 2005 without incident and with successful passage of required and appropriate criminal background checks."

However, she stressed, "In response to these allegations, this instructor is no longer scheduled to work for the Park Authority. Police report that no information has been developed which would indicate any victims or misconduct occurred at Park Authority facilities."

Noting that more than 2 million people enjoy the RECenters annually, Baldwin said the safety and security of all RECenter patrons, particularly children, is the Park Authority's top priority. "As always, we encourage you to report any conduct that makes you or your child uncomfortable," she added. "Please discuss this issue with your child and remind them about the basic tenets of personal safety."

Requejo was arraigned Tuesday morning and is scheduled for a preliminary hearing July 25 in Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. While detectives believe these were isolated incidents, anyone with information regarding Requejo is asked to call Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org, text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call police at 703-691-2131.



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Virginia Voters Get More Choices in 2013

Northern Virginia has most two-party races on ballot.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

While the Virginia governor's race is the one getting the most attention, both nationally and in the state, Virginia's House of Delegates race is shaping up to be the most competitive in a decade.

According to an official candidate list released last week by the Virginia State Board of Elections, 57 House seats will be contested this November—marking only the second time in the last decade where at least half of the 100 House seats will have more than one name on the ballot.

2013 is the second election cycle since the House Republican leadership re-drew district boundaries following the 2010 Census. In 2011, voters in nearly two-thirds of the 100 House districts had no choice on the ballot.

Of the 57 contested races, 44 include races with at least one Republican and one Democrat, and most of the two-party races on the ballot will take place in Northern Virginia (see chart.)

Throughout the state, 43 of the 100 House districts are uncontested, meaning there is only a single candidate on the ballot. Delegates Ken Plum (D-36) and Charniele Herring (D-43) are the only uncontested candidates in Fairfax County.

Republicans enter the election with a commanding 67-32 margin over the Democrats, although there are nearly three times as many Democrats challenging incumbent Republicans from two years ago. In June 2011, according to the Virginia Public Access Project, about 15 percent of the 100 House of Delegates seats were being contested between a Democrat and a Republican.

Each member of the Virginia House of Delegates serves two-year terms, represents approximately 80,000 citizens and receives an annual salary of \$17,640. By contrast, the Virginia Senate consists of 40 members. Each member is elected for a term of four years and receives an annual salary of \$18,000. A senator represents approximately 200,000 citizens of the commonwealth. The Virginia General Assembly meets annually, beginning on the second Wednesday in January, for 60 days in even-numbered years and for 30 days in odd-numbered years, with an option to extend annual sessions for a maximum of 30 days.

The Senate of Virginia and the Virginia House of Delegates, both bodies of the Virginia Legislature, meet in the historic capitol building in Richmond. For more information on the state legislature, go to virginiageneralassembly.gov.

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State Delegates Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), far left, and David Bulova (D-37), far right, prepare bills in the lower house chamber during the 2012 General Assembly session. Both face challengers this November.

House of Delegates 2013 Elections

LOCAL RACES WITH MAJOR PARTY CHALLENGERS

- ❖ **District 34**—Democrat Kathleen Murphy challenges Republican incumbent Barbara Comstock.
- ❖ **District 35**—Republican Leiann Leppin challenges Democratic incumbent Mark Keam.
- ❖ **District 37**—Republican Patrice Winter challenges Democratic incumbent David Bulova.
- ❖ **District 39**—Republican Joe Bury challenges Democratic incumbent Vivian Watts.
- ❖ **District 40**—Democrat Jerrold Foltz challenges Republican incumbent Tim Hugo.
- ❖ **District 41**—Republican Fredy Burgos and Independent Christopher DeCarolo challenge Democratic incumbent Eileen Filler-Corn.
- ❖ **District 42**—Democrat Ed Deitsch challenges Republican incumbent Dave Albo.

LOCAL RACES WITH THIRD-PARTY CHALLENGERS

- ❖ **District 38**—Jim Leslie challenges Democratic incumbent Kaye Kory.
- ❖ **District 43**—Glenda Gail Parker challenges Democratic incumbent Mark Sickles.
- ❖ **District 44**—Joe Glean challenges Democratic incumbent Scott Surovell.
- ❖ **District 45**—Jeff Engle challenges Democratic incumbent Rob Krupicka.
- ❖ **District 47**—Laura Delhomme challenges Democratic incumbent Patrick Hope.
- ❖ **District 48**—Lindsey Bolton challenges Democratic incumbent Bob Brink.
- ❖ **District 49**—Terry Modglin challenges Democratic incumbent Alfonso Lopez.

LOCAL UNCONTESTED RACES

- ❖ **District 36**—Democratic incumbent Ken Plum
- ❖ **District 46**—Democratic incumbent Charniele Herring



The Aloha Boys play music while The Aloha Girls (and one guy) dance for the crowd.

Obon Festival At Ekoji Temple

Celebration remembers ancestors who passed away.

Hundreds of people attended the Obon Summer Festival Saturday, July 13, at the Ekoji Buddhist Temple in Fairfax Station. The 1,500-year-old Japanese tradition with music, dancing, food and exhibits remembers loved ones who passed away and are at peace. The feast included chicken teriyaki bento dinners and spam musubi. The Ekoji Festival ended with a candlelight service in the Three Treasures Garden.



Mutsumi Koga of Fairfax with her children: Ayame, 11, Tamae, 9, and Nobuto, 7. They are wearing yukatas, which are light cotton Japanese kimonos for summer festivals.



Chiaki Davis with son Cyan, 15, of Fairfax, and Michael Veluz, 14, of Fairfax.



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Members of the Audrey Moore Rec Center Rescue Team—Sophie Polnow, Tim Polnow, Connie Polnow, Corey Stoney and Faith Garrish—were honored during the 2013 Best of Braddock Awards Wednesday, July 10 at the Kings Park Library.

Celebrating Community Spirit

Burke resident named Citizen of the Year during “Best of Braddock” awards.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Always civic-minded, Burke resident Diane DiPietro gladly volunteered to be a board member of the Kings West Swim Club, a popular community gathering place in the Kings Park West subdivision.

But in 2005, DiPietro found herself in a difficult position. After years of declining membership and skyrocketing maintenance bills, the swim club shut down. And because of a quirk in state law, DiPietro, as the club’s president, was personally liable for the abandoned property, which had become an eyesore, health hazard and a magnet for troublemakers.

FAST FORWARD TO 2013. On Wednesday, July 10, DiPietro was honored as the Braddock District Citizen of the Year during the annual Best of Braddock Awards for her part in transforming the nine-acre swim club property into the county’s newest park – Rabbit Branch Park on Tapestry Drive.

“Diane was tireless in her efforts in getting a blighted and unused property converted into something positive for her community,” said Bill Barfield, chairman of the Braddock District Council of Community Associations (BDC), which hosts the annual event to recognize and celebrate community volunteerism. The Braddock Supervisor John Cook co-hosted the event, held at the Kings Park Library.

“I was completely caught off-guard,” DiPietro said. “This was such a team effort.” DiPietro worked closely with Tony Velucci, Braddock’s appointee to the Park Authority Board, and Cook (R-Braddock) to transform the dilapidated swim club into parkland and a storm-water retention basin. In addition, DiPietro worked with local legislators who changed state law to protect those who volunteer on community boards.

The annual event drew more than 100 guests, including U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), State Senators Dave Marsden (D-37) and Chap Petersen (D-34), State Delegates David Bulova (D-37) and Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), and Chairman of the Fairfax County Public Schools Board Ilryong Moon.

“You know it’s a special event when this many politicians show up,” Cook quipped.

“Volunteering is the rent we pay for the air we breathe,” said Connolly in his remarks to the crowd. He also told one of his trademark jokes. “In Fairfax County, we believe there is no problem on God’s green earth that cannot be solved with another task force.”

“It’s about all of you giving that little extra that has made the difference,” Cook said during the ceremony. “We may not be unique, but we are a special community when it comes to volunteers.”

After presenting certificates to the “official” Best of Braddock winners, Cook presented a “surprise” award. Barfield was honored for his work as chairman of the BDC for the past four years. He was recently elected 2nd vice president of the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations. In the last decade, Barfield has served as president of Edsall Park Community Pool Association (2003-2006) and president of Country Club View Civic Association (2006-2007). BDC Treasurer Kevin Morse, a member of the Burke Conservancy, was also honored for his volunteer efforts on behalf of the BDC.

“Each year we are so pleased to let residents know they have neighbors who are actively showing how powerful community engagement can be,” Cook said.

“Each year we are so pleased to let residents know they have neighbors who are actively showing how powerful community engagement can be,” Cook said.

TO NOMINATE a person or group for the Best of Braddock Awards, email ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov. For more information on the BDC, go to bdcfx.org.



Diane DiPietro of Burke was honored as the Braddock District Citizen of the Year during the 2013 Best of Braddock Awards Wednesday, July 10 at the Kings Park Library for her work transforming the Kings West Swim Club into a neighborhood park. From left—U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11); Joe DiPietro holding daughter Katie, 3; State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37); Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41); Diane DiPietro with son Joey, 5; Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock); Del. David Bulova (D-37); and State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34).



Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) presents BDC Chairman Bob Barfield (left) and BDC Treasurer Kevin Morse (right) a special Best of Braddock certificate for their community volunteerism during the 2013 Best of Braddock Awards Wednesday, July 10 at the Kings Park Library.

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Credit Union Catches Fire

Fire officials say a blaze last week at a local credit union was caused by a worker using an open flame while repairing a leak in the roof. The incident occurred Thursday, July 11, around 3:05 p.m., at the Fairfax County Federal Credit Union, 4201 Members Way in Fairfax Center.

Firefighters encountered smoke coming from the front and roof of the three-story building upon arrival. The incident Commander then struck a second alarm, bringing more than 60 firefighters to the scene. They initiated an aggressive fire attack from several locations, bringing the fire under control in approximately 20 minutes.

Firefighters also conducted extensive overhaul and salvage operations because of fire in the walls and several void spaces. There were no injuries, but damage is estimated at \$40,000.

Helping Keep Children Safe

City of Fairfax police, in conjunction with the Optimist Club of Fairfax, will be offering Safe Assured identification kits for children on Saturday, July 20, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at police headquarters at 3730 Old Lee Highway.

Parents will receive a full-color photo ID and a mini-CD containing digital fingerprints, a digital photo, video showing movement and mannerisms, a general physical description, vital personal information and a family code word. Private information is encrypted and accessible only by law-enforcement personnel.

Missing-persons posters can be created and printed directly from the CD in English, Spanish and French. The Safe Assured ID kits can also be used as a valuable aid for adults with special needs. The kits are free and an appointment is necessary. Call Sgt. Kyle Penman at 703-273-2889 for further information and to make appointments.

Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, and household hazardous wastes including fluorescent light bulbs and

SEE WEEK, PAGE 11



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OPINION

Share Wisdom With Newcomers and Others

The Fairfax Connection Insider's Edition publishes in late August.

Our Newcomers and Community Guide Insider's Edition will publish the last week of August. What tips do you have for someone getting to know your community? We're hoping to share the places, activities, events, organizations and volunteer opportunities your neighbors might not know about. What great places and activities would you recommend to new neighbors? Events that should not be missed? Organizations that do a great job? Places to volunteer? Tips for navigating your PTA or your school's front office?

EDITORIAL

We'd love to have your photos to go along with your suggestions.

Faith organizations, nonprofit organizations, clubs, environmental groups, advocacy groups, youth sports teams and others who offer events open to the public are invited to send a paragraph about the organization and how to get involved.

We will publish a selection of local tips along with a plethora of information useful to newcomers and long-time residents alike, includ-

ing our award-winning Insiders Guide to the Parks, information on how to vote and more.

See last year's community guides by going to www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scrolling down to Newcomers.

Email tips and photos to editors@connectionnewspapers.com. Send in your Insider's Tips by Friday, Aug. 16.

For information on advertising, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

City Council vs. Women's Health Centers

BY CATHERINE S. READ

There's something I learned in college that has always stuck with me: Political theory is not formed in a vacuum. How we see the world is informed by the times we have lived through. I'm a native of Virginia and most of my life has now been lived here in Fairfax. I've made it my home and raised my children here.

In 2012, I decided to run for Fairfax City Council after a council member passed away unexpectedly. Three non-incumbent candidates ran that year, and I was one of them. While I didn't win, I learned a lot about the community I have watched evolve over 30 years—and I always respected the candidates I was running against. While campaigning, I didn't doubt for a second that these city council members were motivated to serve the best interests of their

community. Today, I still believe they have our city's prosperity and well-being at heart.

That's why I was shocked when the Fairfax City Council voted on Tuesday July 9th to require women's health centers to undergo a new, arbitrary and expensive zoning permit process. Many people, including myself, saw this as a thinly veiled attempt to keep an abortion clinic from moving into a building on Main Street. Women's health centers will now be forced to jump through hoops to move into or relocate within the city, while the zoning laws relating to other doctors and dentists offices remain unchanged.

In the few days since the vote, my neighbors and I have reacted with shock, confusion and even fury. Putting women's health centers in the same category as hospitals for regulation and zoning purposes places a burden on clinics that is not applied to other

medical offices. And the new zoning requirements would require women's health centers to apply for a Special Use Permit, an expensive and lengthy process open to arbitrary decisions and political manipulation.

Mayor Scott Silverthorne and members of the Fairfax City Council who voted in favor of the ordinance vehemently deny that this process was political in any way. But the zoning change is due in part to the attempt of an abortion provider to relocate, and unfortunately the new ordinance makes the zoning process more opaque, not less.

The big conclusion is this: Political theory is not formed in a vacuum. Too often we don't stop to consider that our experiences are not universally shared. While those who voted for this change may genuinely feel it's the better option, they have not considered the vastly different experience of

others in the city equally convinced that an injustice has been done here. The Fairfax City Council needs to re-open this debate and they need to listen. To serve is to listen and understand those you serve. I believe, as do many others, that the City Council vote on July 9th was hasty, ill informed and in opposition to the core values of many Fairfax City residents. I also believe that this can be fixed. That's why I'm urging Mayor Scott Silverthorne and other members of the City Council to reconsider this ordinance at the next city council meeting on July 23rd.

Please allow us to share our unique experiences and perspectives on this important issue with those who were elected to govern us. I sincerely hope that we can work with the council on a solution that is in the best interest of this city and the people who live here.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Climate Change: An Existential Threat

To the Editor:

It would be difficult to overstate the importance of the president's bold new plan to cope with climate change, through maximum use of his executive authority to by-pass GOP obstructionism.

The president clearly understands that climate change poses both an immediate threat to our health and ultimately an existential threat to human existence.

The president's plan announced Tuesday, June 25, is a comprehensive approach to cutting the pollution that causes climate change and threatens public health, set-

ting us on a path to make our communities healthier, safer and more resilient.

As Virginians, we should be especially grateful and supportive of the president's plan because rising sea levels, dangerous storm surges and intense hurricanes already pose serious threats to coastal cities in the Southeast, and climate change will intensify these impacts.

My 27 years of active military service included nine years of wartime service in Vietnam. Now out of uniform, and a permanent resident of our great commonwealth, I am joining fellow Virginians, many of whom are veterans, to fight a war that strikes closer to home—a war on public health in the immediate future and a long-term existential threat.

Fuel industry and congressional

allies are already trying to block EPA's efforts to develop the new standards for power plants. This attacks our children and families. The Union of Concerned Scientists estimates that global warming will cause an additional 2.8 million cases of asthma attacks and other respiratory problems by 2020.

The long-term threat is existen-

tial. The rise of sea levels flooding coastal cities may spawn civil wars as people move inland and wars among nations in a desperate struggle for clean water and other resources.

Andre Sauvageot
Col., U.S. Army (retired)
Reston

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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A Scottish Highland cow.

Police Corral Wayward Cow From Fairfax

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Animal Control officers are used to dealing with dogs, cats, skunks, raccoons and other critters. But it's not every day they're called upon to capture a cow on the run.

Yet that's what happened last week when they responded to a report of a cow running loose near the Colonnade at Union Mill shopping center on Union Mill Road in Centreville.

The cow turned out to be a Scottish Highland breed that had escaped from a farm on Winfield Road in Fairfax on Thursday, July 11. It had been loose for a few days. Besides being hot because of its shaggy coat and the 90-degrees-plus weather, it was pregnant and aggressive. So officers were warned it might attack if cornered.

"It had escaped from the farm through a gate and was very frightened," said police spokeswoman Lucy Caldwell. "It was getting a visit from the vet when it fled." She didn't know the animal's weight or if it had a name, describing the

bovine only as a "young, adult female."

Once the cow was on the loose, police received numerous calls of sightings and encounters in the days that followed. It was seen on New Braddock and Union Mill roads, Union Village Drive, Union Village Circle and Sequoia Lea Drive. Both Animal Control officers and patrol officers were involved in the pursuit.

"It had escaped from the farm through a gate and was very frightened."

—Police spokeswoman Lucy Caldwell

They tried to subdue the animal with tranquilizer darts, but several attempts to corral the orange-and-brown-horned cow were unsuccessful.

Finally, on Saturday, July 13, around 9:15 p.m., officers spotted a "mooving" object coming out of the woods near Union Mill Road. The cow allegedly charged the officers and fled through neighborhood yards. But officers gave chase and were eventually able to tranquilize the cow.

Police say a female veterinarian who'd responded to help the officers was injured during the animal's apprehension and was later treated for non-life-threatening wounds. The cow was not injured. The investigation is continuing and police say possible charges against the owners are pending.

Be Part of The Pet Connection in July

Send Your Photos & Stories Now to fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com or complete our online form at fairfaxconnection.com

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THE CONNECTION

The Long Road

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Packing up the car and leaving town for a summer vacation is an opportunity to spend time relaxing with family and friends. Getting to those destinations, however, can be grueling, especially when summer treks mean enduring long hours on the road. This is especially true for children.

Any parent who has heard the age-old question "Are we there yet?" knows how important it is to fill the time. For some, watching DVDs is the answer, especially now that many SUVs and minivans come equipped to provide each passenger with a personal DVD player. Local education experts question whether this is the best solution, however, and offer creative options for passing the time.

"A long car ride is a time to be together rather than creating distance by bringing in movies and DVDs," said Fred P. Bemak, Ed.D., a professor in the Counseling and Development Program at George Mason University in Fairfax, and a Fairfax Station resident. "I am concerned about the overuse of DVDs because of the family disengagement that that fosters. Long travel is an opportunity to creatively make up games between parents and children."

Shannon Melideo, Ph.D., associate dean of the School of Education and Human Services at Marymount University in Arlington, said that with a little planning, creating entertaining games and activities is easier than one might think. "Time must be spent preparing the materials so that the children can find enjoyable ways to spend their road trip time in the back seat," said Melideo. "Tie a makeup brush kit to the back of the driver's and front passenger's chair, one for each child, personalized for their developmental level and interests. Fill the compartments with flashcards, little toys, a mini periscope, stickers, paper, writing or coloring instruments."

Melideo also recommends giving each child a lap desk or other hard surface to make the kits easy to use.

Colorforms Activity Toys, which are sets of brightly colored geometric stick-ons that come with spiral bound books, are a favorite of Bethesda, Md., based therapist Karen Prince, who specializes in work with children. "There are also some tactile things like Model Magic Clay, which is a clean clay that children can use to make things. You can also get kits to make things [like] key chains and necklaces."

"I Spy" type games are also fun, Bemak said, "I used to play a game with my kids where we would find 100 red cars, 20 convertibles, 35 trucks. As adults, my children still remember those games because they were meaningful engagements."

Melideo recommends playing word games that involve the entire family. "[They] require little or no game pieces [and] are excellent because they provide conversation starters, engage all members, stir a little competition, develop language skills and use brain power."

Among Melideo's favorite games are Verbal Guessing, 21 Questions and the ABC game. "Using

Experts offer creative ideas for filling time during long summer trips.



When packaged creatively, flashcards, stickers, paper and crayons can entertain children during long trips.

the letters of the alphabet, each person must find road signs or license plates containing each letter in order," said Melideo of the ABC game. "The first person to find every letter of the alphabet wins. For example: A-Avenue, B-Banquet, C-Center."

To play the Verbal Guessing Game, "Using any topic, one person thinks of a person, place or thing [and] gives three clues," said Melideo. "Then the rest of the players take turns asking questions that can be yes or no until someone makes a guess. If the group gets stuck, the thinker gives two more clues."

Another family game that Melideo recommends is 21 Questions, where players pose 21 questions to one of their fellow travelers. "There are many interpretations of this game," she said. "The idea is to let each person talk about ... themselves and

"[B]eing stuck in the same place with your child for six or seven hours is a goldmine. It is an opportunity to foster creative engagement and healthier relationships with family members."

— Fred P. Bemak, Ed.D., George Mason University

for the travelers to get to know each other even better. It keeps kids talking to their parents."

Listening to books on tape is another activity that can involve the entire family. "If everyone is listening to it ... there can be tremendous engagement about what is happening in the book and then you can talk about it," said Bemak. "It is a matter of 'Here are your ear phones, be quiet and don't bother me,' versus 'We're all going to listen to this book and discuss it.' Talk about a great spring board for social interaction."

Journaling not only helps to fill time, but also creates a record of the trip. "Keep a journal of the trip starting with the actual travel part of the trip," said Melideo. "Give your child a low cost digital camera for clicking photos [for which] they can later write or type captions."

Even with planning, experts admit that filling time during long trips is not easy. "Family life is work," said Bemak. "You might feel tired or exhausted or stressed. The television or a DVD is an easy way out. But being stuck in the same place with your child for six or seven hours is a goldmine. It is an opportunity to foster creative engagement and healthier relationships with family members. It is not every day that you have children who are going to sit with you in the same room for hour after hour."

Education • Learning • Fun



Students study electricity and record their observations like scientists during the VISTA camp.



From left: Rebecca Pierce, Terri Kidwell and Amy Hurley, all teachers at Willow Springs Elementary School in Fairfax, attend the VISTA Elementary Science Institute. They are planning to bring the VISTA teaching methods back to their fourth, fifth and sixth grade classrooms during the school year.

Students, Teachers Practice Science

There's something for everyone at GMU's VISTA science camp.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

The thought of spending a summer immersed in science and math assignments is likely to make many students cringe. However, some Northern Virginia children are embracing the idea with a summer camp filled with projects that run the gamut from baking cookies in a solar oven to building a model roller coaster.

"I really like this camp because we do a lot of cool stuff. So far, my favorite activity is making a solar cooker," said Kaleab Tibebe, a rising fifth grade student at Hoffman Boston Elementary School in Arlington. "I've seen that on TV and always wanted to do it. We get to do a lot more science here and we aren't using textbooks."

The camp, which is part of the Elementary Science Institute at George Mason University in Fairfax, promotes Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). This summer, campers are focusing on finding new forms and sources of energy. The two-week camp is designed for high-needs students from local schools. Students from Arlington County, Fairfax County, Manassas City, Manassas Park City and Prince William County are eligible to participate.

"It's awesome here. We made an oven with a pizza box, some tape and aluminum foil," said Cydell Still, a rising fifth grade student at Hoffman Boston Elementary School. "We will get to use it to cook smores. We have also gotten to build roller coasters and generators."

information and learned how to modify them to make them work."

Mollianne Logerwell, VISTA director of science and education at George Mason University, is im-

pressed with the program's outcomes. "In our third year of this camp, it is still amazing to see how excited students and teachers get by engaging in active science inquiry

and problem-solving," she said. "Mason has such a wealth of resources. The students have been able to see first-hand a solar golf cart, a solar picnic table, and have visited the dining hall to learn how to minimize food waste and ways to use that waste to produce energy."

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JULY 29—AUGUST 2.....MEGAMIND (PG)
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CALENDAR

To have community events listed, send to south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416 with questions. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication; we recommend submitting your event two weeks ahead of time. To see more entertainment events, go to: www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/may/22/fairfax-county-calendar/

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 18-21

Quidam. 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 1 and 5 p.m. Sunday; 3:30 p.m. Saturday, at the Patriot Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Cirque du Soleil acclaimed production centers around an imaginary world where a girl meets characters who encourage her. \$32-\$115. 1-800-745-3000, www.cirquedusoleil.com/quidam or www.ticketmaster.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 18

King Soul. 5-6:30 p.m., Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. King Soul brings you real Southern Soul, featuring original songs, gritty vocals, a slamming horn section and driving rhythms. www.kingsoulband.com.

FRIDAY/JULY 19

Bachata-VIP. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Bachata is a popular form of latin dance and a romantic style of music that can trace its origins to the rural areas of the Dominican Republic. www.bachata-vip.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 20

Clifton Film Festival. 4 p.m., at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. This film festival showcases original films made by the



Students are enjoying their films being played up on the screen at the 2012 Clifton Film Fest. This year's fifth annual film fest opens Saturday, July 20, at the Workhouse Arts Center and features films made by Fairfax natives among other filmmakers' works. The first original film opens at 4 p.m., and plenty of snacks, BBQ and shaved ice and ice cream make it a real party.

surrounding community at the Workhouse Arts Center. http://workhousearts.org/events/performing-arts/sixth-generation-concert.

CHECKSSO=0&EVENT_ID=2103882. http://thedreammile.org/dc.

THURSDAY/JULY 25

Emily Hearn. 5-6:30 p.m., Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Emily Hearn, a 21-year-old singer/songwriter currently based out of Athens, Ga. with charming, lighthearted melodies. www.emilyhearn.com.

FRIDAY/JULY 26

Tom Principato. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Tom has been playing around the globe performing dozens of blues hits and making music enjoyed by fans everywhere. www.tomprincipato.com.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 29-AUG. 9

Stage Door Camp. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. An acting camp for youth; signup in June. www.RobinsonDrama.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 27-28

2nd Annual Earth 2100 Conference. George Mason University, Johnson Center, Dewberry Hall South, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Participants explore global environmental issues and interact with representatives from the United Nations Environment Programme and four key think tanks. \$50 including two meals and a reception on July 11. http://www.ourtask.org/earth_2100_conference.

SUNDAY/JULY 28

Community Eat-for-Heat Pancake Feast and Water Play. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Food, arts and crafts, playground time, and water play to raise funds to prevent hypothermia. \$6 per adult, \$4 per child, free for children up to 2 years old. Call 703-323-0880 or email LaurieA@jccnv.org for details.

THURSDAY/AUG. 1

Little Red & The Renegades. 5-6:30 p.m., Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Little Red is American music, with a heavy emphasis on zydeco and Cajun. www.littleredandtherenegades.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 3

Lou Lou Shop to Give. Shop to support the Foundation for Women's Cancer/Society of Gynecologic Oncology for the National Race to End Women's Cancer, Sunday, Nov. 3 in D.C. www.loulouboutiques.com or twitter.com/LouLouBoutiques.

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“I think that community engagement is the hallmark of City of Fairfax, whether it’s parks and recreation or transportation.”

—City of Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne



Joy Koeppen, far right, points out a possible location for a handicapped-accessible playground on a map of Van Dyck Park to Diane Henn and Vicki Woods during a public workshop at the Sherwood Community Center on Sunday, June 23.

PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/ THE CONNECTION

Mapping it Out

City of Fairfax gets strategic about future of parks and recreation.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

On a summer Sunday afternoon, several people huddle over a giant digital map of Van Dyck Park spread out across tables at the Sherwood Community Center, musing about future amenities at the City of Fairfax’s oldest and largest park, located just across the street.

Diane Henn, a longtime City of Fairfax resident, uses her finger to trace the route she likes to ride her bike. “But there are not a lot of areas that aren’t wooded, and I wish there were. I also think we need more trails that are connected.”



Laszlo Pentek with daughter Tegan, who plays inline hockey for NOVA Girls Travel Team, advocated for an indoor multi-purpose rink.

Joy Koeppen points to areas she thinks could be updated with more accessible playground equipment. “Sandboxes are kind of boring.”

“We need parks and playgrounds that are accessible not only to children with disabilities but to their parents and siblings,” Koeppen said. She and her husband have two small children and have lived in the city for 17 years.

Marlene Thacker, who considers herself an advocate for dogs, picks up a plastic rectangle that says “dog park” and slaps it down on a swath of green on the map. “That’s what I’d like to see right there,” she said. “Bella, my golden doodle, would like that.”

“This is fun,” said Tegan Pentek, 10, who studies the map, looking for a place to add an indoor skating rink.

Why would Pentek and nearly

40 other residents skip a day at the park on a warm summer Sunday to attend a meeting about parks? “It’s remarkable when you think about it, to get this many people out on a Sunday,” said Mike McCarty, the city’s Parks and Recreation director. “We’ve had about 500 people attend these meetings, and that doesn’t include the online engagement. Seeing this level of interest is invigorating for me.”

THE PUBLIC WORKSHOPS are part of the first phase in developing a strategic master plan for all parks, recreation, trails, open space, events and cultural activities in the City of Fairfax. Last fall, City Council approved about \$50,000 in funding to launch the process.

“We are asking residents to help us envision a parks, recreation,



Karl Kirchman, a Fairfax resident since 1985, said he was impressed by the menu of options for various park amenities.

and open space system that the entire community can enjoy for generations to come,” McCarty said.

In April, the city launched a new website—ourparksourfuture.com—where citizens could engage, communicate and collaborate with Parks and Recreation staff and other residents on the new master plan. The wish list of amenities posted on the site run the gamut from edible plants along park trails to more amenities for senior citizens and more neighborhood parks.

Mayor Scott Silverthorne said feedback from the engagement website will be used by the city in order to prioritize future projects.

“I think that community engagement is the hallmark of City of Fairfax, whether it’s parks and recreation or transportation,” Silverthorne said. “Obviously, we

are generating a wish list of large proportions that city council will take time to digest.”

Phase One of the process is expected to run for approximately seven months, ending with a final report and presentation to the mayor and city council in November 2013.

McCarty, who heads the nationally recognized, award-winning park and recreation system, said the city is at a critical juncture in planning for its future.

“The city has changed, and so have the needs of our users,” he said. “As a result of the changes, the city has to determine the best way to fund recreation services and capital maintenance needs for the park system.”

THE CITY has partnered with George Mason University, the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) to pull together the process for developing a master plan.

“Mike McCarty has done a great job with this,” said Paul Gilbert, executive director of the NVRPA. Gilbert said the NVRPA is trying to obtain a grant that would connect a series of trails throughout the city’s park system, something many City of Fairfax residents say they want to see.

“Parks and recreation opportunities add tremendously to our quality of life and it’s a big part of what defines us,” Silverthorne said. “We are not resting on our laurels, that’s the bottom line.”

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

FROM PAGE 5

tubes for free during Fairfax County’s “Electric Sunday” events. The next one is slated for Sunday, July 21, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

Crime Solvers 5K Fundraiser

In partnership with Capital Area Runners, Fairfax County Crime Solvers is hosting its first 5K run fundraiser and needs the community’s support. Residents are encouraged to sign up now to participate in this family-friendly event; everyone is welcome.

It’s slated for Sunday, Aug. 4, at 8 a.m., on Grand Commons Avenue at the Fairfax Corner Shopping Center, off Monument Drive in Fair Oaks. Register at www.capitalarearunners.com/crimesolvers5k.

A nonprofit, Fairfax County Crime Solvers provides an anonymous phone tip line, plus texting and e-mail capabilities to the public to report criminal information. Tipsters’ identities are protected under state law. This program is not run by the police department, but by business leaders and residents seeking to make this county a safe place to live and visit.

It pays cash rewards of \$100 to \$1,000 to anonymous tipsters when their information leads to an arrest and indictment. And the reward money comes through fundraisers such as this 5K. Learn more about Crime Solvers at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org.

Fairfax Police Citizens Academy

People wanting to participate in the fourth Citizens Police Academy offered by the City of Fairfax Police Department must submit applications no later than Thursday, Aug. 15. This session will run from Thursday, Sept. 5, through Thursday, Nov. 14. Classes are from 6:30-9 p.m.



WSLL National 10/11 All-Star team celebrates after Bryce Hickman's walk-off home run to win the district championship.



The WSLL American 11/12 All-Star team defeated the National team, 11-1.

West Springfield Little League Sweeps District 9 Championships

Will host, compete in 10/11 state championship.

West Springfield Little League swept all three all-star divisions this year, with the WSLL American 11/12 All-Star team beating WSL National, 11-1; WSLL National 10/11 defeating Fort Hunt, 7-6; and WSLL National 9/10 prevailing over WSLL American.

After losing their first game of the tournament to South County, 6-3, and facing elimination, the West Springfield National 9/10 All-Star team showed a lot of heart, determination and character by settling in and finishing with a five-game winning streak. Their 11-5 win in the championship game was a great showing against a very

talented West Springfield American squad. The National squad, managed by Craig Stine, had wins over WSLL American (3), Woodlawn and Central Springfield by a combined score of 62-23.

"I am so proud of our kids — how they competed and carried themselves throughout the tournament," Stine said. "They represented their families, league and community with pride, and I hope this is a memory they look back on fondly during their baseball careers."

The team heads off to compete in the state tournament in Richmond, July 18-July 22 in search of WSL's first 9/10 state crown.

In the 10/11 Division, WSL National won the district championship in dramatic fashion, with a walk-off, three-run home run by Bryce Hickman, capping a come-from-behind 7-6 win against Fort Hunt. The National All-Star team, coached by Joe Rozmeski, had been undefeated going into the championship game, with victories over Dale City, Central Springfield, Dumfries/Triangle/Quantico, and Fort Hunt before the championship rematch.

"Our players were resilient in the championship game," Rozmeski said. "We faced a very talented Fort Hunt team and we scratched out enough bases in the sixth inning to get the right player to the plate at the right time."

"It's a storybook ending to the tourna-

ment," said WSL President Greg Adams, whose son plays on the team and youngest son is a member of the 9/10 National team that won the district championship just two nights later against WSLL American, 11-5. "We came back and won to host and compete in our own tournament."

West Springfield American's 11/12 team completed the league's trifecta, with an 11-1 victory over the always-dangerous WSL National team. West American was undefeated in District 9 Tournament play, and departs for Lynchburg to compete for the third straight year in the Virginia State Championship, held July 19-23.

Coach Greg McIntyre noted, "The boys played great in districts and it is exciting to go back to the state tournament."

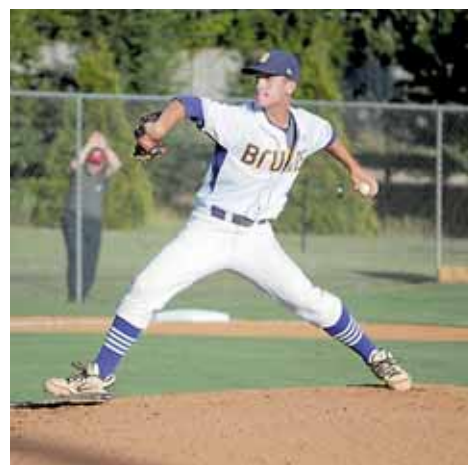
Lake Braddock Graduate Rogers to Pitch for UNC

Thomas Rogers played a major role in the Lake Braddock baseball program, capturing its first state championship in 2012. The left-handed pitcher combined with Michael Church to make a formidable 1-2 punch on the mound. The Bruins finished 26-3 and won the Patriot District title. Against Kellam in the state championship game, Rogers, then a junior, tossed a four-hit shutout and hit a home run.

Q&A

After the season, Rogers had Tommy John surgery on his pitching elbow, which limited his availability during his senior year. Over time, Rogers' pitch count increased and he earned big victories against Madison in the region tournament and Patriot in the state tournament. While Lake Braddock fell short of repeating as state champion, the Bruins took home the 2013 Northern Region title.

After a successful high school career, Rogers, a 2013 Lake Braddock graduate, will pitch for the University of North Carolina. He recently participated in a Q



Thomas Rogers, a 2013 Lake Braddock graduate, will play baseball at the University of North Carolina.

and A with The Connection.

❖Connection: What made UNC the right fit for you?

Rogers: Dream school ever since I can remember. Love the campus and coaching staff. Just felt like this was the place for me.

❖Connection: What will you study?

Rogers: Business administration.

❖Connection: Any word on playing time as a freshman?

Rogers: No word on that. Just have to play the fall season and see where I'm at after that.

❖Connection: Did you receive a scholarship?

Rogers: Partial scholarship.

❖Connection: You originally committed to the University of Georgia. Why the change?

Rogers: I changed because the more I thought about it, I would be way too far from home and my parents wouldn't be able to watch me all the time.

❖Connection: What is your favorite memory of playing baseball at Lake Braddock?

Rogers: Going to practice every day and getting to hang out with all the guys.

❖Connection: If you could go back and change one thing about your high school athletic career, what would it be?

Rogers: I wouldn't change anything. I had a lot of ups and downs throughout my high school career and it made me the player I am today.

❖Connection: You had Tommy John surgery after your junior season. What were your initial thoughts when you found out you needed the procedure?

Rogers: I was a little upset, but the more I read about the surgery and the rehab, I found out most people come back stronger, just like I did. It's sort of a thing of the past. Sometimes I forget I even had it done.

❖Connection: How does your arm feel now compared to before the surgery?

Rogers: It's the first time my arm hasn't hurt at all since I can remember.

❖Connection: When did you realize playing college baseball was a possibility for you?

Rogers: I honestly thought college baseball was attainable when I was in Little League.

❖Connection: What are you most looking forward to about the transition from high school to college?

Rogers: I'm most looking forward to not having classes starting at 7 a.m. every morning.

— JON ROETMAN

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WEDNESDAY 11 A.M.

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needed for Pyramid Systems, Inc. Fairfax VA, to research market conditions; interpret data, formulate reports. Master's degree required. Email resume at HR@psi-it.com

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Busy friendly internal medicine office has opening for a medical assistant, Phlebotomist, LPN or RN. Monday - Friday mornings. 3-4 hours per day. Flexible schedule. Must be experienced in drawing blood. Salary commensurate with experience. Office located at 123 & Burke Centre Pkwy. Call Pat 703-764-4850.

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Full Time Administrative Assistant:

Strong computer skills in Microsoft applications. 10 mo. working schedule. Salary based on experience.

Lead and Assistant

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Bachelor's degree in a child related field or 6 months early childhood experience. Hrs. 3-6:30pm. Salary based on experience.

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Looking for several people to assist teachers in monitoring children on the playground and in our cafeteria. Fun and friendly environment-Flexible Hrs. \$12/hr.

Send resumes to resume@nysmith.com; Fax 703-713-3336
No phone calls please.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Looking for an experienced personal assistant, individual must be efficient, resourceful, dependable, highly organized, a good communicator, and be IT literate and savvy (need to be competent in utilization of technologies-- Laptops, Macs, iPhones, iPads, etc.). He or she must possess an excellent personality, must be able to multi-task in a high-energy environment and work independently as needed and be able to follow instructions correctly. Please send in resume with details of experience to : mfoil@contractor.net

The Jamestown-Yorktown

Foundation seeks qualified individuals for the following two part-time positions:
Outreach Education Instructor- Northern Virginia (Position# OI001) & **Outreach Education Instructor-** Fredericksburg (Position# OI002). Closes on July 26, 2013 @ 5:00 PM. For full job description and to apply visit <http://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov>. Applicants must complete an online Commonwealth of Virginia employment application. Background check & E-Verify Required. EEO/AA/ADA

Church & Preschool Custodian

This PT position (25-30 hours) is ideal for someone seeking flexible hours and is willing to do general cleaning in a preschool setting. Being a handyman is a bonus. Candidates must demonstrate knowledge or experience with facilities maintenance, will be subject to a background check, and must complete a child abuse prevention course. Some benefits, such as paid time off, are available.

Please send your resume or appropriate information to or email admin2@standrews.net: Parish Administrator St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 6509 Sydenstricker Road Burke, VA 22015

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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Thursday, August 1st at 12pm On-Site

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Saturday, August 3rd at 12pm On-Site

Inspection Dates: Sat, July 20th & Thu, July 25th (See times online.)

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• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD

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ZONE 2 AD DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

28 Yard Sales

Multi-family yard sale for Saturday, July 20. Our Orange Hunt neighborhood is on the very edge of Springfield, almost in Burke. Two-Family Yard Sale in Orange Hunt! Getting Ready to Move! Saturday, July 20 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. 8707 Bridle Wood Drive Springfield, VA 22512 We are easy to find! Directions: From Old Keene Mill Road, take Huntsman Boulevard. The first left is Bridle Wood Drive. 8707 is the third house on the right! Come see us!

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for antique furniture and mid-century Danish/modern teak furniture, STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry and costume jewelry, paintings/art glass/clocks. Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790 Email: theschefers@cox.net

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Bozzelli Frontier Corp trading as Bozzelli's Italian Deli, 6701 Loisdale Rd, Ste H Springfield, VA 22150. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer/Wine on and off Premises, Keg Permit, Delivery Permit license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Michael Bozzelli/owner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Sicilian Italian Restaurants, LLC trading as Il Giardino Italian Restaurant, 8944 Burke Lake Rd, Burke, VA 22151. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a wine and beer on and off premises and mixed beverage restaurant license to sell or manufacture beverages. Julia Amato Manager/Member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

Burke Presbyterian Preschool
5690 Oak Leather Drive
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Stacey Snow: 703-250-1823

5 Open House

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21 Announcements

5 Open House

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\$970,000
MAGNIFICENT
CUSTOM
COURTYARD HOME
EXUDES CASUAL
ELEGANCE FOR
BOTH FAMILY LIVING AND ENTERTAINING!
Elegance is the hallmark of this exceptional property, in both the
Residence and the Lakes & Golf Course views. Custom-built in 2004, this
expansive home offers over 5,600 sq. ft. of luxurious living space w/High
Ceilings and the finest of Millwork. Designer Kitchen, Breakfast,
Morning Rm, 3 Master BRs, 4 1/2 BAs, 2 See-thru FPs to Stone-Covered
Terraces - LL Fam. Rm, Media Rm, Exercise Rm, Game Rm & Office.
Call Sheila Adams for private Appointment 703-503-1895



Mary Hovland

703-946-1775

Cathy DeLoach

571-276-9421

Your REALTORS*
Next Door



Fairfax
\$525,000
Newly
updated
"Cromwell"
Rambler in
sought-after

Kings Park West. Main level Master Suite with sitting room, updated eat-in kitchen, updated baths, and finished walk-out lower level to patio and yard backing to woods. Freshly painted and much more! Steps to Metrobus, VRE & nationally ranked schools!

BARBARA NOWAK & GERRY STAUDTE

"My Virginia Home Team"

703-473-1803, 703-309-8948

gerry.staudte@longandfooster.com

www.MyVirginiaHomeTeam.com



Fairfax \$504,990
OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
Updated in Greenbriar beautiful 4 BR, 2.5 BA, 2-level home w/2-car garage. Remodeled, gourmet kitchen includes new cabinets and SS appliances. Sunny, clean, and freshly painted. Fenced, level back yard w/concrete patio.



Richard Esposito

703-503-4035

Richard@LNF.com

Service is the difference I provide



Fairfax \$3,600/month
This single family home features 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bathrooms and is in the heart of Fairfax. Near VRE, Express Buses, I-495 and I-66. Located in Kings Park West and Robinson School pyramid.
Richard Esposito 703-856-2529

ELLIE WESTER

703-503-1880

L&F Founder's Club

Lifetime NVAR Top Producer

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Dollar Sales Club
ellie.wester@longandfooster.com



Lorton Highlands
\$489,900
Designer-inspired and wide-open floor plan await a new owner. Hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen, secluded deck backing to common area are a few of exciting features of this home. Over 2,300 sq. feet with a stunning three-level extension.