

'Finished on Time, Within Budget'

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Navy Yard Shootings Hit Close to Home

**Four Fairfax County victims
killed in Washington
Navy Yard rampage.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

As the nation mourns the victims gunned down Monday, Sept. 16, at the Washington Navy Yard — the deadliest attack at a domestic military installation since the Fort Hood shootings in 2009 — four Fairfax County families are also reeling from the personal loss of family members killed in the rampage.

Shortly after noon on Tuesday, Sept. 17, the Metropolitan Police Department announced it had identified all those who died in Monday's tragedy, including 34-year-old Aaron Alexis, the alleged gunman. Among the 12 employees shot to death inside Building #197 of the Washington Navy Yard were four Fairfax County residents:

- ❖ 59-year-old Michael Arnold of Lorton
- ❖ 51-year-old Mary Francis Knight of Reston
- ❖ 58-year-old Gerald L. Read of Alexandria
- ❖ 54-year-old Martin Bodrog of Annandale

NAVY VETERAN MARTIN BODROG, 54, who lived in Annandale, was a senior analyst at Tech-Marine Business, and a preschool Sunday School teacher at Immanuel Bible Church in Springfield.

On Tuesday, Steve Holley, the church's Pastor of Ministries, wrote about the 54-year-old husband and father on the church's website:

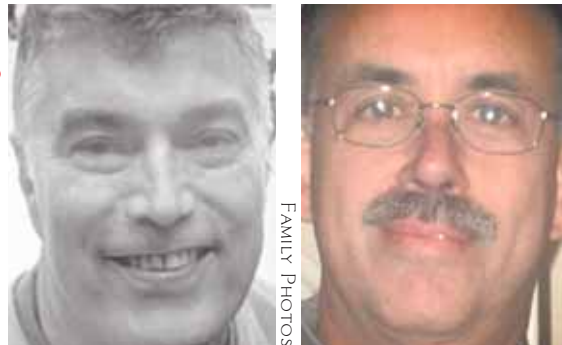
"Last night, I found out that Marty Bodrog, husband to Melanie, father to Isabel, Sophie, and Rita, was confirmed as one of those killed ... by the gunman," Holley wrote Tuesday. The couple had been married for 25 years; their three daughters were 25, 17 and 16.

"Marty was a kind and caring man. He had such a sweet spirit and was in every way, a man that lived his life to honor Christ," Holley said Tuesday. Bodrog was also active in Young Life, a nationwide Christian outreach program for teenagers.

Supervisor John C. Cook (R-Braddock District) issued a statement, saying, "I didn't know Martin Bodrog personally, but already my office has been contacted with stories about how active and engaged Martin was in his Oak Hill community. I am terribly saddened that this needless violence has taken Martin from his family. I hope all residents of Fairfax County will pray for his family and the families of all those affected at the Navy Yard yesterday."

❖ According to news reports, Michael Arnold of Lorton was a retired Navy pilot originally from Rochester, Mich. Steve Hunter, Arnold's uncle who lives in Rochester, told The Associated Press in an interview that Arnold was working at the Navy Yard as a ship design consultant, and was in the process of building his own airplane. Arnold is survived by his wife, Jolanda, and two grown sons, Eric and Christopher.

❖ Mary Francis Knight, 51, of Reston, was a deputy chief information officer at Naval Sea Command, according to a LinkedIn account in her name.



**Martin Bodrog of
Annandale**

**Michael Arnold of
Lorton**

❖ Gerald L. Read, 58, of Alexandria, had worked for 12 years as an information specialist at Naval Sea Systems Command in the Navy Yard, according to a LinkedIn account in his name.

On Tuesday morning, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and other officials held a wreath-laying ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial Plaza to honor the victims, according to a White House press release.

The Navy Yard tragedy began Monday morning at approximately 8:23 a.m., according to the MPD, when members of the First District received a report of the sound of gunshots in 1333 Isaac Hull Avenue, Southeast, Washington, D.C., on the grounds of the Washington Navy Yard.

Upon their arrival, First District and Special Operations Division members were directed to Building #197 for the report of an active shooter. The Active Shooter team assembled, and began a search of the building for victims and the suspect.

"Investigation into this offense has revealed that 12 employees were shot to death by Mr. Aaron Alexis inside Building #197, while in the lobby, and on third and fourth floors. The suspect in this case, Mr. Aaron Alexis, was located inside of Building #197, and after firing multiple rounds at law enforcement members, he was shot to death by officers," according to the MPD release.

This case is being handled by the Federal Bureau of Investigations with assistance of the Metropolitan Police Department's Homicide Branch and the Crime Scene Investigation Division.

MPD officials said the motive for this case at this time is unknown.

IN THE WAKE OF THE SHOOTINGS, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Juan M. Garcia spoke Tuesday about the support the Navy is providing following the tragedy.

In a statement to the media, Garcia said the Emergency Family Assistance Center (EFAC) is available to assist victims, workers and families with issues related to the shooting. For more information on services, contact 1-855-677-1755. EFAC is based at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling.

Garcia also discussed safety and security as well as the status of items left behind by those who quickly evacuated the Navy Yard. For more information, go to the Q&A at the Navy Live blog: <http://navylive.dodlive.mil/2013/09/17/21987/>

On Tuesday, the Navy released the service history of Aaron Alexis, the alleged shooter. For more information on the biographical data released by the U.S. Navy, go to http://www.navy.mil/docs/Alexis_Aaron.pdf.



Gov. Bob McDonnell speaks; (on left) are Sen. Dave Marsden, Del. Jim LeMunyon and Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova.

'Finished on Time, Within Budget'

**End of the road for parkway
interchange project.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

It's been a long time coming, but the Fair Lakes interchange is just about done. And last Thursday, Sept. 12, Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell joined local officials here to cut the ribbon on a project improving travel for drivers on the Fair Lakes and Fairfax County parkways, plus Monument Drive.

"It's great to celebrate these achievements," he said. "The Fairfax County Parkway has been a lifeline of this county for so long. This was a marvelous story of VDOT and our private-sector construction teams working together, and it will benefit this county for a long time."

An interchange was needed because of constant traffic congestion and rush-hour backups at the intersection of both parkways. Motorists on Fair Lakes

Parkway and Monument Drive also benefited because local and parkway traffic are now separated.

The Fairfax County Parkway was widened within the existing median to six lanes—three in each direction—between I-66 and Route 50. And Fair Lakes Parkway was enlarged to accommodate the necessary left-turn lanes for the interchange.

Signalized intersections at Fair Lakes Parkway and Monument Drive were eliminated, and the new lanes on the Fairfax County Parkway made traffic flow better from south of I-66 to north of Rugby Road. The project's centerpiece—a split-diamond, grade-separated interchange—was constructed so a free-flowing Fairfax County Parkway would bridge over Fair Lakes Parkway and Monument Drive.

SEE PARKWAY, PAGE 7



An aerial view of the new Fairfax County/Fair Lakes Parkway interchange, plus the widened section of the Fairfax County Parkway.



WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Police Investigate Home Robbery

City of Fairfax police are investigating a robbery that happened last Tuesday, Sept. 10, around 10:45 p.m., at a home in the 3900 block of Bradwater Street in the Comstock community. The occupants reported that two males forced their way into the townhouse, implied they had weapons, took several items of property and physically assaulted several of the occupants, who sustained minor injuries.

The intruders left the home after one of the residents discharged a handgun, possibly striking one of the men. The suspects were described as black, of average build, and in their 20s. One was about 6 feet; the other was about 5-foot-9. They wore gray, hooded sweatshirts and blue jeans and fled on foot. Police conducted an extensive search of the area, using a K-9 team and a helicopter, but couldn't find them.

Anyone with information about this robbery or the suspects is asked to call Det. Shawn Sutherland at 703-385-7887 or Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477). Callers to Crime Solvers may remain anonymous and could be eligible for a cash reward.

Election Officers Are Needed

The Fairfax County Office of Elections needs approximately 2,200 election officers—particularly bilingual ones—for the Nov. 5 general election, and it's seeking the public's help. Election officers must be registered voters in Virginia and must complete

required training and forms.

Applicants may choose to accept the \$175 payment for a full day's work or volunteer their time. For the application form, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/training/1aug2013electionofficerappfinal.pdf>.

Residents may also apply online through the Virginia State Board of Elections at <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/OnlineForms/OfficerofElection>. Information submitted will be forwarded to the Fairfax County Office of Elections.

Woodson High Continues Milk and Cookies Program

Woodson High School's Milk and Cookies program returns for the 2013-14 school year, beginning Wednesday, Sept. 18. All Woodson students and staff members receive a free cookie and a carton of milk (plain or chocolate) after school.

The program is a result of a message from Principal Jeff Yost in which he referred to Robert Fulghum's classic book, "All I Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten." Yost reminded the school community of the simple lessons one learns in kindergarten, including "Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you." His message inspired families and staff members to start the Milk and Cookies program.

The program runs once a month; cookies are donated by Woodson families and staff members.

SEE WEEK, PAGE 13

THE TEAM LEADER WHO SAW A DISEASE STEAL HER MOTHER'S PAST AND IS DETERMINED NOT TO LET IT TAKE HER DAUGHTER'S FUTURE.

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PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Tresa Schlecht, a member of the Board of the Friends of Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, was one of five public speakers during the Sept. 11 Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees meeting held at George Mason Regional Library in Annandale. She criticized the library's process for discarding books and urged board members to reconsider the "beta" plan. 250 people attended the meeting.



From left—Library Board of Trustees member Charles Fegan, Board Chairman Willard Jasper and Library Director Sam Clay listen to public testimony during the Sept. 11 Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees meeting held at George Mason Regional Library in Annandale. More than 250 people attended the meeting.

A New Beginning for Fairfax County Public Libraries?

Library trustees vote to discard beta plan in favor of more public outreach sessions.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

On Wall Street, a "beta" test refers to assessing the risk, volatility and expected return of a particular portfolio.

If Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) officials had a crystal ball to assess the volatility of its planned beta tests this fall, it's likely they may have steered clear of the project that became a quagmire of epic proportions.

"Yes, absolutely, this is the worst PR nightmare," said Library Director Sam Clay, in an interview with The Connection Tuesday, Sept. 10. "I've been amazed at the power of social media, and the inaccuracies in all the blogs, emails and reporting. There's no one magic button to press to correct all the inaccuracies."

There may not be a magic button, but Library Board Chair Willard O. Jasper spoke the magic words that more than 250 critics of the plan turned out to hear during the Library's Board of Trustees meeting on Sept. 11 at the George Mason Regional Library in Annandale.

Jasper announced that the library board had voted to immediately halt the beta tests until the board could schedule more outreach and communication opportunities for employees and patrons. The crowd, which spilled out into a hallway where they could watch the proceedings on a video monitor, applauded as the board approved Jasper's



The Clements family of Fairfax held up signs protesting proposed "beta" changes during the Sept. 11 Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees meeting held at George Mason Regional Library in Annandale. More than 250 critics of the plan attended the meeting.

motion to suspend consideration of the plan, a motion submitted by library Director Sam Clay.

"This is a new beginning for us," Clay said after the two-hour meeting. "This is an opportunity to get more feedback and people involved in the process."

Karrie Delaney, the Sully District appointee to the Library Board of Trustees, acknowledged "challenges ahead," but added that it was "great to see people so engaged and to know that our public libraries are treasured. ... With the support of our community, and the expertise of our library staff and administration, I believe we can build



Michele Sendow of Herndon and Anita Ramos of Centreville, both longtime library supporters and patrons, attended the Sept. 11 Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees meeting held at George Mason Regional Library in Annandale to urge board members to put the "beta" plan on hold. More than 250 critics of the plan attended the meeting.

and sustain an exceptional library system that serves all the people of Fairfax County." Delaney has already planned a series of public town hall forums at Centerville and Chantilly libraries in October.

SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC spoke briefly before the board's vote, imploring board members to put the beta plan on hold.

"Libraries are sacred space. Books are sacred vehicles that transmit our culture,"

Scheduled Public Library Outreach Forums

- ❖ **Sunday Sept. 29** at 2 p.m. at the SEIUVA office 3545 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 106, Fairfax
- ❖ **Thursday, Oct. 3** at 7 p.m. at the Centreville Library
- ❖ **Monday, Oct. 7** at 7 p.m. at Chantilly Library
- ❖ **Thurs., Oct. 10** at 7 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, 22042

said Kathy Kaplan, a longtime Reston resident and member of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. "You are the trustees of the library. You have a sacred trust to protect the libraries for the people of Fairfax County," Kaplan said to applause from the audience.

Criticism of the beta plan had been building since July, when Clay unveiled a program that would test a new organization model at the Burke Centre Library and the Reston Regional Library, the busiest library branch in the county. The reorganization, Clay said, streamlined staffing and eliminated redundancies while retaining a high level of service.

But the plan, which include reduced staffing, cross-training staff members and lowering the education requirements for librarians sparked outrage among library volunteers, staff and patrons who call the plan "disastrous," "a library meltdown" and "the end of our libraries as we know it."

Clay said he was taken aback by the tone and tenor of the criticism.

"Everyone has difficulty with change. When all is said and done, when you have been in a job for a while, change is quite rightly a concern. I understand that," Clay said.

Clay, who has a Master's of Library Science degree and has been head of the Fairfax library system for 31 years, said a

SEE LIBRARY, PAGE 9

NEWS

Cutting the ribbon on the Fair Lakes/Fairfax County parkways interchange are (from left) VDOT Northern Virginia District Administrator Helen Cuervo; Virginia Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton, President/CEO of Shirley Contracting Michael Post, Del. Tim Hugo, Gov. Bob McDonnell, State Sen. Dave Marsden, Supervisor Pat Herrity, Del. Jim LeMunyon, Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and Commonwealth Transportation Board members Fran Fisher and Gary Garzynski.



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Parkway Interchange Project Completed

FROM PAGE 3

LAST WEEK, McDonnell, VDOT representatives and local politicians gathered in the parking lot of Logan's Roadhouse in Fair Lakes, overlooking the new interchange, to celebrate the project's completion and recognize those responsible for its success.

"This was a \$69.5 million project, and it was finished on time and within budget," said county Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. "I congratulate everyone who worked on it. And it was miraculous to see the traffic continue to flow during the work."

Noting that the money fueling this project was a combination of state and local dollars, plus \$40 million in federal stimulus funds, she also thanked Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11th) for helping funnel those stimulus dollars to the interchange effort.

"Transportation improvements sometimes move at a glacial pace, so it's important that officials have the determination to find the funding for them and then follow through," explained Bulova. She also praised the ornamental lighting, sound walls and landscaping installed throughout the 3-mile project area. And she thanked McDonnell "for bringing new transportation dollars to this area," adding that the interchange "will enhance the identity of Fair Lakes."

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) described the Fairfax County Parkway as "one of our main streets." He said such the interchange project couldn't have happened without the teamwork and leadership of entities including VDOT, the Fair Lakes League, county staff and local businesses.

He also thanked the governor plus Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton—also at the ceremony—for "making such a significant impact on transportation in Virginia." Afterward, Herrity said his own contribution to the project came early on.

"The high, electrical transmission wires crossing Fairfax County Parkway had to be raised, and Dominion had allocated two years on the project timeline for utility relocation," he said. "So I contacted Dominion and asked them if they could do it sooner—and they did it in four months, shaving a year-and-a-half off the project time."

IN ADDITION, said Herrity, VDOT and Shirley Contracting worked well with the surrounding businesses



Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova addresses the crowd; (on left) are Del. Tim Hugo, Sen. State Dave Marsden and Del. Jim LeMunyon.

to make sure they didn't lose customers because of the project. He said VDOT "listened to the business owners and then revised and adjusted its detours so people could still get to the businesses."

State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37) called the project "an example of state, federal and local government working together." And Del. Jim LeMunyon (R-67) said he hoped it would be one of many more ribbon-cuttings they'd be doing now that Northern Virginia has "some money to make a difference."

"This is the type of congestion-mitigation project that gets people from point A to point B," said Del. Tim Hugo (R-40). "We'll next be working on I-66/Route 28."

McDonnell praised the police for steering traffic around the workmen to keep them safe during the course of the project. And, he said, "We've made a sea change in transportation funding in the most congested area—the Washington Metropolitan area—in the nation."

He said that the \$3 billion bond package in 2011, plus more monetary advancements this year will generate \$17.6 billion over the next six years. "This is a 54-percent increase over the last six-year plan," said McDonnell. "When Northern Virginia does well, so does the rest of the state."

And while pleased with the completion of the parkway interchange project, he said, "It's just a down payment on the future traffic improvements that you'll see here in the coming years. They're key to enhancing the entrepreneurial climate here and attracting businesses. If you don't have good roads, you can't attract families to come here and live."

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THE CONNECTION
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OPINION

Addressing Virginia's Economy

Ending gridlock in Congress and supporting health care reform would be huge steps in supporting economic recovery in Virginia.

The strength of Virginia's economy, especially Northern Virginia's economy, comes significantly from federal spending.

So while the governor and other elected officials claim that Virginia's success is because Virginia is a low-tax state with fewer regulations, it's worth considering that the sequester and continuing gridlock in Congress threaten Virginia's most important resource, federal spending.

Virginia receives more federal money per capita than any other state except Alaska. Virginia received \$136 billion in federal funds in

2010, more than \$17,000 from the feds per capita, and paid \$2,807 per capita in federal income taxes. (Data from Consolidated Federal Funds Report for Fiscal Year 2010 by state and county from the Census Bureau.)

EDITORIAL

Two examples: \$1.3 billion in federal transportation money came to Virginia. Virginia was on the receiving end of more than \$5,000 per capita in defense spending.

Current Virginia elected officials have barricaded the doors against expansion of an industry that would add more than 30,000 quality jobs in Virginia at no cost to taxpayers. The

expansion of Medicaid, which would provide healthcare to as many as 400,000 Virginians who currently cannot afford health insurance, would give Virginia's economy a significant boost, and create more than 30,000 jobs. Virginia taxpayers will still pay the taxes that will fund the expansion of Medicaid in other states without reaping the benefits of a healthier population and economic stimulus.

Private sector growth in Virginia depends on its educated and sophisticated workforce, on top school systems and universities. It depends on reliable transportation systems and access to high-speed Internet. And it depends on continuing to attract federal contracting dollars.

Virginia's U.S. Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner both work in the best interests of the commonwealth when they work to promote a culture of moderation and compromise in Congress.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taking Exception

To the Editor:

Representative Jim Moran's commentary on Syria ["Fear of Action Opens Way for Diplomacy," Connection, Sept. 12-18, 2013] deserves a response.

First, Rep. Moran writes that the calls he has received are "running 93 percent to 7 percent" against U.S. military intervention, yet he explains his support for the president to intervene because the situation in Syria is "very different."

He is "Representative" Jim Moran. The U.S. has a "representative" form of government. Does he then act in good faith to so blatantly ignore the very unambiguous desires of his constituents to steer clear?

He then proceeds to well, quite simply, blame President Bush. C'mon. We are now almost five years into an Obama administra-

tion, and a decade since the start of the Iraq war. Syria is on Mr. Obama; even more so given the engagement with Mr. Assad by (then) Senator Kerry, and (then) Secretary of State Clinton who herself had earlier judged him [quote] "a reformer."

Next, he writes that the "situation in Syria is very different" (from Iraq). Really. Despite the probable use of chemical weapons, Syria was self-contained as a civil war in an "Arab Spring" type uprising. Assad, so far, is just trying to survive. Conversely, Saddam had invaded and occupied another country (Kuwait) and had his sights on Saudi Arabia's oil fields. He had also used chemical weapons on his own people, was at least bluffing the production of chemical and nuclear weapons (remember those U.N. inspectors?), and had fought a brutal war with Iran when his Air Force attacked the

USS Stark in the Arabian Gulf in 1987 killing 37 U.S. sailors. Is it truly Rep. Moran's belief that Syria with Assad is worse than Iraq with Saddam?

Maybe Rep. Moran's most worrisome statement is, "What the president has been talking about is not war. It's limited missile strikes ... "Despite overwhelming U.S. Military superiority, even if Mr. Obama does choose to strike it will not be the U.S. that ultimately decides whether it is war or not. If Syria responds militarily (which it can), or it potentially strikes back with a proxy war via terrorist affiliates across the globe, it could be both costly and bloody. It would indeed be war. Of all the statements made by Congressman Moran, I would ask him to reconsider the wisdom of that statement.

The reality of the Syrian situation is that Syria is Russia's client

state. Russia is not some disinterested third party seeking peace out of the goodness of its heart. Russia has supplied the Assad regime with the weapons of war, likely continues to do so, and Moscow wants nothing more than for its client, Mr. Assad, to survive in power. The U.S. has now ceded its leadership role to Mr. Putin, and we must now standby for Moscow's moves. As a bonus, the former KGB colonel lectures us in our own newspapers.

Since Rep. Moran's comments were written, Putin has publicly insisted that any negotiations be predicated on a U.S. commitment to not use force against Assad, and as the Connection was being delivered to our houses, it was Mr. Assad himself repeating that same demand to the U.S.

Chris J. Krisinger
Col. USAF (Ret.)
Burke

Joining Forces to Prevent Homelessness

To the Editor:

You can prevent homelessness, you can end chronic homelessness, you can move people rapidly out of homelessness. What you cannot do is stand aside and let people fall.

This simple belief—that together we can change the rate and severity of people losing their homes—brings together nonprofits, for-profits, civic leaders and government staff. We each play a special role, depending on our location and mission. For United Community Ministries (UCM), prevention is the key.

What does that look like day-to-day? Consider the children. They

need early learning and safe care to get a good start. They need parents that understand how to help them. The children need early intervention for any physical or mental delays.

So programs such as the Bryant Early Learning Center, full-day care for parents of diverse incomes and backgrounds, ensures a good start. Healthy Families, operated by three nonprofits in Fairfax County, provides in-home education and support to new parents. And caring professionals in all these programs ensure that children receive the care they need and deserve.

Consider the adults. In Northern

Virginia, a minimum wage job does not get you far. Rent, transport, food and medicine, clothing... workers need help, not just to get a job, but to get training and support to move on to a career. Without long term increases in income, workers fall further behind every year.

I have not mentioned housing. Many low cost options, such as boarding houses, have been zoned out of existence. We struggle to create enough homes for the workers in our midst. Land is expensive, businesses need profits and neighborhoods worry about property values.

We have had some notable suc-

cesses in producing affordable units, especially nonprofit partners like Cornerstones and Wesley Housing. But to make an impact on the large number of families struggling to stay out of homelessness, we must do much more. We must increase our prevention efforts while we find new incentives for affordable housing development. Homelessness literally is a lack of housing. Whether a family keeps their home through more earning power or through lower rent, the benefit to the community is the same: stability, security and success.

Shirley Marshall
www.ucmagency.org

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NEWSPAPER

What's Wrong With This Picture?

County suspends discarding of library books.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Just when Sam Clay, Fairfax County's Public Library director, thought FCPL's public image couldn't get any worse, Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) released photos of bins filled to the brim with discarded library books.

Acting on a tip from a volunteer Friend of the Library member, Smyth drove out to the library's technical operations center in Chantilly, glanced into a bin and saw hundreds of discarded books. A few days later, she made a second trip, found twice as many tossed books and filled a box full of rescued books.

Clay admits the photographs Smyth (D-Providence) took of books in seemingly good condition paid for by taxpayers tossed in trash bins are a powerful, startling image.

But he insists the story is more complex than the photographs suggest.

"The books that were in the dumpster were materials that, in a professional librarian's opinion, a librarian who holds an MLS degree, that these books were no longer usable," Clay said.

"Have we never thrown away a book that was [usable]? Have we ever made mistakes? Of course we have. ... But we go through all kinds of processes and options before the books go to the recycle bins. ... So the material that was discovered, those were carefully reviewed and vetted by our best minds, by MLS librarians," Clay said.

Clay said FCPL's collection includes nearly 300 million books.

"It's an incredible library asset that requires extensive library management; it's not just about acquiring, but de-quiring. We don't build enough shelves to house all of our books, no library does, because a certain number is always in circulation," Clay said.

"But you see a dumpster full of books, and you think 'My God, what are they doing?' They are being efficient and good stewards of the taxpayer's money by maintaining a vibrant collection, a great collection. We've done that in the face of 50 percent budget reduction in past five years for books."

Smyth is not quite satisfied with that answer. After hearing allegations about trashed library books from members of the Friends groups, Smyth decided to investigate the claims herself. On Aug. 29, she drove to the Fairfax County Public Library's technical operations center in Chantilly.

WHAT SHE FOUND, she said, was mystifying and dismaying.

"I found stacks and stacks of books tossed away in these bins behind the center," Smyth said. A few days later, she went back and found that the pile of discarded books had grown.

Furious, she collected a box of books, several in seemingly good condition, and dumped them on the desk of Fairfax County Deputy County Executive David J. Molchany. Molchany is in charge of the county's libraries and archives. The next day, Mochany issued a directive to all branches suspending the practice until the Board of Supervisors can gather more information, and the public can give its feedback.

According to Smyth, the library suspended the



Discarded children's books in a dumpster.

PHOTOS BY SUPERVISOR LINDA SMYTH (D-PROVIDENCE)



Dumpster filled with discarded library books.

sharing of books with Friends of the Library groups from October, 2012 until May, when the library shifted to a "floating collection" system. Smyth said she estimated about 250,000 books have been thrown out since October.

"What really bothers me is the incredible waste of taxpayers' money. We're in Fairfax County, for Heaven's sake, and our libraries and books are important to us."

"Every system has discards, I assure you they all have discarded books," said Sam Clay, Fairfax County's library director, during an interview with The Connection on Tuesday, Sept. 10.

Although the discard issue was not part of the beta plan discussion, Library Trustee Chair Willard Jasper said he was going to launch an "evaluation and communications committee that now will determine where we are right now and where we want to go."

He said David C.F. Ray would head the committee and that Susan C. Thorniley and Mary Petersen would also be on it, along with members of the public and library staff.

On Sept. 2, Tresa Schlecht, a member of the Friends of Tysons-Pimmit Library and one of five public speakers at the Library Board meeting on Sept. 11, sent an email to Smyth thanking her for investigating the matter:

"Apparently, there are several interpretations of the facts surrounding disposal of excessed books during the past year... I personally visited Tech Ops in Chantilly to request that we be allowed to pick up discarded books, especially children's books, before the books were placed in the dumpster by Tech Ops. I was told that my request would be considered, but that it was unlikely that TY Friends could obtain discarded books, as it would be unfair to let TY Friends have books simply because we were willing to pick the books up when other Friends groups could not."

... TY offered to share the books with any other Friends groups, or to use the discarded books as directed by FCPL. Thus, our request for books would not have required FCPL personnel time, other than an e-mail to me naming the time/dates for pick-ups, nor would it have involved any cost to the county. TY Friends was not granted permission to pick up discarded books at Tech Ops ... "

Library Trustees Suspend Beta Plan

FROM PAGE 6

makeover of the of the library system was necessary to deal not only with diminishing budgets, but also a digital world, where the Internet has replaced newsprint, e-books have supplanted paperbacks, and the latest films stream directly to your laptop.

Clay noted that in the past five years, the libraries' budget has been cut by 23 percent and library visits have declined about 10 percent. Circulation is down about 6 percent over that time.

"We have a responsibility to look at the future of libraries and find ways to evolve and compete," Clay said. "It's a constant question—'can you try to change too much?' The beta plan was not etched in stone. It was a test," Clay said. "And it seemed to me it was prudent, to say, 'let's try these things out. Let's look at things like appropriate staffing levels.'"

But certain measures in the beta plan, such as giving the county the flexibility to hire librarians who may not have a master's degree and reshaping the role of youth services librarians—infuriated employees and patrons and sparked a storm of protest.

Clay said he is committed to "starting from scratch," getting feedback and input from stakeholders and employees. "New beginnings are always good. We welcome everyone's input," Clay said.

Michele Endow of Herndon said she looked forward to participating in the outreach meetings. A lifelong library patron, Endow said she was disappointed that Fairfax County seemed to be losing ground when it came to keeping up with library innovations.

"I signed up for computer classes, and instead of computer terminals, the instructor had just a slide machine. These classes should be hands-on, with computer terminals for students."

BUT SOME library staff and members of the volunteer Friends of the Library groups remain skeptical of any real change as a result of outreach efforts.

"I'm glad they put this on hold," said Anita Ramos of Centreville. "But I won't be happy until this entire beta plan is dead. Dead, dead and dead. Fairfax libraries have played an important role for ethnic minorities and people who don't speak English. We need specialists who can provide the knowledge that the Internet doesn't."

Another longtime library advocate who asked not to be named



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Several George Mason Regional Library staff members as well as patrons gathered in the lobby of the George Mason Regional Library in Annandale Sept. 11 to watch the proceedings of the library board of trustees broadcast on a video monitor. More than 250 people attended the meeting. The main meeting room was so full that the library set up an overflow area in a hallway lobby.

because of possible job repercussions said much of the damage has already been done.

"Trashing thousands of perfectly good books, proposing the elimination of librarians, proposing the elimination of services for kids, proposing the downgrading of library staff both in literal grade and in the variety of depth of their work, sidelining the staff and Friends in the planning process—it is almost a posture of resignation and despair," he said. "There is already a ruptured trust and lack of confidence from almost every stakeholder group which makes it hard to envision a bright, hopeful new future for FCPL under this leadership."

"My 32 year commitment has been to produce the very best public library services in Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax," Clay said. "There's no way I would jeopardize that."

Clay said the criticism stings—"It is hard. ... I can't say this whole thing doesn't bother me"—but what he needs to focus on is helping navigate the future of the library "at an incredibly perilous time."

"Here's the bottom line for me. I want the Fairfax County Public Library to be so vital and so vibrant in five years that no one could imagine going a day without interacting with our library," Clay said.

Students in the Art Explorers class at Art at the Center in Mount Vernon explore mediums like clay, collage, painting and drawing. Experts say creating art helps children build relationships.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ART AT THE CENTER

Art Matters Local experts say art classes help children develop new skills.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

If you walk into Art at the Center in Mount Vernon on a Tuesday morning, you might find a group of preschool students and their parents or caretakers squishing potting clay with their fingers. In the same room, several other tots could be brushing an array of paint colors across art paper, making a mess but having fun. The children are part of the Center's Art Explorers class, designed for children ranging from 18 months to 5 years old.

"Parents say it is their happy place where they can explore with their child without worrying about a mess," said Kathryn Horn Coneway, director of Art at the Center. "It brings both parent and child into the present moment."

In addition to having fun, art educators say that art can help children develop a myriad of skills and abilities that range from self-expression to self-confidence.

"Creating art can help them work through their emotions," said Gioia Chilton, an art therapist who teaches art at Marymount University in Arlington. "It gives them a place where they can be confident, and where they can feel powerful and in control over something."

Creating art teaches patience, said Coneway. "When children are working with clay, for example, there is little instant gratification. You make a piece, it has to be fired and then glazed. It is a process. But at the end, they can tell the story of how they made it."

Chris Haggerty, a professor of fine and applied arts at Marymount University, says research shows that art develops the right side of the brain, which affects perception rather than logic. "Creating art teaches problem-solving skills," she said. "They get to try things out, see if they work, change their minds and start over."

Coneway, who is also an art

therapist, said she has seen first-hand how art can help children share feelings that are difficult to verbalize. "Making things is a wonderful way for kids to connect ideas, express emotions and share what is going on with them," she said. "Additionally, art is noncompetitive. Children progress at their own rate."

Art also helps establish a sense of community, she added. "Sometimes connections happen when children share their art," she said. "It is neat when

kids ask questions of each other. The sharing of what they make is as important as what they make."

Carolyn Webber, an art teacher at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac, Md., said, "Art is a universal language. Art education enables students to make creative connections with art and the world around them. [It] provides life-long learning in areas of visual arts, art history, interdisciplinary connections, multiculturalism and job opportunities."

Haggerty said, "The most successful people are creative thinkers, people who don't just think linearly, but who think outside of the box."

Coneway hopes that both her classes and others establish a life-long appreciation for art. "One of the things that I hope is happening is that parents and children are leaving my classes, going home and asking, 'Can we set up a corner of our basement and have an art studio at home?'"



Creating art projects, such as these, which were made by students at Art at the Center in Mount Vernon helps strengthen artistic behaviors such as observation, persistence and reflection.



Cars line up in front of Edison High School for Saturday's fundraiser for the junior class, which included a car show, booths and games, a book sale, a bagpiper and inflatables for children.



Edison High field hockey team members (from left): Robyn Palompo, Emily Jarmin, Danielle Hook and Natalie Hartzell sell sno-cones and cotton candy for their fundraiser.

Car Show at Edison High

Junior class holds fundraiser with games, booths, bagpiper.

Edison High School's junior class held a car show and community sale last Saturday, Sept. 14, as a fundraiser. The event brought out the community for games, booth vendors selling books and jewelry, inflatables and even a bagpiper.



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/
THE CONNECTION

Dave Best and son Chris of Kingstown with his 2011 SL 65 Mercedes, priced at \$202,000 when bought new.



Horace Baldree of Springfield with his restored 1930 Model-A Ford.



Susan Hyams of Burke plays the Scottish bagpipe as part of The Thistle Dancers and Pipers of Burke.

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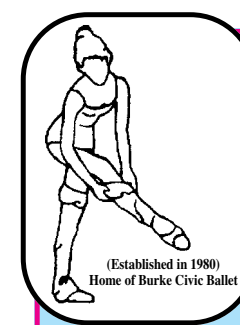
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NEWS

Local Business Leaders Spotlight Opportunities for UK Companies

Fairfax County's Economic Development Authority (FCEDA) officials announced Tuesday that local executives will speak at a London seminar to spotlight opportunities for British companies interested in homeland security business opportunities in the United States.

The homeland security conference scheduled for Sept. 26 will review requirements of U.S. enforcement agencies, case studies and cybersecurity opportunities for U.K. companies with niche technologies considering expansion into the U.S.

"This event is perfectly tailored to help U.K. companies understand the U.S. homeland security market, which is one of Fairfax County's market strengths and continues to grow," said Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D., president and CEO of the FCEDA.

Gordon will speak at the event, as will representatives of the UKTI Defense & Security Organization. Other speakers include:

- Ed Jesson, president of OBXtek, a Fairfax County-based, service disabled veteran-owned small business that provides information technology and management services to the federal government.

- Chris Oglesby, senior vice president at Knowledge Consulting Group, which is based in Fairfax County and is one of the largest privately held cybersecurity services firms in the U.S.

- Karen Harbaugh, principal at Squire Sanders,

an international law firm with offices in London and Fairfax County.

Following the presentations, U.K. companies will be able to meet with the presenting organizations and companies.

According to the FCEDA, more than 80 British companies are part of the diverse business community in Fairfax County. The FCEDA has had an office in London since 1998 to work with U.K. companies interested in expanding in the U.S. market. The FCEDA organized the event with the U.K. Trade & Investment (UKTI).

For more information about the seminar, go to: <http://www.ehsc.ukti.gov.uk/content/public/main/Seminars.aspx>.

Headquartered in Tysons, the FCEDA promotes Fairfax County as a business and technology center, offering site location and business development assistance, and connections with county and state government agencies, to help companies locate and expand in Fairfax County. FCEDA maintains marketing offices in seven important global business centers: Bangalore, Boston, Munich, London, Los Angeles, Seoul and Tel Aviv.

Follow @FairfaxEBird for FCEDA and Fairfax County business news.

—VICTORIA ROSS



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Dr. Woodward ~ Congratulations and best wishes from Pet Medical Center of Springfield on your retirement from Kings Park Veterinary Hospital!

It will be a great loss to our veterinary community to see your hospital close. Your many years of veterinary service and expertise will be missed. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Our warmest regards go out to you – Enjoy your retirement!

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

NEWS

Short Film Fest Comes to Fairfax

DC Shorts Film Festival to be held at Angelika Film Center.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

With its motto, “keeping it short, keeping it reel,” the DC Shorts Film Festival returns for its second year at the Angelika Film Center. The multi-day festival gives Fairfax County residents a nearby, easy-to-reach opportunity to sample and enjoy new works right in their own backyard.

The Angelika will present short films from Monday, Sept. 24 through Sunday, Sept. 29.

We are “proud to feature truly independent films and filmmakers,” said Jon Grant, festival director. “Our festival has proven time and time again that great film is no longer just from Hollywood, but from everyone and everywhere.”

What is a short film? They are films that have an abbreviated run time; between one and 20 minutes. The films run a wide gamut including sci-fi, comedies, drama, animations and more. The short films will be grouped into unique showcases running about 90 minutes.

There will be 153 films screened from 23 different countries from around the world. Most will be D.C. area premieres, never before seen in the metropolitan area. In a cutting-edge use of new technology, films will also be streamed so audiences can view many of the films online. Films will be viewable from a computer or smartphone as well as showing at the Angelika so audiences can take them in on the big screen.

Again this year, the festival will have family movie screenings appropriate for ages 8-plus years old. These will be on Saturday, Sept. 28 and Sunday, Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. New this year at the Angelika will be free lunchtime movie screenings from Monday, Sept.

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

FROM PAGE 4

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, Sept. 21, 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



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DC SHORTS FILM



Some of the films to be seen include: “Cats in Space,” “Unojo,” and “Girl Clown.”

Where and When

DC Shorts Film Festival runs Monday, Sept. 24 through Sunday, Sept. 29 at Angelika Film Center, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door—cash only. Online festival tickets are \$20, purchased at box office only. For detailed information log on www.DCShorts.com or call 202-393-4266. Twitter at @dcshorts or Facebook at: [Facebook.com/DCShortsFilmfest](https://www.facebook.com/DCShortsFilmfest).

23 through Thursday, Sept. 26. These will be 40 minutes of short films. Audiences can even bring a lunch to the theater.

Penman at 703-273-2889 for further information and to make appointments.

Get City Emergency Messages

September is “Emergency Preparedness Month,” and having timely and accurate information is essential to being well prepared. The City of Fairfax Police Department is urging city residents and businesses to take advantage of the city’s free, emergency, electronic-notification service. Notifications are provided for things such as weather emergencies, major utility disruptions, prisoner escapes and major traffic problems.

Those signing up for the service may specify whether they wish to receive alerts by any or all of several means, including e-mail, cell-phone pager or smart phone. Subscribing is easy and may be done at the City of Fairfax website, www.fairfaxva.gov, and clicking on the eMAS icon in the upper right of the home page.

FAITH NOTES

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.

The Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center, 10875 Main St., Fairfax City provides free classes to both newcomers and advanced practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism. The center emphasizes working with the mind and learning how to understand the workings of the mind, overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit <http://www.guhyasamaja.org> for more information.

Fairfax Baptist Temple, at the corner of Fairfax County Parkway and Burke Lake Roads, holds a bible study fellowship at 9 a.m. Sundays followed by a 10 a.m. worship service. Nursery care and children’s church also provided. 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station, 703-323-8100 or www.fbtministries.org.

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:15, 9:45 and 11:15 a.m.

Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., followed by a 10:30 a.m. worship service at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspringfield.org.

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

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

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

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jeansday2013-eorg.eventbrite.com

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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: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/may/22/fairfax-county-calendar/>.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 19

Free 55-plus Piano or Guitar Class. 1:30, 6 p.m., at GMU Potomac Arts Academy, 4620 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Adults age 55-plus who want to explore something new can join us for a free piano or guitar class. RSVP: 703-993-9889.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 20

"The Prime Male" Open House. 6-7 p.m. master class, 7-9 p.m. open house, at Studio Be Pilates, 11881 Grand Commons Ave., Fairfax. Kevin Bowen, men's pilates teacher, leads a master class with experience Pilates students and hosts an open house to follow with Pilates demonstrations. 703-222-0122 or info@studiobepilates.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

18th annual CCE Irish Folk Festival. Noon-6 p.m., at Sherwood Community Center at Van Dyck Park, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, and The Auld Shebeen Irish Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Workshops, gaelic football, three performance stages, the "Ceili" from 6:30-8:30 and Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann celebrate Irish culture all afternoon. <http://www.ccepotomac.org/www/IrishFest.html#schedule>.

Ski for Light. 6 p.m., at The Sons of Norway Lodge, Norway House, 3846 Meredith Drive, Fairfax. The organization that teaches blind, visually impaired and mobility impaired adults the sport of classic cross-country skiing hosts participants and guides as they relate their experiences with Ski for Light. Free. 703-573-5943, www.sfl.org or www.norwaydc.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 22

GMU Potomac Arts Academy Open House. 1-3 p.m., at the school, 4620 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Bring the whole family for free arts activities, entertainment and light refreshments. 703-993-9889.

SUNDAY-FRIDAY/SEPT. 22-27

15th Annual Fall for the Book Festival. Various times, in and around Fairfax. From a Pulitzer Prize-winning humorist to one of the most important figures in today's political landscape to the memoirist whose adventures launched Oprah's Book Club 2.0, Fall for the Book welcomes some of the nation's most exciting and provocative writers to its landmark 15th annual festival. Dave Barry, David Baldacci, Ralph Nader, Sonia Sanchez, and Cheryl Strayed are among the nearly 150 authors who will appear at this year's festival. www.fallforthebook.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 25

Converging Parallels Exhibition in the Mason Hall Alumni Gallery, Mason Hall, GMU, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. An exhibit initiated and organized by Maria Karametou, an associate professor at George Mason University's School of Art, and Turkish artist Biret Tavman, head of the Textiles Department at Marmara University, Istanbul, with the aim of promoting understanding and establishing partnerships across



Soraida Martinez exhibits her work at GMU in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, now-Oct. 15. Meet her at a reception in Mason Hall Friday, Oct. 4, 6-7 p.m.

national borders. The show includes work by international artists and explores the dynamics that impact women's busy lives in the megalopolis environments they live in.

School, 3705 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. A sale benefitting the Fairfax High School Crew Team; the event is held rain or shine.

FRIDAY/OCT. 4

Soraida Martinez: National Hispanic Month Exhibition. 6-7:30 p.m., at Mason Hall Gallery, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Meet the artist known for creating the art style of Verdadism in 1992; she has been recognized as one of the 15 most prominent Hispanics helping shape the U.S. cultural scene. www.soraida.com.

"Twelfth Night." 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, MS 2F5, Fairfax. Aquila Theatre performs one of Shakespeare's comedies complete with an original musical score. \$22-44; Mason ID permits 1 free ticket. cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

"Saturday Nite Fever." 8 p.m., George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, MS 2F5, Fairfax. Anthony Maiello conducts the American Festival Pops Orchestra in a celebration of 70s and 80s hits. \$24-48.

ONGOING

Saturday & Sunday Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, at the parking lot at the intersection of West and Main Streets behind Wells Fargo Bank in Fairfax. Every weekend there is fresh produce, goods and wares at the market. church@sovgracefairfax.org or www.FairfaxSaturdayMarket.com.

Wednesday Fairfax Mosaic Freshbikes Rides. 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays at Fairfax Mosaic Freshbikes, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax. Weekly bike rides leave from the Fairfax Mosaic store, the newest addition to the Freshbikes family of stores in the area. www.freshbikescycling.com.

Northern Virginia Shag Club. 6:30-10 p.m., at the Elks Lodge Fairfax, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Dance for two hours every Wednesday with free beginner lessons starting at 7:30 p.m. and dancing preceding and following; no partners needed. \$4. www.nvshag.org.

Join Jewish War Veterans of the USA. The Burke Post E. 100 at 5712 Walnut Wood, Burke, invites Jewish veterans and service members to join. 703-209-5925.

NVSC Dance. 6:30-10:30 p.m., at the Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Beginner lessons at 7:30 p.m. and a buffet dinner preceding from 6:45-8 p.m.; cash bar available. No partners needed. \$4; \$5 additional for buffet dinner. www.nvshag.org.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 25-29

Mosaic Fashion Week. Various times at locations in Mosaic, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax. Local fashion boutiques and Angelika Film Center will host events in honor of Fashion Week: Wednesday look for new fall collections and vote-for-your-favorite-fashion-window contest; Thursday enjoy pop-up dining at an urban table dinner in Strawberry Park boasting a taste of to-come restaurant Gypsy Soul, courtesy of Chef Cooper (think 4-course meal following cocktails); a Friday film premiere of "Mademoiselle C," a documentary chronicling the launch of Carine Roitfeld's new magazine CR Fashion Book; a "runway replay" on Saturday, with a broadcast 4-7 p.m. of New York Fashion Week events in Strawberry Park; and yoga in the park Saturday morning, 9 a.m., followed by brunch and an apparel trunk show. www.mosaicdistrict.com.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 26-28

Friends of the Burke Centre Library Fall Used Book Sale. 1-9 p.m., Sept. 26; 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sept. 27; 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sept. 28 at Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. A variety of books will be sold at discounted prices. 703-249-1520.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 27

Taste of the Vine. 9:30 p.m., at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. The fifth annual celebration benefits restoration of the grounds via Barrel Oak Winey wines with hors d'oeuvres courtesy of Shirley and Tatjana, Shirley's Catering and Coyote Grill. A silent auction is concurrent. Reservations. \$50. 703-591-5305 or hilcan31@aol.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 27-29

Fall Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 1-3 p.m. (Sunday bag day, \$5 per bag), at Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Thousands of gently-read books in all categories including art, history, cooking, gardening, foreign language, travel, spirituality, reference, classic and popular fiction. Silent auction runs concurrently. 703-293-2132 or friendsoffairfaxcitylibrary@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

Multi-Family Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m., at Daniels Run Elementary

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PEOPLE

Robinson Graduate Completes Air Force Basic Training

AB Alexander Marris, son of Randy and Maria Marris of Fairfax, has graduated from Air Force Basic Training. Marris enlisted in the Air Force April 29.

He graduated Basic Training in June in the top 10 percent of his graduating class of 600 and received the distinction of Honor Graduate.

He is currently in Air Traffic Control School at Keesler Air Force Base. Alex is also the drill team commander of the competitive Drill Team. Marris is a graduate of Robinson Secondary School.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

AB Alexander Marris

SCHOOL NOTES

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.

Allison Wade of Fairfax was named to the dean's list at New River Community College.

Christian T. Burruss of Fairfax received the National Merit Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Scholarship. The W. T. Woodson High School graduate plans to study engineering.

The following students received the DAR Youth Citizenship Medal from the Providence Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution: From Fairfax, **Brett Morrow** and **Anthu Cung**, Oak View Elementary School; **Sonia Chaudhary** and **Ian Drummond**, Greenbriar East Elementary School; **Sidhu Dogiparthi** and **Seon Woo Cho**, Greenbriar West Elementary School; **Yoshi Iketani** and **Emma Rowson**, Lees Corner Elementary School. From Fairfax Station, **Joshua Sawin** and **Dylan Syron**, Fairview Elementary School.

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Beethoven: Symphony No. 7



OCTOBER 26, 2013 - 8 PM
Tony Arnold, Soprano
Haydn: Symphony No. 60, "Il Distratto"
Theofanidis: Virtue
World Premiere
Stravinsky: Pulcinella Suite



NOVEMBER 16, 2013 - 8 PM
Carrie Koffman, Saxophone
Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite No. 1
Larry Alan Smith: Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Strings
Rachmaninoff: Symphonic Dances

Program and artists subject to change

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SPORTS



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Robinson junior Symone Richardson (10) had 10 kills against Lake Braddock on Sept. 16.

Robinson Volleyball Sweeps Lake Braddock

Balanced Rams share offensive load.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

After 6-foot-4 Robinson middle blocker Cara Cunningham stuffed a pair of Lake Braddock attacks, Bruins head coach Aubrey Eaton issued a warning to her players from the bench.

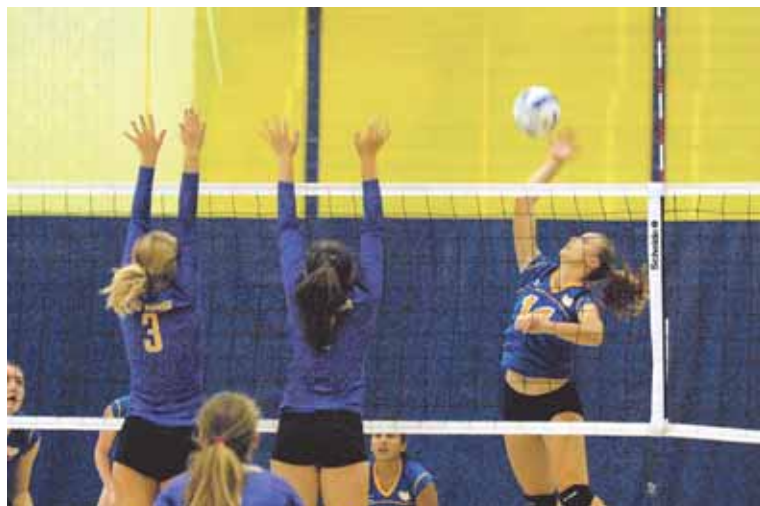
"Watch out for No. 1," Eaton said of Cunningham. "Watch out for her."

Cunningham, who will play for Villanova University, was one of several Rams who stood out during their Sept. 16 match as the Robinson volleyball team overcame any rust from a 12-day lay-off to beat Lake Braddock 3-0 (25-22, 25-19, 25-19) at Robinson Secondary School.

Cunningham finished with nine kills, two solo blocks and four block assists.

"She's a really good defensive middle," Robinson head coach Jill Cross said. "She's such a weapon."

Robinson lost in five sets to Woodson on Sept. 3 and hadn't played since. Lake Braddock scored the first six points of Monday's match, but once Robinson settled in, the Rams took care of business, beating the Bruins in straight sets.



Robinson sophomore Maria Muzzio had nine kills against Lake Braddock on Sept. 16.

"Once we started picking it up," Cunningham said, "obviously, it carried through."

The Rams featured a balanced attack. Robinson junior Symone Richardson finished with 10 kills and sophomore Maria Muzzio had nine kills. Senior Idil Yonis had four aces.

"It's nice to be able to look to anyone at any given point," Cross said. "Our outsides are hitting well, our middles are hitting well. ... It keeps defenses off balance."

Robinson scored five of the final six points to win the opener, including kills by Richardson, Muzzio and junior Abby Nejako. The Rams opened a 17-10 lead in the second set and cruised to victory. In the third set, Robinson used an early 7-0 run to take a 10-6 lead it would not relinquish.

Lake Braddock senior Mariah McKenrick finished with a team-high nine kills. Senior Jenny Hammersley had six kills, junior Jenn Stoddard had five and junior Rachel Tuck and senior Courtney Farmer each had four.

The loss dropped Lake Braddock's record to 6-3. The Bruins will travel to face Edison at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 19.

Robinson improved to 2-1 and will compete in a tournament on Saturday, Sept. 21.

"I think the Rams are definitely a team to watch for the season," Cunningham said. "We have a lot of heart and a lot of passion for the sport. The chemistry with this group, specifically, is unparalleled. We are a very special group and I think that we can do very big things."

**AFCEA NOVA
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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2013 — 8:30AM

AFCEA NOVA Register online at
afceanova.org/VivaVets5k

Viva Vets! 5K logo

Viva Vets! 5K Comes to Area

Event funds scholarships for military veterans.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

A 5K race that helps America's military veterans further their education is coming to the local area. It's the Viva Vets! 5K Run/Walk, and it is slated for Sunday, Sept. 29, at 8:30 a.m. at Fairfax Corner.

"It's for the veterans," said Vince Straub, a board member of AFCEA NOVA, hosting the event. "We want to fortify the folks who've served our country by helping them attend school, and this is another activity which will help us do that."

The race begins and ends in front of Coastal Flats restaurant, and the first-place finisher overall will receive a one-night stay and dinner at the Sheraton Premiere hotel in Tysons Corner. Winners in various age-group categories will be given gift cards for merchandise.

"This race is our first annual, and we hope to get 400-500 runners," said Race Director Dixon Hemphill, himself a veteran. "We're also hoping that both veterans and their supporters will show up to participate and root for them."

AFCEA stands for Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, and NOVA is the Northern Virginia branch. Each year, the organization awards hundreds of

thousands of dollars in scholarships to veterans.

Register for the race at www.vivavets.org. Cost is \$30/person or \$25 per individual on a team. Packet pick-up is Saturday, Sept. 28, from noon-3 p.m., at Potomac River Running, 11895 Grand Commons Ave., in the shopping center.

The course is USATF-certified and the race will be chip-timed. The first 300 runners will receive high-quality, moisture-wicking, commemorative T-shirts. Ice-cold water, fruit, bagels and other refreshments will be provided. The event will also feature an emcee, a deejay and the dance crew, and Ignight Dance Fitness, to warm up the participants.

"There's easy parking, and it's a great course," said Hemphill. "It starts in the shopping center and goes out, with all right turns—which are easier for the runners. That's why it's such a popular course and why there are 25 races at Fairfax Corner this year. There are no streets to cross during the 3-mile loop, and police officers and race sentries will be stationed at critical points."

Event proceeds will help veterans attend college and earn advanced degrees. Traditionally, though, said Straub, AFCEA NOVA veterans' fundraising events have been one-day, IT (information technology) conferences.

"We applied the money raised from conference registration to the scholarships," he explained. "But this year, the Board of Directors wanted to do something active, outside and different, and this 5K is a way to reach new people in the community."

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ZONE 2 Ad DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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This is an amazing convertible in immaculate condition. Not a dent or scratch on the vehicle. My father owned it and never was able to ride in it. Extremely low mileage (16,306). 6-Cylinder, 2.5L V6 DOHC 24V Starfire Pearl Interior Color Pearl White, Leather Seats **LUXURY PACKAGE AND SO MUCH MORE. Amazing car! Call 703-405-8193

28 Yard Sales

28 Yard Sales

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9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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Two floors plus garage to browse.
Furniture, Yard equipment, collectables,
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28 Yard Sales

Garage sale, 9/21, 8-4, 10437
Woodbury Knoll Ct. Fairfax.
Furn, desk, ++rain or shine

The Middlebridge Community (in Fairfax, VA) will be having multiple yard sales throughout the community on Saturday, Sep 21st, from 7am until 1pm. More info can be found on the MCA website <http://www.middlebridgecivicasociation.org/>

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

PUBLIC NOTICE VIRGINIA VOLUNTARY REMEDIATION PROGRAM

Property Name: Kings Park Shopping Center
8970 Burke Lake Road
Burke, Virginia 22151
Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) No: 494
VRP Applicant: FW VA-Kings Park Shopping Center LLC

In accordance with the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) public participation requirements of 9 VAC 20-160-120, the general public is hereby notified that the property located at 8970 Burke Lake Road (Kings Park Shopping Center) in Burke, Virginia 22151 has voluntarily enrolled in the Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) and is requesting a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Remediation from Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ). Soil, soil vapor, and groundwater on the property have been impacted by certain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) as a result of historic dry cleaning operations that previously used tetrachloroethene (PCE) solvent. The VRP participant has performed onsite and offsite environmental testing and monitoring since 2007 and onsite remedial activities since 2008 which included soil vapor extraction (SVE) and in-situ chemical oxidation for removal of subsurface contamination. In accordance with the VRP, site characterization and human health risk assessment have been completed. The risk assessment did not identify any unacceptable risk to current onsite populations or offsite properties. Engineering and institutional controls have been selected as additional remedial actions to mitigate potential risk to future occupants and to protect the public. For more information on this matter, you may contact the persons listed below. Comments will be accepted for 30 days following the publication date of this notice.

Mr. Peter Granholm, CIH, PG
Apex Companies, LLC
15850 Crabbs Branch Way, Suite 200
Rockville, MD 20855.
Telephone: (301) 417-0200
Email: pgranholm@apexcos.com

Mr. Chris Evans
Voluntary Remediation Program
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 1105
Telephone: (804) 698-4336
Email: chris.evans@deq.virginia.gov

21 Announcements

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\$1,500 or
Make Offer.

Entire office phone system
which includes:

- 1-PBX-AXCESS Panel
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System is fully functioning and in good condition!
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21 Announcements

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A former CIA Officer is now sharing his remarkable concealed carry course online. Thanks to law §18.2-308(G)(7), you never have to leave your home for one of the nation's most valuable concealed carry permits.

This course includes 8 free concealed carry gifts. Virginia residents can now use coupon code Guns79 to get this course for HALF-PRICE. (Coupon code expires September 20, 2013.) For complete details visit www.GunSecret.com.

News



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The eight-member contingent from Fairfax County took first place in the team competition, topping the list of 14 teams.

Motor Squad Wins Team Competition in Wisconsin

Eight members of the Fairfax County Police Motor Squad recently traveled to Milwaukee, Wis. for a two-day motorcycle riding safety and skills competition. The event was held at the headquarters of the Harley Davidson Motorcycle Company and marked its 110th anniversary.

One hundred and ten riders, from across the United States and Canada, participated in the competition.

MPO Brian Plaughter, one of the Fairfax County veteran motor officers, placed eighth in the overall competition and third in the slow-ride competition.

The eight-member contingent from Fairfax County took first place in the team

competition, topping the list of 14 teams.

Captain Susan H. Culin, commander of the Traffic Division, said that she is extremely proud of her motor officers' finishing in first place in the team competition in the safety and skills competition in Milwaukee.

She said that the Motor Squad is very diligent and committed to training and improving their riding skills in an effort to enhance their safety and that of the motoring public in and through Fairfax County.

For more information about the Motor Squad and the entire Traffic Safety Division go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/traffic/>.

Dedicated Fans to Win Year of Free Chick-fil-A

Chick-fil-A will open its newest metro-DC stand-alone restaurant in Fairfax on Sept. 19, giving away free Chick-fil-A for a year to the first 100 adults in line at the new restaurant at 4516 Fair Knoll Drive. It is the first in the region built by the chain to meet the standards of the U.S Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification program.

The new restaurant brings with it 70 new jobs. Chick-fil-A debuted its First 100 promotion in 2003 as a way to introduce Arizona customers to its stand-alone restaurant concept and menu. When the first person arrived more than 18 hours in advance and asked where to get in line, it was implemented at all Chick-fil-A grand openings

and has become a hallmark event ever since. Chick-fil-A's most passionate customers arrive more than 24 hours in advance, packing tents, lawn chairs, computers, TVs, couches and all kinds of gear to make their wait more comfortable and entertaining.

Chick-fil-A provides security, entertainment, games and, of course, plenty of fresh Chick-fil-A. Recently across the country, hundreds of people hoping to win have arrived more than 24 hours in advance resulting in a drawing to select the 100 people (plus 10 alternates) who will stay 24 hours to win the prize. The scene is expected to be repeated at the new Fairfax restaurant Sept. 18-19. The line for the First 100 will open at 6 a.m., Sept. 18, with prizes to be awarded around 6 a.m. on Sept. 19.

SCHOOL NOTES

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.

Sean A. Scott of Clifton received the Pamplin College Leadership from the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech, offered through University Honors for the 2013-2014 academic year. The

Centreville High School graduate will major in general engineering at Virginia Tech's College of Engineering.

Pierce Eggan of Fairfax Station was one of 19 American students chosen to attend the summer science program at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel after graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

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\$169 PER MO.¹

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27 CITY
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24 MOS. \$2,699 DUE AT SIGNING

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OR GET \$1,000 CASH BACK³

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