

Fairfax Station ❖ Clifton ❖ Lorton
CONNECTION

Home LifeStyle

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Lynn Garvey-Hodge performs her re-enactment of "Railroads: Rough and Regal Times-Meet Mrs. John Henry Devereux," as Mrs. John Henry Devereux at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum on Nov. 7.

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Fairfax Families4Kids coordinates activities mentors and youth in foster care, including outings and community service. Paris, who was recently adopted, visited the honey farm of Dan Price with other young people and mentors, getting to see first hand how honey is made, and picking sunflowers to be delivered to people in nursing homes.



Dan Price of Reston, founder of Sweet Virginia Honey with Dante, a young man who is being mentored by volunteers with Fairfax Families4Kids.



A Sweet Virginia beekeeper makes the bees sleepy so visitors can see inside the hives.

Sweet Gathering in the Sunshine

Mentors, foster children and other youth learn about bees; county needs more foster families, mentors.

On a beautiful day in late summer, a group of young people of varied backgrounds, including some youth in foster care, gathered with their adult mentors under the ongoing auspices of Fairfax Families4Kids on a field trip into the countryside.

Their destination was a farm that is home to bee hives and sunflower fields owned by Dan Price.

Price first got involved with Fairfax Families4Kids several years ago when he contacted advocate Joan Brady of Great Falls after reading about the potential demise of the program due to budget cuts.

Price offered to donate money to help keep the program that matches older foster children with adult mentors going. He funded a trip for the group to go to New York to see the Lion King a few years ago, and has kept in touch since. He was impressed with the program and the long-term connections it created for young people who, by definition, had been through some very tough times.

Several weeks ago, the group visited his farm to see how honey is made.

"It's a very nice program, the mentors are very kind hearted," Price said. "The kids are just terrific, teenagers, they were all just very nice people."

ON AVERAGE there are about 300 foster children in Fairfax County during any given month, about one-third of them between 12 and 17.

Because of a shortage of foster families in Fairfax County, about 40 percent of foster children are placed outside of the county, some as far away as Richmond and beyond. This makes it even more difficult for them to maintain any sense of community, and makes it impossible for them to continue in the same schools.

Even within Fairfax County, there aren't enough foster families to ensure that children won't be living an hour away from their homes and schools because the county is so large.

"Removing a child from the home is used as a last resort – whenever possible we try to provide services that allow children to remain with their families or at least to be placed with relatives," said Amy Carlini, communications director for Fairfax County Department of Family Services. "Events leading up to removal are often traumatic, as is being placed with a family the child doesn't know. If the foster family lives far away from the child's original home, it can compound the disruption, making it challenging to remain in contact with friends and relatives, continue with after-school activities and more."

Foster children who reach the age of 18 without being adopted or reunited with relatives is another crisis of foster care in Fairfax County. Last year, 49 foster children in Fairfax County "aged out" of foster care at age 18 because they were not able to return to their families or be placed with relatives, and the county was not able to find adoptive families for them.

Get Involved: Become a Foster Parent

There is a shortage of foster parents in Fairfax County, and as a result, about 40 percent of the 300 or so children are placed in foster care too far away to stay in the same schools and maintain their existing connections.

Fairfax County holds a monthly orientation session to find out more about being a foster parent; the next meeting is Nov. 18.

To find out more, call 703-324-7639, TTY: 703-222-9452, or attend an orientation meeting. See visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrenyouth/fca.htm>

Several foster children in Fairfax County are waiting, hoping to be adopted. You can see photos and descriptions at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrenyouth/adoption-creating-connections.htm>

Get Involved: Become a Mentor

Fairfax Families4Kids coordinates group and individual mentoring for young people 12 to 21, many currently living in foster care. Opportunities to spend quality time in the community engaged in regularly scheduled, structured group activities and community service projects. Fairfax Families4Kids gives individual adults and groups an important role to play in helping youth and teens find permanent families, and lasting connections with caring, supportive adults. There are many upcoming events. Call coordinator Beverly J. Howard, Ph.D., at 703-324-7518 or e-mail at beverly.howard@fairfaxcounty.gov

The stakes are high. A 2010 study at the University of Chicago found that only about 6 percent of former foster children aged 23 or 24 had graduated from college with either an associate's or a bachelor's degree. Several surveys in other parts of the country show that between 18 and 40 percent of former foster children have been incarcerated for at least one night as adults.

Sweet Virginia

Sweet Virginia is a Reston nonprofit founded by Dan Price that advocates for honey bees, and provides students a hands-on experiences in world of honey bees and the art and science of beekeeping and honey bee sustainability.

In addition to providing educational opportunities to groups like Fairfax Families4Kids, Sweet Virginia is partnering with George Mason University's New Century College to address the collapsing honey bee population through education and by establishing apiaries. GMU's recent course on beekeeping and sustainability was full and had a waiting list of more than 100. Sweet Virginia is raising money through indie-gogo at indiegogo.com/projects/hivestarter to build more apiaries, expand bee sustainability curriculum into public schools and expand George Mason's university level training to develop more professional beekeepers.

Sweet Virginia Foundation, 1760 Reston Pkwy, Reston, VA 20190. www.sweetvirginia.com

IT'S CRITICAL to increase quality foster care where children and youth can stay connected to support communities, to have long-term mentors for foster youth and to find adoptive families for the children and youth waiting to be adopted.

Mentors can provide a window for foster children and youth to a life beyond foster care.

"They need a connection with a caring adult," said Beverly Howard, coordinator of Fairfax Families4Kids and also an adoptive parent. The organization sets twice monthly up group activities for mentors, prospective mentors and foster children, including sports, visits to places like the Sweet Virginia apiary, community service projects like assembling back packs for school children in Haiti and many others. This group mentoring gives adult volunteers and foster children a chance to get to know each other. This arrangement has led to many long-term mentoring relationships and also quite a few adoptions.

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News

Members and guests of the Clifton Community Women's Club listen to Lynn Garvey-Hodge's re-enactment. Many audience members had seen Garvey-Hodge's previous re-enactments.



The Devereux Family Comes to Life

Lynn Garvey-Hodge brings historic family to life at the Clifton Community Women's Club.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE CONNECTION

Lynn Garvey-Hodge took members and guests at the Nov. 7 meeting of the Clifton Community Women's Club back in time to the 19th century during her latest historical re-enactment, "Railroads: Rough and Regal Times- Meet Mrs. John Henry Devereux."

Garvey-Hodge acted as Antoinette Cecilia Kelsey Devereux in her performance, telling the story of her husband, John Henry Devereux, who Clifton was once named after as Devereux Station.

Garvey-Hodge first learned about Mrs. Devereux while researching for her book on Clifton, which was published in 2009.

Garvey-Hodge has been performing these re-enactments for five years, previously acting as a suffragette.

"My favorite part of the performance is the patriotism because I love this country, I really do, and I'm so happy that we're behind the Civil War, we're beyond it," Garvey-Hodge said of her latest re-enactment.

The re-enactment was well received by the audience, many of whom had seen Garvey-Hodge in her



Garvey-Hodge poses with Kristi Roberts of Centreville, who spent 15 hours making the dress for the re-enactment.

previous re-enactments.

"She's just incredible. I've heard her other one too. It's amazing the volume of information that she can retain with no notes," said Ginny Ax, a retired school-teacher from Clifton and a 10 year member of the

SEE HISTORY, PAGE 5



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History Revisited

FROM PAGE 4

Women's Club.

Kristi Roberts of Centreville spent 15 hours making Garvey-Hodge's dress for the re-enactment.

"We just looked at the pictures from Godey's Lady's Book, from that era, and made it work. She decided the color because she could also use it for her suffragette outfit, because purple is the color of women's suffrage," Roberts said.

The performance gave the audience a glimpse into life after the Civil War, as well as Mrs. Devereux's personal life. Amanda Fox of Clifton, an employee for Fairfax County Government, said she enjoyed the part about how Mrs. Devereux met her husband.

"Lynn did such a great job. It was all so good. Her gown was beautiful and she looked wonderful in it," Fox said.

Garvey-Hodge's performance included talk about life in the 19th century, with many references to the civil war, the gilded age, and famous people such as Mark Twain and John Rockefeller.

Garvey-Hodge also focused on the railroad industry during the 19th century. While speaking about the Great Train Wreck of 1856 in White Marsh Pennsylvania, Garvey-Hodge had each member of the audience read the name and age of a victim of the accident, most of whom were school children on a picnic.

According to Garvey-Hodge, she shares many connections with the Devereux family, especially with Mrs. Devereux because of her strong patriotism and love for the United States.



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION

Lynn Garvey-Hodge performs her re-enactment of "Railroads: Rough and Regal Times-Meet Mrs. John Henry Devereux," as Mrs. John Henry Devereux at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum on Nov. 7.

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PHOTOS BY JENNIFER SPARKS/ SOUTH COUNTY HS THEATRE BOOSTERS



Teacher Annie Sullivan (Kelsey Davis, double cast) and Helen Keller (Katelyn Sparks, double cast) meet for the first time.



Kate Keller (Cara Bachman, double cast) and Annie Sullivan (Kelsy Davis, double cast) discuss Kate's daughter Helen in South County High School Theatre's fall production of "The Miracle Worker," Nov. 21-23.

South County Theatre Presents 'The Miracle Worker'

Most people know of Helen Keller, but not everyone knows how her inspiring story came to be. They are about to find out as South County High School Theatre presents their fall production of "The Miracle Worker," Nov. 21-23.

Immortalized on stage and screen by Anne Bancroft and Patty Duke, this classic tells the story of Annie Sullivan and her student, blind and mute Helen Keller. Taking place in Tuscumbia, Ala., in the 1880's, "The Miracle Worker" dramatizes the volatile relationship between the lonely teacher and her charge. Trapped in a secret, silent world and unable to communicate, Helen is violent, spoiled, almost sub-human and treated by her family as such. Only Annie realizes that there is a mind and spirit waiting to be rescued from the dark, tortured silence. With scenes of intense physical and emotional dynamism, Annie's success with Helen finally comes with the utterance of a single, glorious word: "water." Written by William Gibson in 1956, and directed by Arthur Penn, the play was first presented at the Playhouse Theatre in New York City in October 1959.

South County drama teacher and show director, Kathie McCormally, chose the play because of the challenge it presents for students. "Helen is both deaf and blind, and 6 years old. To get a student to capture all three elements is very challenging," she said. "Annie must be believable from beginning to end. Her character is very intense as she struggles with her own set of demons while attempting to reach Helen and teach her to communi-



Annie Sullivan (Kelsey Davis, double cast) and Kate Keller (Ruth Scherr, double cast).

Where and When

The show runs Nov. 21 and 22 at 7 p.m., and Nov. 23 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Dale S. Rumberger Auditorium at South County High School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. General admission at the door is \$8, and \$6 for senior citizens and students. Discounted tickets can be purchased in advance at www.southcountytheatre.org.

cate."

Featuring two casts with a total of 23 South County students, the production includes Kelsy Davis and Becca Symmes (double cast as Annie Sullivan), Emmy Brien and Katelyn Sparks (Helen Keller), Ruth Scherr and Cara Bachman (Kate Keller), Kyle McKnight and AJ Lichstrahl (Mr. Keller), and Franco Diaz and Ethan Schulze (James Keller).

Directing the show for the third time, McCormally says of double casting the lead roles, "I have found that having two casts creates a certain bond among the actors as they work together helping each other over the rough spots. In the end, both casts will be stronger."

A heartwarming story of triumph, "The Miracle Worker" will appeal to the entire family. "The students are working very hard to ensure that it is done right," McCormally added.

The show runs Nov. 21 and 22 at 7 p.m., and Nov. 23 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Dale S. Rumberger Auditorium at South County High School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. General admission at the door is \$8, and \$6 for senior citizens and students. Discounted tickets can be purchased in advance at www.southcountytheatre.org.



Girl Scout Sing-Along

More than 200 local girl scouts gathered on Sept. 20 at the Woods Community Center to celebrate the beginning of another scouting year with a sing-along. The scouts sang old favorites and learned new tunes, as well. Girl Scout Service Units 52-7, 54-14, and 54-16, all from Burke and Fairfax, worked together to put the event together.



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OPINION

Proof Every Vote Matters

Elections have consequences, including very close races.

EDITORIAL

Tuesday morning, a full week after an Election Day that included races that were more suspenseful than anticipated (and also many races that were foregone conclusions), we are probably more than a month away from certifying the winner of the Virginia Attorney General race.

At press time, the State Board of Elections reported, unofficially, that Mark Herring (D) had 1,103,610 votes with 49.89 percent of the vote; Mark Obenshain (R) had 1,103,493 votes with 49.88 percent of the vote. The 5,152 write-in votes are huge in a race that at one point had Obenshain ahead by 15 votes.

The process of canvassing or verifying the

vote has been revealing, including a malfunctioning voting machine that had more than 2,000 votes uncounted in Fairfax County, a voting machine in Richmond that hadn't been counted at all and many smaller errors. Human error and computer error are to be expected.

It will make a difference which man is elected as Attorney General. The current Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli, demonstrated the influence that office can exert on many fronts, from academic freedom and scrutiny to the challenge of health care reform to implementation of environmental regulations to investigations of the household staff of the Governor's mansion.

Del. Tom Rust (R) won reelection by just 57 votes, with 50.1 percent of the vote over Jennifer Boysko with 49.74 percent. Del. Barbara Comstock (R) won reelection with 50.64 percent of the vote over Kathleen Murphy (D) who received 49.19 percent, a margin of less than 500 votes. All results are still unofficial.

Consider another close race, in November 2007: then state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) won re-election by less than one-half of a percentage point, with an edge of just 92 votes out of 37,185 ballots cast, beating Democrat Janet Oleszek. Approximately 32 percent of registered voters in the 37th District cast ballots at the polls in that election.

Retiring Del. Jim Scott was elected in 1991 with a margin of a single vote.

Just a few of many examples that prove that every vote really does matter.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Library Reorganization Deserves More Work

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN/FAIRFAX
COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS



In September, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors called for the suspension of a major reorganization proposed to our Fairfax County Public Library system. The suspension was requested in order to provide more opportunity for outreach to concerned library employees and patrons so that proposed changes could be explained, evaluated and vetted among stakeholders. The Connection Newspaper has covered this issue.

As our nation and Fairfax County have struggled with the effects of the Great Recession and its lengthy aftermath, we have needed to make reductions to the many services and programs the county provides. Throughout this time, our Board has sought to maintain taxes at a level that is affordable for our community. I applaud our County staff for proposing efficiencies and reorganizations during this time that have helped us maintain high quality services that also save taxpayers money.

Over the past few months, I have received a number of letters, emails and phone calls regarding the proposed library reorganization as well as the "floating collection" and issues around the discarding of books. I believe, based

on the feedback I have received, that the reorganization as proposed was too much for the organization to absorb. Many of the ideas contained within the plan, however, have value and should continue to be explored. Our shared goal is to

make sure our libraries continue to be the vital and vibrant places that our community can enjoy and rely upon well into the future. The quality of our collection and the services we offer should reflect the standards Fairfax County residents expect.

I would like to thank members of the Library Board of Trustees and library staff for their efforts during the past few months as they have conducted a series of discussion forums on the proposed changes. I understand the meetings have been constructive and have included some spirited debate. I especially want to thank Deputy County Executive Dave Molchany for his personal investment of time and energy to assist library staff with ensuring a thoughtful and insightful process. Our Board has asked for a progress report from the Library Board of Trustees to be presented at our Board meeting on Nov. 19 and I am looking forward to hearing directly from them.

During these recession years, library systems around the country

SEE BULOVA, PAGE 12

See You on the Train

Proposed VRE System Plan is good news for commuters.

BY SUPERVISOR
JOHN C. COOK
(R-BRADDOCK)



Fairfax County's vibrant economy keeps unemployment and taxes low, while allowing us to provide world class services for our residents. But, as we are all too aware, with growth comes serious traffic congestion, which diminishes our quality of life and could impair our economic future.

Help is coming as new transportation money from the State will help us repair and improve our roads. In addition we are building a more robust transit network.

The Virginia Rail Express is already a smashing success, serving up to 20,000 trips per day riding on the two lines — The Fredericksburg line which parallels I-95 and the Manassas Line, which parallels I-66. The service is clean, safe, efficient, and, most importantly, on time upwards of 95 percent of trips. It's time to think about expanding rail service on VRE, helping take more cars off the road, reduce emissions, and improve the quality of life of Virginians.

The VRE Operations Board, of which I am an executive committee member, will consider adopting a "system plan" next month that aims to increase ridership by 30 to 50 percent, eventually serv-

ing up to 30,000 trips per day. VRE hopes to do this by adding two more cars onto each train, adding two new trains, and increasing the number of trips in both directions. The result would be a more robust transit system for Northern Virginia. Better connections to existing and new bus routes will also make VRE a more viable option for workers in Tysons and even Reston.

The need for expansion and VRE's ability to expand are perfectly in sync. VRE is paying off a significant amount of debt this year, giving us significant debt capacity for new projects. I've worked hard, along with my colleagues on the Capital Committee of the Operations Board, to draft a new set of financial principles that ensure VRE is expanding in a fiscally prudent way. Total debt will not exceed the level recommended by our outside financial advisors and VRE will establish new operations and maintenance reserves. These reserves will ensure that VRE can maintain, and eventually replace, the new cars and locomotives it purchases without causing future fiscal crises. We believe the new VRE financing principles could serve as a nationwide model for fiscal prudence in transit systems.

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Saxophone Concerto at Mason

Soloist Carrie Koffman brings ‘melting tone and touching sensitivity.’

The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (FSO) and music director Christopher Zimmerman will perform a concert of both familiar and new works on Saturday, Nov. 16, 8 p.m., at the George Mason University – Centre for the Arts Concert Hall. American composer Larry Alan Smith’s Saxophone Concerto is presented in its Virginia and D.C. area premiere, with soloist Carrie Koffman whose “melting tone and touching sensitivity” have drawn audiences to this unfamiliar symphonic instrument. The concert opens with the irresistible Peer Gynt by Edward Grieg, and concludes with Rachmaninov’s popular but always entrancing Symphonic Dances which also prominently features the sensuous sounds of the saxophone.

“The Symphonic Dances is a particular

personal favorite of mine,” Maestro Zimmerman said. “Rachmaninov takes us on a powerful, utterly transfixing musical journey, one that takes all his musical genius and a lifetime to express.”

Tickets and flexible subscription packages are now available for purchase at www.fairfaxsymphony.org or by calling 703-563-1990.

The FSO continues its commitment to the students of Fairfax County by offering its Student Passport Club. Concert tickets for all students ages 6-18 are just \$5, and members of the club receive a stamp in their passports for attending, gifts from local music stores and special program notes with an activity sheet to accompany each concert. Student Passport Club members receive an invitation to the FSO’s annual instrumental petting zoo.



Maestro Christopher Zimmerman



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Home LifeStyle

Choosing Art

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Anne McCloud and her fiancé, Mark Graham, moved into their Herndon home two years ago, with the exception of a large, deep red Chesterfield sofa, a present from Anne's parents, the furniture they had was left over from graduate school: a tattered antique chair in need of reupholstering and two side tables. The walls were bare except for a mirror that hung over the fireplace. Other than reupholstering the chair in a tapestry fabric with colors of gold and wine, their home remains unchanged today.

McCloud is finally ready to create a polished interior, however. She wants to purchase wall art that complements their existing sofa and chair. She wants their art collection to grow in harmony with their furniture purchases.

"We want to buy some original art," said McCloud. "We're even considering having a piece commissioned, but we're not sure how to coordinate the colors and we cannot afford to hire a professional interior designer. So we're doing this on our own."

WITH SO MANY CHOICES in art, fabrics and furnishings, it's easy to feel overwhelmed when it comes to do-it-yourself interior design. Building a collection of art that you love and combining it with furniture that that fits your style can be overwhelming for interior design novices.

Mia Belotti, an interior designer and owner of Maison et Jardin, Ltd. in Great Falls, said there are two ways to approach the design issue. "If you have an expensive piece of art, then you choose furniture around it. If you already have furniture, choose art that goes with it."

Scale and size are important. "You have to create a balance," said Belotti. "If you have a large piece of furniture against the bottom half of a wall, a small painting will look awkward hanging over it."

Designers agree that choosing art is personal. "I never tell clients what



Sallie Kjos of GreyHunt Interiors in Chantilly suggests homeowners pay attention to the type of art that catches their attention and base their décor around it.



Sallie Kjos of GreyHunt Interiors in Chantilly suggests grouping smaller pieces of art. "Go for a collage of different items or artwork," she said.

"You have to create a balance. If you have a large piece of furniture against the bottom half of a wall, a small painting will look awkward hanging over it."

— Mia Belotti, an interior designer and owner of Maison et Jardin, Ltd.

to like," said Sharon Kleinman, of Transitions by Sharon Kleinman in Potomac, Md. "People's homes should be about what they like and what speaks to them."

Kleinman says it is possible to create a harmonious room with

two opposing styles such as antique and modern. The key, she says, is in details such as framing. "If you have a traditional interior with antique furniture," she said, "I would have no problem taking a Picasso and putting it in a very or-

nate frame."

Some homeowners are also perplexed when it comes to color coordination.

"I don't think art has to match furniture," said Kleinman. "You don't want it to clash, but it doesn't have to match. If I had a room with soft blues and yellows, I wouldn't throw a painting in that had harsh colors like red and black. You want colors to be complimentary. If the interior of the room is warm color, the colors in the painting should be warm. The same is true with cool colors. The more neutral the room, the bolder the art can be."

Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Interior Design in Bethesda, Md., suggests that in the case of McCloud, furniture in bold colors does not have to dictate bold art. "In fact, neutral art on bold walls or in a room with bold-colored furniture can have a great impact," she said.

However, she said, "It's wise to match a color in at least one of the more prominent paintings, as it adds to the peacefulness of the room. Not all the paintings have to match, but keeping one of the tones consistent makes the components of the room harmonious."

Chantilly-based designer Sallie Kjos of GreyHunt Interiors suggests that homeowners pay attention to the type of art that catches their attention. "If you have a passion for an artist, for example, Victoria Salvano, then base your decor around the colors that you are drawn to," she said. "For example, with her vi-

brant work, keep your main pieces such as the sofa, chairs and drapes simple and clean and add in pops of color such as teals, blues, fuchsias in your pillows, accessories, trimmings and throws to give punch and life to the room while tying in the art work."

Kjos also suggests grouping smaller pieces of art. "Go for a collage of different items or artwork," she said. "One of my favorites is taking old empty frames and hanging items inside, such as family pictures that are all framed the same that are smaller, a set of plates, candle sconces or whatever is special to you."

Creating a Feast for the Eye

Local designers share ideas for a striking Thanksgiving table.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

While a menu of turkey and gravy will satisfy the belly this Thanksgiving, a well-designed centerpiece that reflects the warm hues of fall will be a feast for the eyes.

From vivid floral arrangements that spring from gourds to tables piled with seasonal produce, local floral designers say that when it comes to creating Thanksgiving table décor as tantalizing as the meal itself, the options are vast.

Charles Gang, owner of Helen Olivia Flowers in Old Town Alexandria, and his team of designers often create colorful combinations of flowers and fruit in rich hues. "As far as fall arrangements, we're [using] fruit like apples and pears, we're seeing mini pumpkins in arrangements," he said.

In fact, Gang suggests creating arrangements using full-sized pumpkins as vases. "We're doing a lot of rustic hydrangeas, a lot of roses in deep orange and germini in a variety of colors like orange and violets," he said.

Floral designer Laurie Diver, of Conklyn's Florist in Alexandria and Arlington, often uses glass cubes and bubble vases as a receptacle for her arrangements. "Flowers in orange, gold and maroon are great for fall," she said. "I also like to use hydrangeas that are green tipped with burgundy edges and lilies in rust, yellow and orange."

David Hicks, owner of Conklyn's, doesn't shy away from unconventional flowers. "We have a wholesale shop that is open to the public," he said. "Two or three times per week, we import flowers from South America like kangaroo paws [a tubular flower] that come in bronze and rust and cottage yarrow that come in bronze and yellow."

Another surprise for fall, says Diver, are tulips. "We usually don't see them again until spring, but now we have an assortment of parrot tulips in orange, yellow or a combination of both with tattered edges that look very artsy."

Great Falls-based designer Alison de Wit of Distinctive Floral Designs, who isn't afraid to add a harbinger



PHOTO COURTESY OF HELEN OLIVIA FLOWERS
Charles Gang, owner of Helen Olivia Flowers in Old Town Alexandria, creates fall centerpieces using full-sized pumpkins as vases.

of spring to her autumn arrangements either, said, "A lot a spring flowers are available from Dutch markets."

She also combines traditional flowers with modern varieties.

"You can combine a traditional hydrangea with a chartreuse spider chrysanthemum for a bright and unusual floral combination."

Floral designer Rachael Rinaldi, of Reston Floral Design in Reston,

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"We're doing a lot of rustic hydrangeas, a lot of roses in deep orange and germini in a variety of colors like orange and violets."

— Charles Gang, owner of Helen Olivia Flowers

combines dried oak leaves with chrysanthemums in orange, burgundy, yellow or magenta. "Every fall, mums in rich colors are popular."

Hicks has seen a recent spike in the number of consumers who want to create budget centerpieces at home. "You can take eight to 12 blooms of cymbidium orchids in green and orange and put the elongated stems in a glass cylinder with some curly willow to give it contrast," he said.

Hicks also suggests that those who want simple elegance "gather four hydrangeas and put them in a square glass container with rocks at the bottom and you have a simple and elegant centerpiece."



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Bulova

FROM PAGE 8

have had to reduce hours, cut services or even close library branches; Fairfax County is not alone in this struggle. Libraries across the country have also been exploring innovative ways to contain costs while at the same time maintaining or even improving services to meet the needs of their residents.

I am confident that Fairfax County will prove to be a leader in achieving this goal. This issue has served to energize those in our Fairfax County community who appreciate the value our outstanding library system affords us. Thank you for rallying to support our libraries!

Cook

FROM PAGE 8

These exciting changes will bring VRE service to more commuters and help support our economic growth. Sound fiscal planning will ensure responsible measures so VRE will be financially sound decades into the future. All this has been accomplished by dedicated public servants who

came together, setting partisan politics aside, to address the common good. See you on the train!

Supervisor John C. Cook (R-Braddock) has served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 2009 and on the VRE Operations Board since 2010. Currently he serves as Secretary to the Board's Operations Committee and Chair of its Audit Committee.

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/NOV. 14

EBooks. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Learn how to browse the collection, check out books, and download to PC, Mac, and eBook readers. Call the library to schedule an appointment. Adults.

FRIDAY/NOV. 15

Reading Buddies. 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Grab a book, grab a buddy! Teen volunteers available as reading buddies. Ages 3-8 years.

MONDAY/NOV. 18

Introduction to Creative Writing. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Six week writing workshop led by graduate students in George Mason University's Sally Merten Fellows creative writing program. Bring your ideas, laptop, or pen and paper. Adults.

TUESDAY/NOV. 19

EBooks. 2:30 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Learn how to browse the collection, check out books, and download to PC, Mac, and eBook readers. Call the library to schedule an appointment. Adults.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Practice and improve your English. Adults.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 20

Free ADD/ADHD Coaching and Support Group. 12 p.m. 4031 University Drive, Conference Room A, Fairfax. Bringing together people impacted by ADD/ADHD for informative, guided discussions; sharing and support. 703-362-2100.

Community Preparedness Workshop. 6:30 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. During this one-hour workshop, learn about a neighborhood-initiated program called "Map Your Neighborhood." This program helps neighborhoods organize a timely response to disaster when 911 is unavailable. <https://communitypreparedness2.eventbrite.com>.

Storytime: Duplos. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Develop your child's early literacy skills with reading, building and play. Age 3-5 with adult.

Reading Buddies. 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Grab a book, grab a buddy! Teen volunteers available as reading buddies. Ages 3-8 years.

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

Creative Writing. 4:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Read aloud as a group, write an addition to the story and draw an illustration. Age 6-10.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English with others and improve your skills. Adults.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22

Reading Buddies. 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Grab a book, grab a buddy! Teen volunteers available as reading buddies. Ages 3-8 years.

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.

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.

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.

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 8:30 and 10 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.

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

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

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Living Savior Lutheran Church... 703-352-1421

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'Legend of the Bunnyman'

Music from rock musical
being performed locally.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The Bunnyman has been a mysterious figure in local lore for more than 40 years, and now Clifton's Jim Waters has written a rock musical about him called "Legend of the Bunnyman."

Waters grew up in Fairfax during the height of the Bunnyman hysteria, and he and his band, The Mantua Finials, will perform segments of the musical at two, upcoming gigs in Fairfax City. The dates are Friday, Nov. 15, at 8 p.m., at the Epicure Café, and Saturday, Nov. 23, at 9 p.m., at Old Fire Station No. 3.

The more Waters learned about the legend, the more he decided it would make a great story. "The primary purpose was the music," he said. "Our hope is that, as we continue to perform it, someone will want to partner with us to bring the whole musical to the stage."

On Oct. 29, 1970, Kings Park West in Burke was being built. "A Naval Academy cadet was parked there with his girlfriend that night when a man in a bunny suit smashed out their driver's side window with an axe," said Waters. "He told them to get off the property and then ran away."

They told the police and, a few days later, a night watchman making his round there saw a young man on the porch of a home under construction. "He was chopping away at one of the porch posts and yelled to the watchman to get off the property," said Waters. "The watchman ran back to his car to get a weapon to confront him; but when he returned, the man was gone. It eventually grew into a much bigger story, particularly among teenagers, claiming he was an axe murderer."

WATERS WAS 11 THEN, living in Fairfax's Mantua community and attending Frost Middle. "It was frightening to think about," he recalled. "It was odd and creepy – and the incidents were real. They never caught the Bunnyman, so it still remains a mystery. I think someone living near Kings Park West was unhappy that the woods there were being torn down for houses."

From 1986-98, Waters lived in Centreville before moving to Clifton's Balmoral community. "Every now and then, I'd hear something about the Bunnyman Bridge – the railroad bridge crossing over Colchester Road in Clifton – but didn't follow up until three years ago," he said. "My daughter Lauren, then 17, was hanging out at the bridge with three friends in the fall."

Waters said teens often go there as an "exciting dare" because of a fake legend that the Bunnyman lives there and murders people with his ax. But nearby homeowners have police patrol that area, so they approached Lauren and her friends and told them to leave and not come back to the bridge.

"I found it fascinating because, being a musician, I was just embarking on writing a bunch of new songs



Artist Susan Makara's painting of Jim Waters as the Bunnyman.

about oddities," said Waters. "I play mostly guitar and bass, plus piano, and primarily write alternative rock. 'Legend of the Bunnyman' is my first musical."

Also spurring him to write it was Brian Conley of the Fairfax County Public Library's Virginia Room. People constantly asked him for information about the Bunnyman Bridge, but he didn't have any. So he did his own research, investigating all the unsolved murders in the county from 1900 through 1970 for any correlation between where they occurred and the legend.

Conley then wrote, "The Bunnyman Unmasked," debunking the legend. "After reading it, I decided to take elements of both the legend and the real story and combine them into a plausible interpretation of what may have happened," explained Waters. "I did a tremendous amount of research into the history of

Fairfax County and Clifton to make sure my story was based on fact."

IT TOOK HIM ABOUT 18 MONTHS to write the music and story. Band mate and lifelong friend Chris Piller – with whom Waters camped out at the bridge as teens – wrote some of the songs. "It's dramatic, but not gory or evil," said Waters. "It's sympathetic toward the Bunnyman because he's blamed for things he didn't do."

It's told through the eyes of the Bunnyman's son who gradually becomes aware his dad's the Bunnyman and neither of his parents are who he thought they were. "It's a family secret," said Waters. "His dad was actually a victim, and the story even gives a credible explanation for why he wears a bunny suit."

His band's performed the musical nine times so far and has received standing ovations. "We're all seasoned musicians and it's very exciting," said Waters. "Our songs tell the story, similar to the rock opera, 'Tommy,' by The Who, and the music is pretty diverse."

They plan a CD release of their songs early next year. Then, said Waters, "We'll be able to market ourselves to even larger venues and audiences." For more information, go to <http://www.legendofthebunnyman.com/>.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER SPARKS/ SOUTH COUNTY HS THEATRE BOOSTERS

Annie Sullivan, center (Kelsey Davis, double cast), talks with her students before leaving to care for Helen in South County High School Theatre fall production of "The Miracle Worker," Nov. 21-23.

CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. For more entertainment events in the county, go to: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/sep/26/fairfax-county-calendar/>.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/ NOV. 13-DEC. 8
"Shades and Tones Spiced with Color" 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, noon to 5 p.m. Sundays, at the Workhouse Arts Center, Building W-5, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Gloria Benedetto and Traci Oberle are the featured artists in the building; see their work featuring rich color in subtle workings. www.workhousearts.org.

FRIDAY/NOV.15-JAN. 5, 2013
100 under 200. Daily, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Black Friday Sale, at the Workhouse Arts Center, Building W-16 McGuireWoods Gallery, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. One hundred artists exhibiting work priced less than \$200 in an unrestrained gallery exhibit by each one of the artists at the Workhouse. <http://workhousearts.org/events/visual-arts/black-friday-workhouse>.

"From the Fire." Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Five diverse ceramic artists challenge themselves to create personal work for a joint firing in "From the Fire", an educational exhibit of 30 works and concomitant photographs and text.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16
Holiday Express Boutique Craft Sale. 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., at St. Mary of Sorrows Church hall, 5222 Sideburn Rd, Fairfax. Thanksgiving and Christmas gifts, Sweet Shop, Cafe, Silent Auction, Raffle. 703-426-8092.

SUNDAY/NOV.17
Holiday Express Boutique Craft Sale. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. St. Mary of Sorrows Church hall, 5222 Sideburn Rd, Fairfax. Thanksgiving and Christmas gifts, Sweet Shop, Silent Auction, Raffle. 703-426-8092

THURSDAY/NOV. 21
"The Miracle Worker." 7 p.m. South County High School is located at 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. The story of Helen Keller and her dedicated teacher, Annie Sullivan. Tickets: \$8 general admissions; \$6 seniors and students. www.southcountytheatre.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22
"The Miracle Worker." 7 p.m. South County High School is located at

8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. The story of Helen Keller and her dedicated teacher, Annie Sullivan. Tickets: \$8 general admissions; \$6 seniors and students. www.southcountytheatre.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23
"The Miracle Worker." 2 & 7 p.m. South County High School is located at 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. The story of Helen Keller and her dedicated teacher, Annie Sullivan. Tickets: \$8 general admissions; \$6 seniors and students. www.southcountytheatre.org.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 27
The Fresh Beat Band, 6:30 p.m., at the Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. The band from the Nick Jr. series of the same name performs. \$46.70-\$165. <http://patriotcenter.com/>.

FRIDAY/NOV. 29
Home for Dinner Closing Reception. 6-9 p.m., Nov. 29, in the Vulcan Gallery, Community Action Space, Lorton Workhouse, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) and the Workhouse Arts Center are collaborating on the exhibition filled with arts that helps raise awareness about hunger and homelessness in southeast Fairfax County. Home for Dinner will showcase how community members can make a difference; bring canned food as a donation. www.workhousearts.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 30-DEC. 28
Cookies with Santa: A Pre-Show Treat Before "In Santa, We Believe." 11 a.m. Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Tickets: \$8.50 Adults, \$8 Children under 12 years old.
In Santa We Believe. 1 p.m. Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. LIVE onstage! Join for an afternoon of adventure with Vianlix Mestey's original story. Tickets: \$8 Children, \$10 Adults.

TUESDAY/DEC. 3-DEC. 6
Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition. 10:30 a.m. Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. This whimsical production is a

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

CALENDAR



“Now Showing...1942,” by Gloria Benedetto, graphite, 8x10. See Benedetto’s work alongside Traci Oberle’s at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center.

FROM PAGE 14

35-minute interactive, non-verbal show, which features two adult actors and a musician. Geared towards children ages 2-6. Tickets: \$8 for children & adults

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Cabaret Series: Home for the Holidays. 8 p.m. Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Tickets: \$25, includes planche campagnarde.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Cabaret Series: Home for the Holidays. 1 p.m. Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Tickets: \$25, includes planche campagnarde.

FRIDAY/DEC. 13

One Night Stands. 8 p.m. Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. In concert, one night only, featuring solo cabaret performers from the DC area. Two performers each night, each performing a solo 45 minute set. Tickets: \$15-25.

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SPORTS

Running on Her Own

West Springfield's Alcorta posts 3rd-best time in Burke Lake history.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Caroline Alcorta started competing in cross country in 2011 as a sophomore at West Springfield and quickly became one of Virginia's top high school harriers. She finished eighth at the VHSL state meet as a sophomore and placed second as a junior in 2012.

While her first two seasons in cross country were successful, Alcorta ran in the shadow of Lake Braddock's Sophie Chase, a two-time state champion who now competes for Stanford University. While Alcorta wasn't able to catch Chase with championships on the line, the Lake Braddock star provided Alcorta with motivation.

With Chase having graduated, Alcorta, now a senior, is the one out in front of the pack. With no one to chase, Alcorta has to rely on her own training and mental toughness to push her through races. During the 6A North regional meet, however, she had some additional motivation.

COMPETING IN HER FINAL RACE at Burke Lake Park, Alcorta won the region championship on Nov. 6 with a personal-best time of 16 minutes, 31 seconds. It was the third-best girls' time in the history of the course.

"One of the nice things about Burke Lake is that you run it enough times that when you get to your very, very last one your senior year, sometimes the great runners will do something pretty special," West Springfield head coach Chris Pellegrini said. "I told her [before the race], 'You're on this list pretty high, but today is your rest-in-peace moment. Where are you going to sit forever?' So she went into the race very motivated."

Last year, Chase won the region title with a time of 16:42, which at the time placed her in a tie with Hayfield's Melissa Dewey (2004) for the third-best time in course history. Alcorta finished 11 seconds faster, just missing the second-fastest time of 16:30.7, set by Annandale's Aimee Harms in 1985. Langley's Erin Keogh set the course record with a time of 16:09.7 in 1985.

"It's senior year," Alcorta said. "I



Lake Braddock senior Hannah Christen finished runner-up at the 6A North girls' regional cross country meet on Nov. 6 at Burke Lake Park.

kind of wanted to make my mark [by] leaving it all on the course. This is my last time racing here ... [so I wanted to make] it memorable."

Alcorta said not having anyone to chase has been different, yet rewarding.

"I kind of miss having someone that you know will push the pace out in front of you, but it's kind of nice knowing that you can do it by yourself," she said. "There's obviously a lot of competition in the field, already, too, so just the fear of getting caught ... really helps you."

Pellegrini said coaches have worked for years with Alcorta on sticking to her own race strategy.

"That was actually something that we worked on a lot for the last three years, which is being self-sufficient and running your race," Pellegrini said. "Win or lose, you've got to run your own race. ... You've got to make them come get you and if they earn it, I'll shake their hand, too. ... She's been running her own race and becoming very self-sufficient, very confident and being able to hold her own pace and it's something we've been waiting for as coaches, to see her develop into that."

AS A TEAM, West Springfield placed third with a score of 113, earning the Spartans a berth in the state meet. Oakton won the region title with a score of 66. Washington-Lee placed second (92), Lake



Robinson senior Macey Schweikert placed fifth at the 6A North girls' regional cross country meet on Nov. 6 at Burke Lake Park.

Braddock finished fourth (118), Robinson was fifth (148) and Battlefield finished sixth (192). The top six teams advances to states.

West Springfield senior Katie Kennedy finished 20th with a time of 18:21. Ana Suarez, a junior, finished 28th (18:44), sophomore Reagan Bustamante finished 32nd (18:53) and sophomore Abby Snyder was 38th (19:09).

Alcorta and Pellegrini praised Kennedy for competing despite an ankle injury.

"She's a real trooper," Alcorta said. "... I'm really proud of her. She really stepped up today. She could have not raced but she knew we might not make it to states."

Pellegrini said Kennedy had to "hop" the last mile.

"I am not comfortable racing someone that's that hurt, but I give her a lot of credit for doing it for



West Springfield senior Caroline Alcorta, left, won the 6A North region girls' cross country championship on Nov. 6 at Burke Lake Park. Oakton's Allie Klimkiewicz placed third.

the team," Pellegrini said. "It was unglamorous ... but without her, that's a 70-point swing."

Lake Braddock senior Hannah Christen finished second (17:19), followed by Oakton's Allie Klimkiewicz (17:21), Lake Braddock's Katy Kunc (17:35) and Robinson's Macey Schweikert (17:39).

Robinson's Lauren Berman finished 10th (17:55).

In boys' action, Robinson and Lake Braddock were among the six teams to qualify for states, finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Chantilly won the event with a score of 100. Battlefield (107) placed second, followed by Osbourn Park (111), the Rams

(136), the Bruins (138) and Oakton (142).

Lake Braddock junior Ryan Corbett placed third with a time of 15:09. West Springfield sophomore Owen Buck finished sixth with a time of 15:24, improving from 14th place during the final 400 meters.

"[Buck]," Pellegrini said, "ran out of his skull."

Oakton's John Stoney won the event with a time of 14:54. South County's Alec Jones finished seventh with a time of 15:25.

The VHSL Group 6A state meet will be held on Friday, Nov. 15 at Great Meadow. The girls' race is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. and the boys' race will start at 11:15 a.m.

Playoff Football Pairings

The Group 6A and Group 5A VHSL football regional playoffs begin Friday, Nov. 15.

*In 6A North action (all games are at 7:30), Centreville (10-0) earned the top seed and will host No. 16 South Lakes (5-5). Lake Braddock (10-0) is the No. 2 seed and will host No. 15 Chantilly (5-5).

No. 3 Westfield (8-2) will take on No. 14 Hayfield (5-5). No. 4 Washington-Lee (8-2) will host No. 13 Stonewall Jackson (6-4). No. 5 Langley (8-2) will host No. 12 Battlefield (6-4).

No. 6 Patriot (8-2) will face No. 11 Robinson (7-3). No. 7 Yorktown (8-2) will host No. 10

Fairfax (7-3) and No. 8 South County (8-2) will host No. 9 T.C. Williams (7-3).

*In 5A North action (all games are a 7 p.m., unless specified), No. 1 Massaponax (10-0) will host No. 16 Edison (3-7) and No. 2 Stone Bridge (8-2) will take on No. 15 Lee (2-8).

No. 3 Briar Woods (9-1) will host Potomac Falls (4-6), No. 4 Tuscarora (8-2) will host No. 13 Mount Vernon (3-7) and No. 5 North Stafford will take on No. 12 Thomas Jefferson (4-6).

No. 6 Mountain View (7-3) will host No. 11 Potomac (4-6), No. 7 Broad Run (7-3) will face No. 10 Freedom (PW) and No. 8 Falls Church (7-3) will host No. 9 Albemarle (6-4) at 7:30 p.m.

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE

Zohifa, LLC trading as Try City Gift Shop, 7253 Maple Place, Annandale, VA 22003. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer and Wine off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jannatun Nyeem, President

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 legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Fairfax Water

NOTICE OF WATER RATE PUBLIC HEARING

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2014, include the following:

1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$3,850 to \$3,950†.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$9,500 to \$9,750.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,050 to \$1,090†.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$35 to \$36.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$9.20 to \$9.80†.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.29 to \$2.42 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$3.45 to \$3.55 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
9. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$44 to \$45.
10. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from \$17 to \$20.

A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates/index.htm>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

†Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

21 Announcements

TAX NOTICE CITY OF FAIRFAX

REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENTS ARE DUE

Real Estate tax bills have been mailed and are due
December 5, 2013

LATE PAYMENT PENALTY

To avoid a 10% late payment penalty and interest charges, payment in full must be made in person or postmarked by close of business on
December 5, 2013

Taxes may be paid in person Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Treasurer's Office, Room 234, City Hall

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Even if you do not receive a bill you are responsible for paying real estate taxes by
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For Additional Information, please call 703-385-7904

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News

Two School Employees Charged

After a joint investigation by Financial Crimes Unit detectives and Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) human resources, two school employees were each charged with embezzlement and money laundering.

Police identified the arrestees as Sonya Swansbrough, 46, of Woodbridge, principal at Poe Middle School, and Bethany Speed, 38, of Burke, an administrative employee at Jeb Stuart High School. Police began an investigation after being contacted by FCPS in late September 2013.

The allegations involved falsifying timesheets for personal financial gain. An investigation determined that these incidents began as early as May 2010 and officials believe over \$100,000 may have been embezzled.

Police also charged a third individual, Brenton Rusnak, 20, of Radford with receiving stolen property in connection to this case. Rusnak is Swansbrough's son. The investigation is ongoing.

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



Sonya Swansbrough



Bethany Speed

POLICE PHOTOS

Volunteers Needed for Dogs Adoption Events

Volunteers needed to hold dogs at adoption events, Saturdays 12 to 3 p.m. Must be 18 or over. Held by Homeless Animals Rescue Team at Petco, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Mem. Hwy, Fairfax, Va., 22033. Call 703-691-HART or <http://www.hart90.org/> for more information.

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