

(From left) are Siyan Dong, Yu Chen Song and Harlean Bajwa on Fairfax High's soccer field during the Chinese students' visit to the school July 20.

# Fairfax CONNECTION

Serving Areas of Burke

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AUGUST 7-13, 2014

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PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO/THE CONNECTION

**Fairfax County Police Officers, McGruff the Crime Dog, and Supervisors John C. Cook (R- Braddock) and Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) visit Fairfax County neighborhoods, Tuesday, Aug. 5, for National Night Out.**



**Firefighters Dawn Blair-Jimenez and Barry Rathbone, of Fairview Station 432, take an ice cream break at the Middleridge Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 5.**

## Neighbors, Police, Firefighters Promote Safe Neighborhoods

### Supervisor John C. Cook visits neighborhoods on National Night Out.

ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO  
THE CONNECTION

**N**eighborhoods throughout Fairfax County held National Night Out, “America’s Night Out Against Crime” events on Tuesday, Aug. 5. These events are designed to promote crime prevention activities, partnerships between law enforcement and the community, and neighbors getting to know each other.

Supervisor John C. Cook (R-Braddock) emphasized the importance of community involvement. “The neighborhoods where people know each other, where they look out for each other, where they enjoy each other’s company in social

events are also the safest neighborhoods,” he said.

Vigilance and caution are also key in ensuring the safety of the neighborhood. Bonnie Brae Civic Association President Teri Ostroviak said that living in a safe place still meant taking measures to prevent crime. “You live in a city. You need to lock your cars. You need to lock your door. You need to put a clip on your back gate so people can’t easily access” or steal property.

Neighborhood watch groups are also deterrents to illegal activities, as they send a message to criminals that the community is watching. It is a “visible set of eyes,” said Julia Wilson, president of the Rutherford neighborhood watch. Rutherford has about 700 homes.

One of the duties of neighborhood watch groups is patrolling the neighborhood. Patrols have magnetic signs for their cars - indicating that they are members of the neighborhood watch - flashlights and a log-book. They look for something out of the ordinary.

Terry Boschert, coordinator of the Kings Park neighborhood watch, said that its members have recovered a stolen car and have helped avoid a bicycle theft.

Cars parked on the street, which are not familiar to the neighborhood, are subject to suspicion, especially cars with people in them, said Rob Cain, of Somerset Olde Creek.

However, incidents out of the norm also garner curiosity. “We were doing a neighborhood watch and there was this man with a flashlight, a couple of kids and a bucket,” said Ostroviak. It turns out that “he was looking for frogs. But, it was weird. It was very strange,” she said.

“Call us,” said West Springfield District Police Assistant Commander Tim Field. Even “if you just have a feeling that something is wrong, someone doesn’t look normal.” He said that people are reluctant to call because they think there is probably nothing to what they observe. “Let us determine whether there is nothing to it,” said Field.

Supervisor Cook and Assistant Commander Field visited the Bonnie Brae, Middleridge, Woodbury Woods, Somerset Olde Creek, Rutherford, Kings Park and North Springfield neighborhoods.

Each event varied in the number of attendees and type of location, from a potluck in someone’s backyard to a park with a band and several tables and demonstrations.

Representatives from the Fairfax County Fire Department and the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Office also participated on Tuesday’s National Night Out.



**Deputies John Viola and Tony Ayoub, of the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Office, attend the Middleridge Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 5 to disabuse the community of the stereotypes and stigma regarding law enforcement officers.**



**Paul Serzan, of Fire Station 423, shows the truck’s controls at the Rutherford Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 5.**



**From Left, State Senator Chap Petersen (D-34) and Supervisor John C. Cook (R-Braddock) address the Middleridge community, on National Night Out, Tuesday, Aug. 5.**



# 'It Was Definitely Humbling' Chinese and Fairfax High students share impressions of each other.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he teenagers played soccer, ate ice cream, joked with their friends and walked with their heads down, eyes on their Smart phones and tablets. In short, they looked just like their American counterparts – except these students live in China.

They were visiting Fairfax High on July 20, touring the building, chatting with their student tour guides and having fun in a new place. They visited the school gym and even saw the new turf field being installed in the football stadium.

Fairfax senior Harlean Bajwa, one of the tour guides, called them “very sweet and interested in the American lifestyle.” “To us, they seem more strict and studious; and Americans, in general, seem more laid back to them.”

“They’re very quiet; you have to push them to ask questions,” added classmate Cilicia Hufano, another guide. “But when you do, they ask a lot. They’re really nice and very respectful.”

“Some of us are a little shy and don’t talk to strangers,” explained Chinese freshman Siyan Dong. “This school is really good; I love the lifestyle here.” She said most girls in China don’t like sports but, like her, like



(From left) Fairfax High seniors Cilicia Hufano, Harlean Bajwa, Savannah Steblein, Sophia Lam and Jason Lee were student tour guides.

to “play on the computer.” In her country, said Dong, “Girls socialize with girls, and boys socialize with boys.”

She said her parents want her to become a professor. “At first, I wanted to be a singer,

but I’m not good at that,” said Dong. “I saw movies with lots of government agents, so that’s what I’d like to be.” She was also excited because their hotel had a swimming pool. “Most of ours don’t have them, and I

really enjoyed swimming in it,” she said.

**HER CLASSMATE**, Yu Chen Song, 14, wants to be a Chinese-language teacher and visited both Lanier and Fairfax. “The schools are very beautiful and clean,” she said. “And the classes are very free for the students because they don’t have to sit in the same seat always and can eat in class. In China, it’s not allowed.”

She also liked Fairfax’s large soccer field. “We don’t have them,” she said. We only have basketball courts in the playgrounds. I think American students are very kind and friendly. They’re older than me here, so they’re like my older brothers and sisters, and I felt welcomed here.”

“My country is beautiful, but so is America,” continued Song. “We’re here for 21 days altogether and have 10 days more. Next, we’ll visit Los Angeles and San Francisco.”

After some of the Chinese and Fairfax students played soccer together, they all enjoyed eating ice cream bars on the hot, summer day. Among them were Ziyue Zhang and Yu Yi.

“We enjoyed this high school,” said Zhang. “It is very beautiful; I think there’s a lot of technology in this school. And the middle-school students were very outgoing.”

SEE CHINESE, PAGE 11

## Chinese Get Glimpse of American Schools

### Group visits Lanier Middle and Fairfax High.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**I**n mid-July, an envoy from China visited the United States – but the trip had nothing to do with politics.

Instead, a group of teenage students, plus some parents and teachers, visited Lanier Middle School and Fairfax High to see firsthand what schools are like in the U.S. They were here via a program sponsored by the City of Fairfax and the American Assn. of School Administrators (AASA).

“They came from some of the top schools all over China,” said Elizabeth Eby, an eighth-grade math teacher at Lanier. “They wanted a real, American experience. They’ve been taking English since kindergarten, so they can read and write it well, but they’re a bit shy conversationally; but when talking with our students, it flowed naturally.”

Some 54 Chinese middle-school students visited Lanier July 17, while 150 students there attended SELT (Summer Extended Learning Time). The Lanier



Group photo of Chinese students at Lanier Middle, with the student tour guides in the front row.

students were taking English, reading and math classes in Honors Boot Camp, a math camp to “solidify student foundations and give them hands-on exploration of math,” said Eby.

The visitors talked about things they liked and disliked, plus the similarities and differences between them and the American students. “They’re touring the East Coast and all the landmarks,” said Eby. “These

students are also considering college in the U.S., so this was a preview.”

Lanier’s rising ninth-graders were the ambassadors, giving tours of their building, and Eby said they “absolutely loved” the visitors. She said the Chinese students asked questions such as, “When you want to speak in class, do you stand up or raise your hand?” “In China, class is more formal; here, it’s more interactive,” said Eby. “They also

found our schools to be more diverse than theirs, and they liked it. It was night-and-day different for them. They told our students about their favorite music, foods, sports and celebrities. One class was so inspired by them that they want to study more about China – they’re completely fascinated.”

The group, which also includes 88 high-schoolers, explored the City of Fairfax, New York and Washington, D.C., as well. “We’re just one stop on their amazing journey,” Eby said.

Chinese teachers visited Fairfax High on July 14. They saw how technology’s used in the classroom and received student presentations not just on academics, but also on extracurricular activities, community service and college. Chinese students – including 50 who attend an English-language immersion school – visited Fairfax High on July 19-20.

Eby said the whole shebang was organized by AASA’s Chuck Woodruff, COO, and Tara Gao, marketing associate, plus Fairfax City Superintendent of Schools Peter Noonan. Also helping was the Chinese students’ local coordinator, Amy Wang.

“We wanted to promote cultural understanding in the field of education,” explained Eby. “Cultural exchanges of students, teachers and administrators were arranged throughout Virginia.”



## BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9416. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

### FRIDAY/AUG. 8-SUNDAY/AUG. 31

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**One-on-One English Conversation Practice.** City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Practice speaking English with a volunteer partner. Call 703-293-6227 for an appointment.

**Personalized Internet/Microsoft Office Tutoring.** City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn how to use the Web or increase your skills. Call 703-293-6227 for an appointment.

### FRIDAY/AUG. 8

**English Conversation Group.** 10 a.m. 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice your English conversation skills. For adults.

### MONDAY/AUG. 11

**English Conversation Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English with others and improve your skills. 703-249-1520.

**One-on-One English Practice.** 7-9 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice speaking and reading English with a volunteer partner. Call 703-249-1520 to make an appointment.

### TUESDAY/AUG. 12

**Red Cross Blood Donation.** 1:30-7:15 p.m. American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Avenue, Springfield. The American Red Cross encourages all eligible blood donors to make an appointment to donate blood soon to help prevent a shortage. To make an appointment, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

**English Conversation Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Practice speaking English with others and improve your skills. 703-293-6227.

**English Conversation Group.** 7-9 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Practice and improve your English. 703-451-8055.

**Book Discussion Group.** 7 p.m. 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Kings Park Library hosts a book discussion group for boys and discusses Eragon by Christopher Paolini. Ages 8-12 with an adult.

### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 13

**English Conversation Group.** 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Practice speaking English with others and improve your skills. 703-293-6227.

**English conversation.** 10:15 a.m. 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Join a conversation group to learn the English language. For adults. Sign up at <https://va.evanced.info/fairfaxcounty/lib/eventcalendar.asp?EventType=ALL&libnum=12>.

**English conversation.** 7 p.m. 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Join a conversation group to learn the English language. For adults. Sign up at <https://va.evanced.info/fairfaxcounty/lib/eventcalendar.asp?EventType=ALL&libnum=17>.

### THURSDAY/AUG. 14

**Conversational Spanish.** 2 p.m. 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice and improve your Spanish with a native speaker. For adults.

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# OPINION

## Brightening Outlook for End of Summer

### Local pleasures to offset discouraging news.

**T**he news here has been a bit discouraging, and that's without considering the human tragedy and disaster of several different international situations.

The unsettling narrative rolling out from the Richmond trial of former Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife Maureen would hopefully result in action on campaign finance reform in Virginia.

Up until the news about "gifts" to family members of Gov. Bob McDonnell, almost all elected officials would defend Virginia's notoriously unregulated system of allowing candidates and elected officials to take unlimited amounts of money and unlimited gifts from anyone or any company at all. Because Virginia has such strict disclosure requirements, elected officials seem to think that it's OK to be awash in all that money. Voters can look up who is giving money and draw their own conclusions. How could it hurt if the details are all out in the open?

It isn't just disclosure of gifts to family members that needs reform here.

Discovering that the system is entirely self-regulated with no independent auditor, no ethics commission and no penalties for failing to report gifts or contributions should give voters some pause. Consider that only four states, including Virginia, have no limits on contribu-

#### EDITORIAL

tions. Most states have limits; for example, in Maryland, individuals can give \$4,000 to any one candidate and \$10,000 total in a four-year election cycle. We've already had one session of the General Assembly without a meaningful reform effort.

The current stubborn road block to extending health coverage to at least 200,000 very poor Virginians, including another unsettling narrative about Democrats losing control of the Virginia Senate because of the resignation of one senator who was apparently offered a great job and a judgeship for his daughter, is dispiriting.

The failure in Fairfax County of a proposal to allow the building of affordable studio apartments to house working poor people is discouraging on several fronts. The proposal was many years in the making. Why did this proposal come forward without support from members of the Board of Supervisors? Even if it was approved, it appeared to lack commercial viability. Back to the drawing board? (There is some good news pending about more federal money for affordable housing in the county.)

So here are a few end-of-summer activities that can serve as antidote. Go to the farmers markets and enjoy the local bounty:

Wakefield Farmers Market. 2-6 p.m. Wednesdays, May 7-Oct. 29. 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale. 703-321-7081. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/>

[farmersmarkets/wakefieldmkt.htm](http://farmersmarkets/wakefieldmkt.htm).

Fair Lakes Farmers Market. Wednesdays. 3:30-7 p.m. 4501 Market Commons Drive, Fairfax. [www.greentowns.com/initiative/farmers-market/fair-lakes-farmers-market-fairfax-va](http://www.greentowns.com/initiative/farmers-market/fair-lakes-farmers-market-fairfax-va).

Fairfax's Government Center Farmers Market. 3-7 p.m. Thursdays, May 1-Oct. 30. Ten vendors including a Middle Eastern delicacy bakery and custom organic ice cream shop. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/governmentctr-mrkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/governmentctr-mrkt.htm).

Lorton Farmers Market. 3-7 p.m. Thursdays. New Hope Church, 8905 Ox Road, Lorton. [www.smartmarkets.org](http://www.smartmarkets.org).

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m. Fridays, May 2-Oct. 31. Giant Parking Lot, 5955 Kingstowne Towne Center, Alexandria. Vendors products include fresh organic honey and hand held pies and rolls. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/kingstownemkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/kingstownemkt.htm)

Burke Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon. Saturdays, May 3-Nov. 22. 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/burkemkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/burkemkt.htm)

Springfield Farmers Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturdays. Springfield Mall, 6417 Loisdale Road, Springfield. [www.smartmarkets.org](http://www.smartmarkets.org).

Fairfax Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, May 10-Nov. 1. 10500 Page Avenue, Fairfax. [www.fairfaxsaturndaymarket.com](http://www.fairfaxsaturndaymarket.com).

Lorton Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays, May 4-Nov. 2. VRE Parking Lot, 8990 Lorton Station Boulevard, Lorton. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/lortonmkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/lortonmkt.htm)

Fairfax Farmers Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundays, May 11-Oct. 26. 10500 Page Avenue, Fairfax. [www.fairfaxsaturndaymarket.com/](http://www.fairfaxsaturndaymarket.com/)

Fair Lakes Farmers Market. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 4501 Market Commons Drive, Fairfax. [www.greentowns.com/initiative/farmers-market/fair-lakes-farmers-market-fairfax-va](http://www.greentowns.com/initiative/farmers-market/fair-lakes-farmers-market-fairfax-va).

## Lives Disrupted by Virginia Anti-gay Laws

BY JENNIFER SHEARIN AND JULIE NAFF

**W**hen Julie and I decided to build our family through adoption in 2007, we knew we would need to complete a homestudy first. We called two local adoption agencies to find out how to get this process started. Upon finding out that we lived in Virginia, social workers at both agencies responded with, "Move to D.C. or Maryland!"

While complicated, either one of us could have legally adopted a child in Virginia as a single person, but we had been a couple for nearly ten years at that point. In short, we could not even have our request for a homestudy granted to us then because we were a same-sex couple living together in Virginia. Even if we did find a way to "untangle" our lives as a couple and go forward with a single-parent adoption, the other would not have had any parental/legal rights to that child, as Virginia does not allow second-parent adoption. To second-parent adopt in Virginia, you must be legally married. And, of course, Virginia does not recognize same-sex marriage.



Jennifer Shearin, left, and Julie Naff with their children.

Private adoption can be a difficult process for most people, but there just seemed to be more than our fair share of hoops to jump through! So we moved to Washington, D.C.

Moving 12 miles might not sound like a big deal, but we had owned a house in Northern Virginia since 2000. It was the place we called home. Our house was

convenient to our jobs, my family, our friends, our favorite dog parks, etc. To afford this move out of state, we had to rent out our Virginia home for the next several years, become landlords, manage the property, commute longer distances to work, pay higher taxes on our income, etc. The only reason for the move: the District of Columbia would allow us to le-

gally adopt children together.

Jumping through these hurdles paid off when our dream to become parents was realized in 2009, when our son, Daniel, was born. And again in 2011 with the birth of our son Liam. We have open-adoptions with their birth families in California. Our children's birthparents chose us to adopt and parent our boys, yet Virginia laws stood in the way ... Virginia's laws stood in the way of a private, consensual decision made between adults.

After finalizing Liam's adoption in 2011, we moved back to Virginia as a legally married couple (thank you, D.C!) and as a family of four, to the home and the community that we loved and missed. Having finalized our sons' adoptions in California (where they were both born, and where we could petition

SEE UNEQUAL, PAGE 7

## Fairfax CONNECTION

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
To discuss ideas and concerns,  
Call: 703-778-9410  
e-mail:  
[fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Amna Rehmatulla**  
Editorial Assistant  
703-778-9410 ext.427  
[arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Bonnie Hobbs**  
Community Reporter ♦ 703-778-9438  
[south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jon Roetman**  
Sports Editor ♦ 703-752-4013  
[jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@jonroetman

**Victoria Ross**  
County Reporter ♦ 301-502-6027  
[vross@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vross@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Display Advertising, 703-778-9422  
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Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411  
[classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic  
**Photography:**  
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel  
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Laurence Foong, John Heinly  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

**Special Assistant to the Publisher**  
Jeanne Theismann  
703-778-9436  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@TheismannMedia

**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426**  
**Circulation Manager:**  
Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)





## LETTERS

# Unequal in Virginia

FROM PAGE 6

the courts as out-of-state residents), both Julie's and my name appear on their birth certificates as the legal parents of our children. This could have never happened in Virginia as the laws stand on second-parent adoption.

Virginia's anti-gay laws disrupted our lives for several years, not to mention the cost of our adoption process skyrocketed with a out-of-state.

I was born and raised in Virginia. I am a product of Virginia public schools. I am a proud public school teacher in Virginia. Julie and I want our children to grow up in a diverse environment with access to quality public schools. We are law-abiding citizens who pay taxes like any other resident/property owner in the state of Virginia. Shouldn't we have the same rights as other Virginians?

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## WELLBEING

# Preventing Sports Injuries

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

As students prepare to return to school, one activity many look forward to is sports. While the benefits of athletic activities are numerous, however, so are injuries. Statistics released by Safe Kids Worldwide, an organization dedicated to preventing injuries in children, show that more than 38 million U.S. children and adolescents ages 19 and under participate in sports each year. More than 2.6 million of those children were seen in emergency rooms for injuries related to sports and recreation.

"I believe the benefits of sports participation far outweigh the risks. Injuries will never be 100 percent preventable and are part of sports. However, many youth sports injuries are preventable with some common sense," said Shane V. Caswell, Ph.D., professor and Athletic Training Education Program executive director at the Sports Medicine Assessment, Research & Testing (SMART) Laboratory at George Mason University

in Fairfax.

The most common sports-related issues are sprains (mostly ankle), muscle strains, bone or growth plate injuries, repetitive motion injuries and heat-related illnesses.

"Children's bones are more pliable than adults', and injuries that might just cause a sprain in an adult could cause a fracture in a child," said Dr. Derek Ochiai, Hip Arthroscopy & Sports Medicine at the Nirschl Orthopaedic Center in Arlington. "If the child refuses to bend their wrist or elbow or cannot put weight on their leg, then this should be urgently seen by a physician, whether in the emergency room or in the doctor's office, within a day of the injury."

Ochiai said sports are ideal for developing a child's coordination and helping them learn teamwork and perseverance. However, he continued, all sports carry a risk of injury. "The most common sports associated with injuries include football, basketball, baseball/softball and soccer," he said. "Any sport that involves colliding with another player does increase the risk of injury."

**PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CARETAKERS** can take active roles in helping to prevent injuries, said Caswell. "To help ensure that their children are safe, parents need to take ownership of their child's safety," he said. "We can begin with the first question parents should ask when choosing a youth league or sports association: Who in the organization is responsible for league safety and what is the plan?"

Youth sports organizations should take precautions to ensure safety, continued Caswell. "It need not be someone with medical knowledge, but it should be a concerned parent or volunteer who makes safety the number one priority."

Parents should then ask to see the league's youth safety policies and procedures manual and emergency action plans specific to all venues where the children will practice and compete, he said.

"Unfortunately, we have seen too many instances where an emergency situation occurs and no one knows what to do," Caswell said. "Youth sports organizations should

have these policies in place, require that coaches be educated on them and make parents aware that they exist. They should be reviewed annually and practiced regularly so that when an emergency occurs everyone is prepared."

**STRETCHING TO MAINTAIN** muscle flexibility is also important to prevent sports injuries in children, said Skye Donovan, Ph.D., associate professor of physical therapy at Marymount University in Arlington.

"As children go through growth spurts, their muscles are at an increased risk of becoming tight and limiting their range of motion, which can pose a problem during sports," she said. "Strength training is a great way to help children resist injuries. It doesn't have to be the typical 'go to the weight room' type of strength training; children can do sports-specific activities that use their own body weight or resistance bands to help target underdeveloped muscles that might otherwise lead to injuries. Agility training is also helpful to improve sports related skills like coordina-



PHOTO COURTESY OF NIRSCHL ORTHOPAEDIC CENTER

**Dr. Derek Ochiai treats a young patient at the Nirschl Orthopaedic Center in Arlington. More than 2.6 million children sustain sports-related injuries that require emergency care each year.**

"Injuries will never be 100 percent preventable and are part of sports. However, many youth sports injuries are preventable with some common sense."

— Shane V. Caswell, Ph.D.,  
George Mason University

tion, cutting, changing directions and high speed movements."

Ochiai underscores the importance of using protective gear, including helmets. "Listen to coaches and instructions on technique, and use proper techniques at all times, including with tackling in football," he said. "Make sure the young athletes stay hydrated, and have access to water frequently. Even at young ages, include appropriate warm up drills prior to starting the activity."

## Planning Commission Tables Residential Studio Amendment

Discussion on affordable housing likely to continue.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE CONNECTION

Although more than 15 public meetings and seven committee sessions have been held since Oct. 13, the Fairfax County Planning Commission voted unanimously last week to table the proposed Residential Studio Amendment, which would have provided apartments to residents working low-income jobs.

"It was unlikely that the Residential Studio Committee would reach consensus about the proposed use. There were several unresolved issues, such as the districts in which RSUs should be permitted, the potential scale of the use, potential modifications and waivers under the special exception process, and the potential for impacts on surrounding properties," said Tim Sargeant, an at-



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION

large member of the Planning Commission and chair of the Residential Studio Committee, at the July 30 meeting.

The Residential Studio Committee was created following the Board of Supervisors authorization of a Zoning Ordinance Amendment in July 2013. This would have allowed these efficiency apartments of at least three per building and not more than 80, to be designated for at least 80 percent of residents in any building who make less than \$45,000 per year, or more than 60 percent of the median income of the area.

The committee, however, has been disbanded.

"It became apparent that additional dialogue is necessary regarding affordable housing," Sargeant said.

At the community meetings, many residents voiced concerns with the amendment, including where the RSUs would be built.

"It is not an easy discussion, but it is necessary. Our region and county population continue to increase and our workforce economy continues to change. The discussion of affordable housing is likely to come up again as we continue

**The Residential Studio Committee, pictured here in January, has been disbanded and the residential studio amendment was tabled at the July 30 meeting of the Planning Commission.**

Analysis, 548,298 housing units need to be added to the Washington, D.C. area in order to support the region's 857,334 net new jobs, which will be added from 2012 to 2032. This includes entry-level positions and other low-wage jobs.

The study also found that the housing for the workers needs to be affordable, with a requirement of 44.1 percent of the new housing units to be less than \$1,250 per month.

According to the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance, in 2013, a person earning minimum wage would have to work three full-time jobs that pay this amount of \$7.25 per hour in order to afford an efficiency apartment in the county.

The Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development is expected to announce an \$8.8 million fund for affordable housing projects within the county in early August.

This combination of local and federal funds will work to provide workforce housing and low-income housing for seniors, homeless and those with disabilities.

According to a December 2013 study conducted by George Mason University's Center for Regional

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## 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.

## ENTERTAINMENT

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.

### TUESDAY/AUG. 5- AUG. 19

**The Bodzin Art Gallery "Fine Arts Open Exhibition."** Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. This annual show spotlights the many talents our own members, staff and creative community through the display of a variety of media. www.jccnvarts.org.

### FRIDAY/AUG. 8

**Genealogy Help Desk.** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumbers to the experts. 703-293-6227.

### FRIDAYS/AUG. 8-AUG. 29

**Braddock Nights Concert Series.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Listen to musical performances in the great outdoors. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/ for location and schedule.

### FRIDAY/AUG. 8-SUNDAY/AUG. 31

**"Sounds and Shapes" by Hadrian Mendoza.** Building W-8, Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The Workhouse Arts Center is proud to present our Featured Artists and Studio Exhibitions for the month of August. 703-584-2900 or www.workhousearts.org.

### SATURDAYS/AUG. 9-AUG. 23

**Burke Arts in the Parks.** 10 - 11 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Entertain children, teach them the importance of protecting our natural resources, introduce them to live entertainment in an informal kid friendly atmosphere, and forge a connection between kids and parks. Call 703-323-6601.

### SATURDAY/AUG. 9

**Children's Theater: Ice Queen.** 1 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center W-3 Theatre, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Our story unfolds as the sister of the mysterious Ice Queen and Charles (a Wise Man) is determined to find her true love. \$9-\$12. 703-584-2900.

**2nd Saturday Art Walk.** 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Guests can tour seven unique studio buildings, meet artists, buy art and experience, all while enjoying light refreshments and music. 703-584-2900.

**Dog Adoption.** 12-3 p.m. Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. 703-817-9444 or for more info or visit hart90.org

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. 703-293-6227.

**Genealogy Help Desk.** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumbers to the experts. 703-293-6227.

### SATURDAY/AUG. 9-SUNDAY/AUG. 10

**Used Book Sale.** 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Truro



**Visit Hadrian Mendoza's latest exhibit, "Sounds and Shapes," in which he explores the combination of materials animal (goat and cow) skin and handmade ceramic shells in creating drums. His work will be on display at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton until Aug. 31.**

Anglican Church, 105 Main St., Fairfax. www.truroanglican.com

### MONDAY/AUG. 11

**Library eBook Tech Help.** 11 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible devices with a library staff member. 703-293-6227.

### TUESDAY/AUG. 12

**Library eBook Tech Help.** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible devices with a library staff member. 703-293-6227.

**Reptiles Alive.** 2:30-3:15 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. See how these amazing animals cling, climb and chase in the wild. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/ under "Events." 703-293-6227.

### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 13

**Workhouse Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center Quad, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Stop by and get your fresh produce and more! 703-584-2900.

**"Death and Dying During the Civil War."** 7 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Patrick McGinty, retired Naval officer and local historian, will present a Civil War Forum on the rise of the embalming industry during the War and how families attempted to confirm deaths of their loved ones when there was no trace of a soldier. 703-425-9225.

**Genealogy Help Desk.** 7-8 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumbers to the experts. 703-293-6227.

### THURSDAY/AUG. 14

**Chairman Sharon Bulova's Evenings on the Ellipse Summer Concert Series.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center "Ellipse" (green lawn behind the building), 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. No matter what kind of music you like, bring your lawn chairs, blankets, families and dates. 703-324-7329.

**Toddler Time.** 10:30-11 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Library staff share with children a love for books, and parents learn to cultivate early literacy skills. Age 2-3 with adult. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/ under "Events." 703-293-6227.

**Afternoon Book Club.** 1-3 p.m.

Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Join our afternoon book club, make new friends and chat about this month's title: *Wench* by Dolen Perkins Valdez. 703-451-8055. Tuesday/Aug. 15-Thursday/Aug. 24

**Legally Blonde: The Musical.** 2:30 or 7:30 p.m. depending on the day. Metropolitan School of the Arts Theatre, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Metropolitan School of the Arts Theatre of Lorton will present their version of *Legally Blonde* directed by Danilo Stapulo and choreographed by Jonathon Faircloth. \$20. www.metropolitanarts.org.

### SATURDAY/AUG. 16

**Trivia Night Fun(d)raiser for Kids.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Good Shepherd Parish Hall, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Central Fairfax Optimist Club event. Tickets \$10; all proceeds benefit kids' programs. Doors open at 6; food & beverages available; prizes/raffles. 540-341-8203.

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. 703-293-6227.

**Tales to Tails.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Need practice reading? Read aloud to a friendly, trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/ under "Events." 703-293-6227.

**Dog Adoption.** 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax.

### MONDAY/AUG. 18

**Tales to Tails.** 4:30-5:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Need practice reading? Read aloud to a friendly, trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/ under "Events." 703-293-6227.

### TUESDAY/AUG. 19

**Library eBook Tech Help.** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible devices with a library staff member. 703-293-6227.

**Tales to Tails.** 4:30-5:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Need practice reading? Read aloud to a friendly, trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/ under "Events." 703-293-6227.

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PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Relaxing together outside Fairfax High's field house are (from left) Xuan Li, Yike Wang, Yu Ting Yang and Jiang Rong Lou.

## Chinese Students Visit Fairfax High

FROM PAGE 4

He especially liked seeing the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., and hopes to someday be "an IT worker like Bill Gates." Noting a similarity between Chinese and American teenagers, Zhang said, "We all like to play games and, sometimes, we're good at studying."

Besides Hufano and Bajwa, also among the visitors' tour guides at Fairfax High were seniors Savannah Steblein, Sophia Lam and Jason Lee, and they all enjoyed meeting the students from China. "I think they're so sweet," said Steblein. "They even gave us gifts; I got a book about Beijing. And it's so cool to hear about the differences between our schools. They said our school is so colorful, compared to theirs. Their schools are black and white, and one girl said the colors here made her happy."

"I got a good-luck charm, and that was so polite of them," said Lam. "They're really friendly."

**LEE WAS SURPRISED** to learn "how competitive they are against themselves. They have school rankings and were surprised with the scope of how much we help each other."

Steblein also noted that Chinese students "are not allowed to have romances – their teachers would break them up."

"School goes from 7 a.m. to 9 or 10 p.m. there, so they were surprised by how much free time we have here," said Lam. "We have time for extracurricular activities; they focus more on academics."

Calling the Chinese students' visit a "great experience," Lee said, "It really opened my eyes to how privileged we are and the amount of freedom we have."

Steblein said it made her realize "how nice we have it here. We all care about school, but they're more disciplined." Added



(From left) Chinese students Yu Yi and Ziyue Zhang enjoy their ice cream bars.

Lam: "It was definitely humbling."

"They take lots of pictures, and they were so excited about seeing us, and that was cool," said Steblein.

"I think we'd feel the same way if we visited them," said Lam.

After meeting and talking with some of the Chinese students, Steblein wants to visit China, herself. "I want to see it in person, now that they've told us about it," she said. "And I appreciate what we have in our schools a lot more." Lam said she, too, would love to visit their country, meet the people and experience their culture. "I'm really glad I participated," she said.

As for Lee, he was pleased to discover that, "Even though we approach education differently, we want the same things – success and friendships."

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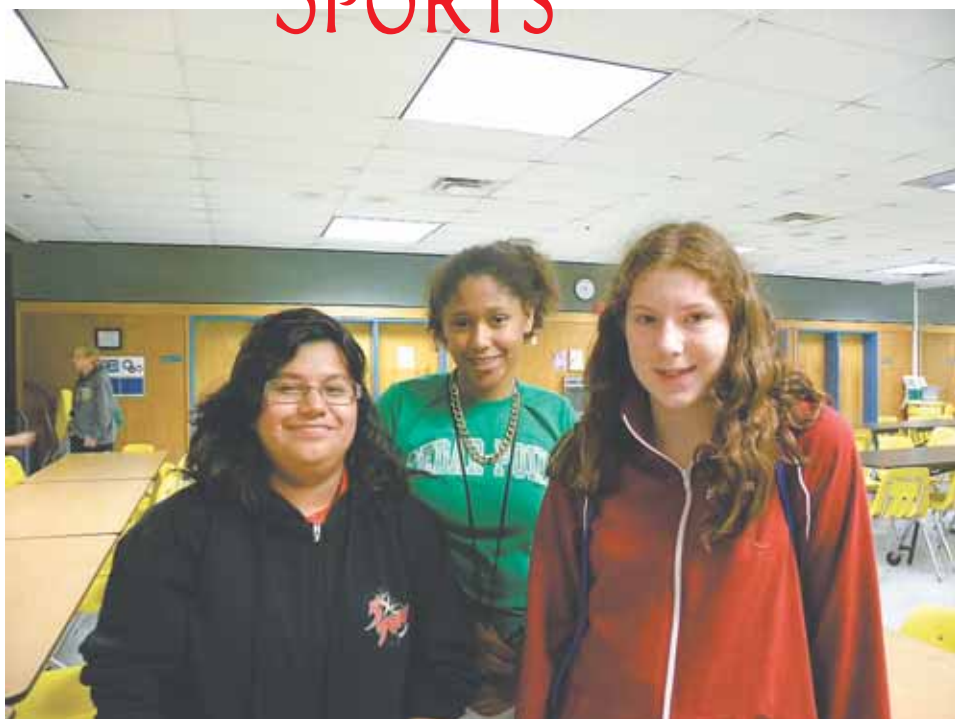
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# SPORTS



PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO/THE CONNECTION

From left — Robinson Secondary School eighth graders Isabel Tempalski, Cinthia Leonzo and Bailey Blake listen to GMU athletes recount their struggles and success in school and sports on Thursday, July 31.



From left — GMU student athletes Stephi Matsushima, Taylor Washington, Brian Colcombe, Anthony Williams, Corey Edwards, Julian Royal and Jalen Jenkins talk about the challenges they overcame in school and sports on Thursday, July 31 at Robinson Secondary School.

## George Mason Athletes Inspire Middle schoolers learn hard work, perseverance necessary for success.

BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO  
THE CONNECTION

Student athletes from George Mason University discussed their experience facing challenges in school and sports to students in the Summer Extending Learning Time (SELT) Program at Robinson Secondary School cafeteria in Fairfax on July 31.

Juniors Brice Colcombe (Soccer), Taylor Washington (soccer), Julian Royal (basketball), Jalen Jenkins (basketball), along with seniors Anthony Williams (track and field), Stephi Matsushima (volleyball), and Corey Edwards (basketball) shared their struggles in middle school and high school and the skills and techniques they used to overcome them.

Colcombe compared getting bad grades and behavior problems to doors that have closed, and when all doors are closing, only one way becomes available. “Don’t let this happen,” he said. He urged the audience to work hard and make good decisions to keep all opportunities open.

**“You shouldn’t let anyone look down on you because you’re smaller than them or you can’t do what they do.”**

— Corey Edwards, GMU basketball player

Williams told the middle schoolers that being the best at something they love to do can yield rewards, “If you’re good at something, even if it’s not at sport, even if it’s academics, you can



**Seventh grader Madison Riggs and GMU basketball player Julian Royal demonstrate their height difference at Robinson Secondary School on Thursday, July 31.**

get a scholarship” and get a free education, he said.

But nothing is a given, said basketball player Royal. “Being able to have your education paid for is not something that just comes by and is given away for free,” he said. “Everyone on this stage worked hard to get those scholarships.”

**SCHOLARSHIPS** are really competitive and getting straight As better the chances of obtaining them, said Williams.

For volleyball player Matsushima, who found math challenging in middle and high schools, her math teachers helped her get high marks in math, despite her difficulty



**Robinson Secondary School middle schoolers listen to GMU athletes recount their struggles and success in school and sports on Thursday, July 31.**

with it. “Even if you’re struggling or there’s something you don’t like, you can still be successful in it,” she said. She also advised the audience to remain well-rounded and be involved with many activities, as it is something recruiters value.

Washington, who plays left back, divulged his struggle with dyslexia, diagnosed during his freshman year of college. He also recounted nearly failing sixth grade, despite trying his best. With hard work, he slowly started succeeding. “It didn’t happen overnight,” he said.

His daily schedule accommodates his disability. He wakes up at 6 a.m. most mornings so he can have the extra time to study, while still being able to attend class and

soccer practice.

Unlike his basketball teammates, Jenkins and Royal, who are 6’8” and 6’9”, Edwards is below 6’ tall. “You shouldn’t let anyone look down on you because you’re smaller than them or you can’t do what they do,” said Edwards.

Because of his height disadvantage, he has to be faster and more aggressive in court than everybody else. “You should always strive for what you want. Don’t give up. Always try your best,” he said.

Rising Robinson Secondary School eighth grader Natalie Hirakawa learned that early efforts bring rewards later. “If you try a lot harder, you don’t have to try as hard later,” she said.

**THE GMU ATHLETES** gave seventh grader Madison Riggs something to look forward to. To get somewhere in life, “you have to work hard in school,” she said. She recently completed sixth grade at Bonnie Brae Elementary School.

For Cinthia Leonzo, she will use the advice she learned from the GMU athletes when tackles eighth grade math classes at Robinson Secondary School this year. She said she will “try to focus, work harder.”

Bailey Blake, a rising Robinson Secondary School eighth grader, learned that hard work and believing in one’s self are necessary to succeed in life.

Robinson Secondary School’s SELT Program ran from July 14 - Aug. 1 and focused on literacy and numeracy. One hundred and sixty-five rising seventh and eighth graders participated in the program upon the recommendation of their elementary and middle school reading and math teachers.

SELT Program prepares students for the upcoming school year and ensures that the students’ foundation in the chosen instructional focus is strong, said Ashley Faaborg, Robinson’s SELT Program director.



## WEEK IN FAIRFAX

### Chip Rome's Retirement Party

In Celebration of Chip Rome's 33 years as drama teacher and director at Robinson Secondary, the Robinson Drama Boosters are honoring him with a retirement party. It's this Saturday, Aug. 9, from 7-9 p.m., in the school theater. All those who know him are welcome. RSVP to Gretchen Laskas at gretchenmlaskas@aol.com.

### School Supplies, Backpacks Needed

Our Daily Bread's Collect for Kids Back to School Program is committed to providing school supplies, backpacks and calculators for 2,000 needy children attending schools feeding into the Fairfax High and JEB Stuart High School pyramids. This number is a mere fraction of the children who could really use help, but it would serve 500 more children than last year.

Right now, however, ODB is \$10,000 short of reaching its goal and urgently needs the community's help. Donations are needed by Friday, Aug. 8. Donate backpacks and calculators via Amazon or Dollar Days. Volunteers are also needed to sort supplies, Aug. 12-14. For more information, call Dawn Sykes at 703-273-8829.

### Hunger Task Force Created

Some 14 percent of the children living in the City of Fairfax go hungry at some point during the week. So at its July 22 work session, the Fairfax City Council approved establishing a task force to develop recommendations for creating a sustainable approach to addressing child hunger in the City.

"Organizations like FACETS and Our Daily Bread [ODB] are leaders in the nonprofit community helping families in need, but they cannot do it alone," said Councilman Jeff Greenfield. "We cannot solve hunger nationally unless we do it one community at a time."

He directed City staff to work with him during August to come up with guidance for putting together a comprehensive task force to deal with this issue. And he said its members should include the faith community, FACETS and ODB.

"We need to see what gaps are out there and what we can do about these shortcomings," said Greenfield.

"Then we can do everything possible to prevent children from going hungry in the City of Fairfax."



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From left — Kirk Holley, Zhida and Douglas James, Ellen Brouwer, Lauren Fyfe and Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne.

### Residents Honored for Their Homes' Yards

The City of Fairfax's Community Appearance Committee has honored three homes with Residential Appearance Awards. Committee Chairman Kirk Holley presented them to the winning homeowners at the July 22 City Council meeting.

The recipients were Douglas and Zhida James, Lauren Fyfe, and Dirk and Ellen Brouwer. According to the judges, the Brouwers' yard on Cedar Avenue is "well-

kept," with an "inviting" walkway leading to their stately house.

Fyfe's yard on Cornell Road was praised for its many native plants and "rustic, woodsy charm." And the James' Mosby Road home was recognized for the "splashes of colors across the property," plus the edge plantings by the woods.

— BONNIE HOBBS

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## NEWS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF 95 EXPRESS LANES

Drivers heading north on the 95 HOV lanes will need to follow this detour when traveling in the area during the next couple of weeks.

# Traffic Changes on I-95

## Left-turn lanes to close at Franconia-Springfield Parkway interchange.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE CONNECTION

On Aug. 8, or shortly around this date, all left turns from Franconia-Springfield Parkway and left turns to and from I-95 north and south will close to allow for widening of the ramps connecting the I-95 HOV Lanes and Franconia-Springfield Parkway.

The widening is to accommodate the Express Lanes, construction of which is more than 80 percent complete and is expected to be completed in late 2014. According to officials, the Express Lanes should open in early 2015.

The left turn lanes at Franconia-Springfield Parkway will be closed for about four weeks. Drivers will have to follow a detour and can expect delays up to five minutes during rush hours.

The construction includes adding storm water drainage, widening the ramps, add-

ing turn lands, installing express lanes signage and gates, and more.

Starting in early 2015 when the Express Lanes open, all drivers will be required to use an EZ-Pass to access the lanes. Even motorists driving alone, in a carpool, a slug, or in a vehicle with a clean fuel plate will be required to use an EZ-Pass. Those with three or more people in their vehicles can use an EZ-Pass Flex to ride toll-free.

Residents who plan on using Interstate 95 this summer should prepare for overnight and weekend HOV lane closures from Washington, D.C. to Dumfries as construction continues. The 29-mile project, a public-private partnership, runs from Stafford County near Garrisonville Road up to 395 near Edsall Road in Springfield.

"While the final phase of construction may be less visible to drivers than in the past, the 95 Express Lanes Corridor remains an active work zone, in which the safety of drivers and workers are our top priority," Susan Shaw, Megaprojects director for VDOT, said at a July press conference. "Now more than ever, it is important for the traveling public to use caution when traveling through our work zone. When you see the orange cones and barriers, slow down for your own safety and remember that there are people working on the other side."



Drivers heading south on the 95 HOV lanes will need to follow this detour when traveling in the area during the next couple of weeks.

## AREA ROUNDUPS

### Fairfax City Farmers Markets

Two farmers markets are open for the season in the City of Fairfax. They'll run through Nov. 1 at the corner of West and Main streets. The Downtown Fairfax Coalition Community Market is held Saturdays, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. The Sunday Farmers Market will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, call 703-642-0128.

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**Alexandria \$384,900**  
Super 60s split level on spacious lot inside the Beltway! Newly refinished hardwood floors, freshly painted, replacement windows. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths (1 new!) is being sold AS IS but in great condition. Great commute location!



**Carol L. Manning, Associate Broker**  
NVAR Multi-Million Dollar Club  
NVAR Top Producer  
703.517.1828  
or Contact Carol@LNF.com  
**Exceeding Your Expectations is my #1 Priority**  
**Ashburn \$715,000**  
Rare opportunity in the sought-after Windermere Community!!! This 5-BR, 4.5-BA Colonial is a show stopper with tons of upgrades. Features include a gorgeous, open gourmet kitchen with center island & breakfast bar, 7.1 surround sound custom theatre, surround sound speakers throughout, 5000+ sf on 3 finished levels with walk-out basement, electric car capable voltage in garage, and the list goes on...  
**Call for more details or to schedule a private showing.**

**Catie, Steve & Associates**  
Direct: 703-278-9313  
Cell: 703-362-2591  
NVAR Top Producers  
Multi-Million Dollar Sales Club



**Fairfax Middleridge \$629,000**  
Love That View! The beautiful sight of Woodglan Lake comes with this lovely colonial sited on a peaceful cul-de-sac lot backing to the lake! Other delights include an updated kitchen, 4 big bedrooms on the upper level, a main level family room, a baby grand sized living room, & a banquet sized dining room. Plus, an oversized screened-in porch, deck & a walkout basement come too! Open this Sunday, 1:00-4:00! Call Catie & Steve to see today!

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