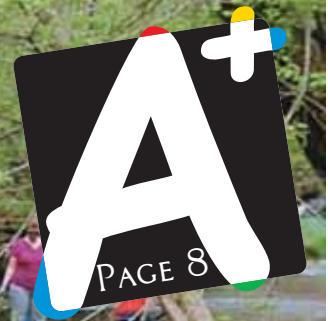


# Springfield CONNECTION

Franconia ♦ Kingstowne  
Newington



A volunteer from the Friends of Accotink Creek organization cleans up trash between the ditch-like eroded walls of Accotink Creek.

## Accotink Creek Analysis Underway

NEWS, PAGE 3

## Construction Nearly Done on the 95 Express Lanes

NEWS, PAGE 7

## Deer Archery Program Enters Sixth Season

NEWS, PAGE 4



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# New Analysis of Accotink Creek Underway

Department of Environmental Quality resumes project after EPA lawsuit.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen Meghan Walker paddles a canoe upstream from Lake Accotink looking for garbage, not much surprises her anymore.

"The sky's the limit for odd trash," she said. "A big find last time was a wheel and tire — still attached. That's impressive."

Walker lives in Danbury Forest, bordering Lake Accotink, and is president

of the volunteer organization Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP). The group's main focus is improving the lake, park grounds and surrounding trails through trash collection and beautification projects.

Their first water-based cleanup "Raiders of the Lost Trash" took place in July, and another is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 20. "I personally don't understand littering into waterways," said Walker. "I see it in my own neighborhood — trash off to the side in the woods. It does kind of boggle the mind."

Walker was also at the first public meeting to discuss water quality in Accotink Creek and Long Branch, held Sept. 10 at the Kings Park Library in Burke. Led by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the meeting marked the resuming of a 2007 project that was meant to determine stressors on the Accotink Creek Watershed.

**IN ITS BI-ANNUAL** water quality study prior to 2007, the DEQ had determined the Watershed to be "impaired" with regards to its ability to support aquatic life. The most basic, tiny organisms — Benthic Macroinvertebrates — weren't surviving. And because those bugs support



Members of the Friends of Lake Accotink Park canoed upstream of Lake Accotink in July to remove garbage that's difficult to reach on foot.



Friends of Accotink Creek volunteer member Damian Banaszak, of Annandale (left) helps pick up garbage during a group clean-up.

## Upcoming Creek Clean-up

❖ Friends of Lake Accotink Park: Saturday, Sept. 20, starting at 8:30 a.m. Meet at the lake marina and canoe upstream to gather garbage and see the park from a different perspective. Visit [www.facebook.com/friendsoflakeaccotinkpark](http://www.facebook.com/friendsoflakeaccotinkpark) to sign-up.

❖ Friends of Accotink Creek: Saturday, Sept. 27. 9-11 a.m. on Accotink Creek at Fullerton Road Bridge; 12-2 p.m. on Accotink Creek at Franconia-Springfield Parkway Bridge; 3-5 p.m. on Accotink Creek at Telegraph Road Bridge. Visit [www.accotink.org](http://www.accotink.org) for more information.

fish populations and help recycle nutrients, their health is a primary indicator of the health of the creek.

After doing an analysis of the causes — usually the presence of several pollutants — the standard practice for the DEQ and any partner organizations is to develop a TMDL, a Total Maximum Daily Load report. This concludes how much of each stressor,

or pollutant, a body of water can sustain while still meeting water quality standards.

The DEQ had initially been working with the EPA to put together the Accotink Creek TMDL. They planned to make a case for heavy stream flow, the kind that comes after a rainstorm, being the primary pollutant.

Indeed, according to Kris Unger, the Pri-

mary Conservator for another volunteer organization the Friends of Accotink Creek, within an hour of a heavy rainstorm, the creek rises dramatically and gushes with milky-orange sediment. Repeated episodes can erode the sides of the creek and leave sediment suspended in the water, making it difficult for the macroinvertebrates and other wildlife to survive.

On "stormwater walks," Unger shows people the steep walls of the creek. "It looks like a ditch," he said, "six feet high, with roots sticking out. People ask, 'How do they get the bulldozers in?'"

So targeting stormwater flow seemed like an intelligent approach. But the EPA took the lead in developing a flow-based TMDL.

"The idea that EPA had was good," said Bryant Thomas, the Regional Water Permits and Planning Manager with the regional DEQ office. "But the final product was fairly narrow, and really expensive to try to comply with."

The EPA's focus called for finding ways to reduce the flow of stormwater — no small task considering how water gushes, as planned, to sewers from sidewalks and streets all over the county. That plan discounted the validity of possible efforts to shore up Accotink Creek itself to help it cope with storm flow. Structural changes to satisfy the EPA were estimated to cost Virginia and Fairfax County roughly \$300 million. Then-Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli and the Board of Supervisors responded by suing the EPA for overstepping its bounds. In early 2013, a federal judge forced the EPA to back off, but that still left Accotink Creek without a functional TMDL for its impaired status.

**THAT BRINGS UP** the meeting last week, where the DEQ and members of a technical advisory committee discussed plans to create a new TMDL. In the first phase of this renewed project, the DEQ, together with Fairfax County, the United States Geological Survey and the EPA, will gather data and create a new list and analysis of creek stressors. Once that's approved, they anticipate developing a new TMDL by February 2016. That's Phase Two. But that report would still predate any concerted state and county action to relieve whatever they determine the specific stressors to be.

In the meantime, change at the community level can absolutely help the waterways. "It can't all be done by the county just spending money," said Rosemary Ryan, senior legal aide for Supervisor John Cook. "We've got to change how people think about the streams."

Ryan and organizations like FLAP, FAC and the newly formed Friends of Long Branch believe every little bit of knowledge and action helps, whether it's coming to a creek cleanup event, thinking twice about using fertilizers or avoiding washing your car in the driveway, where solvents will go straight to the stream.

"Find just one other person who cares" is FLAP's motto, "and hopefully they will find more people," added Unger.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGHAN WALKER

PHOTO COURTESY OF KRIS UNGER





PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

A high density of deer is seen as an ongoing threat to biodiversity and road safety throughout the Fairfax County.

## Deer Archery Program Enters Sixth Season

Continued overabundance brings bow-hunters back to parks.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

Even at 72, the animated Disney classic “Bambi” can still soften the hardest hearts when it comes to appreciating the innocence and natural beauty of deer. But the reality in Fairfax County is that an unnaturally high density of Bambis and mothers of Bambi is an ongoing threat to biodiversity and road safety.

To cope with that reality, Fairfax County Police manage a robust population control program: an archery-hunting season now in its sixth year.

There are simply too many deer in wooded areas around the county — throughout parks, private residences and roadways. Ongoing population density surveys conducted by the Park Authority offer data from aerial infrared imaging as well as vegetation monitoring.

And according to the police department’s Animal Wildlife Specialist Dr Katherine Edwards, the most recent surveys “still indicate an overabundance of deer in the parks.”

The effects of this overcrowding are multifold, with the most immediately dangerous being increased vehicle collisions.

Each year, the police estimate between 4,000 and 5,000 deer-vehicle strikes take place.

At the state level, Virginia ranked eighth in the country for collisions between 2007 and 2008.

It doesn’t help that the times of day deer are characteristically most active are morning and evening twilight — coinciding with northern Virginia rush hours.

Aside from the roadside threat, the overpopulation also increases potential human exposure to diseases carried by deer-riding pests such as Lyme disease. Then on an ecological level, deer crowding results in “overbrowsing”, or decimation of understory plant life that would otherwise offer food and shelter to other forest-dwelling animals, not to mention help regenerate the forest itself.

And many homeowners are familiar with the scourge of azaleas, daylilies and hostas.

In an attempt to put the deer population in check, the Board of Supervisors first approved archery as a preferred method in October 2000. It took several years for the program to fully develop, but by the end of fiscal year 2014 — the sixth year of the program’s current form — nearly 800 hunters were responsible for bringing in 848

## To the Point

❖ This deer-hunting seasons lasts from Sept. 6 until Feb. 21, 2015. But don’t expect things to pick up until the weather gets cooler: “As hot as it’s been, I doubt there’s been any hunters in the woods,” said Master Animal Control Officer Cook. “Around the beginning of October more hunters will be active.”

❖ Virginia hunting hours are Monday through Saturday, 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset. Most hunters follow deer off the beaten path, but if you encounter one, they should have identification: “Some people get a little bit shocked by the sight of the bow,” said Lake Accotink Park manager on duty Carlos Cruz, “but the flash of a badge brings them back to ease. Most people are pretty aware of it.”

❖ All archers must have applied for the program by July 6 2014, possess a valid

## Archery program quick hits

Virginia hunting license and have passed a proficiency and safety test.

❖ Archers work in groups and are assigned and limited to hunt only in specific sites. The complete list of program locations is online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/wildlife/archery/archery-program.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/wildlife/archery/archery-program.htm).

❖ Feeding deer is illegal between Sept. 1 and the first Saturday in January.

❖ The police encourage people to report deer damage they see in neighborhoods and parks, contacting the non-emergency number 703-691-2131 or program manager Sergeant Earit Powell at 703-324-0280.

❖ Some recommended deer-deterrent plant life include common boxwood, Colorado Blue Spruce, Red Osier Dogwoods and Scots Pine. Or a motion-activated sprinkler may also do the trick.

deer across 27 park sites.

And though not popular with “Bambi” lovers, controlled hunting is the only population control method approved by the state.

“It’s the toolbox we have now,” said Edwards.

The archery is safe to park patrons and bystanders — only five non-hunter injuries have occurred statewide in the last five decades — and despite the vegetation being slow to rebound, Edwards said the deer population is reducing.

By exactly how much is uncertain. And Edwards said her department is open to different methods that would be more ef-

fective, or as effective and more humane.

Such as the current study by White Buffalo Inc, which is operating under a special permit from the state to experiment with sterilizing deer rather than killing them.

“We hear both sides,” said Edwards. “It’s pretty balanced between the viewpoints. If there’s a new method, it gets a lot of attention — looking into these humane options in the future. That’s perfectly reasonable to question the methods we’re using and discuss the options.”

But for now, the police will continue to manage the archery program, because they believe it’s the best option at their disposal.

## FREE CAREGIVERS SEMINARS

Fairfax County is offering the following Free Caregiver Seminars in October:

❖ Understanding and Caring for a Person with Dementia. Saturday, Oct. 18, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 2812 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. For directions: 703-204-4664.

\*S cams and Financial Crimes Against Seniors. Tuesday, Oct. 21, 3:00-4:30

p.m. Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. For directions: 703-768-6700.

❖ Caregiving 101. Monday, Oct. 27, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. For directions: 703-339-4610.

❖ Six Questions to Consider About Paying for Long-Term Care – WEBINAR. Wednesday, Oct. 29, Noon-1:00 p.m. Register beforehand at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/caregiver.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/caregiver.htm).

❖ Carfit experts will be at the Vienna

Volunteer Fire Department parking lot to assist older adults in determining if your car fits you properly for maximum safety. Free program. Wed., October 8, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Call 703-255-6360 to register and for more information.

❖ Fairfax County’s free Chronic Disease Self-Management Program workshops are held Oct. 15-Nov. 19, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Register at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices) or call 703-324-5489, TTY 711.



## NEWS

# Democratic Women to Honor Foust

The reception will be held on Sept. 20 in Clifton.

The Democratic Women of Clifton and Northern Virginia (DWCNV) will host a reception in honor of John Foust, the Democratic Candidate for the Virginia 10th Congressional District on Saturday, Sept. 20. The event will take place at the Clifton home of Terry Matlaga and Kevin Bell from 5 to 7 p.m. Special guests include state Senators George Barker, Dave Marsden and Chap Petersen, Delegates David Bulova and Eileen Filler-Corn, Fairfax Board Chairman Sharon Bulova and Sheriff Stacey Kincaid.

Jane Barker, Chair of the DWCNV, said, "The last fundraiser that we held as an organization was back in 2005, the year the DWCNV began."

We feel so strongly that we need Supervisor John Foust to represent Democrats, Republicans, and In-



John Foust

dependents that we decided to host a fundraiser to help him win his election. His mainstream American values, thoughtful common sense approach, ability to work across party lines, effectiveness, and leadership are sorely needed in a too partisan Congress."

General Admission tickets are \$35; Young Dems (under 30) and Seniors (80 and over) are \$25. Event sponsorships are available. For sponsorship and other information, write to

dwcevents@aol.com or call 703-606-2937 or 703-830-1355. You may purchase tickets in advance at <https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/jfseptember20> or by sending a check to DWCNV, P.O. Box 143, Clifton, VA 20124. Checks should be made out to John Foust for Congress.

The Democratic Women of Clifton and Northern Virginia (DWCNV) are dedicated to providing a friendly forum in which Democratic women educate themselves, discuss important issues of the day, and work together to help elect Democrats to local, state, and national offices. The DWCNV strives to build political awareness among members of our community, influence public policy, promote participation in political processes, and encourage connections between regional leaders and the local community.

All Democratic women in Northern Virginia are invited to become members. Meetings are held on Sundays from 3 - 5 p.m. in the Clifton Community Hall. For more information, email [cliftonwomendems@aol.com](mailto:cliftonwomendems@aol.com) or visit the DWCNV website at [www.democraticwomenofclifton.org](http://www.democraticwomenofclifton.org)

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# OPINION

## Protecting Those Threatened by Domestic Violence

### September marks 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Violence Against Women Act.

BY GERRY CONNOLLY  
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (D-II)

This month marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) – landmark legislation in which our nation committed new prevention and response resources so that our mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends would no longer have to suffer in silence through domestic abuse.

Though meaningful progress has been realized, domestic violence continues to be a real and troubling challenge in our communities. Far too many of us have been touched by domestic violence in one way or another. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, an estimated 1.3 million women are victims each year, and one in every four women will experience such violence

in their lifetime.

Just last year, Turning Points, the only domestic violence intervention program in Prince William County, served 6,000 clients. In Fairfax County there were more than 8,000 incidents reported, and we have seen a 40 percent increase in homelessness due to domestic violence.

This is why I was so disappointed when the House Republican majority blocked a bipartisan modernization of VAWA for 18 months before relenting last year. The Senate passed the bill in a strong and bipartisan 78-22 vote, but some House Republicans objected because they did not want to extend protections to Native Americans, LGBT Americans, and immigrants. Thankfully, House leadership finally put aside this obstructionism and ultimately allowed the House to pass the improved VAWA bill, which I and an overwhelming number of Democrats supported.

Thanks to VAWA, we have strengthened and expanded critical protections for all victims of domestic violence and enhanced our nation's criminal justice response. Specifically, VAWA has instituted stricter sentencing guidelines for repeat federal sex crime offenders and pro-

vided resources to tribal, local, and state law enforcement communities to address violent crimes against women. In addition, VAWA funds specialized training for 500,000 law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, and other personnel every year. The National Domestic Violence Hotline, which responds to more than 22,000 urgent calls for help every month, also was created under VAWA.

The updated VAWA is renewing our successful partnerships with local nonprofits and law enforcement agencies. It is improving protections for underserved communities, particularly immigrants and victims of human trafficking. And of particular importance for helping victims through the recovery process, the new bill is expanding housing assistance and providing support regardless of sexual orientation.

Sadly, recent events in the news demonstrate that although we have made great progress, as a community we must remain vigilant in protecting those threatened by domestic violence. Please know that I will continue to push Congress to maintain and expand the investments needed to support these critical programs in our community and continue to be a voice of support to those who might otherwise not speak up for themselves.

COMMENTARY

COMMENTARY

## School Board Ready to Tackle Fiscal Challenges

BY TAMARA DERENAK KAUFAX  
CHAIRMAN, FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the chairman of Fairfax County School Board for the 2014-15 school year. My colleagues on the board and I – working closely with our superintendent, Dr. Karen Garza – have an ambitious agenda for the year ahead. Our top priority remains adequate funding for our schools at both the state and county levels. State support for education remains at unacceptable levels and we will continue to work with our county Board of Supervisors to provide our schools with an adequate level of financial support when the state fails to do its job. As a consensus builder, I will continue to urge the School Board to work in partnership with the Board of Supervisors to find solutions to our budget dilemma.

We have already taken steps to build a stronger relationship with the Board of Supervisors. This past year, Dr. Garza provided a new level of transparency in the budget process by meeting with the Board of Supervisors and other community leaders, conducting listening tours in each of the magisterial districts, and developing the Citizens Guide to Understanding the Budget, all of which were well received by the supervisors and the community. Our boards have already met jointly in September to outline our fiscal forecasts. In addition, we have established the Joint Budget Development Committee composed of three supervisors and three School Board members. The committee will review budget factors impacting Fiscal Year 2016 and provide guidance to both boards. The committee will deliver a report to both boards

before the County Executive presents his Advertised Budget and before the superintendent presents her Proposed Budget in early 2015. Last year, the county and School Board created the joint Infrastructure Financing Committee to review the facilities needs of both FCPS and the county. The committee report released earlier this year resulted in an additional \$13 million that will be invested each year beginning in FY 2016 for school infrastructure upgrades. I will continue to encourage this kind of collaboration to build trust and realistic expectations for the supervisors, the school board, and the community.

In the next few weeks we plan to make a final decision regarding school start times for the 2015-16 school year. Superintendent Garza made her recommendation to the board at a meeting in early September. We will provide the community with sufficient time to comment on the proposal before we take final action at our Oct. 23 meeting. As you may recall, the School Board adopted a resolution in April 2012 with the stated goal to start high schools after 8 a.m. The board subsequently hired Children's National Medical Center to serve as consultants to develop a plan to achieve that goal. CNMC developed four options. Those options were taken to the community in a series of eight public meetings held in May and June. After analyzing the feedback from parents and the community, CNMC made their recommendation and, based on school board direction, Option 3 is the framework being used to develop a final recommendation for school board consideration. I invite you to learn more at [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu).

Other new initiatives include the FCPS Por-

trait of a Graduate, which will serve as a foundation on which to build a long-range strategic plan for FCPS. Once a strategic plan is in place with a direct and clear vision for our schools, our work will be very focused and the outcome will be improved student achievement for every student.

We have had great success with our launch of full day Mondays for our elementary students. The community is very supportive of the change which will increase instructional time for students and dedicated planning time for teachers. Beginning this school year, we also have a new standard school calendar in place that eliminates the need to make up inclement weather days at the end of the school year, if fewer than 13 days are missed.

The Bailey's Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences opened Sept. 2 with a community ribbon-cutting celebration scheduled for Oct. 15. This new school was converted from a five-story office building on Leesburg Pike and will solve the overcrowding problems that have plagued Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. Under the leadership of one principal, the new campus houses grades 3-5 while the existing campus remains home to preschoolers through second graders.

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for students, parents and teachers. As chairman, I pledge to maintain and build upon the excellence for which our schools are known. Working with our state elected officials, supervisors, superintendent and other stakeholders, I am confident that we can solve our most pressing problems while continuing to offer a world-class education for our families. Have a safe and productive school year.

Springfield  
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# Construction Nearly Done on the 95 Express Lanes

The construction on the 95 Express Lanes is 90 percent complete and on schedule to open in early January 2015. While the project is in its final months of construction, motorists should still expect lane closures and periodic stoppages on I-95/395 for sign erection and utility work associated with the express lanes project.

Motorists traveling in the 29-mile corridor between Duke Street (Route 236) and Garrisonville Road (Route 610) can expect to see crews paving, placing guardrails, grading and seeding, and ITS (fiber optic technology for operations) work in preparation for the lanes opening in early 2015. In late fall, there will be test vehicles riding on the new lanes, testing the gantries and E-ZPass detectors

in various places.

Now is the time for motorists to make a plan to use the 95 Express Lanes. All vehicles, except motorcycles and registered buses need an E-ZPass or an E-ZPass Flex to use the express lanes.

E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex can be obtained at most Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) locations, selected Giant Foods or Wegmans, online, and AAA stores. For a complete listing and additional E-ZPass info, go to 95ExpressLanes.com. When the 95 Express Lanes open, hybrid drivers will no longer be able to access the HOV lanes for free, they will be required to pay a toll or have three people in the car.

For more information on the E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex, visit <https://www.ezpassva.com/Default.aspx>

**Looking north on the new ramp to the Fort Belvoir North Area, the flyover bridge will be linked to the existing HOV ramp to allow commuters from the NGA building to access the southbound 95 Express Lanes in the afternoon, as well as the northbound I-95 general purpose lanes. This ramp will be open when the 95 Express Lanes open in early 2015.**



PHOTO BY TREVOR WRANTON/VDOT

## Suicidal Man Stable After Officer-Involved Shooting

Barely a week after the family lawyer for John Geer — a Springfield man who was shot and killed by Fairfax County police last year — filed a \$12 million wrongful death lawsuit against three officers and Chief Edwin Roessler, another officer-involved shooting has taken place.

This latest incident occurred last week, when officers responded to the report of an “armed, suicidal man in his 60s” at the 7000 block of Old Keene Mill Road — Springfield United Methodist Church.

Police evacuated the church and locked down nearby Garfield Elementary School, and summoned SWAT officers as well as trained negotiators. Before those specialists could arrive, however, the first responders “encountered” the man, which led to the officer-involved shooting. The unnamed man was taken to an unnamed local hospital, where police said he was in “serious but stable condition.”

As of this writing, Fairfax County Police spokesperson Lucy Caldwell said there have been no updates to the situation, and the department isn’t releasing any more information about the suicidal man or the officer who was involved in the shooting.

— TIM PETERSON

### 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.

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

##### Take Control of Your Blood

**Sugar.** 3 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. This program will teach you how to manage your blood sugar, make healthy dietary changes to help lose weight, feel more energized, and head off diabetes. Adults.

#### TUESDAY/SEPT. 23

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

**Morning English Conversation Group.** 10:30 a.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Practice your English conversation skills. Adults.

**English Conversation Group.** 5:15 p.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Practice your English conversation skills. Adults.

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Practice speaking English with others and improve your skills. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax.

#### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

**New Voting Equipment.** 1 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Staff from the Fairfax County Office of Elections will provide an opportunity to see and try out the brand new voting machines and equipment that will be used in the upcoming elections. Drop in anytime between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 25

**Homework Help.** 6 p.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Drop-in homework help for students up to 8th grade.

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 26

**English Conversation Group.** 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice your English conversation skills.

**Basic Computer Skills Training.** 1 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn basic computer skills one-on-one. Adults.

GSA

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FBI Headquarters Consolidation

#### Public Scoping Meetings

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED FBI HEADQUARTERS CONSOLIDATION AND EXCHANGE OF THE J. EDGAR HOOVER BUILDING

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), will be preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the potential impacts resulting from the acquisition of a consolidated FBI Headquarters (HQ) at a new permanent location; and exchange of the J. Edgar Hoover (JEH) Building parcel. GSA proposes to consolidate components of FBI HQ into an up to 2.1 million rentable square foot facility in order to provide more efficient and secure office space that meets or exceeds the government’s requirements.

GSA will analyze a range of alternatives including the no action alternative for the proposed HQ Consolidation. As part of the EIS, GSA will study the impacts of each alternative on the natural, cultural, and social environment. GSA will be consulting under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f and intends to partially fulfill the Section 106 public notification and consultation requirements through the NEPA scoping process.

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS:** Several open-house style public scoping meetings will be held on the following dates:

**Springfield Site:** Monday, September 22, 2014, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at Robert E. Lee High School, Main Lobby (Entrance #1) located at 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield, VA 22150

**Greenbelt Site:** Tuesday, September 23, 2014, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at Greenbelt Branch Library, Auditorium (1st Floor) located at 11 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

**JEH:** Wednesday, October 1, 2014, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the District Architecture Center, Hickok Cole Room located at 421 7th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20004

**Landover Site:** Thursday, October 2, 2014, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Prince George’s Sports and Learning Complex, Town Hall located at 8001 Sheriff Road, Landover, MD 20785

The meetings will be informal open houses where visitors may receive information on the project and provide comments.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS:** Agencies and the public are encouraged to provide written comments on the scoping issues in addition to or in lieu of giving their comments at the public scoping meetings. Written comments regarding the environmental impact statement for the FBI HQ Consolidation must be postmarked or received no later than October 23, 2014 and sent to the following address:

U.S. General Services Administration, National Capital Region

Attention: Ms. Nia Francis, Project Manager

301 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room 4004

Washington, DC 20407

Email: [fbi-hq-consolidation@gsa.gov](mailto:fbi-hq-consolidation@gsa.gov) using the subject line: NEPA Scoping Comment.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nia Francis, Project Manager, General Services Administration, National Capital Region, at 202-205-1937. Please also call this number if special assistance is needed to attend and participate in the scoping meetings. Information regarding this project may also be found at [www.gsa.gov/fbihqconsolidation](http://www.gsa.gov/fbihqconsolidation).



# A Different Path to a 4-year Degree

**NOVA's Guaranteed Admissions Program gives students opportunities to attend their dream schools.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Noor Naveed immigrated to the United States from Pakistan with her family shortly after the 9/11 attacks. The family settled in Northern Virginia and, years later, Naveed graduated from Hayfield Secondary School in Alexandria. She dreams of becoming the first person in her family to graduate from college.

"My mother was forced to drop out of junior high and at 32 got her GED. I just knew that there wasn't anyone in my immediate family who had graduated from college and was determined to be the first person," said Naveed. "I knew I wanted to [go to] George Mason because I didn't want loans and I knew I could pay for George Mason out of pocket."

Naveed used Northern Virginia Community College's Guaranteed Admissions Program to complete her associate of arts degree and is now finishing a bachelor's de-

gree in criminology, law and society at George Mason University in Fairfax.

"Counselors were great at telling me what classes I should take so they would transfer," she said. "Almost all of my classes transferred."

NOVA's admissions agreements guarantee current and future NOVA students who earn associate degrees admission to more than 40 four-year colleges and universities.

Students do have to meet certain academic requirements, such as earning a minimum grade point average, in order to be accepted into their chosen four-year colleges.

"It's very beneficial to the students because before these agreements, there weren't any perimeters as to what it takes to be admitted to universities," said Julia Brown, coordinator for transfer policy at Northern Virginia Community College. "As long as you have a certain GPA, the guaranteed admission agreement takes all of the guess work out of whether you will qualify. It is a huge relief. ... Students don't want to waste money or time by taking a class that isn't needed."

NOVA officials say that popular majors include engineering, nursing, computer science and general studies.

For example, a student can earn an associate degree in engineering from NOVA then transfer to Virginia Tech's College of Engineering or the University of Virginia's School of Engineering and Applied Science. A student who might be unsure of the major he plans to pursue can earn a general studies degree and then transfer to George Mason University.

George Mason University, University of Virginia and Virginia Tech are the top transfer schools for NOVA graduates.

"The [Guaranteed Admission Agreement] program allowed me to complete my associate's degree close to home. The GAA gave me the opportunity to transfer to my dream school, James Madison University, with ease and with no debt," said Amy Zuaso, a first year advising specialist at NOVA. "At NOVA, I met with a JMU transfer representative that informed me about a full ride scholarship program, The Centennial Scholars Program, that I applied for and was awarded. Starting at NOVA first and using the GAA helped me graduate from a four-year school and to be the first person in my family to graduate from college."

Zuaso is now completing an online

Master's Degree in counseling at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

**THE PROGRAM WAS CREATED** after the release of a workforce trends report prepared by George Mason University's Center for Regional Analysis showed professional, scientific, technical and health care fields as the key sources of new net job growth in Northern Virginia from 2010 to 2020.

"The GAA is designed to offer students a seamless transfer process," said Darren Troxler, associate dean of admissions and chief transfer officer at George Mason University. "Students who meet all of the requirements for GAA admission are not only guaranteed transfer admission to Mason, but are considered juniors for class standing, registration and financial aid purposes, and are considered to have completed the Mason Core, our lower-level general education requirement."

Troxler says another advantage to GAA enrollment is the significant cost savings for students and parents. "There is a \$271.00 per credit hour differential in tuition rates between Mason and NOVA for Virginia residents," he said. "Students will realize a significantly lower debt burden by taking advantage of the Virginia Community College System."

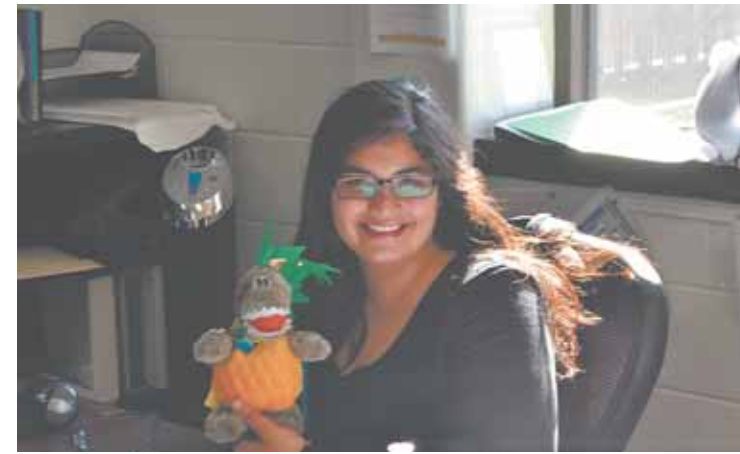


PHOTO COURTESY OF NOOR NAVEED

**Noor Naveed hopes to become the first person in her family to graduate from college. After graduating from NOVA, she transferred to George Mason University.**

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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## Portrait of a Graduate Discussed

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

The heart of the school system's new strategic plan is closer to being approved.

The Fairfax County School Board discussed the five component Portrait of a Graduate - with some asking for a component emphasizing a caring quality - at Monday's work session.

"We haven't truly captured what we're trying to say with 'goal-directed,'" said Mason District board member Sandy Evans.

She and a handful of other board members felt the last component, "Goal-directed and resilient" came across as cut-throat. She said the word "caring" needed to be in the heading of the component because character ethics is a priority.

**THE FIVE COMPONENTS** for the Portrait of a Graduate that was created for approval are Communicator, Collaborator, Global Citizen, Creative and Critical Thinker in addition to Goal-Directed and Resilient Individual.



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

**Braddock District school board member Megan McLaughlin asks for "caring" to be a key component for the school district's Portrait of a Graduate.**

"You can be all of these things and be a horrible human being," said Braddock District board member Megan McLaughlin.

She said her reason for needing the heading's name change stemmed from her social work background.

"It's one of the most important things we can do, create a young person who cares," she said.

Hunter Mill District board member Pat Hynes agreed that the name

sounded "pushy."

"It's really all about ambition - that's what it comes across as sounding," she said.

Portrait of a Graduate was announced by Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza last October during an education summit. Since then, stakeholders have sent in a flurry of comments on what the final product should look like.

"We've had hundreds and hundreds of people submit feedback to

the committee," she said. "It resonates with a lot of people."

Even retired teachers, she said, have supported the measure.

FCPS Chief of Staff Marty Smith showed a video about the importance of the five components for a students and what type of student they want graduating from the school system.

"This is what we call the heart of the strategic plan," he said.

Smith said that Portrait looks at skills even the youngest students might need when they graduate. In addition, he said that everyone, including himself, could identify with the qualities they need to be good at school, their job and their life.

"It's not changing the 'what,'" said Garza. "It's changing the 'how.'"

She said she wants to honor the committee's work by keeping most of the wording, but there could be some room to put the word "caring" into the last component's heading.

Several other board members felt that changing the wording was not necessary.

"We're at the Queen Elsa mo-

ment where we need to just let it go," said at large board member Ryan McElveen.

Springfield District board member Elizabeth Schultz felt that the words "goal-directed" were being misconstrued. While other members felt that it was pressuring students to become world leaders, Schultz said goals are different from person to person depending on their situation, whether that means having a 4.9 Grade Point Average or dressing themselves.

"Having goals isn't a bad thing," she said. "Being resilient isn't a bad thing."

**BOARD CHAIRMAN** Tamara Derenak Kaufax encouraged those unhappy with the name to submit amendments by the end of the week. The board is scheduled to vote on the proposal at the next School Board meeting Sept. 18.

The components for Portrait of a Graduate can be found at [http://www.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/9NNHV4A210A/\\$file/POG%20Chart%20FINAL.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/9NNHV4A210A/$file/POG%20Chart%20FINAL.pdf).



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## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18–SUNDAY/OCT. 5

### “You’re Such An Animal.”

Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Gloria Benedetto shares her tribute to the animals she loves. Using several techniques of stippling or painting with inks, pastels, acrylics or watercolor, the suite of work demonstrates the variety of animal portraiture that can be achieved through different mediums and styles.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18-SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Fall Book Sale.** 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Burke Center Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Peruse and shop a selection of gently used books for sale by The Friends of The Burke Centre Library. All ages.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

**16th Annual Fall for the Book Festival.** George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A week-long, multiple-venue, regional festival that brings together people of all ages and interests. Visit [www.fallforthebook.org](http://www.fallforthebook.org).

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 19-SUNDAY/OCT. 19

### Earth and Fire Ceramics

**Exhibition.** Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, 22079 Lorton. An exhibition featuring the works of 35 leading ceramic artists from the nine nations: Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and Myanmar. <http://workhousearts.org>

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 19- SUNDAY/OCT. 12

### Edgar Allan Poe’s Nevermore.

Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Rd, Lorton. Take a musical journey into the heart and soul of Edgar Allan Poe, America's first truly visionary poet. Lyrics are adapted from Poe's writings. Admissions: \$15. [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org). 703-584-2900.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 19

### The Henkel Physicians: A Family’s

**Life in Letters.** Foley Forum, Northern Virginia Community College, Medical Education Campus, 6699 Springfield Center Drive, Springfield. The exhibit documents the daily lives of a family of physicians in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley during the 19th century, serving in their community, on the battlefield and in the nation's courts of law. 703-822-6684.

### Garden Talks with Master

**Gardeners: Great Grub to Grow in the Fall.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Master Gardeners introduce you to the basics of growing and harvesting cool-season vegetables. \$10. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 486 0001 or call 703-642-5173.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Fairfax Symphony Orchestra presents Brahams, Grieg and Glinka by Alexander Schimpf.** 7 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Come listen to a lecture and evening of classical music at the University Center.



**Gloria Benedetto shares her tribute to the animals she loves by using several techniques of stippling or painting with inks, pastels, acrylics and watercolor. View her exhibit, “You’re Such An Animal,” at the Workhouse Arts Center until Oct. 5.**

### Friends of the Burke Centre

**Library Used Book Sale.** 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Buy gently used books to benefit the library. 703-249-1520.

### Milkweed Safari - Monarchs and

**More.** 9:30-10:30 a.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Naturalist Alonso Abugattas will show you these plant/animal/insect relationships and explain why you should plant some of these natives in your own yard. \$15. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 487 5801 or call 703-642-5173.

### Garden Sprouts: Sunflowers &

**Scarecrows.** 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Keep your eyes open for giant flowers and straw men as you comb Green Spring on our autumn scavenger hunt. Ages 3-5 with adult. \$6. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 402 7001 or call 703-642-5173.

### Peonies-a-Plenty Workshops.

10:30 a.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. At 10:30, learn how to divide herbaceous peonies into more plants and take a division home for your garden. At 1 p.m., practice grafting a tree peony and bring your tree peony home. \$30-\$60. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 401 2801 or call 703-642-5173.

### Family Fun: Autumn Cider Activity

**Walk.** 1-2:30 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Follow the clues through our gardens for an activity-based, autumn scavenger hunt. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 401 2801 or call 703-642-5173.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Azalea Public Sale and

**Auction.** Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. Many varieties of rare and unusual azaleas will be available for sale/auction. The sale will run from 1-4:30 p.m. The silent auction runs from 1-2 p.m. and the live auction runs from 2:30-4:30 p.m. For more information, contact Carolyn Beck 703-860-5676 or visit [www.nv-asa.org](http://www.nv-asa.org).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

### Sunset Cruise.

7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Soak up the sunset and relax as you cruise the beautiful shoreline of Lake Accotink. Sit back and listen while your tourboat guide shares interesting facts about the history of the park, the lake and the surrounding area. \$6 per person. Reservations and advance payment required. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/events.htm>

### The Social Ladder.

1-3 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Learn how the English knew their place on the social ladder in the Old World and the New, then enjoy tea. \$29. Reservations at 703-941-7987.

### Patrick Lundy and the Ministers of

**Music.** 4 p.m. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 6509 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. A thrilling, moving, and uplifting program of gospel music. They have performed at the Kennedy Center and at the historic Howard Theatre.

### Dog Adoption.

12-4 p.m. Petco, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax.

### Virginia Opera Children’s

**Program - The Empress and the Nightingale.** 2 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. The Empress and the Nightingale is an adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's classic children's story of a small bird sharing her gift of song with the ruler of China in ancient times. With a cast of three performing original music, this opera vividly teaches the value of music performed live versus machine-made art.

## MONDAY/SEPT. 22

### Let’s Grow Garden Club.

2-3:30 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Kids discover their green thumbs in our three-session fall gardening club. Sept. 22, Oct. 6 and Oct. 20. \$37 for all 3 sessions. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 401 5501 or call 703-642-5173.

**Library Tech Help.** 11 a.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Get your library-related



**View artwork by Javier Padilla and more at Epicure Café’s latest exhibition, Wake Up Call, a new collection of contemporary artwork by local artists on display through Oct. 4.**

electronic resource questions answered. includes help with eBooks and compatible devices. Bring your library card, eBook reader and laptop.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 23

### Treasured Threes to Fives.

10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Join us for stories and songs. Age 3-5 with adult.

### Tai Chi.

10 a.m. Burke Center Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Join this series of Tai Chi classes coached by Dante Gilmer. Register for one or more of the six sessions. Adults and older adults.

### Short Book Conversations.

1:30 p.m. Burke Center Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Join our lively discussion of We Have Always Lived in the Castle by Shirley Jackson. Adults and older adults.

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

**Time for Twos.** 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Join us for a story time focusing on early literacy skills just for twos. Age 2 with adult.

### Wheels on the School Bus.

11 a.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Stories and activities about shapes. Age 3-5 with adult.

### Terrific Twos and Threes.

10:30 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Storytime with a focus on early literacy skills. Age 2-3 with adult.

### Ebook Clinic.

12 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible e-book readers with our one-on-one technology volunteer. Registration required. Adults.

### My Gym-Babies.

10:30 a.m. Burke Center Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Develop your child's large motor skills with physical exercise designed for babies. Age 12-23 months with adult.

### My Gym-Toddlers.

11:30 a.m. Burke Center Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Develop your child's large motor skills with physical exercise designed for toddlers. Age 2 years with adult.

**Bilingual Storytime.** 4 p.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street,

Fairfax. Bilingual Storytime in English and Spanish. Build your child's early literacy skills while enjoying stories, songs and activities. Age 3-5 with adult.

### Genealogy Help Desk.

7 p.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumpers to the experts.

Accomplished genealogists and library staff will be on hand to assist you. Ask at the Virginia Room desk or call 703-293-6227.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 25

### Preschool Storytime.

10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Build your child's early literacy skills while enjoying stories, songs and activities. Ages 3-5 with adult.

### Tales to Tails.

4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Need practice reading. Read aloud to a friendly, trained therapy dog. Ages 6-12.

### Library Tech Help.

6 p.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Get your library-related electronic resource questions answered. includes help with eBooks and compatible devices.

### Magazines with Zino.

7 p.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's Zino digital magazine collection where you can read (and keep) digital editions of your favorite magazines.

### My Gym-School Age.

4 p.m. Burke Center Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Develop your child's large motor skills, learn basic gymnastics and have fun! Presented by a local My Gym instructor. Ages 6-12.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 26

### Rock the Block! #TGIFairfax.

6-9 p.m. Old Town Fairfax, University Drive between North and Main Street, Fairfax. Come celebrate the summer concert series and block party in the heart of Fairfax with music by LEGGZ. 703-385-7858.

### Garden Talks with Master

#### Gardeners: Easy to Grow

**Shrubs.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Master Gardeners introduce you to some easy care shrubs that add to your landscape. \$10. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 484 5401 or call 703-642-5173.

### S.T.E.M. Storytime.

10:30 a.m. Burke Center Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Each month we will focus on one of the STEM subjects with stories, songs, and activities for preschoolers. Age 4-5 with adult.

### Genealogy Help Desk.

2 p.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumpers to the experts.

Accomplished genealogists and library staff will be on hand to assist you. Ask at the Virginia Room desk or call 703-293-6227. Teens and Adults.

### Taste of the Vine Annual

**Fundraiser.** 6:30-9:30 p.m. Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway Fairfax, Virginia. This year's featured winery is Naked Mountain Vineyards. Hors d'oeuvres will be provided by Le Mediterranean Bistro, Al-Maza, Curry Mantra, Cameron's Coffee and Chocolates and Shirley's Catering.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

### Master Gardeners – Plant Clinic.

10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Masters Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension will host plant clinics each Saturday morning through the summer to answer your gardening questions. Adults.





PHOTOS BY TERRANCE MORAN/THE CONNECTION

Legacy Brass Quintet by The Wine House.

## Music and Food Under the Stars at Fairfax Old Town

**T**he City of Fairfax Old Town and Fairfax Parks and Recreation Department hosted an evening under the stars with music by the Legacy Brass Quintet on Friday Sept. 12.

Terry Bradley of Fairfax, a retired Army officer, led the Legacy Brass Quintet's performance at the Plaza Friday evening. Playing with Terry Bradley were his two sons, Christopher on trombone and Daniel on tuba. Also playing were Alan Cole on French horn, Scott Firestone on trumpet and John Phillip Schmidt on drums. All are members of the City of Fairfax Band Association ([www.fairfaxband.org](http://www.fairfaxband.org)). Bradley has been playing music since he was 10 years old.

The City of Fairfax Old Town Plaza was filled with couples and children enjoying the beautiful weather while eating outside at the restaurants located at the Old Town Plaza. Children danced as the band played a number of hits.

In attendance were John and Kathy Flahive of Fairfax. John Flahive is the President and CEO of the City of Fairfax Band Association. According to him, the City of Fairfax Parks and Recreation Department sponsors the plaza concerts and the City of Fairfax Band Association sends four or five ensembles to play during the summer to help bring people together at various City of Fairfax events. This year the City of Fairfax Band will be celebrating its 45th anniversary.



Legacy Brass Quintet playing in Fairfax Old Town Center.

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Robinson running back Marcus Denham dives into the end zone for a second-quarter touchdown against Lake Braddock on Sept. 12.



Robinson sophomore Roman Lowery carries the ball during the Rams' 19-17 win over Lake Braddock on Friday.

## Robinson Football Improves to 3-0 with Win Over Rival Lake Braddock

### Rams build 19-0 lead, hold on to beat "contender."

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**F**irst-year Robinson football coach Scott Vossler had a message for the Rams entering Friday's rivalry contest against Lake Braddock: It's time to beat an upper-echelon opponent.

Vossler, Robinson's fourth head coach in five seasons, has his sights set on returning the once-powerful Rams to prominence, and that includes knocking off the region's elite. Robinson started the year with victories against Lee and Woodson, programs which combined for a 5-16 record in 2013. The Rams won eight games and reached the second round of the playoffs last season when Vossler was the team's defensive coordinator, but Robinson went a combined 0-4 against Lake Braddock (12-1, reached the region final four), Westfield (region runner-up) and Centreville (state champion).

"We challenged them the other day about beating a contender," Vossler said. "The seniors really hadn't done it yet. I've been here for three, four years and every time we played one of the powerhouses, we've lost."

**FRIDAY'S GAME** started as a matchup of 2-0 teams. It ended with Vossler motioning from the sideline for Robinson fans to increase the decibel level of their celebration.

Robinson defeated Lake Braddock 19-17 on Sept. 12 at Lake Braddock Secondary School in Burke. The Rams built a 19-0 lead with a bruising running game and strong defense before surviving a late Bruin rally.

Trailing 19-11, Lake Braddock quarterback Kyle Edwards threw to a wide-open Evan Eschenburg for a 21-yard touchdown with 1:08 remaining in the fourth quarter. The Bruins' two-point conversion attempt failed, and Robinson recovered the ensuing onside kick attempt to secure the victory.

"We've got kids that haven't won big in a while and they want it real bad," Vossler said. "... We had an opportunity here and we went at it with everything we had."



Multiple Robinson defenders wrap up Lake Braddock running back Dejoun Lee on Friday.

It was Robinson's first victory over Lake Braddock since 2011.

The Ram offense succeeded in traditional Robinson style — lining up in the wing-T and pounding out yards on the ground. Running backs Marcus Denham, Sean Foncha, Roman Lowery and Dajon Lee combined for 51 carries, 252 yards and three touchdowns.

"I thought we ran it well," Vossler said. "... [The Bruins] were loading up [the box]. We probably could have thrown it once or twice but that's not who we are. We think when people put 11 in there, we've also got 11 in there and our 11 are better than theirs."

Denham, a 5-foot-10, 160-pound senior, led the Robinson ground game with 20 carries for 108 yards and a touchdown. He scored on a 26-yard run with 1:39 remaining in the second quarter, diving into the end zone to give the Rams a 13-0 advantage.

"Our mentality is Coach Vossler wants to bring back the Rams' tradition of being a

tough-nosed, physical, run-the-ball-down-your-throat team," Denham said, "and we're going to continue to do that until otherwise shown that we have to change."

Foncha, a 5-foot-10, 195-pound junior, carried 13 times for 67 yards. Lowery, a 5-foot-11, 185-pound sophomore, rushed 14 times for 62 yards and a score. Lowery's 5-yard touchdown run gave the Rams a 7-0 lead with 10:35 left in the second quarter.

Lee, a 6-foot-1, 195-pound junior, had four carries for 15 yards and a touchdown. His 3-yard scoring run gave the Rams their largest lead of the night at 19-0 with 1:09 left in the third quarter.

Senior quarterback Jack Rowlett, a three-year starter, completed his only pass attempt for 22 yards to senior Davante Hicks.

The Robinson defense limited Lake Braddock to just two first downs in the opening half, including one resulting from a pass interference penalty. The Rams forced a turnover on downs at their own 36 late in the first quarter, and Hicks intercepted Edwards at the Robinson 22 late in the sec-

ond quarter.

"We thought our guys were pretty good against [the] spread," Vossler said. "We're pretty athletic, we're a little smaller, we think we match up well against that. Our D-line gets after it. Our kids just played with great effort, and when you do that, you cover up mistakes."

**ROBINSON KEPT** Lake Braddock off the scoreboard until the final minute of the third quarter. Facing second-and-10 at the Lake Braddock 45-yard line, Edwards completed a deep pass to Eschenburg, who fumbled into the end zone. A Lake Braddock player recovered the loose ball for a touchdown. A two-point conversion cut the Robinson lead to 19-8.

Lake Braddock's next possession started at the Robinson 30 after forcing a turnover on downs. The Rams kept the Bruins off the scoreboard, however, forcing a turnover on downs at the 10, thanks in part to a third-down sack by sophomore linebacker Donnie Warter.

Lake Braddock kicker Nicholas Bruhn booted a 27-yard field goal with 2:50 remaining in the fourth quarter and the Bruins added a late touchdown, but Robinson held on for the win.

"We played amazing," Robinson senior linebacker Nick Roth said about the Rams defense. "Donny Warter, sophomore, played [the game of] his life."

Lake Braddock's Edwards completed 11 of 24 passes for 156 yards. Running back Dejoun Lee carried eight times for 31 yards. Senior receiver A.J. Alexander, who is committed to Ohio State, had four receptions for 45 yards.

After winning three straight road games, Robinson (3-0) will host Mount Vernon at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 19. After three straight home games, Lake Braddock (2-1) will travel to face Westfield at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

What did Friday's victory mean to Vossler? "It means the world," he said. "I think it gives us some credibility to what we're doing, that we can play smashmouth football in 2014 when not many people do it anymore, and we're trying to continue that."





(Top, from left) Mary Payne Omohundro, Kristen Jepperson, Karissa Swanigan, Barbara Lawson and Kathleen McCormack escort Edgar Allen Poe (Christopher Shaw, bottom) towards the afterlife.

# Alice in Nevermore

Local theater company explores imagination at Workhouse.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

For the next month, Barbara Lawson is leading a triple life. A freshly minted West Springfield senior, 17-year-old Lawson plays the title character in the Pandemonium Theatrical Productions setting of “Alice In Wonderland,” as well as Virginia in the same company’s “Nevermore,” a dark musical exploring the demons of Edgar Allen Poe.

Both shows are up and running at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton. The year-old Pandemonium company is the brainchild of co-founders Jeffrey Davis and Mary Payne Omohundro, who produce two children’s shows and two adult shows annually, exclusively at the Workhouse.

“They’re so different that I do love the balance it gives me,” said Lawson, “being able to do two things so completely opposite — getting the best of both worlds.”

**IN “ALICE,”** a children-oriented adaptation by Antonio Bullock of Lorton and Jeremy MacDuff of Alexandria, Lawson nails the prim and polite, yet increasingly open-minded character.

Then as Virginia, she must balance Alice’s youthful charm with the imaginative flair that inspired a connection with America’s tragic poet.

“I know it’s a lot,” said director of both shows and co-founder of Pandemonium Jeffrey Davis. Aside from learning two sets of lines simultaneously, Lawson had to differentiate physical nuances. “You need to stop and rethink: You’re not being Alice in nevermore,” Davis said. “Alice has a very specific way she stands and carries herself. Nevermore is a more dark show.”

But running through both characters, and both shows, are themes of open-mindedness, acceptance and imagination.

“Alice doesn’t keep an open mind, at first,”

said Lawson, “then she has so much fun and meets all these new friends.” From the cryptic Caterpillar (Lyle Smythers) to the manic Mad Hatter (Giorgio Mazzearelli), Alice goes from doubting to embracing absurdity, often with the aid of fun and catchy song-and-dance numbers.

There’s just the right amount of silly voices, bright costumes and wacky wordplay (at one point Alice and the March Hare [Chris Rios] find themselves debating “flour” and “flower”) to help deliver the moral of open-mindedness like a spoonful of sugar.

“It’s funny confusion. It gets a laugh, and that’s what you want,” said Davis.

“Nevermore” is similarly subtle (“No one likes getting hit over the head by a clue-by-four,” said Poe portrayal Christopher Shaw) though dives a bit deeper and darker. Poe and his five female foils exist throughout the one-act production in a constant suspended reality.

It’s uncertain whether the scenes of Poe interacting with former lovers, his deceased mother and an embodiment of death herself are past, present or merely figments of a tortured mind struggling to accept itself as it passes towards the underworld.

À la the ghosts in Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol,” Davis has spun the work by Arlington resident Matt Conner (music) and Alexandria resident Grace Barnes (book) such that specters of five influential women from Poe’s life not only expose his flaws of alcoholism, womanizing and egotism, but perhaps afford him (and the audience) the clarity needed to move on.

“You learn more about him by the relationships he has with these women,” said Shaw. “They draw it all out. They reveal everything. All credit to the women.”

**IT’S THE WOMEN** who are arguably the gatekeepers to love, and love lost, throughout Poe’s life. Conner reflected on that concept deeply when drawing from the poet’s own words to craft melodies.

“Hell is being separated from love,” he said. “When Poe felt separated from love because his mother had died at such an early age — to recapture that and live in



Courtney Branch, Giorgio Mazzearelli and Morgan Sendek, along with (bottom, from left) Emily Gilson, Missy Person and Lynley Peoples, comprise the colorful cast of Antonio Bullock and Jeremy MacDuff’s “Alice in Wonderland.”



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

**Blake Berry, 6, (left) and Lena Berry, 4, (right) of Fort Hunt met with Alice after the performance. Blake liked when the March Hare’s question of “How do you spell ‘Stupid?’” was answered with “Y-O-U.” Lena’s favorite part was Alice being crowned Queen with a turquoise, sequined tiara. “We loved it,” said Berry’s mother Danette. “I was Alice for Halloween years ago, and this brought back memories.”**

that hell, I really had to find a key and rhythm and motion in the music that resembles that.”

Conner, currently rehearsing “Elmer Gantry” for Arlington’s Signature Theater (home to the first production of “Nevermore”) acknowledges the human allegory to which audiences of the nearly 30 different productions nationwide and overseas have responded.

“They’re using Poe as a springboard,” he said, “To accepting their horrific and beautiful journey, and realizing that they did the best they could.”

“Alice in Neverland” shows each Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. through Sept. 28. “Nevermore” continues every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. through Oct. 11. For more information, visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).



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**K & D ELECTRIC**  
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## ELECTRICAL

## IMPROVEMENTS

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## IMPROVEMENTS

## IMPROVEMENTS

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"If it can be done, we can do it"

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## IMPROVEMENTS

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## LAWN SERVICE

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## MASONRY

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Walkways, Patios, Driveways,  
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## PAVING

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## TREE SERVICE

## IMPROVEMENTS

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## IMPROVEMENTS

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or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

## EMPLOYMENT

### DEADLINES

Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon

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The Mount Vernon Gazette
- Zone 4:** Centre View North  
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**Clifton** **\$989,000**  
One of a kind, gorgeous Clifton property! Perfectly sited on 2 acre lot with pool! Welcoming wrap-around porch and main level guest suite are just 2 of the many features!  
**Carol Hermandorfer 703-503-1812**



**Centreville** **\$539,900**  
Fabulous Colonial nestled on a richly wooded lot on quiet cul-de-sac street. This beauty features remodeled kitchen w/all the bells & whistles, Breakfast Rm offers space for huge table, 1st floor FR w/brick FP, Deck perfect for entertaining, MBR Bath remodeled w/his & her sinks, ceramic shower & much more. Walk out LL Family Room. Backs to wooded open common ground.  
**Sheila Adams 703-503-1895**



**Burke** **\$625,000**  
Classic Colonial. Spacious 5 BR, 3.5 BA with fin LL Rec Room. Updated kitchen and baths with granite counters. HW floor in Foyer, Kitchen & Breakfast Rooms.  
**Barbara Nowak 703-473-1803**  
**Gerry Staudte 703-309-8948**



**Clifton** **\$699,000**  
Light, bright raised rambler on gorgeous 5.5 acres. Gleaming hardwoods, 2 fireplaces, beautiful updated Kitchen & more! Property includes 6 stall barn.  
**Carol Hermandorfer 703-503-1812**



**Lorton** **\$1,299,000**  
Potomac River waterfront property! Features include a geo-thermal heating/cooling system, dock with water, power and two 10,000lb boat lifts. Separate boat garage with electrical. A boater's dream!  
**Ngoc Do 703-798-2899**



**Springfield** **\$399,900**  
Updated 4 level single family home for the price of a townhouse. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, carport and large yard. Convenient to Fort Belvoir, VRE, Metro, I-95 and 495, shopping & Accotink Park. Call for private showing.  
**Charles N. Shaw 703-989-7169**



**Lake Anna** **\$1,299,000**  
Waterfront Luxury Home! 6 bedrooms, 6 baths, in ground swimming pool, media room with fireplace, screened in porch, beautiful family room with stone fireplace. Spa like master bedroom. Work shop, tons of storage. Amazing Views!  
**Dana Isaacs 540-661-2166**



**Fairfax** **\$550,000**  
**Great outdoor & indoor space!**  
Comfortable Colonial with 4BR/2.5BA, gas fireplace, beautiful main level ceramic tile flooring, hardwoods on UL, & remodeled kitchen. A great slate patio, front porch with swing, & nice fully fenced backyard with over-sized shed add to the wonderful outdoor space. Plus, new roof, vinyl siding, triple pane windows, new HVAC (gas heat) and more! Close to schools with Metrobus on the corner.  
**Mary Hovland 703-946-1775**  
**Cathy DeLoach 571-276-9421**



**Fairfax/Kings Park West** **\$493,500**  
Lovely 4 bedroom home with garage. Wood floors. Updated kitchen that opens to private patio. Living room with fireplace. Family room opens to deck & hot tub. Large fenced back yard. Fresh paint & carpet.  
**Judy Semler 703-503-1885**



**Clifton** **\$658,000**  
Better than new! Shows like a model! Hardwoods on 2 levels, 9' ceilings, chef's granite and island kitchen! King sized master suite, incredible fin LL w/man cave, bedroom and so much more! Desirable North Clifton location - easy commute, great schools, walk to shops, and 27 holes of golf close by!  
**Marsha Wolber 703-618-4397**



**Lorton** **\$729,000**  
Beautifully renovated Cape Cod in Mason Neck with 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2-car garage with upper level studio, water view of the Potomac River, abundant outdoor living space, and access to the community center, pier, beach and parkland.  
**Ngoc Do 703-798-2899**



**Fairfax** **\$534,900**  
**Looking for that perfect home?**  
Well...here it is! 4 Levels of perfection, 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, Updated Kitchen w/stainless steel appliances, granite, Hardwd Floors, LL FR w/FP, Level 4 makes that perfect media room.  
**Sheila Adams 703-503-1895**



**Clifton** **\$499,000**  
Home is in the town of Clifton. Near all downtown shops & restaurants. Updated kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Must see inside for the "old and the new." Call if you would like a private showing.  
**Charles N. Shaw 703-989-7169**



**Burke Centre** **\$294,900**  
Great location within minutes of shopping, VRE Station and community amenities. Three finished levels with walkout to enclosed patio and featuring stainless appliances and granite in the kitchen. Bright, light and airy end unit with open floor plan and ample parking.  
**Ellie Wester 703-503-1880**



**Lake Anna** **\$649,900**  
Waterfront with Boathouse! 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with open flowing floor plan, 2 fireplaces, screened porch, deck & patio. Paved drive, 2 car garage, & shed. Close & flat to water.  
**Toni McQuair 703-795-2697**



**Fairfax** **\$729,900**  
Stunning Colonial with Pool! George Mason Forest. Close to GMU and Major Commuter Routes. Great Location! 4 BRs, 2.5 BAs. Updated Kitchen & Baths. New Carpet and Paint. Hardwoods and much more!  
**John Astorino 703-503-1819**



**Fairfax** **\$599,990**  
Stunning brick-front Basheer & Edgemore luxury town-home/condo with 2,949 square feet of living space, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2-car garage and 3 level bump-outs. Conveniently located to I-66, Fair Oaks Mall & Fairfax Corner.  
**Ngoc Do 703-798-2899**



**Fairfax** **\$824,900**  
Lovely brick Colonial featuring 4 bedrooms (one on main level), 3 baths, 3 finished levels, updated gourmet kitchen, lower level walkout. 40,200 sq ft lot on quiet cul-de-sac street.  
**Sheila Adams 703-503-1895**



**Gainesville** **\$409,000**  
4 BR, 3 1/2 BA SF home with 2-Car Garage. 1st Floor hardwoods, Ceramic tile Kitchen with SS Appliances. Fully finished LL with Rec Room, Full BA & Den. A must see!  
**Barbara Nowak 703-473-1803**  
**Gerry Staudte 703-309-8948**



**Burke Centre** **\$675,000**  
Just Listed! Beautifully updated Colonial, Gourmet Kitchen, Hardwoods throughout main level. Spacious Master with separate full bath. 3 additional BRs. Finished on all 3 levels. Tiered deck over looking flat and private rear yard.  
**John Astorino 703-503-1819**

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