



Mickey Mouse was on George Mason's campus the day Nick Balenger moved into student housing this fall. Balenger will receive the NRH Medstar Victory Award for strength and courage in recovering from traumatic injury.

Poll Position

ELECTION 2014, PAGE 3

Addressing Domestic Violence

NEWS, PAGE 9



2014 FCFT President's Award



*for Outstanding Advocacy
for the Employees of FCPS*

- Karen Garza** Superintendent, FCPS
- Ramona Morrow** President, FCCPTA
- Megan McLaughlin** (Braddock District)
- Elizabeth Schultz** (Springfield District)
- Pat Hynes** (Hunter Mill District)
- Patty Reed** (Providence District)
- Sandy Evans** (Mason District)
- Dan Storck** (Mount Vernon District)
- Tammy Derenak Kaufax** (Lee District)
- Ryan McElveen** (At Large)
- Janie Strauss** (Dranesville District)
- Ilryong Moon** (At Large)
- Ted Velkoff** (At Large)

The Fairfax County Federation of Teachers would like to thank all of the 2014 award winners listed above for their consistent advocacy, proactive communications, and support of our workforce over the past year. We publicly acknowledge their efforts to make a difference in the lives of FCPS employees. Thank you for caring about us; it matters and is appreciated.



NEWS



The 11th District incumbent Gerry Connolly (left), Burgermeister Greg Burkheart of Vienna (center) and Delegate Mark Keam practice their Deutsche at Vienna's Oktoberfest celebration.



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

(From left) Ann Juliano of Bristow, Suzanne Scholte of Falls Church and Janet Gorn of Montclair enjoy the late afternoon sun at a campaign event in Gorn's backyard.

Poll Position Local academics following the 11th Districts race say there's really no substitute for the strength of incumbency.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Despite low public opinion of President Obama and a minimally productive Congress, representative Gerry Connolly has plenty going for him as the incumbent seeking re-election in Virginia's largely democratic 11th district.

Republican challenger Suzanne Scholte and independents Marc Harrold (Libertarian) and Joe Galdo (Green) have been trying to use that unproductivity to their advantage, citing their lack of experience in elected office as affording an advantageous, fresh perspective.

"They're not only not hearing us, they're not taking the time to listen to us," said Scholte. "I think we see that in the partisan shift, the bitterness in how people are dealing with each other."

And though that's not a bad strategy, local academics following the race say there's really no substitute for the strength of incumbency. Especially when you've made yourself as a household name like Connolly has.

"Once he fended off a serious challenger in two separate election cycles, when people thought he was vulnerable, that established

the perception he's one of those hard-to-beat incumbents now," said Mark J. Rozell, acting dean and professor of Public Policy for the George Mason University School of Policy, Government and International Affairs.

Connolly won his first two congressional races by 12 points (2008) and 26 points (2010).

And now that he's stuck around, proven himself a winner, "most voters differentiate between Congress as an institution and their own incumbent member," said Rozell.

"It doesn't necessarily weaken any incumbent who may have the favor of his or her constituents," he continued.

Scholte has come after Connolly for being "completely out of touch with people in this district." Connolly has countered that, "there's no excuse for people seeing you as getting distant. I come home every night. When I pick up my dry cleaning I'm in my constituency. When I grab a meal, it's in my constituency."

"And as long as Connolly can present himself as an authentic representative who's out there fighting for his people," said Rozell, "fixing the problems with hyper bipartisanship, that protects him a good deal."

INCUMBENCY COMES with superior

name recognition and funding, both factors making it that much more difficult for outsiders to pull an upset.

As of an Oct. 15 OpenSecrets.org report, Connolly had raised \$1,886,601, spent \$986,053 and had \$1,768,494 in cash on hand.

Scholte, by contrast, had \$42,856 on hand, raised \$224,457 and spent \$182,601. Harrold was reported with \$6,547 raised, \$4,583 spent and \$1,962 on hand. Galdo wasn't part of the report.

Toni-Michelle Travis, GMU associate professor of Government and Politics, agrees with Rozell that the race is "pretty clear-cut."

"He's doing all the right things, but I wouldn't say he's got the seat indefinitely," she said. Travis cited changing demographics in Northern Virginia as something incumbents shouldn't sleep on in future elections.

According to the Office of Elections, there are 25,122 new voters registered in Fairfax County since Nov. 5, 2013. That figure includes transfers as well first-time registrants.

"Every incumbent's got to be very attentive to it," said Travis. "This could erode, this could begin to change because of the new voters. That's tripped up many, includ-

ing Jeannemarie Devolites Davis, who used to represent Vienna."

Travis believes a shift could come in "sort of purple" Northern Virginia, and issues like immigration have the potential to "become real change" in favor of a challenger, at least one with more election experience.

"It's a training ground," said Travis, "because these things shift in Northern Virginia. Maybe next time [Scholte] might prevail."

As well, Rozell doesn't discount the value of third-party candidates in the electoral process.

"They can force major candidate to address different issues that might get ignored otherwise," he said, "add something important to the debate that's going on."

HARROLD AND GALDO have highlighted the need for more government transparency as well as pragmatic planning for simplifying the tax code, among other issues.

"Unfortunately for them," said Rozell, "voters remain strategic creatures, under the belief that they'd be throwing their vote away otherwise. It somewhat becomes a self-fulfilling prophesy."

Visit Elections.virginia.gov to see the new requirements for voter identification required at the polls on Nov. 4.

Just Days Left for Voting Early, Absentee

Virtually every voter in Virginia is eligible to vote absentee, which includes voting in-person absentee at a variety of locations from now through Saturday, Nov. 1. After that, vote on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 4 at your assigned polling place.

There are many reasons that voters are allowed to vote absentee, but the most broad of these applies to almost anyone with a job: "Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation,

will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for eleven or more hours of the thirteen that the polls are open (6 a.m. to 7 p.m.).

You can download an absentee ballot and mail it to your local voter registration office, or you can vote "absentee in person."

In person absentee voting is available at the Fairfax County Governmental Center and multiple satellite locations.

❖ **Office of Elections**, 12000 Govern-

ment Center Pkwy, Conf. Rooms 2/3, Fairfax, 22035

Now through Oct. 31, Monday thru Friday - 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., Thursday: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

❖ **Satellite Voting Locations:**

Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, 22310

Dolley Madison Library - 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean, 22101

North County Human Services Bldg. - 1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, 20190

West Springfield Governmental Center -

6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, 22152

Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003

Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria 22306

Sully District Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly 20151

Monday - Friday, through Oct. 31, 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For more, call 703-222-0776 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm>

NEWS

Author to Discuss His 'ABC Animals' Book

Nate Hausmann, who describes himself as an autistic entrepreneur, will share his story and his first book "ABC Animals" at a Northern Virginia j.talks event on Sunday, Nov. 2. The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia presents j.talks, conversations with authors and artists.

Hausmann began drawing during elementary school. In middle school, he began his tradition of illustrating one-of-a-kind personalized animal alphabet books as baby gifts for family and friends. After high school graduation in Baton Rouge, he illustrated this English/Hebrew animal alphabet book with its color-pencil-drawn animals, set in watercolor habitats.

The event will be held on Sunday, Nov. 2 at 2 p.m. at the JCCNV, 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. General admission tickets are \$11, \$9 for J members and seniors (65+), and \$7 for those under 30. JCCNV Cultural Arts programming is partially funded by the JCCNV Arts Fund, and the Arts Council of Fairfax County, supported by Fairfax County.

For more information about JCCNV Cultural Arts programs, visit www.jccnvarts.org or call the JCCNV box office at 703-537-3000.



Nate Hausmann

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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Change for the Better in Fairfax County Schools

Later start times, full-day Mondays; who knows, next maybe gifted-and-talented programs for poor students?

Who says big bureaucracies can't make big changes? One year into the tenure of Karen Garza, we have two huge changes that between them impact almost every single student, every family with children in Fairfax County Public Schools.

Last week, the Fairfax County School Board voted to move high school start times all after 8 a.m. beginning next September. Garza, superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools, announced this summer the implementation of full-day Mondays, another previously insurmountable task.

A plan emerged that made this possible for under \$5 million (original estimates were wildly and prohibitively higher) while keeping elementary school times the same (or within 5-10 minutes). The goal is to move middle school start times later in the future.

Change comes in mysterious ways. Part of the support for this change comes from the science.

The American Academy of Pediatrics this fall: "A substantial body of research has now demonstrated that delaying school start times is

an effective countermeasure to chronic sleep loss and has a wide range of potential benefits to students with regard to physical and mental health, safety, and academic achievement.

"The American Academy of Pediatrics strongly supports the efforts of school districts to optimize sleep in students and urges high schools and middle schools to aim for start times that allow students the opportunity to achieve optimal levels of sleep (8.5-9.5 hours) and to improve physi-

EDITORIAL

Voting

Every year is Election Year in Virginia, and this year, the ballot is short but important. Turn out to vote for U.S. Senate, member of the House of Representatives, and a few questions.

You can vote absentee in person between now and Saturday, Nov. 1; after that, vote on Election Day, Nov. 4, at your assigned polling place. Bring photo identification with you, the rules have changed.

cal (eg, reduced obesity risk) and mental (eg, lower rates of depression) health, safety (eg, drowsy driving crashes), academic performance, and quality of life."

We commend the leadership of the advocacy group SLEEP in Fairfax, which never gave up, even in years when this change appeared impossible.

We suspect the key ingredient is new leadership at the top at FCPS, Karen Garza.

A superintendent across the river, Joshua Starr, will have to ask himself what's holding up such changes in Montgomery County Public Schools.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

For information, contact State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901, Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194, email: info@sbe.virginia.gov; or visit <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>

You can read previous Connection coverage at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/Elections/>

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote Yes on Transportation Bond Referendum

To the Editor:

On Nov. 4, Fairfax County residents will vote on a Transportation Bond Referendum. The League of Women Voters supports the Bond Referendum and urges voters to approve it.

If accepted, the Bond would fund three types of projects:

- ❖ Spot Road Improvements: These include adding or lengthening turn lanes; upgrading turn signals and signage; constructing walkways and providing crosswalks; and making popular destinations more accessible.

nations more accessible.

- ❖ Pedestrian Improvements: These include building missing sidewalk and trail links; adding and improving signalized crosswalks and other pedestrian-friendly intersection improvements.

- ❖ Bike and Trail Improvements: These include developing new bicycle facilities, constructing trails, adding bicycle parking, and making popular destinations and mass transit more accessible.

These upgrades would increase

the capacity of our transportation network by allowing it to carry more people, whether they drive, walk, bike or take mass transit. Go to fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/ for information about cost, project details and answers to other frequently asked questions.

Here's something else to consider: Fairfax is one of only 32 counties in the United States with a AAA Bond Rating. This allows the County to borrow at lower interest rates. And because Fairfax has access to other funding

sources, this Bond represents only 7 percent of the cost of these improvements.

The League of Women Voters urges you to vote on Nov. 4. And we encourage you to say YES to the Transportation Bond Referendum. We believe that these projects will reduce congestion and make it easier and safer for all of us to get to the places where we need and want to go.

Julia Jones and Helen Kelly,
Co-Presidents
League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area

Vote 'Yes' on Transportation

To the Editor:

We are writing about the Nov. 4 voter referendum on transportation bonds for Fairfax County. The Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax is a diverse coalition of individuals and public, community, and business organizations that have joined forces to improve community health by mobilizing resources, increasing awareness, and promoting change.

The Partnership has identified investments in infrastructure that support physical activity as a major priority in its community health

improvement plan. Investments in facilities and pathways for pedestrians and bicyclists benefit everyone through enhancing safety, providing active transportation options, providing opportunities for routine exercise, expanding access to recreational opportunities, and improving quality of life. Improvements funded by the bond will also permit more "Safe Routes to School," or opportunities for children to walk or bike to school.

The goals and objectives of both our plan and the transportation

bond issue are aligned in encouraging a healthy lifestyle through physical activity and improving connectivity throughout the county. Residents who are able to incorporate exercise in their daily lives will incur fewer health care costs and be more productive employees, thereby contributing to the county's economic success. Please support the bond by a "yes" vote on Nov. 4.

Marlene Blum and Julie Knight
Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax/Co-Chairs

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

Send to:

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1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.

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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.

Burke Presbyterian Church is embarking on a six-week study of the book by writer, theologian and activist Brian McLaren entitled "Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road?" McLaren claims that his Christian identity moves him "toward people of other faiths in wholehearted love, not in spite of their non-Christian identity, and not in spite of [his] own Christian identity, but because of [his] identity as a follower of God in the way of Jesus." All are welcome to join this conversation on Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m., through Nov. 23 at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. www.BurkePresChurch.org, 703-764-0456.

Are You 50 or Better? Please join us for the next Lunch N' Life sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke on Thursday, Nov. 20, (12-2 p.m.) at Lutheran Church of the Abiding Presence, 6304 Lee Chapel Rd, Burke. The Program will feature Jari Villaneuva, a Bugler, speaking on The History of Taps. For reservations, call Faye Quesenberry, 703-620-0161, by Nov. 14. The cost is \$10; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office 703-323-4788. See www.scfbva.org for more information.

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

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Barbara Comstock? For Congress?

Barbara Comstock: Bad Ethics—Strike 1!

- \$35,000 in campaign cash from convicted former Gov. Bob McDonnell.¹
- Hid secret lobbying relationships in Richmond and \$85,000 in Romney contributions.²
- Failed to disclose that she was being paid as a consultant by anti-worker lobbying org — while voting on three anti-worker bills (in violation of VA ethics & disclosure rules).³

Barbara Comstock: Bad Ideas—Strike 2!

- Supported mandatory invasive transvaginal ultrasound tests for women.
- Voted against bi-partisan bill for desperately needed VA transportation fixes.
- Says the government should track immigrants "like FedEx packages."

Barbara Comstock: Bad Choice!

Do we really want to see strike 3? Team Comstock/McDonnell already has a poor batting average in Virginia. And they have underscored that ethically compromised elected officials cannot police themselves—we need voters to remove them from public office.

It's time to end the culture of corruption in Richmond and Washington D.C.

Elect John Foust on Nov 4.

1. VPAP.org. 2. Wash. Post, 9/5/14. 3. Politico, 10/9/14. Paid for by South Forward IE PAC and not approved by any candidate.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NICK BALENGER

(From left) Alex, Sylvie, Nick and Steve Balenger pose for a family selfie on Nevis Island in Aug. 2014.

Batter, Up

Former Lake Braddock baseball player Nick Balenger recognized for injury recovery.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Nick Balenger's promising athletic career all but disappeared in an instant. In 2012, the former Lake Braddock pitcher suffered a spinal cord injury while swimming in Hawaii.

It was an incomplete spinal cord lesion at the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae. In other words, part of his spinal cord was damaged. He was paralyzed from the chest down.

But when he approaches the podium to address an expected crowd of 600 at the Medstar NRH Gala Victory Awards on Oct. 30 at the Marriott Marquis in Washington, D.C., Balenger will be on forearm crutches.

Now, over two years since his injury, the 19-year-old freshman at George Mason University is one of three honorees being recognized for displaying strength and courage in recovering from traumatic injuries, as well as being role models for people with disabilities.

"I have to pinch myself," said Balenger's mother Sylvie. "You look at how far he's come. Very few people have that opportunity to improve as much as he has."

Balenger went from inpatient to outpatient physical therapy and made considerable progress working with the National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH) in

Washington, D.C. He's gone from a wheelchair to a walker to crutches.

Balenger has benefited from an organized outpouring of support called Nick Nation, a group of friends, family, coaches and parents that banded together to raise money to help the Balengers offset the costs associated with his injury and recovery.

He's also received significant tuition help from Swim With Mike, a physically challenged athletes scholarship fund.

"I've been given the opportunity that not many people with my injury have," said Nick. "I don't want to let it go to waste."

LAST YEAR, he lived at home in Burke and attended classes part time at George Mason University. This year, he's taking classes full time and made that all-important leap: He's living in campus.

"That was a big threshold for him," said Sylvie. "To live away from home and feel strong enough to do that."

Nick shares a suite with a roommate and two other students. "It's a pretty big leap," he said, "but it's definitely worth it."

His injury recovery hasn't stopped progressing either. When GMU launched an exercise-based research pilot project in Spring 2014, Balenger's NRH physician Dr. Suzanne Groah recommended him to the team's leader, Dr. Andrew A. Guccione, professor and chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Science.



Former standout Lake Braddock pitcher Nick Balenger was paralyzed from the chest down but is now walking with forearm crutches.

Balenger became the project's first test subject. He's now in his second 15-week session with the research team. Twice a week, he's put through a battery of body weight-based (no machines involved) exercises designed to redevelop the groups of muscles he needs to perform various tasks.

"We'll warm up, then work on a specific type of movement, a focus that day," said Nick. "I give them feedback, we can do this thing, work on that. It's tailored toward whatever I feel I need help with."

The program is less about how many times can he lift a weight, but breaking down the motions associated with a task, like walking, bending and reaching.

And though the exercises are low-tech, the analysis is anything but. The researchers usually have Balenger's body covered in markers that create a stick-figure diagram monitoring his movements. And they track how efficiently his body uses oxygen with an imaging system called near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS).

"We notice in Nick a major change there," said Guccione. "Though working with Nick is a bit of a biased sample. He was an extraordinary athlete with a great deal of motor ability before his injury."

GUCCIONE BELIEVES the com-

bination of Nick's baseball history, natural body awareness and extensive rehabilitation with NRH are all helping take him to the next level of recovery.

In addition to his natural gifts, Nick's mental maturation has played a major role.

"It's still a struggle for him, being a baseball player and not having that anymore," said Sylvie. "He has to rethink his future."

Guccione said athletes are sometimes more vulnerable to mental blockages to recovery for just that reason. But, he said, "Where other people might feel like their previous identity has been crushed, I think he's capitalizing on his previous accomplishment and using that as a springboard to the next level."

With the way Balenger is progressing, Guccione's goal is for him to be down to a single crutch by the end of the academic year.

"I have a lot of support from my family and friends," said Nick. "That really makes me want to keep doing it and working hard, just to get that ultimate goal: down to nothing."

Balenger plans to enter the State Department's multi-year Pathways internship and pursue work in intelligence analysis.

NEWS



(From left) Jesus Sorto, Fairfax Circuit Court; Jesenia Alonso and Ina Fernandez, Fairfax Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, enjoy refreshments and support raising domestic violence awareness at the Coyote Grille in Fairfax.



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

(From left) Shelter House Executive Director Joe Meyer, Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid, Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne, Fairfax CASA Executive Director Darcy Cunningham and Braddock Supervisor John Cook gather at Fairfax's Coyote Grille to raise money for the two organizations.

Addressing Domestic Violence

Cook and Silverthorne host domestic violence awareness fundraiser.

Joe Meyer, executive director of the Reston-based Shelter House organization that provides support for victims of domestic violence, began his remarks at the Coyote Grille in Fairfax with some sobering statistics.

"One in four women across our country are victims of domestic violence. One in seven men are victims," he said. "Domestic violence is the leading cause in Fairfax County for homicides, the leading cause."

For the second year, Shelter House was being honored and supported by the Oct. 22 fundraiser, co-hosted by Braddock Supervisor John Cook and Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne. Cook serves as the Board of Supervisors liaison to the Domestic Violence Prevention Policy Coordinating Council.

AREA ROUNDUPS Don't Drink and Drive

This Friday, Oct. 31, at 8 p.m., seven police agencies from Northern Virginia will team up in all jurisdictions to conduct saturation patrols detecting and arresting drunk drivers on Halloween. Called "Extra Eyes for DWI's," the effort will involve police officers and resources from the City of Falls Church, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Town of Vienna, Fairfax County, City of Fairfax, U.S. Park Police and Virginia State Police.

Time to Fall Back

Daylight Saving Time ends this Sunday, Nov. 2, at 2 a.m.; so before going to bed Saturday night, residents should turn back their clocks and watches one hour.

The event also benefited Fairfax CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), a community, volunteer-driven organization set up to make sure vulnerable children, themselves victims of domestic violence, don't fall through the cracks when going through the justice system.

"We train ordinary people; they go out and really become the eyes and ears of the court," said Fairfax CASA Executive Director Darcy Cunningham. "I can't think of a more important role that a community member could play."

"The person on the receiving end of domestic violence is not the only

victim," said Cook. "Some of the victims most harmed are children." A spokesperson from Cook's office said the event was on par with last year's effort, raising between \$500 and \$1,000, to be split between the organizations.

— TIM PETERSON

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October 24th & 25th
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3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

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The Rotary Foundation West Springfield

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

Adopt Donate Volunteer

Volunteers needed for adoption events, fostering, transportation, adoption center caretaking and more.



lostdogandcatrescue.org



Jolie Smith with Shelter House shows off one of the Purple Purse Challenge purses, part of a domestic violence awareness and fundraising effort sponsored by Allstate.

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

Month	Event	Publishing
OCTOBER	A+ Camps & Schools	10/15/14
	Election Preview I	10/22/14
	Election Preview II	10/29/14
NOVEMBER	Election Day is Tuesday, November 4.	
	Wellbeing	11/5/14
	HomeLifeStyle	11/12/14
	Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I	11/19/14
DECEMBER	A+ Camps & Schools	11/25/14
	Thanksgiving is November 27.	
DECEMBER	Wellbeing	12/3/14
	HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays	12/10/14
	Hanukkah begins December 16.	
	Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II	12/16/14
A+ Camps & Schools	12/16/14	
CHILDREN'S CONNECTION	12/24/14	

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Amy Zacaroli sits with a preschool girl on the Canzibe Mission in the Eastern Cape of South Africa.



Alec Zacaroli hangs out with boys in Coffee Bay, South Africa, near the 25:40 afterschool program.

Writing Their Verse

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

When Alec Zacaroli and his wife Amy hosted a boyhood friend from South Africa, they didn't expect their lives would change in one evening.

Alex Hetherington showed the Fairfax Station couple a pair of documentary films his wife had produced. One was on the environment. The other chronicled Nazareth House, a century-old convalescent home in Cape Town.

In 2003, Alec said, Nazareth was the first organization to offer shelter and support to orphans with AIDS. "There were these little kids with sores and they're just struggling to survive," Alec said. "There was no AIDS medication getting to the people there."

Amy was raised in foster care in Springfield, before finally being adopted by a foster family. "I saw it and thought: How did I not know this was going on, and not do anything," she said. "We were both pretty emotional. We have to do something."

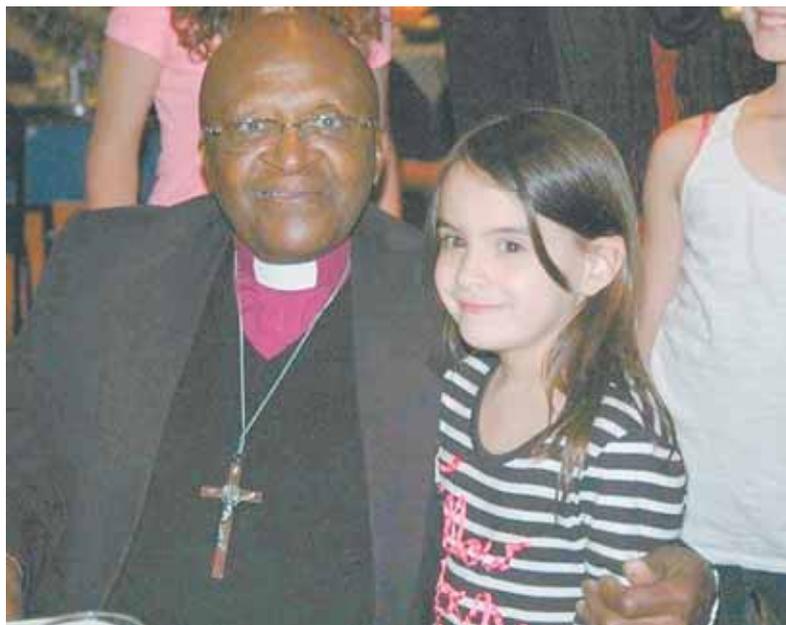
Alec recalled feeling a profound sense of purpose. "That moment there, we were like 'This is where God put us.'"

The couple, members of Burke Community Church, prayed over the situation and decided to found a nonprofit organization. They named the group 25:40 after the verse from the book of Matthew in the Bible that reads, "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

"We didn't really know what we were getting into at the time," said Amy. "We just sort of jumped in feet first, just trusting whatever was going to happen would happen."

25:40 started out by raising funds for Nazareth House. Amy and Alec visited South Africa in 2004 and through the Hetheringtons got involved with a group called Homes for Kids in South Africa.

Seeing the poverty and illness firsthand was "soul-crushing in some respects," said Alec.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALEC ZACAROLI

Alec and Amy's daughter Rebecca Zacaroli met Rev. Desmond Tutu when he was on his way to visit a funeral in a village nearby the Canzibe Mission in the Eastern Cape.

"But you just can't help but say there's still hope there."

ON THAT SAME FIRST TRIP, the Zacarolis also met a doctor working in the rural areas of the Eastern Cape. They eventually followed him with their ministry. And in 2008, they joined with a mission near the town of Nthatha called Canzibe Mission, close to the home of Nelson Mandela.

At that point, 25:40 began to take a more active role in supporting the local children.

They hired 32 village workers to cover a 360 square mile radius and conduct a study to see just how bad the orphan situation was. "It's not like they just come to your doorstep."

The survey identified 1,504 "orphans and vulnerable children" by South African standards. Now that number is up over 2,000, Alec said. "Kids are much more than AIDS orphans. They've been moved, picked up by somebody, some relative, and those situations quickly become abusive."

Following the results of the survey, 25:40's "OVC Action Program" offers supplemental education, health monitoring, advocacy and skills development (like gardening and carpentry) for these children. "And we talk to them about having a relationship with God," Alec said. "So they understand they're loved, that there's a moral code to walk by."

Fairfax Station couple's ministry supports vulnerable children in South Africa.

"What they're doing is taking all these resources and dedicating it to at-risk children who will help the community become a stronger one," said Mary Miller of Fort Hunt, the new outreach coordinator for 25:40.

The advocacy includes trying to motivate local social workers. "If we want to parachute in and do everything ourselves, it's just ridiculous," said Alec. "We go to the social worker in town and say, 'Do your job. Did you even know this kid exists?'"

The advocacy includes trying to motivate local social workers. "If we want to parachute in and do everything ourselves, it's just ridiculous," said Alec. "We go to the social worker in town and say, 'Do your job. Did you even know this kid exists?'"

BY MODELING THEIR PROGRAM, Alec and Amy are hopeful others like it can spread beyond Canzibe Mission, driven by local people.

"We don't pay people," said Alec. "We support with food and materials, walk hand in hand with you. That's what we envision going forward. That's the way you reach 1,500 kids."

Amy and Alec raise funds for 25:40 back in Northern Virginia from a grassroots group, with some corporations matching the giving. Every September they host a "Walk for the Kids" fundraiser around Lake Accotink, and on Dec. 14 they're hosting a benefit Christmas concert at the Brightbox Theater in Winchester, Va.

"All we want to do is open people's eyes around here," said Amy, "to what kind of things people go through in South Africa, and most of sub-Saharan Africa."

Alec maintains a full-time job as a lawyer and Amy volunteers at their church. The couple visits the Eastern Cape twice to three times a year, often taking turns in order to bring some combination of their son and three daughters.

"It's opened their eyes," said Amy. "There's more outside Northern Virginia. To see this is not normal, when it comes to the rest of the world."

CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

THROUGH FRIDAY/OCT. 31

Pumpkin Patch. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Messiah United Methodist Church, 6215 Rolling Road, Springfield. Pumpkins are available from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily until Oct. 31, when the patch closes at 6 p.m. 703-569-9862.

THROUGH FRIDAY/NOV. 3

Adventures in Learning. 9:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. This program is open to all adults age 50 or better. Registrants bring a bag lunch and stay for a full day of classes/activities and socializing, or pick and choose the classes that interest them the most. \$30. www.scfbva.org or 703-323-4788.

THROUGH WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

War on the Doorstep: Fairfax Militia in the War of 1812. Exhibition. The Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway. Open Tue.-Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free tours at 1 p.m. 703-591-0560.

THROUGH SUNDAY/FEB. 8, 2015

Dressing for the Occasion: An Exhibition of Costumes and Textiles Representing Fairfax Personalities and Events. Exhibition. Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street, Fairfax. Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 703-385-8414.

FRIDAY/OCT. 31-SATURDAY/NOV. 1

Interstate Haunted Maze. 7-10 p.m. Interstate Service Group, 8601 Morrisette Drive, Springfield. Interstate Haunted Maze event supports ECHO, a nonprofit organization that helps provide for those in need in Northern Virginia communities. admission is any non-perishable food donation.

Workhouse Arts Center Haunted Trail. 7-10 p.m. 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. During an exclusive event for six hair-raising nights only, visitors can walk the Haunted Trail with friends and family. Visitors will experience the macabre outdoor scenes in the lesser traveled areas of the historic prison campus and enjoy special effects, live scare actors and a nightmarish, immersive storyline about a growing horde of infected drones. Evening trail, \$10; daytime trail, \$5.

FRIDAY/OCT. 31

St. Peter's in the Woods Pumpkin Patch. 5911 Fairview Woods Dr., Fairfax Station. St. Peter's in the Woods Annual Pumpkin Patch is a community outreach fundraiser. Pumpkins and

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

Gourds of all sizes available for purchase. Come buy a pumpkin and help support community outreach.

SATURDAY/NOV. 1

The Robinson Marketplace. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 5305 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Shop at over 80 vendors at the Holiday Market, raffle and silent auction sponsored by the Robinson Secondary School PTSA. Visit www.robinsonptsa.org.

Free Choral Event: Duruflé's Requiem Mass. 7:30 p.m. St. Peter's in the Woods Church, 5911 Fairview Woods Drive, Fairfax Station. Performed by the choirs of St. Peter's in the Woods, St. John's McLean, and students of GMU. www.stpetersinthewoods.org

SATURDAY/NOV. 1- SUNDAY/NOV. 2

7th Annual South Run Arts and Crafts Show. Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. This is an annual favorite for visitors looking for holiday gifts and unique hand-crafted items. Beautiful jewelry, intricate woodworking, photography, painting, glasswork, clothing, dolls and pottery to purchase. Admission is \$3, and free for children 12 and under. Visit www.nvhg.org or call 571-278-9621.

Cabaret Series: Heroes Cabaret. 8 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday. W-3 Theatre, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Songs and music of heroes and anti-heroes. 703-584-2900. www.workhousearts.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 2

Nate Hausmann Author Talk. 2 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. j.talks event. Author with autism shares his story. \$11/\$9/\$7. 703-323-0880.

New Orleans Legends: Featuring the Preservation Hall Jazz Band and Allen Toussaint. 7 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Join us for an evening of music. The legendary jazz and New Orleans R&B pianist Allen Toussaint recently received the highly prestigious National Medal of Arts by President Obama in recognition of his seminal influence on New Orleans music. Tickets: \$29-\$48.

MONDAY/NOV. 3

Move & Groove with Mr. Skip. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Mr. Skip, who is all about music and movement, sings original and classic kids songs like Old McDonald to the five and under crowd. He gets the kids off their seats and moving. For more information, visit www.fairfaxarts.org or call 703-352-ARTS.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 5

F-150 "Drive the Future of Tough" Consumer Event. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Ted Britt Ford, 11165 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. Customers can test-drive the new 2015 F-150. 703-218-4644.

"South Pacific Cauldron." 7 p.m. George Mason Regional Library, 70001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Author Alan Rems, a 10-year volunteer at the Fairfax Regional Library, will discuss and sign his book, "South Pacific Cauldron." It's about WWII in the South Pacific, plus the cover-up of a Marine Corps general's death.

Book Signing. 7 p.m. George Mason Regional Library, 70001 Little River

Turnpike, Annandale. Author Alan Rems, a 10-year volunteer at the Fairfax Regional Library, will discuss and sign his book, "South Pacific Cauldron." Enhancing his presentation with vivid, rarely seen photographs, he'll talk about the forgotten WWII battlefields of the South Pacific, especially Bougainville, where the Allies and Japan fought for nearly two years.

FRIDAY/NOV. 7

Martha Graham Dance Company. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets: \$28-\$46. For more information call 888-945-2468.

SATURDAY/NOV. 8

Christmas Craft Fair and Bake Sale. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. New Hope Church, 6905 Ox Road, Lorton. Begin your holiday shopping early. Crafts, artwork, holiday items, inspirational items, soaps/scrubs, jewelry, baked goods, jams/jellies, candies/nuts/fudge, raffles, stuffed animals, food, etc. Free. Doris Lama, 703-644-0139/571-234-7322.

I'll be Seeing You with the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Based on actual letters from Mr. Frazier's family written during World War II, the evening includes songs of the era by Gershwin, Kern, Carmichael, Ellington, and more. Tickets \$25, \$45, \$60. Students ages 6-25: free fairfaxsymphony.org

Annual Christmas Craft Bazaar. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Annandale United Methodist Church, 6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Handcrafted jewelry, ornaments, glass art, bath and body, purses, Spirit wear, pins greeting cards, needle work, children clothes, fabric art and blankets.

Fairfax County's 10th Annual History Conference. 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. The theme of the conference is "Fire, Flight & Fury!" The War of 1812 in Fairfax County-200 years later.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra presents "I'll Be Seeing You" by Luke Frazier. 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. For more information call 888-945-2468.

Art Auction. 6:30 p.m. King of Kings Lutheran Church, 4025 Kings Way, Fairfax.

There will be art for everyone's taste and budget, in all media and price ranges. Event benefits the Preschool Scholarship Fund and the youth program.

Admission: \$20 per person - \$35 per couple. For more information or to reserve your tickets call Judi Cooper at 703-378-7272, ext. 225 or email jhangen@kofk.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 9

Taste of Greater Springfield. 3-7 p.m. Embassy Suites, 8100 Loisdale Road, Springfield. Will feature cuisine from 20 local restaurants. Tickets for adults are \$30 at www.togs.us Sponsored by the West Springfield Rotary Club Foundation.

"Hands On" Modeling Day. 1-4 p.m. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road.

Learn about railroading and the Fairfax Station through hands on modeling activities. You may also bring your own model train items that need work. Admission is free for children under 5 and Museum members; \$2 ages 5-15; \$4 ages 16 and over. www.fairfax-station.org, 703-425-9225.

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THURSDAY/DEC. 4-SUNDAY/DEC. 7
Huge Holiday Book Sale. Times vary. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Come and find those perfect books, CDs and DVDs for the holiday. Call for hours, 703-451-8055.

THURSDAY/OCT. 30

Walk-in eBook and Computer Clinic. 10 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Help with downloading library eBooks. Bring device and its account ID and password. Help with basic computer skills. Adults. 703-644-7333.
Library Tech Help. 6 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Get library-related electronic resources questions answered. Includes help with eBooks and compatible devices. Adults. Bring library card, eBook reader and laptop. 703-293-6227.

SATURDAY/NOV. 1-SATURDAY/NOV. 22

NVRC Collecting Blankets for Refugees. Several Fairfax County locations. Northern Virginia Regional Commission will collect blankets to help Syrian refugees. For more information, go to www.helpsyrianrefugees.net/

SUNDAY/NOV. 9

Recycling Event. noon-5 p.m. Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Recycle outdated electronics and save a dog's life. Questions on what to bring, info@aforeverhome.org. www.facebook.com/events/362845497196002/

SATURDAY/NOV. 15.

NAACP Branch Election. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke (behind Kings Park Library). Election of branch officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee. To vote in the branch election, you must be a member in good standing and branch membership must be dated before Oct. 16, 2014. A form of ID is required. 703-591-4488.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Twenty-five students from Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) have been named 2015 National Achievement Scholarship program semi-finalists in an academic competition for Black American high school students conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). The students represent 12 high schools in FCPS.

- The semifinalists are:
- ❖ Annandale High School: Yonatan Ayele.
 - ❖ Edison High School: Maxine Morgan and Shalom Yiblet.
 - ❖ Fairfax High School: William Sampong.
 - ❖ Hayfield Secondary School: Camryn Bishop, Reese Cloud, and Dominique Edwards.
 - ❖ Lake Braddock Secondary School: Leul Berhane-Meskel and Kinaya Hassane.
 - ❖ Langley High School: Leah Yirga.
 - ❖ Madison High School: Rachel Bostick, Jesse Ernest, and Benjamin Jackson.
 - ❖ Marshall High School: Natascha Whyte.
 - ❖ South County High School: Maya Armstrong and Olivia Jones.
 - ❖ Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST): Azeez Abdikarim, Arielle Ampeh, Rebecca Clark-Callender, Theodore Richardson, Hannah Wied, and Rollin Woodford.
 - ❖ West Potomac High School: Zoe Smith.
 - ❖ Woodson High School: Robert Cuyjet and Daniel Pryce.

The semifinalists will compete for more than 800 Achievement Scholarship awards, worth \$2.5 million, to be awarded next spring. The awards will be supported by corporations, professional organizations, foundations, and funds from the NMSC. To be considered for a scholarship, semifinalists must advance to the finalist level by fulfilling additional requirements.

Jacob Augelli, an eighth grade student at Robinson Secondary, finished in fourth place overall in the 2014 United States Geography Olympiad, junior varsity division. The competition consisted of two parts: a written exam and a quiz

ONGOING

Singers Wanted for the Celebration Singers. The women's show choir is interested in new talent to perform at various Northern Virginia community sites. Practices are Wednesdays 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in Burke. Contact Gayle Parsons, 703-644-4485 or email gparsons3@cox.net.

Online Scavenger Hunt. Visit Fairfax tasks those interested in becoming "citizen ambassadors" to the county (those informed on fun, creative weekend outings in the area) to find two Fairfax County Ambassador icons hidden throughout the fxva.com website in order to join the ambassador team; those who find all five hidden pins will receive a complimentary gift. www.fxva.com/online-ambassador.

Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 1:30-2:30 p.m., at the Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Tuesday and/or Thursday classes in a heated pool designed to work on balance and core muscles for injury prevention. \$10. 703-667-9800.

American Red Cross CPR, First Aid and AED. Various times, at 2720 State Route 699, Suite 200, Fairfax. One-year certification, digital or print materials and continued education on Mondays through Thursday and Saturday. \$70-110. www.redcrossna.org.

Dementia Care Givers Support Groups. Various times, at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. The groups are for those caring for someone with dementia or for those interested in learning more about providing care giving to a person with a disorder that affects memory and cognition and may impact behavior and physical abilities. 703-451-8626 or Eileen.thompson1@gmail.com.

bowl tournament; Augelli placed sixth in the exam and tied for seventh in the quiz bowl tournament; overall scores were compiled by averaging each competitor's ranking for each part. Over 70 junior varsity students from as far away as Guam competed in the written exam and in a preliminary quiz bowl round, while those with high scores advanced to the final quiz bowl round. Questions ranged in difficulty from naming countries by their capital to identifying obscure islets in the North Atlantic. The top four varsity students earned the right to represent the USA at the 2014 International Geography Olympiad in Krakow, Poland, this summer. The Geography Olympiad was sponsored by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and HISTORY, commonly known as the History Channel, which also sponsors the National History Bee and Bowl. For more information on the competition, please visit www.geographyolympiad.com.

The Citadel has recognized **Cadet Martin Krawczak** of Springfield on the school's dean's list for his academic achievement during the spring semester. Recognition on the South Carolina military school's dean's list is reserved for students who were registered for 12 or more semester hours and received a grade point average of 3.2 or higher with no grade below a C for the previous semester's work.

Yihan Zhou, Fairfax, earned a place on the Deans Honor Roll at Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan., for the spring 2014 semester. Zhou is a junior majoring in general studies. To be eligible, students must have enrolled in 12 or more credit hours and have a minimum grade point average of 3.60 for the semester.

Cadet Carson Giammaria, son of Rick and Kim Giammaria of Lorton, graduated from the U.S. Military Academy on May 28. Giammaria graduated from Hayfield Secondary School in 2010. While at West Point, he concentrated his studies in Engineering Psychology. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army within the Armor branch and will report to Fort Benning, GA., to attend Ranger School. Upon completion, he will be stationed in Germany.

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Passenger Rail Public Meetings Planned
Join the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Nov. 5, 6, 12, or 13 for a public meeting to discuss Washington D.C. to Richmond-Southeast High Speed Rail, to improve intercity passenger rail for faster, more reliable connections. DRPT strives to provide reasonable accommodations and services for persons who require special assistance to participate. Contact the Title VI compliance officer at 804-786-4440 or TDD 711. Comments will be accepted until Dec. 5. An online meeting is available at: www.DC2RVARail.com

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SPORTS



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax field hockey team won its sixth consecutive Liberty District/Conference 6 championship on Oct. 27.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax senior Charlotte Duke, left, scored a goal against Madison in the Conference 6 tournament championship game on Oct. 27 at Fairfax High School.

Fairfax Field Hockey Wins Sixth Straight Title

Rebels beat Madison to capture Conference 6 championship.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

When time expired in the first half of Monday's Conference 6 field hockey tournament final, the goose eggs on the scoreboard initially signified Madison had escaped the opening 30 minutes unscathed against five-time defending champion Fairfax.

"Almost," Fairfax senior Charlotte Duke said after the game.

While time ran out, play would continue as Fairfax had earned a penalty corner in the closing seconds. The Rebels capitalized when senior defender Mackenzie Burnett found the back of the cage for the third time this season, giving Fairfax a 1-0 advantage.

"Before [head coach Amber Beaudoin] told us all to press up, I was thinking to myself, time is out, how great would it be to put one in and go into the second half with a leg up," Burnett said. "It just happened that I got to the ball and I turned and I felt the goalie on me and I just placed it. I feel that that really gave us a push in the second half."

Duke added an insurance goal in the sec-



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Senior captain Cori Black and the Fairfax field hockey team defeated Madison 2-0 on Oct. 27.

ond half and Fairfax won its sixth consecutive Liberty District/Conference 6 championship with a 2-0 victory on Oct. 27 at Fairfax High School.

The Rebels got off to a slow start against the Warhawks during their regular-season meeting on Oct. 9, but eventually scored a pair of second-half goals to win, 2-0. On Monday, the teams were again on the verge of entering the second half locked in a scoreless tie, but Burnett's goal gave the Rebels

a boost entering the break.

"I think we knew that if we didn't score then," Duke said, "then it would be a bad halftime for us and [Madison] would have more confidence knowing that they survived half the game without us scoring, once again."

The Rebels started their championship run when Burnett was in the seventh grade. No. 21 didn't want the streak to end on her watch.

"It's our six-peat, so it felt like more pressure," Burnett said, "because you didn't want to be the team to break the streak."

Does this title feel any different than the previous five?

"They're all different," Beaudoin said. "They're different kids, they have different personalities. This group is a group of fighters. ... We've had injuries all year and people just step in and they play. I love this group."

The Rebels fought their way to a 16-3 record this season with a roster loaded with talented and experienced seniors. Last year, the Rebels finished region runner-up and earned a berth in the state tournament. This year, Fairfax hopes to make another deep postseason run. The Rebels faced Robinson, the No. 4 seed from Conference 5, in the opening round on Wednesday, after The Connection's deadline.

"We have a lot of pride in our school and our team," Burnett said, "and we [want] to show that out on the field."

Fairfax's Burnett, forward Duke, senior forward Trisha Le, senior midfielder Olivia Cummings, and senior defender Cori Black each earned first-team all-conference honors. Junior midfielder Victoria Brzezynski, senior midfielder Meg Robertson and sophomore defender Molly Tenerelli were named to the all-conference second team.

The winner of Wednesday's Fairfax/Robinson game will face the winner of Battlefield/Lake Braddock in the region quarterfinals on Thursday, Oct. 30.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

SoCo Football Demolishes Woodson

The South County football team remained undefeated with a 69-6 drubbing of Woodson on Oct. 24.

The Stallions (8-0) have outscored their last four opponents 252-51, scoring at least 56 points each game and surpassing 60 three times.

South County will host Lake Braddock at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 31.

Lake Braddock Thumps T.C. Williams

After suffering its second two-point loss of the season, the Lake Braddock football team responded with a 52-7 victory over T.C. Williams on Oct. 24, improving its record to 6-2.

The Bruins two losses came against West Springfield (16-14) and Robinson (19-17).

Lake Braddock will travel to face undefeated South County on Friday, Oct. 31.

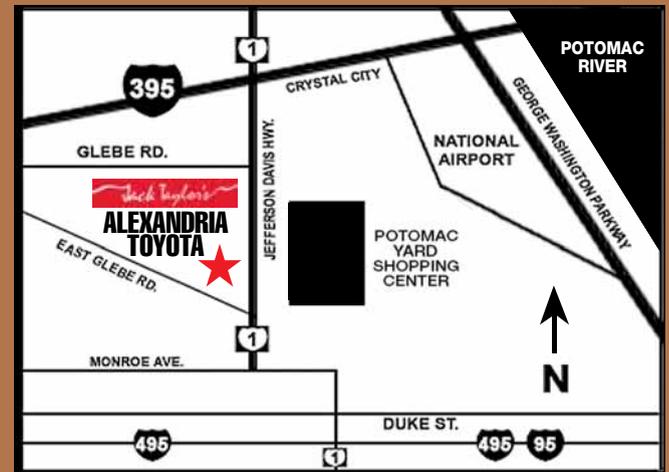
West Springfield Improves to 6-2

The West Springfield football team beat Annandale 35-10 on Oct. 24, giving the Spartans three straight wins and six in their last seven games.

West Springfield will travel to face T.C. Williams at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1 before concluding the regular season with a Nov. 7 home game against Woodson.

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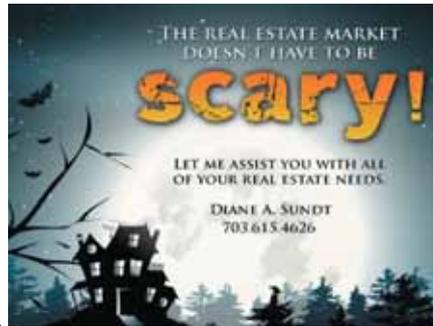
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Mary Wharton

703-795-0587 Cell

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Fairfax Station/Crosspointe \$675,000
PRICED TO SELL! Three level colonial has dramatic two story entrance foyer and brand new hardwood floors in majority of main living area. Kitchen with gourmet island has been updated with granite and new tile floors. 4 bedrooms, main level office in addition to family room, living room, dining room and butler's pantry. Lower level features walkout basement with rough-in for additional bath. For more information or an appointment to show call Mary or Steve Wharton at 703-795-0587 or 703-627-0103.



Catie, Steve & Associates

Direct: 703-278-9313

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Fairfax
\$519,900

Seller to pay Closing Cost for purchaser of this stunning contemporary sited on a cul-de-sac, just a 5 minute walk to the pool, park, tennis courts & Woodglen Lake! Inside delights include 3 large & sunny bedrooms (room for 4), 3.5 baths, a kitchen with Corian counters and seamless sink; a gorgeous glass walled family room; a finished Rec Room & a private master suite with picture windows and huge master bath.

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