

What Are You Thankful for This Thanksgiving?

VIEWPOINTS, PAGE 4

Sun Shines on Pohick Church Christmas Mart

NEWS, PAGE 12

Anita Stribling of Lorton (left) and Connie Myers of Springfield (right), in charge of the wait staff and kitchen staff respectively, take a breather after serving 300 guests at the 55th Pohick Church Christmas Mart on Thursday, Nov. 20.

No Hunger Games

NEWS, PAGE 3

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PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

SENTARA COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Seminars, Series, and Special Events DECEMBER 2014

Health and Wellness

Meet the Expert: Holidays and Headaches: Contemporary Alternative Treatments of Headaches

Wednesday, 12/3, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

We all have health questions. Yet, we often forget those questions when we're at a doctor's appointment, and sorting through information online can be confusing and unmanageable. Sentara physicians and specialists are here to help! Through our Meet the Expert series, learn about the topics you care about from experts who care. This session will address types of headaches, their causes and contemporary ways to treat them.

Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center
2300 Opitz Blvd., Woodbridge, VA 22191
Hylton Education Center

Maternity

Labor and Delivery Tour

Tuesday, 12/2, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Where you choose to welcome your new baby into the world is an important decision. Take a moment to tour Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center's maternity unit and learn about the exceptional care we deliver. The tour will include information on procedures, registration, parking and birth rooms.

Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center
2300 Opitz Blvd., Woodbridge, VA 22191
Main Entrance Lobby

Weight Loss

Weight Loss Seminar

Saturday, 12/6, 10:00 a.m. - noon

Thursday, 12/11, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, 12/18, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

With weight loss, it's not so much about what you'll lose, but rather what you'll gain - a way to improve your quality of life. Meet with weight loss surgeons and registered dietitians to find out more about the surgery, insurance coverage and the Sentara Comprehensive Weight Loss Surgery Center, an MBSAQIP accredited center. Plus, hear firsthand from surgery patients about their experiences.

Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center
2300 Opitz Blvd., Woodbridge, VA 22191
Hylton Education Center

Survivorship

Yoga for Cancer

Thursday, 12/4, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 12/11, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 12/18, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

In Yoga for Cancer we focus primarily on breath work and body awareness. Movements can be modified to accommodate all types of limitations. This course will include lectures on the physiology behind yoga and an understanding of yoga's workings. These tools and techniques, in combination with movement, are proving invaluable in reducing stress, pain, fatigue, insomnia, depression and anxiety; improving both coping skills and overall quality of life. It is recommended that participants dress comfortably and bring a mat and water.

Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center
2300 Opitz Blvd., Woodbridge, VA 22191
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For more information or to register for an event, please call 1-800-SENTARA or visit the Classes and Events section online at www.sentara.com. We look forward to seeing you!

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Orthopedic Health

Preoperative Total Joint Education Program

Thursday, 12/4, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, 12/18, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

As part of the Sentara OrthoJoint Center, preoperative total joint education classes are offered to patients (and those seeking more information about total joint surgery). These classes help patients and prospective patients prepare for surgery, addressing what to expect each day at the hospital and life after surgery. Speakers include physical therapists, surgical nurses and care coordinators. A tour of the surgical unit will be offered at the end of the class. Attendees should bring a family member or friend.

Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center
2300 Opitz Blvd., Woodbridge, VA 22191
Hylton Education Center



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Thanksgiving food packages for over 460 families sit in the Moose Family Center in Lorton, ready for distribution.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE LORTON COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

Cars line up in front of the Moose Family Center in Lorton to help the Lorton Community Action Center deliver Thanksgiving baskets.

No Hunger Games LCAC steps up holiday giving in Lorton.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Kathy Noone stood alone, surrounded by Thanksgiving baskets ready to feed over 400 families. The Lorton resident is Director of Volunteers for the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC), and though she looked capable, she didn't fill the bags all by herself. Earlier on Nov. 23, a team of volunteers worked "better than a well-oiled machine" to sort donated food into nearly identical combinations at the Moose Family Center in Lorton for delivery and pickup.

In all, their efforts will help 462 families around Lorton, Fairfax Station, Fort Belvoir and Southeast Fairfax County enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner — 154 of those were home-delivered by community volunteers and 43 went to families with active duty military struggling to make ends meet amid the area's high cost of living.

According to Lesley MacDonald, director of Community Investment at the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia, Fairfax County may have a well-to-do reputation, but "deep pockets of poverty exist across the Northern Virginia region," she said in an email.

The Community Foundation provides grants to organizations addressing critical community needs in child and youth development, education, health, mental health and aging, poverty relief and military personnel and their families.

"In 2012, an estimated 129,138 people lived at or below the Federal Poverty Level," MacDonald continued. "There is general agreement that families need an income of about twice the Federal Poverty Level (\$47,700 per year for a family of four in 2013)."

FOR THE PERIOD from 2008 to 2012, the U.S. Census data show 3.5 percent of Lorton residents were living below the poverty level. So it's good news that 462 fami-



Volunteers with the Lorton Community Action Center work together to load Thanksgiving food packages into cars waiting to make deliveries.

lies reached with Thanksgiving baskets is a new record for Noone's 17-year tenure.

"When we first started, we did 50 families," said Noone. "It just gets bigger, better, more streamlined. Between volunteers, community organizations and staff, it is just a phenomenal outreach, the fact that so many people come together and give so generously of either time, talent or donation."

Stacie Desper of Gaithersburg is an LCAC case manager. She joined Noone at the Moose Family Center to prepare to distribute Thanksgiving baskets to clients.

"A lot of our clients have Section 8 housing assistance, food stamps, Medicaid and [supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children] WIC," she said. "If rent increases with a new job, food stamps decrease and child care assistance decreases. So now they're working, but you have someone think 'I was just better off not working,' especially if you have three

to five kids, are a single mom. What do you do?"

LCAC provides emergency relief assistance in the form of food, basic home needs and money, and also helps counsel clients on pursuing employment. They cycle through roughly 700 volunteers at various times throughout the year.

THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS with the business community, neighborhood groups and the faith community, LCAC is able to serve meals to upwards of 280 people per week, as well as provide legal services, English as a second language classes and courses on nutrition.

"We ultimately want to help these families have more economic security so they don't need a basket next year," said Andrea Clay, LCAC Director of Development. "We understand giving a basket or food at the pantry meets an immediate need, but that doesn't really move them, move the needle.



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Lorton resident Kathy Noone, LCAC director of volunteers, has helped her organization with outreach activities for 17 years.

We want to give them some skills and knowledge so they can secure a better life for their family."

Noone and LCAC are a well-established conduit for the donations they receive, but Noone never forgets the group effort that's required to pull off record-setting outreach.

"Seeing the joy on the faces of our clients, sometimes you almost feel guilty," she said, "when they're thanking and saying God bless you. I know it wasn't just me, I couldn't do this alone. It takes a team, a community and makes you feel blessed that you can do it."

Having just recovered from the Thanksgiving outreach, Noone and LCAC will look to replicate their record success for Christmas, while adding a goal of 1,700 presents to offer their registered clients. The collection and distribution date for that outreach is Dec. 20. For more information on where and how to volunteer or donate, visit www.lortonaction.org.

VIEWPOINTS

What Are You Thankful for This Thanksgiving?

— TIM PETERSON

Natalie Sullivan of Lorton, freshman at South County High School:

"I'm thankful for my alarm clock; I don't know how I'd wake up without it. And my parents, without them I wouldn't have a home and everything I need. And my teachers, they supply me with knowledge."



Cristian Meneses of Fairfax Station, junior at South County High School:

"I'm thankful for my family, how through tough times they'll always be there."



Ana Loveridge of Lorton, third grade at home school:

"I'm thankful for church, because I can learn about Jesus and the books of the Bible."



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

December 5-6, 2014

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Friday, Dec 5 from 6:30 - 11 pm

Holiday Marketplace

Saturday, Dec 6 from 10 am - 4 pm

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Saturday, Dec 6 begins at 11 am

Holiday Designer Tour of Homes

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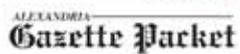


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www.lostdogandcatrescue.org

Bureau of Land Management
Announces Open House Meeting for
accepting public comments for Draft
Southeastern States Resource
Management Plan (RMP) and Draft
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Thursday, December 4, 2014
4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Gunston Hall
10709 Gunston Road
Mason Neck, VA 22079

For More Information:
www.blm.gov/es

Or

1-888-274-2133 or
(703) 339-8009



What Are You Thankful for This Thanksgiving?

— TIM PETERSON

Jamie (left) and Ana Maria Staley (right) of Clifton, students at Trinity Christian School:

"We're thankful for our family, because they love us and encourage us to do our best."



Andrew Balgley of Fairfax Station, fourth grade at Silverbrook Elementary School:

"I'm thankful for video games and food. I'd be bored to death without Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare, and without food I can't live."



JT Schmid of Fairfax Station, third grade at White Oaks Elementary School:

"I'm thankful for food, shelter and water for me, and my parents who provide them for me."



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

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Corazon Foley, the founding chairman of the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls speaks to supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield).



Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) meets with Corazon Foley and representatives from the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls.

With or Without Walls

Seniors in Burke and West Springfield look for more activity space.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Larry Mark is 83, lives in West Springfield and practices tai chi with his wife Mary. They go to a class that meets once a week at the Burke Conservancy on Burke Centre Parkway. "It's interesting," he said. "It helps your balance and strengthens your neck and other muscles. Everybody needs better balance."

Mark also volunteers as the class "monitor." Basically, he takes attendance and reports it to a coordinator. The class costs \$5 for an eight-week session, but he gets a pass on that for monitoring. Volunteers help keep the class cost down; the fees go to Fairfax County to pay the instructors.

This tai chi class is part of the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls (BWSSCWoW), an initiative offering a variety of activities for the elderly. In addition to the tai chi, classes include line-dancing, yoga, zumba, Hawaiian hula, self defense, ballroom dancing, walking club, book history, genealogy and outside trips.

The BWSSCWoW is the project of Corazon Foley, a retired Burke resident. She got the idea after driving the 80-year-old women from her church, Church of the Nativity in Burke, to the Lorton Senior Center for Active Adults off Route 1.

"Every time I pick them up," Foley said, "they'd say, 'Oh Cora, why do we have to go all the way over there? Why can't we have something nearer here?'" That was shortly after Foley retired in 2007.

EVEN WITH OVER A DOZEN senior centers around Fairfax County, Foley and the ladies decided they needed a space to be active together that was more local to them. Foley said she approached then-Braddock district Supervisor Sharon Bulova about the feasibility of building a new facility in their district.



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION
Pacita Aguas of Burke came to the Fairfax County Government center to help represent the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls.

"The answer was the same," said Foley, "Sorry, Cora, there's no money, nor staff, to get a senior center over here."

Foley started approaching churches and other locations in Burke and West Springfield about opening up space, but didn't get very far without liability coverage from the county. She ended up working with Evan Braff, the Regional Manager for Fairfax County's Department of Neighborhood and Community Services.

Braff suggested a network of sites for activities, following models used in other states, creating a "center without walls." He was able to help Foley get liability cover-

age and soon the BWSSCWoW had homes at Accotink United Universalist Church and the Burke Conservancy in Burke, the Durga Temple in Fairfax Station and Washington Irving Middle School in Springfield, among other locations.

They ran one pilot class in the summer of 2009: line-dancing. Over 70 seniors registered. Mark was there at the beginning. "We expanded in that fall," he said, "and have been expanding ever since then. We have 1,200 to 1,400 names on master list, with around 250 that are registered for 16 classes in different subjects at any one time."

Foley is proud of the opportunities the center offers the swelling senior population. "We provide them with physical fitness, intellectual fitness and social fitness," she said, "to give them life."

The classes have become so popular, however, that they're becoming more and more difficult to get into. Increasing wait lists and the Board of Supervisors' Sept. 9 passage of the FY 2014 Budget Carryover prompted Foley to approach Springfield district Supervisor Pat Herrity about whether some of those funds could be re-programmed to help create a dedicated space for the BWSSCWoW.

Herrity invited Foley to the Fairfax County Government Center on Nov. 13 for a meeting. Foley brought a number of proposals to the table, centered around using the Pohick Regional Library on Sydenstricker Road in Burke as a potential site for the center. She was joined by several Burke seniors including Pacita Aguas of Burke Lake Gardens, who helped Foley start the center.

Citing a library renovation set to begin next year, Foley requested having exercise flooring added to the library's existing large

conference room and to have priority in making reservations for the room. More significantly, she asked that an expansion be built on the back of the library to house many of the center's classes.

HERRITY ACKNOWLEDGED there is a need to help active seniors. But, he said of the Pohick proposal, "If we go this route, does this take the senior center off the table and do you get a half a solution instead of a full solution for Springfield?"

Chris Leonard, Director of Neighborhood and Community Services, was at the meeting as well. He shared county budget documentation dating back to FY 2009 for a new Springfield community center in the "beyond five-year planning stage for construction." That would include a senior center, he said.

"When you're dealing with the budget within Fairfax County, there's over three quarters of a billion dollars of construction needs that are included in that," Leonard continued. "When we talk about senior centers, we talk about the fact that we're competing not only with other human services buildings like community service board facilities and homeless shelters. They're also in competition with libraries and police stations, the same pot of money."

"There are very important things in line here," said Herrity. "This is one of the things in line."

Herrity said the construction plans for the Pohick library have long been finalized, but would look into whether an expansion was feasible. He also agreed to check on getting the conference room floor rug removed and reservation priority for the BWSSCWoW. "I don't know whether that can be done, but that's expanding use of an existing facility and that makes all the sense in the world to me."

Foley and her cadre of seniors left the meeting content their voices had been heard.

NEWS

From left, rear row - Lexi Rhem, Cayli Dobbs, Roxy King, James Woods, Ben Cherington, Brian Perry, Samantha Horning, Kylie Levy, and Madison Thornton (the MSA cast and director of 'I Never Saw Another Butterfly.')



Area Students Recognized for All-Star Cast

Ben Cherington and Kylie Levy of Metropolitan School of the Arts (MSA) Performing Arts Academy of Lorton, and Alexandria were recently recognized for All-Star Cast by the Virginia Theatre Association Conference for their performances in "I Never Saw Another Butterfly." This was the first time Metropolitan School of the Arts had participated in the conference. Cherington, an 11th grader from Burke, and Levy, a 10th grader from Fairfax, are students at Metropolitan School of the Arts.



Ben Cherington of Burke and Kylie Levy of Fairfax, Metropolitan School of the Arts students.

Metropolitan School of the Arts (MSA) also earned the 2014 Virginia Theatre Association Conference award for Best Costume Design and was recognized for Staging, as well as received an honorable mention for Best Play, "I Never Saw Another Butterfly."

"We're so proud of our students and appreciate the accolades from

the Virginia Theatre Association," said Melissa Dobbs, president and founder of Metropolitan School of the Arts of Lorton and Alexandria. "We appreciate the support from

our MSA families that have helped our performers be the best they can," said Dobbs.

For more information, go to www.metropolitanarts.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The **Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna** has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area seniors to medical appointments and other activities.

Opportunities to volunteer for other services are also available. No long-term

commitment and hours are flexible to fit your schedule. We hope you can help. Visit our website at www.scov.org or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email volunteer@scov.org.

The **Kingstowne Center for Ac-**

tive Adults in Alexandria needs a Van Driver to take participants on outings and an ESL Teacher. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadultsand click on Volunteer Solutions.

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OPINION

Holidays Are About Giving

Give thanks and share; tens of thousands of families around us are in need.

The holidays are about giving, and giving thanks. The holidays are about children and family. The holidays are about sharing, about joy. The holidays are about being thankful and about faith and appreciation. The holidays are about alleviating suffering for others.

Surrounded by the bounty in so many neighborhoods in Northern Virginia, many of us see little signs of the massive unmet needs here. But in Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 52,000 of the students are poor enough to re-

ceive free or subsidized meals, a significant measure of poverty.

In Arlington more than 32 percent of the students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals; that's 7,452 students at last count.

EDITORIAL

In Alexandria, 8,582 students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals. That's 60 percent of the 14,222 students enrolled.

These are children who are living in families who may be on the brink of homelessness, families who must choose between medical

ills, car repair, heat and food. These are children who may not be sure that they will have a meal between the meals they get in school. School holidays can bring uncertainty and hunger, a far cry from the celebrations, gifts and plenty that we associate with Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hundreds of homeless students attend the public schools, and their needs are greater.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are a few ideas. We will rerun this list again during the holiday, so let us know what we have missed.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Where to Give Locally

In no particular order:

❖ **Our Daily Bread** — has been serving needy families in Fairfax County for 25 years. The Holiday Program helps those in need with food for the holidays and gifts for their children, making last year's holiday season brighter for approximately 3,000 families. For more information on their holiday programs, including how to sponsor a family, go to www.odbfairfax.com/holiday

❖ **FACETS** helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251 or volunteer@facetscares.org. www.facetscares.org. 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030

❖ **Fairfax City Area FISH** (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), working with the Office of Coordinated Services Planning, Fairfax County

Department of Human Services, FISH helps local citizens who are in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities, and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880 <http://fairfaxfish.org/>

❖ **Lamb Center**, www.thelambcenter.org, Day center for homeless, Fairfax 703-691-3178

❖ **Food for Others** distributed more than 2.4 million pounds of free food to families in need in Northern Virginia in the year ending June 30, 2012. The non-profit provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173. www.foodforothers.com

❖ **Ecumenical Community Helping Others** (ECHO), 703-569-9160. Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Provides

food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low income families, helping more than 5,000 people last year. www.echo-inc.org.

❖ **Lorton Community Action Center** operates the Act II Thrift Shop at 9506 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Sales from the shop generate funds for LCAC and clients also shop there. Now collecting gift cards and food baskets for Thanksgiving, gifts and food baskets for Christmas, and warm coats. 703-339-8611 www.lortonaction.org.

❖ **12 Ways of Giving:** Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships "12 Ways of Giving" campaign is an annual event that showcases many ways for meaningful, local giving during the holiday season, highlighting nonprofits in Fairfax County. www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org

❖ **National Capital Food Bank**, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia, 703-541-3063. www.capitalareafoodbank.org

Nurturing Happy Memories

For some, memories of just a few happy moments provide arsenal for enduring.

BY JOAN BRADY

"It's my few happy memories that keep me going," a young woman who had grown up in foster care told me a few months ago.

To be honest, today I'm a little foggy on exactly what her happy memories even were. They weren't monumental experiences or achievements. They were simply moments in time when she felt happy.

One was about being near the water. Another, a meal eaten at a particular restaurant. And another, a time when she felt like she was being heard. A small arsenal of moments that she could dip into, as needed.

I haven't been able to stop thinking about that conversation. I grew up with two loving parents. While no childhood is perfect, I'd say mine was pretty close. What I keep



The importance of happy memories: Joan Brady in a selfie with her siblings, the first photo of just the four of them since childhood.

stored away are my few unhappy memories. Images I trot out when I want to wallow in a little self-pity.

But what if I could hang on to just a few good memories. And they had to be enough to keep me moving forward, from making bad choices, even from killing myself. What would they be?

Well there was my nursery school graduation. Every kid had

to stand up and perform in front of the group of proud parents. Painfully shy and paralyzed by the very idea, I distinctly remember my mother telling me that she had spoken with my teacher and I would be exempt from this particular torture. This one I'd keep as a reminder that I have a mother who had my back then and continues to now.

There was that beautiful spring

day that I walked with her down the streets of New York City, proud to be a recent college grad and excited to be going on job interviews and looking for an apartment. It would be good to hang on to a reminder to appreciate accomplishments and to embrace the next set of goals with enthusiasm.

There was the time a few years ago that my sister and brothers and I took a selfie. It was the first image of just the four of us since we were kids. There was something about that moment, enjoying each other's company and recognizing, that no matter what, these people could be counted on. Yup, definitely a memory worth hanging on to.

And maybe, one would be the moment when I recognized how lucky I am to have a treasure trove of happy memories as deep and as long as my life.

Joan Brady is a professional photographer; mentor and advocate for current and former foster children; volunteer with paws4People, Fairfax Families4Kids, and others; and a resident of Great Falls. Reach her at joan@joanbradyphotography.com

Fairfax Station,
Lorton & Clifton
CONNECTION

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COMMUNITY Proof of Purchase

County-wide nonprofits offer gift ideas and civic engagement.

By TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Over 20 years as manager of Burke Lake Park, Charlie Reagle has seen a lot of benches installed. So many in fact that he's running out of water view locations. And though many people choose to honor deceased family members with a bench, he's had plenty donated in tribute to the living. One pair of sisters gave a bench as a birthday gift to their mother; it had two plaques, one of which was at ground level so the mother's dog could see it.

"Each one, working with a donor, I know the story with it," said Reagle. "Going out, going around the trail, you wind up spending several hours with them over this whole time."

While water view space may be drying up at Burke Lake, there are plenty of scenic plots available throughout the 420-odd parks around Fairfax County. And there's a collaborative effort underway to help populate that with tax-deductible gifts. It's part of the county's Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3) "12 Ways of Giving" initiative.

In this instance, citizens can donate a new bench (around \$2,000 for the installation), adopt an existing bench with a plaque (\$800) or have a two-to-three-inch-caliber landscape tree planted. The donations to the parks go through the nonprofit Fairfax County Park Foundation. OP3 is encouraging the public to help address civic issues by making charitable donations as gifts.

"The idea is it's to be very easy, very engaging," said Wendy Lemieux, a spokesperson with OP3. A single web page is a portal to donate to 12 different organizations that each satisfy a county goal for the environment, education, animals or domestic violence. "As you dive deeper, you can get involved and knock someone off your Christmas list as well," Lemieux said.

Charitable giving has become a major factor in the economy: "Donations, in the country as a whole, are now a \$335 billion enterprise," said Alan Abramson, director of the GMU Center for Nonprofit Management, Philanthropy and Policy.

He cited the latest report from Giving USA, a semi-annual public service analysis.

Abramson attributes a gain in giving over the past several years in part to the regrowth of the economy, but that it's also "a creative time for giving," he said. "With more online giving, more people are thinking about loans instead of gifts. These are new creative approaches to engage people in helping."

Which is where 12 Ways comes in. Now in its fourth year linking citizens with nonprofits and county-wide issues like disadvantaged students from minority groups underperforming in schools, the gift-giving angle is paying off. "We've seen groups have up to a 150 percent increase in giving," said Lemieux.

"We've come to realize that addressing social problems is not just going to be government's responsibility," said Abramson. "We need all sectors, individuals, families and communities coming together if we're going to get something done."

To learn more about the nearly 500 nonprofits registered in Northern Virginia, visit www.connectnorthernvirginia.org.

Opportunities to Help

***Our Daily Bread** has been contracted by Fairfax County to provide holiday assistance with half of the 3,000 referrals of families in need from county social workers.

Gift: \$50 donation for gift cards for clients or adopt a family.

"It's an opportunity to connect people with people," said ODB executive director Lisa Whetzel, "neighbors to neighbors. You see there are people who live around the corner that are living without a lot of the amenities that they live with. It's eye-opening."

♦ REFOREST FAIRFAX AND FAIRFAX RELEAF project to plant trees that maintain canopy cover around the county, help with stormwater management and soil retention. The project is responsible for many of the trees along the Fairfax County Parkway, as well as a big replanting after construc-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SANDY BROMLEY
Ina Fernández, director of the Fairfax County Office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services and Fairfax County Police Department Chief Edwin Roessler were at the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting Sept. 23 for the declaration of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Kay Fowler, executive director of Fairfax ReLeaf, plants a tree at South Run Park.

tion at Bonnie Brae Elementary School.

Gift: \$35 donation for multiple native trees in a group planting somewhere in the county.

"Eighty percent plantable space is on private land in Fairfax

County," said Jim McGlone, urban forest conservationist of the Virginia Department of Forestry. "Trying to expand or improve the coverage, we really have to engage the public and get individuals planting trees."



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELLIOTT RUBINO
Captain II Willie Bailey (left), Erin McMullin with Operation Warm (center) and Niko Chakos with FOCUS North America (right) distributed 2,200 pair of shoes and 2,000 coats Oct. 28 at Fire Station 11 with Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK FOUNDATION
Michelle Opdahl (left), Kalle (center) and Tom Bowser (right) enjoy time on a bench at Burke Lake Park.

♦ FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK FOUNDATION

Gift: \$2,000 for a new bench or \$800 to adopt an existing bench; \$1,000 for a new tree donation or \$500 to adopt.

"It does keep on giving," said Roberta Longworth, executive director of the Park Foundation. "Our wooden benches are guaranteed for five years and steel for ten."

♦ FRIENDS OF FAIRFAX COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Gift: Donations of various sizes help with surgeries, medication, collars, tags and the microchip program.

"It's an open access shelter that takes in every animal that comes to the door," said Kristen Auerbach, a spokesperson for the Fairfax

County Animal Shelter. Annually, that number is about 5,000 dogs, cats, reptiles and other furry creatures. "It's the largest jurisdiction in the United States with a placement rate above 90 percent. We're about 95 percent this year."

♦ FAIRFAX LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Gift: Add a book to a specific library's collection, such as the Richard Byrd location, through their Amazon wish list and put the gift recipient's name first on the list to check it out.

"They're supporting the community overall, based on their interests," said Susan Harman, executive director of the Fairfax Library Foundation. "That's helpful, and they can do it from their desktop."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Our Daily Bread volunteers fill food crates at the Complete the Circle collection and distribution event held at Fairfax High School Nov. 9.

♦ FIREFIGHTERS AND FRIENDS TO THE RESCUE:

works with churches, shelters and schools to provide toys, coats and shoes to children. Fifteen years ago, the organization helped 50 kids; today they reach over 3,000 in a single donation event, usually held at Fire Station 11 in Alexandria.

Gift: Donations of various sizes help purchase toys, bicycles and coats for children for the holidays.

"With 180 schools in the county, 50 to 70 are coming to us," said Captain II Willie Bailey with the Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department. "And one out of four kids living below the poverty line, that's a big need. The station looks like Toys 'R' Us for a few hours."

♦ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES:

working with the nonprofit A Way Forward to provide basic house and emergency needs for people leaving shelters to start new homes. The county has offices in 11 locations, including the South County Human Services building.

Gift: Donations of various sizes help purchase goods like bed in a bag, kitchen in a bag, door locks, mattresses, as well as holiday-specific items like toys, games and books.

"We're raising funds to give families the extras they just don't have the money or resources to provide during the holiday season," said Sandy Bromley, Fairfax County-wide domestic violence coordinator, "give victims the chance to really celebrate the holidays."

For the complete 12 Ways of Giving nonprofit list and donation portal, visit http://www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org/news/Ways_to_give_1214.html.

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Married Couples Sunday School 11:30 a.m.

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One hundred guests moved through the Pohick Church Christmas Mart lunch each hour for three hours. The proceeds from the mart help continue the church's outreach efforts in Lorton and Fort Belvoir.



(From left) Karlie Herbst of Alexandria, Laurie Kittle of Alexandria as "Mrs. Sinah McCarty of Mount Airy," Janis Harless of Mason Neck as "Ann 'Nancy' Mason of Gunston Hall," and Molly Herbst of Alexandria talk about seasonal church decorations in the historic Pohick Church during the church's Christmas Mart.

Sun Shines on Pohick Church Christmas Mart

In recent years, it's poured on people like Janice Cranel while they waited for the Pohick Church Christmas Mart to open. Rain or shine, they would still line up in front of the modest red brick building where colonial celebrities like George Washington, George Mason and their families attended services. "We come for the fellowship, the delicious luncheon, sweet ladies, arts and crafts, jewelry and Christmas decorations," said Cranel.

"And casserole," added Woodbridge resident Gay Ruff. Longtime friends Ruff, Cranel and Haymarket resident Sarah McClellan has been coming to the Christmas Mart for 25 of its 55 years of existence. They left the Nov. 20 anniversary with jewelry, decorations and casseroles with names like "Posh Squash" and "Chicken Supreme."

The Mart included 16 crafters and vendors from around Virginia and Maryland, as well as a traditional holiday lunch featuring turkey salad, green beans, cranberry sauce, stuffed celery and pumpkin pie. The line-up hasn't changed in years.

Money raised from lunch guests and people purchasing donated jewelry and crafts goes to the Ann Mason and Martha Guilds, women's groups at Pohick Church that support local charitable organizations including the Lorton Community Action Center, New Hope Housing in Mount Vernon and Fisher House at Fort Belvoir.

"It's just amazing, the different levels of service," said Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland, in between turkey salad and pumpkin pie, "with how many people eat here and then what they're able to give back." Hyland has been coming to the mart lunch for over 15 years.

Pat Osisek of Alexandria is a member of the church and helped sell donated jewelry, one of the biggest shopping draws of the mart. With numerous stands set up in the main hallway of the church office building, Osisek said "you couldn't move in here"



Pohick Church members (from left) Pat Osisek of Alexandria, Nancy Bireley of Woodbridge, Anne Poad of Springfield, Cammie Little of Alexandria and Laurie Napier of Springfield sell donated jewelry to raise outreach funds at the Pohick Church Christmas Mart.

Friends (from left) Janice Cranel of Woodbridge, Sarah McClellan of Haymarket and Gay Ruff of Woodbridge have been coming to shop at the Pohick Church Christmas Mart for 25 years.

PHOTOS BY
TIM PETERSON/
THE CONNECTION



"We come for the fellowship, the delicious luncheon, sweet ladies, arts and crafts, jewelry and Christmas decorations."

— Janice Cranel

while the mart was open between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. "We enjoy doing it every year," she said. "We've been doing this part since 1980 and it's stronger than ever."

On the 55th anniversary of the mart, brilliant sun shone through the crisp fall air all day. Cranel, McClellan and Ruff could take time to enjoy the scenery walking their casseroles back to their cars.

—TIM PETERSON

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

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



The Robert E. Lee High School Band and Drama Department will have their annual Tiny Tots Concert featuring favorite children's characters. The concert will be held Tuesday, Dec. 2 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 10 a.m. at Robert E. Lee High School. Reservations are required for the morning performances but not for the evening performance. Admission is \$2. For information or reservations call 703-971-2229 or email the Lee High School Band at LeeHSBand_TinyTots@yahoo.com.

THROUGH MONDAY/DEC. 15

FCPS Art Teachers Exhibition. Building W-16 McGuireWoods Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. FCPS art teachers display their art. 703-584-2900. www.workhousearts.org.

THROUGH MONDAY/JAN. 19, 2015

Dada Re-Discovered. Building W-16 Vulcan Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Dada Re-Discovered explores how contemporary media and ideas can filter past Dada concepts and artwork. The exhibit will feature sound, video, performance and other visual mixed media. 703-584-2900. www.workhousearts.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 27

Thanksgiving at Trummer's. 7134 Main Street, Clifton. Chef Austin Fausett is serving some traditional and some non-traditional fare for a fabulous Thanksgiving feast. Three Courses for \$64. Children 12 and under \$32.

FRIDAY/NOV. 28

Black Friday Holiday Celebration at the Workhouse. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Explore the artwork of nearly 100 artists, join in interactive demonstrations and find that perfect gift while supporting local artists. Festivities will also include Doughnuts with Santa, fine-art projects for children, and holiday music and theatrical performances throughout the day. Free. 703-584-2900. www.workhousearts.org.

Sparkling Wine Tastings. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. Recurring weekly on Sunday, Friday, Saturday. Taste all three sparklings from Paradise Springs as well as a unique Pineapple Sparkling from Maui. 10% off all sparkling wines purchased for anyone who does the tasting. Admission is \$20/person. Call (703) 830-9463 for more information. No reservations necessary as tastings will be done at our main tasting counter. Ongoing event.

SATURDAY/NOV. 29

Small Business Saturday and Tree Lighting. Tree lighting at 5 p.m. Mosaic District, 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. Get a head-start on holiday shopping at a mix of small, local retailers, then stay for Mosaic's holiday tree lighting and sing-along in Strawberry Park. www.mosaicdistrict.com.

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 2-3

Tiny Tots Concert. Tuesday: 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Wednesday: 7 p.m. The Robert E. Lee High School Band and Drama Department announce their annual Tiny Tots Concert featuring favorite children's characters. Reservations are required for the morning performances but not for the evening performance. Admission is \$2. For information or reservations call 703-971-2229 or email the Lee High School Band at LeeHSBand_TinyTots@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Free Concert. 6:30 p.m. 5500 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Living Savior Lutheran Church (livingsaviorlutheran.org) will host The Cathedral Brass (cathedralbrass.org) for a free concert. The program will feature jazz trumpeter Roger Rossi (formerly of the Army Blues), and will include

SATURDAYSUNDAY/NOV.29-DEC.28

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 29-30

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 14

Celebrate the Holiday Season with the Arts at the Workhouse

The Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton will open its galleries and studios for extended hours on Black Friday, Nov. 28, from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., offering a free, fun and festive alternative to a day at the mall. Instead of standing in lines, come and explore the artwork of nearly 100 of the area's most prominent artists; participate in interactive demonstrations; and find unique artisan gifts—all while supporting local artists in your community.

This annual event is full of free activities, events, and experiences for you to enjoy with your friends and family, such as:

HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG & TREE LIGHTING

Gather around our tree and spread holiday cheer with music and song! Ceremony begins at 5:45 p.m. after the sun sets in the Rizer Pavilion.

FIRE PITS WITH S'MORES & FREE HOT CIDER

Warm-up next to our outdoor fire pits, while you make s'mores and enjoy hot cider!

DOUGHNUTS WITH SANTA

Presented by Mestey Films Productions, join Santa and his helpers for a special holiday experience. Participants

will enjoy two doughnuts and a choice of juice or coffee while Santa and his elves read a classic Christmas story and lead a fun-filled family sing-a-long. Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras for those special photos! \$20 for children & adults.

KID'S ACTIVITIES: "STAY, CREATE!"

Young artists can get creative with fun make-and-take art projects while parents browse the diverse art galleries of the Workhouse. Suggested donation of \$5 per child for this activity, which supports Workhouse arts, education, and history programs.

HOLIDAY BALLROOM DANCE

Bring your dancing shoes and a partner to this free holiday ballroom dance from 4-5pm! No experience is necessary and all ages are welcome to twirl around the dance floor. A short lesson/demonstration will be provided by our resident Ballroom instructor Cookie Bell!

COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS

Join Chef Kathleen Linton in our Culinary Classroom for lessons in how to create tasty holiday-themed side dishes.

ART OF MOVEMENT DEMONSTRATIONS

Get on the move in Building W-11 with free classes and demos in Hula, Lei-Making, Surfset (Indoor Surfing Fitness), Bodyblade, Pilates, Yoga and more! All ages and abilities are welcome.

You are invited to a FREE Concert with
THE CATHEDRAL BRASS
featuring Antonio DiLorenzo's "Twas the Night Before Christmas," narrated by Alan Cole, with a special appearance by Saint Nick himself!
Saturday, December 6, 6:30-7:30 P.M.



Living Savior Lutheran Church,
5500 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039
703-352-1421 • www.livingsaviorlutheran.org

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



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9:45 am Sunday School

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Cross a name off your list and take a tax deduction. It's a win-win!!

Honor someone special...

...Donate a bench to a park

Someone on your Holiday List Needs a Meal!

Donate a \$50 grocery gift card to feed hungry families in the Fairfax community!

Visit www.ODBfairfax.org

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DONATE TO KIDS IN NEED TODAY.

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FAIRFAX 2016 WORLD GAMES
The Games of Heroes™

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FAIRFAX LIBRARY Foundation
Through Amazon

ADOPT A FAMILY For the Holidays!

A Way Forward Standing together to stop Domestic and Sexual Violence

Reforest Fairfax with a Gift of Trees

Help us make all their seasons bright.

Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter

FAIRFAX COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT FOUNDATION

Holiday Food & Gift Card Drive
Help the Victim Services Section provide child victims of crime and their families food, clothing and gifts this holiday.

"BUY A BRICK" TO HELP END HOMELESSNESS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

Every Child Deserves a Gift During the Holidays.

FIREFIGHTERS & FRIENDS TO THE RESCUE

GIVE THE GIFT OF TIME... VOLUNTEER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Volunteer Fairfax



To request reasonable ADA accommodations or information in an alternative format, call (703) 324-5171 TTY 711



LEARN MORE AT WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTYPARTNERSHIPS.ORG

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 13

Antonio DiLorenzo's "Twas the Night Before Christmas," narrated by Alan Cole. Free and open to the public. 703-352-1421.

City of Fairfax Festival of Lights and Carols. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Come enjoy live holiday music, hot cider, s'mores by the Yule log, petting farm, Ferris wheel, caroling and lighting of the Christmas tree in the winter wonderland. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festival-of-lights-and-carols for times and locations.

Plantation Christmas. 2-7 p.m. Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. 2-7 p.m. Ride in a horse-drawn carriage, sip warm cider by the fire, and sample period food prepared in the hearth kitchen. Return to the 18th century as costumed characters greet you in the house and throughout the grounds. Admission: \$15 adults, \$5 children (6-18).

Art Guild of Clifton's Holiday Art Show and Sale. 2-6 p.m. Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Enjoy shopping for quality, original art, made entirely by Clifton artists. Also featuring work of student members and this year's winners of "Reflections" contest. www.artguildofclifton.org

Clifton Holiday Homes Tour and Tree Lighting. 4-7 p.m. Historic Town of Clifton, 12704 Chapel Road, Clifton. Tour some of the local Clifton homes in the historic district and enjoy the town Christmas tree lighting and caroling afterward in the Square. Tickets for tour: \$25 adult/\$10 child.

Historic Pohick Church Candlelight Dinner. Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Featured will be musical entertainment and a catered dinner of assorted hors d'oeuvres, beef tenderloin, roast chicken, side dishes and several desserts. Tickets are \$75 a person. www.pohick.org. RSVP by Nov. 22 to Charlotte Knipling at 703-946-1031.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 6-7 25th Annual Holiday Train Show Festival. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday: 12-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Model trains on display and running will include Z, N, HO, LEGO, O, Standard and G scales. Door prize drawing for a new Lionel Scout train set. Bring your broken trains to "The Train Doctor." Antique cars on display, weather permitting. Gift shop will be open. Santa may make a visit that weekend. Museum members and children 4 and under, free; children 5-15, \$2; adults 16 and over, \$5. For more information, www.fairfax-station.org, 703-425-9225.

SUNDAY/DEC. 7 "Christmas in Camp." 12-4 p.m. 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Discuss Civil War-era holiday customs, make Victorian ornaments, and participate in camp drills with Company D, 17th VA Infantry, "Fairfax Rifles" C.S.A. Guided tours of Historic Blenheim House.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 3-SUNDAY/DEC. 7 Snow Day. 10:30 a.m. W-3 Theatre, Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. One cold December morning, a young girl named Skip wakes up to find the entire neighborhood covered in a thick, dazzling blanket of white snow. \$8. 703-967-0437 or www.artsonthehorizon.org.

HOME SALES

In October 2014, 52 homes sold between \$1,300,000-\$174,900 in the Clifton, Fairfax Station and Lorton area.

OBITUARY

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code
10600 HUNTING SHIRE LN	5	4	2	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,300,000	Detached	5.00	22039
9740 THORN BUSH DR	4	4	2	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,300,000	Detached	7.20	22039
8907 TITLEIST TRL	5	5	1	LORTON	\$1,207,500	Detached	0.85	22079
9689 ALEXANDRA NICOLE DR	4	3	1	LORTON	\$966,511	Detached	0.87	22079
6065 INNISVALE DR	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$950,000	Detached	5.00	22039
7710 MIDWAY PL	5	4	1	LORTON	\$899,000	Detached	1.41	22079
7508 SOUTH REACH DR	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$877,450	Detached	0.61	22039
7924 HOLLINGTON PL	5	3	2	FAIRFAX STATION	\$825,000	Detached	0.22	22039
6802 BRIMSTONE LN	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$810,000	Detached	0.63	22039
8110 BELLINGHAM COURT	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$800,000	Detached	0.30	22039
7816 SOUTH VALLEY DR	5	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$799,900	Detached	1.15	22039
8618 OAK BROOK LN	5	4	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$793,000	Detached	0.42	22039
7409 ROCKY RAVINE DR	5	4	0	FAIRFAX STATION	\$785,000	Detached	0.59	22039
6408 CHAPEL VIEW RD	5	3	1	CLIFTON	\$775,000	Detached	5.00	20124
9000 WEATHERLY WAY	4	4	1	LORTON	\$763,000	Detached	0.30	22079
13312 STURNO DR	4	4	1	CLIFTON	\$740,000	Detached	0.30	20124
9308 HALLSTON CT	4	4	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$740,000	Detached	0.26	22039
9746 OAKTOP CT	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$715,000	Detached	0.34	22039
8145 BLUEBONNET DR	5	4	1	LORTON	\$705,000	Detached	0.22	22079
13503 WILDER CT	4	3	1	CLIFTON	\$685,000	Detached	0.23	20124
11645 CAPTAIN RHETT LN	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$685,000	Detached	0.59	22039
7325 WAYFARER DR	4	2	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$675,000	Detached	0.68	22039
7224 LYNDAM HILL CIR	5	3	1	LORTON	\$660,000	Detached	0.13	22079
7987 ALMEDA CT	4	3	1	LORTON	\$599,900	Detached	0.09	22079
13909 SOUTH SPRINGS DR	4	3	0	CLIFTON	\$590,000	Detached	0.20	20124
7738 TEA TABLE DR	5	3	1	LORTON	\$588,000	Detached	0.11	22079
6121 UNION VILLAGE DR	4	2	2	CLIFTON	\$585,000	Detached	0.20	20124
7621 BUCKLAND PL	4	3	1	LORTON	\$559,000	Detached	0.10	22079
9012 BANYON RIDGE RD	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	\$527,000	Detached	0.27	22039
7744 GRANDWIND DR	3	2	1	LORTON	\$520,000	Detached	0.06	22079
8224 LAUREL HEIGHTS LOOP	4	3	1	LORTON	\$497,000	Detached	0.07	22079
9631 PARSON MASSEY PL	3	3	1	LORTON	\$495,000	Townhouse	0.06	22079
9323 HUNDITH HILL CT	3	2	2	LORTON	\$482,000	Townhouse	0.04	22079
8175 MCCAULEY WAY	3	3	1	LORTON	\$474,000	Townhouse	0.04	22079
8362 MILLOM CT	3	3	1	LORTON	\$465,000	Townhouse	0.06	22079
9080 TANYARD LN	3	2	2	LORTON	\$451,500	Townhouse	0.05	22079
8112 DOVE COTTAGE CT	3	3	0	LORTON	\$398,000	Townhouse	0.03	22079
7619 FALLSWOOD WAY	3	2	1	LORTON	\$392,000	Detached	0.15	22079
6019 LITTLE BROOK CT	3	3	1	CLIFTON	\$325,900	Townhouse	0.05	20124
10518 OLD COLCHESTER RD	2	1	0	LORTON	\$295,000	Detached	1.01	22079
8313 SNOWY EGRIT WAY #32	3	2	1	LORTON	\$288,000	Townhouse		22079
7473 LONE STAR RD	3	1	1	LORTON	\$277,000	Townhouse	0.03	22079
8303 DUCK HAWK WAY #66	3	2	1	LORTON	\$265,000	Townhouse		22079
9588 INVERARY CT	3	2	0	LORTON	\$264,900	Townhouse	0.04	22079
7731 WOLFORD WAY	2	1	1	LORTON	\$250,000	Townhouse	0.03	22079
8547 BLUE ROCK LN	2	1	1	LORTON	\$247,900	Townhouse	0.02	22079
9258 CARDINAL FOREST LN #201	2	2	0	LORTON	\$226,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		22079
9240 CARDINAL FOREST LN #9240B-	2	2	0	LORTON	\$226,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		22079
9902 HAGEL CIR	4	2	0	LORTON	\$217,500	Townhouse	0.01	22079
5845 ORCHARD HILL CT #5845	2	2	0	CLIFTON	\$216,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		20124
7651 STANA CT	3	2	0	LORTON	\$204,750	Townhouse	0.06	22079
13642 ORCHARD DR #3642	1	1	0	CLIFTON	\$174,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		20124

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Pamela Wallace, of Clifton, Dies

Pamela Wallace, passed away at St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, N.J., surrounded by her loving family. They invite everyone to attend the memorial service celebrating her life at the Christ Episcopal Church, 74 Park Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028 on Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014 at 11 a.m., where she wed her husband, Bob, 45 years ago. Please omit flowers but memorial contributions to ASPCA, PO Box 96929, Washington, DC 20090-6929 (www.ASPCA.ORG) or the American Stroke Foundation (AMERICANSTROKE.ORG) would be greatly appreciated.

Born in Michigan City, Ind., Pam

lived in Clifton, Va., for 25 years raising her family then moving to Lewes, Del., several years ago. She received her teaching degree from Windham College, Putney, Vt., and her Masters in teaching from the University of Virginia. Pamela retired three years ago after 16 years as a high school English/Special Education teacher within the Fairfax County Public Schools.

In addition to her husband Bob, she is survived by her sons Chris and wife Jessica, Scott and wife Melissa and Andrew and wife Ashley; she is also survived by her five wonderful grandchildren and her loving sister Molly Emiliani, husband Vincent and their five children.

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.

followed by a 10:30 a.m. worship service at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspringfield.org.

Thanksgiving Day Service will be held on Nov. 27, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the First Church of Christ, Scientist at 5315 Backlick Rd., Springfield, 703-941-7540. Thanksgiving is a time for sharing gratitude and acknowledging God's blessings. The public is invited to join in this day of giving thanks.

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

Fairfax Baptist Temple Christmas Service, Sunday, Dec. 21, 10 a.m., 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station. Please contact the church office for more information: 703-323-8100, fbt@fbtministries.org

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

The Fairfax Baptist Temple choir, orchestra and drama team present "Ten Thousand Hallelujahs" a Christmas Musical by Ron & Shelly Hamilton, Sunday evening, Dec. 21, 5 p.m., 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station. Please contact the church office for more information: 703-323-8100, fbt@fbtministries.org

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

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.

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

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

JCCNV Mother's Circle program, for women who are not Jewish but are raising Jewish children. Free education in Jewish rituals, practices and values, while respecting the participant's choice to retain her own religious identity. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. Contact Laurie Albert, 703-537-3064 or LaurieA@jccnv.org.

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, offers traditional Sunday church services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. plus Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Childcare is available 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. There will be a Terry Hall Concert on Saturday, April 14 at 4 p.m. with old spirituals, classic hymns, southern gospel favorites and more. 703-971-5151 or admin@franconiaumc.org or www.franconiaumc.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m.,

95 Express Lanes Scheduled to Open in December

Beginning next month, a 29-mile stretch of I-95 should look a little different. Existing HOV lanes will change to "Express Lanes," offering drivers with an E-ZPass a less congested alternative.

The change affects 95 starting in Stafford County around Garrisonville Road, north to I-395 in Fairfax County by Edsall Road.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) partnered with the Transurban and Fluor-Lane 95 LLC for design and construction of the \$925 million project.

Funding came from Virginia's Public-Private Transportation Act.

VDOT recently released results from an online survey of 1,200 Northern Virginia drivers conducted last month. They concluded from the sampling that many drivers aren't prepared for the new lanes to open.

To access the lanes, all cars must have an E-ZPass, the flat, white transponder that sticks to the inside of the windshield.

There are two types of passes available: the E-ZPass pays a toll wirelessly when drivers use the Express Lanes; the E-ZPass Flex works the same while in toll mode, but can also be switched to HOV mode.

With three or more passengers along for the ride, Flex cars travel the lanes toll-free.

The direction of travel on the Express Lanes should be familiar to 95 regulars, continuing on the current HOV schedule. But unlike the current HOV lanes, the Express Lanes will be in effect all day, every day.

Once the lanes pass north of the Edsall Road area on I-395, the current HOV rules go back into



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

29 Miles Express Lanes on I-95 will require an E-ZPass.

effect. Even with an E-ZPass, cars with fewer than three passengers have to exit during HOV hours.

Drivers can find out more information on where to purchase either kind of E-ZPass, as well as direction reversal schedules and the HOV transition location at the official website: www.95expresslanes.com.

—TIM PETERSON

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-Theodore Roosevelt

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21 Announcements

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WEDNESDAY/NOV. 26

Genealogy Help Desk. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional 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. Adult, teen.

English Conversation. 10:15 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for people learning English. Adults. 703-339-4610.

SATURDAY/NOV. 29

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meeting. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Board members meet biweekly to plan and implement projects and programs that will enhance library services for teens. Ages 13-18. 703-249-1520.

Teen Writer's Club. 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Do you enjoy writing fiction, poetry, non-fiction and/or memoirs? Join us for sharing, discussion and feedback of works in progress. Teen volunteer facilitates. Age 13-18. 703-249-1520.

Genealogy Help Desk. 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional 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. Adult, teen.

THURSDAY/DEC. 4

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Southeastern States Meeting. 6-8 p.m. Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. The public meeting has been scheduled to provide an opportunity for public comment on the draft plan and environmental impact statement. The meeting will include information stations and an opportunity to submit written comments. Please visit at www.blm.gov/es/st/en.html for more information. As the first land use plan for most of this planning area, the RMP provides comprehensive and consolidated management guidance for future decisions, as well as the basis from which to tier environmental assessments for site-specific proposed actions. The planning area includes the states of Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The Draft RMP/EIS addresses BLM-administered lands and Federal mineral estate within the planning area, including 2,991 acres of BLM-administered public land, and 1,023,185 acres of Federal mineral estate.

The Draft RMP/EIS formal public comment period runs through January 31, 2015. The Draft RMP/EIS is available to review and download at www.blm.gov/es/st/en.html.

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.

ONGOING

Volunteer Fairfax seeks individuals, families, youth and corporate groups for service opportunities at a variety of nonprofit agencies. One-time special events or ongoing activities are available at www.volunteerfairfax.org or call 703-246-3460.

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.

Thanksgiving Q&A: SoCo's Williams Headed to Chicago

Junior shortstop committed to play softball at Kent State.

Jade Williams made an immediate impact with the South County softball program, earning first-team all-district honors as a freshman outfielder in 2013.

Last season, Williams moved to shortstop and came up clutch in the postseason, earning first-team all-region tournament honors as the Stallions captured the 6A North region title and eventually won the program's first state championship.

Now a junior, Williams committed in September to play softball at Kent State University, a member of the Mid-American Conference. Williams, who earned second-team all-conference honors as member of the South County field hockey team in the fall, recently participated in a Q&A via email with

"I committed in early September of this year, right after summer ball ended and a month after I turned 16."

— Jade Williams

The Connection, sharing some insight about her Thanksgiving plans.

Q: What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

Williams: My family

and I are going to Chicago for a big wedding and a family reunion of sorts. I especially look forward to seeing my Grandpa and my cousins.

Q: Do you or your family have any Thanksgiving traditions?

Williams: When we stay home, we do have traditions as far as the menu for Thanksgiving dinner and family activities like playing football or board games. Since we are traveling, we go with the traditions of my cousin. My uncle is hosting dinner and he is an amazing cook.

Q: Does your family incorporate sports into Thanksgiving? If so, how?

Williams: My family is very sports oriented. We all either play sports or used to play, so watching games on TV is mandatory as is giving each other grief about our favorite teams. There are three NFL games on this Thanksgiving so that should keep everyone busy.

Q: What is your favorite thing to eat on Thanksgiving?

Williams: Green bean casserole. Turkey. Mashed potatoes. Pie and ice cream. Guess I have more than one



Jade Williams and the South County softball team won the VHSL 6A state championship in the spring of 2014.

favorite.

Q: You're committed to play softball at Kent State University. What made Kent State the right choice for you?

Williams: I have wanted to play college softball for as long as I can remember. The Kent State coach got interested in me at a tournament in Colorado. She personally came to watch me several times there and again in Georgia. She invited me to visit Kent State and I loved my time there. Kent has a veteran coaching staff and they play in a competitive DI conference (Mid-American Conference). The campus is beautiful and the academic support for athletes goes above and beyond. My future teammates helped seal the deal.

Q: When did you commit?

Williams: I committed in early September of this year, right after summer ball ended and a month after I turned 16.

Q: For what position did Kent State recruit you?

Williams: I was recruited as a shortstop and as a hitter. They also watched me play outfield and took a liking to my versatility.

County, and the team reached the region quarterfinals this year. What are your thoughts on how the season went, overall?

Williams: First, I want to give a quick shout-out to my Kent State coaches for giving me the green light to play field hockey. Many college coaches prefer that athletes stick to their primary sport. Our field hockey season was fun, as always, and we put in a lot of hard work to compensate for the loss of six valuable seniors from the previous year. We wanted to play all the way to the championship, of course.

Q: Who is your favorite music artist? Why?

Williams: My favorite country artists are Dierks Bentley and Chris Young because their music is fun and they are good people. I like many other artists and other kinds of music, too.

Q: What is your favorite movie? Why?

Williams: The "Fast and Furious" series is my favorite, without a doubt. I love fast cars and action-packed movies. I take all six movies with me wherever I travel for softball.

Q: What location is the farthest you have traveled from the Washington, D.C. area?

Williams: My parents are well-traveled and have taken my brothers and me to some great places. We've all been to Mexico together, which I loved! My personal favorite though, is the annual trek to Huntington Beach, Calif., where the national championship for Premier Girls Fastpitch softball is played every August. Qualifying for that tournament is our summer goal. My travel team, the Virginia Glory Gold, will work hard to be there again in 2015!

Q: Who are your favorite pro sports teams?

Williams: The Washington Nationals and the Washington Capitals are my favorite local teams. I also like the Chicago Bears and the Chicago Bulls.

Q: Who are your favorite athletes?

Williams: Derek Jeter, retired Yankee shortstop extraordinaire and Mike Trout of the Los Angeles Angels, current all-round amazing player. Since I will be spending my college time in Ohio, I will be close to two other favorites, LeBron James, who is back in Cleveland and Johnny Manziel, who was drafted last year to the Browns.

— JON ROETMAN

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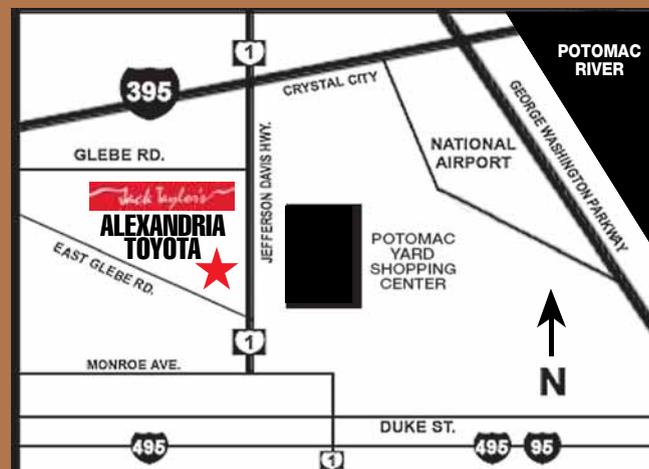


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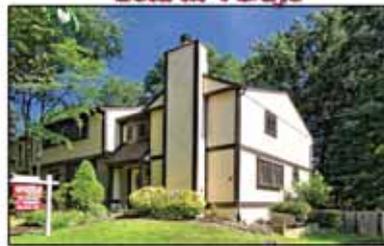
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