

# Burke CONNECTION

Lake Braddock junior James Butler scored 28 points and grabbed 13 rebounds during a loss to T.C. Williams on Jan. 13.

## Big Night Ends in Loss

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PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

JANUARY 15-21, 2015

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## Stuff the Bus 2015

As the holiday decorations come down and the cold winter months settle in, many people continue to go hungry in our community. For many local, nonprofit food pantries, this is the time of year where donations drop to one of the lowest points. To help address this need, Fairfax County is promoting its annual "Stuff the Bus: Helping Fairfax Families" program at 13 locations from Jan. 17 to Feb. 16. This collaborative program, now in its fifth year, is a partnership among Fairfax County Government, local grocery stores and nonprofits to restock the shelves.

"Stuff the Bus is an important component in restocking pantries after the holidays," noted Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. "The need for healthy food is ever growing and the interest for Fairfax County residents to help is there, so we are happily providing the bridge to bring them together."

This program was initiated by Fairfax County and MV Transportation to combat a drop of food donations after the holidays and to address the rise in food security issues across the county.

"Food pantries address a critical need which is especially acute after the holidays, the Stuff the Bus campaign helps us help our community. Its importance to helping stock the shelves can't be overstated," said Roxanne Rice, executive director, Food for Others.

Each week a Fastran bus staffed by MV Transportation personnel will park at a different location and collect food donations. The campaign kicks off on Jan. 17, the weekend leading up to the Martin Luther King Day of Service, and will run each weekend until President's Day, Feb. 16. All donation hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 17

**Fairfax Walmart**, 11181 Lee Highway, Fairfax, Va. *Benefiting James Mott Community Assistance Program*

**Fox Mill Giant**, 2551 John Milton Dr., Herndon, Va. *Benefiting Helping Hungry Kids.*

### SATURDAY, JAN. 24

**McLean Giant**, 1454 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean, Va. *Benefiting Share, Inc.*  
**Mount Vernon Plaza Shoppers**, 7660 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, Va. *Benefiting United Community Ministries.*

### SATURDAY, JAN. 31

**Cardinal Forest Giant**, 8320 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield, Va. *Benefiting Ecumenical Community Helping Others.*  
**Falls Church Giant**, 1230 W. Broad St., Falls Church, Va. *Benefiting Falls Church Community Service Council.*  
**Oakton Giant**, 2932 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, Va. *Benefiting Committee for Helping Others*

### SATURDAY, FEB. 7

**Clifton Giant**, 5740 Union Mill Rd., Clifton, Va. *Benefiting Western Fairfax Christian Ministries.*  
**Lorton Giant**, 8941 Ox Rd., Lorton, Va. *Benefiting Lorton Community Action Center.*

### SATURDAY, FEB. 14

**Annandale Giant**, 7137 Columbia Pike, Annandale, Va. *Benefiting Annandale Christian Community for Action.*  
**Kingstowne Giant**, 5870 Kingstowne Blvd., Alexandria, Va. *Benefiting Koinonia Foundation.*

### MONDAY, FEB. 16

**Fair City Mall Shoppers**, 9622 Main St., Fairfax, Va. *Benefiting Our Daily Bread.*  
**Village Center at Dulles Shoppers**, 2425 Centreville Road, Herndon, Va. *Benefiting Cornerstones.*

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## Legislators Meet Constituents

**General Assembly Fairfax delegation holds public meeting prior to session start in Richmond.**

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**J**ustin Dolan addressed the state delegates and senators from his wheelchair rather than the podium. The 34-year-old Falls Church resident has cerebral palsy, and received an Individual & Family Developmental Disabilities Support waiver.

"I can use my waiver to fund a staff person to help me with my daily care needs, when I can find someone who wants to work for \$11.47 an hour with no benefits," Dolan said. "The thing I really need is enough support for me to move out of my mom's house and live in the community with friends, but the waiver doesn't provide that."

Dolan asked for a reduction of the waiver wait list, a redesign of the waiver system itself to offer increased services. He was one of more than 70 speakers given an opportunity to address a panel of delegates and senators about to travel to Richmond to begin the 2015 General Assembly session.

The forum took place Jan. 10 at the Fairfax County Government Center.

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova was first to speak, addressing the importance of funding K-12 education in Fairfax County.

"We're pleased both the General Assembly and Governor [Terry] McAuliffe were able to protect K-

12 from recent funding cuts," she said. "In the longer term, we still need your help."

Bulova cited the more than 52,000 students in FCPS that qualify for free and reduced lunch, a figure she said outnumbers the total population of all but four school divisions in the state.

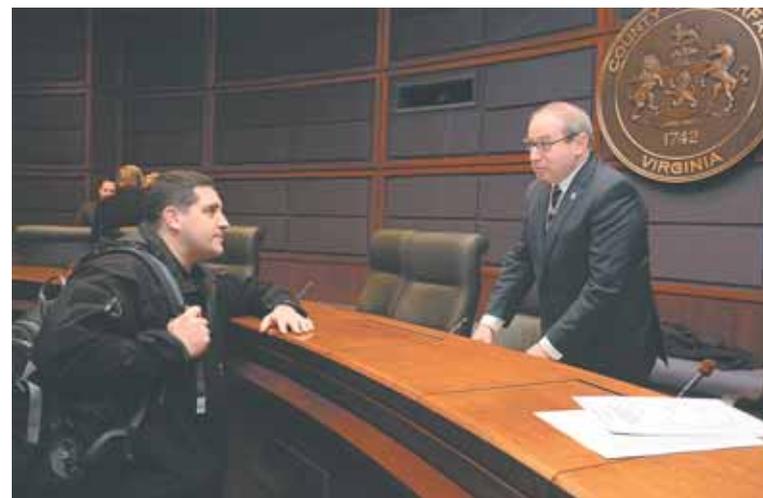
FCPS School Board Chair Tammy Derenak Kaufax followed Bulova, claiming the current K-12 funding isn't serving the community well and decrying teachers' salary ranking with respect to the cost of living. "I urge you to work on the SOL, reducing the impact of that assessment on students," she said.

More than 70 members of the public were each given three minutes to address the delegation. Though the subject matter varied from social services for mental illness and substance abuse disorders to filling circuit court judge vacancies, one common theme was the lack of resources, people trying to do more with less.

Several individuals spoke out about the closure of the Northern Virginia Training Center (NVTR), a state residence serving people with intellectual disabilities. Opened in 1973 at 9901 Braddock Road, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities plans to close the center in March 2016 in favor of a more community-based system.

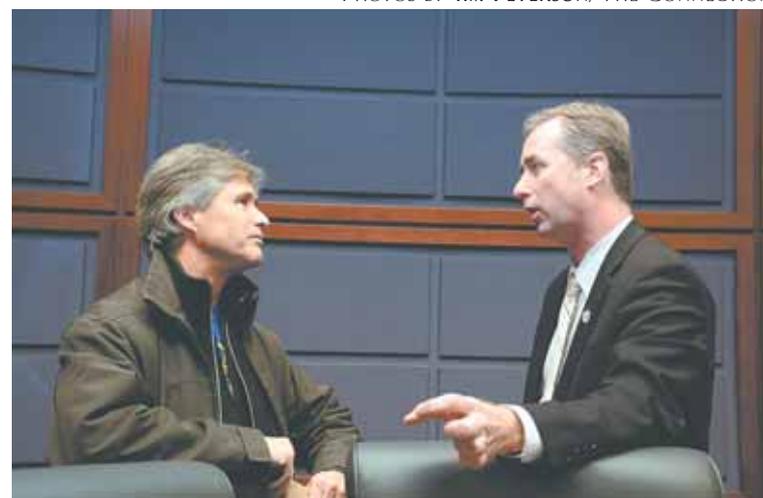
"The quality of life has been compromised by degrading services," said Judith Korf of Reston. Korf was at the forum representing the Parents and Associates of the Northern Virginia Training Center. "We need to keep it open in a smaller and more effective footprint."

Jonathan Damm of Reston used his three minutes to raise the issue of toxic turf fields at FCPS schools. His main concern was children being exposed to chemicals on ground-up tire rubber used to make the fields. "We need to ban the use of crumb rubber," he said. "There are alternative materials that could be used, but they're more expensive."



**Sean Corcoran of Fairfax (left) speaks with Del. Mark Sickles (R-43) following the Fairfax delegation public forum.**

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION



**Chris McHugh (left) of San Francisco, legal guardian of his brother Joseph who lives at the Northern Virginia Training Center, speaks with Del. David Bulova (D-37) following the Fairfax delegation public forum.**

### VIEWPOINTS

## What brought you out today?

#### Julia Stephens of Fairfax:



"I'm with Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services. In seven months of operation,

our crisis texting program in response to the number of suicides in schools has had 2,100 texting conversations."

#### Debbie Kilpatrick of Clifton:



"I'm here as president of the Fairfax County Council of PTA. Fairfax County is an

excellent place to live, work, raise children and grow old. We need to continue to invest, and explore funding options."

#### Al Francese of Clifton:



"I'm here with Centreville Citizens for Rail, advocating for eight-car Metro trains, a second

tunnel under the Potomac and a dedicated long-term funding source."

#### Teresa Elder of Springfield:



"I'm here supporting HB 1445. My son Tommy is 22 and has had a seizure disorder since he was six months

old. I've seen the benefit of medical marijuana. We're not talking about recreational marijuana."

#### Teresa Champion of Springfield:



"I'm here with the Virginia Autism Project, pushing for the governor to pardon

Reginald 'Neli' Latson. Latson is a young man with autism and intellectual disability who needs treatment rather than punishment."

#### Richard Kennedy of Lorton:



"Most marijuana fears have been disproved. It has amazing benefits, it's better than

most foods we consume. Kids shouldn't use it, but prohibition isn't helping."

#### Grace Reef of Burke:



"I'm here with Child Care Aware of Virginia. Our top priority is that children not die in child care. Safety is

an issue with providers that can be unlicensed until they have over six unrelated children."

#### Connor (left) and Sharon (right) Cummings of Fairfax:



"I'm here supporting SB 957, closing a loophole regarding autism. Early intervention is responsible for

much of my son Connor's success today. Education for parents is needed to help them understand their children."

#### David Marks of Fairfax:



"I'm here with the Fairfax Bar Association. We need to pay for our judges. They have a

massive caseload. It's justice denied to our citizens."

#### Suzette Kern of Springfield:



"I'm here as the secretary of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services

Board, supporting early intervention services for infants and toddlers."

# General Assembly Session Approaches

Delegates, senators, community leaders reflect on priorities.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

With the sentencing of former Virginia governor Bob McDonnell fresh on their minds, many northern Virginia members of the delegation to the state General Assembly expect ethics reform to be a focal point at the session beginning Jan. 14.

"I'm hoping we're going to take what was a painful experience to watch into a positive 2015," said Del. David Bulova (D-37). "It gives us a chance for asking how do we do things better down in Richmond, and to minimize the chance someone falls into that same trap."

McDonnell was found guilty on corruption charges, of receiving gifts in return for political favors, and sentenced to serving two years in prison.

The General Assembly addressed ethics last year, including a bill more tightly regulating legislators' travel, according to Del. Mark Sickles (R-43).

"When we tackled that last year, a significant number in the General Assembly really felt that however ill-advised, the governor wouldn't be convicted," said Del. Vivian Watts (D-39). "The conviction made everyone realize it doesn't matter how Virginia laws have been on the books more on gentleman's honor than letter of the law. You can be convicted under federal standards of behavior and we need to take a very strong look at what we're doing."

**BUDGET BALANCING AND MEDICAID EXPANSION** will also draw attention, according to legislators. The assembly will massage a two-year budget that was passed in a 2014 session.

"Our economy has been soft the last two years and we have required deposits to make into our rainy day fund, Virginia Retirement System, all sorts of bills to pay," said state Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34). "There will probably be cuts across the board; almost every state agency with a three-to-five percent reduction, is probably what the governor will be seeking."

"Expanding Medicaid may be a fight, but it's already been fought," said Del. Dave Albo (R-42), referring to the special session in September 2014 when the General Assembly opposed a bill that would take advantage of federal assistance under the Affordable Care Act.

"Except it's not free," Albo continued. "I would love to take care of the 400,000 people, what the bill basically seeks. The federal government says they have money

to pay 90 percent. Just the 10 percent share for Virginia is \$230 million. We're already in the hole before we walk into the General Assembly. Where are we going to find \$230 million?"

Others disagree, that passing on the federal money is too much of a missed opportunity.

"It's the right thing to do," said state Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37). "If people could vote without political consequences, it's the right thing to pass. But if you touch anything to do with Obamacare, you will get challenged in a primary. I'm not optimistic. We've already lost over a year now where the government pays 100 percent."

**CONTINUED FUNDING** for transportation and social services are hopes from some of northern Virginia's civic and business leaders.

"We're blessed, as recipients of some top of the line road projects in the greater Springfield area over past 10 years," said Nancy-jo Manney, executive director of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce. "Maintenance of those nice roads is key. If we don't have the infrastructure maintained, adequate to future growth, businesses won't come, and won't stay."

Holly Dougherty, executive director of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce echoed the sentiment that past transportation improvements have been well-received, but continued work such as road width consistency along U.S. Route 1 from the Beltway to the Prince William County line, as well as re-synchronizing the highway's traffic lights, is imperative. "Congestion relief will help economic development, things that give the best return to Virginia taxpayers. That will help our businesses so they're more competitive in this part of Fairfax County."

Whether or not they already receive much funding from the state or county, non-profit executive directors like Meg Brantley at ECHO in Springfield will be watching the budget cuts carefully. "If they did something, cut away Medicaid, that would mean community-based organizations would need to pick up the tab for more medical programs than they do now."

Robert Petitti, executive director at Koinonia in Franconia, said another angle to watch is whether the state can earmark money for social services agencies and side-step the county, where he believes money gets lost.

"The money that's given out typically isn't geared for non-government organizations," he said. "It could be done, it's just do the politicians have the will do it?"

"The non-profit community can't be looked upon to take the slack for providing services," said Lisa Whetzel, executive director of Our Daily Bread in Fairfax. "We're already stretched to the bone for doing more with less. We need to talk about a revenue stream, a new one, but I don't know what that would be."

## Delegates, Senators List Top Priorities



### Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37)

#### Bills/Causes

❖ Minimum wage bill: "It's so critical to get money in the hands of people who will spend and not invest it," said Marsden. The three-year proposal would raise wages \$.75 first year, \$1.10 the second year and \$1 the final year, reaching \$10.10. "It keeps everyone on a level playing field. Maryland and D.C. already have higher minimum wages."

❖ Bill averaging legislators' salaries used for calculating retirement over 10 years, as opposed to the current method based on the final three years of service. Marsden says this would minimize the temptation to lure legislators to administrative positions to "manipulate the balance of power."

❖ Working on getting the Department of Corrections, state police to provide the 24,000 registered sex offenders in the state more information on rules such as where they can live and how they can travel.

❖ Senator Marsden will host a town hall meeting at 10 a.m. on Feb. 7 at Sleepy Hollow Elementary School.



### Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41)

#### Bills/Causes

❖ Two bills on child care reform, including a focus on requiring fingerprinting and a background check, and closing the threshold loophole that allows homes with six or fewer unrelated children to operate unregulated.

❖ Ensuring campus sexual assaults are handled properly. HB1433 would require local law enforcement and campus agencies to report cases to the Commonwealth attorney's office within 48 hours. "It's all about sharing information and

making sure every stone is looked under," said Filler-Corn.

❖ Budget, ethics and congressional redistricting will come up at Filler-Corn's mid-session office hours, Jan. 24., 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea in Springfield.



### Del. David Bulova (D-37)

#### Bills/Causes

❖ Introducing legislation regarding the difference between a "tangible" and "intangible" gift, and making sure there's a cap on both types.

❖ Working on getting away from schools being ranked on an A through F scale. "That doesn't tell the whole story," said Bulova. "Let parents come in and assess all the strengths and weaknesses, the progress students making, parent-student ratio."

❖ Introducing legislation that would limit how companies like Uber and taxis use personal information.

❖ Bulova will co-host a town hall meeting with state Sen. Chap Petersen Jan. 31 at Fairfax City Hall, 9-10:30 a.m.



### Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34)

#### Bills/Causes

❖ Bill S696 would put a strict limit on gifts by banning tangible or intangible gifts over \$100, other than from friends or family.

❖ Working on a homeowners bill of rights, so people that live in a homeowners' association are afforded due process, are notified about hearings and have a right to be heard.

❖ Bill assisting small businesses in being targeted for government contracts. To qualify as "small" they would have to both generate less than \$10 million in revenue and have 300 employees or fewer.

❖ Petersen co-host a town hall meeting with Del. David Bulova Jan. 31 at Fairfax City Hall, 9-10:30 a.m.

**VOLUNTEER EVENTS  
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Fairfax County's free **Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group** meets by phone on **Tuesday, Feb. 10, 7-8 p.m.** to discuss Caregiving and Basic Tax Concerns. The guest speaker is an AARP Tax Aide Program Specialist who will share some basic tax information, as well as when to get an accountant or attorney involved. Register beforehand at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices) and click on Telephone Caregiver Support Group. Call 703-324-5484, TTY 711.

The **Lewinsville Senior Center** in **McLean** needs an **office assistant** and instructors for the following classes: **Current Events, Knitting/Crocheting, Certified Arthritis Exercise, Ballroom Dance, Square Dance, and Tai Chi.** For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Gum Springs Senior Center** in **Alexandria** needs a **Spanish teacher** for a one hour beginner's class on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Wakefield Senior Center** in **Annandale** needs **Bilingual English/Spanish Activity Leaders, a Chair Exercise Instructor,** and certified instructors for classes in **Ballroom Dance** and **Pilates.** Volunteer instructor positions **could** lead to part-time employment. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**Korean Meals on Wheels** needs **Korean-speaking volunteers** to deliver meals in **Centreville, Reston and Annandale.** For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**Meals on Wheels** needs drivers in **Chantilly, McLean and Mt. Vernon** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. **Substitute drivers** needed throughout the county. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

SEE VOLUNTEER, PAGE 7

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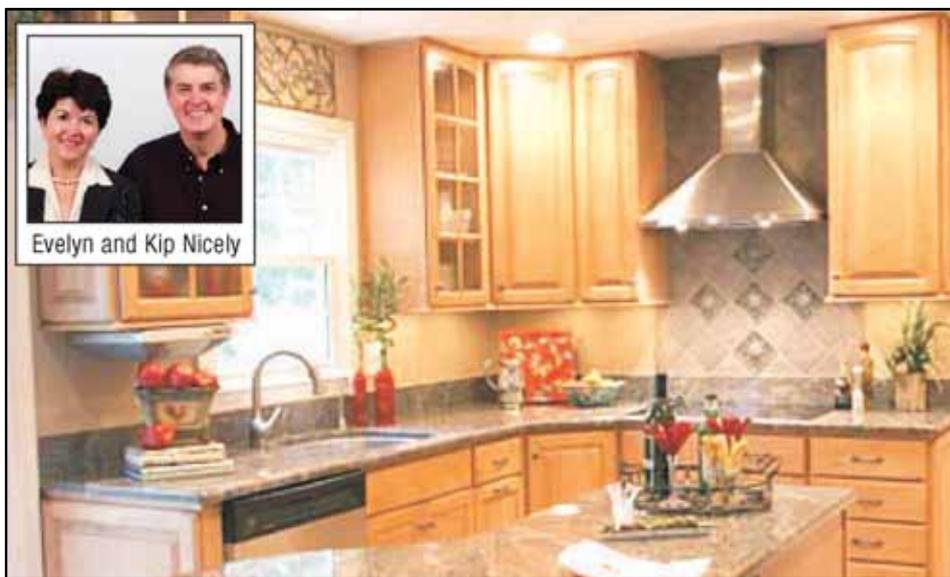
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# Steps To Prevent Gun Violence

BY MARTINA LEINZ  
PRESIDENT, NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF  
THE BRADY CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT GUN  
VIOLENCE

Legislators convening for the 2015 Virginia General Assembly session this month have a great opportunity to make the Commonwealth a safer place for us all by voting in favor of the modest and responsible recommendations recently put forth by Governor Terry McAuliffe regarding gun violence prevention.

Governor McAuliffe has proposed six key pieces of legislation intended to keep firearms away from dangerous individuals. Three of the initiatives are regarding criminal background checks at gun shows. Currently, only Federally Licensed Firearms Dealers are required to run criminal background checks prior to selling or transferring firearms. Private sellers are exempt from this requirement leaving the door wide open for criminals to easily gain access to guns.

One of McAuliffe's proposals would make unlawful purchases more difficult by prevent-

ing gun shows from advertising that they are not required to conduct background checks. Another proposal would give the State Police statutory authority to process voluntary background check requests of private sellers. The most substantive of the three proposals would close the existing loophole and require background checks for all purchases at gun shows.

None of these three proposals goes far enough. Ideally, criminal background checks would be universal; required on all firearms transactions including online sales. They are, however, a step in the right direction and would do much to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals.

Another proposal is to return the limit of handgun purchases to one a month so the Commonwealth won't hold the dubious distinction of being one of the most prolific gun-running states in the nation. Other initiatives include a bill to keep guns from people subject to protective orders and one to revoke concealed handgun permits for parents delinquent on child support payments. This later proposal would affect the roughly 9,000 parents with

such permits who are delinquent collectively on child support payments of over \$15 million.

These six modest proposals would be very effective in reducing violent crime by keeping guns out of the hands of people who should not have them. None of the proposals would prevent law-abiding citizens from owning weapons and none would infringe upon Second Amendment rights of responsible adults.

With the Republicans controlling both the House of Delegates and the Senate, there are bound to be disagreements with any legislation proposed by Democratic Governor McAuliffe. However, everyone should agree to these modest proposals to keep Virginians safe. It is not a partisan issue; it is a simple matter of public health and safety.

With great opportunity comes great responsibility. I sincerely hope the General Assembly embraces that responsibility and votes accordingly. If you agree, please contact your elected officials and tell them you are counting on them to vote in support of all proposals to curb gun violence in the Commonwealth.

COMMENTARY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## County Shouldn't Spray Against Fall Cankerworm

To the Editor:

This letter is in response to a recent letter to the editor about Fairfax County's Fall Cankerworm Insecticide Spraying Program.

I am a professional entomologist and I have been in charge of the U. S. National Insect Collection at the Smithsonian Institution, a Fairfax County resident for 21 years, as well as a biologist experienced in conservation. I have been following the issues regarding the program in Fairfax County to spray *Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki* (Btk), a kind of biological insecticide, to control a native moth, the Fall Cankerworm (scientifically, *Lepidoptera: Geometridae* or *Inchworms*).

Bt was first used to control *Lepidoptera* (moth) pests of agricultural crops; however, this naturally-occurring bacterium was found to be deadly to all moths and butterflies (*Lepidoptera*). Since this discovery there have been many types of Bt developed, but those used against moths are still deadly to non-target species, including native species. However, the areas in Fairfax County being sprayed are not crops or timberlands for harvest, but rather forests, parklands, neighborhood gardens. These are places to preserve wildlife and nature, and to protect them for the benefit of not only Fairfax County residents, but also for all Virginians and visitors. Without scientific monitoring or

surveys, we do not know how many or even which native species live in any particular area being sprayed. Therefore, to inadvertently spray this deadly microbe, even if the intention is to target certain areas, is not prudent.

The letter writer does acknowledge that spraying Btk can kill other kinds of caterpillars, "... but only if they are up and eating the first baby leaves." However, it is well known that plant chemicals that often prevent insects eating certain plants only are present in older leaves (for example, tannins in Oak leaves); therefore, many species of caterpillars are only able to eat, and even prefer, what he calls "baby leaves." He also claims that research shows that spraying increases the diversity of other species of butterflies and moths. However this research is apparently about the Gypsy Moth, a non-native (invasive) species from Asia. Reducing Gypsy Moth numbers could indirectly benefit other, native insect species. However, spraying to kill the native Fall Cankerworm is likely to severely harm many (as yet undetermined) native species of butterflies and moths and may even increase diversity of other non-native pest species potentially harming the fauna and flora of Fairfax County. Getting rid of the Fall Cankerworm will eliminate a potentially vital food source for many migratory and resident birds, as well as rep-

tiles, amphibians, predatory insects, and other wildlife that rely on caterpillars for their survival. His assertion that "birds can safely eat the dead caterpillars" is misleading because in spring (when the spraying actually takes place), many insectivorous birds need to find enough live caterpillars to feed their nestlings or fuel their northward migration and it is not clear if they would even eat dead caterpillars.

Episodic population outbreaks ("infestations") of native species such as the Fall Cankerworm are part of the natural ecological rhythm of our forests and woodlands, so why disrupt it? Based on previous research I have done (for example with Elms) and observations of the natural history in the forests of the northeastern USA, I do not believe that occasional and/or partial or even complete defoliation of most native eastern forest tree species will cause tree death. The severe defoliation from by Gypsy Moth in the 1970s demonstrated that only very severe and repeated defoliation over many years truly killed native trees; our local Fall Cankerworm outbreaks are natural and nowhere as severe and will not become so.

The far wiser approach to this problem would be for Fairfax County to sponsor some scientific surveys, to determine which species of butterflies and moths are

present in the intended treatment areas, i.e. the biological diversity. Also advice to homeowners about how to monitor and/or treat their gardens would be helpful.

I have discussed this Fall Cankerworm issue with several experts on butterflies and moths at the Smithsonian and the USDA and they all agree with my statements above.

In conclusion I feel strongly that Fairfax County should cease spraying against Fall Cankerworm, because such spraying does more harm than good to the ecosystems and neighborhoods of Fairfax County.

**David G. Furth, Ph.D.**  
Department of Entomology  
Smithsonian Institution

### 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:

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.  
By e-mail:  
south@connectionnewspapers.com



# LETTERS

## A Silent Crisis

To the Editor:

Hunger is a silent crisis in the USA. Every day, children in every county in the United States wake up hungry. They go to school hungry. They turn out the lights at night hungry. "I thought, if I wasn't hungry during class I'd be able to actually focus on what we were learning," said Kathy, 10. As many as 17 million children nationwide are struggling with what is known as food insecurity. To put it another way, one in four children in the country is living without consistent access to enough nutritious food to live a healthy life. The consequences and costs of child hunger make addressing this issue an economic and societal imperative, in addition to an obvious moral obligation. I hope this article enlightens you and would love to see you all serving the poor and striking out the hunger in our country.

**Boyapati Srita**  
Fairfax

## VOLUNTEER EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

FROM PAGE 5

The **Annandale Adult Day Health Care Center** in **Annandale** needs **Spanish-speaking social companions**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Kingstowne Center for Active Adults** in **Alexandria** needs a **Van Driver** to take participants on outings and instructors for the following classes: **Mosaic Art or Jewelry Making** and **Belly Dancing**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults to medical appointments** and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Hollin Hall Senior Center** in **Alexandria** needs a **DJ** to provide a wide array of music from ballroom to line dancing, a **Ballroom Dance Instructor** and an **Italian Instructor**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

## RIGHTEOUS OR OUTRAGEOUS?

My boss thought our three game ticket plan was outrageous. I thought it is righteous. So what do you think: righteous or outrageous?

BY ANDY RUGE, ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

### Here's what you get in the three game plan:

#### 1. Our very best three games.

The three game plan has our three very best games:

- Nationally-ranked rival VCU? Yep, February 4, see you here.
- Homecoming against Richmond? Of course, February 14.
- Frequent NCAA tournament contestant Davidson? Check, January 24.

These are the games people want to see anyway. With this three game plan, however, you can lock up better seat locations than the single game buyer.

- #### 2. Free gifts.
- Heck, everyone loves free stuff, so we included it. At the Richmond game you get a Mason Basketball koozie. At the VCU game you get a Bobblehead of Mason legend George Evans. At the Davidson game, you get a George Mason bobblehead. For each three game package that you buy you get those three gifts.



- #### 3. Best seat locations.
- When buying single-game tickets to our best game, you're hoping there are good seats left. Bringing the family? For the big games it's tough to get 4 seats together. And don't forget those high service fees. With this three-game pack you know you've got the good seats, to the good games, already in-hand. No questions asked, no worrying, you know you've got 3 chances to see one of the top-5 basketball conferences in the country, right here in Fairfax. You get big-time basketball at small-time prices.

When I look at the three game plan, it is indeed outrageous. And righteous. It costs start at just \$22 per game (\$66 total) and youth (12 & under) are just \$12 per game (\$36 total). You can buy the three-game mini-plan today by calling your Personal Account Representative, Alyssa, at 703-993-3491 or visit [GoMason.com/hoops](http://GoMason.com/hoops) today.

CALL 703-993-3491 OR VISIT [GOMASON.COM/HOOPS](http://GOMASON.COM/HOOPS)



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## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

**JANUARY**  
1/7/2015 ..... Wellbeing, Renewal, Resolutions  
1/14/2015 ..... HomeLifeStyle  
*Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Jan. 19*  
1/21/2015 ..... A+ Camps & Schools  
1/28/2015 ..... Neighborhood Outlook  
1/28/2015 ..... Winter Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment;  
Valentine's Preview

**FEBRUARY**  
2/4/2015 ..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts I  
2/4/2015 ..... Wellbeing – National Children's Dental Health Month  
2/11/2015 ..... HomeLifeStyle  
2/11/2015 ..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts II  
*Valentine's Day is Feb. 14 • Presidents Day is Feb. 16*  
2/18/2015 ..... A+ Camps & Schools  
2/25/2015 ..... Pet Connection Pullout

**MARCH**  
3/4/2015 ..... Wellbeing  
3/11/2015 ..... HomeLifeStyle Real Estate Pullout  
3/18/2015 ..... A+ Camps & Schools  
3/25/2015 ..... Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment  
*FCPS Spring Break 3/30-4/3*

E-mail [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) for more information.



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- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

# Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## 2014 Top Sales

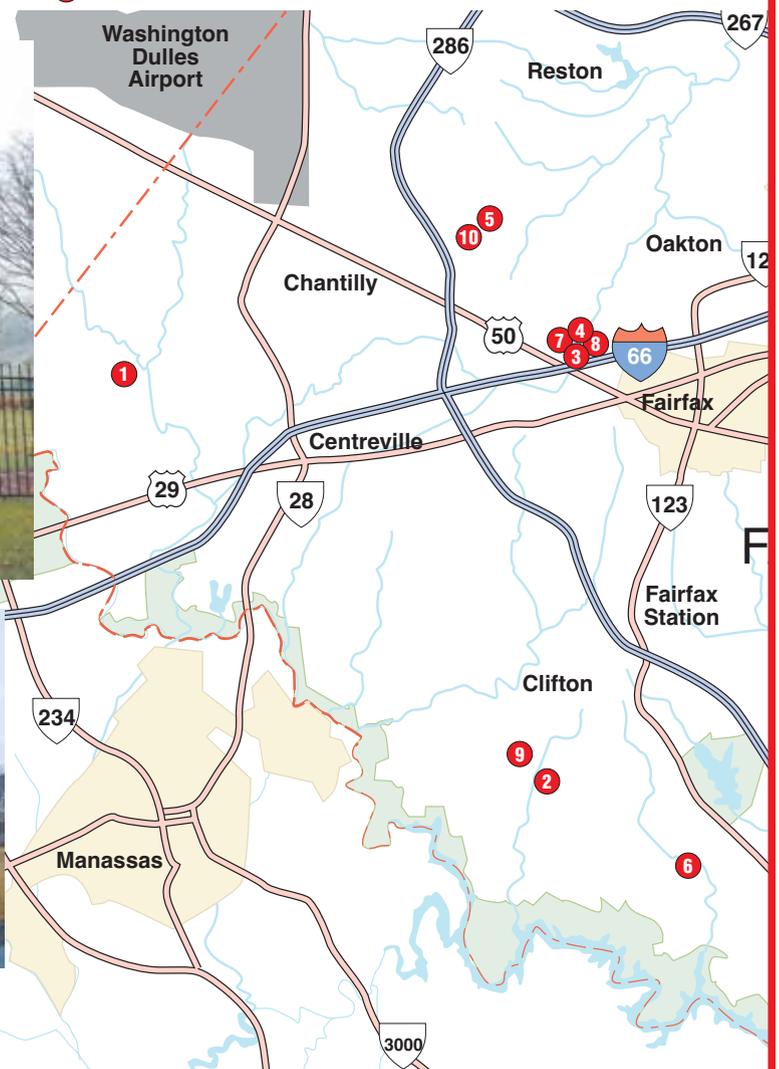


**1** 15604 Jillians Forest Way, Centreville — \$2,650,000



**2** 7540 Clifton Road, Fairfax Station — \$2,250,000

**3** 3802 Millard Way, Fairfax — \$1,700,000



**5** 7904 Oakshire Lane, Fairfax Station — \$1,495,000



**4** 11394 Amber Hills Court, Fairfax — \$1,423,061



**10** 3514 Rose Crest Lane, Fairfax — \$1,350,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 15604 JILLIANS FOREST WAY	6	1			CENTREVILLE	\$2,650,000	Detached	5.59	20120	CARDINAL FOREST	06/30/14
2 7540 CLIFTON RD	7	9	1		FAIRFAX STATION	\$2,250,000	Detached	4.82	22039	CRAFTOWN	01/02/14
3 3802 MILLARD WAY	5	5	1		FAIRFAX	\$1,700,000	Detached	1.21	22033	THE OAKS	02/18/14
4 11394 AMBER HILLS CT	5	5	2		FAIRFAX	\$1,626,036	Detached	1.08	22033	ESTATES AT FAIR OAKS	01/24/14
5 3438 FAWN WOOD LN	6	5	2		FAIRFAX	\$1,545,000	Detached	1.14	22033	OAK HILL ESTATES	11/24/14
6 7904 OAKSHIRE LN	6	6	1		FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,495,000	Detached	5.00	22039	THE ENGLISH HILLS	04/30/14
7 11647 PINE TREE DR	5	4	1		FAIRFAX	\$1,469,005	Detached	1.00	22033	FAIRFAX FARMS	09/22/14
8 11389 AMBER HILLS CT	5	5	2		FAIRFAX	\$1,423,061	Detached	0.83	22033	ESTATES AT FAIR OAKS	02/27/14
9 11900 CUSTIS ACRES DR	5	5	0		CLIFTON	\$1,380,000	Detached	8.22	20124	TOWERING OAKS	08/01/14
10 3514 ROSE CREST LN	5	4	1		FAIRFAX	\$1,350,000	Detached	0.83	22033	OAK HILL ESTATES	05/23/14

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# HomeLifeStyle

## Backyard Dreaming

Local tastemakers say winter is the best time to plan an idyllic backyard retreat.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Spring may seem light years away from the frigid January temperatures, and lounging in your backyard is probably the last thing you want to do at the moment, but landscape designers say now is the time to start planning a summer retreat.

"January is a good time to start thinking about your backyard," said Alex Ikenson, co-owner of Home Escapes, located in Herndon. Home Escapes, which had specialized in hot tubs and outdoor furniture, merged recently with Urban Retreat, an indoor furniture and accessory company.

"A lot of things we sell are special order and take a few weeks to come in, so you don't want to start too late," said Ikenson.

From swim spas to fire pit tables, options for outdoor landscapes are plentiful.

"People now are spending more time at home and less time going on vacation, and making their backyards more of a living space, creating a living space," said Rosanne Tsantes, sales manager of Home Escapes.

"Outdoor furniture companies have responded to the surge with beautiful pieces of furniture."

Touted by industry insiders as comfortable, durable and easy to maintain, the array of outdoor fabrics on the market rival their indoor counterparts.

"The whole industry has expanded to true designer furniture and fabrics. There are hundreds of beautiful fabrics available," said Tsantes. "If you were to pick out aluminum furniture, you could choose from at least 10 frame colors, where it used to be just black and green. We have brush tones with gold tint, antique tones, ... There are some really gorgeous finishes."

Accessories can be customized to fit virtually every budget and space as well. "Everything is made to order," said Jodie Labovitch, an interior designer with Urban Retreat. "They're not pulling it off the shelf."

Outdoor fire pit tables, powered by gas, are crowd-pleasing accessories that come in every size from compact coffee table to dining room table. Styles run the gamut from rustic to sleek.

"The tabletops can be porcelain or alu-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROSANNE TSANTES

Swim spas, upscale furniture and fire pit tables are among the options in outdoor furnishings for those who want to create a backyard living space.

minum, stone or granite," said Tsantes. "There is even an artisan top that looks like carved leather. Now you can go into your back yard and feel like you're on vacation somewhere in the islands."

Adding the resort-like feel are swim spas, the large cousin of the ubiquitous hot tub.

"A swim spa allows you to exercise, even during the winter, by swimming against the current," said Tsantes. "They are like hot tubs, only about 12-16 feet long and eight feet wide. You can run out in the winter and swim and then sit on the spa bench, just like you would in a hot tub."

Even those who don't have an expansive backyard can create cozy retreats.

"Outdoor furniture companies are making pieces for those with small spaces to those with huge Great Falls homes with a large backyard," said Tsantes.



Options for outdoor décor, including swim spas and fire pit tables, abound at a newly formed showroom in Herndon.

"Indoor and outdoor furniture are now blending," said David Cintorino, president of Home Escapes. "People are using their outdoor spaces like indoor spaces, that is a current trend. Outdoor furniture companies are creating furniture to keep up with that trend."

## #1 Weichert Agent in Burke & Fairfax Station



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## Is Winter a Good Time to Sell?

You bet it is! 2014 was a very stable year for real estate. Indicators suggest that this trend will continue in 2015. Dr. Fuller of George Mason University predicts a slightly better 2015. Interest rates have once again dipped below 4% which will make for a busy winter market.

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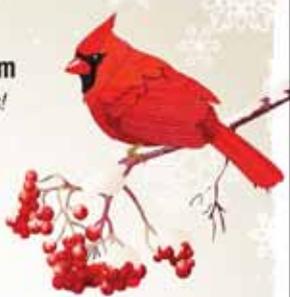
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#### KIDDIE COUNTRY II

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Burke, Virginia 22015  
703-644-0066

## ENTERTAINMENT



**View Drink This! The Workhouse Arts Center's International Cup Show on display through Feb. 2. Earthy wood-fired tea bowls, translucent tumblers, and richly textured mugs are among 76 works selected by Welsh master ceramist Phil Rogers for the third annual Workhouse International Ceramic Cup Show.**

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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 MONDAY/FEB. 2

#### Drink This! The Workhouse International Cup Show.

Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Sunday-Tuesday 12-5 p.m. and Wednesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Earthy wood-fired tea bowls, translucent tumblers, and richly textured mugs are among 76 works selected by Welsh master ceramist Phil Rogers for the third annual Workhouse International Ceramic Cup Show, "Drink This!"

the congregation that hires him. Some can't stand him. And, of course, some can't stand each other! The ordinary, suburban synagogue in the play is struggling with what every American religious community struggles with — how to make sense of an old-world tradition in the crazy improvisation that is America. Tickets: \$34 premium reserved, \$29 adults, \$24 J members or seniors (65+), \$19 under 30. Box Office: 703-537-3000. [boxoffice@jccnv.org](mailto:boxoffice@jccnv.org). [www.jccnvarts.org](http://www.jccnvarts.org)

#### Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

**Meeting.** 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Rd., Burke. Board members meet biweekly to plan and implement projects and programs that will enhance library services for teens. Age 13-18. 703-249-1520.

#### Make Your Own YouTube Video.

11 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics of creating your own content for YouTube. Ages 12 to adult. Bringing your own laptop is recommended. 703-978-5600.

#### THROUGH SUNDAY/FEB. 8

#### 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/JAN. 16

#### Frozen Movie Sing-Along and Craft Event.

6 p.m. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Do you want to build a snowman? Bring a parent and your friends before the movie to make snowflakes, craft an Olaf, put together a Frozen necklace, and also either Sven reindeer antlers OR an Elsa tulle cloak to make and take home. A Smorgasbord of cheese sandwiches, Olaf noses (carrot sticks), and FROZEN Ice cream cups will be served. If you prefer, or if allergies are a concern, you are welcome to pack food of your choosing or eat before the party. Fee: \$12 per child (Deadline to register: Wed, Jan. 14). [parksrec@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:parksrec@fairfaxva.gov)

#### The Friday Morning Music Club.

11 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. A community of music lovers and musicians, the Friday Morning Music Club, Inc., has promoted classical music in the Washington area for over 120 years. FMCC's public concerts—now held throughout the week—provide performing members with a host of outlets for their talents as well as delighting audiences in Washington D.C., Maryland, and Virginia. All concerts are free and performed as a public service.

#### SATURDAY/JAN. 17

**Rabbi Sam.** 2 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Rabbi Sam, a mix of comedy and drama, tells the story of Sam Isaac, a rabbi who wants to reinvent American Judaism, and the havoc that erupts in

#### TUESDAY/JAN. 20

**Tai Chi.** 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Rd., Burke. Come and experience the benefits of Tai Chi introduced by Dante Gilmer of Still Water Tai Chi Center. Wear comfortable clothes that allow movement. Adults. 703-249-1520.

#### Stories for Threes to Fives: Hats, Scarves and Mittens.

10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories, songs and activities about warm clothes for cold days. Ages 3-5 with adult. 703-644-7333.

#### THURSDAY-SATURDAY/JAN. 22-24

**Our Town.** 7 p.m. Sovereign Grace Cop Main Auditorium, 5200 Ox Rd, Fairfax. Become immersed in a classic American story about truly enjoying everyday life. \$8 for adults; \$5 ages 3-17. <https://www.facebook.com/OurTownSovGraceCoop> or email [mchiaty@yahoo.com](mailto:mchiaty@yahoo.com).

#### THURSDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 22-25

**Hairspray: The Broadway Musical.** Thursday and Friday- 7:30 p.m.

Saturday: 2 & 8 p.m. Sunday: 3 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. In 1962 Baltimore, plump teenager Tracy Turnblad's dream is to dance on The Corny Collins Show, a local TV dance program. When Tracy wins a role on the show, she becomes a celebrity overnight, and meets a colorful array of characters. Tickets: \$12.

# COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



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**9:45 am Sunday School**

**Saturday Worship:** 5:30 pm **CoffeeHouse casual, guest musicians**

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Sunday School for Children & Adults 9:30 a.m.  
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# NEWS

(Center, from left) Sherry Harris, Maureen Espizito and Sue Carlin sit with friends and family of Harris at the launch of her book "Tagged For Death" in the Fairfax Barnes & Noble.



PHOTO BY ROBIN TEMPLETON

## Burke Author Launches Mystery Series

Sarah Winston found two bloody shirts in a bag of clothes from a garage sale. She knew one belonged to her ex-husband, the other to the woman he was sleeping with.

Sarah is the main character in the three-book series "Sarah Winston Garage Sale Mysteries," written by Burke author Sherry Harris.

Harris launched the first book in the series, "Tagged For Death," on Jan. 11 at the Fairfax Barnes & Noble bookstore.

"I used my love for garage sales, our family's time living in Massachusetts and my experience as an Air Force wife to write the book," said Harris.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED  
**Sherry Harris of Burke, author of the "Sarah Winston Garage Sale Mysteries" series.**

Harris sold the mystery series "on proposal" to an editor in New York City that was looking to do a project based on garage sales.

"The proposal includes an eight-page synopsis of this book and paragraphs on the next two books," Harris said. "I had to write the first three chapters and do a marketing plan. I did that all in four days. It just all poured out of me."

This is the first time Harris, a writer for 15 years, has been published.

"It's hard work," she said. "You just have to keep at it, be persistent. There's not many overnight successes in writing."

—TIM PETERSON

### WEEK IN BURKE

#### Winter Essay Competition

The Burke Centre Library is hosting a winter essay competition for teens in the Burke/ Fairfax area.

The idea is that the teens who participate will create a 500 - 1500 fictional story based around a wintry photo they have picked out. They will submit their writing to the library website at burkecentretab.com. The deadline for this is Feb. 15 and winners will be announced at the library on March 7.

The prizes are:

1st place - \$100 Barnes & Noble gift card

2nd place - \$75 Barnes & Noble gift card  
3rd place - \$50 Barnes & Noble gift card  
Further information can be found at burkecentretab.com under the tab essay competition.

#### Volunteer Drivers Needed

Shepherd's Center of Fairfax Burke serves those 50+ and who no longer drive. Volunteer Drivers are needed for trips (Monday - Friday) to medical appointments and Companion Shopping within the Fairfax/Burke area. If you can volunteer your time, please contact Barry Wickersham at 703-359-2918.

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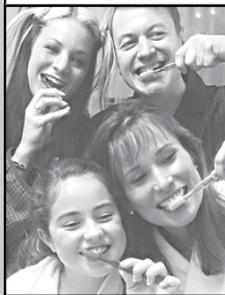
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# Fairfax Gymnast Barborek Dominates in Final Home Meet

Senior wins all-around by more than 3 points.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

Saturday marked the final home meet in Fairfax senior captain Rachel Barborek's high school gymnastics career.

She would make it a memorable afternoon.

Barborek was honored, along with fellow senior captain Ally Farrington, prior to the Jan. 10 meet at Fairfax High School. She then proceeded to win each of the four events and finish first in the all-around competition with a career-best score.

She even won the senior handstand contest prior to the award ceremony.

"It was awesome," Barborek said. "I couldn't have asked for a better meet. Everything came together so perfectly. Every meet before this, I've had an off event, but today I had all on events. It was really great."

Barborek finished in a first-place tie with McLean's Calista Pardue on floor with a score of 9.55. She finished alone in first place on beam (9.675), bars (9.525) and vault (9.575). The result was an all-around score of 38.325, more than three points better than second-place Carolyn Brown-Kaiser of McLean (34.6).

"I think this is the best Rachel has done in the past two years that I've coached her," Fairfax head coach Marissa Gaines said. "This is the strongest she's looked ... and she was on fire."

Perhaps the biggest surprise of Barborek's afternoon was her performance on vault — the event that has plagued Barborek in the past.

**ON THIS DAY**, aided by a slowed approach on the runway, Barborek flipped a Yurchenko Pike and celebrated with a burst of exuberance.

"I've had trouble flipping that vault," Barborek said. "It's a mental problem and I did it today without a problem. It was crazy."

Barborek, who is also a member of the Fairfax swim and dive team and pole vaults for the track team, was a Level 10 club gymnast with Capital Gymnastics, but quit after her sophomore year. This is her third year as a member of the Fairfax High gymnastics team (she didn't compete for the Rebels as a sophomore). Last season, Barborek placed fifth in the all-around at the VHSL state meet. Now a senior, Barborek has her sights set on bringing home the all-around state title.

What makes Barborek such a successful gymnast? "Her determination," Gaines said. "No matter what, she just keeps fighting for what she wants and she stays motivated."

Along with Barborek's individual success Saturday,



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Fairfax senior Rachel Barborek finished first and tied for first in all four events during a Jan. 10 gymnastics meet at Fairfax High School. She also won the all-around competition.**

Fairfax produced the highest team score in its history, as well. The Rebels amassed a total of 125.825, finishing runner-up to McLean (139.45).

Barborek said the addition of her mother, Susan Barborek, to the Fairfax coaching staff has helped the team improve. Susan Barborek was a gymnast at the University of Michigan.

"It's been better than I expected," Susan said about her experience as a first-year Fairfax assistant coach. "We have a really good group of girls. It's nine or 10 girls and they all work hard."

Fairfax placed fifth at the Conference 6 meet last season, narrowly missing a top-four finish and a berth in the 6A North region meet. The

**REBELS** have their sights set on qualifying for regionals this year.

Along with Barborek, Gaines said sophomore Madeline McDuffy, freshman Anna Whetzel and freshman Kathleen Summers have been standouts for Fairfax.

Whetzel placed sixth on vault (8.8) and floor (8.1) on Saturday. Summers finished fifth on vault (8.825). McDuffy did not compete due to injury.

Fairfax is scheduled to compete in meets at Washington-Lee High School on Jan. 22 and Jan. 24. The Conference 6 meet is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 2 at McLean High School.

Lake Braddock junior James Butler scored 28 points and grabbed 13 rebounds during a loss to T.C. Williams on Jan. 13.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## Butler has Big Night in Loss to T.C. Williams

Six-foot-8 Lake Braddock's junior finishes with 28 points, 13 rebounds.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

James Butler and his 6-foot-8 frame gave T.C. Williams fits Tuesday night. The Lake Braddock junior finished with a game-high 28 points and 13 rebounds.

But while Butler and the Bruins had a distinct size advantage, the Titans used a combination of speed, defensive pressure and deadly perimeter shooting to earn their fifth consecutive victory.

T.C. Williams defeated Lake Braddock 69-58 on Jan. 13 in Burke. The Titans scored the game's first 10 points and led 17-6 at the end of one. Butler opened the second half with back-to-back buckets, cutting the T.C. lead to five, but the Titans responded with a 19-6 run to pull away.

T.C. Williams led by double digits for the entire fourth quarter.

The win improved the Titans' record to 6-4, including 4-1 in Conference 7, while the Bruins dropped to 10-3, 3-1.

"We're playing great, we just let this one get away from us early," Butler said. "They're a fast, athletic team. ... They're one of the best teams in the conference."

Lake Braddock fell short, but it wasn't due to lack of effort from Butler. No. 42 scored 12 of the Bruins' first 15 points and had 20 points through three quarters. Butler opened the fourth quarter with a bucket and a pair of free throws, but it wasn't enough.

Butler could have surpassed his career high of 30 points if he had shot better than 8 of 14 from the free-throw line.

Butler was on the Lake Braddock varsity last year as a sophomore and saw limited time as a freshman. Now a junior, Butler said he has been more offensive-minded this year.

"[I] started off offensively strong and it's carried over the rest of the season," Butler said. "I'm a major part of the offense and I take it as a responsibility. I have to produce. If I don't produce it's like I affect the team negatively."

Ten of Butler's 13 rebounds were offensive.

Senior forward Reagan Jones, listed at 6 feet 6, finished with 13 points and nine rebounds. Sophomore guard Corey Pelham had seven points.

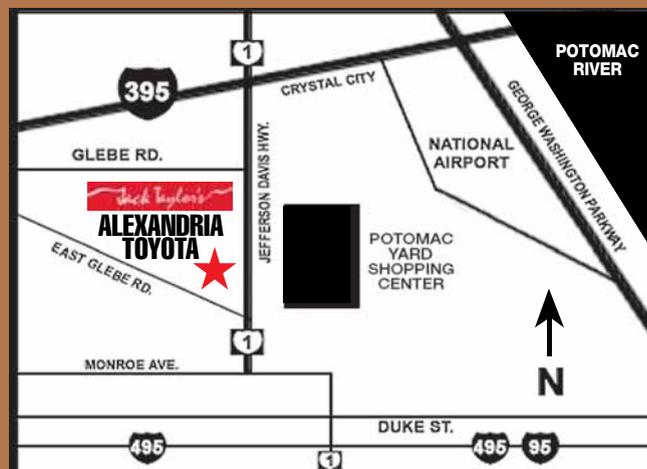
Lake Braddock will travel to face South County at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 16.

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Gazette Packet  
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### 21 Announcements

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN OF CLIFTON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL USE PERMIT PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CLIFTON PLANNING COMMISSION JANUARY 19, 2015**  
Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 19, 2015 at 7:30 P.M. at the Acacia Lodge Hall, 7135 Main Street, Clifton, VA 20124 to consider the amendment of the special use permit of Trattoria Villagio, located at 7145 Main Street, to include and authorize the use of outdoor music, specifically sound (music) that will be distributed via Trattoria Villagio's outdoor wall mounted and rock speakers, located within the controlled area of the patio, and to be played/heard at a controlled decibel level no greater than 70 dBA. The application for the proposed amendment to Trattoria Villagio's special use permit, is available for review and downloading on the Town's website at [www.clifton-va.com](http://www.clifton-va.com) and a hard copy may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton VA, 20124. All interested parties are invited to attend and express their views with respect to the requested amendment to the Trattoria Villagio's special use permit, to authorize outdoor music.

### 21 Announcements

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### FRIDAY/JAN. 16

**14th Annual Preschool Fair.** 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Audrey Moore Rec Center, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale. Over 20 local preschools will be in attendance. Come to find the right preschool for your child. Visit [www.burkemomsnorth.org](http://www.burkemomsnorth.org) for a list of participating schools and to contact organizers. There will also be a Silent Auction with items from local businesses during the fair. All proceeds from the fair will benefit Comfort Cases. [www.comfortcases.org](http://www.comfortcases.org)

**Genealogy Databases.** 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Search for your ancestors using the library's genealogy databases and other free Internet databases. Adults.

### SATURDAY/ JAN. 17

**Genealogy Help Desk.** 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumbers 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.

**Tips for Buying & Using a New TV.** 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Tips for buying and using a new TV: What to look for & what to watch out for. Presented by the Fairfax County Department of Cable and Consumer Services. All Ages.

### TUESDAY/JAN. 20

**Afternoon Book Discussion Group.** 1:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. To Try Men's Souls: A Novel of George Washington and the Fight for American Freedom by Newt Gingrich. Adults. 703-978-5600.

**Great Decisions Seminar.** 2 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Roundtable discussion of U.S. foreign policy. Adults. 703-978-5600.

**Evening Book Discussion Group.** 6:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho. Adults. 703-978-5600.

**Pohick Evening Book Discussion Group.** 7 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Fall of Giants by Ken Follett. Adults. 703-644-7333.

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

## FAITH NOTES

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

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

**The Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center,** 10875 Main St., Fairfax City provides free classes to both newcomers and advanced practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism.

The center emphasizes working with the mind and learning how to understand the workings of the mind, overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit <http://www.guhyasamaja.org> for more information.

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

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 21

**Is Forgetfulness a Problem?** 1:30 p.m. Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. What is normal aging versus dementia? When is it time to seek help? A discussion on signs of dementia and testing currently available. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP and for more information.

**Genealogy Using Military Records.** 1 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Exploring military records and pension files for your veteran ancestor, with an introduction to federal records of the National Archives and Records Administration. Adults. 703-978-5600.

### THURSDAY/JAN 22

**Spanish Conversation Group.** 2 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice and improve your Spanish with a native speaker. Adults. 703-978-5600.

**Library Tech Help.** 6 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Get your library-related electronic resources questions answered. Includes help with eBooks and compatible devices. Please bring your library card, eBook reader, and laptop.

### FRIDAY/JAN. 23

**Genealogy Help Desk.** 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumbers 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.

### SUNDAY/JAN. 25

**Burke Historical Society Meeting.** 4:30 p.m. Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke. BHS Fundraising Chair Cindy Bennett will speak on the 1918 murder of Eva Roy in Burke. In addition, we'll have a short "State of the Society" address and a very brief video about the history of Burke School.

### MONDAY/JAN. 26

**Library Tech Help.** 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Get your library-related electronic resources questions answered. Includes help with eBooks and compatible devices. Please bring your library card, eBook reader, and laptop.

a.m. 703-323-9500 or [www.Lordoflifeva.org](http://www.Lordoflifeva.org).

**First Baptist Church of Springfield** offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., followed by a 10:30 a.m. worship service at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or [www.fbcspringfield.org](http://www.fbcspringfield.org).

**Clifton Presbyterian Church,** 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided.

Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.

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

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,** 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m.

Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or [www.poplc.org](http://www.poplc.org).



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