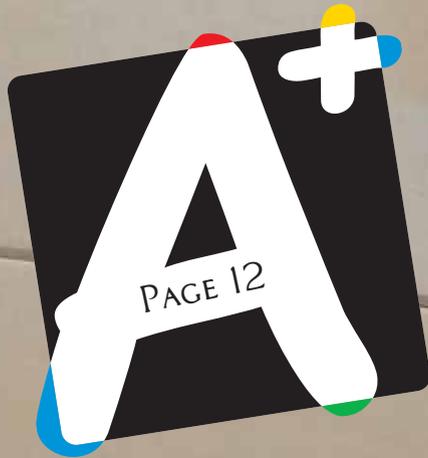


Meet the Candidates for Supervisors, School Board

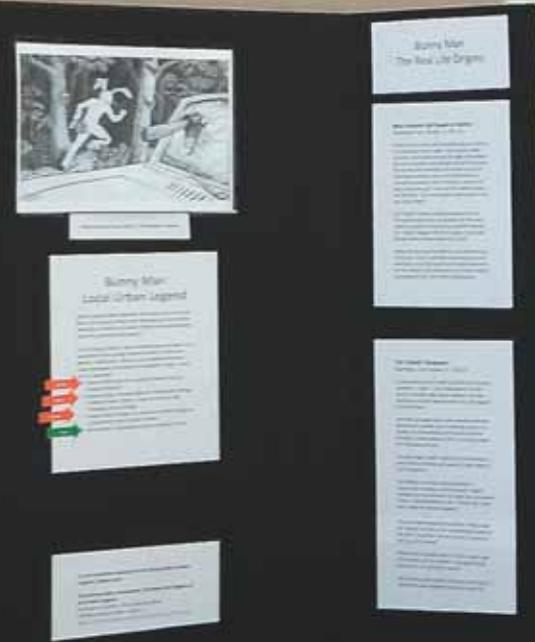
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PHOTO BY ARISA ISHITA/THE CONNECTION



# Burke History, Legend Explored

NEWS, PAGE 4

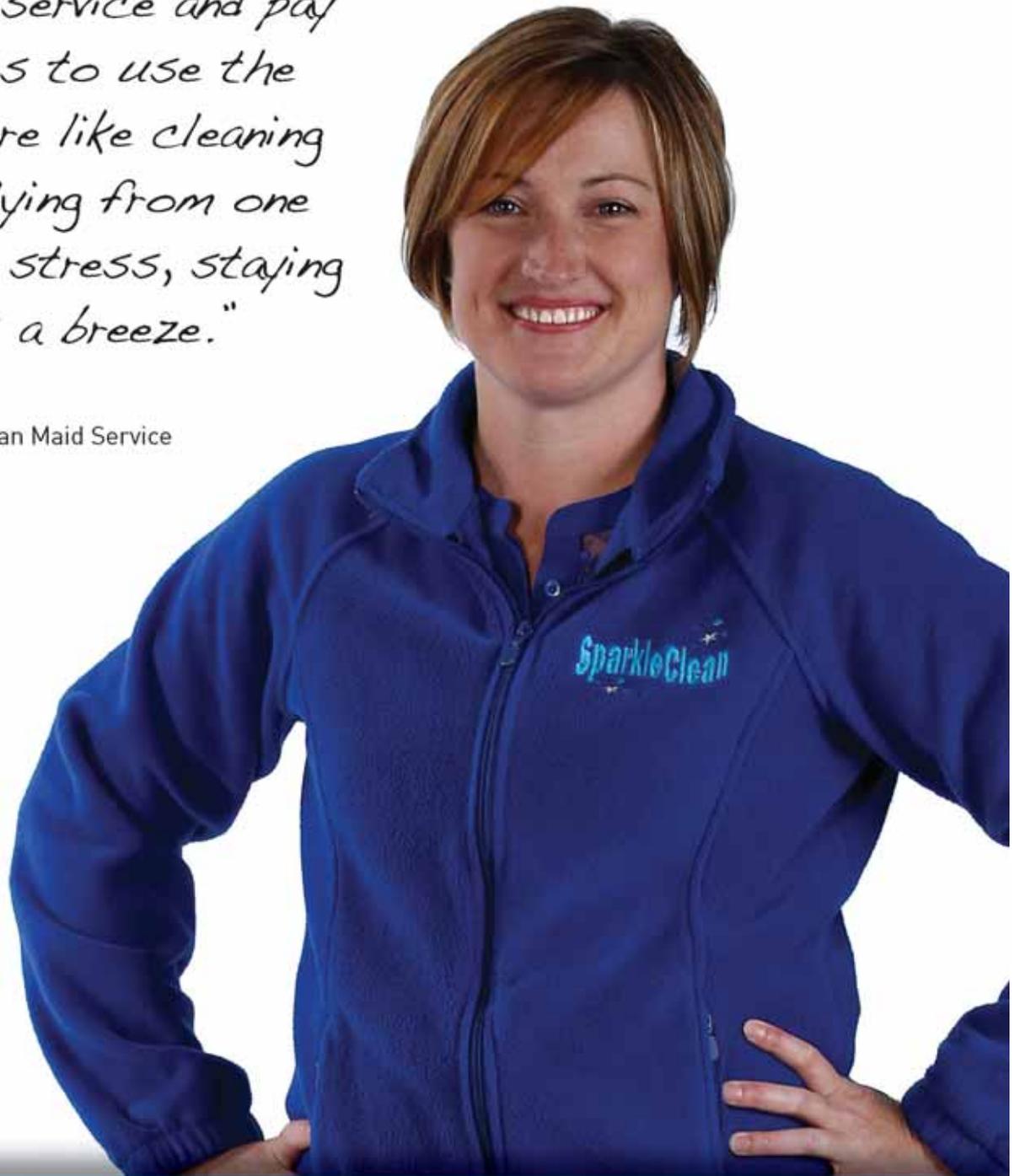
In the bunny costume, Andy Bennett, Burke resident and active member of the Burke Historical Society, stands by the 'Bunny Man' presentation table. The Bunny Man has been a legend of the Burke area for more than 30 years.



— REAL STORIES FROM THE EXPRESS LANES —

*"I own a small maid service and pay for all my employees to use the Express Lanes. We are like cleaning superheroes now, flying from one home to the next, no stress, staying on schedule, it's a breeze."*

- Sarah P.  
Owner, SparkleClean Maid Service  
Alexandria, VA



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See more real stories from the Lanes at [ExpressLanes.com](http://ExpressLanes.com)



Sarah's story was one of our winning entries in our "Express Lanes Love Story" promotion.

# Civilian Oversight Board Proposed, Debated

## Board of Supervisors accepts Final Report from Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**A**d Hoc Police Practices Review Commission chairman Michael Hershman was clear about what his group was, and was not tasked to do.

"We as a commission believe we were not appointed to defend the police department, nor was it our role to simply disparage the department," Hershman said when presenting the final report and recommendations of the commission to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on Oct. 20.

The full 37-member commission met eight times between March 23 and Oct. 8. Five subcommittees met many times to more closely examine areas of mental health, use of force, independent oversight, communications and recruitment, diversity and vetting within the police department.

In that short time, Hershman said, they've done "what few other jurisdictions have been able to do: to take a police department that has the respect both within and without our county, and turn it into an ideal model in policing. They've had their problems — not as many as some other jurisdictions — but enough to warrant change."

**THE FINAL REPORT** of the commission includes 142 recommendations spanning the subject areas of the subcommittees, including calling for creating an independent auditor position, civilian review board and more robust crisis intervention training and management.

Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova announced the formation of the commission in the wake of a lawsuit against the county brought by the family of Springfield man John Geer, who was shot and killed by Fairfax County police officer Adam Torres in August 2013.

The county had released scant details of the incident to either Geer's family or the public, eliciting public demonstrations for justice and drawing the attention of U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), chair of the U.S. Senate judiciary committee, who wrote several letters to Fairfax County chief of Police Edwin Roessler and Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond Morrogh asking why there had been a delay in releasing information.

Each of the subcommittees was allowed to bring on non-commission civilians, bringing the total citizen involvement in the commission and subcommittees to 70 members.

Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason) said county staff was already beginning to look at implementing a number of the recom-



**Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission chairman Michael Hershman presents the commission's final report to the Board of Supervisors on Oct. 20.**



**Members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors listen to Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission chairman Michael Hershman present the commission's final report including 142 recommendations for improving the police department.**

mendations. She also questioned whether there was a budget timeline established for recommendations requiring additional funding.

County Executive Edward Long responded that county staff has been developing a "matrix" to identify all the costs from the recommendations, priorities and a phasing strategy to spread out additional funding over time.

The supervisors praised Hershman and the commission for the body of work they accomplished over the spring, summer and beginning of fall. However, the recommendation of a civilian oversight board drew several direct questions from supervisors.

Jeff McKay (D-Lee) asked why the commission recommended that no member of the review board be a current or former employee of Fairfax County, saying their employment "shouldn't disqualify them from service."

Hershman responded to McKay that the commission had discussed that concept at length and it was the feeling of the group that keeping the review board completely civilian would "ensure their independence

and objectivity."

Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) withheld his specific questions for the Oct. 27 Public Safety Committee meeting when the report is scheduled to be discussed in more detail, but said there were a few recommendations "that cause me concern."

Chair of the Public Safety Committee supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon), said the civilian review board would be "probably the most difficult issue for us to address." He added he would be looking to hear input as to experience of similar boards in other jurisdictions and the types of reviews and cases they handle.

Hyland also referred to Hershman's introduction where he said "many of our recommendations are interrelated and rely on one another to bring forward transformation," and gave the example of funding additional mobile crisis intervention units. "If that's not accepted, the effectiveness of increased Crisis Intervention Training by police officers may be lessened. If civilian oversight is not accepted, then the lack of confidence in our police department by many of the citizens who addressed our commission

is likely to continue."

"My reaction to that is when we look at the experience of our community, notwithstanding a few cases that have been difficult for us to handle, the reaction of the community that I represent, that all of us represent, the majority of people clearly support and have a very positive reaction to the Fairfax County Police Department and the job they do day in and day out."

"I would hope we can talk about the civilian review board as to why that is considered essential to establish confidence in our citizenry and FCPD," Hyland added.

Hershman responded, "We should understand policemen are going to make mistakes, no question about it, but we've got to make sure policies and procedures are in place to make sure mistakes are fewer and less."

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) added to the discussion he hopes to "continue the strong bond between our citizens and police department."

"It's also clear some things have to change," he said.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) said she was "anxious" to attend the public safety committee meeting to discuss the report, especially after a "long term of not seeing them often enough," referring to meetings of the committee itself.

Hudgins also expressed a need for civilian involvement in reviewing the report. "We need to hear this report through the lens of our community."

"The Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Police Department recognize the importance of reviewing policies and determining new best practices as expectations from the community evolve with new technology and methods of communicating," Bulova said.

"FCPD actively participated on and worked with the commission every step of the way to help achieve the common goal of maintaining a safe community and ensuring a culture of public trust in Fairfax County."

Following the presentation, Hershman spoke to media and said though he was encouraged by the mostly positive response from the supervisors, "I would trade that praise for support for our recommendations."

In getting these recommendations to the board prior to Nov. 3, Hershman also said he hopes both incumbents and candidates for the next Board of Supervisors "come forward with their own views before the election."

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** will discuss the final report at the forthcoming meeting of the Public Safety Committee on Oct. 27 at 3 p.m. That meeting is scheduled to take place in rooms 9 and 10 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax.

Videos and materials from the meetings of the ad hoc commission are available online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission).



Inside the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, presentations on Burke history as well as Fairfax County are displayed.



Visitors walk around the room, read the presentations and interact with volunteer members and other guests.

PHOTOS BY ARISA ISHITA/THE CONNECTION

## Burke History Day: Exploring History and Legend in Depth

Exhibits and presentations introduced a wide range of historical facts about Burke, Fairfax County.

BY ARISA ISHITA  
THE CONNECTION

“I think when most people move here, it’s kind of a bedroom community so nobody realizes there is history.” Andy Bennett is an active member of Burke Historical Society and a Burke resident since 1989. “Burke History Day is one of those times where we do get to dress in 1860s clothes,” he added.

This is what the Burke History Day is all about — to have visitors learn history of Burke and Fairfax County that they might have not yet known about.

The third Annual Burke History Day took place on Oct. 10 featuring a variety of historical presentations as well as short documentary screening and children’s activities.

Cindy Bennett, Andy’s wife and also an active member of BHS, said the area around the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department in Old Town Burke was one of the possible airport locations selected in 1951.

**ACCORDING TO THE TEXTBOOK** published by BHS, “Memories of Beautiful Burke Virginia,” the Civil Aeronautics Administration started realizing the second airport would be needed to serve the region even when the Washington National Airport — the first one — was under construction between 1938 and 1941.

All of the possible locations for the second airport were in Fairfax County: Annandale, Fairfax, Springfield, Chantilly, Herndon, Pender and Burke. In fact, the best site recommended was Burke.

However, it became a controversy. The



Dr. Kjell Lindgren speaks to the audience during the black-box video screening. The former Burke resident and Robinson Secondary School graduate is a current NASA astronaut and works at the International Space Station.

Jon Vrana, president of the Burke Historical Society, and Cindy Bennett, active member of the society, wear 1860s costumes and greet visitors on the Burke History Day.



American Society of Planning Officials recommended that airports built for accommodating transports should be located farther away from developed areas. Safety problems also needed to be considered, such as air traffic control related to conflicting airspace use by National Davison Army Airfield at Fort Belvoir, the Quantico Marine Gunnery and Rocket Range, the Dahlgren Naval Space Danger Area and the proposed Burke airport site.

By the time retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Elwood P. Quesada, made a final decision for the second airport site, the possible sites were narrowed down to Burke, Pender and Chantilly. Ultimately, he recommended Chantilly. The Chantilly airport is what is known as the Dulles International Airport today.

This is just one of the exhibitions introduced at the table but imagining the Dulles International Airport could have been around the Burke area may be an interest-

ing story.

Likewise, Burke has a long history of railroad and is still a railroad town. John Marshall was the first postmaster in the U.S. post office in Burke.

“It’s nice to look at outside and know what used to be here,” Cindy said. “It’s got a real, substantial foundation.”

**JUST BY THE ENTRANCE**, Andy was standing in a pink bunny costume and introducing the “Bunny Man.” According to the Fairfax County website, this is a story of a man who dressed in a bunny costume haunting the residential neighborhoods in the nation’s capital. Near Fairfax Station, the infamous “Bunny Man Bridge” exists and the Bunny Man has been a legend for more than 30 years.

“It’s funny,” Andy Bennett said. “I always knew about the bridge, I always knew about the story and realized there were actual police reports. So I made it in the Burke

History Day.”

What also made the Burke History Day special this year was a short video screening featuring Dr. Kjell Lindgren, former Burke resident and a graduate of Robinson Secondary School who is currently a NASA astronaut. In the video, Lindgren not only mentioned what he is currently working on at the International Space Station but also emphasized how grateful he is to all the individuals who have helped him all along.

“Many of those teachers, mentors, coaches and friends from the Burke area, and from the Robinson Secondary School, the lessons I learned in the classroom and lab were foundational to my success,” Lindgren said. “I’m proud of my Robinson heritage.”

Lindgren had a live chat from space with the current Robinson students Oct. 5 and the video was recorded specially for the Burke History Day 2015 during the same week.

AREA ROUNDUPS

## Burke Area CROP Hunger Walk to Be Held Nov. 22

The 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Burke Area CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, Nov. 22. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m., followed by the walk at 2 p.m.,

The walk starts at Living Savior Lutheran Church, 5500 Ox Road, in Fairfax Station. The walk ends at Fairfax Presbyterian Church, Fairfax, with a water break midway. Shuttles will be available at both the starting and ending locations. Upon completion, participants will enjoy refreshments, awards, and live entertainment to celebrate the community spirit of a job well done.

The event, organized by area congregations of all faiths and Church World Service, encourages participation of the whole families. The event is free, but participants are encouraged to bring cash/check donations if they can, or raise money by inviting people to pledge to donate an amount to sponsor them. The event's motto is "Helping end hunger one step at a time."

Contact Ed Kringer at [ekringer@aol.com](mailto:ekringer@aol.com) or Janet Smith at [burkeva.crop@cox.net](mailto:burkeva.crop@cox.net).

## Call for Nominations for Northern Virginia Leadership Awards

Leadership Fairfax announces the opening of nominations for the annual 2015 Northern Virginia Leadership Awards (NVLAs), recognizing impactful, visionary leaders in the Northern Virginia area. Accomplished leaders can be nominated via Leadership Fairfax's website at [www.leadershipfairfax.org](http://www.leadershipfairfax.org). Nominations are due by Oct. 27, 2015.

Leadership Fairfax headquarters are located at 8230 Old Courthouse Road Suite 350, Vienna.

## Our Daily Bread, Combined Properties to Host Fall Food Drives

Fairfax-based non-profit Our Daily Bread is partnering with

SEE BRIEFS, PAGE 11



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Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild

**8th Annual South Run Art & Craft Show**

October 31  
9am - 4pm  
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\$3 Admission  
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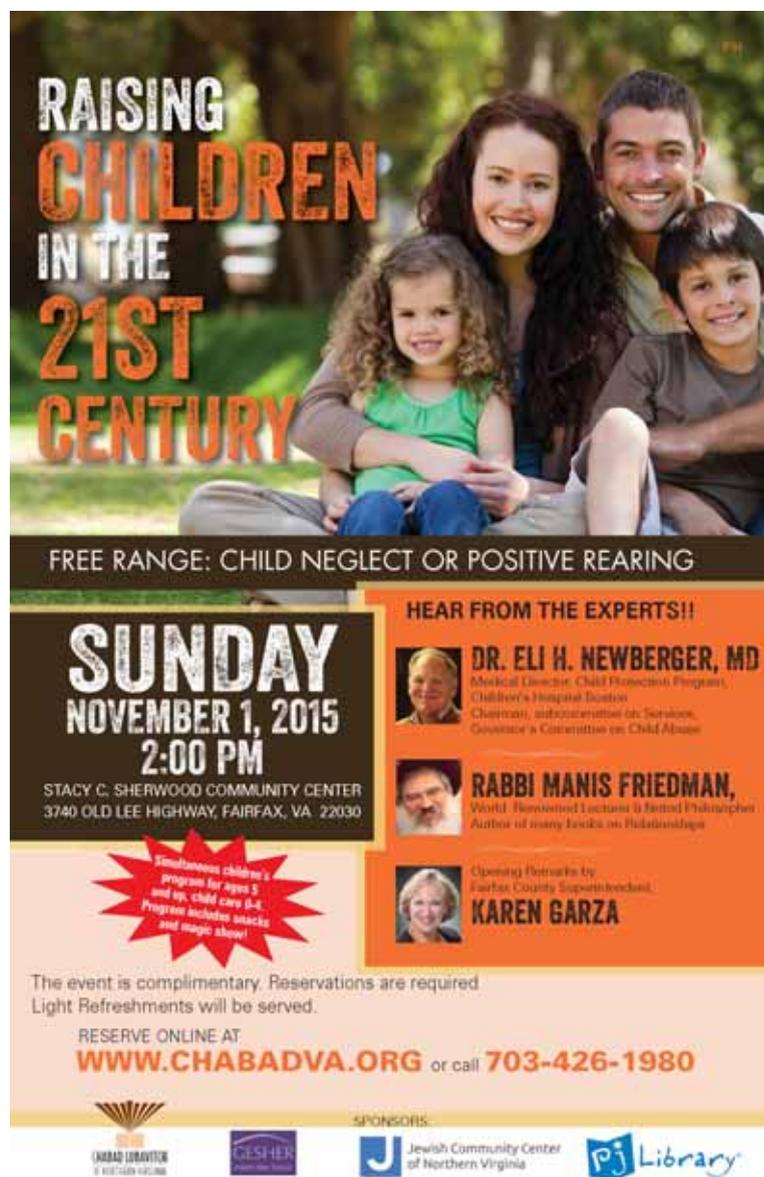
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Chairman, Subcommittee on Services, Governor's Committee on Child Abuse

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Opening Remarks by Fairfax County Supervisor  
**KAREN GARZA**

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# NEWS



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**Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) and Natalie Beck lead the DSANV Buddy Walk at George Mason University.**

## Del. Eileen Filler-Corn, Natalie Beck Serve as Co-Grand Marshals of the Buddy Walk

The Down Syndrome Association of Northern Virginia (DSANV) held its annual Buddy Walk at George Mason University last Saturday, featuring Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) and Natalie Beck as its co-Grand Marshals, both residents of Virginia's 41<sup>st</sup> House District.

Natalie Beck is the daughter of Catherine and Stephen Beck, who were instrumental in getting the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act enacted into federal law.

Catherine and Stephen, residents of Burke, were passionate advocates for the ABLE Act legislation, on behalf of their daughter Natalie who has Down syndrome. Stephen Beck died in December, after the bill passed one congressional chamber but before it was signed into law. It was posthumously named after Stephen, and often referred to as the "Beck Bill."

It passed the full Congress in a rare moment of



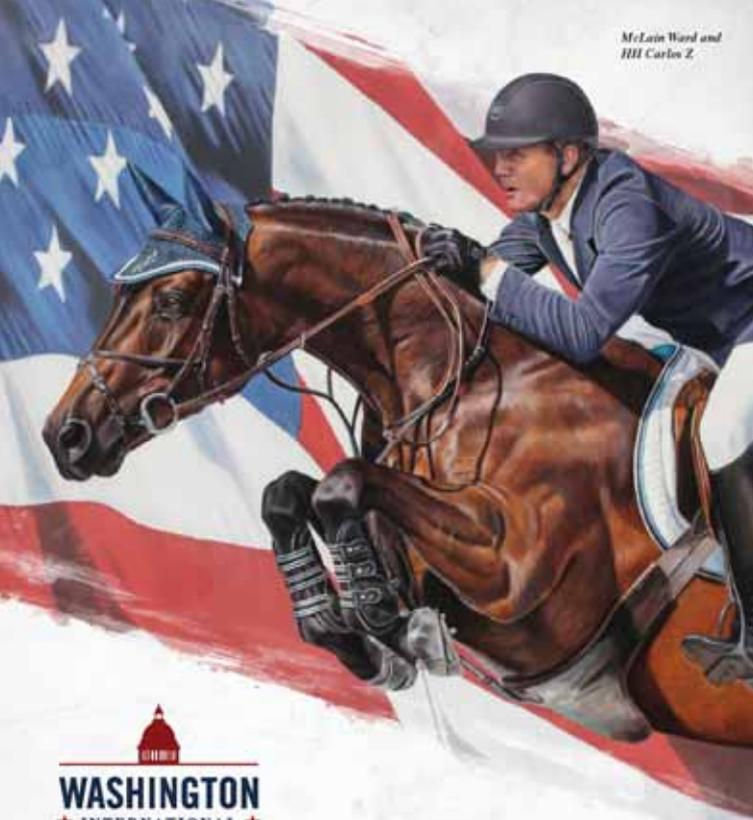
**Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) and Natalie Beck, co-Grand Marshals of the DSANV Buddy Walk.**

Having the opportunity to help families throughout our community makes it all worthwhile — this was such an inspirational day for me," said Del. Filler-Corn.

bipartisanship, making it to the President's desk in 2014.

Filler-Corn patroned Virginia's version of the ABLE Act during the 2015 General Assembly Session. The Commonwealth was the first state to enact their own version of the ABLE Act after the federal passage of the law. The legislation will allow individuals with special needs and their families to set up tax-exempt 529 accounts, so they can save money for future living expenses like housing and transportation.

The successful passage of the ABLE Act into Virginia law made last weekend's Buddy Walk all the more special for Del. Filler-Corn. "It was such an honor for me to serve as Co-Grand Marshal at the Buddy Walk with Natalie Beck.



McLain Ward and III Carlos Z

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Portrait by Sharon Lynn Campbell





## Volunteer Fairfax Names New CEO

Elise Neil Bengtson is the new Volunteer Fairfax CEO. She has years of experience in the federal government and nonprofits with a strong record of membership growth, volunteer recruitment, partnerships and fundraising. She has recently returned from a short three-year tenure in Tampa, Fla. to her home base in the Washington, D.C. area where she had lived for 24 years prior to her Florida move. She worked for the National Security Council at the White House for 15 years, served on the board of the Na-



**Elise Neil Bengtson.**

tional Symphony Orchestra for three years, was president of the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce and executive director of the Fairfax Partnership for Youth.

Simultaneously, she has always remained committed to volunteerism, especially in the arts and education.

Elise Neil Bengtson is a native of Charlotte, N.C., and graduated from Converse College. She is married to Jeff Bengtson and has two daughters, Maggie and Ava.

Her favorite hobbies include volunteering, gardening, photography and travel (to over 20 countries).

## FAITH

# Where Does the Soul Go After It Departs This World?

**Jewish Learning Institute offers a new course on the spiritual side of existence.**

Some questions are universal to the human experience. Is there life after death? What happens to the soul after we die? What is it like for those who have traveled over to the Great Beyond? These are but a few of the questions addressed in the newest course from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute.

Beginning Monday Oct. 26, Jewish Learning Institute will present *The Journey of the Soul*, a new six-session fall 2015 course.

Rabbi Fajnlund of Chabad of Northern Virginia will conduct the six course sessions at Chabad Community Campus, 3939 Prince William Drive, Fairfax on Monday starting Oct. 26.

"There's a significant amount of confusion in the Jewish community about what happens to us when we die," explains Rabbi Naftali Silberberg, the lead editor for the course from Jewish Learning Institute's headquarters in New York. "Many ideas that originate in other religions and belief systems have been popularized in the media and are taken for granted by unassuming Jews. In *Journey of the Soul*, we clear up these misconceptions and introduce an authentically Jewish approach which is both surprising and

refreshing."

*Journey of the Soul* provides spiritual insight into the soul's journey through life, death, and beyond, as well as ancient Jewish wisdom that sheds light on the philosophical, emotional, and practical aspects of coping with death and mourning.

"Science knows the very little about the soul and what happens to it post mortem," said Rabbi Fajnlund the local Jewish Learning Institute instructor in Fairfax "It's about what is truly valuable and meaningful in life which is relevant to everyone, and many in our area have expressed their curiosity to learn about the topic, so we're expecting a good turnout."

Professor Sheldon Solomon of Skidmore College who co-authored the book *The Worm at the Core: On the Role of Death in Life* commented about the Jewish Learning Institute course: "This course strikes me as a very fine juxtaposition of ancient theological wisdom with contemporary empirical science. My sense is that this will be an interesting and rewarding educational and personal experience."

Like all previous Jewish Learning Institute programs, *Journey of the Soul* is designed to appeal to people at all levels of Jewish knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All institute courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with a particular synagogue, temple, or other house of worship. Interested students may call 703-426-1980 or visit [www.myJLI.com](http://www.myJLI.com) for registration and other course-related information.



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Fairfax County, Va., publication

For reasonable accommodations, call 703-324-5230, TTY 711 

## Election Coverage for an Informed Vote

Find stories, candidate questionnaires, letters and photos.

EDITORIAL

This week and next week are the last two publication dates before Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3. Our pages and website are full of coverage, letters, candidate questionnaires and photos of the campaign trail in an effort to help voters decide to vote and which candidates hold

views closest to their own.

Virtually every state and local office is on the ballot. Find previous coverage and complete coverage on our website [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com), click on Elections. Because many districts in Virginia resemble spiky amoebas, it is sometimes diffi-

cult to include every race that might impact a town or community in the print editions.

Please take the time to vote, it matters. In Virginia, key races that have affected policy have been decided by fractions of one percent. Your vote can make a difference.

We will not be endorsing in any race this year. I'm keeping this short to allow more room for letters to the editor.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Deeper Look at School Spending

To the Editor:

The editorial ("Closer Look at School Spending," The Connection, Oct. 14-20, 2015) cites a draft report from the Virginia Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to say that Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) reduced spending by 6.5 percent between 2009 and 2014.

It turns out that 2009 was the end of the decade-long housing bubble, during which the real estate tax paid by the typical Fairfax County homeowner increased 100 percent, from \$2,400 to \$4,800.

Between the start of the housing bubble in 2000 and 2016, while FCPS enrollment increased 22 percent, FCPS spending increased 100 percent. Even after adjusting for inflation, FCPS spending increased 38 percent. FCPS staff increased 27 percent.

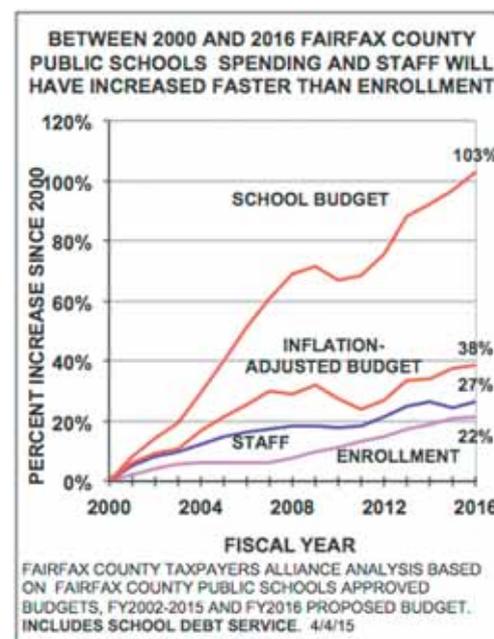
FCPS has claimed that since 2008 its budget was cut by \$500M and 2,000 positions. In fact, its budget increased by \$350M and 1,000 positions.

The JLARC report notes an increase in health insurance spending. It could have included pensions, too. Since 2000, FCPS and Fairfax

County spending for pensions and "Cadillac" health plans increased by \$700M. If that spending had increased at the same rate as enrollment and inflation, the increase would have been \$400M less.

The editorial notes the increasing number of FCPS students living in poverty. However FCPS has failed over the last 30 years to raise minority (Hispanic and African-American) achievement. Children in poverty are not getting educated, and a disproportionate number of them end up in jail. The problem is not the children or their families but the FCPS K-3 curriculum. The minority student achievement gap evident in 12<sup>th</sup> grade is evident in fourth grade. By fourth grade, children should have mastered reading and arithmetic. FCPS fails in both because it does not use phonics-based reading instruction and has inadequate drill in arithmetic. In addition it bores children with social studies. Virginia, U.S., and world history instruction should begin in Kindergarten instead of waiting until fourth grade. Younger children enjoy learning history.

Higher achievement resulting from better curricula would reduce disciplinary and spe-



cial education costs and save FCPS and the taxpayers tens and perhaps hundreds of millions of dollars.

Arthur Purves

Republican Candidate for Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

## We Can Do Better

BY STATE SEN. DAVID MARSDEN (D-37)  
DEL. DAVID BULOVA (D-37)

COMMENTARY

Having both been raised here in Northern Virginia, we have seen first-hand how the chronic congestion problems on I-66 have affected our economy and quality of life. Like most people in our area, this is personal. Traffic on I-66 has stolen countless hours that could have been spent with family or at work. That is why we were proud to support the bipartisan transportation package passed by the Virginia General Assembly in 2013 that is now generating billions for infrastructure improvements in our region. However, the way revenue is generated does matter, which is why we feel compelled to express our current opposition to the Virginia Department of Transportation's plan to toll I-66 inside the Beltway.

While legitimate concern has been raised with regard to the cost to commuters, there is a much deeper principal at stake. No one likes the idea of tolls. But like water and sewer ser-

vice, there should at least be a strong link between who pays and the services delivered. The idea of tolling I-66 inside the Beltway without a solid plan for creating new infrastructure that directly benefits the toll payers simply fails to meet this basic test. Likewise, we are concerned that this project violates the concept of first do-no-harm. A recent study by Fairfax County found that while those using parallel roads won't be affected in the direction of rush hour traffic, those who go the opposite direction will see significant increases in traffic. Even if this can be absorbed in the short-term, we have serious doubts about whether this is sustainable in the long-term. The days of one-way rush hour traffic are quickly going the way of the dinosaur as areas like Tysons, Herndon, Chantilly, Reston, and Centreville continue to develop. VDOT's actions mean that those who are using these local roads will see their commutes lengthened. This will include neighbor-

## Opposition to I-66 tolls inside the Beltway.

hoods both inside and outside of the Beltway.

We applaud VDOT for coming up with some promising and creative solutions — including the active traffic management system recently implemented outside of the Beltway. But the current plan to toll I-66 inside the Beltway without increased capacity is the wrong way to go. It is a matter of principal.

### Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.  
By e-mail: [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com)

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

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# LETTERS

## Promoting Burke Centre Station

To the Editor:

Fairfax County should promote Burke Centre as its Amtrak Green Rail Gateway.

Popularity: After 40 years, on Oct 1, 2009, intercity passenger service returned, and the station became Virginia's fastest growing station (379 percent increase).

No promotion: Despite this stellar performance, Fairfax County has spent nothing in promotion.

Potential: This station has tremendous growth potential: affluent residents; U.S.'s worst traffic; 700 available free parking spaces; connecting VRE and bus service; and excellent access roads.

Fairfax County should promote its station by asking state rail officials to invest in an Information Kiosk and Overhead Platform Sign; Amtrak for free signs; VDOT to attach these signs along Fairfax and Franconia

Parkways and to I-66 and I-95 exit signs; and Amtrak to run ads in its "Arrive Magazine," extolling riders to access Greater Fairfax County attractions.

Fairfax County's Economic Development Authority CEO, Dr. Gerald L. Gordon, argued (Roanoke Times, Mar 2, 2014) that "Virginia can ride the rails to economic progress" and that governments should invest in Metro's Silver Line and Amtrak's Lynchburg Train.

Burke Centre Station has a connection to both the Silver Line by bus and to the Northeast Region by Amtrak. Fairfax needs to invest in its Green Rail Gateway now.

**Dan Peacock**, Member  
Virginia Association of  
Railway Patrons (VARP)  
Manassas

## Class Size Priority

To the Editor:

On Sept. 8, almost 185,500 students headed back to public schools in Fairfax County.

For many children, there were fewer than 20 students in their class. For plenty of other children, there were over 25 and sometimes over 30.

Three years ago, concerned parents created Class Size Counts (CSC), researched state laws and school system policies, met with elected officials and Superintendent Garza, submitted Freedom of Information Act requests, interviewed national class size leaders, and wrote letters to the editor. Today, Class Size Counts has over 1,500 supporters.

This year, CSC asked School Board candidates to complete a questionnaire about their views on class size. Based on their re-

sponses, past statements and past votes (for incumbents), CSC compiled a voter's guide to the candidates. That approach placed a premium on each candidate's integrity. CSC also looked at how well each School Board candidate represented his or her constituents on this issue.

Visit [http://classsizecounts.com/?page\\_id=129](http://classsizecounts.com/?page_id=129) to see how the candidates compare on the class size issue. Then vote for a School Board candidate who shares your priorities. Otherwise, you may end up with someone who will place your priorities at the bottom of his or her list after the election.

**Kim Farrell**  
Mother of two FCPS students  
Class Size Counts Public  
Relations Director

## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### SATURDAY/OCT. 24

#### Minority Achievement Committee

**Meeting South County High School.** 10 a.m. South County High School Library, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. This meeting will serve as a forum to provide you with important information regarding the program and its goals and objectives. We will be available to answer any questions that you may have regarding some of our exciting events planned this school year.

### TUESDAY/OCT. 27

**Special Treasures Sale.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Good Shepherd Church, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Housewares, home goods, tools, furniture, small appliances, artwork, books and even Halloween costumes. Call with questions, 703-323-5400.

#### Moving on to Life in the Community.

6:30-9 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Event for students with disabilities and their parents. All individuals requiring ongoing employment and community support services after graduation are encouraged to attend. Valuable information will be provided on vocational, residential, leisure, recreational,

independent living and advocacy options. Free. Register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MovingOnCommunity>.

**Candidates Forum.** 7 p.m. South County Middle School, 8700 Laurel Crest Drive, Lorton. Learn about and hear from the candidates for School Board and County Supervisor. Sponsored by the SC Middle School PTSO.

### DEADLINE SATURDAY/OCT.31

**Poetry Contest** Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Arts and Letters Committee is sponsoring a poetry contest for Fairfax County Public Middle School students. The poetry title is: Silhouette of a Woman: An Influential Female in My Life. The submissions will be reviewed for awards of \$125 for first place, \$75 for second place, and \$50 for third place. [www.fcacd.org](http://www.fcacd.org). Poetry Contest deadline for submission is October 30th. Email entries and inquiries can be sent to: [artsandletters@fcacd.org](mailto:artsandletters@fcacd.org). Mailed entries must be postmarked by October 30th and sent to: Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. P.O. Box 221224 Chantilly, VA 20153-1224.

### SUNDAY/NOV. 1

**"Raising Children in the 21st Century - Free Range: Child Neglect or Positive Parenting?"** 2 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 11





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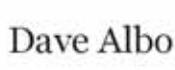
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The beginning of the K-9 Krawl 5K Walk at the Fairfax County Government Center on Saturday, Oct. 17.



Hunter Smith of Fairfax with his dog, Bailey.



The ninth annual K-9 Krawl 5K Walk was held Saturday, Oct. 17 at the Fairfax County Government Center. It was created to bring awareness to domestic violence and the link to animal cruelty.

## K-9 Krawl 5K Walk a Success

Some 315 people participated in the ninth annual K-9 Krawl 5K Walk on Saturday, Oct. 17 at the Fairfax County Government Center in Fairfax. The free walk was created to increase awareness of the link between domestic violence and animal cruelty. The event is held during October in observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and is sponsored by the Fairfax County Police Department Victim Services Section and the FCPD Domestic Violence Unit.

“The K-9 Krawl was created to bring awareness to domestic violence and the link to animal cruelty,”

said Kacey Kirkland, Victim Services Specialist and K-9 Krawl Creator. “A lot of people see their pets as their family.”

Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey, who was on hand, said, “What is important is that our police department recognized that there are direct links between animals and spousal abuse. This is a good way to help spread the message.”

Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, who was also on hand, said, “Bringing attention to domestic violence is so critical.”

— STEVE HIBBARD



Sophie, Christine, and Vincent Sharp with their dog Rebel, from Fairfax.



Matt Dale with dog Sadie and Kristin Leonard with dog Isabelle, both from Herndon.



K-9 Krawl Co-Sponsors Kacey Kirkland and Jacqi Smith.

PHOTOS BY  
STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Hear from the experts. Opening Remarks by Fairfax County Superintendent Karen Garza. [www.chabadva.org](http://www.chabadva.org). 703-426-1980.

Bring a bag of food and help feed your neighbors. More information and to register, go to <https://www.odbfairfax.org/CompleteTheCircle>

## SUNDAY/NOV. 8

**Complete the Circle Foodraiser.** 1-2:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. LCAC and Our Daily Bread's annual foodraiser and hunger awareness event. This family-friendly, volunteer event is held at Fairfax High School's practice field.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 14

**Future Quest 2015.** 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. George Mason University in the Johnson Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Future Quest is a free college and career forum for students with disabilities, parents and professionals. <http://futurequest.gmu.edu>.

## AREA ROUNDUPS

FROM PAGE 6

Combined Properties to host Fall Food Drives in Fairfax City on Saturdays, Nov. 7 through Dec. 12. The food drives will be held at 10382 Willard Way, Fairfax, in the Courthouse Plaza Shopping Center in Fairfax City, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. A different local non-profit will collect food and donations of funds or grocery store gift cards each Saturday. In addition to charities that provide assistance to local individuals and families in need, local schools that provide weekend backpacks of food to students in need will be collecting to assist children in their school. Combined Properties has donated a store space to host the food drives each week, and organiza-

tions will collect at that space and at the Safeway at Courthouse Plaza.

The organizations that will hold food drives are:

- ❖ Nov. 7: Cunningham Park Elementary School Weekend Backpack Program
- ❖ Nov. 14: Marshall Road Elementary School Food4Thought Program
- ❖ Nov. 21: Our Daily Bread
- ❖ Nov. 28: Daniels Run Elementary Food4Thought Program
- ❖ Dec. 5: FACETS
- ❖ Dec. 12: Lorton Community Action Center. More information about the Fall Food Drives is available at [www.ODBFairfax.org](http://www.ODBFairfax.org), or contact [info@odbfairfax.org](mailto:info@odbfairfax.org) or 703-273-8829.



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## Getting In: The Private Schools Admissions Process

Navigating the application and increasing the chance of getting an acceptance letter.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Although the school year just started, the application process for the 2016-2017 school year is underway at more than 80 local independent schools. From open houses, school tours and applicant interviews to transcripts, essays and teacher recommendations, the process can be arduous, say parents, especially with application fees that can soar higher than \$100 a piece.

Making sure a child's abilities and interests are in line with a school's offerings and requirements can narrow down the list.

"Parents need to be realistic about their child's strengths and weaknesses and learning style," said Mimi Mulligan, assistant head and director of admission and enrollment management, Norwood School in Potomac, Md. "Have an open and honest conversation with schools during the application process. Schools will tell you whether they can or cannot meet any special needs your child might have."

ADMISSIONS DIRECTORS say that practical considerations of all sorts should help parents whittle down their list of schools. "Do they want a big or small school? How far are they willing to travel each day? Does the school offer academic support if their child needs it? Can they afford their tuition?" asks Mary Herridge, director of enrollment management, The Madeira School in McLean.

Getting to know a school's culture and paying attention to the school's mission can also help families choose a school.

"School structure, single sex versus co-ed, dress code, religious affiliation, teaching pedagogy and parent involvement all influence school culture," said Mulligan. "Each school has a distinct and intentional mission statement. Sometimes that distinctiveness may be subtle so parents should also look at school mottos, belief or promise statements and portraits of a graduate, too."

An example, says Herridge, is a parent who values being deeply involved in helping a child with their homework. "As a school we value the student doing their own home-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. STEPHEN'S & ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Independent schools such as St. Stephen's & St. Agnes in Alexandria require an extensive application process aimed at familiarizing the applicant and the school with one another.

work, managing their homework and coming to the teacher and self advocating if they need help," she said. "We encourage parental participation, but in high school we wouldn't expect a parent to sit and help with every single aspect of their homework. We can have that conversation early on and decide that this is not a good fit.

"If they come to a school with a rigorous academic program, are [parents] going to be OK with their student being really challenged in class and having that reflected on their transcripts?" she continued.

"Nowadays, in school literature and marketing materials, all schools say they're good at certain things and offer certain things like small class sizes and low student teacher ratios, but nothing can replace going and sitting in a classroom and seeing how the teachers teach and how the students react with one another," said Herridge. "Talk to the math teacher. Have a conversation with the coach."

If a school boasts hands-on learning, are students engaged in experiments in a science class or are they sitting behind desks and looking at a chalkboard?

A tour, Herridge said, is crucial for students and parents. "When they see other students and meet the teacher they'll be able to say, 'Yes this is a good place for me,' or '... we can take this school off our list because it doesn't make sense for our family.'"

"Most tours will give you an 'aha' moment that clarifies why independent education is worth the investment," added Benita Cathey, director of admissions, Grace Episcopal School in Alexandria.

Patti Culbreth, head of school, Grace Episcopal School, said, "A look at the curriculum to include the 'specials' offered will give you an overview of the opportunities for your child."

Delve deeper than a tour organized by the school, however. "Talk to parents [of students] who already attend the school," Mulligan. "If you don't know anyone, ask the admissions office to provide a few families you can contact."

EVEN AFTER A FAMILY has whittled down their list of potential schools, the road to admission can still be long. Competition can be fierce, with many schools receiving 10 applications for every available slot. Most require not only an application, but test scores, essays, interviews and letters of recommendation, a process that can baffle many parents.

In preparation for the interview, admissions officials suggest applicants think about their own interests and attitudes toward academics.

"It's a good idea for a student to reflect on what

they love about school, what they like to do outside of the classroom and how they see themselves as part of the school community," said Jon Kunz, director of middle and upper school admission, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria. "We don't approach it as an interview. It's more of a one-on-one conversation. We want them to be themselves and to be comfortable."

Students should use specific and concrete examples to demonstrate passions and talents. "For example, if a student is passionate about science they might say, 'I started this project on my own and created this amazing invention.' That helps us see their passion," said Linda Stratton director of communications, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School.

"We're looking for students who are intellectually curious and excited about taking advantage of the opportunities here," Kunz added. "We're looking for students who demonstrate a strong sense of character who are respectful and ... who care about the world around them."

Admissions officials also want to evaluate whether applicants have the potential to meet the school's expectations, and scrutinize scores on tests such as the SSAT (Secondary School Admissions Test) and ISEE (Independent School Entrance Examination) and transcripts, looking for strong and consistent academic achievement.

In the face of such a confusing and competitive process, many parents have turned to educational consultants for advice and assistance.

"With the workload that school guidance counselors now have, there are a lot of families that are using independent consultants and that number has increased, and it has definitely increased over the last five or 10 years," said Sarah Brachman, manager of communications, Independent Educational Consultants Association.

In fact, Mark Sklarow, the association's chief executive officer, said 5-10 percent of families looking for an independent day school use an independent educational consultant, while 40 percent use one to find a boarding school.

Getting to know the child helps educational consultants identify schools that are a good match. "Does the student do better in a hands-on environment or sitting at desk and the teacher writes on a blackboard?" said Leigh Ann Cahill of Independent School Options, an educational consulting firm in Alexandria. "We have so many wonderful schools in the area. We come up with five to seven schools that are the best fit for the family."

AFTER HELPING families decide where to apply, education consultants sit down with families to review test scores, transcripts, teacher evaluations and other application requirements.

"It's important to have an open and honest conversation with the parent," said Cahill, a former teacher. She stressed that educational consultants cannot sway admissions decisions. Instead, "we look at the areas of strength. Rarely do you have a child who doesn't have any areas of strength."

She stressed that low test scores or blemishes on an academic transcript don't mean automatic rejection by independent schools. "Maybe the art teacher or science teacher says really great things about the child. We try to build a realistic profile of who the child is as a learner and where they have a spark. If you're a great photographer, let's link up your website if you've been posing photographs or bring your portfolio."

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## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

### NOVEMBER

11/4/2015..... Wellbeing  
11/11/2015..... HomeLifeStyle  
11/18/2015..... A+ Camps & Schools  
11/19/2015..... Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I  
Thanksgiving is November 26

### DECEMBER

12/2/2015..... Wellbeing  
12/9/2015..... Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II  
12/9/2015..... HomeLifeStyle; Home for the Holidays  
12/16/2015.. A+ Camps & Schools; Holiday Entertainment & Gifts Pages  
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## Candidates for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

### Sharon Bulova (D)

**Incumbent**

**Town of residence:** Fairfax  
**Age:** 67

**Family:** Married. Between my husband and I we have: four adult children and seven grandchildren.

**Education:** AAS Degree in Business Management from Northern VA Community College, attended business classes, UVA evening program, previously held Real Estate license

**Offices held, dates:**

Elected Braddock (then called Annandale) District Supervisor in 1987. In February 2009 elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Re-elected in 2011.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** I am a full time Chairman. Prior to elected office I held positions in business.

**Community involvement:** I came to local government through my work as Civic Association president of Kings Park West. I have been a member of the Annandale Rotary, how serving as an honorary member. I am a founder of Faith Communities in Action and collaborated on two community history projects: A Look Back at Braddock and the Asian American History Project.

**Website:** <http://sharonbulova.com/>

**Email address:** [sharonbulova@gmail.com](mailto:sharonbulova@gmail.com)

**Twitter handle:** [http://twitter.com/sharonbulova](https://twitter.com/sharonbulova)

**Name three favorite endorsements:** FEA (Fairfax Education Association), Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Sierra Club

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

I love local government and feel strongly about community engagement. In my roles as Braddock Supervisor and now Chairman I have been committed to making sure our community is at the table with local government to participate in resolving issues and addressing our challenges. A major challenge right now is the sluggish recovery we are experiencing from the Great Recession. My goal is to strike the right balance between maintaining taxes that are affordable to our residents while investing what is needed to ensure a world class school system, safe streets and neighborhoods, compassionate human services, a clean environment and quality of life services like libraries and our fantastic park system.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I have the experience, the commitment and the enthusiasm to serve as Fairfax County's chairman. I believe I have the collaborative skill set needed to lead our Board and our community on an even, positive course.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

Education continues to be my highest priority. It is however, not my only priority. It is critical that we continue to be the safest jurisdiction of our size in the U.S. and that we maintain the quality of life our residents value. Beginning in January our newly elected Board will engage in a multi-year Lines of Business process to examine all of our services in order to identify opportunities for efficiencies and savings. We have invited the School Board to participate with us in this process. I am hopeful that, working together, we will find new ways to economize on resources and improve on the delivery of services to families and students.

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

I am a full time Chairman. I work well over 40 hours per week plus countless hours of community and regional activities.



### Glenda Gail 'for Rail' Parker (I)

**Town of residence:**

Alexandria, Fairfax County

**Age:** 68

**Family:** Three grown children, four Grand-children

**Education:** MBA with a certificate in Software Engineering Administration

**Offices held, dates:**

Elected to Vice- Chair, Independent Greens of Virginia (2007 to Present); elected to COG TPB CAC (2007-2010)

**Occupation and relevant experience:**

Governmental Budget Analyst, Businesswoman  
Community involvement: Fairfax Federation Civic Association Committee, Public Safety Chair (approximately 2009-2010)

**Website:** [www.GailParker.US](http://www.GailParker.US)

**Email address:** [ggailparker@cox.net](mailto:ggailparker@cox.net)

**Twitter handle:** @ggailparker

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Independent Greens of Virginia



**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

The Independent Green Party Green New Deal will get us on the right track. The Green New Deal means double- digit job growth in Eco jobs for the economy. Solar jobs. Wind jobs. Geothermal jobs. Rail jobs. The Green New Deal means Bike share for Fairfax County. Bikes, like rail, increase the value of our homes, businesses, and communities. The Green New Deal will bring Electronic VRE signs for commuters. The Green New Deal means New Tracks, More Trains, More often to More Places. The Green New Deal is solar panels, and geothermal heating and cooling for every public building. Renewable energy makes money for taxpayers.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

My advocacy for Rail and renewable energy. Investments in Green Energy make money. The solar age is here and we want on-board! It is past time to bring the Green Revolution to Fairfax County.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

The infrastructure budget has too many subsidies to big oil, big asphalt, big auto, fossil fuels. Giving a half a trillion dollars in taxpayer subsidies annually worldwide to big oil is fiscal lunacy. Cut and reprioritize the infrastructure budget to invest in free solar energy and geothermal energy. Work harmoniously with the School Board to place money where it will do the most good, fund education costs and teacher salaries rather than administration costs. Build Rail: Rail will grow revenues by growing the economy. Rail increases the value of our homes, businesses and communities. Every \$1 invested in Rail returns \$20 to the community!

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

The new salary voted by the Board will allow me to devote full time to BOS duties.

### Arthur Purves (R)

**Town of residence:** Vienna

**Age:** 66

**Family:** Married 42 years, two children, seven grandchildren

**Education:** BA, MS, MBA University of Pennsylvania

**Offices held, dates:** N/A

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Computer Programmer

**Community involvement:**

-President, Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance since 1996  
-Member, Fairfax County Meals Tax Task Force (2014)  
-Member, Hunter Mill Citizen Budget Committee (2013)  
-Treasurer, Fairfax Committee 100  
-Member Fairfax Branch, NAACP  
-Past member of three Fairfax County Public Schools advisory committees  
-Scoutmaster

**Website:** [votepurves.org](http://votepurves.org)

**Email address:** [Arthur@votepurves.org](mailto:Arthur@votepurves.org)

**Twitter handle:** [agpurves](https://twitter.com/agpurves)

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Del. Tim Hugo and Loudoun Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Only 59% of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) seniors are prepared for college, and the percent prepared varies from 75% for Langley High School to 20% for Lee and Mt. Vernon High Schools. In a quarter of a century FCPS has made no progress in closing the minority student achievement gap: only 35% of Hispanic and 20% of African-American FCPS seniors are prepared for college. Even if you don't go to college, being prepared for college makes you better qualified for a good job. The solution is better instruction in the basics; not more money. As county chairman I would hold the school board accountable for achievement when the school board makes its annual \$2B budget request.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

The incumbent chairman:  
For 16 years has raised real estate taxes three times faster than household income, which is unaffordable, especially for seniors;  
Does not hold the schools accountable for achievement;  
Is indifferent to the disproportionate incarceration of Hispanics and African-Americans in the county jail;  
Sat silent for 17 months while the police department refused to disclose the details of the shooting of an unarmed civilian by a police officer on August 29, 2013;  
Neglected maintenance of the now unsafe and unreliable Metrorail system to build the Silver Line;  
Since 2000 cut staffing of libraries and parks by 112 positions while adding 145 clerks to handle public assistance applications, for a total of 354 public assistance positions.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics job growth in Fairfax County was close to last of the 342 largest U.S. counties last year. I will grow jobs by cutting taxes; using the chairman's pulpit to advocate for higher achievement, including Hispanic and African-American achievement, through better curricula; being transparent; and making Metrorail repairs my highest transportation priority.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

For FY2017 the county and schools want to increase spending by \$240M while revenues are projected to increase only \$20M without a real estate tax hike. This predicament demonstrates the need for new leadership. Seventy percent of the spending increase is for raises (3.5% for county and 4% for school employees), Cadillac health plans, and pensions with retirement at 55. My opponent would raise real estate taxes 9%, pushing the typical homeowner's real estate tax from \$5,700 to \$6,200. She raised real estate taxes 8% last year. For 16 years the supervisors have been increasing taxes three times faster than household income. Since 2000, while school enrollment has increased 22%, the school budget increased 100%. County and school spending for health and pension benefits increased \$700M since 2000; that is \$400M more than needed to keep up with inflation, population, and enrollment. For 16 years the average annual raise for 30,000 county and school employees has been 4%. To pay for these raises and benefits, the supervisors have been increasing real estate taxes three times faster than household income. The revenue from the tax hikes was not enough to pay for the raises and benefits, so park and library staffing was cut and class sizes increased. And now teachers and police cannot afford the \$6,000 real estate taxes that were increased to pay for their own raises and benefits. To make Fairfax County affordable again, we need to cut taxes by reducing benefits and giving smaller raises, as is the case with private-sector employees.

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

I can retire and be a full-time chairman.



# Candidates for Braddock District Supervisor

## Carey C. Campbell (I)

Challenger for Braddock Supervisor  
**Town of residence:** North Springfield

**Age:** 59

**Family:** wife

**Education:** B.A. University of Maryland European Division with honors. Accounting and Business University of Kentucky. German language and Political Science University of Freiburg, Germany

**Offices held, dates:** State Chairman, Independent Green Party of Virginia 2000 to 2010; Fairfax Federation of Citizens Association Vice President circa 2005; North Springfield Civic Association, Braddock District Council; Executive Committee Independent Green Party of Virginia 2010 to present; National Chairman Committee to Draft Michael Bloomberg for President

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Accountant. Served as co-chair of the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations Budget, and Transportation committees

**Community involvement:** North Springfield Civic Association, PTA, Traffic Calming Committee. Worked in the community for nearly 30 years.

**Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/carey.campbell.33>

<http://www.votejoinrun.us/careyc.html>

**Email address:** CareyChetCampbell@gmail.com

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Independent Green Party; Dr. Joseph Galdo, Green Party; Gail for Rail Parker, Independent Green Party



## John C. Cook (R)

Incumbent Braddock Supervisor  
**Town of residence:** Kings Park

**Age:** 52

**Family:** Wife: Valerie. Children: Jessica, Sarah, Amanda, Laura, Andrew, Steven.

**Education:** BA, Gettysburg College, 1985; JD, George Washington University, 1988

**Offices held, dates:** Braddock Supervisor, 2009-present.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Practicing attorney, 25 years.

**Community involvement:** Kings Park Civic Association president, 3 years. Kings Park/Kings Glen PTA VP, 2 years. FCPS Committee on Adult and Community Education, 3 years. BRYC coach, 2 years. Active in church.

**Website:** johncook4supervisor.com

**Email address:** johncook@johncook4supervisor.com

**Twitter handle:** @johncookva

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Fairfax County Government Employees Union, Fairfax League of Conservation Voters.

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Ensuring our Braddock neighborhoods stay safe and vibrant has always been, and will always be my first priority.

That means helping our community organizations, such as civic and homeowners associations, so they have the knowledge and resources necessary to work amongst themselves to improve their individual communities.

I have trained over 200 community leaders through our neighborhood college programs and meet regularly with our community leaders to provide guidance and assistance. Our communities matter because that is where we live, and our communities are the sum total of the effort we as citizens put into them.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I have proven myself as someone who cares about our community. Working with Chairman Bulova on our Diversion First program, we are seeking to provide treatment instead of incarceration for those who commit nonviolent crimes arising out of mental illness.

Together with county staff and non-profit organizations I have led on the issue of Domestic and Sexual Violence awareness and prevention. I also have a record of working with people to get things done. The joint Supervisors-School Board Infrastructure Financing Committee, which I served as co-chair, developed a plan that has generated additional funds for school renovations, realized through reprioritization of money, not additional taxes. As Chair of the VRE Operations Board, I am continually working with regional leaders to improve our long-term transportation options.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

I believe we should increase the transfer to our schools to four percent a year, an increase of what is currently being proposed by the County Executive.

To achieve this, I would hold county-side spending to two percent. Given that our employee compensation and many vendor contracts cost three percent more each year, that means most other county spending will need to stay near current levels. I would increase funding for mental health and public safety and hold other departments near level.

We need to find the funds for those increases through our lines of business review.

This series of 12 full-day meetings next January through March will look in detail at the budgets of each agency. I believe we should use that process to find necessary savings.

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

Hard work is never easy and sometimes sacrifices are required. Often that means giving up the bulk of my personal time, and on occasion it means not spending as much time with my family as I'd prefer, but I always make sure to put into the job of supervisor all the time and attention it needs.

I am one of the most active Supervisors in the county, hosting meetings and spearheading community initiatives across the District on a regular basis, while offering great and responsive constituent service. That's where my focus is and I believe that's where it should be.



## Janet Sloate Oleszek (D)

Challenger Braddock Supervisor

**Town of residence:** Fairfax

**Age:** 68

**Family:** Husband, Walter, Sons, Mark and Eric

**Education:** BA, University of California at Davis, M.Ed. American University

**Offices held, dates:** Fairfax County School Board Member at Large, 2004-2008

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Legislative Assistant to Congressman John E. Moss, Legislative Aide to Delegate Kris Amundson, Legislative Aide to Delegate Kaye Kory, FCPS Teacher.

**Community involvement:** State Legislation Chair Virginia PTA, Fairfax County Council of PTA's Legislation Chair, Robinson Secondary PTSA Legislation Chair, Northern Virginia Board Member, Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership

**Website:** JanetForFairfax.com

**Email address:** janet@janetforfairfax.com

**Twitter handle:** @janetoleszek

**Name three favorite endorsements:** LiUna Mid-Atlantic, Northern Virginia Central Labor Council, LGBT Democrats of Virginia, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Local 301, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, Fairfax FOP Lodge 77, Virginia NOW, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 400, SMART Local 100



### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Education is an issue that defines me. I have spent over 40 years as an advocate for our public schools here in Fairfax County. I worked at the PTA level, before my election to the Fairfax County School Board in 2003. I believe our schools must be our first priority.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I am opposed to the Braddock Road expansion which John Cook has been an advocate for. The current county transportation plans seem to envision Braddock Road as a new major east-west roadway, similar to I-66 with an 8 lane layout. In my opinion this is a community road, not a transportation hub. I would strongly oppose the Braddock Road expansion and remove it from county transportation plans.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

It should concern voters that the budget gap anticipated for next year is because of structural issues and does not anticipate any additional funding or services. Our teachers, public safety and other public employees earn salaries that are falling behind neighboring localities and we are losing some of our best young talent because of that. My top priority will be to find the revenue needed to fix the long term structural issues in Fairfax County. I will support a meals tax referendum as a way to begin that process, but I know we will need to go well beyond that to balance Fairfax's budget and meet our long term needs. One area that I would cut is part-time political employees of the County who earn full-time salaries. Taxpayers deserve a strong ethics reform in Fairfax County that prevents Supervisors from pulling \$95,000 a year salaries while working another full time job.

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

None. I will serve as a full-time Braddock District Supervisor.

## Election Notes

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

To vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address. You can check your registration status online by going to [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov).

In-person absentee voting begins Sept. 18, barely two weeks from now. Virginia Law allows voters to absentee vote if they could be "working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day." You're allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting on Election Day.

### For More Election Information

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

# School Board Candidates At-Large

## Omar Fateh

**Town of residence:** Annandale  
**Age:** 25

**Education:** MPA from George Mason University

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Former Campaign Finance Analyst at FEC, Former Academic Advisor/Assistant Instructor at Northern Virginia Community College

**Community involvement:** Co-organize youth basketball league, Assist in developing tutoring programs at local mosques

**Website:** www.fatehforschoolboard.com

**Email address:** fateh4sb@gmail.com

**Twitter handle:** Fateh4sb

**Name favorite endorsements:** Fairfax Education Association

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

The achievement gap. Our minority and economically disadvantaged students continually score 20-30 points below their peers on standardized tests. The dropout rate among economically disadvantaged students has nearly doubled in the last four years. First, standardized test scores should not be the main indicator of student progress or potential. Second, rather than having teachers teach to the tests, it is important for the School Board to give teachers the freedom to identify their students' strengths and interests. Finally, we must get parents involved, and to place responsibility on the students to succeed as well.

**2. Why should voters choose you?**

The qualities that separate me most from the other candidates for School Board include the perspective I bring as a member of some of the County's many underrepresented communities (including the Somali and Muslim communities), as a former Fairfax County Public Schools student, and also as a former advisor to countless area students at Northern Virginia Community College.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

Many parents in Fairfax County must work multiple jobs, and are not able to provide the full support needed by their children, such as attending school meetings and checking their children's work. It is critical for us to get parents as involved as we can, in part by meeting them on their terms and as much as possible. I will ensure that I am easily accessible to the entire community. Having worked with my local mosque to develop a tutoring program for our County's youth, many people within our community are willing to donate their time and efforts to help both academically, and in developing them as professionals.

Increased funding is necessary to meet the needs of an ever-expanding student body.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

To begin addressing the issue in earnest, the School Board first needs compassionate representatives willing to understand and serve the needs of the full range of County students with new energy and ability.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

Board members must also better engage their fellow elected officials to seek additional funding. The majority of the Board of Supervisors wants to fully fund our schools, but the dollars simply are not coming in from Richmond. We need to work with state representatives to bring back our tax dollars. We must work first and foremost to provide additional funding. We must get both Boards on the same page, and put education—in other words, our children—first in Fairfax County.



## Jeanette Hough

**Town of residence:** Fairfax  
**Age:** 36

**Family:** Husband, Charlie (Oakton graduate '97); Ryan (4th grade), Keri (2nd grade), Ethan (Kindergarten), Vader (rescue puppy)

**Education:** B.A. in Economics; University of Virginia, Masters in Physical Therapy; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Physical Therapist (Senior Therapist – mentor and leader role)

**Community involvement:** Volunteer in children's elementary school, local homeless shelter, church, and with meals and holiday gifts through Our Daily Bread, volunteer with kid's sports and activities, Manna Meal coordinator, PTA member

**Website:** jeanetteforschoolboard.com

**Email address:** Jeanetteforschoolboard@gmail.com

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Class Size Counts, Former Congressman Tom Davis, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Responsibility to the community defines my call to serve. That responsibility comes with engaging the community members, being fiscally responsible and setting clear priorities. Authentic engagement includes holding office hours and citizen town halls throughout the year, not just showing up to ribbon cuttings and planned events. Our community deserves more transparency with FCPS' \$2.7 billion operating fund. I will prioritize reducing large class sizes, not with one-time fixes the way my opponents have, but with long-term planning. I will prioritize competitive teacher salaries. Our teachers' salaries have fallen behind compared to surrounding counties. Instead of making it a real priority, the Board raised their own salary by 60%.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponents, why should voters choose you?**

My opponents either do not have children or have not had children in FCPS for a long time. As the mother of children in graduating classes of 2023, 2025, 2027, I bring a unique insight into our school system. I bring an Economics degree when we face a shortfall of over \$70 million for FY17 due to failing to enact budgeting best practices.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

Part of the growing divide comes from parallel decisions made by the Board of Supervisors. It is imperative to have a new School Board that can build trust with the Board of Supervisors. With a better relationship, the two Boards can work together for our community and all of our children.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Under current leadership, the achievement gap continues to be substantial. We cannot keep electing the same people and expect a different result. We need to provide a rigorous curriculum to all students and allocate resources for objective gains. We need to work with the community to provide wraparound services and empower parents to help their children at home.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

FCPS' projected shortfall is 2.5% of the operating budget. The current School Board took five years to hire an auditor general and has refused to do a line of business review. My top priority is to ensure clear metrics and objectivity so we base cuts on educational impact and effectiveness, not on bias and popularity. We also need to look at FCPS' contract procurement practices. I will bring leadership to the Board so we cut waste and inefficiency, not proven programs.



## Manar Jean-Jacques

**Town of residence:** Fairfax  
**Age:** 31

**Family:** My family is originally from Egypt and my wonderful husband, Thierry, is from Haiti. We have been married for 7 years and we have a two children, Thomas is 2 and Mary is 8 months.

**Education:** I hold a B.A. in Sociology from George Mason University

**Occupation and relevant experience:** I work at the Refugee Processing Center as a contractor for the Department of State. Since starting there 8 years ago, I have been known as a solution-driven, out-of-the box thinker with creative solutions. In addition to my analytical skills, I bring a parent's perspective to the board. As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the best education for children in FCPS.

**Community involvement:** I participate in local volunteer opportunities through my church, I spent time on the ground in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina assisting in disaster relief efforts and I spent time helping at an orphanage in my husband's hometown of Port-au-Prince, Haiti after the devastating earthquake in 2010.

**Website:** www.ManarForFairfax.com

**Email address:** Manar@manarforfairfax.com

**Twitter handle:** @Manar4FFX

**Name favorite endorsements:** I have am officially endorsed by the GOP and Arab Community Radio.

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

As a first generation American, I cherish the importance of a government that listens to its people. I feel called to serve in my local government because the current school board is unresponsive to its constituents. I plan on involving the community in all board-related matters through regular town halls, PTA meetings, setting special time aside to meet with teachers and making myself readily available to the residents of Fairfax County via office hours, email and phone.

**2. Why should voters choose you?**

The incumbent at-large candidates either have children that have already graduated from FCPS or do not have children at all, the only way they take their decisions home with them is in their pockets. As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the highest quality education for FCPS students so that our children have the best opportunities to thrive and be successful. I understand the frustration parents have with class size disparity, the need for more rigor in the classroom and the need for parents of this next generation to be respected and recognized as the primary educators of their children ... that is a perspective needed on the school board and it is one that the incumbents cannot offer.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

It is important to keep rigor, class size disparity and staffing formulas at the heart of the conversation with the community. Working together, we can create solutions that address our county's challenges and needs. It is the responsibility of FCPS to educate all students in the county and shape them into productive members of the community.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Coming from an immigrant family and working daily to bring refugees to the U.S., I understand what education means for those seeking a better future for themselves and their families in the U.S. I am very concerned that the needle hasn't moved on closing the minority achievement gap in years, despite \$65 million being poured into projects targeting the issue. The current board continually changes the name of these projects (Excel, PSI, Momentum, etc), making it nearly impossible to

SEE QUESTIONNAIRES, NEXT PAGE



## Ryan McElveen

**INCUMBENT**  
**Town of residence:** McLean  
**Age:** 29

**Family:** Married  
**Education:** M.A. in International Affairs, Columbia University; B.A. in Anthropology and East Asian Studies, The University of Virginia

**Offices held, dates:** School Board Member, At-large, January 2012-Present

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Assistant Director, John L. Thornton China Center, The Brookings Institution

**Website:** www.ryanforschoolboard.com

**Email address:** voteryanmc@gmail.com

**Twitter handle:** @RyanLMcElveen

**Name three endorsements:** Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, Fairfax Education Association, Fairfax County Democratic Committee

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

I will remain a voice for the voiceless who don't know how to best resolve their concerns with the school system. One of my first actions on the Board was to push for the creation of a system to allow community members to submit YouTube video testimonies to be shown at our meetings. We became the first public Board in the country to implement this kind of feedback mechanism. I will continue engaging with the community in a transparent manner and with an open mind while working to improve our communications.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I have a track record of bringing significant and positive change to the school system in a short amount of time. I have focused on three major initiatives — improving school food (including the creation of a fresh food pilot kitchen and the system-wide study of our Food and Nutrition Services program), the internationalization working group (to help guide our work on implementing world languages and study-abroad opportunities), and the alumni networking action group (which has helped us map a path to create an FCPS alumni association). In my next term, I hope to see all of these efforts through to implementation.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

FCPS is a tale of two counties, and this unquestionably has emerged as one of our biggest challenges. In Fairfax, more than half of our elementary schools sit above the socio-economic tipping point, proving that Fairfax has moved beyond localized poverty. To address this divide, the School Board must maintain its long-standing practice of targeting these communities with needs-based funding. Co-location of school and human services facilities, as has been piloted in Mount Vernon, is another way to tackle this community issue without spending significant additional county resources.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Our Board has remained steadfast in our support of needy students and those who speak other languages at home by directing budget resources to these at-risk populations. We have made expanding early childhood opportunities one of our priorities, because we know that investments in the education of students at an early age pay dividends later in their educational careers (thus saving our system money). We must continue working with the county to creatively fund and house these programs.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to**

SEE QUESTIONNAIRES, NEXT PAGE



# School Board Candidates At-Large

## Ilryong Moon

**INCUMBENT**  
**Town of residence:** Fairfax  
**Age:** 58  
**Family:** Father of 2 FCPS graduates  
**Education:** Harvard, B.A.; William and Mary Law School, J.D.



**Offices held, dates:** At-Large School Board Member, 07/1995-12/1995 & 2004-present; Braddock District School Board Member 1996-1999; At-Large Planning Commissioner 2000-2003.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Attorney since 1984; Member, Board of Directors, American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras, 2000-2010; Member, Board of Directors, Montessori School of Northern Virginia, 1994-1995

**Community involvement:** Youth soccer coaching, Fairfax-Falls Church Regional Council of the United Way, Police Chief's Diversity Council.

**Website:** www.moon4schools.com  
**Email address:** moon@moon4schools.com  
**Twitter handle:** @Moon4Schools

**Name three favorite endorsements:** My family, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, and Democratic Party

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

We should prepare our students for global competition. They will not only lead our country in the future, but must be able to compete with the students from the other nations. I want Fairfax County to be the best place to live, work, and raise children. We need good teachers and must support them. We should challenge our students to do their best, meet their individual needs, and provide them with a broad curriculum, including in STEM and foreign language education.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponents; why should voters choose you?**

Experience and unique perspectives. I have served on the school board for 16 years, including 3 years as chairman and 2 years as vice chairman, and also chaired budget, governance, personnel, and policy committees. Furthermore, I bring unique perspectives as an immigrant grown up in poverty, an English language learner, an attorney, and a small business owner.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

All students should have resources per their needs. We should work more closely with the parents to help their children succeed. For the parents with language, cultural, or employment barriers, we should reach out to them more proactively. All students should have adequate access to digital devices and internet capability. We must also work with the County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission on housing issues not to concentrate high poverty students on certain areas.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Adequate resources, closer work with families, and high expectations for all students are needed. I support needs-based staffing. Resources should follow students' needs whether in opportunities, special education, or learning English as a second language. We need to equip, train, and educate parents to help their children succeed. Also, everyone should have high expectations for all students. We should expand early childhood education opportunities, working with the County, State, private sector, and community organizations.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

A community consensus on the school funding level should be built. I support the superintendent's work with the budget task force to gather commu-

## Burnette G. Scarboro

**Town of residence:** Alexandria (Fairfax County)  
**Age:** Over 21  
**Family:** Luther, husband; Children – Syreeta, Seneca and Stefanie  
**Education:** Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, NC; NOVA Community College; and George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.



**Offices held, dates:** No elected office held

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Fairfax County Public Schools – Family Engagement Representative; African Heritage Early Literacy Project Leader. Co-founder South County Youth Network a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Member, Lt. Governor's Commonwealth Council for Childhood Success

**Community involvement:** Northern VA District PTA Director; Member, VA State PTA Board; Member, Chairman Bulova's Ad Hoc Police Review Committee; Coordinator, West Potomac-Mount Vernon School-Community Coalition

**Website:** www.burnette4schoolboard.com  
**Email address:** friendsofburnette@gmail.com  
**Twitter handle:**

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Dr. Larry Bussey; The Faith Community; and Mattie Palmore, Community Activist

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

My desire to have equitable education for all students drives me to run, along with character education in all school pyramids.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

Voters should choose me because I am embedded in the school system as an employee; family oriented and believe that students and families should not be judged by their geographical location.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

First, we need to address the increase in families placing their children in private schools or homeschooling; second, the economic divide is a direct correlation of the type of businesses in a community, i.e., fast food establishments vs. Fortune 500; and, third – work on changing the mindset of judging others by zip codes.

**4. How will you address the achievement gap?**

The achievement gap should not exist. The history of public education clearly shows that that public education was not designed for people of color. The achievement gap came on the scene when schools were integrated. I can only address the problem when all stakeholders understand why the problem exists.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

FCPS and the BOS must work together to develop strategies to bring more businesses into the area and reduce the reliance on real estate taxes. Teachers know where cuts can be made and that is the group that I would begin my inquiries.

**6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?**

A school system with a stellar reputation is sought by businesses and former school graduates to return and give back to the community. Taxpayers want to see "more bang for their bucks." Elect me to the school board and you'll see the plan in action!

## Theodore J. "Ted" Velkoff

**INCUMBENT**  
**Town of Residence:** Chantilly  
**Age:** 61  
**Family:** Wife, Dr. Patricia Velkoff; Daughters Catherine (South Lakes H.S. 2007), Elizabeth (Chantilly H.S. 2009)



**Offices held, dates:** At-Large member of the Fairfax County School Board, January 2012 to present. Have served as Vice Chairman of the Board, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Budget Committee.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Senior Software Architect at Integrity One Partners, Reston VA; previously with Lockheed Martin and IBM in Manassas, VA. M.A., Computer Science, Indiana University; M. Music, Conducting, Indiana University; B. Music, Composition, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

**Community involvement:** PTSA President, Chantilly H.S.; PTA Treasurer, Chantilly H.S., Rocky Run M.S., Poplar Tree E.S.; Treasurer, Pleasant Valley Preschool, Girl Scout Troup 2829. Volunteer, stage manager and occasional human prop, Fairfax Ballet.

**Website:** http://www.tv4sb.org  
**Email address:** ted@tv4sb.org  
**Twitter handle:** @TedVelkoff

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Supervisor John Foust, Senator Chap Petersen, Delegate Ken Plum.

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Eliminate high stakes testing and replace with authentic assessments. We must restore the joy of teaching and learning that comes from projects, inquiry and communication. Recently inaugurated Portrait of a Graduate defines success not in terms of what students know, but what they can do with what they know.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponents and why should voters choose you?**

I am proud of the work accomplished by the board of which I have been a member for the past four years. We hired a visionary and transformational leader in Dr. Karen Garza. We made much-needed changes to student discipline practices; solved the high school start time problem; and instituted full-day instruction in elementary schools on Mondays. My opponents have seldom, if ever, attended school board meetings or work sessions, and appear to have been motivated solely by disagreement with one action of the board last May. I have been an effective member of the school board by building relationships and brokering agreements on potentially contentious policy decisions.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

We need to expand innovative programs in schools throughout the county, especially those in economically challenged communities. We must insist on rigorous instruction for all children in all schools, whether wealthy or poor, gifted or disadvantaged. I am deeply opposed to the punitive accountability measures imposed by the state and federal government, which are counterproductive. I am just as deeply committed to the principle that we in FCPS must do everything we can to meet the needs of all children.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

The most important thing we can do is to achieve universal pre-school in Fairfax County. Nobel Prize economist James Heckman has demonstrated that high quality pre-school yields a 7 to 1 return on investment in less remediation and discipline issues over the career of a student.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS**

QUESTIONNAIRES CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE AND THIS PAGE

## Manar Jean-Jacques

evaluate the effectiveness of the programs. I would begin addressing the achievement gap by engaging teachers in the conversation and seeking their expertise.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

If elected, I would like to put a motion before the board to vote on giving back the 60% raise they voted themselves in the midst of this budget gap. I would also like to look at outsourcing FCPS jobs that do not directly impact the education of children inside the classroom. Outsourcing gives businesses in the community an opportunity to thrive and frees up money that we would have been paying into pensions to now be redirected back into the classroom.

## Ryan McElveen

**fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

FCPS cannot remain the system it is today at current levels of funding, and we won't realize that we've hit the breaking point until it's too late. It is well past time to diversify local revenue streams.

Beyond Fairfax, the School Board must take advocacy to the next level by coalition building with similar, like-minded districts and umbrella organizations throughout the state to push for a change to our state funding mechanisms. Additionally, both Boards need to continue exploring legal recourse to obtain the education funding guaranteed by the Virginia constitution.

## Ilryong Moon

nity input. Both the School Board and the Board of Supervisors need to know where the community stands. We should also review our programs, practices, and operations to find savings. My priorities are to increase teacher salaries, lower class sizes, and challenge all students to do their best and prepare them for the postsecondary education and employment.

## Ted Velkoff

**and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

Because Virginia's antiquated form of government concentrates power in Richmond and marginalizes Fairfax County, the Board of Supervisors and School Board are pitted against each other by design. The Supervisors control school revenue; the School Board controls school spending. The County Executive proposes a revenue-based budget; the Superintendent proposes a needs-based budget.

The County Executive has told FCPS to "live within its means." In accordance with that budget guidance, the Superintendent will have to cut \$72M from the operating budget. The School Board has closed similar gaps by increasing class size and limiting employee compensation. This year I will not support a budget that is balanced on the backs of our employees.

Questionnaires have been edited for length. Full questionnaires are available at [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) click on Elections.

Neither Peter Marchetti nor Robert Copeland, both candidates for Fairfax County School Board At Large, returned their questionnaires for publication.

## School Board Candidate For Braddock District

### Megan O. McLaughlin

Incumbent Braddock School Board member

**Town of residence:** Fairfax

**Age:** 48

**Family:** Married with three sons; college sophomore, college freshman, and high school sophomore (W.T. Woodson)

**Education:** Bachelor's Degree in American History, Univ. of Pennsylvania; Master's Degree in Social Work, Univ. of Maryland

**Offices held, dates:** Fairfax County School Board, Braddock District 2012-Present

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Former college admissions officer, family counselor, and community advocate

**Community involvement:** Former co-founder and president of FAIRGRADE; former co-founder and chairman of the Fairfax Education Coalition; current volunteer/former team representative for Rutherford Summer Swim Team; Penn Alumni reunion committee member.

**Website:** www.megan4schoolboard.com

**Email address:** megan4schoolboard@gmail.com

**Twitter handle:** @megan4schools

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Fairfax Education Association (FEA), Fairfax County Federation of Teachers (FCFT), Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC)



#### QUESTIONS:

##### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Ensuring a quality education for all students is the defining issue for why I wish to serve a second term on the Fairfax County School Board. One of the most important factors related to a quality education is hiring and retaining quality teachers. Regrettably, FCPS teacher salaries are not competitive within the region. Together with my colleagues and Superintendent Garza, we must develop a strategic fiscal plan to substantively address this.

##### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

During my four years of service on the School Board, I have worked tirelessly in support of many positive changes: hiring a highly effective and responsive superintendent, increasing employee compensation, implementing healthy high school start times, improving student discipline practices, hiring a new auditor general, restoring valuable high school honors courses, restoring full-day Mondays for elementary school students, promoting mental health and well-being, and improving collaboration with the Board of Supervisors.

##### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

As the 10<sup>th</sup> largest school system in the country, FCPS' student population continues to become more economically diverse. Therefore, I strongly believe in the value of community schools. This model provides wrap-around social services such as health, dental, counseling, and after-school care through a coordinated county/schools partnership. As a 3-term member of the county's Successful Children and Youth Policy Team (SCYPT), I look forward to promoting the community schools model as well as finding solutions for reducing our county's extensive early childhood education waitlist.

##### 4. How will you address the achievement gap?

I am very pleased that Superintendent Garza has created a more robust program for reducing gaps in student achievement. I will continue to promote the implementation of nationally recognized instructional programs, as well as instituting rigorous measures for monitoring student achievement.

##### 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

It is essential that the Board of Supervisors and the School Board strengthen their collaboration around the issue of employee compensation. FCPS' has over 24,000 full-time employees and 90% of its operating budget is compensation-driven. In order for annual raises (for both county and school employees) to be fair and equitable, the County Executive and the Board of Supervisors need to develop a budget that incorporates both costs. In addition, both boards need to partner with our state legislators to advocate for increased state funding. In terms of priorities and cuts, I am committed to protecting funds for the classroom, including teacher salaries.

##### 6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?

Strong schools create a strong community. Specifically, residential home values are deeply tied to the quality of their local school system. Families and corporations often locate to Fairfax County because of strong schools. This in turn creates greater demand/higher values in the housing market, more jobs, and thus more taxable revenue to fund desirable county services.

### Katherine A. Pettigrew

Challenger for Braddock School Board member  
Did not respond

## Candidates for Springfield District Supervisor

### Corazon S. Foley (I)

Challenger for Springfield Supervisor

**Town of residence:** Burke

**Age:** 65

**Family:** Married 42 years to Michael Foley; 2 Children; 2 Grandchildren

**Education:** MBA in Finance from George Washington University

**Offices held, dates:** Founding Chairman, Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls (2009 – Present); Delegate, Fairfax County Senior Citizens' Council (2011-2015); Board Member, Fairfax County History Museum Subcommittees (2008-Present); Founding Chairman, Fairfax County Asian American History Project (2007-Present); Founding Coordinator, Edgewater Neighborhood Watch (2012-Present);

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Retired Economic and Intelligence Analyst, US Department of State.

**Community involvement:** Lady Fairfax and Community Champion Awards

**Website:** www.facebook.com/Foley4SpringfieldSeniorCenter

**Email address:** corazonfoley@yahoo.com

**Name favorite endorsements:** Independent Greens of Virginia



#### QUESTIONS:

##### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

The part-time Springfield Supervisor has failed to do his job of providing constituent services to improve our quality of life. In particular, he has ignored numerous requests for a working group on solutions to redress the unfairness toward Springfield senior taxpayers and families; other districts have 17 permanent senior centers, Springfield District, none. Over the last eight years, I founded and developed the public-private partnership – the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls (BWSSCW) – to provide needed health programs for Springfield seniors. This is important for our whole community because the longer a senior remains functional and healthy, the less the burden on the children, the grandchildren and our Springfield District. As Supervisor, I will implement cost-effective solutions to provide facilities for multigenerational health programs – building on my community service as founder of the Edgewater Neighborhood Watch and senior center without walls.

##### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I will serve as full-time Springfield Supervisor providing much-needed responsive leadership to ensure that our district receives its fair share of county resources, particularly for senior health programs. I am a fiscal conservative who believes in good government with honorable public service with the US State Department; an Independent candidate spending \$1,000 of my money. The part-time incumbent is beholden to political donors – raising over \$470,000 while spending \$300,000 by spring, also proving that he is a big spender of other people's money. Moreover, Board decisions will benefit with broader community representation since I will serve as the first Filipino/Asian American Springfield Supervisor.

##### 3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

I will seek fair share of federal and state funding for education just as I am seeking fair share of county resources for Springfield District – and more partnerships with the business sector for cost-effective innovations. I will seek management reforms, including pensions, in the Lines of Business Review. I will cut unnecessary administrative costs in FCPS and Fairfax County, beginning with the office of the Springfield Supervisor whose spending was the highest among Supervisors in FY2015.

##### 4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

I will serve as the Full-Time Springfield Supervisor and will have no outside employment.

### Pat Herrity (R)

Incumbent Springfield Supervisor

**Town of residence:** Clifton, VA

**Age:** 55

**Family:** wife Nancy, son Sean, daughter Valeria

**Education:** BS Accounting from Virginia Tech, West Springfield High School graduate

**Offices held, dates:** Springfield District Supervisor – 2008 to present

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Chief Financial Officer at a local government contractor. Active in the business, sports and civic communities. Received the President's Award and the Community Service Award from NVTC and the Chairman's Award from the Fairfax County Chamber.

**Community involvement:** Having spent his entire life here, Pat has a unique understanding of Northern Virginia and its needs. First as a business, sports and community leader and now as a Supervisor, Pat has actively led efforts to implement solutions to neighborhood problems.

**Website:** http://www.patherrity.org/

**Email address:** pherrity@gmail.com

**Twitter handle:** @PatHerrity

**Name three favorite endorsements:** NOVABIZPAC (Fairfax Chamber of Commerce), Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, the Police Benevolent Association/Fraternal Order of Police.

#### QUESTIONS:

##### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

From the kitchen table growing up, to my time as a business and community leader to my years as a Supervisor – identifying and implementing common sense transportation solutions has been one of my passions. It impacts our quality of life, the cost to do business here and our very health. Some of the ways I have been tackling it:

I was active in promoting telework, a Northern crossing of the Potomac and the 495 Express Lanes early in my business career. I led the effort to open the I-66 ramps at Monument Drive and Stringfellow Road during non-HOV hours and the use of the I-66 shoulder lanes anytime it is congested. I am actively supporting an Express Lanes solution that will provide congestion relief and transportation choices – carpool, bus, paid express trip or free trip in less congested lanes. I initiated the effort to reclassify the Fairfax County Parkway from a secondary road to a primary road to receive a higher priority when it comes to maintenance and construction funding. I believe we need to focus our transportation resources where they will best reduce the congestion that impacts our lives daily.

##### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for 8 years and throughout that entire time I have done everything I can to assist constituents who have issues and am dedicated finding solutions to their problems.

##### 3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

Our priorities should be schools, public safety, and a safety net for those that truly need it. In order to fund the quality services our residents expect we need to grow our commercial tax base and relieve the tax burden on our homeowners. We currently have an 18% commercial vacancy rate and we are losing high paying jobs. We need to leverage the region's assets and grow our economy and attract high paying jobs to the County. Our schools are the number one reason businesses locate here and we need to address their funding concerns.

I have long been an advocate for year round budget committee meetings and joint budget committee meetings with the School Board.

We need to tackle these issues head on and throughout the year, not just when it is time to review the budget. As for budget reductions, I have listed numerous ideas in the Herrity Reports (on my website) including outsourcing, focusing resources on those in need, implementing private sector practices and metrics (like reducing space requirements), and addressing our pension issues.

##### 4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

The hours I spend as a CFO varies depending on what is going on in my Supervisor's office. My CFO role has been invaluable to me as a Supervisor and keeps me firmly grounded in the realities our residents and businesses deal with every day.



# CALENDAR

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.

## Ongoing

**Paintings of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists.** Through Nov. 7 at McQuire Woods Gallery, Bldg 16, The Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Gallery hours: Wed.-Sat.: 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday: 12-5 p.m. The exhibition brings together some of the area's top painters in watercolor, acrylic and mixed media, presenting 100 original works including landscapes, florals, still life and abstracts.

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

**Washington International Horse Show.** 7 a.m.-5 p.m. and 7-10:30 p.m. Verizon Center, 601 F St., NW, Washington, D.C. One of the oldest and most prestigious equestrian sporting events in the U.S. Held each year in October in the heart of the nation's capital, WIHS welcomes spectators to six days of world-class international show jumping and top national hunter and equitation competition plus community events, entertaining exhibitions, boutique shopping and ringside dining and hospitality. \$15-\$60. <http://www.wihs.org/tickets/>.

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

**Disney on Ice.** 7 p.m. Eagle Bank Arena, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Celebrate the legacy of Disney in this ice skating spectacular as Mickey Mouse leads a parade of characters to sing along to your favorite Disney songs for the whole family to enjoy. [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

### FRIDAY/OCT. 23

**TGIFairfax - Rock the Block.** 6-9 p.m. Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. This family friendly free concert series features fantastic live bands, great food and a beer and wine garden - all held in the heart of Old Town Fairfax.

**Open Mic Night.** 7-9:30 p.m. Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Join us for an Open Mic Night benefitting wounded warriors. Come perform music, poetry, or tell stories, or simply enjoy the show! Refreshments will be served. [bpctreehouse@aol.com](mailto:bpctreehouse@aol.com).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 24

**Clifton Haunted Trail.** 7-10 p.m. Chapel Road, Clifton. A terrifying annual event that winds through Clifton's 8 Acre Park. Visit [cliftonhauntedtrail.com](http://cliftonhauntedtrail.com).

**VolunteerFest.** 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Various locations. VolunteerFest is the local celebration of National Make A Difference Day. This region-wide community service event is dedicated to mobilizing volunteer power to tackle projects at nonprofits in our own neighborhoods. Activities will take place throughout the day at various locations. If you are a first-time volunteer, this one-day extravaganza is a great way to get started. Students, service hours are available. All volunteer activities are free to the participants. Register as a volunteer at [www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/volunteerfest.php](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/volunteerfest.php).

**Pete the Cat: Groovy Fun.** 10:30 a.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Groovy fun with Pete the Cat books, games and singing. Age 3-6 with adult.



## The Bunnyman returns at Clifton's Haunted Trail on Oct. 24, a terrifying annual event that winds through Clifton's 8 Acre Park.

**Fall Festival.** 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke. Join us for fun for the whole family! There will be a haunted house, balloon artist, face painting, a moon bounce, pumpkin painting, food, and much more. More info at <https://www.facebook.com/AbidingPresence/>. 703-455-7500.

**Homeless Walk Fundraiser.** 10 a.m.-noon. Stevenson Place, 4113 Stevenson St., Fairfax. Join Pathway Homes in the fight to end homelessness in our community. Proceeds provide supportive housing services to homeless adults with serious mental illness in Northern Virginia. \$20-32. [www.pathwayhomes.org/events](http://www.pathwayhomes.org/events).

**Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Contest and Fall Fest.** Dog costume, 2-4. Fall Fest, 4-9 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. The fun kicks off with a canine costume contest. Compete for special prizes and goodies, and let your decked-out dog walk through the "boneyard" to sniff out hidden treats. All dogs must be leashed and friendly toward other dogs and people. \$8 per dog, and registration should be under the handler's name. Once the dogs have their day, it is time to treat the rest of the family with Halloween-themed mini-golf, haunted carousel rides, face painting, pumpkin painting and spooky wagon rides at Fall Fest. \$13 per person or \$10 per person when you register three or more at one time. Don't forget a flashlight for the walk back to your car. Free for children two and under. 703-569-3464. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/>.

**"Blue Like Me."** 8 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Documentary about Indian-American artist Siona Benjamin's journey back to her roots in the Bene Israel community where she grew up. In the film, she speaks of how her work blurs the boundaries between different religions. Following the film, there will be a Q&A with Siona and Ryan Arey, the film's editor, and special guest Ori Soltes, theology, philosophy and art history professor at Georgetown University. \$10-\$20. <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2147528>

### SUNDAY/OCT. 25

**"Documented."** Film. 6:30-9 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. In 2011, Pulitzer Prize-

winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas outed himself as an undocumented immigrant in the New York Times Magazine. "Documented" chronicles his journey to America from the Philippines as a child; his journey through America as an immigration reform activist/provocateur; and his journey inward as he reconnects with his mother, whom he hasn't seen in 20 years. More at [www.immigrationfilmfest.org](http://www.immigrationfilmfest.org) or [www.IMFilmFest.eventbrite.com](http://www.IMFilmFest.eventbrite.com). \$6.

**Washington Bach Consort Chamber Ensemble.** 6 p.m. Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Rd, Burke. Tickets \$25/\$15 student, available at the door. The 4<sup>th</sup> season of Concerts at Good Shepherd features the Washington Bach Consort, directed by J. Reilly Lewis in a chamber concert with vocal, instrumental, and organ works by J. S. Bach. The program includes arias, duets, motets, chorales, and the rarely performed Prelude and Fugue in E Minor, BWV 548, with Dr. Lewis at the organ. A festive reception will follow the performance. Tickets are available at the door. Contact Carleen Dixon-Webb, Minister of Music, Church of the Good Shepherd, 703-354-5093

### MONDAY/OCT. 26

**Music and Movin' with Miss Susan.** 11 a.m. Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Join Miss Susan for singing and moving to music with your little ones.

**Pohick Prose Society.** 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Teens discuss books. Please call for title. Age 13-18.

### TUESDAY/OCT. 27

**Tai Chi.** 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Come experience the benefits of Tai Chi led by Dante Gilmer of Still Water Tai Chi Center. Wear comfortable clothes that allow movement. Adult.

**Movie: Frankenstein.** 7 p.m. Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Come watch the classic 1930s film based on Mary Shelley's classic novel: Frankenstein. There will be a brief discussion after the movie. Adults.

### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 28

**How Do Plants Get Ready for Winter?** 11 a.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton.

## Halloween Calendar

Halloween events in the area

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 31-30

**The Haunted Lab.** 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Children's Science Center Lab, Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. A fun, not scary, just spooky family event, to enjoy hands-on STEM activities while celebrating Halloween. Children's storytime at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. followed by a costume contest for children ages 2-6 and 7-12.

### THROUGH SATURDAY/OCT. 31

**Hillbilly Horror Halloween Haunt.** 7-9:30 p.m. Creepy Nights on Calamo, 7104 Calamo St., Springfield. For teens, escape rabid rednecks, angry moonshiner ghosts and a giant spider-infested graveyard. For all ages, nightly family friendly spooky tunes light show. Free but bring food donations for ECHO food bank.

### SATURDAY/OCT. 31

**L.A. Theatre Works' "Dracula."** 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4400 University Dr, Fairfax. L.A. Theatre Works brings this chilling story to life with live readings and creepy sound effects made "the old fashioned way." 888-945-2468. [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 24

**Clifton Haunted Trail.** 7-10 p.m. Chapel Road, Clifton. A terrifying annual event that winds through Clifton's 8 Acre Park. Visit [cliftonhauntedtrail.com](http://cliftonhauntedtrail.com).

**Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Contest and Fall Fest.** Dog costume, 2-4. Fall Fest, 4-9 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. The fun kicks off with a canine costume contest. Compete for prizes and goodies, and while decked-out dogs walk through the "boneyard" to sniff out hidden treats. All dogs must be leashed and friendly toward other dogs and people. \$8 per dog, and registration should be under the handler's name. Once the dogs have their day, it is time to treat the rest of the family with Halloween-themed mini-golf, haunted carousel rides, face painting, pumpkin painting and spooky wagon rides at Fall Fest. \$13 per person or \$10 per person when you register three or more at one time. Don't forget a flashlight for the walk back to your car. Free for children two and under. 703-569-3464. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/).

Stories, songs and finger play. Age 3-5 with adult.

**Blossoming Babies.** 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Songs, rhymes, stories and activities for infants less than a

year old. Birth to eleven months with adult.

**P is for Pumpkin.** 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Autumn stories and activities. Age 3-5 with adult.

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# Lake Braddock Field Hockey Secures Regional Berth

## Bruins beat Mount Vernon in Conference 7 tournament.

BY JORDAN SMALL  
FOR THE CONNECTION

In their second matchup of the season, the Lake Braddock field hockey team beat Mount Vernon on Tuesday to advance to the second round of the Conference 7 tournament and secure a berth in the 6A North region tournament.

The No. 2 seed Bruins beat the No. 7 Majors 2-0 on two goals from junior midfielder Haley Hopkins.

Both teams went back and forth for most of the game before Hopkins tapped in a goal with

13:38 remaining in the game. Just over four minutes later, Hopkins scored again. Goalies senior Katherine Thompson and junior Ciara Weets combined for the shut-out.

"We got the win," Lake Braddock head coach Marie Bounds Bullock said. "It wasn't our best. We came out a little flat, but we picked it up and kept putting the ball in the net."

While the first half was very even, Lake Braddock took hold of the second half and picked up two goals. When given opportunities in the circle, the Bruins were able to put the ball away.

"Braddock finished in the circle," Mount Vernon head coach Jessica Edwards said. "We didn't finish our shots. They finished their shots and had more of a presence in the circle."

With the loss, Mount Vernon's season came to an end. The Ma-



PHOTO BY JORDAN SMALL

**The Lake Braddock field hockey team defeated Mount Vernon 2-0 in the Conference 7 tournament quarterfinals on Tuesday.**

jors finished with a 3-13 record and one conference victory.

"I thought our girls played really well overall," Edwards said.

"We had shots on goal and we had corners. Overall it was a pretty evenly matched game. Braddock was just able to put the ball away."

Lake Braddock (11-5-1) will host No. 3 Woodson (8-7-2) in the conference semifinals at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 22.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

## South County Remains Undefeated

The South County football team improved to 7-0 overall and 4-0 in Conference 7 with a 55-6 victory over Mount Vernon on Oct. 16 in Lorton.

The Stallions regained sole possession of the No. 1 spot in the VHSL's 6A North region power rankings, with a rating of 32.42857. Fellow unbeaten Lake Braddock is No. 2 with a rating of 31.85714.

South County quarterback DeAndre Clayton completed 16 of 26 passes for 197 yards and two touchdowns, and was intercepted twice.

The Stallions rushed for 283 yards as a team, with 12 different players getting at least one carry. South County will travel to face Annandale at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23.

## Woodson Advances in Conference 7 Tournament

The No. 3 seed Woodson field hockey team advanced to the Conference 7 tournament semifinals and secured a berth in the 6A North region tournament



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Lamont Atkins and the Lake Braddock football team will host West Springfield at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23.**

with a 4-1 victory over No. 6 South County on Tuesday.

Woodson will travel to face No. 2 Lake Braddock in the semifinals at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 22.

No. 1 T.C. Williams and No. 5 West Potomac also advanced.

## Hayfield Improves to 4-0 in Conference 6

The Hayfield football team de-

feated Langley 39-21 at home on Oct. 16, remaining in a first-place tie atop the Conference 6 standings with Madison.

The Hawks improved to 5-2 overall, 4-0 in the conference and have won four games in a row after giving up 70 points in a loss to South County.

Hayfield is No. 10 in the latest VHSL 6A North region power rankings. The top 16 teams make the playoffs.

The Hawks will travel to face Yorktown at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct.

23.

## Lake Braddock Football to Host West Springfield

The Lake Braddock football team will host West Springfield at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23 in a matchup of Conference 7 title contenders.

Lake Braddock cruised to a 61-0 home victory over Woodson on

Oct. 16, improving its record to 7-0, including 4-0 in the conference.

The Bruins are one of two remaining undefeated teams in the 6A North region and are No. 2 in the latest VHSL football power rankings.

Their rating of 31.85714 is behind only fellow unbeaten and conference foe South County.

Lake Braddock running back Lamont Atkins carried 14 times for 126 yards and two touchdowns against Woodson. Ibrahim Mansaray ran for 97 yards and a touchdown, and quarterback Kyle Edwards scored a rushing touchdown.

Edwards completed 9 of 14 passes for 148 yards and two touchdowns.

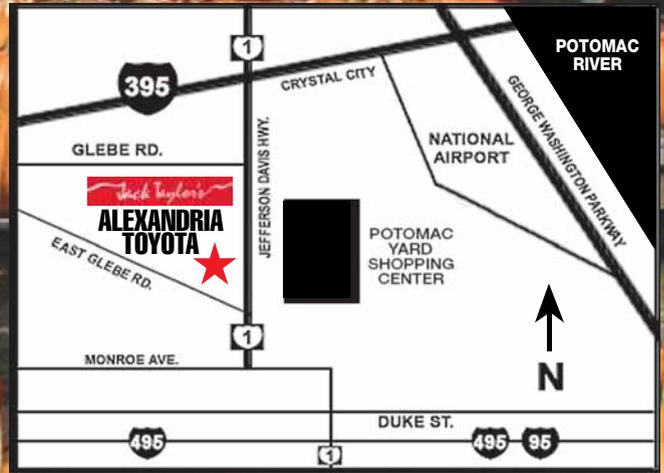
West Springfield improved to 5-2 overall and 3-1 in the conference with a 14-12 home win against T.C. Williams on Friday. The Spartans are No. 5 in the VHSL power rankings with a rating of 28.14286.

Running back Eric Vercellone carried 17 times for 100 yards against T.C. Williams. Quarterback Peter Muskett completed 12 of 20 passes for 146 yards and a touchdown, and also ran for a score.

Last season, West Springfield defeated Lake Braddock 16-14 during the regular season, but the Bruins won the playoff rematch 27-24.

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and Beer on premises and  
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Jeon, Member-Manager  
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ic beverages. Michael Isabella  
Jr. Owner  
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COHOLIC BEVERAGE CON-  
TROL(ABC) for a Wine and  
Beer off Premises license to  
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beverages. Wayne Pereira,  
member  
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FFN: 515760 CASE ID:  
T.R. 03/25/2014 14-289  
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\*YOU ARE HEREBY \*notified that you are required to appear personally on \*November 23, 2015 \*  
\*at 9:00 a.m., before the Emily A. Peacock, \*800 E. Twigg Street, Court room 310, Tampa, Florida 33602, to show cause, if any, why your parental rights should not be terminated and why said child should not be permanently committed to the Florida Department of Children and Families for subsequent adoption. You are entitled to be represented by an attorney at this proceeding.  
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## NEWS

### Fun Run to Benefit Ecumenical Community Helping Others

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and Kirkwood Presbyterian Church of the West Springfield area will host a five-kilometer run and one-kilometer walk to benefit the local organization Ecumenical Community Helping Others, or ECHO.

ECHO, located on Old Keene Mill Road in Springfield, primarily provides food and basic home goods to families in Burke and Springfield who are in crisis, but also offers clothing, school supplies and some financial assistance.

Rather than ask for a registration fee for the race, the two church organizers are encouraging participants to make cash or check donations on-site.

West Springfield resident and ECHO representative Mike Reidy said in a statement, "This fun run is a great opportunity for all ages to meet neighbors and serve our community together through supporting ECHO."

Registration prior to the race is scheduled for 7:45 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24 at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, located at 8336 Carrleigh Parkway in West Springfield.

For more information, contact Stacey Crosson, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church minister of care and Outreach at Prince, at 703-451-5855 or via email at stacey.crosson@poplc.org.

— TIM PETERSON

### SCHOOL NOTES

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

Six students in Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) have been named **regional finalists in the 2015 Siemens Competition in Math, Science, and Technology**. The students, who attend South County High School and Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST), are part of a group of 97 regional finalists who will compete in one of six regional events in November.

Finalists include five TJHSST students — Daniel Chae, Kelly Cho, Harriet Khang, Christina Oh and Michael You — as well as Edward Oh, South County High School.

**Brendan Richard O'Connor** of Fairfax Station has accepted membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. NSCS is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies and is the nation's only interdisciplinary honors organization for first-year and second-year college students. Membership is by invitation only, based on grade point average and class standing. He is a sophomore at the College of William and Mary.

**William Douglas Krawczak** of Springfield has been recognized by George Mason University on the school's dean's list for his academic achievement during the spring semester. William graduated from West Springfield High School and is double majoring in English and Economics at George Mason University. Recognition on the George Mason University dean's list is reserved for students who were registered for 12 or more semester hours and received a grade point average of 3.2 or higher with no grade below a C for the previous semester's work.

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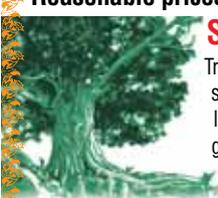
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