

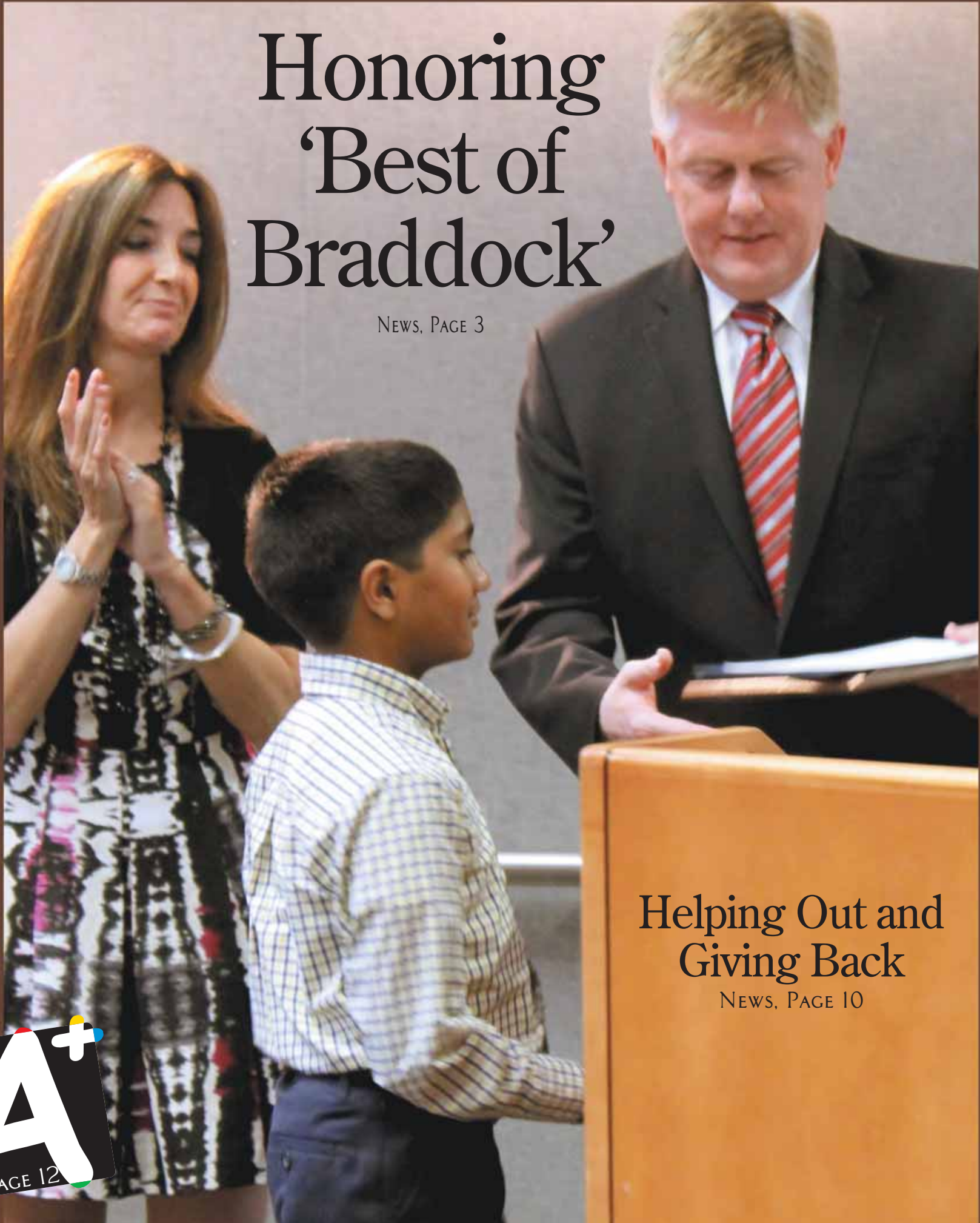
Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock District) presents Rohil Bhinge, a student at Mosby Woods Elementary School, with the Special Recognition Award at the annual Best of Braddock Awards on July 9. Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) attended the awards presentation.

# Honoring 'Best of Braddock'

NEWS, PAGE 3

## Helping Out and Giving Back

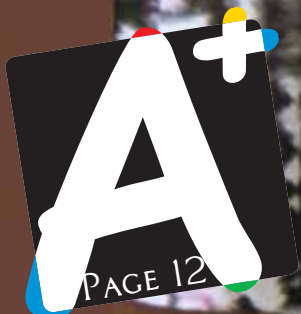
NEWS, PAGE 10



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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 15 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 18 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 16

PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION





# Congratulations to all of the Outstanding Principals listed below.

They have been rated highest by our memberships in those schools

Fairfax County Federation of Teachers  
Teachers Care!

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

Bonnie Glazewski  
*(Oak View)*

Jesse Kraft  
*(Providence)*

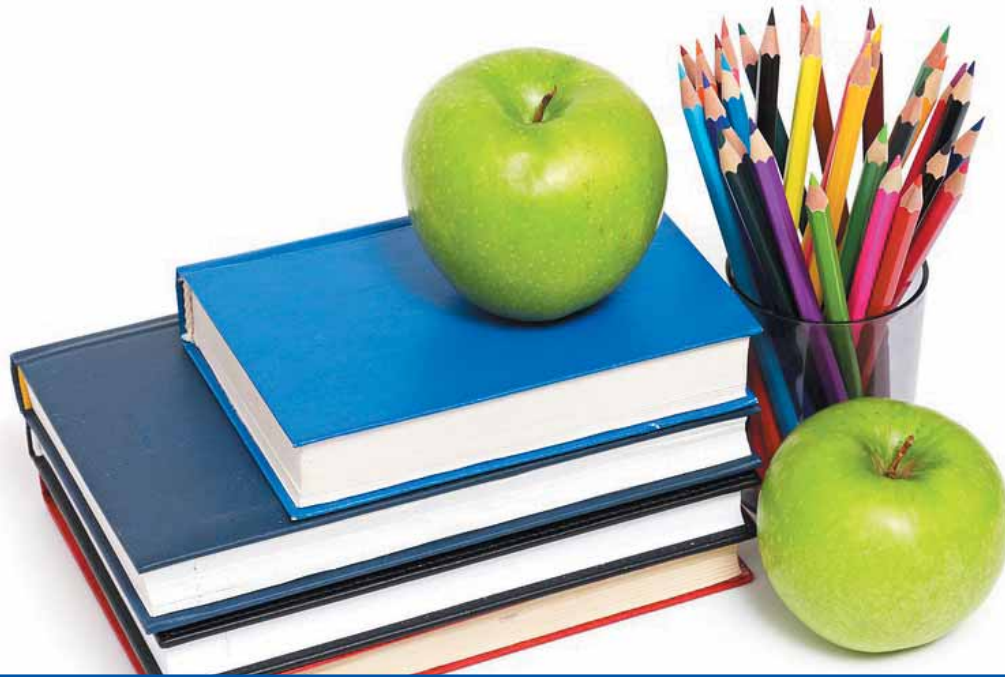
Michael Macrina  
*(Island Creek)*

Suzanne Montgomery  
*(Laurel Hill)*

Lindsay Trout  
*(Terraset)*

## MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Penny Gros *(Glasgow)*



## HIGH SCHOOLS:

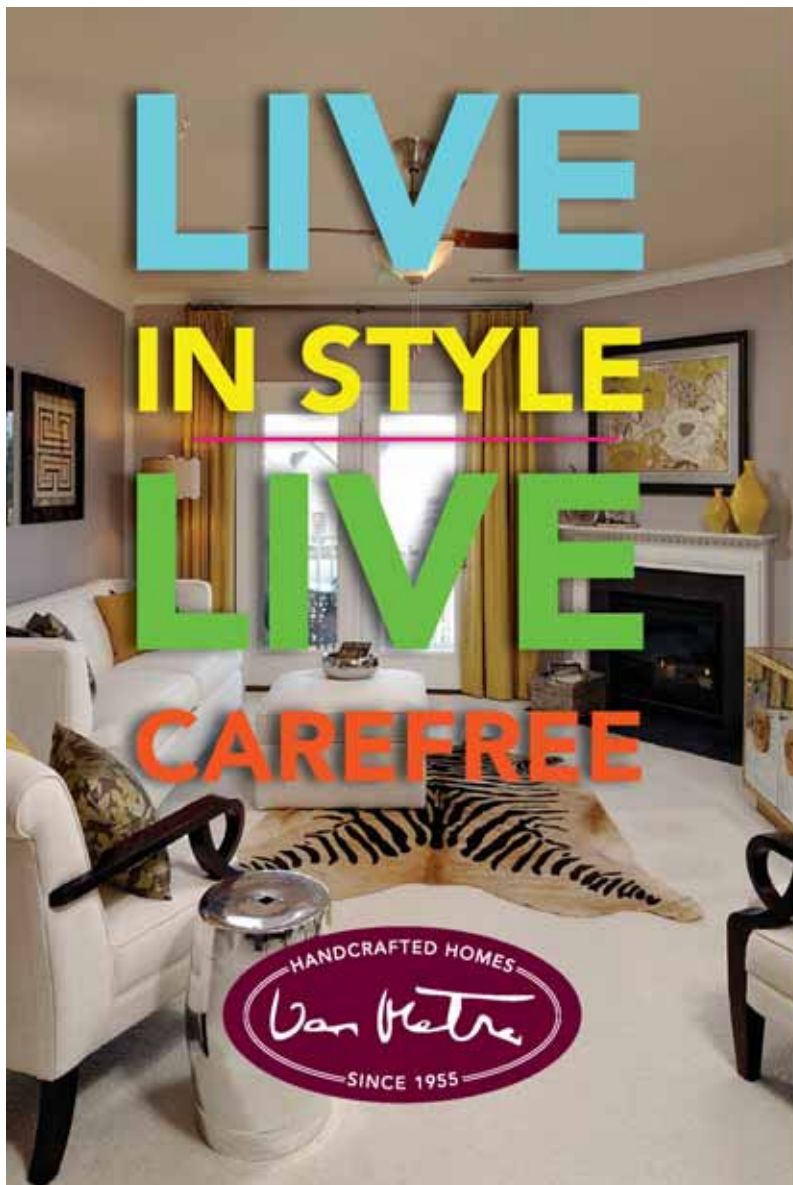
Teresa Johnson  
*(Chantilly)*

Nardos King  
*(Mt. Vernon)*

Michael Yohe  
*(Falls Church)*

Jeff Yost  
*(Woodson)*

**THANK YOU TO ALL  
OF OUR MEMBERS WHO  
RETURNED THE SURVEY**



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# NEWS



From left: Ned Barnes, Julie Tahan, David McKinley, Paula McKinley, Rohil Binge, Greg Sykes, Norma Heck, Eileen Filler-Corn, Elizabeth Banks, Cliff Keenan, and John Cook gather at the annual Best of Braddock Awards on July 9.



Paula and David McKinley receive the award for Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification by a Homeowner at the Best of Braddock Awards on July 9.

## Celebrating the 'Best of Braddock'

### Braddock District residents honored for service.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE CONNECTION

From 10-year-old Rohil Binge, who helped raise funds to complete a handicap accessible playground, to Norma Heck, who was one of the first five homeowners of North Springfield in 1955, the Braddock District is full of exceptional citizens.

These citizens were honored at the Best of Braddock Awards on July 9, hosted by Braddock District Supervisor John Cook and the Braddock District Council.

"It's our people that make Fairfax County great," Cook said. "Our community wouldn't be the place it is without folks stepping up."

The annual awards honor those who contribute their service and skills in the Braddock District. Award winners included students, community organizations and homeowners who are working to make life better in the area.

"We're fortunate in Fairfax County. Not everywhere in the country, state or even Northern Virginia has the culture of volunteering like we do in Fairfax County," Cook said. "It really makes Fairfax stand out."

The categories for the awards included the Special Recognition Award, Club or Organization Making a Difference in Braddock District, Most Can-Do Local Public Employee in Braddock District, Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification by a Homeowner in the Braddock District, Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification by a Community, Braddock District Citizen of the Year, and Braddock District Young Person of the Year.

"The awards are a great opportunity to celebrate the phenomenal work done by citizens of the district," Cook said. "Their



Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), and Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock District) speak at the annual Best of Braddock Awards on July 9, honoring exceptional citizens in the community.

efforts and dedication have helped our community thrive, and we cannot let that go unrecognized."

Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) and Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) also spoke at the awards ceremony, and thanked the awardees for their service.

"I honestly think local government is the most important and noble form of government, because it's the most successful," Connolly said. "In Fairfax, we have a really effective government. It really does work. There's a reason we were voted a few years ago the best managed county in the state."

Rohil Binge, a student at Mosby Woods Elementary School, received the Special Recognition Award for his work to raise funds for Chessie's Big Backyard at the Lee District Park.

Paula and David McKinley of Olde Forge/Surrey Square received the award for Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification by a Homeowner.

The award for Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification by a Community went to Greg Sykes of Kings Park West. Braddock District Young Person of the Year went to Elizabeth Banks, and the award for Club or Organization Making a Difference in the Braddock District went to the David R. Pinn Center.

"I love the involvement of the community in Fairfax County," said Julie Tahan,



Braddock District Citizen of the Year Norma Heck greets Supervisor Cook after receiving her award at the annual Best of Braddock Awards on July 9.

park supervisor at Lake Accotink Park who won the award for Most Can-Do Public Employee in Braddock District.

The awardees expressed their thanks and appreciation for living in the Braddock District.

"I've loved every minute of living in this community," said Norma Heck, who won the award of Braddock District Citizen of the Year.

### Best of Braddock Winners

The 2014 Best of Braddock award winners are:<sup>oo</sup>

- \*Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification by a Homeowner - Paula and David McKinley, Olde Forge/Surrey Square
- \*Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification by a Community — Greg Sykes, Kings Park West
- \*Most Can-Do Local Employee Working in the Braddock District — Julie Tahan, Lake Accotink Park Supervisor
- \*Club or Organization Making a Difference in the Braddock District — The David R. Pinn Center with special recognition of Sarah Tinsley
- \*Special Recognition Award — Rohil Binge, Mosby Woods Elementary School
- \*Braddock District Young Person of the Year — Elizabeth Banks, Robinson Secondary School
- \*Braddock District Citizen of the Year — Norma Heck, North Springfield<sup>oo</sup>

# Affordable Housing Lack Can Lead to Hunger

## ODB director beseeches Fairfax City Council to take action.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**D**uring the June 24 swearing-in ceremony of the Fairfax City Council members and mayor, Councilman Jeff Greenfield decried the fact that so many children in the City are hungry. He then promised to create a task force to attack the problem.

Lisa Whetzel, a 15-year Fairfax resident and executive director of Our Daily Bread (ODB), was listening carefully to his words. And at the July 8 Council meeting, she told Greenfield and his colleagues that his remarks inspired her.

"Thank you, Jeff, for highlighting the fact that over 47,000 children in Fairfax County are on free or reduced lunch – and over 1,600 in Fairfax City," she said. "That's a lot of children who don't know if they will have an evening meal when they go home."

Whetzel said she'd welcome the opportunity to be on the task force Greenfield is assembling to address this issue. Speaking from the perspective of a nonprofit whose mission it is to provide emergency food to struggling, working families in the City, she said, "We need to do more because we cannot keep up with the demand."

She said at least half a dozen food programs serving Fairfax already exist and noted that ODB delivers two weeks worth of groceries every weekend to 30 families here. Five percent of them, said Whetzel,



Lisa Whetzel

are Fairfax City residents.

**ODB ALSO MAINTAINS** a small food pantry for families in immediate need and initiated a weekend food-pack program at Daniels Run Elementary. It's now in its third year and serves about 20 students in need, each school year. In addition, families in ODB's food program receive vouchers to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at area farmers markets.

"We can only do this work with the help of the community," said Whetzel. "In the City, Fairfax United Methodist Church, Christ Lutheran Church and Fairfax Presbyterian Church all contribute to our food program. Local civic groups like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, American Legion, Lions Club, Moose Lodge, Kiwanis, Rotary and neighborhood civic associations all help us attempt to meet the need. We couldn't do it without them."

But, she said, a recent analysis conducted

## Hungry Children in Fairfax

Numbers of school children in Fairfax City schools receiving free and reduced-price meals (1,616 total):

	free	reduced	total
Daniel's Run Elementary	197	53	250
Providence Elementary	286	92	378
Lanier Middle	243	67	310
Fairfax High	472	206	678

—Source: Virginia Department of Education, October 2013

by GMU professor Stephen Fuller concerns her. "His findings state that the job sector with the highest, overall projected increase in coming years will be in low-wage, service and retail industry," said Whetzel. "The implications of this projection demand our attention."

She said the local food programs can always be strengthened and improved, but she urged the City Council to take things a step further. "We need to address the root causes [of hunger here]," she said. "If we don't, we'll always be chasing our tails."

Therefore, said Whetzel, "I urge the City Council to continue to value and increase efforts to include affordable housing in its redevelopment projects. If people are spending 50 percent of their income on housing, how do we expect them to cover their utility and transportation bills, let alone their food bills?"

Knowing that even more local residents are anticipated to have low-paid, hourly wage jobs in the future, she said, "That fact, coupled with increasing rent prices, is a recipe for more demand for our human services. Can we find a way to provide housing for newly graduated college students, our senior citizens of modest fixed incomes,

and our parents who are making \$30,000 a year or less?"

**WHETZEL** noted that, in her neighborhood alone, are several homes containing multiple or extended families who must live together to make ends meet. And these people aren't unemployed slackers.

"The adults are all working, have kids going to City schools, play in FPYC sports, etc.," she said. "But they cannot afford to live in their own space. These adults have jobs that we all benefit from – they install your cabinets, are your school's receptionists, fix your car and check you out at the grocery store."

"That is the conundrum before us," continued Whetzel. "Food insecurity is a symptom of a larger problem that starts with the lack of affordable housing. I welcome the chance to be a part of the City's efforts to develop real solutions. It's a wonderful goal to end child hunger in Fairfax City; and if the community rallies, I think we can achieve it."

After she spoke, Mayor Scott Silverthorne said this matter would probably be placed onto a City Council work-session agenda by September.

### WEEK IN FAIRFAX

#### Water Main Work Begins

Last week, the Fairfax Water Authority began replacing the water main on Fairchester Drive between Ren Road and Woodhaven Drive in Fairfax. The work will take approximately one month to complete, but traffic will be able to pass with the help of flaggers.

#### City Council Meets July 22

The next meeting of the Fairfax City Council is Tuesday, July 22, at 7 p.m., at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St. in Fairfax.

#### Farmers Market on Thursdays

Each Thursday, from 3-7 p.m., the Fairfax County Government Center hosts a farmers market in its parking lot. The Government Center is at 12000 Govern-

ment Center Pkwy. in Fair Oaks, and the next markets are slated for July 24 and July 31.

#### Public Safety Training Event

The City of Fairfax Police and Fire departments will conduct a joint training event, July 21-25, from 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. each day, at Fairfax High, 3501 Rebel Run between Fairfax Boulevard and Old Lee Highway. As a result, part of the high school and surrounding parking areas will have restricted access and people may see multiple emergency vehicles in the area.

#### Rock the Block!

Free, live music concerts and block parties will be held on University Drive in Old Town Fairfax, from 6-9 p.m., on the fourth Fridays of the month in July, August and September – July 25, Aug. 22 and Sept. 26. Rock the Block! will feature popular, local bands playing covers of favorite hits, beginning July 25 with Gonzo's Nose. City res-

taurants and merchants will offer food, a beer garden, games and more. Attendees are advised to bring their own chairs.

#### Fairfax City Farmers Markets

Two farmers markets are open for the season in the City of Fairfax. They'll run through Nov. 1 at the corner of West and Main streets. The Downtown Fairfax Coalition Community Market is held Saturdays, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. The Sunday Farmers Market will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, call 703-642-0128.

#### Chuy's Brings Tex-Mex to Fairfax

Chuy's brings authentic Tex-Mex cuisine to Fairfax when the Austin-based restaurant opens its first metropolitan Washington location at 11219 Lee Highway, Fairfax on Tuesday, Aug. 26. Diners can expect a vibrant atmosphere complete with an Elvis Shrine, the La Chihuahua Bar featuring

framed pictures of local dogs, a "school" of hand-carved wooden fish, metal palm trees and a hubcap-covered ceiling.

Chuy's Fairfax will be open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. On weekdays from 4 to 7 p.m. the restaurant will offer up happy hour drink specials and the fully-loaded nacho car, an unlimited build-your-own nacho station with chips, salsa, queso, ground sirloin and more.

The opening of Chuy's Fairfax this August will be shortly followed by Chuy's Springfield, which is scheduled to open in the newly renovated Springfield Town Center in October.

For more information on Chuy's, visit [www.chuys.com](http://www.chuys.com).

#### Beware, Road Work Ahead

This summer, Fairfax drivers and pedestrians alike will discover many ongoing and new construction projects that'll be shaping the City for years to come.

SEE WEEK, PAGE 5

# WEEK IN FAIRFAX

FROM PAGE 4

Inclement weather may affect the schedule, though; for information, call 703-385-7810.

❖ Construction to replace the aging bridge over Accotink Creek on Route 123/Chain Bridge Road at Kenmore Drive should continue through autumn. During this time, northbound Chain Bridge Road drivers are detoured and sidewalks in work zones are closed; follow signage. Southbound traffic is not detoured unless required for safety reasons, but lanes will shift in the work zone.

❖ Through August, road crews will mill and replace asphalt and rebuild the bridge on Route 50/Fairfax Boulevard from Rebel Run to Fairfax Circle (both eastbound and westbound). Roadwork will be done in stages; up to two lanes may be closed in both directions during scheduled work, weekday nights, 8 p.m.-5 a.m., and weekend nights, 9 p.m.-5 a.m.

## Board and Commission Vacancies

The City of Fairfax has vacancies on many of its boards and commissions. The complete list is at <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/city-clerk/serving-on-boards-commissions>. For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 703-385-7935.

## Fairfax Seeks Crossing Guards

The City of Fairfax Police Department is seeking qualified applicants to fill multiple school crossing guard positions at the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year in September. Applicants must have a high-school diploma or equivalent and an ability and willingness to work with children. A valid driver's license and good driving record are required.

The selection process includes an interview, background investigation and a polygraph examination. Crossing guards normally work Monday through Friday, about two to four hours daily, in split shifts between 6:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. Salary is \$13.52 an hour with limited benefits.

Application forms are at [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov); or get them from and submit them to the City of Fairfax personnel office, room 331, in City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St. For more information, contact Sgt. Michael Duncan at 703-273-2889.



### Help Struggling Families in Your Community!

Our Daily Bread helps Fairfax County area families who are struggling to make ends meet by providing food, financial assistance, financial education, Holiday assistance and school supply assistance.

**You can help your neighbors in need today by providing financial and food donations.**

**Our Most-Needed Pantry Items:**

- Dinner kits
- Laundry detergent
- Boxed rice
- Diapers
- Toilet paper
- Spaghetti sauce
- Canned fruit
- Snacks for lunches
- \$20 grocery gift cards

**We also need groups to collect and deliver food to our clients 1-2 Sundays a year!**  
**Contact:** [food@ODBFairfax.org](mailto:food@ODBFairfax.org) or 703-273-8829; Visit [www.ODBFairfax.org](http://www.ODBFairfax.org)

Our Daily Bread  
 4080 Chain Bridge Road, 2nd Floor, Fairfax, VA 22030



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### SUMMER CINEMA CAMP!

**10 A.M. Shows Monday—Friday**

**All Seats \$2.00, 10 for \$15 or Season pass (10 wks for \$10)**

**JULY 21—JULY 25.....EPIC (PG)**  
**JULY 28—AUGUST 1.....HORTON HEARS A WHO (G)**  
**AUGUST 4—AUGUST 8.....RIO 2 (G)**  
**AUGUST 11—AUGUST 15.....MR. PEABODY & SHERMAN (PG)**  
**AUGUST 18—AUGUST 22.....THE CROODS (PG)**

Attendees will receive a coupon for a dollar (\$1.00) Off a cup of frozen yogurt from YOGURTINI FROZEN YOGURT.



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\*Offer valid on contracts written between June 2 - July 31, 2014. No adjustments on previous contracts. Some restrictions apply. Select options may not be available at all communities and may not be available on quick move-in homes. This offer is not redeemable for cash or cash equivalent. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Offer and prices subject to change at any time without notice. For specifics on the Van Metre 1/2 Yearly Sale, see Sales Manager for details. \*\*Mac\* is a registered trademark of Apple Computer, Inc. All rights reserved. Apple is not a participant or sponsor of this promotion. Offer expires 7/31/14.

# Opposite Sides of the Road

Candidates for Senate divided on funding Virginia roads.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

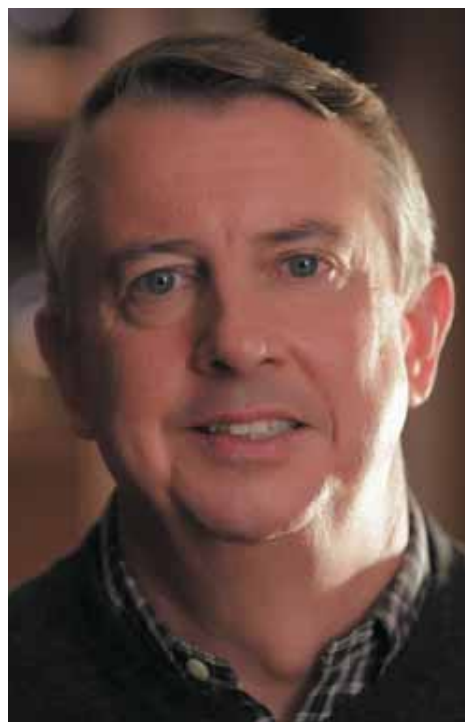
Washington is on the road to creating a short-term fix for funding the nation's highways, kicking the can down the road and handing the problem to the next Congress. That means voters will have the final say when they cast a ballot in this year's hotly contested race for Senate, a contest that features three candidates with sharply different perspectives on how to handle the \$100 billion shortfall over the next six years.

Democratic incumbent Mark Warner supports public-private partnerships as a way to raising new revenue, an approach that includes a bipartisan proposal to leverage private capital known as the Bridge Act. Republican challenger Ed Gillespie says revenues for roads could be raised from offshore energy exploration, an approach that Republicans say Democratic President Barack Obama has blocked. Libertarian candidate Robert Sarvis says the federal government should get out of the business of funding highways altogether, leaving the role of funding surface transportation to the states.

"This is an issue that voters should care about," said Geoff Skelley, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "It's something of daily importance that could impact voters directly, whereas it's harder sometimes to draw a direct connection between immigration policy or certain aspects of health-care policy."

One aspect of the debate all the candidates agree on is that revenues from the gas tax are on the decline, and as automobiles become more efficient the government continues to receive less money. One solution is to raise the gas tax, a proposal supported by Sen. Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) and Sen. Christ Murphy (D-Conn.). But neither Corker nor Murphy are up for reelection this year. Gillespie opposes raising the gas tax, and a spokesman for Warner says he does not support the proposal currently before Congress to raise the gas tax.

"This is going to be a very big issue next year," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Leadership at George Mason University. "So it's something voters should consider when they go to the



Ed Gillespie



Robert Sarvis



Sen. Mark Warner

**"This is an issue that voters should care about. It's something of daily importance that could impact voters directly, whereas it's harder sometimes to draw a direct connection between immigration policy or certain aspects of health-care policy."**

— Geoff Skelley,  
analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics

polls in terms of what this means to the taxpayers of Virginia."

**THE HIGHWAY TRUST** Fund was created during the Eisenhower administration in 1956, when the Highway Revenue Act created a new tax of three cents per gallon. In January 1983, Republican President Ronald Reagan signed a bill that increased the gas tax to nine cents a gallon. A few years later, Republican President George H.W. Bush increased it to 14 cents a gallon. Then Democratic President Bill Clinton increased the gas tax to 18.4 cents a gallon, which remains the current rate. That brings in about \$34 billion a year even though the current transportation bill includes about \$50 billion in infrastructure spending.

"Despite months of debate, lawmakers have failed to act," said BlueGreen Alliance executive director Kim Glas in a written statement. "The job market is steadily improving but the threat that Congress will let the Highway Trust Fund go bankrupt looms large."

Conservatives in Congress have questioned the role the federal government should play in surface transportation. Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) introduced legislation that would eliminate the 20 percent of the trust fund that is not spent on roads. And Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) wants to create a fund for emergency transportation projects paid for by repatriating overseas capital back to the United States. Libertarian candidate takes those arguments a step farther, saying the federal government

should get out of funding surface transportation altogether.

"It just creates graft and corruption and inefficient use of resources," said Sarvis. "The federal government should not be channeling billions of dollars of taxpayers dollars through the federal bureaucracy to the states."

**THE TWO MAJOR** party candidates both believe that the gas tax is a dwindling source of revenue, and neither candidate supports raising it. Instead, Warner and Gillespie have seized on alternatives sources of revenue in a way that reveals something about their priorities and legislative style. As governor, Warner supported public-private part-

nerships such as rail to Dulles. Now that he's in the Senate, he hopes to use his background as a venture capitalist to forge a solution to the funding crunch facing the nation's roads.

"We need to acknowledge that the current funding mechanism - the gas tax - is a declining source of revenue, and that means everyone will have to bring some new ideas to the table," said Kevin Hall, spokesman for Warner. "That should include Sen. Warner's Bridge Act, a bipartisan proposal that will leverage more private capital to jumpstart work building and modernizing our country's infrastructure."

On the Republican side, Gillespie responded to a question about the Highway Trust Fund by blasting Democrats for presiding over an economy when gas prices have gone up so dramatically.

"We need to increase accountability in how transportation funds are spent, give states more say in spending decisions, and identify a stream of revenue to fund our transportation infrastructure projects for the long-term," said Paul Logan, a spokesman for Gillespie. "One such revenue source could be new revenues from offshore energy exploration, which this administration has consistently blocked."

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**\*Volunteer Advocates for Nursing Home & Assisted Living Residents** needed throughout Northern Virginia. Contact the Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/), email or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-5861, TTY 711.

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

**\* Meals on Wheels** needs drivers in

Franconia, Reston, McLean and Falls Church and substitute drivers throughout the county. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**\* The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center** in Alexandria needs social companions for participants on Fridays from 3-5 p.m. and front desk volunteers on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. and 3:30-4:30 p.m. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

# Inova Fairfax Hospital: Number One in D.C. Metro Area

For the third year in a row, Inova Fairfax Medical Campus has been ranked as the #1 Hospital in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area by U.S. News & World Report. Inova Fairfax also jumped in rankings to #2 in the state, and earned national recognition as #33 in the country in Gynecology and #42 in Neonatology. The annual U.S. News Best Hospitals rankings, now in their 25th year, recognize hospitals that excel in treating the most challenging patients.

“Three years in a row as #1 is an outstanding accomplishment and we are proud of our hospital’s dedicated physicians and staff who provide the best of care to our patients every day. I’d like to congratulate our staff, particularly within Inova Women’s and Children’s for their impressive and well-deserved national rankings,” said Patrick Christiansen, PhD, chief executive officer, Inova Fairfax Medical Campus.

Inova Fairfax Medical Campus

also earned high-performing rankings in 11 specialties:

- ❖ Cancer
- ❖ Cardiology and Heart Surgery
- ❖ Diabetes and Endocrinology
- ❖ Ear, Nose and Throat
- ❖ Gastroenterology & GI Surgery,
- ❖ Geriatrics
- ❖ Nephrology
- ❖ Neurology and Neurosurgery
- ❖ Orthopedics
- ❖ Pulmonology
- ❖ Urology

In the recently released U.S.

News Best Children’s Hospital Rankings, Inova Children’s Hospital was named 42nd in the nation for Neonatology.

U.S. News publishes Best Hospitals to help guide patients who need a high level of care because they face particularly difficult surgery, a challenging condition or extra risk because of age or multiple health problems. Objective measures such as patient survival and safety data, adequacy of nurse staffing levels and other data largely determined the rankings in

most specialties.

The rankings are freely available at <http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals> and will appear in the U.S. News “Best Hospitals 2015” guidebook, available in August.

All five of Inova’s hospitals were recognized again this year in the top 15 best hospitals in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, and top 20 in Virginia. To learn more about Inova Fairfax Medical Campus, visit [www.inova.org/ifh](http://www.inova.org/ifh).

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# OPINION

## Save a Little, Help Others Prepare for School

Virginia's tax holiday on school supplies is a good reminder to donate supplies and dollars for children who need help arriving at school prepared.

Virginia's tax holiday on school supplies and clothing is Aug. 1-3, and it makes sense to take advantage of the savings, and to spread the wealth around.

During this three-day period, school supplies selling for \$20 or less per item, and clothing and footwear selling for \$100 or less per item will be exempt from Virginia sales tax. There are some items that do not qualify, for example digital school supplies. See <http://www.tax.virginia.gov/> for more details.

When you are buying school supplies for your family, buy extra to donate to local families

who are not able to afford to do the same.

In Fairfax County, just under 50,000 students are poor enough to qualify for free or reduced price meals at school.

### EDITORIAL

In Fairfax County, local nonprofits, Fairfax County Public Schools and corporate partners are collecting school supplies and backpacks. Monetary donations and backpacks are being accepted by eight local nonprofits and through local Apple and Northwest Federal Credit Union Branches, as well as online at <http://collectforkids.org/donate/> through Sept. 2. Last year the drive provided supplies for nearly 20,000 students. A

\$10 cash donation goes a long way.

Collect for Kids Program runs through Sept. 2. Monetary donations can be accepted any time. Donate money at [www.collectforkids.org](http://www.collectforkids.org). Donations of backpacks are also being accepted at every Apple Federal Credit Union and Northwest Federal Credit Union branch in Fairfax County and at any of the affiliate charitable organizations, including Cornerstones, Western Fairfax Christian Ministries, Our Daily Bread, Koinonia, United Community Ministries and others.

For more, see the Collect for Kids website at <http://collectforkids.org>.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## More Sleep As a Smokescreen

To the Editor:

There is no doubt that more sleep is healthier. That is common sense. The real mental disorder is spending money that the school can't afford. Spending money to tell us this ground breaking news that more sleep is a good thing. When it is simply a cover up.

The funny thing is that they speak of science and facts yet have no facts that children will go to bed at the same time in order to benefit from the later start. None! This is hopes and wishes which don't come true, a liberal standard.

Most of the school board members are placing a smoke screen in front of the community to pretend they have done something positive in the last four years. There is an election coming up next year. They are covering up the fact that test scores are down and the Hispanic children are the biggest losers. Hispanics score the lowest in SOL tests in math, reading, writing, science and U.S. History. Hispanics have a high school drop out rate that is six times higher than average. This is wonderful Fairfax County! Wonderful it is not.

The lack of performance from the liberal "Class of 2011" school board members is an embarrassment. Placing "sleep" as an important issue in front of the community is really covering a nightmare future that is being placed upon the Hispanic community and the future of Fairfax County.

**Fredy Burgos**

2013 Candidate House of Delegates. District 41

## Time for Change, but Teachers Will Miss Monday Planning

BY STEPHEN GOSSIN

I read your editorial ["Hurray for Full Day Mondays"] in the July 10-16 Burke Connection with keen interest. Even though I am retired after 42 years in elementary education, I still have passion for education. I'm writing to make one minor point and one major point.

First, let me say that I totally agree with your point that it is time for a change. I completely disagree that it was never a good idea. Let me explain.

Here's the minor point. Monday was never a half day for elementary students in Fairfax County. When the early release was created, elementary schools in Fairfax County kept the 30-hour week, the historic standard throughout the country. When the proposal was drafted and eventually accepted by the Fairfax County School Board and the Virginia Board of Education, Monday was a four-and-a-half-hour day and Tuesday through Friday were six-and-a-half-hour days. Tuesday through Friday were lengthened by 30 minutes and the time "banked" so that the students left 2 or 2.5 hours early on Monday. (The release on Monday was 2 hours in some schools and 2.5 hours in others depending on Transportation.) This gave elementary teachers a large block of planning time.

Here's the major point. When the early release was created, elementary educators (teachers and principals) saw the need for a longer block of planning, team meetings to plan, parent conferences, training, and staff meetings, to mention a few. When I came to Fairfax County in 1967, I remember fondly going to meetings on some Monday afternoons to learn about the science kits that were coming to me, a new math series, a new reading series, and meetings about teaching history. These meetings were conducted by teachers who piloted the newly adopted book series and by specialists. In addition, it was recognized that teachers needed to meet in teams. Teachers needed to meet with parents.

Over the ensuing years, the job of the elementary teacher has become much more complicated and the need for planning is critical. In some schools, the teachers keep their students all day and teach all subjects: language arts (reading, writing, speaking, spelling and vocabulary), math, science, and social stud-

ies. That consists of more than four preparations and the expectation that language arts is infused throughout the other curriculum areas. In those schools, it is necessary for teachers at the same grade level to meet and discuss how their students are performing on common assessments, what is working, and what is not working. In other schools, teachers at a grade level split up the curriculum and teach one or two areas. In those schools, it is critical for the team to meet regularly and discuss the students they have in common, what's working, and what is not working.

Since retiring after 29 years as an elementary administrator (3 years as assistant principal and 26 years as the principal at five different elementary schools), I have regularly substituted as a teacher. Some of these sub jobs have been long-term (2 weeks to 3,5 months). I can't emphasize enough how I used the block of planning time on Monday to prepare for the week or weeks ahead. In 1967, I had 5, half-hour planning blocks during the school day and I had Monday afternoon. Then and now, as a substitute teacher, I experienced the somewhat limited value of the half-hour time blocks. In elementary schools, the teachers accompany the students to their special classes (physical education and music to mention two) and wait until the specialist is ready for them. We return before the time is expired so that the next group does not have to wait. Teachers universally rely on the longer Monday block. With the new proposal, the teachers will continue to have 10-plus hours of planning time (they are not losing planning time), but this planning time will be more of the shorter blocks as they lose the longer Monday block.

There is absolutely no doubt that elementary students spending more time in school is a good thing. However, most elementary educators agree that it is a good thing provided that the students spend this time with their classroom teacher. Sadly, this is not part of the proposal. The students are proposed to spend the extra time with people other than their classroom teacher.

*Stephen Gossin served as principal at: Annandale Terrace, London Towne, Terra Centre, Canterbury Woods, and Cherry Run; assistant principal at Kings Park School; and taught at Burke School and Laurel Ridge. He is a long-time resident of Burke.*

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PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION

**Tonya Cox**

## New Principal at Laurel Ridge

**T**onya Cox, who has worked in Fairfax County Public Schools for 23 years, began her role as principal of Laurel Ridge Elementary School in Fairfax on July 1. Cox, a long-time Fairfax County resident, previously worked in the central office of Fairfax County Public Schools and as a principal at Gunston Elementary School.

A graduate of Groveton and West Potomac High

Schools, Cox said she is looking forward to getting to know staff and students at the school this year, and is excited to be returning to a position where she can impact children directly.

“Laurel Ridge is a great place. I’m looking forward to making connections with the students and teachers here,” Cox said.

— JANELLE GERMANOS

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# Helping Out and Giving Back

Paul VI grad tutors Hispanic children.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Born in Colombia, Laura Quiñones came to the U.S. with her parents at age 7. She knew English words, but needed practice talking conversationally. She learned quickly, though; and years later, she began helping other Hispanic children.

As a sophomore, she received help with essay-writing and SAT-prep from the Latino Student Fund (LSF), which provides free tutoring to under-served Hispanic/Latino youth. She graduated last month from Paul VI High but, when she was still a junior, she tutored second- and third-graders in LSF's Saturday tutoring program in Washington, D.C.

This past school year, as a senior, she tutored kindergarten and first-graders, plus other grades, as needed. "I've always loved little kids and I thought it was a good way to get service hours," said Quiñones. "I liked the program's organizers, knew they needed volunteers and wanted to help the Latino community."

She helped the second- and third-graders with their home-

work, developing their writing skills and assisting them with social studies and essays. She helped the first-graders better their reading skills and worked with them on English and math. And she read books, played word games and did arts-and-crafts activities with the kindergartners.

"The hardest part was getting their trust, at first, because the children were either shy or didn't want to be there," said Quiñones. "So they had to see me as a friend so they could talk to me about their family lives and interests. Once they felt comfortable with me, they could learn and have fun."

What gave her the most satisfaction, she said, was "having them tell me, 'My teacher says I really improved in reading' or 'I got a good grade on my test.' So their achievements made them feel good about being there for tutoring and kept them motivated. And their parents told me they noticed improvement in their children's studies, which made me feel good, too."

**THE TUTORING PROGRAM** was held every Saturday, from 10 a.m.-noon, throughout the school year, and served some 120 pre-K-12th-grade students from all over

the Washington Metropolitan area. On the campus of the National Cathedral School, they received help with their homework, math and literacy skills and learned how to apply to college and seek financial aid.

"I love the program, the people and the students," said Quiñones. "Most of these kids come from low-income houses, so it's important for them to achieve in school and do well so they can have a good future. I know how hard it is to learn a language not native to you. When I first came to America, students and teachers at my school helped me, too, and I want to do that for these kids and be a role model for them."

According to LSF spokeswoman Sarah Floyd, "Counting its college prep, scholarship and outreach programs, during the past two decades, LSF has helped more than 2,000 kids get into private schools, graduate from high school and go to college." (For more information, see [www.latinostudentfund.org](http://www.latinostudentfund.org)).

Floyd said 100 percent of students participating in LSF's tutoring program graduate from high school, compared to 85 percent of Hispanic students nationally. And, she added, "Over 90 percent of LSF



Laura Quiñones



New Paul VI grad Laura Quiñones

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

students go on to college, compared to less than half of Hispanic high-school graduates nationally."

**BESIDES TUTORING**, Quiñones also spreads awareness of the program by telling various companies about what it does. And even

though she'll attend JMU in the fall – majoring in communications toward an eventual career in public relations and marketing – she hopes to continue tutoring with LSF during the summers.

She said the whole experience taught her "to be patient with other

people. And I've acquired a lot of confidence to be able to speak to people about the program and talk with people of different ages. I'm a lot more open now."

"I've also learned the importance of giving back to your community and helping those in need," con-

tinued Quiñones.

"The tutors aren't just Latino and don't need to speak Spanish. So if any other students are looking for ways to get service hours, meet lots of new people or help others, they should check out the Latino Student Fund."

## Rotary Club Awards Scholarships To Fairfax High Students

The Rotary Club of Fairfax recently recognized several area students with scholarship awards for their academic achievement and community service. The winners included Merily Cruz, Anju Subedi, Jasmine Pineda, Thuy Hoang, and Andrew Johnston-who was awarded the Paul J. Brown (PJB) Community Service award.

The Paul J Brown award recipient Andrew Johnston has donated over 400 hours of his high school career as a volunteer for area rehabilitation centers, food pantries, and homeless centers. His consistent dedication to volunteerism and helping those in need in the community - all while maintaining a 3.9 GPA - was recognized as truly outstanding by the selection committee. In addition to the scholarship award, Andrew's name has been added to the large PJB plaque which is displayed in the trophy case

at Fairfax High School.

The award is named in honor of the late Paul J Brown, who exemplified the ideals and practice of community service. Paul was a Fairfax Rotarian, a graduate of Fairfax High School and the United States Military Academy. He served with honor and distinction, retiring as a Colonel in the U.S. Army. Paul's father, the late Judge Paul E Brown, was a founding member of the Rotary Club of Fairfax and served as its President for the 1937-1938 Rotary year. Paul's daughter Paula Kelley, is the current club President.

The Rotary Club of Fairfax meets on Mondays at 12:15 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Oak Street in Fairfax City. For more information about the Rotary Club of Fairfax, visit the club's website at [www.fairfaxrotary.org](http://www.fairfaxrotary.org). Or email Rotary Club of Fairfax's Executive Director Irby N. Hollans, Jr., at [ihollans@earthlink.net](mailto:ihollans@earthlink.net).

# Fairfax School Board Elects Chairman, Vice Chair

Tamara Derenak Kaufax and Ted Velkoff elected to lead Board.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE CONNECTION

Tamara Derenak Kaufax (Lee District) and Ted Velkoff (at-large) were elected chairman and vice chair of the Fairfax County School Board on Thursday night, following an abstention from some members in the election of chairman. Both will serve in their positions for one year.

"Ms. Derenak Kaufax has served the Lee district well and is also a team player for the greater good across the county," said Illyong Moon (at-large), who served as chairman of the school board for two years. "One thing is for sure—she is not afraid to speak out."

Derenak Kaufax is the owner of

Altamat Marketing Solutions and has been a school board member since January 2012. She is the parent of a sophomore and a 2013 graduate of Fairfax County schools.

Derenak Kaufax said the board is one with "many challenges" but a lot of passion. "I want us to be the best board ever. I will

respect your opinions, as I think you know I have while working as the vice chair.

I will work to keep everyone informed-sometimes you may not like what I say, but I will keep us moving forward in a strategic way," Derenak Kaufax said at the meeting.

Dan Stork (Mount Vernon)



Tamara Derenak Kaufax (Lee District)



Ted Velkoff (at-large)

PHOTOS COURTESY FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

nominated Sandy Evans as vice chair of the school board, while Pat Hynes (Hunter Mill) nominated Ted Velkoff for the position. Velkoff won the position with seven votes.

"He thinks outside the box a lot," Hynes said. "He's also shown tremendous leadership on the budget."

Velkoff has also served on the

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# Financial Education for College Students

## Local experts offer budget tips to keep students out of debt.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

As the summer wanes, many recent high school graduates are preparing to head to college. For those who are living away from home for the first time, this means newfound independence. But that freedom brings responsibility — especially when it comes to money.

From student loans to credit cards, the financial maze can be filled with debt-traps and money pitfalls. A recent financial literacy assessment of 15-year-old students by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development shows that one in six lacks basic financial literacy skills.

That leaves approximately three years for them to learn about money management before leaving home. And that education is key: financial education is the best way to develop sound money management skills, say financial advisors.

Taking a financial education class is an option. The Northern Virginia Urban League offers a financial literacy workshop series with Fairfax County Human Services and Fairfax County Homeownership & Relocation Services.

“College students can learn everything from understanding a [credit] score and avoiding credit

traps to banking and money management,” said Vickey King of the Northern Virginia Urban League.

“College is not the time to live the lifestyle of your dreams,” said Rachel Powell of the Northern Virginia Council for Economic Education at George Mason University’s Center for Economic Education in Fairfax. “College courses, room, board, books are all costly. You can expect to be poor in college, and if you use the many resources your college makes available to you in exchange for all the fees you are required to pay, you can expect to be fed, safe and reasonably comfortable.”

**THE FIRST STEP** in financial literacy for college students is taking a personal money inventory. “Know before you go how much money you’ll have available from your income or allowance,” said Powell. “Will your folks be making regular contributions to your survival or are you on your own?”

Make a budget that includes all expenditures, including luxuries like frozen yogurt or coffee or movie tickets. Put some money aside for emergencies; even \$5 per week will add up over time.

Online tools can help college students organize their finances and track their spending and savings patterns. Alexandria-based financial planner Mark Friese recommends mint.com, which categorizes spending, and bettermoneyhabits.com, which offers videos clips on how to budget better.

“Many people, especially teens and young adults, are surprised when they look at their entire

spending picture because they haven’t ... had to make the money they spend,” said Friese. “They just don’t know the value of a dollar until they are lining their own wallets with their own money. So the big picture tools that highlight spending and savings habits are helpful.”

Know the difference between needs and wants: “Don’t buy what you don’t need,” said Powell. “Cold medicine — yes. The latest movie on DVD — no.”

Open a checking and savings account at a bank located close to campus, one that offers products and services for students, advises Powell. “Don’t accept accounts that require minimum balances or charge fees,” she said. “Shop around for the right bank.”

Find a way to establish or build savings, especially if you plan to work during college. “Pay yourself first,” said Friese. “When you have a job, take a set portion of it and save it for your future self. If the job offers a retirement plan such as a 401(k), take advantage of it. A 401(k) provides the significant



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

**Financial planners advise college students to avoid the credit card debt trap and make an effort to save money.**

benefit of saving before taxes are taken out.”

**AVOID USING CREDIT CARDS** for immediate gratification and focus on building a high credit score for the future, said Friese. “That score, that number, will be more important and reap greater rewards than any grade or SAT score ever was or could be,” he said. “If you build and maintain a good credit score, you will be rewarded time and time again

with preferred lending rates.”

When it comes to financial aid, take time to do research, and don’t underestimate the availability of college scholarships. Friese points to a study from scholarship.com, which shows that billions of dollars in scholarship funds go unawarded every year.

“Take advantage of the opportunities out there,” he said. “Don’t assume that scholarships are only for top scholars or athletes because many scholarships start with GPA requirements of 2.5 or less. Start looking as early as sophomore or junior year and apply as soon as you qualify.”

“Saving as much as possible from summer jobs ... can help with at least some of the expenses,” said Powell. “Loans are available for all the expenses you cannot pay for through gifts, grants and scholarships. Be aware that money borrowed must be repaid and the interest [accrued] is the cost of the rental of those funds.”

In fact, the Department of Education reports that 10 percent of U.S. college graduates default on student loans so only borrow money as a last resort.

Investigate federal loans first. “Loans such as the Stafford loan can be far more cost effective than higher-priced private loans,” said Friese.

College students should also estimate how much they will be able to afford to repay after graduation, said Powell. “Make sure that your target labor market is willing to compensate you with income commensurate with the cost of your education.”

## 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.

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

**Yihan Zhou**, Fairfax, earned a place on the Deans Honor Roll at Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan., for the spring 2014 semester. Zhou is a junior majoring in general studies. To be eli-

gible, students must have enrolled in 12 or more credit hours and have a minimum grade point average of 3.60 for the semester.

**Samantha M. Bell** of Fairfax, received her J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law on May 23. In August, Samantha will become the Judicial Law Clerk to The Honorable Ronald D. Wigler, the Presiding Judge of the Criminal Court of Essex County. Samantha has been a Student Attorney for the Center of Social Justice at Seton Hall University. She was also a Law Clerk at Krumholz Dillon, P.A., and a litigator for the New York Legal Assistance Group/Clinical Center for Domestic Violence. Samantha graduated from New York University with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Spanish Language and Literature, with minors in History, Law, and

Society, in 2011. She graduated Magna Cum Laude, with an Honors Degree in Spanish from the Presidential Honors Scholar Program. Her Honor’s Thesis was on Rosa Montero’s novel, ‘Te Trataré Como a Una Reina’ (1983), and Pedro Almodovar’s film, ‘Gender and Space’, (1988). Samantha is a graduate of Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax. She is the daughter of William and Judith Bell of Fairfax. Samantha currently resides in New York City, NY.

**Cadet Carson Giammaria**, son of Rick and Kim Giammaria of Lorton, graduated from the U.S. Military Academy on May 28. Giammaria graduated from Hayfield Secondary School in 2010. While at West Point, he concentrated his studies in Engineering Psychology. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army within the

Armor branch and will report to Fort Benning, GA., to attend Ranger School. Upon completion, he will be stationed in Germany.

**Corinne (Corrie) McNulty**, of Fairfax Station, graduated Summa Cum Laude on May 17 from Grove City College in Pennsylvania with a degree in middle level Education. She will be teaching 2nd grade in the fall at Dominion Christian School in Oakton, Va.

**Andrew Neils** of Fairfax Station, has been named to the Dean’s List in the University of Notre Dame’s College of Engineering for outstanding scholarship during the Spring 2014 semester. Students who achieve dean’s honors at Notre Dame represent the top 30 percent of students in their college.

## GMU Honors Fairfax Mayor Silverthorne

City of Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne capped off his Fourth of July by enjoying the fireworks at Fairfax High. But he began his day by receiving an award from GMU. It was presented by GMU President Angel Cabrera during a Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce breakfast reception at Red, Hot & Blue before the City's Independence Day parade.

The John C. "Jack" Wood Award for Town Gown Relations is a university-wide award program recognizing people and businesses that foster and demonstrate leadership in cultivating the relationship between the university and the greater surrounding community. He was the first mayor of the City of Fairfax, from 1953-1964, and purchased the land for GMU.

Wood was the driving force responsible for the campus being located on land adjacent to the City and deeded to GMU. That began the Town Gown relationship between Fairfax and the university, plus an award presentation in five categories, including "elected official," which Silverthorne received.

He was honored for being instrumental in developing a culture of collaboration between the City of Fairfax and GMU. According to Cabrera, Silverthorne's leadership



(From left) are Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne and GMU President Angel Cabrera.

has provided the opportunity to enhance town-gown relations and "has laid a stronger foundation for future initiatives."

"I've been amazed at the work he's done to further the relationship between the City and university," said Cabrera. He then listed several examples, including the

Mason road decals and the way Fairfax formally welcomes new GMU students.

Silverthorne than thanked him for the award and said he couldn't have done what he did without the help of his colleagues on the City Council.

— BONNIE HOBBS

## Bridge to Life Skills

Our Daily Bread's Project BRIDGE Program held a "Life Skills" Seminar on Saturday, July 12, with a focus on nutrition. Several of the organization's Project BRIDGE, Mentoring and Food clients met at Our Daily Bread's office and talked with Virginia Agricultural Extension Agent Kathryn Strong, an Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences with Virginia Cooperative Extension, about healthy eating. Strong shared 10 tips to eating better on a budget and 10 tips to add more vegetables to daily diets.

Participants made peach salsa with fresh peaches that Project BRIDGE manager Sally Meyer purchased earlier in the week. Participants helped prepare the ingredients, which included peaches, peppers, cilantro and onions, and then sampled the salsa.

Following the classroom session, participants walked across the street to the City of Fairfax Community Farmers' Market, where the clients used their Our Daily Veggie vouchers at two of the Kuhn Orchards and Garner's Produce farm stands.

Both vendors are in their fifth year of accepting the vouchers at this and other Fairfax area markets to allow Our Daily Bread clients to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the farmers market season.

Our Daily Bread's Project BRIDGE Program began in the fall of 2012, and to date two clients have graduated from the program. More information about Project BRIDGE, Our Daily Veggies and Our Daily Bread's other services is available at: [www.ODBFairfax.org](http://www.ODBFairfax.org).



Our Daily Bread Life Skills Seminar participants prepare ingredients to make fresh peach salsa.

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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.

## TUESDAY/JULY 15- AUG. 19

**The Bodzin Art Gallery "Fine Arts Open Exhibition."** Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. This annual show spotlights the many talents our own members, staff and creative community through the display of a variety of media. [www.jccnvarts.org](http://www.jccnvarts.org).

## THURSDAY/JULY 17

**Chairman Sharon Bulova's Evenings on the Ellipse Summer Concert Series.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center "Ellipse" (green lawn behind the building), 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. No matter what kind of music you like, bring your lawn chairs, blankets, families and dates. 703-324-7329.

## FRIDAY/JULY 18

**Keeping Up With Kids—Learn About Flickr, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Skype.** 2-3 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics with our one-on-one technology volunteer about the social networking tools that can help you stay in touch with your kids and grandkids. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kp/> under "Events."

## FRIDAY/JULY 18 & 25

**"Pippi Longstocking: The Family Musical."** 7:30 p.m. Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. A family-friendly musical comedy for all to enjoy. For ticket information, visit [www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org](http://www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org).

## FRIDAYS/JULY 18-AUG. 29

**Braddock Nights Concert Series.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Listen to musical performances in the great outdoors. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/) for location and schedule.

## SATURDAY/JULY 19

**Dog Adoption.** 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. For more information, visit [hart90.org](http://hart90.org).

**Raingutter Regatta.** 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. VRE Train Station Front Parking Lot, Burke. Packs can participate by sponsoring a rain gutter track. Participation will count towards earning the Summertime Activity Award. Non-cub scouts and parents/guardians, especially first graders, can experience a cub scout activity and meet some of the local Packs. This free event consists of constructing miniature sailboats and racing it with family or friends on a track that is filled with water. For more information, visit: <http://www.ncacbsa.org/PatriotSummer>, email [pring978@Verizon.net](mailto:pring978@Verizon.net), 703-674-6178

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. 703-293-6227.

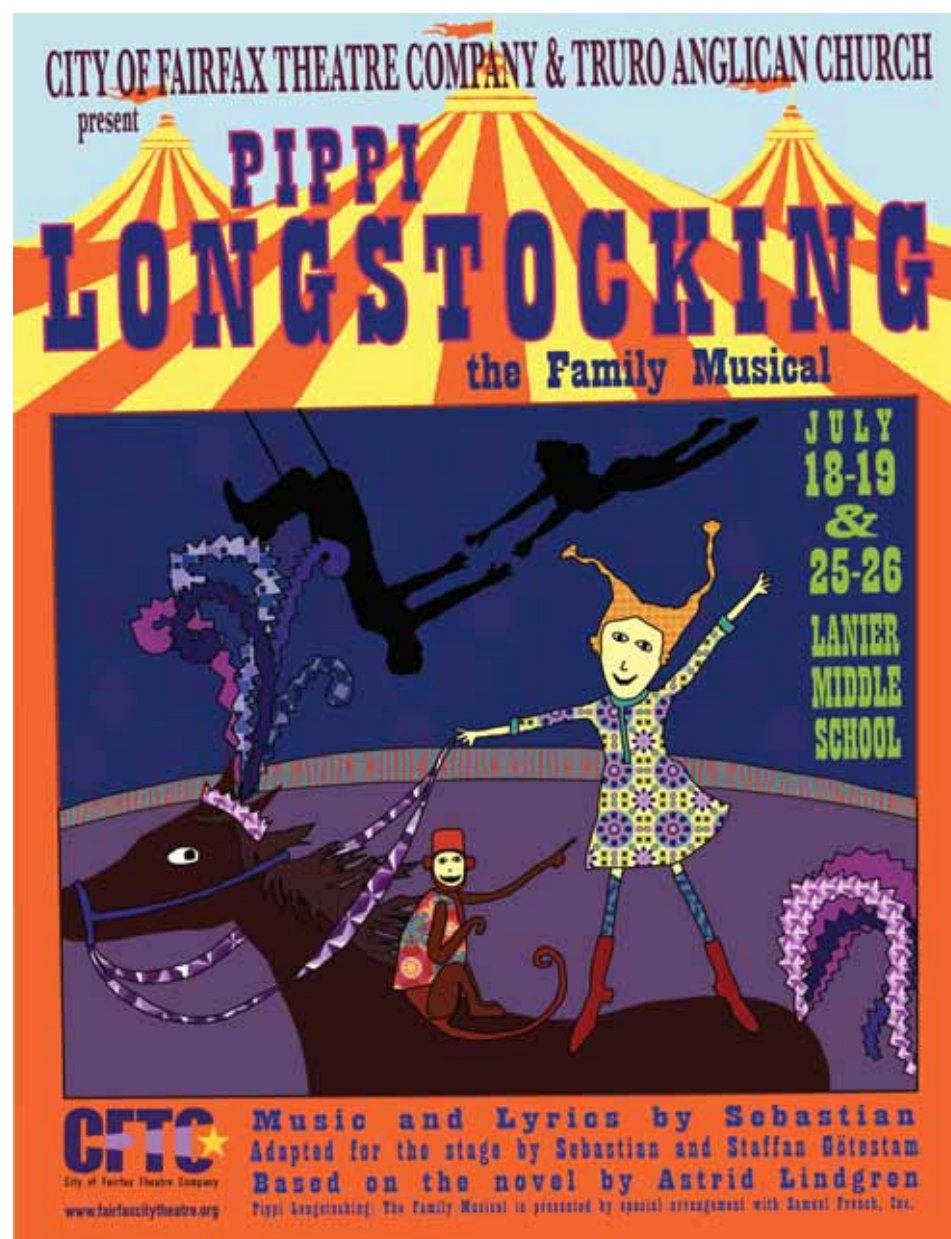
**Tales to Tails.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Need practice reading? Read aloud to a friendly, trained therapy dog. Ages 6-12. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/> under "Events."

**What is 3D Printing?** 1-3 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn about 3D printing: what it is, how it works, and some of its real-world uses. 703-644-7333.

**Fizz, Boom, Rock!** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Wear silly socks to this performance by the Sock Rockerz, and come ready to dance! Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/> under "Events."

## SATURDAY/JULY 19-TUESDAY/SEPT. 2

**Glass Unpolished: Explorations of Time, Nature and Technology.** Workhouse Arts Center W-16 Vulcan Gallery, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Three artists from Virginia and



**Grab your hat and join the fun as pirates, circus entertainers, a few cops and robbers, and the world's most popular whippersnapper come to life this summer in the City of Fairfax Theatre Company (CFTC) and Truro Anglican Church's rollicking and whimsical Pippi Longstocking: The Family Musical, running July 18-19 and July 25-26 at Lanier Middle School.**

Maryland use glass as a means to dig into the conceptual nature of discovery, time, fiction and experiment. 703-584-2900.

## SATURDAYS/JULY 19-AUG. 23

**Burke Arts in the Parks.** 10 - 11 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Entertain children, teach them the importance of protecting our natural resources, introduce them to live entertainment in an informal kid friendly atmosphere, and forge a connection between kids and parks. Call 703-323-6601.

## SATURDAY/JULY 19- AUG. 9

**Children's Theatre: The Ice Queen.** 1 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Rd, Lorton. This original fairytale follows the Ice Queen's search for the love of her life. Will the Ice Queen and Jack Frost make the perfect pair and live happily ever after? Admissions: \$9-\$12. [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org). 703-584-2900.

## SATURDAY/JULY 19 & 26

**"Pippi Longstocking: The Family Musical."** 7:30 p.m. Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. A family-friendly musical comedy for all to enjoy. For ticket information, visit [www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org](http://www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org).

## SUNDAY/JULY 20

**Sunday Farmers Market.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the parking lot at the intersection of West and Main Streets behind Wells Fargo Bank in Fairfax. Every Saturday there is fresh produce, goods and wares at the market. [church@sovgracefairfax.org](http://church@sovgracefairfax.org) or [www.FairfaxSundayMarket.com](http://www.FairfaxSundayMarket.com).

**Two Day NTRAKScale Model Train Show.** 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Museum members, free; adults 16 and over, \$4; children 5-15, \$2; under 4, free. Information on the museum and shows is at [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org) phone 703-425-9225.

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 1-4 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. 703-644-7333.

## MONDAY/JULY 21

**Professor Parsnip's Lab.** 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. The Professor mixes food, science and fun in this Bright Star Theatre production. Cosponsored by the Friends of the George Mason Regional Library. All ages.

**Paws to Read.** 4:30-4:45 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice reading with Grace, a trained therapy dog; ages 6-12 with adult. Call 703-978-5600 or sign up online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/> under "Events" for a 15-minute session.

**Let's Hear It for the Girls!** 7-8 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. All girls book discussion group of The Tail of Emily Windsnap by Liz Kessler; ages 9-12 with adult female. 703-978-5600.

## TUESDAY/JULY 22

**Short Book Conversations.** 1:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Join our lively discussion of The Body Artist by Don DeLillo. Adults.

**American Giants of Science.** 10:30 a.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Meet America's most famous

inventors and see them come to life onstage with Bright Star Theatre. Cosponsored by the Friends of the Richard Byrd Library. Age 6-12.

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 23

**Keeping Up With Kids—Learn About Flickr, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Skype.** 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics with our one-on-one technology volunteer about the social networking tools that can help you stay in touch with your kids and grandkids. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kp/> under "Events."

**Brain Games at the Library.** 3-4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Have fun and win prizes with our board games and card games that challenge your thinking and build your skills; ages 8-12. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/> under "Events."

**How to Draw Super Heroes.** 7-8:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Want to draw super heroes? Learn from artist Paul Merklein and then draw your own! Ages 12-18. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/po/> under "Events."

**Singing.** 7:30-10 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires rehearse every Wednesday, which includes training by an award-winning director. [www.fairfaxjubilaires.org](http://www.fairfaxjubilaires.org).

## THURSDAY/JULY 24

**Chairman Sharon Bulova's Evenings on the Ellipse Summer Concert Series.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center "Ellipse" (green lawn behind the building), 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. No matter what kind of music you like, bring your lawn chairs, blankets, families and dates. 703-324-7329.

**American Giants of Science.** 10:30-11:15 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Meet America's most famous inventors and see them come to life onstage with Bright Star Theatre; ages 6-12. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/> under "Events."

**Genealogy Databases.** 2-3:15 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Search for your ancestors using the library's genealogy databases and other free Internet databases. 703-293-6227.

## SATURDAY, JULY 26

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. 703-293-6227.

**Dog adoption event by Homeless Animals Rescue Team.** 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Mem. Hwy., Fairfax. Come adopt a furry friend. [Hart90.org](http://hart90.org).

## MONDAY/JULY 28

**Walk-in eBook Clinic.** 7-8:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Help with downloading library eBooks. Bring your device and its account ID and password. 703-644-7333.

**Pohick Prose Society.** 7-8:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Teens talk about books. 703-644-7333.

## TUESDAY/JULY 29

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. 703-644-7333.

**Library eBook Tech Help.** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible devices with a library staff member; please bring your library card, eBook reader and laptop. 703-293-6227.

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 30

**Diggers.** 7-7:45 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Tracey Eldridge presents this interactive musical celebration of the creatures who sleep under our feet. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/> under "Events."

chase in the wild. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kn/> under "Events."

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Broadway Performer Comes Home

**Free concert on Saturday, July 26 at Westwood Baptist Church in Springfield.**

**B**roadway actress and singer Jeri Sager will offer a free concert to the public on Saturday, July 26 at 7 p.m. at Westwood Baptist Church as part of the celebration of that church's 50th year. Sager is a former member of the church, and it is there that she first discovered her musical gifts and sang in front of an audience. Sager was 12 years old when her love of singing, and her amazing voice, were first discovered. Her first public performances were in Westwood Baptist, her local church. This hometown girl graduated from West Springfield High School in 1978 where she was a member of the International Thespians Society, the National Honor Society, the Spanish Honor Society, and the Keyettes. As she

grew up, Sager's passion for singing grew into a life-long love affair. She studied Opera (Vocal Performance) at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Like many young people with big Broadway dreams, it was hard to find the path to achieving those lofty goals. One of her first musical theater jobs was working as a cast member at Kings Dominion. Ultimately, her profound love of performing led her to New York City. There she made her Broadway debut as "Frumah-Sara" in the Tony Award winning, 25th Anniversary Production of "Fiddler on the Roof." The New York Times review of this production said "When Fruma-Sara [Jeri Sager] scurries across the stage... 'Fiddler' levitates." Sager has enjoyed critical acclaim for her portrayal of "Fantine" in Les Miserables and "Eva Peron" in Evita. She is delighted her career has allowed her to work with such theater notables as Tony/Oscar Award winning director Jerome Robbins, Tony/Drama Desk Award winning director Trevor Nunn and Tony/Drama Desk Award winning singer/songwriter and playwright Rupert

Holmes. Sager has also enjoyed performing with celebrated artists such as Bob Hope, Gregory Peck, Michael Crawford, Betty Buckley, Theodore Bikel, Bill Anderson, and John James. She has had the honor of performing for such dignitaries as President Jimmy Carter, President George W. Bush and Pope John Paul II. Through her work with the USO, Sager has performed for both American and British troops. Other notable appearances include her rendition of the National Anthem for the Baltimore Orioles on July 4 and her debut at the Grand Ole Opry.

Make plans now to attend this free concert on Saturday evening, July 26 at 7 p.m. at Westwood Baptist Church, 8200 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, to enjoy the music of Jeri Sager. Theater students and musical theater students are especially encouraged to attend and see how this lady from the local area has achieved brilliant success and critical acclaim in this competitive field. For further information, call the church office at 703-451-5120 or visit Sager's website at [www.jerisager.com](http://www.jerisager.com).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Broadway performer and hometown girl Jeri Sager gives a free concert to celebrate Westwood Baptist Church's 50th Anniversary on Saturday, July 26.**

### FAITH NOTES

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

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

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

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

**First Baptist Church of Springfield** offers Sunday school at

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

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

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

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music.

More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults.

The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or [www.poplc.org](http://www.poplc.org).

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

**JCCNV Mother's Circle program**, for women who are not Jewish

but are raising Jewish children. Free education in Jewish rituals, practices and values, while respecting the participant's choice to retain her own religious identity. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. Contact Laurie Albert, 703-537-3064 or [HYPERLINK "mailto:LaurieA@jccnv.org" LaurieA@jccnv.org](mailto:LaurieA@jccnv.org).

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

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** is for people interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic Church. A group meets at 7:30 p.m. on July 6 and 20 at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax.

A group will begin meeting every Wednesday starting September. Sessions are in the Old Parish Hall. All are welcome. Contact Carolyn Smith at 703-273-5369 or [carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com).

**The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA)** offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. [www.jssa.org/growth-learning](http://www.jssa.org/growth-learning).

## COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

**Looking for a New Place of Worship? Visit Antioch Baptist Church! All Are Welcome!**

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4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax  
Bill Frasnelli, PASTOR 703-383-1170

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**Maintenance Tech**  
Commercial experience  
Full time-Must be on call available  
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Herndon, VA  
Resume to: D.Rucker@sjcherndon.org

**Outreach Education Instructor-Northern Virginia (Position# OI000)**  
The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation seeks a qualified individual for the following part-time position: Outreach Education Instructor-Northern Virginia (Position# OI000). Closes on July 21, 2014 @ 5:00 PM. For full job description and to apply visit <http://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov>. Applicants must complete an online Commonwealth of Virginia employment application. Background check & E-Verify Required. EEO/AA/ADA

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Do not wish to be anything but what you are, and try to be that perfectly.  
**-St. Francis de Sales**

**21 Announcements**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION FOR AN UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) SITE**  
JUNE 23, 2014

There has been a release from an underground storage tank system at:

Fairfax County Department of Vehicle Services  
Newington Maintenance Facility  
6900 Newington Road  
Lorton, Virginia, 22079

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) has worked with Fairfax County to develop and implement a Corrective Action Plan to address cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbons at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup please contact:

Randy Chapman, Environmental Specialist Senior Project Manager Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Northern Regional Office  
13901 Crown Court  
Woodbridge, VA 22193  
703-583-3808  
[Randy.chapman@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Randy.chapman@deq.virginia.gov)  
[www.deq.virginia.gov](http://www.deq.virginia.gov)

As part of the corrective action process a Corrective Action Plan was submitted to the Northern Regional Office of VDEQ on September 6, 2013. The Corrective Action Plan consisted of measures to be undertaken during the installation of storm sewers and other utility structures associated with site renovation activities at the Newington bus maintenance facility in Lorton, Virginia. The Corrective Action Plan was essentially composed of the following measures:

1. Petroleum-impacted soil encountered during site development activities was excavated, removed from the site, and properly disposed of;
2. Utility trenches located within petroleum impacted soils were lined with a polyethylene barrier to prevent petroleum migration into the utility trench or bedding gravel;
3. Confirmatory soil samples were collected at the base of the utility trench excavations and submitted to the VDEQ for review.

The Corrective Action Plan implementation was carried out between September 7, 2013 and December 7, 2013. If you would like to review or discuss the implementation of this Corrective Action Plan with the staff of VDEQ, please feel free to contact Randy Chapman who is listed above. You may also contact:

Kenneth Lim, Project Manager or Christopher Elliot  
Department of Public Works and ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC,  
Environmental Services Consultant for Fairfax County  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 449 703-471-8400  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0052  
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VDEQ Northern Regional Office will consider written comments for a period of thirty days from the first date of this notice regarding the Corrective Action Plan implementation and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is a significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to the VDEQ at the address listed above. VDEQ requests that all written comments should reference the tracking number for this case; PC # 2014-3041.

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**21 Announcements**

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A Kader Enterprises, Inc trading as Deli Mall Cafe & Kabab, 6553 Loisdale Ct, Springfield, VA 22150. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Abdul Kader, President  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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Send notes to the Connection at 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.

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**THE CONNECTION**  
NEWSPAPERS

**FRIDAY/JULY 18**  
**English Conversation Group.** 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice your English conversation skills. 703-978-5600.  
**Basic Computer Skills Training.** 1-2 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn basic computer skills with our one-on-one technology volunteers. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kp/> under "Events."  
**Genealogy Help Desk.** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumpers to genealogists and library staff. 703-293-6227.

**SATURDAY/JULY 19**  
**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English with other and improve your skills.  
**Genealogy Help Desk.** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumpers to genealogists and library staff. 703-293-6227.  
**Spanish Class for Children.** 3-4 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Spanish conversation class for children ages 7-13. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kp/> under "Events."

**MONDAY/JULY 21**  
**Library eBook Tech Help.** 11 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible devices with a library staff member; please bring your library card, eBook reader and laptop. 703-293-6227.  
**Chess Club.** 3:30-4:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn openings, strategy, tactics and more. Players ages 8-16 paired with others of similar skill. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/po/> under "Events."

**TUESDAY/JULY 22**  
**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Practice English with others and improve your skills.  
**Morning English Conversation Group.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Practice your English conversation skills. 703-339-7385.  
**Library eBook Tech Help.** 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible devices with a library staff member; please bring your library card, eBook reader and laptop. 703-293-6227.

**Storytime and Rhyme.** 2:30-3:15 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Storytelling, music and movement with Wolf Trap teaching artist Kofi Dennis. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/> under "Events."  
**English Conversation Group.** 5:15-6:15 p.m. Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Practice your English conversation skills. 703-339-7385.  
**English Conversation Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Practice speaking English with others and improve your skills. 703-293-6227.

**Life Line Screening.** Fairfax Baptist Temple Academy, 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station. Stroke and Osteoporosis screenings coming to Fairfax Station. Packages start at \$149. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. For more information regarding the screenings or to schedule an appointment, call 1-877-237-1287 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com](http://www.lifelinescreening.com). Pre-registration is required.

**WEDNESDAY/JULY 23**  
**English Conversation.** 10:15-11:30 a.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Conversation group for people learning English. 703-339-4610.

## SPORTS

# Robinson Grad Pinkston to Play Football at R-MC

**Q and A: 5-foot-8 defensive tackle defies odds by continuing career.**

**A**t 5 feet 8 inches, 250 pounds, Jake Pinkston lacks the size college football coaches covet in the interior of the defensive line.

The position of defensive tackle is meant for giants, who either occupy multiple blockers or penetrate an opponent's backfield. Pinkston, however, used his strength, quickness and desire to produce a decorated career at Robinson Secondary School.

Pinkston was a four-year starter for the Rams at defensive tackle and never missed a game. He earned first-team all-district/conference, first-team all-region, and second-team all-state honors each of his last three seasons. Already possessing a low center of gravity, Pinkston used the weight room to turn himself into a powerhouse. He can bench press 375 pounds and squat 550, making it tough for opposing linemen to move him.

Pinkston was also a two-time state champion wrestler for the Rams, reaching the heavyweight state final match each of his four years.

While Pinkston had his doubts about being able to play college football, the 2014 Robinson graduate made it happen, and will continue his career at Division III Randolph-Macon College. Pinkston recently participated in a Q and A via email with The Connection.

**\*Connection:** What made Randolph-Macon the right fit for you?

**Pinkston:** After I met coach [Pedro] Aruzza, I was sold. He and his staff have been together for 10-plus years. I really connected with him not only on a football level but a personal one. Plus, I like the idea of a small college with a prestigious football program. R-MC fit that perfectly.

**\*Connection:** What is your major?

**Pinkston:** I plan on majoring in business, minor in economics.

**\*Connection:** At what age did you start playing football? Were you always a defensive tackle? When did you realize playing college football was a possibility for you?

**Pinkston:** I started wrestling, playing football, and baseball when I was 6 years old. I was always a big kid. I played offensive guard and defensive tackle my whole life. Honestly, I dreamt of playing college football ever since I was young. As I got older, I began to realize that my size would dismantle that dream. Football is my first love. My senior year was when I realized playing football in college was a possibility. All of my coaches believed that I could compete at the collegiate level.

**\*Connection:** At 5 feet 8, 250 pounds, it seems like you would have a pretty low cen-



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Robinson graduate Jake Pinkston (43) will play defensive tackle at Randolph-Macon College.**

ter of gravity. Has an opponent ever said anything to you about your size or how difficult it is to move you?

**Pinkston:** Yes, actually most of the teams I've played have said that. They tell me that I am very strong yet quick and agile. As everyone says, "the low man wins," and you can't get much lower than 5'8."

**\*Connection:** You were also a state-champion wrestler at Robinson. At what point did you make a decision between playing football in college and wrestling in college? Did you consider doing both?

**Pinkston:** I considered wrestling in college for about two months, then I realized how much raw passion you need to wrestle in college. I didn't have that passion for wrestling. When I was younger, I wrestled to make my hand techniques, agility, hip movement, tackling techniques, and mental toughness better for football. That was the main goal. I ended up excelling at both

in high school, but wrestling a little more with state championships.

**\*Connection:** The Robinson football program had three different head coaches in your four years (Mark Bendorf, Trey Taylor, Dan Meier). What was it like playing for a program with so many changes at the top?

**Pinkston:** It was difficult to say the least — more frustrating than anything — but I learned to roll with the punches. It forced me to become a leader and a student of the game. Since I was one of the last guys affiliated with the "Bendorf era," I took some of his philosophies that he taught me onto the field in the following years. Most of the freshmen and sophomores were on either [the] freshman or JV [teams], so they never really experienced his style like I did. The process was very frustrating for our teams. We had all the talent you can wish for, yet we could never really come tougher or "click" as a whole.

**"The losses stand out. . . . But if it wasn't for those losses, I wouldn't know how to combat adversity. It also gave me a striving force to be better."**

**— Robinson graduate Jake Pinkston**

**\*Connection:** What is your favorite memory of playing high school football?

**Pinkston:** Oct. 1, 2010, we were playing Lake Braddock, I sacked Michael Nebrich two times and all I can remember was the fans chanting "He's a freshman" over and over again.

**\*Connection:** If you could go back and change one thing about your high school athletic career, what would it be?

**Pinkston:** Nothing. I've learned so much over my career. The losses stand out. Losing to Lake Braddock freshman year in the playoffs; losing in the [wrestling] state finals twice; losing a game by one point because someone didn't do his job; and a lot of others that I can't think of right now. Those stand out. But if it wasn't for those losses, I wouldn't know how to combat adversity. It also gave me a striving force to be better. You've got to have that dog in you. If you don't have that dog in you, you'll get eaten (that's what was lacking in our football teams after Coach Mark Bendorf retired).

**\*Connection:** What are you most looking forward to about the transition from high school to college?

**Pinkston:** I am looking forward to the level of difficulty rising. I am always looking to improve. I hope to start at D tackle this year.

**\*Connection:** Who is your favorite music artist? Why?

**Pinkston:** I'd have to say Jason Aldean or Tim McGraw. They can put on a great show!

**\*Connection:** What is your favorite movie? Why?

**Pinkston:** 'The Pursuit of Happyness.' It portrays that anything is possible with hard work.

**\*Connection:** What is your favorite hobby outside of football and wrestling?

**Pinkston:** I love to hang out with my buddies, hunt, and fish — basically anything outdoors. I also love a good game of Madden on Xbox.

**\*Connection:** What location is the farthest you have traveled from the Washington, D.C. metro area?

**Pinkston:** My family is from Kansas. I go there every summer. That would be the farthest.

**\*Connection:** Did you follow the World Cup? If so, for which team(s) did you cheer?

**Pinkston:** Yes, I followed FIFA. I rooted for USA, of course! Once they lost to Germany, I rooted for them because they better win the World Cup after beating the next best team, USA!

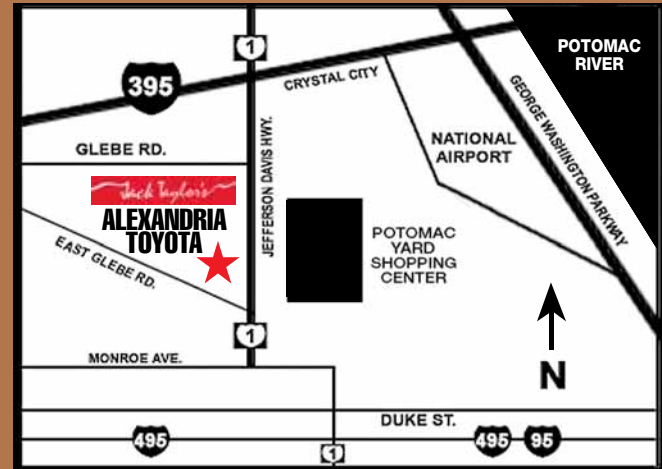
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