

**PET CONNECTION**

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BethAnn Telford of Fair Lakes with her friend Julie's children, Karissa and Landen Stitzel, at the Rev3 Run Rogue 5K in March at Fairfax Corner. Telford will compete in Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii.

# Checking One off the Bucket List

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**PET CONNECTION**

**Pets of Fairfax: Popular Around Town**

**Four stories on people and pets.**

By HOPE RACINE  
 THE CONNECTION

**T**he Ardingers, a Fairfax family of four, have had a Golden Retriever since their two children, Mitchell and Mackenzie, were young. Yet when their mother, Melinda, fell in love with the small Chihuahua, the household expanded to include a dog that was smaller than some of their past cats. Though Sophie, age 5, may be much smaller than her older brother Montana (age 6), she has the energy to match. While Montana waited patiently for his picture to be taken, Sophie squirmed, forcing Mitchell, a recent Fairfax High School graduate to jump in and hold her still as their posed in their Fairfax home.

\*Wilson Armstrong, a 7-year-old Bichon Frise of Fairfax, is a popular man around town. Due to his twice daily walks with his devoted owner, Morrow, and his happy go lucky attitude, Wilson makes friends with every person he encounters on the street. He loves play dates with the other dogs on the street, going to the groomer, and wearing scarves.

\*At the end of her junior year of high school, Becky Conway adopted a small, feral kitten whom she named Laser. Now a third year at the University of Virginia, Becky dotes on her rescued best friend. "Not only is she my best friend, but she keeps me safe," Becky said. "I'm terrified of spider and crickets, and Laser is an expert at hunting them." Laser enjoys hunting bugs, playing hide and seek, and eating people's shoes.

\*Bucky is a 9-year-old gray cat who lives with his owner Michelle Fitz, in Fairfax City. Bucky was rescued out of an old barn when he was just a kitten and was raised along with Michelle's two family dogs. As a result, Bucky dislikes all other felines and prefers the company of dogs instead. Bucky has a feline heart condition that causes him to see a cardiologist twice a year, but that doesn't slow him down. He loves to play with his canine friends and to sit in boxes.



**Fairfax High School Graduate Mitchell Ardinger poses with his two dogs, Montana and Sophie.**

PHOTO BY HOPE RACINE/THE CONNECTION



**Morrow Armstrong poses with her Bichon Frise, Wilson, in their Fairfax home.**

PHOTO BY HOPE RACINE/THE CONNECTION



**Michelle Fitz, 26, holds Bucky, age 9**

PHOTO BY HOPE RACINE/THE CONNECTION



**Becky Conway plays with her only cat, Laser.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF BECKY CONWAY

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## Keeping the Pressure On

Tired of paying both City of Fairfax and Falls Church water bills, one Fairfax County man becomes a vocal water activist.

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

Every three months, Fairfax County resident Kirk F. Randall reluctantly writes a check to the City of Fairfax for his water bill, and fumes about it.

A lifelong County resident whose home borders the City of Fairfax, Randall is one of the 21,000 county residents who pay 71 percent more for water because he gets his water from the City of Fairfax rather than Fairfax Water, the County- utility.

He also pays the water bills for his family home in McLean, where his 85-year-old father still lives. That water comes from the City of Falls Church, which charges customers such as Randall 44 percent more than other county residents pay.

“Not only have I had no choice but to buy more expensive water for more than 26 years, but I don’t get to vote on the city’s decision because I’m a county resident. It’s absurd,” Randall said. In May, he paid a quarterly total of nearly \$200 for both water bills. If he were a Fairfax Water customer, he would have paid \$60.19.

Randall’s frustration echoes that of many county residents who have complained to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors about high water bills and being “taxed” without concomitant “representation.”

Currently more than 153,000 residents – approximately 14 percent - receive their water from municipal utilities in Falls Church, the City of Fairfax and the towns of Herndon and Vienna rather than Fairfax Water. Those residents pay as much as 82 percent more for their drinking water.

The battle over who controls water service in Fairfax County percolated for years before erupting into a full-blown war last December when county supervisors – responding to complaints from residents - drew a line in the sand.

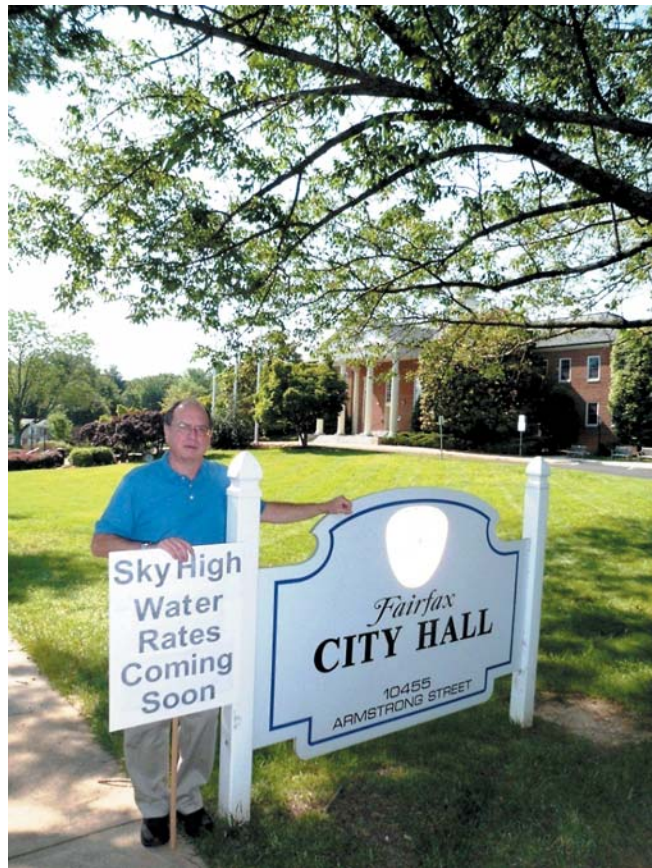
On December 6, supervisors enacted an ordinance that gave the county broad powers to determine how residents get their water and how much they pay for it.

**COUNTY OFFICIALS** said the new law – which was slated to go into effect July 1 - was an attempt to ensure that all county residents pay a “fair and reasonable” rate for their water.

“Someone who lives in Fairfax County, but is served by a separate jurisdiction’s water provider, should have the assurance that the rate they pay can be justified,” said Board Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large), “It’s as simple as that.”

But city and town leaders argued there was nothing “simple” about the county’s move. They saw the ordinance as a blatant power grab, and promptly sued the county.

“The attempt by Fairfax County in 2011 to regulate rates for water systems it doesn’t own, and didn’t



**Kirk F. Randall, a Fairfax County resident who is tired of paying higher prices to the City of Fairfax and Falls Church for his water, stands outside Fairfax City Hall on Armstrong Street carrying the sign “Sky High Water Rates Coming Soon.”**

build, is simply unconstitutional,” said Virginia State Senator Chap Petersen (D-34), a longtime City of Fairfax resident and former council member, whose constituents include Fairfax City, Town of Vienna, and Fairfax County residents. He maintains that current state law already requires water to be provided as a “cost-based” service.

“In other words, the price of our water is based on the cost of service. That price, about \$1 a day, is one of the cheapest rates in the United States, no matter where you live in Northern Virginia,” said Petersen, who considered introducing legislation in the General Assembly to nullify the county ordinance last December.

The ensuing “Water Wars” have embroiled four local governments, powerful politicians, high-level bureaucrats, high-priced legal teams, the U.S Army Corps of Engineers, and a billion-dollar utility company, who are spending a significant amount of time and money battling each other in a series of lawsuits, legislative showdowns and PR campaigns.

There was a temporary cease-fire on June 14 when county officials agreed to a 90-day suspension of the ordinance, and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church agreed to put their litigation on hold, as all sides discuss various options to reduce the rates the affected county residents pay for their water.

“Many assumed the County would be mandating

SEE WATER BILLS. PAGE 10



**Gaela Hime, flanked by Congressman Gerry Connolly, Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock District), Del. David Bulova, Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and Del. Fisher-Corn received the Best of Braddock’s Most Can-Do Public Employee Award.**

## Assuring Safe Passage

Crossing guard Gaela Hime receives Best of Braddock Award for 27 Years of Safe Passage.

BY AMIEE FREEMAN  
THE CONNECTION

When Gaela Hime started out as a crossing guard, 27 years ago, or “back in the day,” crossing guards had to wear skirts and high heels. “We had to wear white gloves and our nylons could not have runs in them,” she remembered Wednesday at the Best of Braddock Awards Picnic and Ceremony.

Hime received the Most Can-Do Public Employee in the District (Local Level) Award for her commitment to the community as a crossing guard for three area schools: Robinson Secondary, Oak View and Laurel Ridge elementary schools.

Hime began working as a crossing guard when her son entered kindergarten. Hime initially applied for a job as a bus driver and had begun training when she heard there was a need for crossing guards.

“I have had so much fun learning the kids’ names and the names of their parents and even their dogs. There were perhaps about 10 names each year I didn’t learn.”

Hime was nominated by Lisa Waldrop, a member of the Robinson Secondary PTSA. In her nominating essay, Waldrop wrote that what makes Hime “exceptional is her ability to remember the names of the students and parents she has dealt with over the years. Children, boys and girls alike, stop to give



**Gaela Hime chats with Supervisor John Cook following Wednesday’s award ceremony.**

her hugs or high-fives. She will always be remembered for her smile as she assured us safe passage when we crossed the street every day for the last 27 years.”

As a crossing guard, Hime developed a special connection with the student patrols. She joked that she even tried to teach the patrols proper grammar while working with them. “You never begin a sentence with ‘Me.’ I tried to teach them that,” she laughed.

In her 27 years as guard she worked with numerous patrols, the older of whom are now grown with families of their own. Hime said recently she became reacquainted with one of the patrols who is now herself an elementary school teacher with young children.

Hime retired on May 18. She lives in Kings Park West.

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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

## NEWS

# Check One off the Bucket List

Local woman to compete in Ironman World Championship.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Fair Lakes resident BethAnn Telford has participated in two Ironman competitions in Lake Placid, N.Y., and in several half-Ironman events. But for her, being accepted into the upcoming Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii, is the top of the mountain.

"This is the big one," she said. "Only 1,800 people can get into it, and you can't just fill out an application — you have to qualify."

It's also important to her for another reason. In 2005, Telford was diagnosed with a Stage III brain tumor, and she's still battling it. So when she found out last Thursday, July 19, that she qualified, she was thrilled.

"I was just overwhelmed," said Telford, 43. "I was so excited for the brain-tumor community to have someone go there and represent them. I want to show them this can be done and that there's hope."

Indeed, "hope" is the word she has tattooed on the inner side of her left wrist and, whenever she gets down, she looks at it for strength. Her personal motto is "Never, never give up," and she lives these words every day.

Since her diagnosis, Telford has undergone surgeries, plus countless hours of rehabilitation to regain her speech and physical function after each one. Yet she still works full time for the U.S. Government Printing Office, trains constantly for marathons and endurance races, and actively raises money — more than \$300,000, so far — for the National Brain Tumor Society, <http://www.braintumor.org/>, via her nonprofit fund-raising organization, Team BT.

IT'S ALWAYS BEEN A DREAM of hers to compete in the Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii. To win a slot in it, Telford entered the Ironman Kona Inspired "Anything is Possible" Video Competition sponsored by Yurbuds. Next came online voting, where her video earned her a spot in the event.

This year's Ironman, the 34th annual, will be held Oct. 13. It consists of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride and a 26.2-mile run. To prepare, Telford's been training with a triathlete for about two months and is now ramping up the intensity.

Weekdays, she rises early and hits the gym at Life



From left, Mary Ann Cox, BethAnn Telford and Cox's daughters Allie and Savannah Frye at a 5K fund-raiser in March at Fairfax Corner. Cox's sister is a brain-tumor survivor.

Time Fitness in Centreville before work. Then when she comes home, she usually goes swimming, running or biking. On Saturdays, she runs 18-24 miles throughout Northern Virginia with friends; Sundays, she bikes as much as 88 miles, then follows it up with a "cool-down run" of five miles.

"Unfortunately, this will be my last Ironman because my health isn't good," said Telford. "This was on my bucket list, and it's the final thing to be checked off. I just hope to be able to spend a week in Hawaii afterward with my parents. They've never been farther than Virginia, but they're coming from Pennsylvania for this."

Her least favorite part of the competition, she said, is "the anxiety of having to get into the water and start swimming." What she likes best is "all the people in the triathlon community that come out — the support is just wonderful."

ASIDE FROM THE SATISFACTION of successfully completing all the Ironmen events, Telford's participating to bring awareness. "My goal is to be able to inspire people in the brain-tumor community, because a lot of us get down sometimes," she explained.

Furthermore, she added, she won't be competing alone. "I'm taking a lot of people in my heart who've lost their battles [with brain tumors]," said Telford. "I'll also be biking, swimming and running for those still battling. I want to prove to them that they need to keep fighting."

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 **PET CONNECTION**

**Mister Frodo**

Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Sharon Bulova (A-At large) with Mister Frodo. Mister Frodo is part Maine Coon and part American Bobtail. He is a rescue cat from Home Alone Rescue. He's been part of the family since spring 2011. Frodo can jump to great heights in a single leap and has a fear of ceiling fans.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**New Joy in Life**

"The new joy in our lives, Hershey. He is a chocolate Labradoodle that was born on May 18. I purchased him on Hunter Mill Road in Oakton. My wife Lindsay & I live in Penderbrook, Fairfax and I work with Keller Williams Capital Properties in Fairfax," writes Ryan Rice.



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# Separate and Unequal?

If we don't believe that poor students are less innately talented, then the disparities in Northern Virginia are truly unfair.

The numbers are eye-popping. Latino students are 22 percent of Fairfax County Public Schools students, but 2.7 percent of the incoming Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology freshman class, the class of 2016. Of the 480 students, seven are black. That's 1.4 percent, while black students are 10 percent of the county school system.

The class of 2016 includes 480 students: 126 white students (26 percent), 308 Asian students (64 percent), 13 Hispanic students (2.7 percent), seven black students (1.4 percent) and 27 other.

Almost all of the students accepted to TJ come from eight middle schools with advanced gifted-and-talented programs.

The disparities and lack of diversity at Northern Virginia's stellar magnet school, ranked the top high school in the nation, is a symptom of a much more pervasive problem in Fairfax County.

This week, two groups, the Coalition of The Silence led by former school board member Tina Hone, and the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP filed a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights. The complaint argues that the current policies regarding admission to Thomas Jefferson and policies regarding identification of students for eligibility for gifted services within FCPS "disparately impact Black and Latino students in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1965, which prohibits discrimination based on race,

color and national origin."

For well over a decade, FCPS has made a variety of attempts to address the exclusive nature of admissions to TJ, but with little effect and intense controversy.

The problem runs much deeper than freshman admission to Thomas Jefferson. Of 12,044 elementary and middle school students identified for "level 4" gifted-and-talented programs last year, only 455 were black, 3.8 percent, while 10 percent of FCPS students are black. Just 752 were Hispanic, about 6 percent, although 22 percent of FCPS students are Hispanic.

**GETTING ACCEPTED** to TJ, in general, is not an easy task for anyone, reported Julia O'Donoghue in 2010 in the Connection. The school admitted only 15.3 percent of the 3,119 students who applied to be part of the class of 2014. That means TJ had a lower acceptance rate for its incoming freshman class than either Cornell University or Swarthmore College that year.

Fairfax students also compete with children from around the region for slots at the Northern Virginia magnet school. About 80 percent of TJ's student body comes from Fairfax but residents from Arlington, Loudoun, Prince William and Fauquier counties and the City of Falls Church can also apply. (The City of Alexandria does not allow its students to apply to

TJ, and should reconsider its choice to opt out.)

While it may be difficult for all children, students who are black, Hispanic or poor have a particularly hard time getting admitted to TJ.

Out of 480 students admitted to the class of 2014, only nine were considered poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced-priced lunch.

Across all four grades at TJ in 2009-10 school year, approximately 1.78 percent of students were black, 2.84 percent of students were Hispanic and 1.74 percent were poor.

Fully 25 percent of students in Fairfax County are poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced-priced meals. Do we believe that poor students are less talented than students from wealthier families?

The complaint asserts that FCPS "has evolved into a system that essentially operates a network of separate and unequal schools."

Many if not most poor students lack access to quality enrichment programs and after-school activities, lack access to expensive and highly specific test preparation classes for the admissions test for TJ. And the complaint cites FCPS retreated from outreach programs for poor and minority students.

Addressing these issues from Kindergarten up would have many benefits beyond increasing diversity at one school. This could also decrease the achievement gap, increase the graduation rate for minority and poor students, and reduce disparities in the suspension and expulsion rate.

These are hot issues with many perspectives. We welcome letters and comments suggesting solutions and with different points of view.

— MARY KIMM,  
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Expansion of Medicaid

To the Editor:

One of the key issues in the Affordable Care Act is the multi-billion dollar expansion of Medicaid. It's going to cost individual states billions of dollars to enroll all the potential recipients and Virginia will be responsible for at least an additional \$1.18 billion. We will become dependent on fluctuating federal grants to cover the remaining billion. I want to know how the candidates who are running for Governor are going to handle this enormous fiscal burden. Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli has never liked the law and was the first to challenge it in court. I'm sure he will continue his effort to strike down this bill, accessing alternative options, and promote the principles of smaller state government. His likely

opponent, Democrat Terry McAuliffe, hasn't said anything. Would he be supportive and how

does he propose to pay for it?

**Natalie Filzen**  
Fairfax

### Government-Controlled Healthcare

To the Editor:

"Leaving Millions on the Table" and "Making Care Affordable" in this week's Connection [July 19-25, 2012] do not include important facts about government-controlled healthcare.

As to Virginia expanding Medicaid to get increased federal funding, the U.S. government has already run out of "other people's money" with its nearly \$16 trillion debt that is growing daily. The CBO has raised the cost estimate for the Affordable Care Act to \$1.76 trillion over ten years, but that is only the opening bid as more and more people lose their job-based coverage and flood into

taxpayer-subsidized insurance. At this rate, the cost will be \$2 trillion, not the less than \$1 trillion President Obama promised. When the financial crisis that is now impacting Greece and Spain hits our country, the consequences will be far direr than theirs because of the size of America's economy.

Plus, the federal government will be dumping more Medicaid funding onto the states over time according to a July 19 Forbes piece "Governors' Worst Nightmare: Obama Proposed Shifting Costs of Obamacare's Medicaid Expansion to the States." During the "supercommittee" deficit-reduction talks last year, President Obama proposed reducing federal funding for the Medicaid expansion by \$100 billion over ten years, with states picking up the difference. Virginians can't afford this.

In addition, Medicaid condemns those in the program to long waits in emergency rooms to get even routine care. Plus, it pays doctors so little and requires so much paperwork that few can afford to see

more than a few Medicaid patients.

As to the "Making Care Affordable" Letter to the Editor, most Americans are not in favor of the Affordable Care Act as the writer asserts. According to a New York Times/CBS News poll on Obamacare following the Supreme Court decision, opposition to the law is virtually unchanged from when it was enacted in 2010, with about half disapproving and one-third supporting the law. Support for repeal remains strong: 61 percent of those polled say they want Congress to repeal the individual mandate (27 percent) or the entire law (34 percent). Only 15 percent want to keep the law as it is.

It is time to repeal the government-centered Obamacare and replace it with patient-focused, free-market solutions. Therefore, we must vote out ardent Congressional supporters of the law such as Gerry Connolly and replace them with those who promote freedom like Col. Chris Perkins.

**Susan Lider**  
Clifton

# NEWS

## 2012 Pamplin Leader

Benjamin Medina is the recipient of the 2012 Pamplin Leader Award at Lake Braddock High School. The Pamplin Leader is a one-year, \$1,000 tuition scholarship to Virginia Tech. It is presented annually to a top student from each public high school in Virginia. It was established by Robert B. Pamplin, Sr. (VT, Class of '33) and Robert B. Pamplin, Jr., to acknowledge students with a record of outstanding academic achievement that is balanced with a commitment to community service and leadership experience.



**Benjamin Medina**

## SCHOOL 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 residents **Cara Bialek** and **David Hixon** have been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Ga.

**Austin Lee** has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Randolph-Macon Academy. He is the son of Leah

Lee of Fairfax and Seung Kyu of Arlington.

**Brittney Ransdell** has been named to the fall 2011 dean's list at Randolph-Macon Academy. She is the daughter of Denise Ralls of Fairfax.

**Nathan Warren** of Fairfax has been named to the fall 2011 honor roll at Loomis Chaffee School, Windsor, Ct.

**Paul Anthony Polanski** of Fairfax has earned a bachelor of science from Excelsior College of Albany, N.Y.

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Carolyn R.  
living with relapsing MS

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# PET CONNECTION



Abby with her dog Lulu and foster dog Ellie in her lap.



“Brianna walking our dogs Twix, Marshall, Lulu and Shorty. The kids enjoy fostering and adopting rescue dogs,” writes Angela Camp of Fairfax.

## Best Friends of Fairfax

Sandy Green pictured with her Tonkinese cat Oscar, who is helping her write on the computer: Green is a children’s author and poet living in Fairfax. Her debut children’s book, “The Tide Changers,” of course, has a cat in it.



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Brianna's Betta Fish, "Ocean."



Zach bathing his dog Marshall at Barks & Bubbles.



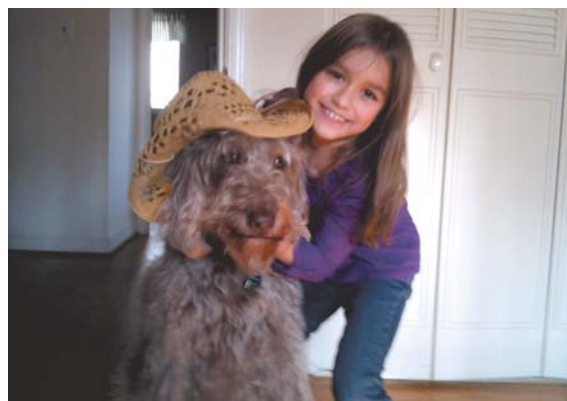
Bethany with foster dog Skittles and her dog Shorty in the background.



"My yellow lab Samantha Sackett. She is one of the sweetest dogs ever. Can't you just see it in those eyes?," writes Kelly Sackett of Fairfax.



Brownie, age 5.



Eleanor Hurst, age 8, and her cowboy doodle, Brownie.

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FAITH NOTES

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**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.

**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 at 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or www.popl.c.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 at 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 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 or www.franconiaumc.org.

# Water Bills Challenged

FROM PAGE 3

rates equal to the Water Authority's rates, but that only would happen if no justification for rates was provided, or the justification was deemed to be inadequate," said Anthony Griffin, who recently retired as the longtime county executive. Before joining the county, Griffin served as the city manager for Falls Church, and Chairman Bulova recently appointed him to the Fairfax Water Board of Directors.

Griffin said he was "hopeful" that during the stay "there will be conversations that will produce win-win solutions for the parties involved, and particularly for the customers of the various water systems."

**IN THE MIST** of the posturing and political power-brokering stands Randall, 61, who worked for more than three decades as a utility economist with the federal government.

He said he never intended to become an expert on water, but when he realized how much more he and his neighbors were paying, he got mad. And then he decided he wasn't going to take it anymore.

"Like most of the other 153,000 affected county residents, for years I got my quarterly bill and paid each bill, totally unaware of how much extra I was paying. In 2009, I figured it was about time somebody spoke up for these captive customers," he said.

To that end, Randall has testified before city councils, written opinion pieces in local newspapers, and lobbied numerous state, federal, county, and city officials.

He has amassed thousands of pages of documents relating to water issues, and can cite chapter and verse when it comes to the history of the highly decentralized world of water operations, where dozens of public agencies are involved in the purchase, sale, distribution and delivery of water to residents. Randall has become known as a "solid" advocate in the water wars, respected for his persistence and fact-based presentations rather than his attention-grabbing antics.

"Transparency is the key," he said. "These towns and cities need regulatory oversight-just as do other monopoly utilities such as Washington Gas or Dominion Power - to hold them accountable for every penny they charge their captive customers."

However, many Fairfax City residents affirmed they want to keep their water system independent from Fairfax Water.

**DURING A RECENT PUBLIC HEARING** on the topic, city resident Curtis Chandler called the city's water system an "asset" and "competitive advantage."

"Keeping the system and making the investment to keep it up to date is entrepreneurial," Chandler said at the hearing.

Catherine Read, a city resident who narrowly lost her recent bid for a city council seat, agrees that the city's water system is a valuable asset. She said in every forum she attended on the subject, the majority of citizens who turned out to express an opinion were in favor of the city keeping it.

Randall calls this "home-grown civic pride" that

Jurisdiction/Agency	Current Basic Water Service Charge <sup>(1)</sup>	Proposed Basic Water Service Charge <sup>(2)</sup>
Virginia-American Water Company (Prince William County)	\$149.69	\$187.08
City of Manassas Park	159.96	184.50
District of Columbia	135.90	144.06
City of Rockville, Maryland	133.47	143.67
Town of Leesburg (Outside)	134.16	139.20
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland)	128.84	131.96
Town of Vienna (Outside Town Limits)	109.28	122.00
Town of Vienna (Inside Town Limits)	100.16	122.00
City of Fairfax <sup>(3)</sup>	103.00	110.75
Virginia-American Water Company (City of Alexandria)	100.72	108.64
Town of Leesburg (Inside)	97.20	100.80
City of Bowie, Maryland	89.40	96.84
Arlington County	95.52	95.52
Prince William County Service Authority	88.95	93.15
City of Falls Church <sup>(3)</sup>	86.55	86.55
City of Manassas	81.75	81.75
Town of Herndon	77.10	77.10
Loudoun Water	76.98	76.98
Fairfax Water	60.19	60.19

(1) Basic Water Service Charge includes the account service charge plus water used at the current commodity rate.  
 (2) Proposed rates effective in calendar year 2012.  
 (3) Excludes utility tax.

makes no economic sense, but Read disagrees. "I don't think it's about 'civic pride.' Access to clean potable drinking water will be the next great challenge of governments all over the world," Read said. "Why would we simply turn that asset over to someone else and lose control over both how it's managed and what it will cost? What benefit does the city derive beyond short term savings on not having to invest millions in the needed maintenance and upgrades?"

Randall argues the city's recent decision to maintain its Loudoun County system doesn't begin to address system reliability, as evidenced by the nearly month-long outage in May when the city was forced to purchase 100 percent of its water from Fairfax Water.

The city currently has no long-term backup for its Loudoun County treatment and transmission facilities. Each time the city declares a system emergency - which has occurred about every five weeks in recent years - it relies on the largesse of Fairfax Water to provide it with water priced below Fairfax Water's cost, which disadvantages the water utility's customers.

Jeanne Bailey, who is in the unenviable position of being a longtime city resident and the spokesperson for Fairfax Water, said that many city residents don't fully understand the vulnerability of the city's system.

She said Fairfax Water has 17 billion gallons of upstream storage ready to go in the event of a drought, but specifically prohibits the city from buying emergency water during a drought because it's an event that can be "planned-for," not an emergency.

"Fairfax Water is the city's only emergency backup, and reliable long-term backup is expensive for us to provide. We're happy to help, but we have to be fair to our customers as well," she said. "At some point in time, they are either going to have to spend many tens of millions securing long-term back-up service elsewhere, or buy it at cost from Fairfax Water."

Randall said he will continue his quest to educate and inform city and county residents about the economic and reliability benefits of partnering with Fairfax Water.

In May, Randall addressed the City Council, saying: "If city officials don't deal with long-term backup and emergency water needs real soon, one day when there's an emergency outage, they are going to turn on the faucet and get absolutely nothing."

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The Virginia Glory 12U girls' fastpitch team will compete in the 2012 ASA | USA 12U National Championships in Moline, Ill.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

# Glory Goes National

## Virginia Glory Girls head to National Tournament.

The Virginia Glory 12U girls' fastpitch team has earned a coveted berth to attend the ultimate tournament in the U.S. — the 2012 ASA | USA 12U National Championships in Moline, Ill. All three Virginia Glory teams at various age classes will be attending their respective ASA National Championships at the end of July.

The 18U Glory Gold, coached by Suzy Willemssen, earned a berth to the ASA Gold National Championship in Oklahoma City by winning the 2011 ASA Eastern Nationals last summer. The Glory 16U Elite, coached by Tim Garner, won their berth to ASA | USA Nationals in Montgomery, Ala., by winning the ASA 16U "A" State Tournament. And the Virginia Glory 12U team, coached by Mike Mertz, earned a berth as the ASA 12U "A" state runners-up.

"For all three of our teams to be heading to ASA Nationals is an awesome and very rare feat, especially for a relatively new organization," said Willemssen, founder and head coach of the Glory Gold and owner of Willemssen Fastpitch Training in Fairfax Station. "We are so proud of our girls and our families, and we are just so excited about the future of the Glory organization. We're building something special, and people all over the state of

Virginia are taking notice. This fall, we will be adding new teams at various age levels and coaches are already in place."

Since last fall, the Virginia Glory 12U team sports a record of 60-11-1, including their appearances playing up in 14U tournaments.

"This is such a special group of girls, that's for sure," Mertz said. "Even more amazing is that we're a young team compared to many other top teams in the state. And through injuries and other types of adversity, we just keep coming back stronger. Like all teams, we have those up and down moments, but our girls have learned to bounce back quickly and respond in positive fashion. And most importantly, they learn from their mistakes. It's just been so much fun being part of their development and to be playing on the ultimate stage in August is just the perfect ending to a storied season."

The Glory 12U team is composed of some of the truly elite players in the Northern Virginia region, and is now drawing interest from girls around the state as they age up to 14U this fall. Current players (graduation year) include: Victoria Capllonch ('17), Caroline Cox ('18), Erin Jones ('17), Ally Kurland ('18), Riley McCarthy ('17), Carlie Mertz ('18), Avery Neuhart ('18), Patty Maye Ohanian ('17), Julia Sinnett ('17), Serenity Stewart ('17), Kayla Turner ('17), and Sienna Williams ('17). The team is coached by Mike Mertz, Carlos Capllonch and Art Ohanian.

## WSHS Grad Tobin Finishing Second CRCBL Season

Last summer, Tucker Tobin was part of a Bethesda Big Train team that won its third consecutive Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League championship. The Big Train went 33-9 during the regular season and finished the year ranked No. 1 in the nation by Perfect Game USA.

This summer, things haven't been as easy for Bethesda. Tobin, a 2009 graduate of West Springfield High School, went 2 for 3 against the D.C. Grays on July 23, but the Big Train lost, 10-7, dropping their record to 22-15. Despite the loss, Bethesda was in third place after Monday's action and in

good position to secure one of the league's six playoff spots thanks to winning 19 of its last 25 games.

Tobin, a catcher at George Mason University, said the Big Train needs to play with more confidence.

"Last year, we went into every game [with] the confidence that we were definitely going to win the game," Tobin said. "I think right now we're a little unsure. It's kind of game to game. I think we just need to come out better and have a better attitude overall."

After Monday's game, Tobin was batting .250 (28 for 112) with

three home runs, 14 RBIs and 25 runs scored in 34 games. Last season, Tobin hit .313 (20 for 64) with 14 RBIs and nine runs scored in 27 games for the Big Train.

"I've had a lot of fun both years," Tobin said. "I'll be back again next year. I enjoy it. [This season is] different a little bit, obviously, in the wins and losses, but that's part of baseball too."

Bethesda's regular season concludes at 7:30 p.m. Thursday with a home game against the Vienna River Dogs.

— JON ROETMAN



The West Springfield Little League 10-11-year-old American All-Star team won the District 9 championship.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## WSLL Team Takes Second Straight Championship

Employing a team motto of "hungry and humble," the players of West Springfield Little League American 10-11 captured the District 9 title for the second year in a row, this time in front of a home field crowd at Byron Park as WSSL played host of the 10-11 tournament.

With the memory of unfinished business as state runner-up in last year's Virginia tournament fresh in their minds, the boys set out this season with a desire to return to states and bring home the title.

Keeping their eyes firmly focused on the first goal of taking the District 9 title, the boys worked tirelessly in 15 days of practice under record heat conditions to prepare for the tournament. Their hard work paid off as WSSL American handily won its first six games of pool play to advance to the championship bracket. In a testament to the strength of West Springfield Little League, American 10-11 faced its brother National 10-11 in a best-of-three series to vie for the District 9 title. American won the first two games, 11-1 and 9-7, respectively, finishing undefeated in district play and regaining the District 9 title. The team

now advances to phase two of its mission — the Virginia state tournament in Poquoson, which begins this week.

"With a core group of boys returning for their second and third year of all-star play as a team, and the addition of two more great players, the team has generated a unique chemistry that provides one of those intangible benefits down the stretch," manager Greg McIntyre said. "Their dedication to getting things right in practice, commitment to hard work and love of playing together as a team makes coaching them a lot of fun."

Members of the West Springfield American 10-11 squad moving on to the state tournament are: Brian Bachman, Tyler Bell, Jack Cone, Connor Copeland, Sam Freeborne, Bobby Leitzel, Kevin Mahoney, Tyler Matheny, Greg McIntyre, Lyle Miller-Green and Calvin Pastel.

The West Springfield National roster included: Casey Blankenship, Isaac Bowden, Ryan Brewer, Chris Cable, Cooper Casamento, Nathaniel Do, Joey Myers, Logan Parker, Mason Roerber, Joe Weidinger and Zac Zerbo.

PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE CONNECTION



Bethesda Big Train catcher Tucker Tobin, a West Springfield graduate, is batting .250 this summer.

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STATE OF CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF CHARLESTON

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE  
NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO. 2012-DR-10-2158

KADEE LYNN AUSTIN and  
LEE ALEXANDER RUBLE,  
Plaintiff  
IN RE: ZOE AVA AUSTIN  
(a minor under 18 yrs old)

SUMMONS

v.

JOHN DOE  
DONOR ID NUMBER 1432  
Defendant.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:  
**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to answer the Complaint in this ac-  
tion of which a copy is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the  
said Complaint on the subscriber at her office, 1327 Ashley River Road, Building C, Suite 100,  
Charleston, South Carolina 29407, within thirty (30) days after the service thereof, exclusive of  
the day of such service.  
**YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE** that if you fail to appear and defend and fail to  
answer the Complaint as required by this Summons within thirty (30) days after the service  
hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, judgment by default will be entered against you for  
the relief demanded in the Complaint.

**LAW OFFICES OF CINDY M. FLOYD**  
Cindy M. Floyd  
Attorney for the Plaintiff  
1327 Ashley River Road, Bldg C, ste 100  
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hardwoods, to the gourmet granite and stainless kitchen remodel, to the renovated baths with upscale fixtures and ceramic tiles ... too many upgrades to list! Private 1/2 acre backs to woods. Oak View ES, Robinson SS. 6123 Queens Brigade Ct



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Fairfax Station/Crosspointe

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Fairfax

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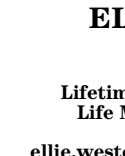
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\$599,900

DC Side on 1.4 acres. Picturesque setting for this gracious colonial with over 4500 square finished space. Classic center hall with hardwood floors, first floor library, glorious sunroom and so much more! Finished lower level with walkout to decking and gazebo. Large workshop and kennel with electricity.

Access the Realtors' Multiple Listing Service: www.searchvirginia.listingbook.com



# Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## Sold \$600,000~\$649,999 in May 2012



**1** 3465 Barristers Keep Circle, Fairfax — \$645,000



**2** 6931 Spanker Drive, Burke — \$640,000



**7** 13507 Quiet Stream Court, Chantilly — \$660,000



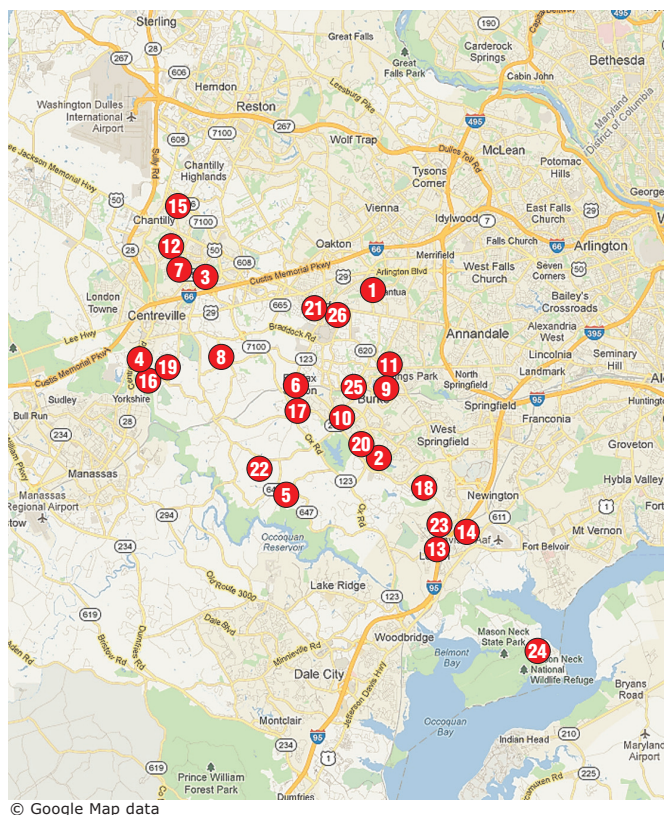
**8** 6001 Pocol Drive, Clifton — \$630,000



**13** 8155 Douglas Fir Drive, Lorton — \$625,000



**18** 8683 Young Court, Springfield — \$607,000



Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 3465 BARRISTERS KEEPE CIR	3	3	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$645,000	Detached	0.08	22031	BARRISTERS KEEPE	05/04/12
2 6931 SPANKER DR	4	3	1	BURKE	.....	\$640,000	Detached	0.21	22015	LONGWOOD KNOLLS	05/31/12
3 13006 RED ADMIRAL PL	5	4	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$639,000	Townhouse	0.12	22033	WILLOW OAKS AT FAIR LAKE	05/31/12
4 13929 WHETSTONE MANOR CT	4	3	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$635,000	Detached	0.21	20124	COMPTON HEIGHTS	05/10/12
5 8108 CRESTRIDGE RD	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$635,000	Detached	1.88	22039	FAIRWOOD PARK	05/04/12
6 11020 CLARA BARTON DR	4	3	0	FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$635,000	Detached	0.55	22039	FAIRFAX STATION	05/30/12
7 13507 QUIET STREAM CT	5	4	0	CHANTILLY	.....	\$632,000	Detached	0.34	20151	POPLAR TREE ESTATES	05/15/12
8 6001 POCOL DR	4	3	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$630,000	Detached	0.62	20124	VANNOY PARK	05/02/12
9 9216 CORK PL	5	3	1	BURKE	.....	\$629,900	Detached	0.25	22015	SOUTHPORT	05/24/12
10 10071 MARSHALL POND RD	5	3	2	BURKE	.....	\$629,000	Detached	0.27	22015	BURKE CENTRE	05/17/12
11 9154 BLOOM CT	4	3	1	BURKE	.....	\$629,000	Detached	0.22	22015	DUNLEIGH	05/30/12
12 4391 POPLAR TREE CT	4	3	1	CHANTILLY	.....	\$625,000	Detached	0.20	20151	POPLAR ESTATES	05/17/12
13 8155 DOUGLAS FIR DR	4	2	1	LORTON	.....	\$625,000	Detached	0.20	22079	LAUREL HILL LANDBAY	05/24/12
14 7672 HENRY KNOX DR	5	3	1	LORTON	.....	\$619,900	Detached	0.12	22079	LORTON TOWN CTR LANDBAY	05/01/12
15 13519 OAK IVY LN	6	3	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$614,500	Detached	0.39	22033	FRANKLIN GLEN	05/17/12
16 13926 WHETSTONE MANOR CT	4	3	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$610,000	Detached	0.25	20124	COMPTON HEIGHTS	05/31/12
17 6102 EMMETT GUARDS CT	4	2	1	FAIRFAX STATION	...	\$610,000	Detached	0.47	22039	FAIRFAX STATION	05/23/12
18 8683 YOUNG CT	4	2	1	SPRINGFIELD	.....	\$607,000	Detached	0.22	22153	MIDDLE VALLEY	05/21/12
19 6634 ROCKLAND DR	4	4	0	CLIFTON	.....	\$605,000	Detached	0.32	20124	LITTLE ROCKY RUN	05/30/12
20 9758 REHANEK CT	4	2	1	BURKE	.....	\$605,000	Detached	0.31	22015	CHERRY RUN	05/15/12
21 10544 JAMES WREN WAY	3	3	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$605,000	Townhouse	0.04	22030	CHANCERY SQUARE	05/30/12
22 11707 AMKIN DR	5	3	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$600,000	Detached	5.00	20124	PLANTATION HILLS	05/18/12
23 8082 PAPER BIRCH DR	4	3	1	LORTON	.....	\$600,000	Detached	0.18	22079	LAUREL HILL LANDBAY	05/09/12
24 6130 MOUNT VERNON BLVD	4	2	1	LORTON	.....	\$600,000	Detached	0.64	22079	GUNSTON MANOR	05/15/12
25 5705 WOODEN HAWK LN	4	2	2	BURKE	.....	\$600,000	Detached	0.24	22015	BURKE CENTRE	05/25/12
26 4174 LORD CULPEPER LN	3	3	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$600,000	Townhouse	0.05	22030	CHANCERY SQUARE	05/24/12

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