

Eggciting Easter Egg Hunt

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And they're off!
Children race to
find Easter eggs in
Van Dyck Park.

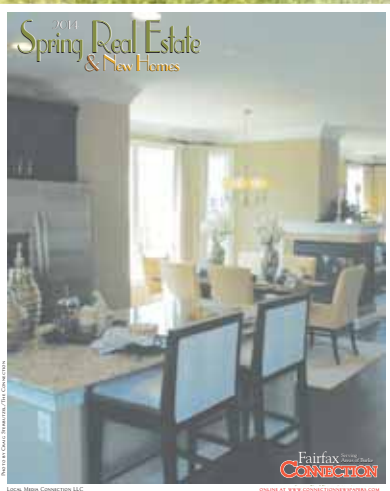
Silverthorne, Norce
in Mayor Race

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Spring Real Estate
& New Homes

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

30 Years in Prison for Three Deaths

One of the victims was a young Fairfax woman.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The man responsible for the heroin deaths of three people in Fairfax County will be spending the next three decades in prison. Eugene Asomani “Shine” Williams, 35, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced last week in federal court for con-

spiring to distribute heroin and possessing a firearm while doing so.

The three victims were Woodson High graduate Kara Schachinger, 22, of Fairfax; Joshua Pearson, 33, of Fairfax County and Timothy Huffman, 23, an active duty soldier who was serving in the Army at Fort Belvoir.

“Williams peddled a dangerous

drug and inflicted untold damage to the victims, their families, and our communities,” said Dana Boente, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. “This case exemplifies the cooperative efforts of federal, state and local law enforcement to combat this pernicious crime.”

On Jan. 22 in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Williams pleaded

guilty to conspiracy to distribute one kilogram or more of heroin and possession of a firearm during and in furtherance of a drug-trafficking crime. In a statement of facts filed with his plea agreement, he admitted to distributing more than one kilogram of heroin in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia between 2004 and Sept. 26, 2013.

Williams further admitted that Pearson, Huffman and Schachinger all died as a result of their use of heroin distributed by him.

“I have heard firsthand from families about the devastation brought by the loss of a loved one in this wave of heroin-related deaths, and about the strain placed on law-enforcement and healthcare professionals as they work to respond to it,” said Attorney General Mark Herring. “Education, prevention and treatment will play a major part in dealing with this emerging threat, but I will also ensure that my office is doing all it can to keep these dangerous drugs, and those who distribute them, off the streets.”

Williams returned to court last Friday, April 18 and, at that time, U.S. District Court Judge Leonie Brinkema sentenced him to 30 years in prison.

“Today’s sentencing of Eugene Williams closes the book on a drug trafficker who was responsible for trafficking heroin that led to the death of three individuals in Fairfax County,” said Special Agent-in-Charge Karl C. Colder of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Washington Division. “Heroin is a drug that destroys lives and, tragically, sometimes takes them. This case clearly demonstrates DEA’s commitment, by working with our law-enforcement partners, to stop drug traffickers who profit from the harm – in this case deadly harm – they present to our community.”

Col. Ed Roessler Jr., Fairfax County Chief of Police, also weighed in on Williams’s punishment.

“Fairfax County is safer today thanks to the robust partnerships between local, state and federal law enforcement,” he said. “Today’s sentencing is proof positive these partnerships work against drug traffickers and others who set up criminal enterprises in our region.”

FAITH NOTES

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

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.

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Ask the Board of Supervisors to support the Green Energy Park

FAIRFAX
GREEN ENERGY
TRIANGLE

'Mayor Has to Know, Understand the City'

Fairfax's Scott Silverthorne running for re-election.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Scott Silverthorne was raised in a political family, so it's no wonder he's been involved in leading the City of Fairfax for two decades. He served 18 consecutive years on the City Council, is now completing a two-year term as mayor and is running for re-election.

His father was a Fairfax planning commissioner, councilman and mayor. Meanwhile, Silverthorne attended City schools, graduated from Fairfax High and obtained a degree in marketing from Radford University. He's worked in government relations and, most recently, he's done executive-search consulting. But politics has always been in his blood.

"In 1990, at age 24, I was the youngest person ever elected to City Council," said Silverthorne. "The top six vote-getters win, and I was the top vote-getter in eight of the nine elections I was in. I left in 2008 because I thought it was time for new blood, Mayor Lederer wasn't leaving and I'd accomplished all I'd wanted on City Council."

HE COUNTS Fairfax's parks and open-space initiative, including ball fields, as his biggest achievement on the Council. It was his idea and 70 percent of the voters supported it. "It added 20-percent more parks and open space for the City," he said. "For example, open-space money bought the land for the Stafford ball field and the Downtown Park."

Fairfax purchased land from the end of 2000 until 2005; some was left undeveloped and some became ball fields. "And we often bought land for community, pocket-parks," added Silverthorne. "Around 1998, we bought the Blenheim estate – 12 acres of open space."

He said people live in the City because of its services. "The community focuses on value for its tax dollars, including free leaf, trash and large-item pickup, snow removal and recreational activities," said Silverthorne. "We also operate our own bus system to the Metro and GMU. And all these things add to the City's quality of life."

Approximately 50 percent of Fairfax's budget entails fixed costs – schools, social services, courts. "We have a AAA bond rating and our real-estate taxes are one of the lowest in the area. Only Alexandria and Arlington are lower, and not by much," he said. "I'm proud of our community and City Council and I have unanimous support from all the Council and School Board members and every elected official. To me, it's a vote



Mayor Scott Silverthorne hopes to be re-elected.

of confidence that the City's moving in the right direction."

During his tenure as mayor, Silverthorne counts the water issue as one of his biggest achievements. "By partnering with Fairfax [County] Water to provide water to the City in perpetuity, we've avoided a 9-percent increase in the water rate, last year and this year, because of the cost of operating a small water system," he said. "Otherwise, maintenance and renovation costs – the capital improvements the system required – would have been about \$100 million. And within five years, water bills would have increased over \$500/year per residential customer."

The issue divided the Council but, said Silverthorne, "I worked through each member's problem so everyone would be comfortable with whatever decision we made. It's an example of my leadership – I'm direct and honest with everyone and a good listener. We also held multiple public hearings and [ultimately], this Council had the courage to do the right thing – and it was unanimous."

Silverthorne's also proud that the City's unemployment rate dropped from 6.5 percent to 3.8 percent – a five-year low. "It's lower than Fairfax County's 4.0 and dropped a point last month," he said. "So I feel good about our economy and what we're doing to create jobs." For example, since Kmart's closed nationwide, he personally courted Lowe's to come to the City in its space. "It'll hire 250-350 people locally," he said. "Lowe's will be a huge, economic boon to the City."

Fairfax also now requires new residential developments to dedicate a certain number of units as affordable housing. With both commercial and residential developers interested in investing in the City and also redeveloping, Silverthorne said each appli-

SEE SILVERTHORNE, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

John Norce is vying for mayor of Fairfax.

'A Leader Innovates, Develops, Inspires'

Challenger John Norce wants to be Fairfax's mayor.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Born in New York, John Norce has only lived in Fairfax since 2002 and has never before run for political office. But he wants to become the City's next mayor and believes he's the best person for the job.

"I enjoy and embrace leadership opportunities," he said. "I was president of a local insurance association, am involved with Make-A-Wish and have coached youth sports for 27 years."

Norce came to Virginia in 1984, graduating from the University of Richmond in 1988 with a degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing. He now owns an insurance general agency in Fairfax.

As a coach, he tries to build character in young athletes, "teaching life lessons about dealing with adversity," he said. His own leadership guides are famed UCLA basketball coach John Wooden and leadership expert Warren Bennis.

"At the core of everything is people," said Norce. "Bennis said managers do things right; leaders do the right thing. A manager administers, maintains, manages tasks and has a short-range view. A leader innovates, develops, focuses on people and emotions, inspires, challenges the way things are and has a long-range view."

NORCE says he's in the latter category, applying these principles to his daily life. And like Wooden, he believes there's "no substitute for hard work. There's the popular decision – the easy one – and the right decision." And that's why he'd like to lead the City of Fairfax.

"I feel a lot of the decisions in the City have a short-range view, not taking into account the long-range impact," he said. "The City spends money like everything's peachy – that we have a solid, economic base from the business community and we can pay for all our expenditures, such as roads, buildings, employee training and parks."

"But it all costs money and you have to pay for it," continued Norce. "Revenues should equal expenditures. For the last four years, we've overspent by approximately \$1 million/year by taking it out of the general fund to pay for the city's operating expenses. So the general fund has gone from \$15.5 million to \$11.5 million; Fairfax is exceeding is budget."

He said the BPOL tax yielded \$7.9 million in 2005 and \$8.9 million in 2013 – a growth rate of about 1.25 percent/year. "The real-estate taxes have grown 63 percent over the same time, so the homeowners are carrying the city on their backs," said Norce. "If our services are outstanding, they should be – we pay a fortune for them."

He also wondered if a new Aldi grocery store coming to Fairfax would take away business from existing stores. "Are we just reallocating revenue or organically growing the economy?" he asked. "We need to bring in businesses that'll spur growth, not maintain the status quo."

SEE NORCE, PAGE 7

Besides voting for mayor, Fairfax residents will choose six City Council members in the May 6 election. All Council candidates except Cristina Gaines responded to *The Connection's* questionnaire.

Fairfax City Council

Michael J. DeMarco



An incumbent, he's been on the City Council for two years. He and wife Joanne and children, Anna, Emilia and Antonio, have lived in the City of Fairfax since 2000. His interests include spending time

with his family, sports, politics, genealogy, music and the arts. He was formerly chairman of the Fairfax City Economic Development Authority.

DeMarco sits on the Board of Visitors of Penn State University's College of Liberal Arts and is also a task force member for the Democracy Institute. He has degrees from Penn State, Temple and Columbia universities. Prior to receiving his MBA from Columbia, he was an assistant vice president in the Philadelphia National Bank's Public and Non-Profit Lending Division.

He's worked for the ExxonMobil Corp. for 24 years in financial, marketing and customer-service positions. He's currently the global process manager for the customer service organization.

Why are you running for re-election?

In 2012, I ran on a platform of strengthening the city's economic base by encouraging private investment, creating jobs and building a mix of housing choices to attract the next generation of city residents. That work is underway, but there's still plenty to do. If reelected, I'll work hard to deliver sustainable development projects along Fairfax Boulevard and Downtown Fairfax that will help revitalize the local economy and improve the city's ability to keep taxes low and services high. In addition, I'll support the implementation of a new zoning ordinance that will speed up the application process, provide clear expectations to developers and keep neighborhoods attractive.

Qualifications?

I have a very strong educational and business background. I've served the City in several capacities since 2007. I'm dedicated to serve, I'm a hard worker and I'm serious about delivering on a vision for the City of being a community and a destination for all to enjoy.

Platform/issues:

My platform is to build and implement strategies and plans that will include targeted and appropriate development and redevelopment, small and medium-sized business support and growth, continued high quality and right-sized schools, residential and commercial property-revitalization programs, a mix of housing choices, a citywide aging-in-place program, Metro-area transportation solutions and effective leadership to build an active partnership with all regional and community stakeholders.

Why vote for you?

I don't take public service lightly. I'll always work hard to serve the City with honesty, integrity, fairness and to the best of my ability.

Jeff Greenfield



An incumbent, he's been on the City Council since 1994. He's a lifelong City resident, and he and wife Lisa and daughter Alexandra reside in Windy Hill. He owns a small business.

Why are you running for re-election?

Experience matters. The City is at a crossroads, and experienced leadership is necessary to move the City forward. I have enjoyed making the City a great place to live and raise a family, and I am thankful for the support I have and continue to receive from the residents of Fairfax.

Qualifications?

Masters in Public Administration, GMU; B.A. Political Science, GMU; Fairfax High School; Eagle Scout; Northern Virginia Transportation Commission; Northern Virginia Transportation Authority; Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments – Board of Directors, Metropolitan Development Policy Committee, and Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee; and the Livable City Task Force.

Platform/issues:

❖ Quality Education: We must continue to work with our School Board to ensure we provide the necessary funding to guarantee our children's success through in-school programming and continued before- and after-school programs.

❖ Fiscal Management: The Council will grapple with another tough budget. It will take experience and discipline to adopt budgets over the next few years that maintain the lowest tax rate consistent with sustaining our outstanding services.

❖ Economic Development: We must continue to focus on a vibrant, economic-development program in order to continue providing outstanding services. It is our strong economy that permits us to have low tax rates. Continued redevelopment of the Fairfax Boulevard (Route 50) corridor will place the City in a strong position to continue providing those services and be able to compete in the region.

❖ Transportation: Dedicated funding now available to the City will enable us to focus on projects and initiatives that will help manage traffic in our community. Working with our state legislators to ensure local monies are available through the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority will be imperative to our success.

Why vote for you?

My reasons for running today are the same as they were in 1994 – my love for the City, desire to help people and belief in giving back to my community. I have a record of demonstrated, effective leadership while serving on the Council. I have worked to maintain and improve the quality of life residents have come to enjoy and will continue to do so. I respectfully ask the residents to continue to place their trust in me and return me to their City Council on May 6.

Nancy Fry Loftus



Born and raised in Fairfax City, she attended John C. Wood Elementary, Lanier Middle School and Fairfax High. She received her BA from Virginia Tech and then lived at home in Fairfax while

earning her JD from George Mason University School of Law. She and husband Connell Loftus, who also grew up in Fairfax City, live in Little River Hills with their daughters, 12 and 8.

Loftus has practiced law for 20 years. She was a clerk in the County Attorney's office during law school, then worked for a small Fairfax firm focused mainly on real-estate development work. She returned to the County Attorney's Office in 1997 and is still there. Her practice is primarily in the areas of tax, collection and assessments, bankruptcy, fiscal policy and utilities regulation.

Why are you running for election?

I have spent my life in the City and have always been very passionate about my hometown. I have numerous reasons for running for election, but feel that there are three main issues that face our City: development, taxes and the budget.

Platform/issues:

The real-estate tax rate has grown 47 percent since 2007 and 16 percent in just two years. This increase has cost hard-working families \$1,000 more each year on their tax bills. The City budget has also grown, with spending up 19 percent in the last two years. Just as families and businesses must sometimes make hard choices, the City must do the same in order to keep the budget and taxes at a level that can be sustained by our citizens. Our real-estate tax rate used to be the lowest in the region, but now Arlington and Alexandria both have lower rates.

The City is also facing the challenges of new development and re-development. At the same time, the City is embarking on a complete re-write of our zoning ordinance. Whoever is elected to this Council will determine the character of our City for years to come.

I believe it's important to move our City forward while ensuring that any new development is of the proper size and scale, without encroaching on our current neighborhoods. Further, City regulations, such as the sign ordinance, must be efficient, fair and predictable for our business community. Many business owners have expressed great frustration in navigating the City approval process. We must listen and incorporate code changes accordingly.

Finally, in 2012, I was appointed to the City Charter Commission to review our City's founding documents. That Commission returned a recommendation, on a narrow 4-3 vote, to amend our 50-year-old City Charter to extend the terms in office for Mayor, Council and school board from two-year terms to four-year terms. I feel strongly that this proposed Charter amendment is not in the best interest of the City.

Doubling the term in office may serve the politician, but it is of no benefit to the citizens of Fairfax City. As a friend said recently, "I would rather vote for a great council every two years, than be stuck with a terrible council for four years." I could not agree more.

Qualifications?

My professional experience as an attorney, especially in tax, fiscal policy and real-estate development work, would be an asset for the Council. In addition, my familiarity with local government issues would prove valuable when facing Council concerns. Finally, my personal familiarity with the City, having lived here my entire life, and having parents and family in the City, give me a perspective of the City that would be beneficial if I am elected to serve on the Council.

David Meyer



An incumbent, he's served on City Council since 2008. He's lived in Fairfax for 33 years and he and wife Cindy have two children, Louisa and Elliot. Meyer is a senior executive with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Why are you running for re-election?

To serve the citizens of the City of Fairfax and, with my colleagues on Council and many engaged and concerned citizens, make the City an even better place to live and work. We owe future generations our commitment to create and recreate our community so that they will receive a legacy of a healthy environment, outstanding schools, safe neighborhoods, and a tradition of celebrating the arts and culture in a diverse community with those shared values that strengthen local democracy.

Qualifications?

For 33 years, my family and I have been engaged in our community. I have served as president of the Old Lee Hills Civic Association, president of the Fairfax High PTA, a board member of Historic Fairfax City Inc., an adult leader for youth mission trips at Fairfax United Methodist Church, and an Assistant Scout Master for Troop 187.

I have served on the City Council for six years. I co-authored "Fairfax, Virginia, A City Traveling Through Time." Professionally, I have a Master of Public Administration degree and 35 years of federal service, with extensive experience in public budgeting and finance, contract management, and project planning and leadership.

Platform/issues:

For many years, commercial activity in the City has funded the superior services that have been our trademark in the Northern Virginia region. In recent years, revenue from our commercial sector has remained relatively flat, thus putting greater pressure on our real-estate tax to fund city operations. Future demands to provide quality education, environmental protection (especially stormwater maintenance), public safety, public works, improved transportation systems, and recreation, arts, and his-

Candidates Speak Out

toric preservation will require new and enhanced sources of revenue.

I am committed to a focused effort to redevelop under-performing and non-performing commercial sectors in the city with superb, mixed-use development projects that enhance the quality of life for our residents and add substantially to our tax base. This sustained effort over the next decade is the most viable path forward for our City to ensure we are a competitive and thriving community for the next 30-50 years.

Why vote for you?

My vision for our future is creative, dynamic, yet realistic and based on common sense. I am an effective consensus builder and problem solver and try each day to stay focused on our strategic goals while solving problems consistent with our long-range objectives. I place a high premium on citizens' views and ideas; we have an engaged and thoughtful electorate, and I am responsive to citizen requests for services and support.

Janice Miller

A homeowner in the Providence Square Condominiums, she's been a City resident since 1970. She's a widow with four grown children (Tim, Ben, Adam and Betsy) and four grandchildren (Drew, Matt, Zach and Alexa). Miller is a travel counselor and former middle-school teacher. She served on City Council from 1992-94 and is an incumbent City School Board member with nearly 30 years of service.

Why are you running for election?

I want to represent residents' views on City Council. With the departures of two incumbent members, I believe I will bring a strong voice and decades of community experience to City Hall.

Qualifications?

My qualifications include extensive experience as an elected and appointed official, as well as an active school and community volunteer. I've provided robust leadership on the City of Fairfax School Board as chairman and I've held leadership positions with youth organizations such as Fairfax Little League (first female president), FPYC (girls basketball coordinator) and PTA organizations. I have a solid record as a consensus builder, working collegially with other elected officials, residents, fellow volunteers and city staff members to get the job done.

Platform/issues:

Local government is all about taking care of business. Issues demanding thoughtful analysis and conscientious deliberation include:

- ❖ Carefully assessing opportunities for future economic development;
- ❖ Fostering neighborhood renaissance and renewal throughout our community;
- ❖ Continuing and improving leisure programs for residents of all ages;
- ❖ Partnering with our School Board to provide excellent opportunities for all students; and
- ❖ Judiciously and sensibly evaluating our annual budget.

Why vote for you?

My years of public service have offered a unique perspective of our community, and my leadership as chairman of the Fairfax City School Board has prepared me to be a dependable, productive and caring member of the next City Council. The lessons I've learned as both an appointed and an elected city official will serve our community well.

I value collegial working relationships with other elected officials and staff, thoughtful review and analysis of city business matters, listening to our citizens and providing outstanding constituent services. I pledge to do my best for each city resident.

Eleanor "Ellie" Schmidt



An incumbent, she's currently serving her second term on City Council. Her family moved to Fairfax City in 1969. She grew up in the City and attended Fairfax Elementary and Lanier Middle School and graduated from Fairfax High. She lives in Country Club Hills and is executive vice president and chief compliance officer at Cardinal Bank.

Why are you running for re-election?

I feel that giving back to the community is essential. The City of Fairfax is a special place. We have a unique, small-town atmosphere, yet have the advantages of a metropolitan area. We are a community with our own sense of place. We enjoy a rich history, a wide variety of cultural and recreational activities, as well as superior citizen services - all at a low tax rate relative to the Northern Virginia area. I would like to continue my work to preserve the quality of life we enjoy in the City.

Qualifications?

In addition to my work on City Council, I have served on many boards and commissions and in leadership positions in service organizations including the City of Fairfax Band Association, Historic Fairfax City Inc., Kiwanis Club of Fairfax and the Independence Day Celebration Committee. My 30-plus years of service to the community, coupled with my business and finance experience, provide the qualifications needed to be effective on City Council.

Platform/issues:

The City of Fairfax is now at a crossroads. With aging commercial and residential areas, we are facing redevelopment opportunities. I would like to continue my work on Council dealing with these opportunities while preserving the character of our City of Fairfax. It is a matter of balance. In the coming months and years, it is essential to focus on a sensible approach. During the next two years, I will continue efforts to:

- ❖ Review development and redevelopment opportunities - We must take a balanced approach as we move forward to enhance and redevelop aging commercial and residential areas in a way to appeal to a broad range, including families, seniors

and the university community, while maintaining the character of the City.

❖ Promote economic development - A vibrant business community is crucial to the success of our city. A strong commercial base will provide economic vitality and a strong balance between the commercial and residential tax base. It is important to maintain an environment that is business-friendly and to streamline processes to the extent possible.

❖ Preserve the residential character of our neighborhoods - Sustaining the quality of our residential neighborhoods is also key to our success. Encouraging the rejuvenation and revitalization of our aging neighborhoods will help to maintain property values and keep the residential vacancy rate low.

❖ Maintain a Well-disciplined approach to budgeting and spending - We need to manage our fiscal responsibilities in order to keep overall taxes as low as possible, yet attend to our infrastructure and preservation of the quality services we enjoy.

Why vote for you?

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the city on City Council for the past four years. I share the love our citizens have for Fairfax City and want to continue to work hard to preserve what we all find so dear. My years of service to the community, coupled with my business and finance experience, provide the qualifications needed for the job. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue my service.

Jon Stehle



He and wife Stephanie and children Zoe, 5, and Cooper, 18 months, have lived in Oxford Row Townhome Condominium for seven years. He's a senior analyst with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Why are you running for election?

The City is a great place to live. With two current council members deciding not to run for reelection, the voters of the City will have the opportunity to bring a new energy and perspective to the next Council. I am running because I want to ensure that the City remains a great place to live for future generations. I believe I will bring a perspective and energy that will benefit the decision making of the Council and, as a result, the entire City. As Councilmember Steve Stombres noted, a new face on the team "can be invigorating to the Council, the City staff and the community as a whole." This is a role I would be honored to fill if chosen as a member of the next team.

Qualifications?

It has been and continues to be my job, both professionally and as a leader in community organizations, to evaluate, make recommendations and track the improvement of programs. For the past three years, I have been the President of the Board of Directors for Oxford Row Townhome Condominium, after serving on the Board for two years. During my tenure, I have led the creation of a strategic plan to increase the transparency

of the budget, including a yearly report to the community to show our progress.

Further, I led the engagement efforts with the community to implement a three-year, landscape-improvement plan. As my fellow Board member Libby McKnight noted, "I have been on the Board with Jon Stehle for five years now, and have been impressed with his dedication, organization and fiscal stewardship."

I am also a Board member of American Association for Budget and Program Analysis, including serving as president for two years. While president, I led the transformation of the organization from a paper to a digital organization while improving the member experience and cutting administrative costs in half. Before working for the GAO, I was a budget and program analyst for a separate federal agency

Platform/issues:

Over the next two years, we have the opportunity to continue to ensure the City remains a great place to live by implementing the vision of the future for the City of Fairfax stated in the City's comprehensive plan. This vision ensures that we embrace and build on our traditions by taking advantage of the targeted, smart development opportunities awaiting the City's approval. Fundamental to these actions is the successful completion of the modernization of the zoning code.

Over the longer-term, maintaining a ratio of 55/45 or better of commercial to residential tax revenue should be a target the City adopts. This approach ensures the City will continue to have a healthy and prosperous commercial base and the appropriate corresponding mix of residential options. These options should include mixed-use development and senior housing.

By making targeted increases to residential density, the City has the opportunity to maintain its small town atmosphere by allowing residents to age in place and continue to call the City of Fairfax home. At the same time, the City will have the opportunity to attract the next generation of City residents. As the City's comprehensive plan notes, we must build on our traditions, and now is the time to continue to move forward.

Why vote for you?

The next team of six on City Council will have the opportunity to shape the future of the City. I will bring the perspective of the young families now making the City of Fairfax their home. I look forward to learning from the experience of current leaders and joining the team as a member of Council from the western side of the City.

As former Mayor John Mason noted in his endorsement of my candidacy, "There are two open seats in the upcoming City Council election; Jon should fill one of those seats. He's a strategic thinker, but pragmatic. He understands where we need to go - ensuring a strong economic base while retaining a sense of community. He can help the Council move forward." I look forward to the opportunity to work as part of the next Council to ensure our city remains a great place to live now and for future generations.

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Saturday, May 17, 2014, 8 pm

Springtime Pops



City of Fairfax Band Conductor:
Robert Pouliot
Host: **Rich Kleinfeldt**

WT Woodson High School
9525 Main Street Fairfax, Virginia

CFB's season closer is a celebration of spring in full swing, with an "Evening at Pops" inspired program featuring light classics, marches, show tunes and movie music. The program also features the winner of the 2014 Young Artist Competition, Alison Dettmer, in solo performance.

Tickets at www.fairfaxband.org or 571-336-CFBA (2322)



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Connection will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:
The Fairfax Connection, "Me and My Mom Photo Gallery,"
1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.



Thomas Jefferson Memorial
Washington, D.C.

Spring Sightings





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WEEK IN FAIRFAX

JMCAP's Lockup Fundraiser

This Thursday, April 24, is the kickoff day for the Lockup Fundraiser for the James Mott Community Assistance Program (JMCAP). The money raised will allow the nonprofit organization to continue to help those in need in the local community with food, rent, utilities and transportation.

During the fundraiser, various residents and civic and business leaders will volunteer to be "jailed." Then they'll contact friends and acquaintances in the community and ask them to donate at www.JMCAP.org to help them make their "bail" and, ultimately, their particular fundraising goals.

JMCAP will post a list of the "jailbirds" on its Website, and area residents are encouraged to check it out and, if they'd like to help, they may make a contribution.

Donors may also visit the mock jail at the JMCAP office at 11215-D Lee Hwy. in Fairfax and join in the fun.

For more information, call 703-591-1600, ext. 101 or 571-501-1144 or email jchapmanresources@jmcap.org.

April 24 Candidates Forum

A Candidates Forum for the City of Fairfax Mayoral and City Council candidates will be held Thursday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m., at the Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Hwy. in Fairfax. It's sponsored by the City of Fairfax Homeowners Assn.

Arbor Day Celebration

Residents are invited to come to Providence Elementary School, 3616 Jermantown Road, on Friday, April 25, at 10 a.m. to participate in a tree-planting ceremony in honor of Arbor Day.

Springtime Spruce Up

The City of Fairfax is sprucing up in April during Spring Cleanup Month. A special Spring Cleanup Day is set for Saturday, April 26, when residents may clean up the neighborhoods or any public area in the City.

Fairfax will provide trash bags and will collect the used ones afterward. For more information, call 703-385-7995.

Prescription Drug Take-Back

In conjunction with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and state and local law-enforcement agencies, Vienna police will again participate in a one-day initiative to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from area homes.

On Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., residents may turn in their old, expired, unused or unwanted medications. Prescription drugs, controlled or non-controlled substances, and over-the-counter drugs may be dropped off anonymously in the front lobby of City of Fairfax Police Headquarters, 3730 Old Lee Hwy. in Fairfax.

If an original container is disposed of, people might consider removing any identifying information from the prescription label. Liquid products should remain sealed in their original containers to prevent leakage.

Intravenous solutions, injectables and syringes will not be accepted due to associated hazards.

Recycle During Electric Sunday

Residents may recycle old TVs, computers, peripheral electronic devices – such as keyboards, speakers, printers and scanners, as well as household hazardous wastes – including fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, for free, during Fairfax County's "Electric Sunday" events. The next one is slated for Sunday, April 27, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax. For more information, call 703-324-5052.

Fairfax Candidates Forum

A Candidates Forum for the City of Fairfax Mayoral and City Council candidates will be held Thursday, May 1, from 7-9 p.m., at the Fairfax Presbyterian Church, 10723 Main St. in Fairfax. It's being hosted by the Westmore Association.

Silverthorne Runs for Re-election

FROM PAGE 3

cation will be considered on its own merits. "We'll manage this growth carefully and weigh each project's impacts on schools and transportation," he said. "But we've sent strong signals to the marketplace that the City's a good place to do business."

He's formed a task force on diversity to attract more people of diverse backgrounds to serve on Fairfax's boards and commis-

sions so they'll "reflect the City's population." And he welcomes people to City Hall to talk with him about any issue they'd like.

SILVERTHORNE PLANS to continue encouraging tourism and special events bringing people to Fairfax to patronize its businesses. He also wants to establish a neighborhood-revitalization program for older neighborhoods. "It'll include strong community associations and incentives for people

to renovate their homes and invest in their communities," he said.

Fairfax was recently rated one of the top five safest communities in Virginia by Movoto Real Estate, and Silverthorne said the City will continue investing in public safety. He also plans a continued focus on parks, trails and recreation. "I believe we have a quality of life unparalleled in the Washington Metro-



Silverthorne

politan region, and I'll work hard to make sure it's not put at risk," he said.

Silverthorne's running for re-election "because we have so much work to do and I truly believe I'm the best-qualified candidate to follow through with our community's goals and objectives. The mayor has to know and understand the City and I'm the only candidate in this race who does."

Norce Wants to Be Mayor

FROM PAGE 3

Noting that the City has the highest BPOL tax rate in Virginia, Norce said Fairfax is "in competition with other areas and we're losing business to them. We need to level the playing field with our competitors. We need to have more of an identity and bring in more businesses that'll help create it and help Fairfax grow by attracting people both in and outside the City."

He also contends the meals tax should either be phased out or reduced so it doesn't become "consumer prohibitive because people can eat elsewhere for less money. I'm about people, process and product." He says Fairfax has to define its product "so we know what to rally around. What does the City represent to visitors, residents, business owners or potential businesses?"

"People – both residents and City employees – are our greatest resource," continued Norce. "I'd empower the employees to look at ways to be more efficient, save money and create a surplus we could reinvest in the City for the residents' benefit. And I'd hold monthly breakfast meetings with business owners and residents to let them share their ideas and know they're valued. That way, you get to hear the people's voice."

He'd also examine the processes by which Fairfax gets things done to see if there are better, time-and-money-saving ways of doing them. "You allow people to work independently together," he said. "You don't micromanage; you let them take initiative, ownership of and credit for their ideas. You'd also reduce turnover and save money by getting people to stay in their jobs because they enjoy them."

Noting that the City's total debt rose from \$41 million in 2004 to more than \$190 million today, Norce said some is because of the



Norce

BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

schools and new police station. But it equals \$9,000 debt per resident which, he said, is "outrageous. When you have a city with increasing debt, a reduction in cash and an increase in real-estate taxes, you have an economy in trouble."

Saying he's run a profitable business for 13 years, Norce said the cost of the new, downtown park has doubled since it was originally proposed. "I'm not against it," he said. "But we need to have the money to pay for it. We don't have a vibrant, local economy."

WHILE THE CURRENT MAYOR has name recognition and is popular, Norce believes a change is needed because "the City's having problems and I think he's compounded them by failing to stimulate the local economy and create jobs in Fairfax. Raising real-estate taxes is easy to do, but doesn't solve long-range problems."

He says he'd make decisions based on what's in the City's best interests, now and in the future. For example, Norce said Fairfax spent \$220,000 hiring a Colorado firm to rewrite the zoning ordinances, when "qualified engineers in the City could have done this. Every dollar spent elsewhere we're losing."

Calling himself the right candidate, Norce said, "I have practical experience I believe the City could benefit from, I'm a good leader and a hard worker and possess fairness and empathy. And together with the people, I believe we could find better ways to do things. I've enjoyed campaigning and I'm truly giving my best. Win or lose, I'll still be the same person."

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Past Time for Later Start Times

It's possible that, finally, high school will begin the day a time healthier for teens.

Teenagers are sleep deprived, and sleep deprivation takes a significant toll on safety, health and learning. We've known this for decades.

But for decades, literally, Fairfax County Public Schools (and Montgomery County, Md.) have let a combination of reactionary blabber ("buck up and get moving;" "just tell them to go to bed earlier") and organizational resistance prevent implementing a solution to this very real problem.

Getting up at 5:30 or 6 a.m. to hop on a school bus at 5:45 a.m. or even as late at 6:30 a.m. to get to school by 7:20 a.m. is not healthy for teenagers. It is nearly impossible for teenagers to go to sleep before 11 p.m. or midnight.

Fairfax County high school students average six hours of sleep a night on weeknights. Re-

search shows they need nine hours of sleep. Research has also quantified the costs of sleep deprivation.

That level of sleep deprivation contributes to depression and suicidal thoughts.

Driving-while-teen is challenging by itself; driving with sleep deprivation is like driving under the influence, and contributes to car accidents both minor and major.

Sleep deprivation is also associated with lack of impulse control, another aspect of teenage life that needs no augmentation.

It's hard to learn when sleep deprived, and harder still to get excited about what one is learning.

Children's National Medical Center was contracted more than a year ago by Fairfax County Public Schools to develop proposals for starting high schools after 8 a.m. Specific proposals will be presented shortly, and those specific proposals are sure to bring out specific objections.

Yes, changing start times will cost money. Yes, changing start times will require changing a lot of other things that many will find inconvenient. It's going to require significant will on the part of supporters of teen health, supporters of later high school start times to push

this proposal across the finish line. Kudos to SLEEP in Fairfax advocates who have been pushing for so long.

How much would you spend, how much would you be willing to be inconvenienced, to prevent a single suicide? To prevent a single serious car crash? These are genuinely the things that are at stake.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 11 and every year at this time, we call for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery. Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children. Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. (We will not print your full address or contact information.) You can upload photos and information directly to our website at www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/ or email to editor@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, May 2.

COMMENTARY

The Richmond Hostage Crisis

BY PAT HERRITY
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR



The ongoing Medicaid expansion political chokehold that has seized control of Richmond is both frustrating and frightening. As the birthplace of our nation, we Virginians hold our elected officials to a higher standard. We expect our leaders to guide the Commonwealth forward on a path of common sense governance and prudent fiscal responsibility. We expect our leaders to be able to hold a conversation on the pressing matters of the day without it devolving into name-calling and Washington-style politics. And we expect our leaders to know the difference between a principled fight and politics as usual. Unfortunately, the very real issue of whether or not to commit the Commonwealth to significant future financial constraints has shown that many of our leaders are unable to live up to our expectations.

As a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I was the lone vote against our board's endorsement of Medicaid expansion in Virginia. I made that vote after I attempted to amend our endorsement to call for the passage of a clean budget bill; that

Fairfax County and our public schools; a fact affirmed by our staff. I cannot begin to imagine the disastrous impacts to our Commonwealth's smaller jurisdictions should aid from Richmond be delayed. Everything would be affected from public safety to schools to the human services safety net provided by the Commonwealth and its localities.

Every spring, local governments around the Commonwealth advertise, debate, and adopt a budget. However, not a single local government in Virginia would be as reckless as Richmond and set out on a course of government shutdown because of an ideological difference of opinion. As elected officials we know how to move from the rough and tumble of political campaigning to leading and engaging in solutions for our constituent's best interests. Contrary to Governor McAuliffe's recent campaign promise to not play

failed 2-7 with one abstention. In my comments, I pointed out that this Medicaid fight could directly jeopardize \$500 million

in state aid to politics with the budget, he and his fellow Senate Democrats have repeatedly threatened that they will shut down the not only the state government, but also many local governments who rely on significant funding from Richmond, if not given their way on Medicaid expansion. This is the sad state in which we find ourselves when just a few short months ago Governor McAuliffe used his inaugural address to call for Virginians to find "common ground" to solve our most pressing problem.

The Medicaid expansion issue

has been thrust upon Virginians in an effort to sharply divide our leaders in Richmond. Clearly there are opinions on both sides but the sad reality is that the people of Virginia are pawns in this political game of brinkmanship. Governor McAuliffe should use his position as Virginia's chief executive officer to walk us back from this disaster, to settle the future for the coming year in our counties, cities and towns and take the Washington-style politics out of Virginia. Then we can find common ground.

Emergency Response Classes Begin in Springfield

This Saturday, April 26, Fire and Rescue Department is beginning a basic Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) class at the LDS Church in Springfield. There is still plenty of room if you'd like to attend. The class will meet on four Saturdays and run each day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; tentative class dates are April 26, May 3, May 10 and May 24.

Fire and Rescue also has added a new CERT Class at the Fire and Rescue Academy beginning Monday, May 5. This class will meet on every Monday from 7-10:30 p.m. (except for May 26) and will finish on June 23. To sign up for either class, you first must register as a volunteer at www.fairfaxcert.com to receive reg-

istration information on the classes. If you have trouble registering, or have any questions, email fire.cert@fairfaxcounty.gov.

CERT helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members also can help with non-emergency projects that help improve the preparedness and safety of the community.

For more information on CERT, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr.



Eggciting Easter Egg Hunt

Fairfax's Easter Egg Hunt was Saturday, April 19, in Van Dyck Park.



Theo Liappis, 2, is all smiles at Fairfax's Easter Egg Hunt.



Having fun are sisters Madison Huff, 6, and Lola Huff, 4.



Dad Brian Howells poses with his children, (from left), Jonah, 4, Maddy, 7, and Kate, 5 1/2.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Zulma Claros, 4, with her Easter basket.



(From left) friends Charlotte Perkins and Izzy Sears, both 6, having fun together.



Ready to hunt for eggs are (from left) Diego Acbo, 7, Brandon Martinez, 6 and Andrew Acbo, 6.



Wearing bunny ears are (from left) Megan Phillips, 7, Drew Phillips, 6 and Joshua Hodes, 6.



Waiting for the hunt to start are (from left) Kyle Lockhart, 4, Aliyah Boekholt, 5, Liam Boekholt, 4 and Brandon Lockhart, 6.



(From left) Davyn Fortna and Jamie Yoon, both 4, show their baskets of eggs.

NEWS

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Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova holds the artwork she created for the event.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Our Daily Bread Celebrates 30 Years

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax-based nonprofit Our Daily Bread (ODB) invites the public to its 30th anniversary celebration. An evening of art and performances, “Do You See What I See?” will be held Friday, May 2, from 7-10 p.m., at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Hwy. in Fairfax.

It’s in cooperation with the Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts Festival. The fun includes a juried art show and contest, as well as live music and dance performances, plus storytelling. And attendees will be part of a painting created by artist Nathan Jalani Taylor as the evening unfolds. Artwork will be for sale, and wine and appetizers will be provided by Fairfax’s Dolce Vita Restaurant.

Admission is \$50/person, tickets are at www.ODBFairfax.org or at the event. Proceeds will benefit ODB’s programs to provide financial education, emergency food, financial aid and seasonal assistance to working, Fairfax County families struggling to make ends meet.

“We’re looking forward to celebrating 30 years of neighbors helping neighbors with this unique evening of art, wine and community that offers us an oppor-

tunity to look at the world around us with a different lens,” said ODB Executive Director Lisa Whetzel. “We hope everyone will join us as we celebrate the past and look forward to our next 30 years of providing help and hope to our struggling neighbors.”

The theme of the artwork and performances is: “Our community is filled with people we see every day and yet we do not know their challenges or their stories. Art is a way to illustrate, illuminate and share our experiences through many different lenses. What do you think they see? What do you see?”

Our Daily Bread began in 1984 as a homeless shelter rotating among a group of churches in Fairfax County and became an independent nonprofit in 1989. Its mission later evolved into a food program, adding financial assistance, financial education and holiday and backpack assistance in the intervening years.

And it still helps people who have homes, but are living paycheck-to-paycheck and are just a crisis away from becoming homeless. The goal is to bring them to financial self-sufficiency.

ODB relies on funding and volunteer support from the Fairfax community so it can continue helping others. For more information, go to www.ODBFairfax.org.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF NATHAN JALANI TAYLOR

During Our Daily Bread’s 30th Anniversary event, artist Nathan Jalani Taylor (<http://www.nathanjalanitaylor.com/bio/>) will paint a picture capturing the evening’s mood and motion.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

FRIDAY/APRIL 25, 26 & MAY 2, 3

"Pride & Prejudice." Woodson High School, 9525 Main St., Fairfax. www.wtdrama.org to purchase tickets.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25- SUNDAY/JUNE 1

The Fantasticks. Fridays & Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 1 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. The Fantasticks is a funny and romantic musical about a boy, a girl, two fathers and a wall. Tickets : \$15.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25-SUNDAY/MAY 18

"Failure, A Love Story" Play. Performances: April 25-May 18. Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. John Swayze Theatre at the New School of Northern Virginia, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. Tickets: \$20-\$30. Call 1-800-494-8497 or www.thehubtheatre.org. Note: For ages 10 and up.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25

"The Sixth Generation" - Spring 1960s Sock Hop Series. 7:30 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Attention all Baby Boomers and Bobby Soxers! Join The Sixth Generation for a special concert in 60's Dance Hall Style at the Workhouse Arts Center! \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

Robinson Crew Team Annual Plant Sale. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Burke Nursery and Garden Center at 9401 Burke Road, Burke. The entire nursery inventory is for sale, including annuals, perennials, stones, hanging baskets, shrubs, trees, and master gardener/landscaping design. www.robinsoncrew.org or plantsale4crew@gmail.com or 703-980-8725.

22nd Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. 8- 10 a.m. The Waterford Springfield, 6715 Commerce Street, Springfield. Honoring real-life superheroes at the Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. Tickets: www.volunteerfairfax.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

Singles Dinner and Movie Night. 5 p.m. PF Chang's in Fairfax Corner, 4250 Fairfax Corner Avenue, Fairfax. Cost of \$30 at door includes dinner, soda, tip and movie ticket. RSVP required. Sponsored by New Beginnings, a support group for separated/divorced men and women. Call 301-924-4101 or visit www.newbeginningsusa.org.

2014 Healthy Strides Community 5K/10K. 7:30 a.m. Burke Lake Park. Head on out to Burke Lake Park on April 26 and join the Fairfax County Park Authority for the Healthy Strides Community 5k/10k!! Enjoy a scenic run around the beautiful grounds of Burke Lake Park. The 10k runs along a wooded path and takes runners around the lake. While the 5k follows a scenic tree-lined road through the park. Register here: http://pracing.racebx.com/events/register/5224ef94-365c-408a-b417-7f46c0a86524.

Spring Faire. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carleigh Parkway, Springfield. There's something for everyone - jewelry, fashion, home decor, kitchen, garden, gourmet, and more. Free admission and door prizes. Proceeds will be donated to Bethany www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO BY HELEN PAFUMI/HUB THEATRE

From left: Tia, Shearer, Carolyn Kasner, Maggie Erwin in Hub Theatre's production of "Failure: A Love Story," which traces the lives and departure of three sisters in the Fall Family in 1920s Chicago. The play starts April 26-May 18 at John Swayze Theatre at the New School of Northern Virginia, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax.

House to help victims of domestic abuse.

www.womansclubofspringfield.org.
Gustav Mahler's Fifth Symphony. 8 p.m. GMU Center for the Performing Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (FSO) and music director Christopher Zimmerman present Gustav Mahler's Fifth Symphony.

SpringFest 2014. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. www.springfestfairfax.org.

Spotlight International Children's Festival. 4-10 p.m. The Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts and Pinnacle Academy are proud to invite students, staff, and international organizations from our metro DC community to represent their national heritages, share their national costumes, music, and folklore dances.

SUNDAY/APRIL 27

Beau Totale Salon & Spa Cut-A-Thon. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Beau Totale Salon & Spa, 5765-T Burke Centre Pkwy, Burke. In honor of Earth Month, Beau Totale Salon & Spa is conducting its 7th Annual Cut-A-Thon with all proceeds benefiting for clean water. From 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., haircuts are \$50, facials are \$40 and make-up applications are \$20. All are by appointment only. 703-250-0495.

Jeffrey Siegel, "Mistresses and Masterpieces." 7 p.m., George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, MS 2F5, Fairfax. The pianist performs music inspired by composers' major love interests. \$19-\$38, Mason ID permits 1 free ticket on April 15. cfa.gmu.edu.

Young Artists Musicale. 6 p.m., George Mason University Center for the Arts lobby, 4400 University Drive, MS 2F5, Fairfax. Piano students and winners of the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association Honors Recitals perform short pieces. Free admission. cfa.gmu.edu.

Break a Sweat for a Homeless Pet. 9 a.m. Giles Run Meadow Park, 8400 Lorton Road, Lorton. Registration is \$15 at www.metrorunwalkspringfield.com/. This is the second annual Break a Sweat For A Homeless Pet, the area's premier running event for people and their dogs, featuring a five mile, 5K and one mile race to benefit The Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Last year the event raised nearly \$2,000.

Racers are encouraged to run with their dogs in the 5K and one-mile races. The five-mile race is for human runners only. Post-race activities include a hot dog bar with all the fixins', dog photo booth, dog care giveaways, dog agility play, and

canine splash pools.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 30

A Fragile Trust: Plagiarism, Power, and Jayson Blair at The New York Times. 4:30 p.m.

Johnson Center Cinema, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A Fragile Trust is a fascinating documentary that explores power and ethics, corporate and office politics, race politics, representation, and accountability in the mainstream media. Free admission. http://fams.gmu.edu/

American Women: The Long and Winding Road. 7:30 p.m.

Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Join a discussion with three panelists about the differing ways men and women now think and feel about their work and home life. Should there still be gender-specific roles in contemporary society?

International Jazz Day Concert. 8 p.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets: \$10 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens and free for Mason students with a valid Mason ID.

THURSDAY/MAY 1

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra Season Preview Event. 7 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Tickets: \$10.

FRIDAY/MAY 2- SATURDAY/MAY 3

"The Producers." 7 p.m. South County High School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. A musical performed by South County High School students that will provide laughter and comedy. PG- 13. General admission at the door is \$12 and \$10 for senior citizens and students. Discounted tickets can be purchased in advance at southcountytheatre.org.

FRIDAY/MAY 2, 3, 9, 10

"Be Our Guest." 7:30 p.m. May 3 and 10 at 1: 30 p.m. Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Step into the enchanted world of Disney's Beauty and the Beast. For tickets please visit NVPlayers.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 3- SUNDAY/MAY 4

4th Annual Fairfax Fine Art Festival. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Sunday. Fairfax Corner, 11901 Grand Commons Ave., Fairfax. Watch as Grand Commons Avenue blossoms into an extraordinary outdoor art gallery showcasing the original handmade work of artisans from 17 states.



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South County Boys' Lax Beats State Champion Chantilly

Stallions have sights set on competing for state title.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The South County boys' lacrosse team still has plenty of work to do in order to fulfill its hopes of winning a state championship. On Tuesday evening, however, the Stallions proved they deserve to be mentioned as a title contender.

South County jumped out to a 4-0 lead and never trailed during an 8-6 victory over defending state champion Chantilly on April 22 at South County High School. Both teams entered the contest undefeated, but it was the Stallions who took control early.

"It means a lot, but you can't let it get to your head," senior midfielder David Symmes said. "... It's just a statement win. It shows we're contenders."

Junior midfielder Kevin Quigley scored with 2:40 remaining in the third quarter, giving South County an 8-4 lead. Chantilly answered with a goal by sophomore attackman Colin Zimmerman late in the third and another by senior midfielder/attackman Conor Kelly with 5:49 remaining in the fourth, but the Chargers got no closer.

SOUTH COUNTY handed Chantilly its first loss since the Chargers fell to Madison in last season's AAA Northern Region championship game on May 24, 2013.

"I think it just puts us in the conversation right now as one of the best teams in the region," said first-year South County head coach Dale Nalls, who spent last year away from coaching after leading the Mount Vernon boys' program from 1994-2012. "That's where we want to be; we want to be in the conversation as a team that's going to be a tough out, hopefully, when we get to the playoffs."

Players on both teams struggled with footing after first-half rain-fall left the grass playing surface slick. South County managed to build an early lead, however, starting with Symmes' first goal less than 2 minutes into the contest. Sophomore midfielder Nate Cho and junior attackman Austin



South County senior attackman David Krein shoots against the Chantilly defense during the teams' April 22 contest at South County High School.

Fitzmaurice also scored in the first quarter, giving the Stallions a 3-0 advantage.

Quigley scored in the opening minute of the second quarter, extending the Stallions' lead to 4-0.

"With our physical abilities, we use it to our advantage," Symmes said. "I think we have a faster tempo than any team out there, in my opinion. We really beat people into the ground. We're relentless."

Chantilly junior midfielder Colin Meehan got the Chargers on the board with a goal at the 9:08 mark of the second quarter and senior attackman Jonathan Popham added a goal with 6:33 remaining in the first half, cutting the South County lead in half. Fitzmaurice responded with his second goal in the final minute of the second quarter, giving South County a 5-2 halftime lead.

SYMMES' SECOND GOAL gave South County a 6-2 advantage with 8:21 remaining in the third.

Symmes, who will play college lacrosse at West Point, broke the shaft of his stick while contacting a Chantilly player in the second quarter. Symmes used the shaft of a teammates' stick to fix his own and returned to the field to score his second goal.

"He's vital to our offensive success," Nalls said. "He draws shutoffs — they were shutting him off for a lot of the game. Other teams have to game plan for him so that sometimes throws their own players out of sync a little bit.

"I think it just puts us in the conversation right now as one of the best teams in the region. That's where we want to be; we want to be in the conversation as a team that's going to be a tough out, hopefully, when we get to the playoffs."

— South County boys' lacrosse coach Dale Nalls



South County junior midfielder Kevin Quigley, right, scored two goals against Chantilly on April 22.

When that happens, then other players on our offense benefit and reap the rewards. ... It wasn't just David, but David creates mismatches for other guys and that opens things up for Nate Cho and Kevin Quigley and Austin Fitzmaurice and David Krein and

Tyler Alexander."

Goals by Chantilly's Zach Gilbert and Nick Jung cut the South County lead to 6-4 in the third, but the Stallions extended the lead back to four with goals by Krein and Quigley.

With the win, South County im-

proved to 9-0. The Stallions hosted Osbourn Park on Wednesday, after The Connection's deadline, and will host Lake Braddock at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, April 25.

South County won the Patriot District championship last season. This year, Symmes said the Stallions have their sights set on greater accomplishments.

"Really, the district is sort of looking at the small picture to us," he said. "We're looking for something bigger — state championship. If you're going to go to the state championship, you have to compete with teams like Chantilly."

Chantilly dropped to 9-1. The Chargers faced Yorktown on Wednesday, after The Connection's deadline, and will travel to face Woodson at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, April 25.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Robinson Baseball Improves to 10-2

The Robinson baseball team defeated Chantilly 2-1 on Tuesday, improving its record to 10-2.

The Rams have won three straight and four of their last five, including a 6-5 win over McLean on April 17.

Robinson will travel to face Westfield at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 25 before hosing Lake Braddock at 6:30 p.m. the following evening.

Lake Braddock Baseball Wins Fourth Straight

The Lake Braddock baseball team defeated T.C. Williams 16-15 on Tuesday, giving the Bruins four straight wins while improving their record to 7-5. Lake Braddock defeated Woodson 13-2 on April 21 and won the final two games of its spring break trip to Charleston, S.C. The Bruins will travel to face Robinson at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 26 and will host South County at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29.

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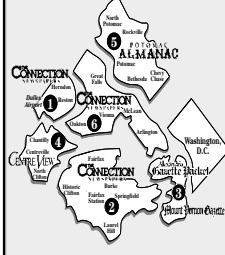
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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

TRUSTEES' SALE OF
6312 Mary Todd Court
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TAX MAP ID NO. 065-2-09-0443
Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Isa K. Azzouz and May I. Azzouz, as grantors, to John D. Eubank and Timothy E. Lewis, as trustees, for the benefit of Commercial Lending, LLC, a Virginia limited liability company, as beneficiary, dated September 25, 2007 and recorded on November 27, 2007 in Book 19673 at Page 1179 as Instrument No. 2007033933.014 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia ("Deed of Trust"), with an original principal balance of \$20,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Trustees will sell at public auction at the front door of the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22030, on
APRIL 30, 2014 AT 2:00 PM
ALL THAT REAL PROPERTY AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Fairfax County, Virginia, and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.
TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of ten per centum of the sale price will be required of the Purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit must be paid in cash or certified funds. The balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds within twenty (20) days of the date of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 12% per annum from the date of sale to the date of settlement. The party secured herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest. Purchaser shall settle within twenty (20) days of the date of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY THE PURCHASER. In the event that Purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, Purchaser shall be in default. The defaulting Purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property, and the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all of the expenses of this sale (including attorneys' fees and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, including, but not limited to, exceptions to the sale, bankruptcy filings by interested parties, court administration of the foreclosure, or unknown title defects, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, ground rent, water and all public charges including electrical, sanitation, and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, are to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the Purchaser. Cost of all documentary stamps, recordation taxes, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the Purchaser.
The Property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition and subject to recorded covenants, conditions, restrictions, agreements, and senior liens, if any, and with no warranty of any kind (except as required by the Deed of Trust).
In the event that the Trustees are in default for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect.
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John D. Eubank and Timothy E. Lewis, Trustees
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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY/APRIL 24
Friends of the Burke Centre Library Annual Meeting 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke.

SATURDAY/ APRIL 26
Dog Adoption. 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. hart90.org
CASA Information Session. 11 a.m.-Noon., at Fairfax CASA office, 4103 Chain Bridge Rd., Suite 200, Fairfax. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is hosting an information session on advocating for abused or neglected children. 703) 273-3526, x22 or ekosarin@casafairfax.org
Community Emergency Response Class. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 6942 Sydenstricker Road, Springfield. Sign up here: www.fairfaxcert.com.

MONDAY/ APRIL 28
Greenbriar East Kindergarten Orientation/Registration. 2:15 p.m., at Greenbriar East Elementary, 13006 Point Pleasant Drive, Fairfax. 703-633-6400.

WEDNESDAY/ APRIL 30
Book Donation. Robert E. Lee High School Library, 1200 N Coalter St, Staunton. All types of books are welcome—fiction, nonfiction, children's books, cookbooks, college textbooks and more! 703-924-8370.

SATURDAY/MAY 3
Dog Adoption. 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. 703-817-9444 or for more information visit hart90.org

TUESDAY/MAY 6
Legal and Financial Planning for Alzheimer's. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter, 3701 Pender Drive, Suite 400, Fairfax. For individuals and families dealing with Alzheimer's. This program is for anyone who would like to know more about what legal and financial issues to consider and how to put plans in place.

TUESDAY/MAY 13
Legal and Financial Planning for Alzheimer's. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter, 3701 Pender Drive, Suite 400, Fairfax. For individuals and families dealing with Alzheimer's. This program is for anyone who would like to know more about what legal and financial issues to consider and how to put plans in place.

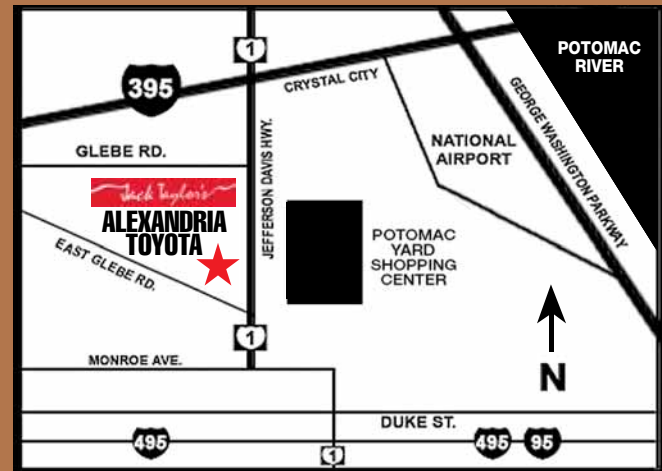
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Online Scavenger Hunt. Visit Fairfax tasks those interested in becoming "citizen ambassadors" to the county (those informed on fun, creative weekend outings in the area) to find two Fairfax County Ambassador icons hidden throughout the fxva.com website in order to join the ambassador team; those who find all five hidden pins will receive a complimentary gift. www.fxva.com/online-ambassador.
Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 1:30-2:30 p.m., at the Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Tuesday and/or Thursday classes in a heated pool designed to work on balance and core muscles for injury prevention. \$10. 703-667-9800.
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Realtors:
Great Kitchens
Help Sell Homes

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Designer Jacquelin Lluay, of Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths in Springfield, recently transformed the kitchen of a home in Mantua, in Fairfax, from a small, dark space to a light-filled, free-flowing culinary oasis.

"The kitchen was built in the '70s with a small, dark eat-in kitchen table for four," Lluay. "The family wanted a view of their expansive wooded lot and an island built for entertaining and family meals with their young boys."

The new kitchen includes an island made of maple. "The two-height island has a 'truffle' finish [and] was designed for game nights, football watching, entertaining friends on the higher level while the lower level is used for quick weekday meals and easy clean up with sink, trash/recycle and dishwasher located there."

BEFORE PUTTING ONE'S HOME on the market, real estate agents encourage homeowners to spruce up the kitchen. Well-designed, free-flowing kitchens like Lluay's can often make or break the sale of a home say some local Realtors.

"I think a kitchen is one of the top things that a buyer looks at," said Arlington Realtor Michelle Sagatov of the Michelle Sagatov group at McEneaney Associates.

Alexandria-based Realtor Elizabeth Lucchesi of the LizLuke Team at McEneaney Associates said, "Kitchens are the nucleus of the house. It is where everybody hangs out. The kitchen has to look good and feel good."

Ken Nies, of Two Poor Teachers in Annandale, recently remodeled the kitchen in a Falls Church home adding "custom window millwork, lighting, a backsplash, a large center entertainment island and farm sink." Nies advises using "different materials on your island to give a custom look."

Realtors suggest investing in quality cabinetry and countertops. "Granite is something people look for but there are other materials that people can use like caesarstone and quartz," said Sagatov. "Choose nice, solid counter tops that compliment the cabinetry."

FOR THOSE WHO WANT to update a kitchen and think they will be selling their home within five to seven years, Sagatov suggests that homeowners think about the resale value before remodeling. "Make the kitchen timeless," she said. "Don't put too much of your personality into the kitchen. If you want to show off your personality, do that with paint or kitchen decorations, but make the things that cost a lot of money neutral and timeless, so when you go to sell your home, it appeals to a much broader audience."

If you plan on renovating the kitchen, do it early, "not when you're about to sell so that you can enjoy it too," continued Sagatov.

HOWEVER, ONE DOESN'T need to remodel an entire kitchen before putting a home on the market. Real estate agents say there are a few changes that homeowners can make to help their kitchen sparkle.

"If you don't have an updated kitchen there are things that you can do to make it look updated, clean and fresh," said Sagatov.

SEE TIPS, PAGE 7

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What to Expect Buying or Selling

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Real estate agent Joan Caton Cromwell says she lost a home bidding war last week in Falls Church even though her client was a strong contestant.

"We were one of five contracts and we even waived the appraisal," said Cromwell of McEneaney Associates. "Any house that is close-in [to Washington, D.C.] and that is in nice condition, is going to attract a lot of attention."

Real estate agents say spring is one of the busiest times of the year for home sales and there is dearth of available homes in popular neighborhoods. "The lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties," said John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby's International Realty in Arlington. "I expect all sectors of the market to see price gains and demand to remain high."

HOME PRICES are on the rise. "If you put a home on the market and it gets multiple offers, the eight other people who didn't get the house will bid on another house," said Cromwell. "In a market where there are multiple offers it definitely drives the prices up and it drives them up quickly."

"We see a new trend in all price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located."

— Marsha Schuman,
Washington Fine Properties

Anthony B. Sanders, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Real Estate Finance at George Mason University said, "Very simply, this is still an area that is growing, so housing home sales will continue to rise, but more slowly than during the real estate bubble."

Still, agents are optimistic as they enter the spring buying season. "The state of the real estate market is great," said Marsha Schuman of the Washington Fine Properties' Schuman Team. "The weather is behind us and there is a momentum going into the spring market that feels very positive."

The spring market in the Washington, D.C. area is aligned with academic calendars. "It starts in April and May in the suburbs," says Cromwell. "Those in the military or who work for the World Bank for example, put their homes on the market in spring to prepare to relocate during the summer."

Proximity to public transportation increases desirability. "For example, Reston

Fairfax County Real Estate Overview

- ❖ In February, 789 homes were sold in Fairfax County, an increase of 2.1 percent from the 773 homes sold in February 2013.
- ❖ On average, homes that sold in Fairfax County in February were on the market for 60 days, 8 days longer than the 52-day average in February 2013.
- ❖ The average home sales price of all homes that sold in February 2014 in Fairfax County was \$499,765, an increase of 4.8 percent over the February 2013 average sales price of \$476,735. Compared to the annual 2013 average home sales price of \$531,136, the February price decreased 5.9 percent.
- ❖ The average sales price for detached homes that sold in February 2014 was \$677,199, an increase of 7.4 percent over the February 2013 average of \$630,557.
- ❖ The average sales price of attached homes increased 6.9 percent in the same time period, to \$352,384 from \$329,534 the year before.
- ❖ In February, the number of active listings in the County was 1,814, an increase of 26.3 percent over the 1,436 listed in February 2013. Based on the February 2014 listings and the current sales rate, there is a 2.3 month supply of homes for sale in the County, up from the 1.9 month supply a year ago.

SOURCE: Fairfax County
Office of Management and Budget

SEE WHAT TO EXPECT. PAGE 7

A Picture Perfect Home

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Realtors Marsha Schuman and Betsy Schuman Dodek drive up to a home to show it to a prospective buyer, they know that they have only one chance to make a good first impression. Potomac-based Dodek and Schuman of the Schuman Team of Washington Fine Properties say a home's curb appeal matters.

"When we think of curb appeal we think of the lawn and landscaping, front door, windows, roof and how it all looks," said Dodek. "Buyers want to buy from someone who has taken really good care of their home and that translates in to curb appeal."



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRUPLACE

Realtors say this Oakton home exemplifies ideal curb appeal, a critical factor when selling a home.

Schuman added, "If things are not nice on the outside, then [potential buyers] wonder what the house will be like on the inside."

REAL ESTATE AGENTS SAY buyers want to purchase a well-cared for home, and the exterior aesthetic of a home creates that impression. Whether you're planning to put your house on the market or would just like a clean and fresh exterior to welcome you home each day, local real estate experts offer advice on enhancing a home's exterior.

McLean-based realtor Chris Pritchard of McEneaney Associates suggests starting by

Tips from the pros on boosting a home's curb appeal.

makes the greenery pop. Make sure your bushes are trimmed and proportionate. Look at trees to make sure they aren't blocking the size of the house."

"One of the next areas we look at are patios, walkways and fences," continued Dodek. "Do they need repairs? Is there loose mortar?"

"The sense of arrival is very important — you never get a second chance to make a first impression."

— Chris Pritchard

McLean Realtor Ann McClure of McEneaney Associates says that a home's exterior should be well-lit. "You need good looking and functional lighting which should be on in the evening."

Examine the entrance. "Take a look at the front door," said Dodek. "Does it need painting? We had a recent listing and we painted the door red and added new hardware and a kick plate and that made it stand out. That is something that is very cost effective to do."

critiquing your own home. "Stand in front of your house and take a look," she said. "Walk up the driveway, ask yourself what you would want to see if you were shopping for a house."

The yard should be pristine and vibrant. "Trimming, mulching and planting some colorful plants are key," said Pritchard.

"Add color with flowers, pots with plants, choosing things like geraniums and pansies," said Dodek. "Adding color just makes such a difference. It makes the yard pop."

Consider safety. "Is the yard hazard-free?" asks Dodek. "It needs to be freshly mowed and mulched with dark mulch because that

SEE PICTURE PERFECT. PAGE 7

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Local Designers Help Unveil DC Design House

Area tastemakers dream home, currently on the market for \$3.85 million.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Local designers showed off their master work when the 2014 DC Design House was unveiled recently. From Arlington to Burke, and Alexandria to Potomac, Md., the area's top designers competed for an opportunity to donate their talent to transform a local, grand home into a showcase home.

The home, which is on the market for \$3.85 million, is now open to the public for tours. It features six-bedrooms, five full and two half-baths. Built in 1929, the home features a three-car garage and a pool. The stone house offers three levels and nearly 8,000 square feet of living space, which local designers transformed.

THE HOME'S FRONT FAÇADE was designed by David Benton and Jim Rill of Potomac's Rill Architects. Inspired by the stately stone home, the duo decided to add a bit of detail and interest in the form of "style appropriate light fixtures, shutters, furniture and accent colors." When choosing a paint color for the front door, they wanted a hue that was traditional, but unexpected. Their choice: a "high-gloss verdigris green-blue [that] immediately catches your eye from the street. They replaced the existing solid wood single door with a glass-paned French door that "pulls outside views and daylight into the entry hall."



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown, of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria, designed the family room of the DC Design House. The duo created a room with French doors that open to the pool area when the weather is mild, but added a linear, modern fireplace to create a warm and cozy space during cooler months.

Victoria Sanchez of Victoria At Home in Old Town, Alexandria, designed the family breakfast room. "I wanted to create a room with a casual and cozy feel," she said. The room, which has large picture windows that offer uninterrupted views of nature, connects the kitchen with butler's pantry/wine tasting room. Sanchez chose woven rattan furniture to fill the space.

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria designed the family room, which overlooks the pool and patio. The design duo created a room with French doors that open to the pool area when the weather is mild, but added a linear, modern fireplace to create a warm and cozy space during cooler months. They created "cascading light down the hand-woven wall covering..." The room is filled with organic textures, tone-on-tone colors and "nods to both a mid-century flair and modernism."

One of the home's guest bathrooms was created by Arlington-based Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling Inc. Mann describes the small space as "chic, classic and timeless ... a jewel box bath." The room features Calcutta marble flooring in a herringbone pattern and the acoustic "Moxie" showering system that allows one to listen to music while bathing. Mann was able to preserve and refinish the home's original iron bathtub.

Susan Donelson and Sharon Bubenhofer, of Cleveland Hall Design created a guest



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

One of the home's guest bathrooms was created by Arlington-based Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling Inc. The room features Calcutta marble flooring in a herringbone pattern and the acoustic "Moxie" showering system that allows one to listen to music while bathing.

bedroom in the home. In an effort to create a light and airy space, the duo selected wall paper in a pink floral pattern. "We chose streamlined furniture and fabrics to accent the Asian feeling of the wallpaper." The room, designed whimsically in pink and green, features twin beds. The art in the room was painted by Donelson's mother,



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The master bedroom was designed by Nancy Colbert, of Design Partners in McLean. The space was repurposed to allow for a larger master bathroom and a walk-in closet with built-in shelving.



"I wanted to create a room with a casual and cozy feel."
— Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria At Home in Old Town Alexandria

PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria At Home in Old Town, Alexandria, designed the family breakfast room. The room, which has large, picture windows that offer uninterrupted views of nature, connects the kitchen with butler's pantry/wine room.

Janice Donelson, a classically trained artist.

THE MASTER BEDROOM was designed by Nancy Colbert of Design Partners in McLean. The space was repurposed to al-

low for a larger master bathroom and a walk-in closet with built-in shelving. Colbert discovered a painting that she thought would be perfect for a master bedroom, and designed the room around it. She chose an ivory turned-post king bed that she furnished with silk bedding in parchment and seafoam

green. Colbert added crown molding for additional detail. "One of the room's multi-purpose features is a silver toned gilded butterfly side table that was created by a newly discovered artist. It is a work of art and a table."

Beth Boggs, Teri Lohmann and Lynne



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

The home's front façade was designed by Rill Architects' David Benton and Jim Rill of Potomac.

Go: D.C. Design House

Location: 4600 Linnean Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008
Hours: Saturday and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., closed Monday, \$25. The home will be open for tours through May 11, 2014. Visit www.dcdesignhouse.com.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown, of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria, designed the family room of the DC Design House. The room is filled with organic textures, tone-on-tone colors and "nods to both a mid-century flair and modernism."

Parmele of C2 Paint, Potomac Paint & Design with locations in Alexandria, Arlington and Chantilly, added color to the back staircase. The team chose paintable wallpaper in shades of plum, lilac, and spring green. Paintable wall paper "conveniently camouflages old plaster wall cracks, provides durability for high-traffic use and creates a

striking textured design."

Now in its seventh year, the annual event is a fundraiser for Children's National Health System, formerly Children's National Medical Center. The D.C. Design House has raised more than \$1 million and attracted more than 55,000 visitors over the past six years.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Susan Donelson and Sharon Bubenhofer, of Cleveland Hall Design created a light and airy guest bedroom in the DC Design House. The room, designed whimsically in pink and green, features twin beds. Art in the room was painted by Donelson's mother, Janice Donelson, a classically trained artist.

Sampler of New Homes Offerings



The Van Metre Portsmouth Model at Brambleton includes 3,692 square feet with five bedrooms and three baths with a main level bedroom and full bath. Van Metre homes operates an award-winning new homes design center at 24600 Mill Stream Drive #400, Stone Ridge, VA 20105.



Ryan Homes — Hampton Reserve

Ryan Homes is offering several models of single family homes up to 6,000 square feet at Hampton Reserve in Fairfax Station. Homes at Hampton Reserve sit on lots of at least one acre and have three-car garages. Located at 8830 Chrisanthe Court, Fairfax Station, VA, 22039. Call 540-940-9397.



New homes in Vienna in the Maymont community, built by Basheer & Edgemoore.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL

Basheer & Edgemoore Wins Silver

The Maymont community in Vienna, Va. won a Silver Award for Basheer & Edgemoore at the National Sales and Marketing Awards for 2014. Hosted by the National Association of Home Builders, Basheer & Edgemoore took silver in the Community of the Year category.

The 5,000-8,000-square-foot homes at Maymont feature amenities such as hardwood flooring, granite countertops and brick and stone exteriors. Since its founding, Basheer & Edgemoore has emerged as

a leading developer and builder of luxury estates and communities. The company selects and develops each property based on its natural beauty, convenience and potential, with a sense of respect for preservation and history.

Over the years, Basheer & Edgemoore used technological advances and improvements in construction and design, and these efforts have garnered industry recognition for leadership and innovation.

Visit www.basheerandedgemoore.com.

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Pulte Homes

Metro West — with prices from \$454,990-\$831,845, Pulte has 1,256-1,942 square-foot condominiums and townhomes next to the Vienna Metro with 2-4 bedrooms, 2-3.5 baths, located at 2952 Rittenhouse Circle, Fairfax. Call 888-817-2201 or visit www.pulte.com.

Potomac Yard — 1,736-4,167-square-foot condominiums and townhomes priced from \$619,990-\$1,133,845. Located at 2400 Main Line Blvd, Alexandria, VA 22301. Call 888-617-8583 or 800-665-4161, or visit www.pulte.com.

Stanley Martin

Summit Oaks — a community of new single family homes in Lorton, within seven miles of Lorton Station Town Center, Kingstowne Wegmans (coming in 2014), Kingstowne Center, Springfield Target and the Springfield Town Center project. Summit Oaks will offer two floorplans: The Carey (3,331-5,849 square feet) and The Davidson (3,492-4,917 square feet). Prices start in the low \$700,000s. Contact Lisa Sullivan at 703-339-9670.

Cameron Glen — new homes located just off Judicial Drive in the City of Fairfax, with the benefits of new construction amidst the charm and conveniences of Old Town Fairfax. Prices start at \$639,900. 4092 Sutherland Place, Fairfax, VA 22030.

Callaway — a community of new single family homes in Annandale, with three single family floor plans ranging from 3,037-4,363 square feet. Prices start in the upper \$700,000s. Contact Rhonda Shapiro at 571-266-9172 or Lisa Chapel at 703-994-3780.



Richmond American Homes

Townhomes and duplexes in the City of Fairfax, from the mid \$600,000s, at approximately 2,200-2,300 square feet with 3-5 bedrooms. Located at 10623 School Street, Fairfax, VA 22030. Call 703-348-0025

Evergreene Homes

Columbia Place — 1100 S Edgewood St., Arlington, VA 22204, Condos From the Mid 500s - Towns from the 800s. Call 703-868-8196.

Vale Oakton — 11797 Stuart Mill Road, Oakton, VA 22124. Single Family, \$2,313,925. Call 703-466-5411.

Wolf Trap Woods — 9518 Leemay St., Vienna, VA 22182. Single family-\$1,449,900. Call 703-466-5411.

Oakton Heights — 10412 Miller Road Oakton, VA 22124. Single family homes from \$1.3 million. Call 888-925-7411.

Westover Place — 1009 North Kensington St., Arlington, VA 22205. Townhouses from the \$800,000s. Call 703-652-2949.

What to Expect

FROM PAGE 3

is popular because of the Silver Line,” said Cromwell. “North Arlington and Falls Church are popular. Anything that offers a decent commuting experience for someone who can’t afford what they want in the city will be sought after.”

Schuman said, “We see a new trend in all price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located. They want an easier life. Convenience is the new real estate buzzword. Property becomes compelling when buyers see value.”

Sanders said some communities are especially competitive. “Virginia has two of the wealthiest counties in the country, Loudoun and Fairfax counties, so those communities should see a fairly short turn over.”

NOT EVERYONE IS KEEPING with the trend. “We’re not seeing middle class families buying homes through the mortgage market,” said Sanders, the GMU professor. “Their income was devastated during the

housing bubble burst due to foreclosures. Real household income has fallen since 2007. So the American middle class is worse off than it was in 2007. It’s more high-income families with cash or investors who are buying homes.”

Schuman says that homes priced below \$1.3 million “are being snapped off the market if they are well conditioned and fairly priced. The ultra-luxury market, homes over \$2 million, is a little bit slower paced at present, but there are signs that these buyers are out there and wanting to buy.”

Cromwell agrees, “The 600-900K price point is very busy for a house in good condition.”

“I expect all sectors of the market to see price gains and demand to remain high.”

John Eric, TTR Sotheby’s International Realty in Arlington



PHOTO COURTESY OF TTR SOTHEBY’S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby’s International Realty says lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties like this Arlington home.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WASHINGTON FINE PROPERTIES

This Potomac home exemplifies ideal curb appeal. Marsha Schuman and Betsy Schuman Dodek, of the Schuman Team of Washington Fine Properties, say a home’s curb appeal is critical.

A Picture Perfect Home

FROM PAGE 3

A clean appearance is critical. “There should be no algae stains on the roof,” said McClure. “The homeowner should make sure that if they have siding that it doesn’t need power washing.”

“Power wash driveways, walkways and even the house sometimes,” said Pritchard. “The house should be washed before it is painted. Do any kind of painting or touch up painting of siding trim and doors that needs to be done. Sometimes you don’t have to paint at all if you do power washing. All homes get dusty. Sometimes paint fades and needs repainting.”

“Another easy thing is the windows,” said Dodek. “Remove screens and wash the win-

dows. You want your house to sparkle inside and out.”

Pritchard said, “Curb appeal also goes to having a fence in good shape: washed and painted or washed and sealed. The home’s deck should be in good shape. More often than not a deck should be power washed and painted or stained or sealed or whatever the appropriate finish is.”

Minor touches can make a major impact. “Take a look at your mailbox,” said Dodek. “Is it upright? Is it tilted? Does it need to be painted?”

Don’t hide your amenities. “If you have a swimming pool, we get them to remove the cover,” said Dodek. “There’s nothing more beautiful than a beautiful blue swimming pool.”

Tips for Creating an Appealing Kitchen

FROM PAGE 2

Make sure the kitchen has matching appliances that are in good working order. “It doesn’t matter if they are stainless steel, black or white as long as they match,” said Lucchesi.

An open kitchen appeals to buyers. “Having a kitchen area where you can cook while spending time with family, is important,” said Lucchesi. “Having it open into a living area allows the cook to be connected to others.”

Don’t underestimate the power of lighting. “Under-counter mounted lighting makes all the difference in the world,” said Lucchesi. “It gives

the illusion that you have a lot of countertop space when in reality maybe you don’t.”

Spruce up dated cabinetry. “Painting cabinets a crisp white goes a long way,” said Sagatov. “A lot of older kitchens have dark wood. Putting a coat of fresh paint and new hardware goes a long way and is an investment that gives you so much money back.”

Sagatov said, “Another easy fix would be painting the walls. Taupe or grey paint on the walls in the kitchen would be soothing and go well with the white cabinets. Those fixes don’t cost a lot of money.”

Fixtures are another minor element that can make a big impression.

“Make sure that cabinet pulls are updated with materials like glass or brushed nickel,” said Lucchesi. “Great faucets are like a nice pair of shoes or a good belt.”

Lucchesi speaks from experience. “We sold a 1940s house recently with a small kitchen,” she said. “We added new appliances, a new faucet, new cabinets and it sold for \$24,000 above the list price in four days with seven offers.”

“When enhancing a house for sale, you want to appeal to the broadest audience,” said Lucchesi.

Polished and updated kitchens create appealing pictures.

“Sexy kitchens photograph well,” said Lucchesi. “When people are looking at kitchens in online photos, we don’t want to give them a reason to tell their agent, ‘No I don’t want to see that house.’”



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