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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

# Clifton Day Turns 47

NEWS, PAGE 13

Jim Haney entertains the crowd on banjo, walking the streets at Clifton Day 2013. This year's festival is set for Sunday, Oct. 12.

## Comstock's Comfort Zone

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HomeLifeStyle

OCTOBER 9-15, 2014

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



# Focus on Transportation Priorities

**Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance presents regional priorities at 10th annual event.**

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

**“What You Need to Know about Transportation in Five Minutes or Less”** was the working title of this year’s Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance (NVTa) seminar and reception held on Sept. 30 at Capital One’s auditorium in McLean. With the often confusing alphabet soup of Virginia’s transportation-related agencies, organizations, alliances, boards, and commissions it was good that the NVTa meant five minutes per speaker. No one could make sense of the Commonwealth’s transportation current state of affairs, its history, or plans for the future in 300 seconds.

Thankfully, the NVTa gathered the key players from those various organizations and gave each five minutes to make a presentation in keeping with the theme of their 10th Annual Seminar – “Regional Priorities and Prioritization.” The speakers were all recognized authorities on the subject and stayed on point with materials and comments that were accessible to audience members less in-the-know on all of the details of each agency and the projects they impact, as well as the most subject-knowledgeable in the audience. Bob Chase, president of the NVTa, in his role as moderator, for the 10th time, made the introductions, kept the speakers within their time budgets, and directed the Q & A session following the presentations.

According to the NVTa members, the seminar title was carefully chosen. Chase made reference during his opening remarks to a document published earlier this year by the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board titled “Regional Transportation Priorities Plan” that “listed no actual priority projects. I’m not sure how we get to solving problems if we have no priorities,” said Chase. “The good news is that efforts are underway in Virginia to address this deficiency.”

**ANOTHER REASON** why prioritization of projects is critical and was a key focus of the seminar is the passage of HB 2 by the Virginia Legislature earlier this year and HB 599 which addresses prioritization for projects funded through the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). As a follow-up to the historic bi-partisan passage of HB 2313 in 2013, which provided significant state funds for transportation for the first time in 27 years, HB 2, “Provides for the development of a prioritization pro-



The panel participates in the question and answer session after each gave a presentation to the attendees of the “What You Need to Know about Transportation in Five Minutes or Less,” seminar. From left are Charlie Kilpatrick, commissioner VDOT; Nick Donohue, Virginia deputy transportation secretary; Doug Allen, CEO VRE; Aubrey L. Layne, Jr., Virginia secretary of transportation; Camelia Ravanbakht, interim executive director, Hampton Roads Transportation Planning; Renee Hamilton, NoVa District deputy administrator, VDOT; Hal Parrish, mayor, City of Manassas and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority board member; Richard Sarles, out-going CEO/general manager, WMATA, and Helen Cuervo, NoVa District administrator, VDOT.



Enjoying the moment before getting down to business are, from left, David Birtwistle, CEO of the event’s organizer, the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance, and NVTa President Bob Chase, who also served as the event moderator.

cess for projects funded by the Commonwealth Transportation Board ... that shall weigh factors such as congestion mitigation, economic development, accessibility, safety, and environmental quality.” With real money on the table with which to proceed, and a “wants and needs” list for each locale that far outweighs the funds currently or foreseeably available, some scoring method needs to be developed and implemented to ensure that the state gets the best “bang for the transportation buck” from every project chosen. As speaker Aubrey L. Layne, Jr., the Virginia secretary of transportation said, “Accountability was missing from the process.” By scoring each proposed

project and benchmarking it to the requirements of HB 2, Layne noted that the selection process would be fairer and more transparent. According to Layne, even projects already underway and those that are exempt from HB 2 should still be examined and scored.

Nick Donohue, Virginia deputy transportation secretary, provided more detail on the HB 2 Process, praising the “remarkable, unanimous, bi-partisan vote” that led to the bill which took effect on July 1. “The process will be developed over the next 12 months by the Commonwealth Transportation Board,” said Donohue, and applied to “projects based on the (planning document)



Virginia Secretary of Transportation Aubrey L. Layne, Jr. was the final speaker of the evening.

VTrans 2040 needs assessment toward the drafting of a six-year improvement program.” Donohue, as well as several other speakers, also reminded the audience that many of Northern Virginia’s transportation plans had to also take into account emergency evacuations from the District. “It’s just one more of the realities our region faces.”

While there was much discussion regarding future transportation needs for a region that has grown from two million people in 1970 to more than five million today — with growth projections reaching almost seven million by 2040 — a number of the speakers addressed the status of recent projects

SEE TRANSPORTATION, PAGE 9

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# Comstock's Comfort Zone

**GOP candidate Barbara Comstock believes a woman's place is in the House ... of Representatives.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

*Second in a series of candidates' profiles.*

It's just weeks before Election Day, and the contest to replace retiring Republican Congressman Frank Wolf in Virginia's 10th Congressional district has become one of the most watched, most expensive and most contentious races in the country.

But on this crisp fall October morning, Republican candidate Barbara Comstock is in her comfort zone.

She is campaigning door-to-door with Wolf, whom she counts as a longtime friend and mentor, in McLean, her hometown for the past 30 years, which she has represented in the Virginia House of Delegates since 2010.

"I'm feeling great about the race," said Comstock, her voice a little hoarse from non-stop campaign events. "I thoroughly enjoy meeting people from every walk of life. I've been particularly touched by the reaction I get from young women. They notice a woman is out here campaigning."

Comstock is making a point.

She is aware of the criticism leveled by Democrats who assert that she is part of the GOP's "War on Women," noting Comstock's vote in favor of the controversial "trans-vaginal ultrasound" bill in the Virginia legislature.

And while Comstock makes no apologies for her strong conservative presence in Richmond, she said she finds it ironic that anyone would label her "anti-woman."

"Really, when I hear that, I think about the fact that I grew up ... surrounded by strong women," Comstock said. "I think of my grandfather, who had four girls. He was a real feminist. I remember him telling us 'Don't let any man keep you down. You can do anything if you work hard enough.' He lived through the Depression, and was a very proud man. He was never able to go to college, but he was the smartest man I knew."

Comstock said she was inspired to establish a Young Women's Leadership Program in January 2013 after reading Sheryl Sandberg's 2013 book "Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead." In the book, Sandberg, the chief operating officer of Facebook, advises women to seek mentors in the workplace and be more assertive with respect to their careers.

**AFTER READING THE BOOK**, Comstock said, "I wanted to start a program that provides young women, middle and high school girls, to meet and connect with professional women from a variety of sectors."

Since the leadership program began, approximately 60 girls throughout McLean, Great Falls, Vienna and Loudoun County have participated, meeting professional women such as Donna Brazile, CNN political commentator and Democratic strategist; Erin Egan, chief privacy officer for Facebook, and Bobbie Kilberg, president and CEO of the Northern Virginia Technology Council.

The program was "incredible and unforgettable" said Danielle Hayden, a junior at Potomac Falls High School in Sterling. "This program reassured me that there is opportunity everywhere you go in many fields, whether it is government service, running

a small business or working for a government agency like NASA."

Comstock grew up in Springfield, Mass., but remembers the influence of her first visit to Virginia, a third grade family trip to Colonial Williamsburg.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) campaigned with husband Chip and daughter Caity Roller in McLean last month.**

## Q&A with Barbara Comstock

**Q: What are some of your favorite restaurants in your district?**

**A:** "We love The Old Brogue in Great Falls. It's like Cheers, where everybody knows your name. Also The Tavern in Great Falls and J. Gilberts in McLean."

**Q: What personal qualities do you have that make you the best candidate for this position?**

**A:** "All of my bosses would tell you this. I work very hard. As a woman in law and politics, sometimes I've had to work twice as hard as my male counterparts. Also, I am a problem-solver. When we were out campaigning, Congressman Wolf would introduce me to voters as a problem-solver, someone who can get things done."

**Q: What are you most proud of?**

**A:** "Obviously my three children. They are all doing well, and it's really fun to see your children succeed. Dan is a 2005 graduate of University of Virginia; Peter is a 2007 graduate of Virginia Tech, and Caity graduated from Villanova University in 2010 and George Mason in 2012. Peter is now helping me with my campaign; Caity is a scientist who performs DNA analysis on rape kits. She was married last spring, so she is Caity Roller now, and I'm excited to say she is now expecting her first child and our second grandchild."

**Q: What would you tell young women who are considering a career in politics?**

**A:** "Jump in! Believe in yourself, give it your all and 'lean in.' You can make a difference."

**Q: What are your top priorities if you become the next 10th district representative in the U.S. House?**

**A:** 1. Pass legislation increasing the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

2. Work to repeal and replace ObamaCare which already has caused millions of hardworking Americans to lose their health insurance and have their wellbeing and financial health threatened.

3. Pass meaningful tax relief for families and small businesses to encourage job creation in Northern Virginia.

4. Protect our national security and protect our defense and national security infrastructure as well as the salaries and retirement of our dedicated military

**Q: What do you consider your major accomplishments as a Virginia legislator?**

**A:** ♦ Virginia's laws cracking down on Human Trafficking



**Republican candidate Barbara Comstock surveys a construction site in Loudoun County with longtime U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) last spring. Wolf's retirement announcement paved the way for Comstock's congressional run.**

♦ Virginia's Competitive Bidding Law Saving Hundreds of Millions

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♦ Virginia's Law to allow for Offshore Exploration of Energy

♦ Virginia's Research and Development Tax Credit to promote Tech Jobs

♦ Virginia's Tax Incentives to Promote Data Centers and Tech Jobs

**Q: What is something people might be surprised to learn about you?**

**A:** "My mother was a 'Ted Kennedy Girl.' My family campaigned for Kennedy. We were Democrats."

## Bio

Virginia Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) grew up in Springfield, Mass. She earned her B.A. in political science from Middlebury College in 1981 and her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1986. She is an attorney and founding partner of Corallo Comstock.

At the beginning of the 2014 legislative session, Comstock served on the following committees:

- ♦ Commerce and Labor
- ♦ Science and Technology, Chair
- ♦ Transportation

**Prior offices:** McLean Community Center Governing Board - 1993-1996

**Personal:** She lives in McLean with her husband, Chip. They have three children, Dan Comstock, Peter Comstock and Caity Roller.

She remembers sitting in the historic Capitol building — in the town where Jefferson studied law with George Wythe — and thinking for the first time that she could be a lawyer too.

"I think that was the first time I wanted to be a lawyer ... I was struck by how these ordinary people did such extraordinary things."

The trip was typical of the influence of her mother, Sally Burns, a long-serving teacher and school administrator. "We would read biographies and then go visit the places we read about," she said. "I developed a real sense of history."

Comstock says her mother has been the most influential person in her life. "My mom is definitely my best friend, that's been one of the great parts of my life."

Burns introduced her daughter to politics

SEE COMSTOCK, PAGE 5



# 'A New Day Has Dawned' Same sex marriage goes forward in Virginia.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**A**t 10:01 a.m. on Oct. 6, Cathy Baskin of Ravensworth Baptist Church in Annandale received her usual New York Times set of alerts. "I read it 15 times," said Baskin. "This can't be true."

Around 11:30 a.m., the Rev. Laura Horton-Ludwig of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax started seeing social media alerts as well. And she received an email blast from People of Faith for Equality in Virginia, the Richmond-based group that's been organizing clergy members around the state to be prepared for this moment.

The U.S. Supreme Court had announced it would not review five cases that sought the freedom to marry. The decision effectively allows rulings supporting same sex marriage to take effect in the Tenth, Seventh and Fourth Circuit courts, and rejects bans on gay marriage in Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Oklahoma, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia,



**From left: George Mason University freshman Megan Crenshaw, GMU freshman Emily Simpson, GMU freshman Evan Baines, the Rev. Dr. David Lindsey of Little River United Church of Christ in Annandale, the Rev. Hank Fairman of Little River United Church of Christ, Jon Fleming of Centreville, Cathy Baskin of Ravensworth Baptist Church in Annandale and Patricia Burton of Reston all came out to the Fairfax County Courthouse to support the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to turn down same sex marriage ban appeals on Oct. 6.**

West Virginia, Utah, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Virginia's Fourth Circuit made the formal mandate at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, meaning marriages could commence immediately.

"A new day has dawned," Attorney General Mark Herring said in

a statement, "and the rights guaranteed by our Constitution are shining through."

"I'm glad; I would've preferred that they actually take a case and settle the law," U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) said in an interview just after the mandate was

announced. "Equal protection under the law means just that. Whether you're gay or straight, you're entitled to equal protection. I think that's what this is all about."

Horton-Ludwig didn't have any other appointments after the

morning, so she made the short drive from their church to the Fairfax County Courthouse. "It was obvious to all of us whoever could get over the courthouse should do that. It was very fortunate," she said.

In her robe and stole, Horton-Ludwig saw a couple getting their license. Then, she said, "I just went up to them and said 'Excuse me, I wanted to wish you congratulations. I'm here if there's anything I can do for you.' They decided they did want to get married today. That was just a joy."

The first couple at this courthouse was Yvonne Landis and Melodie Mayo of Falls Church. They were going to do the ceremony in front of the building until a staff member suggested they use the central courtyard.

"It was a huge honor, very exciting," said Horton-Ludwig. "This is a day that a lot of us have been working very hard for for a long time. It's just incredibly joyful that we finally have marriage equality in Virginia, that we can honor and recognize that legally. It was really powerful."

PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

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## ELECTION 2014: CANDIDATE PROFILES

# Comstock

FROM PAGE 3

as well as history, but from the opposite side of the aisle from where Comstock currently sits. “My mom was a Ted Kennedy girl — back when Rose Kennedy was doing teas” for campaign events, said Comstock.

Now Burns supports her Republican offspring. “My mom has been very active since my first campaign. My parents live with us, and the fun thing is that our whole family campaigns together.”

Comstock’s politics are much different than those of the unabashedly-liberal Kennedy.

She worked for two terms as an aide to Wolf, and headed the public-affairs branch of President George W. Bush’s Justice Department. The National Review, in its endorsement of Comstock, said, “Comstock’s strong conservative presence in Richmond has earned her high marks from, among others, the National Rifle Association, the Family Foundation of Virginia, and the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, which awarded her its 2012 Free Enterprise Award. She has also received the endorsement of pundits such as Mark Levin and Sean Hannity.”

Pat Herrity, a Republican member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, said,

“Barbara is exactly the type of common-sense conservative leader we need to pull the party and district together and win this.”

But despite her conservative credentials, Comstock seeks to emphasize her willingness to reach across the aisle and work with Democrats. She points to her work on human trafficking issues, where her bills toughening criminal penalties and increasing support for victims received near-unanimous support in the Virginia General Assembly.

Kate O’Beirne of McLean, a former Washington editor of the National Review and co-chair of the Catholics for Comstock Coalition, said, “While seeking common ground for the common good, Barbara has remained deeply committed to her strong values. She is a staunch supporter of working to create a culture of life and has led the fight on behalf of victims of human trafficking.”

Comstock has the endorsement of the outgoing incumbent, who was out knocking doors with her on the first Saturday in October.

“No one will work harder for the 10th District than Barbara Comstock,” Wolf said. “She’s honest, ethical and her energy and ability to get results will make her a great congresswoman.”

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## AREA ROUNDUPS

### Republican Women of Clifton To Discuss 'Vote for the Constitution'

On Oct. 15, the Republican Women of Clifton will welcome David J. Bobb, Ph.D, president of the Bill of Rights Institute for its October meeting. Bobb will present a discussion titled "Vote for the Constitution," where attendees will gain an understanding of how the Constitution relates to daily life and how to motivate elected officials to heed its principles. "With 2014 elections just around the corner, this presentation is sure to inspire and equip citizens with the necessary tools to understand and explain the Constitutional principles so vital to our nation's survival," said Alice Butler-Short, President of the Republican Women of Clifton. Bobb joined the Bill of Rights Institute as president in December 2013.



**David J. Bobb**

Attendees are invited to contribute \$5 at the door for TAPS - the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors of our fallen heroes.

Visit [www.CliftonGOP.com](http://www.CliftonGOP.com).

### Residents Invited To Education Meeting

Mount Vernon District School Board member Dan Storck is hosting an Education Town Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 15, 7-9 p.m. in the South County Middle

School lecture hall. Fairfax County Public Schools Deputy Superintendent Steven Lockard and Region 4 Assistant Superintendent Angela Atwater will attend to listen to residents' comments on the public schools.

### Farmers Market on Thursdays

Each Thursday, from 3-7 p.m., the Fairfax County Government Center hosts a farmers market in its parking lot. The Government Center is at 12000 Government Center Parkway, in Fair Oaks. The next markets are slated for Oct. 9 and Oct. 16.

### Needed: Used Laptops

Our Daily Bread is in need of a few gently used laptops no more than three years old. They'll enable Our Daily Bread to have more office volunteers during the busy fall and holiday season. Anyone who would like to donate a laptop in good condition should contact Mila Cobos at 703-273-8829.

### K-9 Krawl 5K is Oct. 18

The Fairfax County Police Department's annual K-9 Krawl 5K is set for Saturday, Oct. 18, at the county Government Center's parking lot C. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m., followed by a K-9 demonstration at 8:45 a.m. and the 5K walk at 9 a.m.

This event was created to bring awareness to the connection between animal cruelty and the link to domestic violence, and people are welcome to walk with their dogs. Register at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/FCPD2014K9KRAWL](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FCPD2014K9KRAWL).



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

### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

#### Impact of Dementia on the Family.

1:30 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 2812 Old Lee Highway Suite 210, Fairfax. Join us for this free educational program. Dementia affects the entire family – expectations and relationships can change family dynamics. Join us for this discussion on how to handle these changes. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP and for more information.

### SATURDAY/OCT. 18

#### Healthy Aging. 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Antioch Baptist Church, 6525B Little Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Keynote speaker Margaret Pressler, Washington Post reporter and author of *Cheat the Clock*, a book on the science of aging. Lots of exhibits, demonstrations and excellent presentations as well. Lunch included. For more information and to register, visit [www.antioch-church.org](http://www.antioch-church.org) or call 703-590-6562.

#### Genealogy Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will sponsor a genealogy workshop for DAR membership at King's Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Everyone is welcome. For more information contact Judy Korfonta, 703-451-3930.

### SUNDAY/OCT. 19

**Democratic Women of Clifton.** 3-3:30 p.m. (members) and 3:30-5 p.m. (public). Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Hear Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid and her staff speak about personal safety. Their program will be titled, "Situational Awareness: Don't Be a Victim." [cliftonwomendems@aol.com](mailto:cliftonwomendems@aol.com).

### MONDAY/OCT. 20

**Library Tech Help.** 11 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Get library-related electronic resources questions answered. Includes help with eBooks and compatible devices. Adults. Bring library card, eBook reader and laptop. 703-293-6227.

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Adult. Gloria Monick, [gsmonick@aol.com](mailto:gsmonick@aol.com) 703-250-0877

### TUESDAY/OCT. 21

**Library Tech Help.** 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Get library-related electronic resources questions answered. Includes help with eBooks and compatible devices. Adults. Bring library card, eBook reader and laptop. 703-293-6227.

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Practice and improve English conversation. Adults. 703-451-8055.

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Practice speaking English with others and improve skills. Adults. 703-293-6227.

### THURSDAY/OCT. 23

**Using Online Resources.** 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Learn to use the library's online databases. Journals, magazines and encyclopedias can all be accessed from home with alibrary card. Patrons may bring a tablet or laptop along. Adults. 703-298-6227.

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# OPINION

## Ebola? Whooping Cough? Enterovirus?

### Wash your hands, get your flu shot.

There is plenty to be fearful about. Local outbreaks of whooping cough, due to some parents opting out of vaccines; whooping cough can be deadly for infants. Enterovirus, an upper respiratory illness mostly affecting children, which can become very serious very quickly for some children. The spectre of ebola killing thousands of people in West Africa, and also possibly arriving via any international airport.

But there are a few things you can do to protect yourself and those around you from likely the biggest infectious health threat in your neighborhood, influenza.

The flu will kill thousands of people in the United States this flu season, ranging from October to May. Over 30 years, the average number of deaths was more than 20,000 annually according to the CDC, although the number ranged from 3,000 to 48,000.

Flu vaccination is cheap, easy and effective. Getting vaccinated was associated with a 71

percent reduction in flu-related hospitalizations among adults of all ages and a 77 percent reduction among adults 50 years of age and older during the 2011-2012 flu season.

Get a flu shot. Make sure everyone in your family gets a flu shot. Most people with health insurance can get the vaccination without paying anything for it. Getting vaccinated doesn't just protect you, it also protects the people around you who might be more vulnerable, including young children, people over 65, pregnant women, people with other health conditions like being in cancer treatment or with chronic upper respiratory problems.

#### EDITORIAL

Quoting the CDC:

"Influenza is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization and sometimes even death. Every flu season is different, and influenza infection can affect people differently. Even healthy people can get very sick from the flu and spread it to others. Over a period of 31 seasons between 1976 and 2007, estimates of flu-associated deaths in the United States range from a low of about 3,000 to a high of about 49,000 people. During a regular flu season, about 90 percent of deaths occur in people 65 years and older. "Flu season" in the United

### More on Flu and Flu Vaccines

#### Centers for Disease Control

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm>

#### Fairfax County

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/flu/>

States can begin as early as October and last as late as May.

"During this time, flu viruses are circulating at higher levels in the U.S. population. An annual seasonal flu vaccine (either the flu shot or the nasal spray flu vaccine) is the best way to reduce the chances that you will get seasonal flu and spread it to others. When more people get vaccinated against the flu, less flu can spread through that community."

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm>

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Home Values on the Rise

BY KERRIE B. WILSON  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
CORNERSTONE

Why do you live where you live today? Is it convenience to work or good schools? Access to attractions? Does the housing cost fit your budget?

For most people, finding the perfect home often comes down to a family's values and priorities for the stage of life they are in, choosing what's most important if you can't get everything in one home.

Yet, for many families and individuals in Fairfax County, there are only hard choices and tradeoffs that no person would willingly accept for their family. To afford a 2-bedroom apartment in our area at fair market rate of \$1,469 requires an annual household income of \$56,480. For a minimum wage worker that equates to 132 hours of work per week. In Fairfax County, nearly 1/5 of households earn less than would be required to pay that rent without some temporary or ongoing support. Do you move out miles and add hours and cost to getting to your job? Do you sacrifice housing safety or time with your children to work two or more jobs to pay the bills? The stress on those with limited incomes or ability to earn a "hous-



ing wage" hurts everyone in community.

Recognizing this, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors prioritized "livable, caring and affordable communities" that

reflect the options families value. Despite the headline goal, we have not kept pace with housing production and preservation needed to support affordable living opportunities. Huge increases in construction and land costs have outstripped growth in household income, compounded by the reduction in government subsidies now available to bridge those gaps.

At Cornerstones, we understand the consequences for those who fall into this affordability gap and we are working on many levels to address the challenge.

Consider, the Brown family who entered the Embury Rucker shelter with their children this summer. Shaken by the reality of shelter living, they are willing to make changes. It won't be an easy road. Mr. Brown is unemployed and never completed high school. Mrs. Brown is an administrative assistant in a Reston-based business earning \$36,000. They have two elementary age children who have made friends and feel at home at

a local elementary school. The Browns' total household income means they earn too much for some benefits, but not enough to support their family. A short-term solution is a transitional housing program that emphasizes educational attainment and job training for people willing to work hard to increase earning potential in exchange for time-limited rent support.

Will the Browns' make it? They have a lot going for them, but will still join thousands of other families in Fairfax County who are on waiting lists for housing vouchers or other affordable rental subsidies essential to surviving this chapter in their life.

Long-term, the only sustainable solution requires a community investment. Cornerstones has worked in our community for more than 40 years to preserve affordable housing and give families like the Browns realistic housing options.

This month—after a long journey aided by our supporters and partners like Bozzuto, Wells Fargo, Fairfax County, Virginia Development Housing Authority, Freddie Mac and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce Best of Reston partnership—Cornerstones will purchase and assume sole ownership responsibilities for The Apartments at North Point in Reston's

desirable North Point community. Walkable to shopping, on the bus line, and just miles from the Silver Line metro, these attractive, accessible garden style apartments are available at below market rents—expanding the choice of living and working in a community rich with opportunities for service, great schools, and access to open space and recreational opportunities.

Who are these neighbors? North Point residents include teachers, government employees, retired individuals and students, and formerly homeless families like the Browns. Annual household income for our tenants range from \$15,000 to \$70,000 per year.

The permanent subsidy required for Cornerstones to guarantee affordability can be as much as \$25,000 per unit per year, depending on the situation of the individual tenant. As tenant income grows, so too will the amount paid towards rent and the equity we re-invest to keep homes affordable for all.

While the 100 units we own and manage are part of the solution, Fairfax County is still far short of the overall number of homes needed to support a healthy, thriving community; a minimum of 1,650 units are still needed just to

SEE WILSON, PAGE 9

Fairfax Station,  
Lorton & Clifton  
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## LETTERS

### Meeting ID Requirements

To the Editor:

Thank you for your informative editorial about the new Photo ID requirement ("Does the Change in Voter ID Laws Matter?" Connection, October 1-7, 2014) and the opportunity for those who do not have acceptable Photo IDs to obtain free ones for voting purposes from any general registrar's office.

The Fairfax County Office of Elections is not arranging transportation for people to get to the office, though some organizations may be. The county is taking the photo ID equipment out to libraries, government centers, in-person absentee voting sites, and other locations to enable citizens to get the IDs

more easily. The schedules of locations and times are on the Office of Elections website.

People who apply for a Photo ID too late to receive it in the mail can ask for a temporary photo ID. It will be accepted as a valid ID for voting. Registered voters going to the polls on election day who do not have an eligible photo ID can vote a provisional ballot and then go to the Office of Elections by noon on the Friday after election day, obtain a temporary photo ID, and have their provisional ballot counted.

**Sidney Johnson**

Voter Service Director

League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area

### Wilson

FROM PAGE 8

meet the goals established under the 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

We are often asked to enumerate the benefits of our work. Every dollar spent on affordable housing production or subsidy helps revitalize family incomes, business bottom lines and government revenues. Housing recipients benefit from reduced risk of homelessness, safer neighborhoods, improved physical and mental health and raising motivated children who succeed at

school and in life. The most significant short-term economic impact from housing development is on employment. Each job supported or created through affordable housing projects generates another one or more at the local level. Every \$1 in rental income generates over \$2 in economic activity for local economies. It all adds up.

Cornerstones is proud to be part of this equation, working locally to build thriving communities.

At the same time we will engage in today's important values conversations, talking now with the Fairfax

County Economic Advisory Commission as it creates a strategic plan that recognizes the role that housing and workforce development play in economic development (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/success/>). We have joined the county's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee in calling for revenue bonds for affordable housing (join the conversation on Twitter #FFXBonds4Home).

Home values are on the rise, in North Point and Fairfax County. Prioritize housing choice for your neighbors; it's a community value we can live with.

## Safety Apps are Now Available

**See Something, Send Something:** This app is a nationwide suspicious-activity reporting tool to help fight terrorism and criminal activity. It does not replace 911 for emergency situations. This app allows people to send suspicious activity as a photo or text directly to the Virginia State Police. Visit [www.vsp.virginia.gov/FusionCenter/mobileApp.shtm](http://www.vsp.virginia.gov/FusionCenter/mobileApp.shtm).

**Child Safe Kit:** This site provides a free Child Safe Kit, delivered to people's doors. They may record vital statistics and urgent medical information in case it's needed quickly by authorities. Visit [www.childsafekit.com/](http://www.childsafekit.com/).

**FBI Child ID:** This application provides a convenient place to store vital information about a child. Allows quick emailing of the information and provides safety tips. Visit [www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2011/august/child\\_080511](http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2011/august/child_080511).

**Alert ID:** A site for keeping up-to-date on what's happening around home/work. People will get email notifications when certain offenses occur within the chosen radius of an address. This site also offers other information, such as weather updates, and is a social network too. People may use it to have discussions with neighbors and meet new neighbors. Visit [www.alertid.com/](http://www.alertid.com/).

Before using the following two apps, people must check to see if their specific campus has this program. Students may use it to stay up-to-date about campus emergencies:

**Campus Alerts:** <http://www.campusalerts.com/webcorp/default.html>.

**Live Safe:** <http://www.livesafemobile.com/>.



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PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

(From left) John Fraumeni, Hayfield senior; Moria Lemay, South County junior; Lauren Dost, South County junior; Alayna Cotton, Hayfield junior; and Logan Thomas, Hayfield senior. Members of the JROTC collaboration between Hayfield Secondary School and South County High School present the colors to open the car show.

## Car Show Honors Former Principal

### Hayfield Days Car Show benefits Auto Tech and David S. Tremaine Charity.

For the seventh straight year, more than 70 restored and modified icons of American motoring history rumbled into the parking lot at Hayfield Plaza Shopping Center. But for the first year, the funds raised by the Hayfield Days Car Show aren't just supporting Hayfield Secondary's Auto Tech Program.

To honor former Hayfield principal Dave Tremaine, who died of colon cancer in June, a portion of the show's proceeds from registration and raffles will go to the David S. Tremaine Charitable Fund.

"The scholarship is for any student, those who emulate Dave," said past PTSA president and Lorton resident Liz Dunn. "Every student was recognized for who they were as an individual. No student was left out while Dave was there." Tremaine's wife Robyn, son Grant and daughter Parker were on hand to make a "principal's vote" for the show.

"The fund will benefit the Bob Pass Tennis Foundation as well as scholarships for multiple Hayfield

seniors," said Robyn. "They don't have to be attending college, just have any post-graduation plans. Dave wanted everyone to have an opportunity, whether it was automotive technology or HVAC training or college. That was his mindset in education."

David Tremaine came to the car show each year he was at Hayfield and favored Chevrolet Camaros, according to Hayfield Auto Tech teacher, golf and JV baseball coach John Terrien.

"He was the best," said Terrien. "Not only was he a great friend, but he was a friend to everyone. He's deeply missed."

"There's a big void because he's not there," said Dunn. "No one will fill his orange shoes. It was so touching to see every kind of student at his memorial in June. Name a stereotype of high school student."

The event is sponsored by Prince William Cruisers. Last year it raised about \$1,000.

— TIM PETERSON

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# The Jean Pool

Packard honored through Occoquan Regional Park facelift.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he characteristically humble Jean Packard allowed just a little egotism at the idea of seeing her name on a new center at Occoquan Regional Park.

"It's wonderful, I'm delighted," said Packard. "To think the regional park authority thinks I deserve this honor is really icing on the cake."

Packard, the first female Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and trailblazer for women in county politics, more often cites the help she's received before accepting recognition.

"You would never know that she had been Chairman, that she had run for county office," said current Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. "She's a person who will roll up her sleeves and get dirty picking up trash or pulling out invasive weeds."

But at the Sep. 27 groundbreaking of the Jean R. Packard Occoquan Center, part of a massive facelift to the entire park, she was the center of attention.

"It's a real privilege for us to be able to honor our long-time colleague and friend Jean Packard," NOVA Parks Chairman Brian Knapp said at the ground-breaking. "She's done so much for Fairfax County and, in turn, for NOVA Parks. This is a wonderful reminder to the region what a great leader she's been."

Packard's sizeable list of public and environmental service roles and accomplishments spans five decades.

She was also the first woman elected to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board, president of the Northern Virginia

Conservation Trust and served 24 years as Fairfax County representative on the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (now NOVA Parks) before stepping down within the past few months.

"Sometimes, people serve as Chairman and then go off and do other things," Bulova said, addressing and honoring Packard at a recent board meeting. "Jean has stayed in Fairfax County and been involved in just about every substance. Just to keep her expertise involved, in a positive way, that really is exceptional. You've really left a tremendous legacy for us here."

**THE NEW BUILDING** bearing Packard's name and legacy will be a multi-use focal point in the park, among other renovations that include landscaping at the park entrance, a new 3.1-mile trail encircling the park, a group rental center, roads and parking areas.

A key component of the Packard Center will be a historic/environmental education area that highlights the park's New World history with Captain John Smith coming up the Occoquan River, as well as its significance to the 20th century Suffragist movement: the 1917 imprisoning of women protesting in Washington for the right to vote in the Occoquan Workhouse. The Center is the future site of a Suffragist memorial.

"It makes sense to celebrate what happened right there," said founder of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Jane Barker. "It was Jean's vision to include the Suffragists' story in the park there."

"We have a chance to honor them," said Packard. "I think that is very great. It seemed like such a logical tie in."

"In terms of the environment, the Suffragists were very concerned about the world around them," said Clifton resident and Fairfax County History Commission member Lynne Garvey Hodge, "for that world to be a healthy world. Jean's focus, I think is a very strong reflection of that Suffragist theme."



PHOTO BY BRIAN BAUER

**(From left) NOVA Parks Chairman Brian Knapp; NOVA Parks board member Laura Grape; Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova; Jean R. Packard; U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly; founder of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Jane Barker; and NOVA Parks Executive Director Paul Gilbert broke "virtual ground" on Sept. 27 at Occoquan Regional Park. Actual ground won't be broken for several months.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF NOVA PARKS

**A rendering of the Jean R. Packard Occoquan Center, the primary part of a huge renovation to Occoquan Regional Park.**

## George Mason Holds 3rd Patriot Intercollegiate Golf Invitational

**G**eorge Mason University held its third Annual Intercollegiate Golf Invitational on Sept. 27-29 at Laurel Hill Golf Course in Fairfax. Seventeen college teams accepted George Mason's invitation and fielded a total of 104 players.

The event was held at Laurel Hill Golf Course, the site for the U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship hosted in 2013.

Each collegiate team fielded five members. Individual scores were used to tabulate first and second place team finishes. Additionally, individual scores were used to award first and second place finish.

After a practice round on Saturday to acquaint the golfers to the Laurel Hill

course, the participants played 36 holes of golf on Sunday. The rules of the competition require that each golfer carry their clubs and walk the course. The result is that most players are rather tired after 7-8 hours of play and walking Laurel Hill — a long and hilly course of 7,010 yards in length.

The event concluded on Monday with a final 18 holes of play around 4 p.m. After tabulating the scores first place was awarded to the University of Missouri team with a combined team score of 851 and Marshall University came in second at 854.

Ryan Zech from Missouri won the award for best individual score shooting four under par. Christopher Crawford from Drexel and Clark Robinson from Marshall were tied



PHOTO BY TERRANCE MORAN/THE CONNECTION

**George Mason Patriot's Golf Team**

for second place each scoring three under par. The results of this event will be used for NCAA rankings to determine invitations

to the NCAA Regional events planned for spring 2015.

— TERRANCE MORAN



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## NEWS



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

The 10th Annual Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance Seminar and Reception focusing on "Regional Priorities and Prioritization" played to a packed house in the two-level auditorium of Capital One in McLean.

## Transportation Priorities Discussed

FROM PAGE 2

and those currently in progress, like Helen Cuervo, Northern Virginia District administrator for VDOT. Cuervo reported on the opening in August of three eastbound lanes as part of the Route 50 widening project, with the three westbound lanes on schedule to open in spring of 2015. FY2014 saw more than 670 lane miles paved in our region, with another 826 lane miles scheduled for paving in FY2015. Express Lanes on 95 were also reported to be on schedule for a late 2014/early 2015 opening, running from Edsall Road in Fairfax County for 27 miles to Garrisonville Road in Stafford County. Cuervo also provided updates on improvements for Route 7 and work on interchanges along Route 28 and other highly congested byways. The Express Lane project and other projects noted by Cuervo that extend well into Loudoun and Prince William counties from Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria all served as prime examples of the "regional" cooperation that the NVTIA believes essential to effectively address the transportation woes of Northern Virginia.

Mayor Hal Parrish of the City of Manassas represented the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, the body created by the General Assembly in 2002. Embracing the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William, and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park, the authority is responsible for preparing a regional transportation plan and has the power to implement transportation facilities in the plan, acquire land for transportation facilities, and contract to provide, or operate transportation facilities.

Parrish reported that the authority has already approved 34 projects. The first year of approved projects are valued at \$209,793,000. He noted that 70 percent of available funds would be utilized for regional projects included in the TransAction 2040 Plan that have been evaluated by VDOT for congestion mitigation or emergency evacuation as called for in HB 599, as well as mass transit capital projects (30 percent would be designated as local funds and distributed to the individual localities for their specific needs). To receive full funding, the localities

would be required to enact the local Commercial and Industrial Property Tax at \$0.125 per \$100 valuation, or dedicate an equivalent amount to the transportation fund.

Other speakers included outgoing WMATA CEO and General Manager Richard Sarles, who was awarded with applause from the crowd when he spoke of Metro's "Eight Car Train Initiative" to add to the current train length and increase ridership significantly. CEO Doug Allen outlined the plans for Virginia Railway Express's growth, particularly along 395, 95, and I-66.

**SPEAKING OF I-66**, no discussion of transportation in Northern Virginia could be complete without someone addressing the problems on the highway that many consider the most congested in the entire region. Charlie Kilpatrick, commissioner of VDOT, presented "I-66: What's the Fix and When?" Although the plans do seem to take aim at the goal to "improve multimodal mobility along the I-66 corridor by providing diverse travel choices and to enhance transportation safety and reliability," most of the proposed works from the Beltway to Haymarket will still be a long time coming. Kilpatrick described the vision of I-66 with two express HOV-3 lanes, three non-tolled general lanes, ramp-to-ramp connections and a Rapid Bus Service with direct access opportunities from Park-and-Ride lots to Express Lanes. But even with much planning and preparation already underway, no construction on this project seems likely before 2017 at the earliest.

The Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance (NVTIA) is a private sector organization focused on collaboratively developing ways to make better transportation a reality for the region's citizens and businesses. It leads a coalition of more than 20 major Northern Virginia business organizations, aimed at supporting transportation investments of the greatest regional significance. The presentation materials of the seminar's speakers are available on the website [www.nvtia.org](http://www.nvtia.org), which also contains information on all aspects of transportation in the region and links to related sites for further information.



## NEWS

# Clifton Day Turns 47

**Festival returns with 200 vendors, crafts, food and music.**

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen Mike Belote of Manassas first brought his Ryder truck full of Pappy's Wooden Dreams to Clifton Day more than 10 years ago, he almost didn't make it out.

The truck got stuck in mud behind the house where Belote had set up his vendor tent. That's when he said residents came to his rescue. "Everybody there helped me get out," said Belote, "even the mayor."

"That's the kind of help they've always given," Belote added. "They were there to help the people visiting."

A retired Army veteran and government subcontractor, Belote has been making toys and furniture out of local yellow pine for 22 years. And he's come back to Clifton Day each year since his first time.

Belote will be one of somewhere between 175 and 200 vendors at the 47th annual Clifton Day community festival on Sunday, Oct. 12 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**CLIFTON DAY CHAIRMAN,** and 14-year Clifton resident, Barbara Hutto said the final vendor list is still getting sorted, but that "there's always a different mix." Visitors should expect plenty of jewelry, pottery, toys and more.

For those who haven't attended in a few years, Hutto said with new Clifton businesses represented, "people wouldn't recognize it anymore." Two of the most recent additions to the real estate are Italian restaurant Trattoria Villagio and self-explanatory Cupcaked Bakery.

Each of the two Clifton culinary destinations opened within the past year.

Annual favorite activities such as horseback rides, a Civil War reenactment and a main music stage with everything from Irish dancers to rock bands will all be back, as well as craft demonstrations and educational vendors in the town square.

Visitors will be able to spin wool, make pottery and even stomp grapes while learning about the winemaking process from Paradise



A drizzly morning couldn't keep the crowds away from Clifton Day 2013.



By BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

**Between 175 and 200 craft and food vendors are expected at this year's Clifton Day community festival.**

Springs Winery. "It was new last year and we got rave reviews, so they'll be back," said Hutto.

Peggy Stevens is executive director of the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, which will share one of the educational vendor booths with the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia. If the weather cooperates, she plans to offer walking tours of protected land in the center of Clifton.

"We'll identify plants, native and invasive, and talk about the importance of repairing, buffers along rivers," said Stevens.

Last year was the first time the Trust participated in Clifton Day. It was also a first for Stevens, who just moved to West Springfield the previous August.

"I found the crowd to be pretty open, which I liked," Stevens said. "It was easy to meet people. It really shows a tremendous amount of community focus, support and energy."

Despite continuing to grow in size, that warm community feeling is something Hutto said will never go away.

"It's such a small, little hamlet here," she said, "It doesn't feel like a big sprawling event. It still feels

very community-oriented: a really big block party in this old historic area." Though with thousands of people expected to attend from around the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, Hutto said parking will be at a premium. The main street will be closed and all Clifton entrances will have parking lots (\$5 per car in outer lots, \$10 closer to the city center).

**ALTERNATIVELY,** organizers are encouraging people to take the VRE train, which will run constantly from Manassas to Clifton to Rolling Road during the Clifton Day hours. Approaching Clifton is free and the return trip is \$5. For the full list of train stops and times, visit [www.cliftonday.com/content/getting-clifton](http://www.cliftonday.com/content/getting-clifton).

The Clifton Betterment Association hosts the free event, with help from sponsors including: The Peterson Family Foundation, Ourisman Fairfax Toyota, Republic Services, Concise, LLC, the VRE and Norfolk Southern.

All proceeds will go to Girl and Boy Scouts, the Clifton Lions Club, the Clifton Betterment Association, Acacia Lodge and Clifton Presbyterian Church.



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## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

### OCTOBER

Publishing

A+ Camps & Schools.....10/15/14

Election Preview I .....10/22/14

Election Preview II .....10/29/14

### NOVEMBER

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4.

Wellbeing.....11/5/14

HomeLifeStyle.....11/12/14

Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I.....11/19/14

A+ .....11/25/14

Thanksgiving is November 27.

### DECEMBER

Wellbeing.....12/3/14

HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays.....12/10/14

Hanukkah begins December 16.

Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II.....12/16/14

A+ Camps & Schools.....12/16/14

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION.....12/24/14

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- Vienna/Oakton Connection



# Delightful Trick and Treat

**'The Rocky Horror Show' at the Workhouse Arts Center.**

BY DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he "edgy, fresh, bold, and daring" Unquiet Theatre is giving audiences a Halloween trick and treat with its production of the delightfully screwball musical "The Rocky Horror Show."

"Rocky Horror" is "all about campy, over the top antics," said Katy Chmura, director of the show.

The cast of characters remains fresh and youthful even as "The Rocky Horror Show" approaches its 40th anniversary. "The aesthetic of the show is 1940s glam," said Chmura. "And just a touch of sophistication." "Rocky Horror" has been a long-time live stage favorite of theaters across the United States as well as having a devoted, midnight movie following. With book, music, and lyrics by Richard O'Brien it is a send-up of all things science fiction.

For those not familiar with the show, it begins as two very innocent young adults find themselves needing shelter on a dark and stormy night. Soon enough they find themselves at a mysterious old castle where they come across sights, sounds and rather bizarre situations. There is a rather unusual Dr. Frank-N-Furter, his "perfect" creation Rocky, and an assortment of extraordinary creatures. And everyone sings.

## Where and When

Unquiet Theatre Company presents "The Rocky Horror Show" at the Workhouse Arts Center, Theatre W-3, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Performances: Oct. 17-Nov. 1, 2014. Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$15- \$25. For tickets and information call 571-402-5328 or visit [www.unquiet-theatre.org](http://www.unquiet-theatre.org).

"The music for this show rocks. If you're not wanting to get up from your seat dance, jump or tap your foot, you should probably check your pulse to see if you're still breathing!" said Matthew Scarborough, music director. Timothy Macdonald plays Frank N' Furter. "Frank-N-Furter is the main antagonist and also happens to be the main character as well. He is a childish, lustful sociopath and everything he does is for personal gain of some sort. That being said, he is charming and persuasive and can bend nearly anyone to his will."

Aaron Ware who plays the Criminologist indicated that the production is full of "comedy and sass" as well as being "full of energy," while James Maxted who plays Riff Raff said it will be a "one of kind theatre experience" for the audience.

For those who know the musical or for those new to it, according to Chmura, "if you'd like to dress up [as characters] any of the nights, that's totally cool!" There will be several call-out nights. "We'll be giving the audience a script to follow along with and they'll be able to purchase prop bags."

"The Rocky Horror Picture Show" is anticipated to be a singular experience from the intrepid folk of Lorton's Unquiet Theatre.



**Katy Chmura (Director) and Timothy Macdonald (Frank-N- Furter).**



**From left: Josh Bartosch (Brad) and Timothy Macdonald (Frank-N- Furter).**

PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNQUIET THEATRE COMPANY

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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## THROUGH WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

**War on the Doorstep: Fairfax Militia in the War of 1812.** Exhibition. The Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway. Open Tue.-Sat. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free tours at 1 p.m. 703-591-0560.

## THROUGH SUNDAY/FEB. 8, 2015

**Dressing for the Occasion: An Exhibition of Costumes and Textiles Representing Fairfax Personalities and Events.** Exhibition. Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center, 10209 Main Stree, Fairfax. Open daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 703-385-8414.

## THROUGH THURSDAY/OCT. 23

**Drawing and Painting Lab.** 1:30-3:30 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd, Alexandria. Every Thursday of October, explore drawing and painting techniques. Students should bring a 9"x12" watercolor pad, graphite pencils, fine Sharpie or Pitt pen, a set of colored pencils, a set of watercolors, brushes #4 and #6 and a flat brush for washes and blending. Admissions: \$74/person. Register at [www.fairfaxcountygov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcountygov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 430 3501 or call 703-642-5173. For adults.

## THROUGH SUNDAY/OCT.19

**Earth and Fire Ceramics Exhibition.** Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, 22079 Lorton. An exhibition featuring the works of 35 leading ceramic artists from the nine nations: Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and Myanmar. <http://workhousearts.org>

## THROUGH SUNDAY/OCT. 12

**Edgar Allan Poe's Nevermore.** Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Rd, Lorton. Take a musical journey into the heart and soul of Edgar Allan Poe, America's first truly visionary poet. Lyrics are adapted from Poe's writings. Admissions: \$15. [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org). 703-584-2900.

## THROUGHT SATURDAY/OCT. 25

**40 Years of Potomac Valley Watercolorists Public Opening Reception.** 7-9 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, 22079 Lorton. This exhibit of 100 watercolor painting celebrates the 40 year anniversary of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists. <http://workhousearts.org>

## THROUGH FRIDAY/NOV. 3

**Adventures in Learning.** 9:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. This program is open to all adults age 50 or better. Registrants bring a bag lunch and stay for a full day of classes/activities and socializing, or pick and choose the classes that interest them the most. \$30. [www.scfbva.org](http://www.scfbva.org) or 703-323-4788.

## THROUGH FRIDAY/OCT. 31

**Pumpkin Patch.** 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Messiah United Methodist Church,



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

**The Unicycle Lady entertains at Clifton Day last year. This year's Clifton Day will be on Oct. 12.**

6215 Rolling Road, Springfield. Pumpkins are available from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily until Oct. 31, when the patch closes at 6 p.m. 703-569-9862.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 10

**Ancestors 101: Library Edition.** 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. FCPL's Virginia Room's Elaine McHale shares wealth of genealogical data available on Ancestry, including census, immigration, military, and vital records. Adults. Free. 703-249-1520.

**Late Night in the Virginia Room.** 6-11 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Join fellow researchers and genealogists for after-hours research in the Virginia Room. Attendees must be in the library before 6 p.m. and may leave at any time. Adults. Registration is required. 703-293-6227.

**Researching the History of Your Fairfax County House.** 6 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Learn how to research the history of your Fairfax County home and property. Discover more about the former owners of your land. This class is offered during "Late Night in the Virginia Room." Attendee must also register for "Late Night in the Virginia Room" and must be in the library before 6 p.m. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Introduction to Ancestry Library Edition.** 7:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Come learn about the wealth of genealogical data available on Ancestry, including census, immigration, military and vital records. Attendee must also register for "Late Night in the Virginia Room" and must be in the library before 6 p.m. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Amici Vocal Ensemble - An Evening of Opera Arias.** 8 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The Amici Vocal Ensemble is made up of Jeongseon Choi (piano), Jennie Yeonjin Kim (soprano), and James Jongsik Joo (tenor). They present "An Evening of Opera Arias," which consists of love songs and love duets from major operas by Verdi, Puccini and Gounod. For more information, visit [www.fairfaxarts.org](http://www.fairfaxarts.org) or call 703-352-ARTS.

**Bonita Lestina Old Town Hall Performance Series.** 8 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Occurs 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month, except during government holidays. Will feature 12 performances by groups playing music ranging from classical and opera to Latin and jazz. [www.fairfaxarts.org](http://www.fairfaxarts.org).

**Late Night in the Virginia Room.** 6

- 11 p.m. The Virginia Room, City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Amateur genealogists and local historians are invited to a special "night owl" research night. Participants can do independent research or attend classes and drop- in sessions on topics that include house and property history, on-line genealogy, researching at the National Archives and cemetery research. Light refreshments will be provided. Must arrive before 6 p.m. 703-324-8380.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 11 - 12

**"Sweeney Todd - The Demon Barber of Fleet Street."** Saturday: 8 p.m. Sunday: 2 p.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Award-winning musical thriller about revenge, murder and meat pies.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 11

**Fall Festival in Old Town Historic Fairfax.** 10209 Main St., Fairfax. What started out as a small market for artisans has grown to a festival with over 400 arts, crafts and food vendors, children's activities and entertainment for all ages. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fall-festival](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fall-festival).

**Girl Scout Daisies.** 10-11:30 a.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd, Alexandria. Want to work towards your Earth & Sky Journey? Join us and complete activities that satisfy the requirements. Admissions: \$10/child. Register at [www.fairfaxcountygov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcountygov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 474 6601 or call 703-642-5173.

**Girl Scout Juniors.** 1-3 p.m. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd, Alexandria. Want to work towards your Flowers badge? Join us and complete activities that satisfy the requirements. Admissions: \$12/child. Register at [www.fairfaxcountygov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcountygov/parks/greenspring) using code 290 474 4401 or call 703-642-5173.

**Dog Adoption.** 12 -3 p.m. Petco, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Call 703-817-9444 or visit [www.hart90.org/](http://www.hart90.org/)

**Burke History Day.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, 9501 Old Burke Lake Road, Burke. This year's Burke History Day will feature exhibits, activities, presentations, and children's activities about the diverse types of transportation that have played a role in the settlement and day-to-day life from pre-Colonial to present time. Visitors will learn about railroads and steam engines, bi-planes and jet runways, buggies and early automobiles, subways and canal boats.

**Genealogy Help Desk.** 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Bring family history stumpers to the experts. Accomplished genealogists and library staff will be on hand to assist. Ask at the Virginia Room desk or call 703-293-6227, option 6. Adults, Teens. 703-293-6227.

**Art Exhibition Opening Reception.** 8 p.m.-12 a.m. Epicure Cafe, 11104 Lee Highway, Fairfax. A new art exhibition, "Fallen," curated by The Bunnyman Bridge Collective, brings together eight local artists from across the DMV. Exhibit will run through Dec. 5. 703-789-6144.

## SUNDAY/OCT.12

**Taking Tea: Teatime Across the Centuries.** 2 p.m. Fairfax Museum, 10209 Main St, Fairfax. Tastings of hot tea, scones, teacakes, and shortbread will follow a presentation on the history of tea. \$8. 703-385-

## FAITH NOTES

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

**Are You 50 or Better?** Please join us for the next Lunch N' Life sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke on Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014 (12-2 p.m.) at Lutheran Church of the Abiding Presence, 6304 Lee Chapel Rd, Burke. The Program will feature Jari Villaneuva, a Bugler, speaking on The History of Taps. For reservations, call Faye Quesenberry, 703-620-0161, by Nov. 14. The cost

is \$10; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office 703-323-4788. See [www.scfbva.org](http://www.scfbva.org) for more information.

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

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

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PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

George Mason Elementary School teachers past and present came out to support the Survive the 5K: (From left, top) Julie Westcott of Alexandria, Katie Rudolph of Arlington, Laura Greeson of Fairfax, Laura Aristizabal of Fairfax, Leanne Dellibovi of Burke, Elizabeth Wood of Alexandria, Mary Lu Mahoney of Arlington, Caroline Doughtey of Arlington, Meagan Carrick of Arlington, and (bottom) Robin Thompson.

# Pounding the Pavement

First annual 5K raises awareness of teen driving safety.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**R**obin Wallin of Alexandria has been training for this day at Cameron Run Regional Park for three months. She and sister-in-law Carolyn Wiser of Baltimore used a seat-to-5K app on their smartphones to prepare for the Oct. 4 race, encouraging each other through Facebook messaging.

But much more than for the exercise, Wallin was here to support her friend of 17 years and fellow Alexandria City nurse Robin Thompson. Thompson's daughter Ashley Renee Thompson died in a car crash on June 10, 2003.

"Anybody who has a teenager who's learning how to drive knows the anxiety of the parent," said Wallin. "And I certainly walked through that with Robin too."

Ashley was a sophomore at Lake Braddock Secondary School: a strong student, dedicated competitive gymnast and licensed driver. One day she borrowed a friend's car to drive home from school, lost control of the vehicle within a mile of her house and slammed into a tree. She died on impact.

**CRASH INVESTIGATORS** ruled out alcohol, speed, phone and other passengers as contributing factors. Ashley was a skilled driver, but her training and experience hadn't prepared her to regain control of an unfamiliar vehicle.

Robin Thompson created an awareness, training and advocacy organization in honor of Ashley called The Art of Driving. She's spent the last decade on a mission to elevate conversation that youth crashes are both predictable and preventable.

That's where the "Survive the 5" in the race's title comes in. It's a reference to the



Young, eager runners pushed to the front of the first annual Art of Driving Survive the 5K on Oct. 4.

top five reasons for teen crashes and injuries: Driver inexperience, driver distractions, excessive speed, not wearing a seatbelt and alcohol and illegal drugs.

"It's not a topic a lot of people want to talk about," said Thompson, buzzing around her organization's first annual 5K like a master hostess. "Getting people to understand just how serious a problem is, that it is truly an epidemic. This is not a transportation issue; it's a public health issue."

Where previously the CDC had listed car crashes as the leading killer of adolescents aged 15-19 (between 3,000 and 4,000 deaths annually), that figure was updated last month to show crashes are the single leading cause of death and injury among all youth.

Thompson had wanted to do a 5K for years to help raise awareness of the issue and increase the reach of The Art of Driving's program of awareness responsibility training for teenage drivers and their parents, and work with school groups and civic organizations. Finally a year ago, Th-

ompson began attending 5Ks and simply taking notes.

"I just started putting it together, piece by piece," Thompson said, "and I have an awesome community behind me that believed in the cause. I think from the looks of this morning, we did it."

**267 RUNNERS AND WALKERS** of all ages, shapes, sizes and dog breeds came out, including a strong contingent of teachers and students from George Mason Elementary School. "She took such a personal and tragic thing in her life and turned it into a positive," said Laura Aristizabal of Fairfax. "Her daughter is still living. How many lives is Ashley going to touch through her mom? It's incredible."

"If by keeping Ashley's memory alive today I just keep one child alive, then it's all worth it," said Thompson. "That's what this is all about. Keeping our children safe."

For more information about Ashley's story and The Art of Driving programs, visit [www.theartofdriving.org](http://www.theartofdriving.org).

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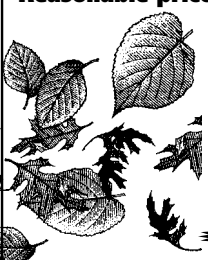
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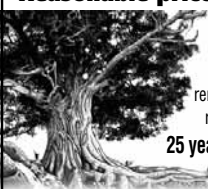
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# SPORTS

**Robinson's Addie Walsh, right, and Chantilly's Bryndie Ballam battle for the ball during Tuesday's game at Chantilly High School.**



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## Strong Play Doesn't Translate to Victory for Robinson Field Hockey

**Rams' Arnsmeier comes up short against former coach.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**C**hantilly field hockey coach Ralph Chapman felt the Chargers outplayed Robinson during the teams' 2013 regular-season meeting, but the Rams pulled out a victory in strokes.

One year later, it was Robinson that came out on the short end of the stick.

Chantilly forward Victoria Iturbe scored the game winner with 37 seconds remaining on Tuesday, Oct. 7, as the Chargers pulled out a 1-0 victory over Robinson on senior night at Chantilly High School.

The Chargers earned a penalty corner late in regulation, and after forward Bryndie Ballam dribbled through the Robinson defense, Iturbe found the back of the cage, keeping Chantilly alive for one of the top seeds in the Conference 5 tournament.

"It's definitely a relief because if you don't score in [regulation] time, you go to overtime and overtime is really tricky because it's only [7-on-7]," Iturbe said, "so it's just a lot of relief to just be able to get the game over with fast."

Robinson head coach Lindsay Arnsmeier, a former Chantilly player and assistant coach under Chapman, said her team played well before surrendering the game's lone goal in the final minute.

"I think [we] played very strong," Arnsmeier said. "I think they caught us watching toward the end, so that's why they capitalized at the end."

How frustrating is it to lose a game in that fashion?

"Very frustrating," Arnsmeier said. "There were 37 seconds left in the game."

Chapman had fun with his former pupil after the game.

"I said, 'Lindsay, this is payback from last year,'" Chapman said. "She started laughing."

The victory improved Chantilly's record to 10-2, including 2-1 in Conference 5. The Chargers have games against Centreville and Herndon remaining, with a chance to earn a top-two seed in the conference tournament.

"I'm proud of my girls," Chapman said. "I'm a little upset that they didn't play their best, but they found a way to win when they didn't play their best. Hopefully, we'll go back to playing our best."

Robinson dropped to 11-3, including 1-3 in the conference. The Rams defeated Centreville, and lost to Westfield, Herndon and Chantilly. Robinson will travel to face Oakton at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 15.

"I think the competition is definitely stiffer in our conference, but I think [during the] Westfield and Herndon [games], we started off very slow," Arnsmeier said. "Today, we played very strong. I think [we] moved the ball very well [and] I think [we] dominated for I would say 80 percent of the game until the end."

**Gwen Carsten (4) and the Robinson field hockey team lost to Chantilly, 1-0, on Oct. 7.**



### SPORTS ROUNDUPS



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

**Vicki Baez (12) and the Lee field hockey team lost to West Potomac, 4-0, on Oct. 6.**

## Lee Field Hockey Falls to West Potomac

After a 4-1 start, the Lee field hockey team dropped its seventh straight game on Oct. 6, falling to West Potomac, 4-0.

The Lancers opened the season by winning three of four at their own "Under the Lights" tournament, finishing runner-up in their bracket. Lee followed with a 4-0 win over Hayfield on Sept. 3, but as struggled since, including five one-goal losses.

Lee will travel to face Edison at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10.

## Lee Hires Wrestling, Gymnastics Coaches

Robert E. Lee High School hired Daniel Malcolm as its new wrestling coach, the school announced recently.

Malcolm is a resident of Prince George's County, Md. He is originally from Brooklyn, N.Y., where he lettered in varsity football and wrestling and then later played football at Bowie State University on a scholarship. Malcolm has been coaching wrestling since 2006, both as an assistant and a head coach at Bladensburg and Northwestern high schools.

Lee also hired Diana Edgell as a gymnastic coach. She is a 2003 graduate of West Springfield, where she participated in gymnastics and competitive cheer. She has been coaching gymnastics and cheer for the last 12 years at Robinson and West Potomac.

## Football Schedule

Many of the area football teams are returning to action at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10, following a bye week.

The undefeated Robinson Rams (5-0) will host Madison for homecoming. Fellow unbeaten South County (5-0) will host T.C. Williams in a rematch of last season's 6A North region first-round playoff matchup.

Lake Braddock (4-1), which won back-to-back games after suffering its lone loss to Robinson, will travel to face Woodson (2-3), which has won two straight.

West Springfield (3-2) will host West Potomac. Lee (1-4) will travel to face Annandale.

Fairfax High defeated Thomas Jefferson 41-28 last week (Oct. 2), improving to 2-3. The Rebels will host Langley at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10. Hayfield earned its second straight win last week, beating Wakefield 37-10 on Oct. 2. The Hawks (2-3) will host Yorktown.

Edison (1-4) will play on Saturday, traveling to face Herndon at 2 p.m. on Oct. 11.



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## Fireplaces Warm Outdoor Spaces

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

As the air turns crisp and we settle into fall, the time is ideal for creating a cozy setting, whether it's elegant or rustic or modern. Many people have adapted part of their landscape as an outdoor room.

"Outdoor porches whether screened or just covered with a roof are great fall spaces," said Susan Matus, a Potomac, Md.-based architect. "One can cozy them up with pillows and throws and outdoor lights, such as decorative twinkle lights or candles can

SEE OUTDOOR ROOM, PAGE 7



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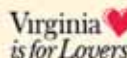
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## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Clifton residents to hold open-house tour of newly remodeled homes for the benefit of local widow.

BY JOHN BYRD

Neighbors help each other. That's what communities have always been about. Long-time Clifton resident Bob Gallagher is rallying his friends and peers to help his neighbor Elsa Armendaris.

Armendaris, a mother of seven, needs funds to repair the badly deteriorated driveway to her home, which is also a local day care center. To help out, Gallagher, who is a principal at Sun Design Remodeling, has organized a tour of three newly remodeled Clifton homes, each the handiwork of a different remodeler.

"The homes are all pretty spectacular in their own right," Gallagher says. "We've found that homeowners really enjoy seeing what their neighbors are doing. But this is also about helping a local person in need; that's the sense of community which Clifton has always exemplified."

In addition to showcasing a home recently renovated by Sun Design Remodeling, the tour will feature recent work by Daniels Design and Remodeling and Kohlmark Group Architects and Builders, all active in Clifton and environs for years.

Tim Reed of Tibbs Paving will be donating the labor, equipment and trucking needed for the driveway re-paving. Armendaris has also raised several thousand dollars for the project.

**ARMENDARIS' STORY IS ONE** of quiet determination in pursuit of the American Dream.



A native of El Salvador, Armendaris lost her husband, David, to leukemia six years ago and, as the sole means of her family's support, decided to set up her home as a day care center.

With its tree-shaded lot and sizable liv-

ing and family rooms, the house provided a perfect setting. Among other features, the two-level structure is off the main road, down a winding driveway. A safe place for kids.

Initially, the center did well. Since it was

### Details

Remodeler's Charity Home Tour, Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit [www.RemodelersCharityHomeTour.com](http://www.RemodelersCharityHomeTour.com) or call 703-425-5588 for more.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOME FRONTS NEWS

**LEFT: Granite surfaces, marble tile wall covering, a coffered ceiling are among the finishwork details distinguishing the Layfield kitchen by Sun Design Remodeling.**

convenient to nearby Clifton Elementary, parents would leave their children with Armendaris before and after school. Many of the children at the center were friends with her own children.

But when Clifton Elementary closed in 2010, the day care center lost more than half its students. Not long after that, the winding asphalt driveway leading to the house began to seriously deteriorate.

Armendaris says that she and her children with the help of a friendly neighbor have been patching the drive for years. However, it eventually become obvious that her own fix-up efforts wouldn't be enough.

Soon she began soliciting bids from professional pavers, some of whom were simply working the neighborhood.

"I wasn't sure what I really needed, or who was reliable," she recalls. "But what really slowed the process was the cost."

That's when her friend, Christina Gallagher, whose children had attended the day care center, offered to ask her husband, Bob, for ideas.

"I just thought there must be a way that a community as old and close-knit as Clifton could help one of its own," said Bob Gallagher, who grew up in Clifton where his father practiced medicine. "My company has learned a lot from doing our own home tours, so a coalition of remodelers already active in Clifton seems like a logical way to reach out to the community."

SEE NEIGHBORS, PAGE 4

## Planting for Fall Planning your autumn garden and yard.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

As the first few weeks of fall unfold, carrying with them the promise of rich and vibrant colors, many local residents are starting to plan their fall gardens, both ornamental and edible. Pruning and overall garden cleanup will make way for fall plants. In fact, this is the perfect time to clear away summer foliage and plant, horticulture gurus said.

"Because the ground is still warm and air is cool, there is less transplant shock for plants when you take them out of the con-

tainer to plant them," said Kelly Grimes of Good Earth Garden Market in Potomac, Md. "Now is a great time to put in a landscape."

The first step is preparing the ground. "You have to amend the soil; that is mixing in compost and soil so the plants' roots can grab a hold of the soil with compost," said Grimes. "That really helps any planting."

Katia Goffin of Katia Goffin Gardens in McLean, Va., likens planning a garden to putting together a puzzle. "Everything has to [look] like it belongs," she said. "It's about designing your bed line so it enhances your property, versus 'I stuck this in my garden and doesn't it look good?'"

Take a few minutes and actually plan out your garden because no matter what you decide to plant for fall, an aesthetically appealing garden starts with an effective strategy. "It is getting a good plan together," Goffin said. "It is a question of scale and putting it together right. You have to look at your plot of land and decide where you want plants to go and how you want it to look."

**FOR DECORATIVE GARDENS** and yards, mums and pansies are among fall's

SEE PLANTING, PAGE 8

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# Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Clifton Home Tour

## Details

Remodeler's Charity Home Tour, Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
www.RemodelersCharityHomeTour.com  
or call 703-425-5588 for more.

FROM PAGE 3

### THE TOUR

The tour has been conceived to provide a close-up look at how Clifton residents live today, and to profile several design trends now being applied to local homes. It also will reflect some of the community's varied demographics — which range from young families to retirees retrofitting their house to age-in-place.

### MAKEOVER IN COLCHESTER HUNT

In Clifton's Colchester Hunt section, Steve and Maureen Landry are putting the finishing touches on a forward-looking retrofit executed by Tom Flach at Kohlmark Architects. The Craftsman-style architecture embraces an open floor plan which the Landrys see as perfect for a host of regular social pursuits such as book clubs and after-church gatherings.

Referring to the house as "his last home," Steve Landry, 65, says he and his wife actually looked for a larger house "further out" before deciding that improving what they had was their best option.

"It was Tom Flach's clever ideas that were the deciding factor," Maureen Landry said. The plan included needs for the immediate future, and also elements that might be needed to age in place over extended time.

For instance, the former 400-square-foot garage has been converted into a well-appointed master suite complete with 14-foot cathedral ceiling, a full bath and an 8-foot wall of windows focused on the garden and two-tiered pond. While the couple's initial plan is to use the new space as a reading room, Maureen Landry said that the suite is a nod to an aging-in-place strategy that

calls for frequently used spaces to be on the same floor.

"We've even got ideas and costs for an elevator, should we need one," she said.

Meanwhile, a new two car garage has been added to the home's front elevation. The eye-catching period facade incorporates "mesa red" windows, a new entrance portico articulated in cedar truss beams and French doors that open directly onto a front-facing patio.

With the former powder room absorbed into the new suite, and interior walls removed, the architect developed the new open floor plan.

The kitchen and dining zone is now formed into a 600-square-foot family kitchen that revolves around a two-tier food preparation island and dining counter. Mounted on a cherry wood base, the island is surfaced in both walnut butcher block and Vermont soapstone.

Adjacent to the kitchen/dining area, delineated by a peninsular fireplace, the 300-square-foot family room/sitting room provides ample space for an enlarged social gathering. The 225-square-foot sunroom, now mainstreamed into the home's HVAC system, is a gathering spot with a panoramic view of the wooded surroundings.

### KITCHEN SUITE IN ELEGANT TRANSITIONAL STYLE

Not too far away in Clifton Heights, Rick and Kelly Layfield are reveling in a new family-friendly kitchen and outlier zones custom-designed for their active daily household needs by Jon Benson, lead designer at Sun Design Remodeling.

"We have three children under age 12," Kelly said, "so we wanted a plan that would

make it easier for everyone to interact, and that also offered sightlines from the kitchen to the backyard where the kids play."

That meant re-working a course of windows on the rear elevation, making it easier to access the outside from several directions and introducing a floor plan more conducive to free-flowing traffic.

The starting point, however, was the offending two-tiered ceiling, a reminder of the fact that the back half of the kitchen has a separate roof unconnected to the structural supports in the first half of the kitchen which are busily engaged in holding up the home's second floor.

"Structurally, the existing plan is perfectly logical," Jon Benson said. "Aesthetically, it was a strange effect ... one that Kelly Layfield wanted to change."

Benson proposed a coffered ceiling. The end product unifies the room visually and reintroduces the classical design elements found in the home's formal front rooms that had been curiously missing in its kitchen.

The ceiling also set the tone for a much more refined and elegant plan featuring several of Benson's original built-ins.

There is a new granite-surfaced island and dining counter. While the kitchen also formerly provided a spot for family breakfasts, Kelly Layfield said it mostly seemed space restricted.

Benson created a larger exit door in the middle-of the kitchen's rear wall, allocating expanded corner space for a L-shaped window bench which will provide built-in seating for the breakfast table as well as handy storage. There is also now a door from the family room to the screened porch.

Benson added a grilling deck next to the screened porch and just outside the new



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HOME FRONTS NEWS

**Remodeler Ted Daniels added 2,000 square feet to his personal residence on Hunting Horse Drive and reconfigured the first floor to include a comfortable family room adjacent to a large gourmet kitchen. Daniels had purchased the cherry wood mantle years before he knew where he would use it.**

kitchen door. Rick Layfield, who is the family's grilling chef finds it a great place to interact with friends and family while pursuing a favored recipe.

### FAMILY HOME ON HUNTING HORSE DRIVE

Those who know their way around Hunting Horse Drive sometimes might wonder what happened to the circa-1970s Colonial style house that used to be perched up on the overlook. Clearly, the sprawling manor house there now is an entirely different home, but how did it get there?

Owner and professional remodeler Ted Daniels says the makeover was the result of an inspired plan to create an environment that would work better for himself, wife Gayle and their two children.

Purchasing the 4,400-square-foot production house in 2000, Daniels initially thought the house adequate for raising a family, and focused on the serious business of renovating other people's homes. Certainly, the five-acre wood lot had everything to offer in the way of a lovely bucolic setting.

But after living in the house for a while, Daniels developed a growing list of possible improvements, which prompted a decision

to add 2,000 square feet to the rear of the house, and gut the entire first and second floors almost down to the studs.

"For starters, I didn't like the way the first floor was configured," Daniels says. "The kitchen and family room were partitioned in a way that inhibited traffic, and the interior was really dated. I wanted a quiet first floor place where the kids could do their homework. Also, there wasn't enough storage." He also wanted better lines-of-sight.

Upstairs, the master bedroom was too small. The sitting room, which offered the best view, also became a kind of clutter-prone foyer between the walk-in closet and the master bath.

"It was as if we were living in someone else's house," Daniels said. "I wanted a plan that would really support a whole spectrum of daily family requirements."

With substantial new square footage now extending out the rear of the existing structure, Daniels generously reconfigured floor plans on the first and second level, concentrating on how his family would use the new space.

The 396-square-foot kitchen segues easily into a rear-facing great room that features floor-to-ceiling windows flanking a

central French door. The many original built-ins include a food preparation island and knee-high walnut cabinets which provide a space divider between two primary activity zones. The inside corner of the kitchen accommodates a family dining nook.

The primary focal point of the family room is a hand-carved cherry wood mantle piece Daniels bought years ago, having no idea when or where he would use it.

"It's comforting to see an impulse buy become a real focal point," he said.

Upstairs, Daniels built a 715-square-foot master bedroom suite that opens directly to a sprawling balcony with views in three directions.

"This is the spot where we can have some privacy and still keep an eye on the kids," Gayle Daniels said. "It's quite romantic."

The luxury bathroom and large walk-in closet are now sensibly positioned on either side of the suite's entrance foyer. The master bath includes a soaking tub, a spacious walk-in shower and a private closet for Gayle's vanity.

The formal living room and dining room are on the right side of the first floor, segregated by a fully-wired well-appointed room the kids use for homework.



**In Clifton's Colchester Hunt section, architect Tom Flach at Kohlmark Architects checks plans for Steve and Maureen Landry's Craftsman-style renovation, now getting its finishing touches.**



**The fireplace hearth in the Layfield den was completely remade in the plan executed by Sun Design Remodeling.**

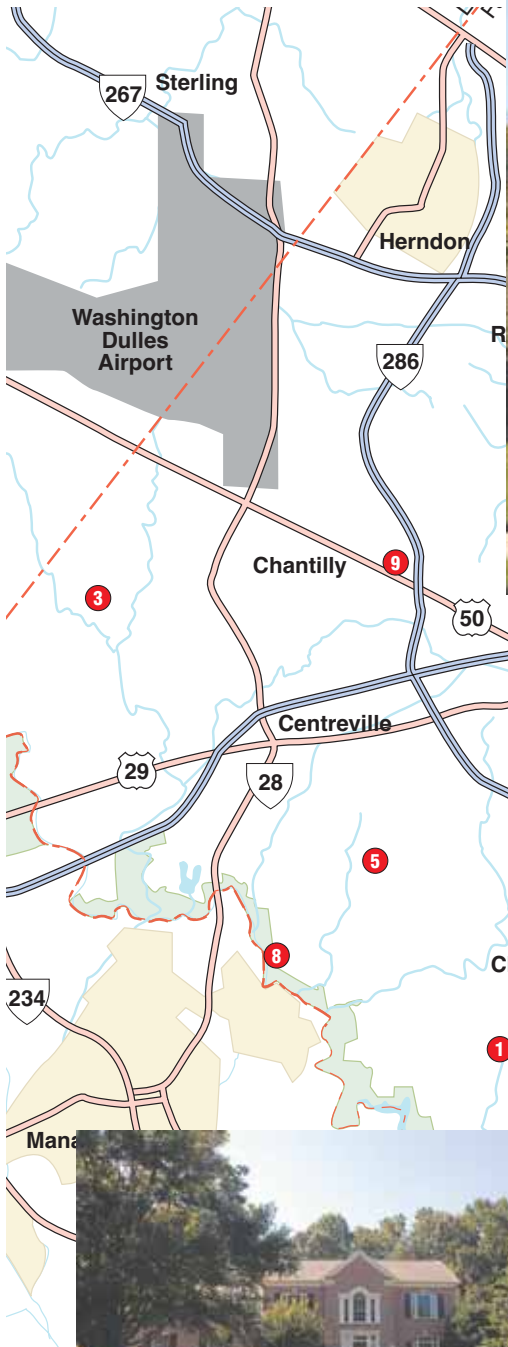
**The Layfield kitchen remodeled by Sun Design Remodeling includes granite surfaces, marble tile wall coverings and a coffered ceiling.**





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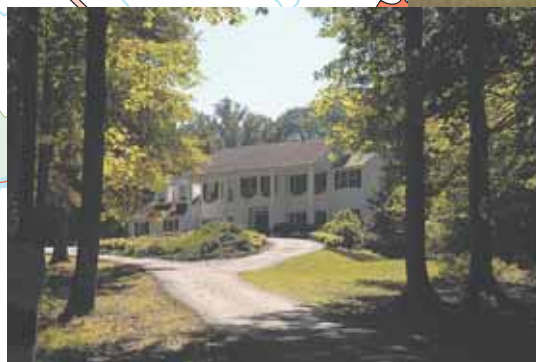
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# Warming Outdoor Rooms for Fall

FROM PAGE 2

create great ambiance.”

Local designers reveal their favorite accessories and ideas for outdoor rooms and screened porches to help welcome the new season with style.

An outdoor fireplace commands attention and can offer a warm place for reading, napping or chatting with friends, and makes it comfortable to sit outside on a chilly evening.

“I just built a stunning fireplace in a screened-in porch that transformed the space into a three-season room just in time for fall,” said Robert Kalmin of Skill Construction and Design, LLC in Fairfax, Va. “Indoor-outdoor rugs and seating in fall colors make the space great for entertaining.”

When it comes to outdoor fireplaces, however, there are a few caveats: “If it is a screened in porch, be careful of your ventilation. Whether you have a gas or wood-burning fireplace you have to have noncombustible material for the mantle and it needs to back discharge for smoke,” said Kalmin. He says such fireplaces can be added to an existing space in one-to-two weeks.

Accessories in warm, vibrant colors can

help can transform an outdoor room from summer to fall. “Adding some cozy throw blankets to outdoor sofas allows you to stay outside on chilly nights,” said Kerra Michele Huerta of Apartment Envy. “Also, as it gets darker and cooler earlier in the day, candles are a perfect accessory, adding both warmth and light.”

In fact, lighting can transform a screened porch or outdoor room. “To a screened porch, you can add a ceiling fan with a down light and an up-light,” said Kalmin. “The higher light can give you general lighting and the lower lights can create ambient lighting, and can be moved in different directions for setting a mood. There is also a mono-rail track system lighting, where you can install different types of lights depending on the mood you want to create.”

Fall produce can also add a seasonal touch to an outdoor room or screened porch, particularly on the mantle or around the hearth. “You can add faux pumpkins, gourds and berries,” said Brown.

Matus suggests a finishing touch: “Another option is to hang drapery to create not only a more interior feeling but also drapery can be used to shield from the wind as a thermal barrier.”



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## Planting for Fall

FROM PAGE 3

best flowering plants. "Mums need full sunlight to open and come in obvious, bold fall colors," said Grimes. "Pansies will take part sun, are a great color and will continue to bloom through spring."

Yarrow, asters, sedums, Lenten roses, and coral bells are among the fall plants that Jonathan Storvick, natural resource manager at the Office of Sustainability at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., recommends.

"Fall is a great time to plant larger-sized perennials and container shrubs," said Storvick. "It also happens to be the time of year when nurseries are trying to get rid of a lot of their stock, so you can find some great deals."

For example, said Joel Cook of Merrifield Garden Center, in Fairfax, Merrifield and Gainesville, Va., "Burning bushes have beautiful fall colors like orange and fire red. As far as trees, maples like Japanese maples, sugar maple or black gum maple have beautiful colors."

Another eye-catching option is the yellow twig dogwood. Its "bright yellow branches

and twig color ... are also fantastic for winter," said Mark White of GardenWise in Arlington, Va. "This shrub develops in great clumps and is a wonderful contrast against any red twig. Oval-shaped green leaves turn to orange-red in fall, followed by white fruit tinged with green."

Grasses, added Katia Goffin, are ideal for fall and can be mixed with other foliage. "You can put evergreens in your yard and add some grasses. There are tons [of grasses] that are flowering and look [good] with evergreens."

One plant that is often associated with cooler weather is a holly tree, but Eric Shorb

of American Plant in Bethesda, Md., offers a caveat.

"As we get closer to the end of November and the beginning of December you want to be careful about planting such broadleaf evergreens," he said. "If they haven't had time to develop a sufficient enough root system they can become susceptible to wind burn because the roots will not be able to absorb moisture."

Instead, he recommends deciduous trees and fine leaf evergreens. "A Leland Cypress or an Arborvitae that don't need as much moisture will survive better as the weather gets colder."

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Restrictions and conditions apply; see your local representative for details. Cannot be combined with prior purchases, other offers, or coupons. No adjustments to previous orders. Offer not available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative at time of contract execution and applies to minimum purchase of 6 or more windows and 4 or more patio doors. Offer does not include bay/bow windows or any upgrades considered non-standard options. Offer only available as part of our Instant Product Rewards Plan. As part of the Instant Product Rewards Plan, all homeowners must be present and must purchase during the initial visit to qualify. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for a free Window Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 10/31/14 with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. 0% APR for 12 months available to well-qualified buyers on approved credit only. Not all customers may qualify. Higher rates apply for customer with lower credit ratings. Financing not valid with other offers or prior purchases. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Renewal by Andersen retailers are independently owned and operated retailers, and are neither brokers nor lenders. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only and all financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Renewal by Andersen retailers, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all subject to credit requirements. Renewal by Andersen retailers do not assist with, counsel or negotiate financing, other than providing customers an introduction to lenders interested in financing. This Renewal by Andersen location is a independently owned and operated retailer. VA Lic. # 27010307644. DC Lic. # 420212000031. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are marks of Andersen Corporation. ©2014 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2014 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. <sup>†</sup>Values are based on comparison of Renewal by Andersen® double-hung insert window SHGC to the SHGC for clear dual pane glass non-metal frame default values from the 2006 and 2009 International Energy Conservation Code.